

Ordinary Meeting

Meeting Date: Monday, 08 April, 2024
Location: Council Chambers, City Administrative Building, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 5.30pm

Membership (Quorum - 7)
All Councillors

Addendum Agenda

Mayoral Minute

Mayoral Minute

MM24.12 Mayoral Minute - Council Seeking Assistance for Immediate
Emergency Funding1

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HPERM Ref: D24/138145

Recommendation

That Council write to the NSW State Government requesting the immediate release of emergency funding to assist council to manage the aftermath of yet another natural disaster.

Details

Shoalhaven City Council is experiencing ongoing financial difficulty and meeting more costs from yet another natural disaster is cause for grave concern, especially if council is to meet the needs of the community in a timely fashion. We have the dubious record of this being our 13th declared natural disaster since the 2019 Mega Fires.

With an emergency declaration unlocking access to funding for major issues such as road repairs, infrastructure damage and waste costs, there are always upfront costs that are not claimable by council. Shoalhaven has the unenviable honour of bearing these costs each time a disaster hits

Shoalhaven City Council staff are first responders in every disaster and should be congratulated for their swift work and meeting the immediate needs during a disaster. From monitoring river heights and water systems, to placing our road blocks and safety signage, the tasks that are undertaken by the Shoalhaven City Council team could not be undertaken by any other organisation with the same depth of knowledge and efficiency.

Immediate funding is just that, not a month down the track, and it gives council the opportunity to continue to service the ongoing needs of the community during these uncertain times. Council continues to take a financial hit from every consecutive disaster.

Natural disaster declarations since 2019 Mega Bushfires.

- August 2019 - Bushfire
- January 2020 - Flood and storm
- July 2020 - Flood and Storm
- August 2020 - Flood and storm
- October 2020 - Flood and storm
- March 2021 - Flood and severe weather
- May 2021 - Flood and severe weather
- November 2021 - Flood and severe weather
- February 2022 - Flood and severe weather
- June 2022 - Flood and severe weather
- September 2022 - Flood and severe weather
- November 2023 - Flood and severe weather
- April 2024 - Flood and severe weather

MM24.12