

The Flood News Flash

Divina D'Anna MLA
Member for Kimberley



Welcome to the first newsletter from the Shire of Derby-West Kimberley, which is focussed on the flood event which swept through the Fitzroy Valley and surrounding communities in January 2023, giving everyone in the region a very unexpected start to the year.

I know that we have a long road to recovery in front of us, but I wanted you to know that I am heavily involved, committed to the task and determined to advocate for the people of my electorate who have been affected by the floods.

I have visited Fitzroy Crossing 12 times in the 10 weeks since the initial stages of this natural disaster and have also had the opportunity to go to many of the communities in the area that have been flood affected. Following each of these visits, I am always amazed by the people from these towns and communities who are working so hard to recover from the devastation that these floods have caused.

From the outset, community members, community groups, community leaders and others have stepped up to help out where they can and I am so happy to see place-based solutions being put in position and being formalised. I am astounded by the work ethic of all of the agencies and people involved in rescue and working on recovery from this event. The devastation to property, infrastructure and country has been quite overwhelming for many and the recovery process will not occur overnight. In saying that, if we reflect on the speed with which projects such as the works on the highway between Derby and Broome, it gives us hope that it will not take too long for other milestones to be met.

very step of the way, the Local, State and Federal Governments have been here with the community, providing essential support and assistance, and working side by side with the community to solve issues as they arise.



Both State and Federal Governments have announced financial assistance programs for individuals, families, business and local government. Many are currently in place and others are being rolled out now or in the very near future.

It is great to see the barges up and running to reconnect the East and West Kimberley and I know everyone is looking forward to having vehicle access over the mighty Martuwarra soon. You are always welcome to visit my Electorate Office at Shop 1/9 Short Street, Broome or call 9192 3111 if you require advice or support.

15th March 2023



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The Hub

The Flood Hub is now open and our wonderful friendly team are here to help and support you with anything to do with the flood. They can also assist with applications for grants.

Or call in and just say hi or sit with us and have a cuppa. The Hub in Fitzroy is based in the Visitors Centre on Flynn Drive. We are open from 8.00am to 12.00pm Monday - Friday and will be reaching out to communities each afternoon

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP MEETING

A community meeting was held on Tuesday (14th) to update the community and answers questions. If you were unable to make it, you can read the minutes at www.sdwk.wa.gov.au The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th March, 10am at the Rec Centre.



Contact Us

Department of Communities Disaster Response Hotline on 1800 032 965 (Mon-Fri, 9am- 4pm)

Shire of Derby/West Kimberley (08) 9191 0904
Leave a message if we are on a call and we will reply to you Shire of Derby/West Kimberley -
Email us sdwk@sdwk.wa.gov.au



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New Financial Assistance

The Premier has announced a **\$1000** payment for eligible people who had their house damaged by the Kimberley Floods.

The money will be given on a prepaid card. It can be used to buy clothing, tools, household goods and other personal items.

People who were 18 years old on or before 10 Jan 2023 and had their home damaged by the flood are eligible.

How to apply: An online form at dfes.smartygrants.com.au/PremiersFloodPayment

In person at a Flood Hub in Fitzroy Crossing, Derby or Broome, or the Community Outreach Team visiting your community.

If possible, bring ID and proof of address when applying.

By calling the disaster Response Hotline on 1800 032 965 (Mon-Fri, 9am to 4pm)

Visit: emergency.wa.gov.au/recovery for more info.



Photo Credit: SoCo Studios

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Free Ferry Service



Photo Credit: SoCo Studios

A free ferry service is now running every day to help people get across the Fitzroy River.

Ferries will run every day from both sides of the river: Between 9am and 3pm, the ferry will leave every hour.

The ferry will also run as needed in the morning from 7-9am, and in the afternoon from 3-5pm. What you need to know:

No bookings needed. Check in 15 minutes before departure.

You will need to tell the workers your name, weight and weight of luggage before going on the ferry.

There is no parking on the west side. Parking is available near the Fitzroy River Lodge on the east side.

The ferry is not taking vehicles yet. More details about vehicles will be shared when available.