

Addendum Report

MAYORAL MINUTE

a1 [MM-CM] Mayoral Minute - Flood Event March/April 2017

SUBMITTED BY: Cr K Milne, Mayor

Valid



Civic Leadership

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
 - 1.2 Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input
 - 1.2.2 Decisions made relating to the allocation of priorities will be in the long-term interests of the community
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Councillors

The Tweed Community is coming to terms with the devastation caused by the worst floods the region has experienced in recorded history.

There has been loss of homes, businesses, roads, bridges, family pets, livestock, crops, community facilities, motor vehicles, light aircraft, and most tragically the loss of life of 6 much loved locals from our Tweed community.

Over the last few days I have walked local streets meeting residents and business owners many who have lost their homes and works sites. Seeing entire contents of homes and business piled on the streets ruined from the flood waters from ex cyclone Debbie, discarded and waiting to be taken to the tip has been shocking.

The mud, ruin and rubbish left behind by the flood waters is overwhelming. Family's young and old have been shattered by their losses and in the wake of the receding waters are now faced with the clean-up and recovery.

The Tweed is one of the most beautiful places on this earth. It's beauty is not just in its natural environment or its scenic landscapes but the beauty in the spirit of the people who are proud to call the Tweed their home.

The compassion shown to victims of these devastating floods by other Tweed locals and strangers from outside the area has made a great difference to those suffering such enormous loss. We thank all those who have offered such wonderful support.

I wish to acknowledge the truly amazing work that has been carried out by Council staff. Staff have worked relentlessly to get our essential services such as roads, water and sewer back to working order. In so many cases staff have put the communities needs before their

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own when they too have been affected. Staff are still working furiously to help the community and the work they have done has been so appreciated by everyone.

I would also like to extend a huge thank you to all the emergency and human services personnel and volunteers who have contributed to supporting our community over the tragic last week. We cannot do this without your much valued support.

This week I have launched A Mayoral Flood Appeal to provide financial support to Tweed residents who've suffered through this epic disaster. Donations are tax deductible.

Monetary donations can be made to the appeal at bank branches or electronically via:

Account name: **Tweed Shire Council - Mayor Appeal Fund**
BSB: **062-580**
Account number: **10370281**

Council's values states: "We look after people and places, we care about each other and we are in this together." Supporting the Mayoral Flood Appeal is one way to look after the people of the Tweed who have been so severely impacted.

As a community I'm sure we will continue to pull together to rebuild. Please be sure to treasure those we love, be supportive to those in need, and be patient and extra kind to those who will struggle with what is a long restoration process before them.

I cannot emphasise enough to be so careful on the roads and during this clean up. There is still mud and hazards everywhere please stay safe.

COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice Version 2.5.

b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Appropriate expenditure is allowed for attendance by Councillors at nominated conferences, training sessions and workshops.

c. Legal:

Not applicable.

d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this Mayoral Minute on the Flood Event - March/April 2017 be received and noted.

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UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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