



Floodwaters inundated much of the South Murwillumbah industrial area in the February 2022 flood.

Flood has multi-million dollar impact on Tweed businesses

The devastating February flood which hit the Tweed is estimated to have cost local businesses more than \$57 million in damages and loss of trade.

The staggering figure comes from self-assessments of the flood impact by 193 Tweed businesses who voluntarily responded to Council's Business Flood Impact Assessment survey.

Council will use the information to advocate for greater funding assistance and support for businesses hit by the flood.

The Business Flood Impact Assessment asked businesses to provide a self-assessment on the cost of damage to premises, equipment and stock and the potential loss of trade. It also requested information on the number of staff affected.

The survey found the estimated cost of the flood to the Tweed business community to be around \$57,183,565 with 1,855 full and part-time staff impacted.

Data extracted from the survey shows just how hard the business community was hit, and the information will be used to present a strong case to the State and Federal Governments for more support

for businesses to help get them back up and operating and their staff return to work.

Small businesses made up 91% of responders to the survey, with 86 of them forced to close due to the flood.

The floods impacted a broad range of businesses and industries across the Tweed to varying degrees, with the heaviest impacted regions being the South Murwillumbah Industrial Area, Murwillumbah CBD, Chinderah and Tumbulgum.

Businesses directly affected suffered a loss in trade, with roads and communications cut, a loss of stock and damage to their premises.

This data does not include the cost of the clean-up.

The business assessment survey opened in the days after the flood and closed on Friday 18 March.

Any business owners who still wish to contribute to the survey can do so by visiting the Business Flood Impact Assessment Survey at yoursaytweed.com.au

To find out what business assistance is currently available, go to tweed.nsw.gov.au/business-emergency-recovery

Council launches Mayoral Flood Appeal

Community members keen to make a donation to flood-affected residents and businesses of the Tweed can now do so via the Together Tweed Mayoral Flood Appeal

Tweed Shire Council launched its Mayoral Flood Appeal this week following a unanimous vote at last week's Council meeting.

The Together Tweed Mayoral Flood Appeal 2022 seeks to raise much-needed funds to offer affected Tweed communities immediate help, support recovery efforts and resilience to future flood events and contribute to addressing significant long-term issues such as housing.

The February 2022 flood was the biggest in the Tweed's recorded history. Many areas experienced unprecedented river levels and the damage bill is likely to exceed the devastating 2017 flood event.

While local residents and businesses may be eligible for assistance from the Federal and NSW Government's Natural Disaster Declarations, many people in the Tweed have been significantly affected by this flood event and will require extensive support to get back on their feet.

Consistent with the Council resolution, the Mayoral appeal will support:

- **Murwillumbah Community Centre** – contribute toward the purchase of a replacement community bus.
- **Communication solutions for isolated communities** – purchase of improved communications equipment to help isolated communities stay connected in times of crisis.

Once these needs are met, the balance of the funds collected through the Mayoral Flood Appeal will be distributed equally among the following organisations.

- **The Family Centre** – The Locals Helping Locals Flood Appeal will distribute funds raised directly to children, families and young people impacted by the floods in the Tweed Shire.
- **Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF)** – The Resilience and Regeneration Fund will award grants to help community organisations work in the early, medium and long term recovery phases in affected communities in the Tweed Shire, following the emergency relief effort.
- **NSW State Emergency Service (SES)** – Support for local units to recruit, train and develop volunteers to effectively act and respond to protect people in the Tweed from dangers to their

health and safety and property from destruction or damage in future emergencies.

"The Tweed has a long history of coming together in times of adversity and I know the community is already coming together now to support each other in the wake of this devastating flood," said Tweed Mayor Chris Cherry.

"They have rescued their neighbours and given them a safe place to stay, they are lending a hand clearing out and cleaning, they are volunteering their time, donating goods and offering a shoulder to cry on.

"Many locals, as well as friends and family members from across the country and the world, are looking for ways to help and support flood-affected communities here in the Tweed."

The local organisations receiving the funds raised from the Mayoral flood appeal will support affected communities in the Tweed today, tomorrow and into the future.

To help with our flood affected community, you can donate to the Together Tweed Mayoral Flood Appeal 2022 by direct bank transfer.

The bank details are:

Name: TSC Mayors Appeal Fund
BSB: 062-580
Account: 10370281

For more information visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/mayoral-flood-appeal



Last week we each used

174L a day

as at 21 March 2022

In brief ...

Brett Street CAFE closure

Brett Street CAFE at the Tweed Heads Civic and Cultural Centre will close temporarily to allow critical maintenance to be done to kitchen facilities.

Unit Coordinator Community Services Helen Carter said Council knows how valued this service is by locals, so this temporary closure will be short-lived.

For more information visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/brett-street-cafe

Free event – save energy in the home

Join us for a free event on Wednesday 30 March from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the Banora Point Community Centre.

You'll find out how to measure how well your home performs and get advice on the best steps to improve your home's comfort and energy costs. The session is suitable for renters or home owners.

All attendees will go into the draw to win 1 of 5 free home assessments, each valued at \$250.

It will be a COVID-safe event and light refreshments will be provided. Registrations close midnight, Sunday 27 March. To register your attendance visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/saving-energy

Flood clean-up progressing faster than expected

The Tweed's flood clean-up is progressing faster than projected and is expected to be completed a week earlier than initially forecast.

Council would like to thank the community for working so co-operatively with our clean-up crews, by listening to and heeding our caution messages. This has allowed the clean-up to progress much quicker than initially estimated.

Once clean-up crews complete their final pass in the coming week, a second pass of flood-affected areas will take place. If your property has been missed in the first pass, please let Council know by calling 02 6670 2400.

The community is asked not to place any additional flood waste on the kerb as it won't be collected. Flood-affected residents and businesses are able to drop flood waste off for free at the Stotts Creek Resource Recovery Centre (tip) until close of business on Sunday 27 March.

The tip will return to normal opening hours for the public from Saturday 26 March, to accept the last remaining flood waste. Only materials that were flood-affected will be accepted for free.

Asbestos can only be accepted from Tweed Shire addresses and must be treated appropriately. Visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/asbestos for more info on transport and disposal.

Visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/flood-clean-up, follow Council's Facebook page at facebook.com/tweedshirecouncil or call 02 6670 2400 for more information on the flood clean-up.

Reserve Creek Rd expected to remain closed for months

Diversions will remain on Reserve Creek Road for at least 6 months after a geotechnical assessment found the roadway to be significantly undermined and too dangerous for temporary repairs.

Council is excavating the remaining road to prevent motorists from by-passing barricades blocking the roadway, which was severely damaged by a major landslide during the recent flood.

It is expected Reserve Creek Road will be closed for 6 to 12 months, in the area of the landslide.

Council's Manager Roads and Stormwater Danny Rose said the geotechnical assessment provided an understanding of the full extent of the flood damage to Reserve Creek Road.

"To ensure the safety of road users, Reserve Creek Road will remain closed until permanent repairs can be made," Mr Rose said.

Crews are on site this week to remove the unstable section of the road and install additional barricades. Further geotechnical investigations will follow to determine the permanent repair to the road.

Council apologises for any inconvenience caused, especially to local residents, and asks for patience as we work towards a more permanent repair.

Motorists are further urged not to tamper with road closed signs or barriers as this is a serious offence and could result in someone being hurt or killed.

Further geotechnical assessments are also underway at several other sites in the Tweed where major landslips occurred.

Council estimates damage to the Tweed's road network by the recent flood could cost around \$40 million and take up to 2 years to repair, with more than 1,700 repair jobs already logged – and rising.

For more information and to keep up to date with what's happening on the roads, visit MyRoadInfo.com.au or the Tweed Emergency Dashboard at emergency.tweed.nsw.gov.au



Starting Block Café helps Pay It Forward

After the terrible few weeks experienced by so many in the Tweed, it's more important than ever to share goodwill and generosity.

The Starting Block Café, located at the Tweed Regional Aquatic Centre (TRAC) Murwillumbah pool complex, set up a Pay It Forward scheme in 2021 which has seen \$575 donated back to the community in food and drink credits.

Café Operations Officer Katrina Mudge said the generosity of people visiting the café and the pool had been heart-warming.

"There is currently \$295 available in the fund which is about enough to donate 20 coffees, about 9 snacks and 7 meals to people in need," Ms Mudge said.

"With the loss and devastation people have faced recently, we want

to make sure the community knows they can come here to get a coffee or a meal which just might take the pressure off for the day."

A blackboard is displayed each day showing how many Pay It Forward credits are available from the café.

"Please come and enjoy a meal, knowing the people of the Tweed have your back," she said.

To contribute to the Pay it Forward scheme, simply stop in at the café and make a donation towards a \$5, \$10 or \$15 meal credit.

Initiated by the Red Cross, the scheme assists vulnerable members of the community through participating businesses by providing free drinks or food. It also promotes kindness, is not judgemental and is open to anyone in need.

Pay it Forward at TRAC is available 7 days during the outlet's opening hours.

Visit trac.tweed.nsw.gov.au/starting-block-cafe for opening hours and menu.

Left: Starting Block Café staff member Majella Harris and Operations Officer Katrina Mudge with an example of a \$10 meal lunch in a bowl and small coffee which is available via their Pay it Forward scheme.

Australian Defence Force Major General visits Tweed

The head of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Joint Task Force 629 Major General David Thomae paid a visit to troops in the Tweed on Monday as part of an inspection of the Northern Rivers.

Major General Thomae's Task Force is involved with flood recovery in both South East Queensland and the Northern Rivers.

After meeting with Mayor of Tweed Chris Cherry and Byron Mayor Michael Lyon, he headed out to meet with Army, Navy and Air Force personnel involved in the clean-up and recovery.

The ADF has more than 3,800 personnel on the ground across the Northern Rivers including about 600 troops in the Tweed. They have helped to remove more than 3,000 tonnes of flood debris so far.

Major General Thomae started his inspection by visiting troops at Knox Park where they were involved in removing contaminated soft-fall soil from the children's playgrounds. Troops from each of the armed

forces formed a barrow line, emptying the contaminants into a Council truck for safe disposal.

After addressing troops and providing them with an update on the overall progress of the operation, he proceeded to Chinderah where the ADF are involved with waste removal.

Major General Thomae said discussions with local mayors were crucial in ensuring the ADF's recovery efforts were on track and meeting the needs of local communities.

To request ADF assistance, complete the online form via the Tweed Recovery Dashboard at tweed.nsw.gov.au/recovery-dashboard or at service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/request-flood-clean-and-essential-items

Right: Major General David Thomae addresses ADF personnel who were cleaning up the playground area of Knox Park.



Reach out on Sunday 27 March, Neighbour Day 2022

During times of crisis and disasters, we often learn more about our neighbours than at any other time.

While our suburbs, villages and townships face a huge task to rebuild, relationship-building between neighbours has well and truly started.

On Sunday 27 March, it is national Neighbour Day. Now is the perfect opportunity to check in with your neighbours again to see if they are okay.

The theme for this year is 'Connecting Communities for 20 years'.

Even if you have not known your neighbours for that long, why not take time to thank them for their help, understanding or friendship,

especially during these difficult times?

Across the Tweed, there have been countless stories of neighbours being there for each other during and after the flood. Head to yoursaytweed.com.au/share-your-flood-experience if you would like to share your story.

Your words could inspire other people in the Tweed to reach out to their neighbours and build the community we all want to live in.

The benefits of building a relationship with your neighbour are key factors in Relationship Australia's campaign for Neighbour Day this year.

Head to neighbourday.org to find out more about the day.



Have your say

Add your voice to decision making in the Tweed

Fees and Charges 2021/22 Revenue Policy amendment

On Exhibition from 22 March to 20 April 2022

Have your say on the proposal to amend the *Fees and Charges 2021/22 Revenue Policy* to allow Council to waive or reduce fees after a natural disaster event.

Have your say

Whether you support the amendment or not, we want to hear from you. To get involved provide your comments in the survey at yoursaytweed.com.au

Council confidentiality policy: On request, any submission including identifying particulars will be made public. Council will give consideration to the 'Public Interest' and requests for confidentiality however, the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* may require confidential submissions to be released to an applicant.

Help us make decisions with you
Register at yoursaytweed.com.au

Current vacancies

View current vacancies at tweed.nsw.gov.au/job-vacancies

Subscribe to receive Job Vacancy Alerts via email at tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe

WATER WEEK 12 Check when your water meter is read at tweed.nsw.gov.au/meter-reading-billing-schedule



Development application determinations

Notification of development application determinations for the purposes of Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (as amended).

Application details

Approved

DA20/0443 – Alterations and additions to an existing shopping centre (Banora Shopping Village) including signage
Lot 1 DP 848125, No. 59 Darlington Drive, **Banora Point**

DA21/1023 – Cantilevered swimming pool
Lot 1 DP 118788, No. 134 Terranora Road, **Banora Point**

DA21/0905 – In-ground swimming pool
Lot 7DP 1273771, No. 6 Kanooka Crescent, **Bogangar**

DA21/1036 – Inground swimming pool
Lot 35 DP 261141, No. 3 Ti Tree Avenue, **Bogangar**

DA21/0933 – In-ground swimming pool and retaining wall
Lot 51 DP 1182600, No. 4 Vanda Lane, **Casuarina**

DA21/0951 – In-ground swimming pool
Lot 90 DP 1186602, No. 17 Vanda Lane, **Casuarina**

DA21/1004 – In-ground swimming pool
Lot 613 DP 755740, No. 24 Fingal Road, **Fingal Head**

DA22/0005 – In ground swimming pool
Lot 32 DP 1227115, No. 21 Sailfish Way, **Kingscliff**

DA21/0228 – Two (2) lot subdivision, removal of timber sleeper garden beds and paved patio area, reshaping this area to the natural slope and erection of a 1.8m high fence between proposed Lots 1 and 2
Lot B DP 174482, No. 3 Nullum Street, **Murwillumbah**

DA21/1005 – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 52 DP 253421, No. 43 Countryside Drive, **Murwillumbah**

DA21/1009 – Inground swimming pool
Lot 12 DP 1133087, No. 86 Riveroak Drive, **Murwillumbah**

DA21/0896 – Shed
Lot 283 DP 1120559, No. 4 Woodfull Crescent, **Pottsville**

DA21/0485 – Secondary dwelling and alterations and additions to existing 2 storey dwelling
Lot 17 DP 814951, No. 4 Valleyview Place, **Terranora**

DA22/0026 – Inground swimming pool
Lot 45 DP 238224, No. 46 Blue Waters Crescent, **Tweed Heads West**

The above development determinations are available for public inspection free of charge at the Planning and Regulation Division, Murwillumbah Civic Centre, during ordinary office hours or viewed on Council's DA Tracking site located at datracker.tweed.nsw.gov.au

Countdown to 2022 Tweed Seniors Festival opening ceremony

The countdown is on to the opening of this year's Tweed Seniors Festival 2022 which gets underway on Friday and runs until Sunday 3 April.

Held as part of NSW Seniors Week, the Tweed event will be officially opened at the Tweed Heads Civic and Cultural Centre Auditorium on Friday 25 March at 10 am.

A free bus service will transport seniors to the opening ceremony, leaving Murwillumbah Civic Centre at 9 am and stopping at Condong Post Office at 9:10 am and Tumbulgum Post Office at 9:20 am. Bookings for this service are essential.

Grab a copy of the festival program at Council offices in Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads, at the South Tweed Community Hall administration building and the Banora Point Community Centre or visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/tweed-seniors-festival

For more information call 07 5569 3110 or email communityservices@tweed.nsw.gov.au



02 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872

tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au

Subscribe to the Tweed Link online at tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe

PO Box 816, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

tweed.nsw.gov.au

or follow Council on: [f](https://www.facebook.com/tweedshire) [i](https://www.instagram.com/tweedshire) [y](https://www.youtube.com/tweedshire) [in](https://www.linkedin.com/company/tweedshire)

