FLOOD NEWS FLASH

13th April 2023

TROPICAL CYCLONE ILSA APPROACHING THE COAST

Tropical cyclone Ilsa is forming off the West Kimberley coast. There may be winds and rain coming this week.

FITZROY CROSSING TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION HUB

16 huts are onsite at Tarunda Caravan Park. They now have furniture and people have moved in and are using the facility.

HOUSING REPAIR WORKS

Repair works and yard clean-ups are underway for the flood-damaged Government homes in Kupungarri. Repair works are also underway in Camballin and Fitzroy Crossing.

Cleaning and hygiene works have commenced in Burawa and Bungardi, along with septic pump outs in Bungardi.

LOW LEVEL CROSSING TEMPORARY CLOSURE

Due to rising river levels, the Roads people have temporarily closed the low level river crossing in Fitzroy Crossing. River levels are being monitored and the crossing will re-open when it is safe. For the latest updates, check the travel map on mainroads.wa.gov.au.

The Roads people are also working on a second river crossing that will let more vehicles go across including larger vehicles like freight trucks. The crossing should be open in May 2023 depending on the weather and river conditions.

PREMIER'S FLOOD PAYMENT

People who were 18 years old (on or before 10 Jan) and had their house damaged by the flood are eligible to apply for \$1,000 from the Premier's Flood Payment.

You can apply:

- at your nearest Flood Hub
- online at dfes.smartygrants.com.au/PremiersFloodPayment
- by calling the Disaster Response Hotline on 1800 032 965 (9am –4pm)
- with the Community Outreach team when they are in your community

You will be advised if your flood payment has been approved and where to pick up the payment card.



Catherine Feeney Local Recovery Coordinator

I would like to begin by acknowledging the strength and resilience of the people of the Kimberley. The Kimberley is one of the most stunning and yet harshest environments, which saw the incredible power of nature in January 2023.

At the beginning of the year I had the privilege of working in the response stage of the flooding as the Shire's Aboriginal Environmental Health Coordinator. This first hand account of the extent of damage to people's homes and lives across Kupungarri, Fitzroy Valley and Camballin was an incredibly humbling one and I reflect on it daily as the Local Recovery Coordinator. Recovery is not just a rebuild and returning home, it is also an opportunity for betterment and supporting all community members into the future.

The initial stages of recovery have been to identify the needs of the community, bringing together local agencies and identifying where we can support the existing services. The Flood Hub located at the Fitzroy Crossing Visitors Centre is now fully operational with representatives from the Shire, DFES, Department of Communities, NEMA and Department of Justice. Outreach to affected communities is in place, this week the team visited Kupungarri and also in Fitzroy Crossing the team have a pop up stand outside IGA each Thursday 11am to 2pm. I am also delighted to have a Shire Local Recovery Officer in Derby available to support the residents in Camballin and they will visit the town soon to assist in flood recovery.

The flood hub and recovery team are in place to support the community in the barge bookings connecting back the town, applying for Premier Grants and assisting people with temporary accommodation.

The flood hub also has some up and coming community events to look out for.

- Blue Light Disco
- Community Expo
- Anzac Day Fitzroy Crossing
- Family Fun Day

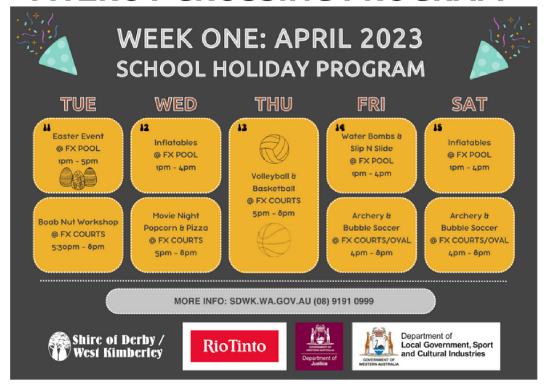
The recovery team will be there to support and also be available to connect with. I encourage anyone who has been affected to meet with staff, be it in the Hub or during outreach.

I also encourage everyone to attend the Community Leadership meeting in Fitzroy to hear updates from relevant agencies and an opportunity to raise issues, concerns or ideas in recovery. You can reach the recovery team on 9191 0904 or communityrecoveryofficer@sdwk.wa.gov.au.

Finally, I would like to thank the people of the Kimberley for welcoming me and I am wholeheartedly committed to this recovery as an opportunity for betterment.

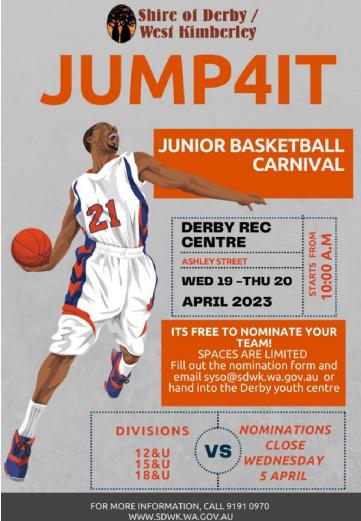
Youth Week 2023 School Holiday Programs

FITZROY CROSSING PROGRAM



DERBY PROGRAM





Contact Information

Department of Communities Disaster Response Hotline

1800 032 965

Mental Health Help - Fitzroy Crossing

9166 1700

Mental Health Help - Derby

9193 3605

After Hours - Mental Health Support

1800 552 002

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Crisis Support (24/7)

13YARN (13 92 76)

Next Community Meeting

Fitzroy Crossing Recreation Centre - Tuesday 18th April, 2pm Updates from Main Roads, Dept of Communities and many more

Flood Hubs

Broome Boulevard

Fitzroy Crossing
Visitor Centre

4 Flynn Drive 8am-4pm Monday -Friday **Shopping Centre** 106 Frederick Street 10am-2pm Monday - Friday Office 16-22 Loch Street 10am-2pm Monday - Friday

Derby Housing

Do you have a story to share or updates from your area? We want to hear from you! Contact us by phone (08) 9191 0999 or email media@sdwk.wa.gov.au