



## **Recovery update for those affected by the Pigeon Valley Fire**

**12 April 2019**

### **Biosecurity**

Weeds may have been introduced in animal feed bailed that was come from outside the region. Please check any areas where you have put feed from outside the area, and if you see any weeds that you do not recognise please contact the Tasman District Council who can put you through to the Bio-security Team.

### **Volunteer groups**

Volunteer groups been active around the fire-affected areas. Civil Defence have been working with the Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund and the Rata Foundation to support these volunteer groups.

### **Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund (MDRF)**

If you have costs from the fire event which are not covered by insurance or other means **put in an application to the MDRF.**

When applying to the MDRF please **make sure you attach any supporting documents**, as applications cannot be processed until those documents are received. If there are no supporting documents please explain why on your application. If you have already applied but haven't attached any supporting documents, please email them to [Sandie.Hutchinson@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:Sandie.Hutchinson@tasman.govt.nz).

So far payments from the Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund have been made for accommodation, loss of income, remediation works and financial hardship

### **Funding - Lotteries Commission**

The Lotteries Commission have agreed to \$1m for the Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund (MDRF). The specific criteria to determine which works qualify for this funding was discussed with the Lotteries Grants Board. Further discussion on potential funding for seeding, ash and sediment treatment and replanting native bush in Significant Natural Areas continues.

### **School fundraising**

St Leonards School in west Auckland have raised \$550 in one school class for the Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund. The class had decided they wanted to fundraise to help those affected by the fires so they organised a mufti day.

### **Healthcare**

**Free GP visits for fire-related stress or anxiety:** Free GP visits will continue to be offered for people seeking support for stress or anxiety relating to the fires.



**Coping with stress and anxiety:** Anxiety is a normal response to a very stressful situation. Talking to people and helping others can be both therapeutic and useful.

If you need further support for yourself or for others:

- free-phone or text 1737 to talk to a trained counsellor
- call your general practice, after-hours GP practice or Healthline on 0800 611 116
- in an emergency, call 111

Te Putahitanga o Te Waipounamu Whanau Ora Commissioning Agency based in Christchurch and Te Hauora o Ngati Rarua Ltd based in Blenheim have provided ongoing immense support throughout the State of Emergency and post Tasman Fires with huge thanks to local Wakefield based Navigator Tane Whaanga.

Other Iwi Whanau Wellness Services are also provided by:

- Te Piki Oranga Wellness Services: based at 281 Queen Street Richmond and also operate from Te Awhina Marae in Motueka and Whakatu Marae in Nelson phone: 543 7016 email [admin@tpo.org.nz](mailto:admin@tpo.org.nz)
- Whakatu Marae 99 Atawhai Drive Nelson  
Phone: 5469097  
Email: [kaiawhina@whakatumarae.co.nz](mailto:kaiawhina@whakatumarae.co.nz)  
Provide: Whanau Ora Services which extend across Nelson, Richmond, Wakefield, Tapawera and Motueka districts

The Ministry of Social Development can advise on financial support: 0800 779 997

The Ministry of Primary Industries can advise on animal welfare concerns: 0800 008 333 (option 4)

### **Sharing this update**

Civil Defence is here to help, if you think there are other topics we need to cover in this newsletter let us know.

If you have family or friends that cannot access a computer, please share this information with them.

Remember, it is ok to ask for help. If you need help and you're not sure who to ask, call Tasman District Council on **03 543 8400 (24 Hours)**.