

Community Resilience and Disaster Recovery Reference Group

Date	18 July 2023	Time	1 – 4pm
Venue	MidCoast Council	Note-taker	Janine Friedrich
Present	Cr Paul Sandilands, Alex Mills, Maria Frazer, Janine Friedrich, Mark Johnson, Margy Hilder, Trypheyne McShane, Daniel Trudgeon, John Green, Maria Frazer, Anna Bourke, Peter Hatton, Jess Corkill, Jenny Brewer, Greg Hale		
Apologies	Cr Peter Epov, Paul De Szell, Peter Brown, Maria Quintero, Karen Anderson, Sandra Bourke, Daniel Trudgeon, Alastair Breingan, Steve Prohm, Mark Redding		

Meeting Items

Item	Key points/actions
1	Acknowledgement of Country
3	<p>Refining our recovery priorities</p> <p>Group discussion to clarify and rank our current recovery and resilience issues:</p> <p>Top concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mental health - Communication (not coordinated, incorrect, people unable to access) - Advocacy on telecommunications - As a group we advocate - Infrastructure is not appropriately strengthened for resilience (build/replace so better and more resilient) <p>In the middle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify and educating about risk, advocate and educate. How to raise awareness of risks, emergency management arrangements, what people can do individually, empowering individuals <p>Varied levels of understanding and awareness, you don't know what you don't know.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not every locality has been impacted. How do you build resilience in this context <p>To be included in planning for future recovery scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centralised hubs for charities and recovery services generally (volunteers, include a buddy system to help people negotiate the grant application process) - Assumption we have an equal capacity to recovery and prepare, especially in applying for recovery grants. The reality is that capacity is very uneven. - Council is expected to do a lot, but not funded or mandated to do it, and definitely not on an ongoing basis. - People don't have a home post-bushfire. State government guidelines and timeframes are not transparent. <p>No action needed (out of scope for now?):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confusion and overwhelmed – multiple disasters, multiple processes - Cost to fix things – emotional toll, monetary cost, government, long term approaches needed. - Cascading disasters – drought doesn't get enough focus.
5	<p>Invitation to the reference group members to submit feedback for the Federal Government review of disaster funding arrangements: https://nema.gov.au/about-us/governance-and-reporting/reviews/Independent-Review-Disaster-Funding-Public-Submissions</p> <p>Discussion of what disaster recovery activities are funded by the Federal government, e.g. Services Australia \$1000 payment to disaster affected individuals, half of most state government recovery activities (including Janine's CRO role). Janine will collate feedback from individual group members and submit a response on behalf of the group.</p>

Next meeting

Date	16 August	Time	2:30pm
Venue	Spotted Gum Room, Council	Note-taker	Janine Friedrich

Follow up

Who	Key points/actions	Status
Everyone	What are the unresolved resilience and recovery issues in your community(ies)	By next meeting
Janine	Establish a document for collating reference group members feedback for the federal review of disaster funding. Email reference group members a link to contribute, compile a submission.	Complete
Everyone	Contribute your thoughts to Federal review of disaster funding arrangements via the link from Janine	Complete