

FLOOD NEWS FLASH

23rd November 2023

Artwork by Natalie Davey

Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund second round of funding open

Presiding Chair of the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund (LMDRF) Basil Zempilas today announced that applications are open for a second round of funding to help people impacted by the Kimberley Floods.

The second round of funding focuses on people whose vehicles were destroyed or damaged in the extreme weather event.

People can apply for assistance of up to \$15,000 for vehicle repairs and up to \$40,000 if their vehicle has been written off.



Mr Zempilas said this round of funding formed part of the \$6.2 million allocated in June to assist with the financial impacts of the wide-ranging repairs, replacements and rebuilds required due to the devastating floods. This is in addition to the \$1.35 million allocated in March to rebuild flood-damaged non-government owned properties.

"We really saw the WA community come together to rally behind the victims, generously donating more than \$12 million towards their recovery," Mr Zempilas said.

"This funding release will further ease the substantial financial burdens of those who were impacted by the Kimberley Floods, focusing in on damaged vehicles.

"The recovery process is ongoing, and the LMDRF board will continue to work closely with the State Government, local shires and the community to make sure the donated funds are being distributed where they're really needed."

Applications for this round of funding can be made in person to the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley at the Flood Hub in the Fitzroy Crossing Visitor Centre. You can contact the Flood Hub at 9191 0904 or in person on Corner of Forest Rd and 4 Flynn Drive from Mon-Thurs 8am-12noon.



New River and Rainfall monitoring technology for Fitzroy River Catchment



Image courtesy of Department of Water and Regulation

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has released a media release on upgrades of its river and rainfall monitoring across the Fitzroy and Margaret River catchments. Details below:

In addition to upgrading all communication equipment there have been temporary gauges built at the Old Crossing and Dimond Gorge with all gauges now operating and ready to report the 23/24 wet season water information data.

The monitoring sites are a valuable tool in forecasting potential flooding of communities and roads and assist the State's emergency response in times of flooding.

"The Kimberley Floods last year showed us how important river and rainfall monitoring is, which is an invaluable tool for understanding the river and boosting community confidence ahead of the wet season," Program Manager Luke Donovan said.

The new technology will improve the capture of information at critical sites, transmitting "near-real time" data using Inmarsat geostationary, Iridium low earth orbit satellites and Telstra mobile network telemetry communication systems.

These upgrades were initiated prior to the significant flooding event - which occurred in the catchment in December 2022 and January 2023 - and were completed in October of this year.

In September this year, DWER commenced replacing all telemetry systems in readiness for the closure of the Globalstar satellite network and the Telstra 3G mobile network for November 2023 and June 2024 respectively.

The satellite telemetry systems at the remainder of DWER's river and rainfall monitoring sites across the State are being upgraded, with a target for completion before the end of the year.

River and rainfall monitoring sites that use the Telstra 3G mobile network will be upgraded to new Narrowband – Internet of Things telemetry systems and will be operational mid next year.

DWER currently operates an extensive network of 280 river monitoring stations and 170 rainfall gauges across the State. DWER operate 14 river and 10 rainfall monitoring sites located in the Fitzroy River catchment.

Fitzroy Bus Timetable

A reminder that the Fitzroy Crossing Bus Service is still operating for town and surrounding communities. The service runs twice a day from Monday through to Friday (AM and PM). See the below timetables for pick up locations and times.

West Side Bus Timetable

West Side Bus Timetable - MON - THURS			West Side Bus Timetable - FRIDAY		
COMMUNITY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	COMMUNITY	MORNING	AFTERNOON
Bungardi	8:30AM	2:00PM	Bungardi	8:30AM	2:30PM
Darlungunaya	8:40AM	1:50PM	Darlungunaya	8:40AM	2:20PM
Junjuwa (Old Bakery)	8:50AM	1:40PM	Junjuwa (Old Bakery)	8:50AM	2:10PM
Burawa	9:00AM	1:30PM	Burawa	9:00AM	2:00PM
Hospital	9:10AM	1:20PM	Hospital	9:10AM	1:50PM
IGA	9:20AM	1:10PM	IGA	9:20AM	1:40PM
Visitor Centre	9:30AM	1:00PM	Visitor Centre	9:30AM	1:30PM

East Side Bus Timetable

East Side Bus Timetable - MON-FRI		
COMMUNITY	MORNING	AFTERNOON
8 Mile (Drives through community)	8:45PM	5:45PM
Bayulu - Shop	9:00AM	5:30PM
Gillarong - Community Shed	9:15AM	5:15PM
Muludja - Turnoff	10:00AM	4:30PM
Loanbun - Loanbun Road	10:45AM	3:45PM
Visitors Centre	10:50AM	3:40PM
IGA	11:00AM	3:30PM
Hospital	11:00AM	3:30PM



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)

Road Updates

- For information on road updates you can view the latest road report on the Shire of Derby West Kimberley website here: <https://www.sdwk.wa.gov.au/>
- For the latest travel advice on state roads, visit the Main Roads Travel Map at <https://travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au/Home/Map> or call 138 138
- For more information on Main Roads' Kimberley Flood Response, visit <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/travel-information/driving-in-wa/kimberley-flood-response/>

Kimberley Floods Recovery Information

For Kimberley Floods Recovery Information please visit www.emergency.wa.gov.au/recovery

Flood Hubs

Fitzroy Crossing Visitor Centre

4 Flynn Drive
8am-12 noon
Monday - Thursday
(08) 9191 0904

Broome Flood Help

Call 0476 897 424
If you're in Broome and
need help

Derby Housing Office

16-22 Loch Street
10am-2pm
Monday - Friday

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

