Eurobodalla Shire Council Bushfire Recovery Action Plan



Updated April 2020

The Eurobodalla Shire Council's Bushfire Recovery Plan will assist our community to restore confidence and strengthen resilience. This will be achieved by co-ordinating activities to rebuild, restore and rehabilitate the social, built, economic and natural environment at the Eurobodalla community.

Event Summary

The Eurobodalla Shire Council Bushfire Recovery Plan was written in response to the 2019-20 Bushfire disaster.

The Eurobodalla community has been significantly impacted by the bushfires since the Currowan Fire started on 26 November 2019. Since then further extreme conditions on Tuesday 31 December 2019, Saturday 4 January, Friday 10 January, Thursday 23 January, Friday 31 January and Saturday 1 February 2020 saw heavy fire impact or heat conditions in our towns and villages, as well as rural areas.

The Currowan Fire started on 26 November 2019 burning through Shoalhaven and into Eurobodalla. The Incident Management Team (IMT) for this fire was based from Shoalhaven with support by the Far South Coast RFS and Shoalhaven and Eurobodalla Emergency Operations Centres (EOC). At the same time, the Black Range Fire near Braidwood was impacting our neighbours with direct liaison between the Queanbeyan Palerang IMT and EOC.

This fire progressed further west crossing the Kings Highway above Government Bend and on 30 December 2019 was renamed the Clyde Mountain Fire. The Badja Fire started on 27 December 2019 along with the Coondella Trail Fire and Big Belimbla Creek fires on 30 December 2019 joining as one.

A Section 44 Declaration under the Rural Fires Act 1997 was declared on 27 November 2019 and a Natural Disaster Declaration on 6 December 2019 for the Currowan Fire for Shoalhaven and Eurobodalla local government areas. A new Section 44 was declared effective on 30 December 2019 for the whole of Eurobodalla.

The Currowan Fire resulted in the loss of homes in early December 2019 north of Nelligen and in the lower Shoalhaven. These fires included significant impacts to arterial road access via both the Princes and Kings Highways, with consequent adverse impacts to the Eurobodalla economy and supply chains. The fire burnt along the Kings Highway for an extended period resulting in closure of the Kings Highway and limiting access to allow works for re-opening for an extended period. The Kings and Princes Highway are now open in the Eurobodalla area.

Subsequently all fires within Eurobodalla progressed rapidly eastward on the morning of 31 December 2019, with widespread damage experienced in the areas of Belowra, Nerrigundah, Tuross River Valley, Nelligen hinterland, Nelligen township, Runnyford/Buckenbowra areas, Mogo, Bimbimbie, Batemans Bay and coastal suburbs from

Broulee to Batemans Bay. Fires on 4 and 10 January 2020 progressed with damage to Merricumbene, Mogendoura Valley and upper Deua River. 23 January 2020 saw significant damage to rural properties west of Moruya and into as far as the Moruya industrial area on Yarragee Road. Severe fire days were also predicted for Friday 31 January and Saturday 1 February 2020, however these were tempered by the strategic firefighting implemented and more favourable winds with an easterly influence.

The Currowan, Clyde Mountain and Badja fires have burnt over 397,789 hectares of land and caused significant impact to Eurobodalla. Within Eurobodalla more than 271,000 hectares of our 343,000 hectares or 79% of our Shire has been directly fire impacted.

Impacts from these extraordinary fires within Eurobodalla include:

- the sad and tragic loss of three lives, one each at Belowra, Nerrigundah and Bodalla rural areas
- large numbers of stock and native fauna
- loss of more than two thousand buildings (outlined in more detail below)
- substantial damage to public infrastructure (roads, bridges, water, sewer, waste, public buildings and facilities, electricity and telecommunications infrastructure)
- significant impacts on business and tourism due to the disruption to the peak visitor period
- extended closures of the primary transport and access routes into and out of Eurobodalla with both the Kings Highway and Princes Highway impacted
- significant adverse health impacts, particularly the mental health of our community
- more than 96,000hectares or 90.5% of our State forests burnt
- more than 127,000hectares or 90.6% of our National Parks burnt

Building Impact Assessments confirmed the following property losses:

- 501 homes destroyed
- 80 facilities destroyed
- 859 outbuildings destroyed
- 274 houses damaged
- 49 facilities damaged
- 297 outbuildings damaged

There is a huge number of fire affected hazardous trees along fire affected roads as well as on public and private land that have been identified and removal has commenced. This also led to the closure of State forests and National Parks and the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden.

The fires were managed by the Incident Management Team, which is led by the Rural Fire Service and supported by NSW Forestry and National Park and Wildlife Service (NPWS) coordinating the firefighting response. The Incident Management Team is supported by a multi-agency team through the Eurobodalla Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

The EOC comprises of representatives from NSW Police, Eurobodalla Shire Council, Essential Energy, NSW SES, NSW Ambulance, NSW Disaster Welfare, NSW Local Health District, Transport for NSW, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Agriculture and Animal Services and NSW Local Lands Services. Council is a key member of the EOC providing support to the Incident Management Team.

The fires have had a significant and sustained impact on our community. The devastation, fear and concerns, those families who have lost loved ones, those who have lost properties, prepared their houses, evacuated, business impacts and the tourists required to leave as well as the acts of kindness, generosity and comradery; all have created unique and individual impacts and experiences.

The impact in the short and long term will be very significant and addressing the issues of mental health and wellbeing are vitally important.

NSW Response to Recovery

The NSW Government appointed Mr Dick Adams as the Southern NSW Recovery Coordinator. Following is the structure for Regional Committee reporting through to the State Recovery Coordinator.

Regional Recovery Committee

The NSW Government brings all key agencies to work with Eurobodalla to assess damage and needs, to ensure that critical stages of recovery are undertaken.

The Regional Recovery Committee operates across the following local government areas covering:

Bega Valley	Eurobodalla	Shoalhaven
Goulburn Mulwaree	Greater Hume	Snowy Valleys
Snowy Monaro	Queanbeyan Palerang	Wingecarribee
Wagga Wagga		

The membership of this regional committee is broad with representation from the following organisations:

Councils	NSW Environment Protection Authority
NSW Rural Fire Service	NSW Public Works Advisory
NSW Police	Family and Community Services
NSW SES	Insurance Council of Australia
South East Regional Health	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Transport NSW	Office of NSW Minister Andrew Constance,
Local Member for Bega	
NSW Regional Infrastructure	Office of Emergency Management

The Regional Committee is supported by regional sub-committees. The following committees and Council's representatives are outlined below:

Committee	Council representative
Health and wellbeing	Kathy Arthur
Business and Tourism	Lindsay Usher
Waste	Amanda Jones
Planning	Lindsay Usher
Local Government	Dr Catherine Dale
Animal and Agriculture	Warren Sharpe OAM
Communications	Kellee Pisanos

Eurobodalla Recovery Action Committee

Council established a Local Government Recovery Committee on 22 January 2020. The key areas of focus are:

- Assist the community to restore confidence and strengthen resilience. This is achieved by coordinating activities to rebuild, restore and rehabilitate the social, built, economic and natural environment of the Eurobodalla community.
- Develop and coordinate the implementation of the Recovery Action Plans (with an agreed transition/exit strategy) that aligns with local assessments and plans.
- Ensure that relevant stakeholders, including relevant Government agencies, are involved in the development and implementation of recovery objectives and strategies and are kept informed of progress made.
- Identify, and proactively manage local and regional recovery issues and trends.
- Ensure that recovery activities are in line with the NSW Recovery Plan (<u>https://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/Documents/plans/supporting-plans/Supporting-Plan-Recovery-2016.pdf</u>).

Membership of the local committee includes:

Council's Executive Leadership Team	Department of Premier and Cabinet
NSW Public Works Advisory	NSW Health
NSW Rural Fire Service	Local Land Service
Family and Community Services	NSW Police
Office of NSW Minister Andrew Constance,	NSW Emergency
Local Member for Bega	
Office of Emergency Management	Grand Pacific Health
NSW Environmental Protection Authority	Small Business Commission
Austraian Defence Force	Coordinare

The objectives of the committee include:

- 1. Assess damage and needs
- 2. Reconstruct and restore physical infrastructure
- 3. Ensure support for emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing
- 4. Adapt to a changed natural environment
- 5. Build community resilience and capability.

The Local Recovery Action Plan outcomes outlines the priorities and actions of the Eurobodalla Local Government Recovery Action Committee. This is a working document and is updated regularly.

Recovery

It should be recognised that the Recovery Phase involves a whole of community, government, business association, private entities and not-for-profit organisational response. This Plan focuses on the activities that have a direct Council involvement of the facilitation role. There are many other programs that community and business groups are conducting, and these activities are integral to a holistic approach to community lead recovery.

Working alongside NSW Government agencies and in collaboration with other councils, activities and strategies have been implemented to rebuild Eurobodalla's social, built, economic and natural environment. These recovery actions are identified in the following action plan outcomes and links with Council's Operational Plan 2020-21.

In addition, a key focus is also placed on advocating to the Australian and NSW Governments for critical resilience strategies to be identified, funded and implemented for major infrastructure including telecommunication systems, power supply, regional transport links, water and sewerage systems, hospitals and schools, emergency operations and evacuation centres. We will also urge the Australian and NSW Governments to assist in improved business continuity - in particular alternate power supply - for fuel service stations, major food retailers and aged care facilities.

Social recovery

A natural disaster of this magnitude impacts the wellbeing of the whole community in a myriad of ways. Council is working with a range of government departments and non-government agencies to support those directly impacted by fires and to identify challenges and potential solutions. This included providing management and staff for the Eurobodalla Recovery Centre in Batemans Bay, the recovery point in Narooma, and an ongoing outreach program that aims to provide practical help and answer the questions of property owners who have lost their homes.

Our advocacy was instrumental in bringing forward the opening of a Headspace youth mental health centre planned to open in Batemans Bay in May 2020, and Council has taken a lead role in galvanising youth sector workers to develop and implement a youth recovery plan.

A letter from the Mayor to non-resident ratepayers resulted in more than 80 holiday homes becoming available for emergency housing. A Disaster Relief Fund was established to provide direct assistance to those who need it most, and continues to attract donations.

Community recovery will be considered in the delivery of Council's arts, recreation and community services, including our popular children's and youth services, and community care for the elderly and people with disabilities.

Built environment recovery

Council's program of work will prioritise rebuilding or improving key Council infrastructure damaged or destroyed in the fires, including 17 bridges that provide vital access to Eurobodalla's rural communities west of the highway.

Damaged road surfaces, guideposts, guardrails, signposts all require repair, along with water and sewer infrastructure including the new low-pressure sewerage system at Rosedale, which was extensively damaged.

Council's waste management facilities at Surf Beach and Moruya were significantly impacted by fire and were closed to the public for extended periods.

An agreement was reached with the NSW Government to dispose of fire-impacted demolition waste using the shire's three waste management facilities. Permission for a three-metre high overtop on Surf Beach facility will create an additional 100,000 cubic metres of landfill, or the equivalent of four years' capacity under normal circumstances. The arrangement allows the bushfire clean up to take place efficiently while making sure the community's regular waste management needs can be met in the coming years. The agreement sees the Australian and NSW government's take up the cost and resourcing of the facilities until the end of June 2020 when the government's contractor predicts the clean-up work will be substantially finished. We expect to receive more than seven years' amount of waste in those four months.

Council worked with the NSW Government to swiftly develop new planning provisions that allow people affected by bushfire to establish temporary accommodation like caravans on their property, or shipping containers for storage, without the need for council approval. Council is providing free Bushfire Attack Level assessments for those rebuilding, and has established a fast track for DA approvals including a streamlined process and extra assessment staff.

Economic recovery

Eurobodalla's business community and the tourism industry have been hard hit. Up to 15 commercial businesses were destroyed or damaged by fires, particularly focused in Mogo. The indirect impacts of the Kings Highway closure from mid-November and the tourism exclusion zones and Princes Highway closures during the height of the fires meant the summer peak season was lost. Tourism is Eurobodalla's largest industry, normally injecting \$464 million into our economy each year. Data for December and January showed the fires and associated road closures cost the shire's economy around \$130 million in trade and 900 jobs. Many primary producers were directly fire impacted, while growers faced low demand and freight challenges.

NSW and Australian government grants and loans for fire impacted businesses were forth coming, however in some cases the process and eligibility requirements were onerous. Strong advocacy for more business support led to the expansion of the program in March. The first three weeks of March were extremely positive for tourism and forward bookings were excellent, however, the announcement of the COVID-19 pandemic saw dramatic cancellations. A solid program of business recovery support developed by Council and funded by NSW and Australian governments will require ongoing review as the COVID-19 situation unfolds.

Natural environment recovery

Council's sustainability team has joined forces with local agencies like WIRES and Local Lands Services to support our natural environment post-fires. Early on, wildlife feeding stations were set out across the shire, nesting boxes have gone up in burnt areas to support habitat, and erosion control work has helped manage the destruction caused by weeks of fires followed by flooding. Our community sees hope in nature, and we have put a focus on educating residents about how the bush will regenerate, and what they can do in their own backyards to attract wildlife.

Practical assistance has included free inspections of onsite sewer management systems on fire impacted properties to ensure environmental controls are maintained, and providing environmental health staff to assist Public Works inspections of impacted properties immediately after the fires.

Council has advocated for funding and support to manage environmental issues, and for a regional approach to prioritise works across south east NSW.

Government funding

The NSW and Australian governments provided immediate disaster relief direct to fireimpacted councils – for us, \$1.4M as well as \$250K. We are working through a program of recovery actions to best benefit the community. COVID-19 will attract further stimulus funding and the recovery program will no doubt be a work in progress as more funding comes in and different needs are identified.

Stronger together

Every person in the Eurobodalla has felt the impact of the bushfire disaster. Throughout this difficult time, our community has shown courage, resilience, humility and compassion. Taking the lessons learned, Council staff and councillors will work alongside residents to rebuild our beautiful place. We are stronger together.

Conclusion

The Local Recovery Action Plan outcomes outlines the priorities and actions of Council, working with the Eurobodalla Local Government Recovery Action Committee. This is a working document and will be updated regularly.

	Health and Wellbeing			
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s
1	Immediate health, wellbeing and general recovery supports, funding and services are made available locally to the community in an accessible, timely manner Operation Plan (OP) Link: 1.2.1.1 and 2.2.1.1	 Set up the Local Recovery Centre and train ESC employed staff to coordinate the service and register households. Advocate to ensure the appropriate services and agencies are available at the Recovery Centre and remain in attendance. Support provision of a crèche at the Recovery Centre to support families. Provide free transport to community members to enable them to attend the Recovery Centre. 	15 January – 18 March 2020.	Council Office of Emergency Management
2	Opportunities for fire impacted communities to meet together and access information and service providers in their own neighbourhood provided using a community led model OP Link: 1.4.1.1, 1.4.2.2, 1.5.1.1 and 1.5.1.2	 Engage with community members in fire affected towns, suburbs and localities to determine preferred approach (eg. Pop up, community meeting). Meeting or pop up services organised, promoted and run, with key agencies and providers invited to meet stated community needs Follow up actions addressed to strengthen trust, including provision of sandwich boards and community noticeboards Provide Bushfire Recovery Helpdesk. Develop virtual community outreach via Council's website and social media platforms. 	From 29 January 2020 – ongoing.	Council Office of Emergency Management
3	Provision of a comprehensive case management service to support community members to address complex situations and achieve a successful long-term recovery OP Link: 1.4.1.1, 1.4.2.2, 1.5.1.1 and 1.5.1.2	 Put proposal for case management service to NSW Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Implement proposed case management support service, including recruitment, leasing of premises, service mapping and outreach. Monitor and reporting of case management support service, in line with contract requirements. 	From May/June 2020. Initial 12 month contract.	Council Office of Emergency Management

	Health and Wellbeing			
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s
4	Community development and recreational projects (operational and capital) to support social, cultural and economic recovery OP Link: 1.3.2.3 and 2.2.1.1	 Preparation of a comprehensive evidence-based program of community development, arts and cultural and recreational programs that provide social and economic benefits towards recovery Enhanced rebuild of the Captain Oldrey amenities building to support fire affected and high growth area of the shire. Waiving event fees, free internet, scanning and photocopying at libraries. 	From May/June 2020. Ongoing for 12 to 18 months.	Council
5	Improve functionality and accessibility of Council's designated evacuation centres OP Link: 1.3.2.3	 Improve and upgrade amenities, including showers and toilets at the designated Narooma and Moruya evacuation centres, as well as adjacent Council owned facilities that are required during significant evacuations. Improve resilience and functionality of evacuation centres, to connect generators, kitchen equipment and Work Health Safety matters. 	2020 - 2021	Council
6	Provide regulatory services in response to health and safety concerns arising from the fires OP Link: 1.1.2.3 and 3.4.1.1	 Respond to Customer Service Requests and general complaints regarding public health and safety issues related to bushfires. Provide advice on environmental health issues including contaminated sites (asbestos) 	Ongoing	Council

	Business and Tourism				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
1	Implement Priority 5 of the Eurobodalla Destination Action Plan (EDAP)- tourism product and experience development OP Link: 5.3.1.3	 Seek funding for southern food trail Work across region with Destination Southern NSW and neighbouring councils in cross border projects – Food Trail, Canberra Coast Walk, Southern Drive Undertake audit of scenic drives affected by fire to review content and identify opportunities to enhance particularly with tourism wayfinding. Develop training program for businesses to increase online presence. 	Commenced. March 2020 – July 2021	Council National Parks and Wildlife Service Destination Southern NSW	
2	Focus the implementation of the Nature Based Tourism Study on key category 1, 2 and 3 projects OP Link: 5.3.1.4	 Identify Category 2 short term Nature Based Tourism micro- infrastructure projects Category 1 - Continue to work with National Parks and Wildlife Service on implementation of Murramarang South Coast Walk Category 3 - Seek funding for the Coastal Headlands Walk. 	Commenced	Council National Parks and Wildlife Service	
3	Implement Priority 4 of the EDAP - Destination Investment and Development OP Link: 5.3.1.3	 Continue planning and design for Batehaven – Corrigan's – Observation Point precinct. 	June 2021	Council	
4	Economic Development Strategy Priority 4 and EDAP Priority 3 and 4 - Prioritise the attraction of investment to centres impacted by fire OP Link: 5.3.1.3 and 5.1.1.3	 Mogo rebuild project – master plan impacted properties – including assessment of parking requirements and linkages and identification of commercial opportunities related to Mogo Trails Hub Seek funding for Mogo Trails network Build Mogo Pathway Provide financial support to local Chambers of Commerce. 	December 2020	Council	
5	Implement Priority 7 of EDAP with a focus on bushfire recovery marketing OP Link: 5.3.1.3	 Implement a bushfire recovery marketing strategy focusing on bringing visitors back to the shire. 	Ongoing	Council	

	Business and Tourism			
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s
6	Implement Priority 1 of Economic Development Strategy and EDAP Priority 2 - Industry engagement and development OP Link: 5.3.1.3 and 5.1.1.3	 Commence implementation of the industry development bushfire recovery plan in collaboration with chambers and other industry stakeholders. 	April 2020	Council, Local Business Chambers Business Council of Australia Service NSW Destination Southern NSW
7	Implement Events Strategy with focus on bushfire recovery OP Link: 5.3.2.1	 Support hallmark events with grant applications Seek to establish and seek funding for a new Taste Eurobodalla event with a focus on industry development opportunities. Ensure event development support remains consistent with Events Strategy Creation of events calendar to improve connectivity and enhance recovery. 	Ongoing	Council
8	Implement Priority 3 of the Economic Development Strategy - retain and improve local employment opportunities OP Link: 5.1.1.1, 5.1.1.2 and 5.1.1.3	 Work with local businesses and chambers to attract local employment and training Seek government support for employment initiatives. 	Ongoing	Council Local Business Chambers Business Council of Australia Service NSW Destination Southern NSW

	Business and Tourism				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
9	Reopen Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens OP Link: 1.3.3.1	 Demolition and clean-up of debris Replace entry bridge Repair replace other infrastructure. 	Continuing – reopening late June 2020	Council	
10	Undertake research and evaluation of bushfire impact of visitor economy and communities – EDAP Priority 3.	 Seek funding to procure and utilise Spendmap Seek funding to procure and utilise PlaceScore to deliver a clear evidence base for planning and investment in our communities' post bushfire. 	Ongoing	Council	
11	OP Link: 5.3.1.3 Undertake food inspection program and provide advice to food shops OP Link: 1.1.2.1	 Provide inspection and advice services around relevant hygiene requirements Provide 1 free food compliance inspection to each food business. 	Ongoing	Council	
12	Support the business community through waiving of fees	 Support accommodation providers with public swimming pool inspection fees Support café and retail businesses through outdoor licensing fees exemption for 6 months. 	Ongoing	Council	

	Waste				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
1	Build, renew, operate and maintain waste landfill sites and transfer stations OP Link: 4.2.1.1	 Extinguish fire in landfill cells and green waste stockpiles Operate without power or communication Repair damage to site – Surf Beach - cell liner Moruya Transfer Station – fire in stockpiles Repair damage to site – Moruya – power Repair damage to site – Moruya – power internal Repair damage to site – Moruya – retaining wall Increase capacity to resources of SurfBeach and Brou Tips to manage bushfire clean up waste. 	2/3 weeks complete 4 weeks complete 2-3 months in progress 2 weeks complete Complete 2 weeks in progress 1 month in progress	Council Essential Energy	
2	Manage kerbside collection OP Link: 4.2.1.2	 Redirect collection vehicles to available sites Arrange for missed services to be picked up when roads closed due to fire are open Additional green waste pick ups Additional litter service at evacuations centres Replace burnt bins. 	2-3 months in progress	Council	
3	Coordinate Clean Up Australia day activities OP Link: 4.2.3.1	 Initiate a different approach to clean up due to waste exposed by bushfires. 	1 March 2020- complete	Council	
4	Bushfire Clean Up OP Link 4.2.1.1	 Work with NSW Government to ensure bushfire affected properties are cleaned up. 	Ongoing	Council Public Works	

	Planning			
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s
1	Bushfire safety and fast approval process. Knowledge of expected Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) outcome will assist with fast tracking applications. OP Link: 6.2.2.1, 6.2.1.2, 6.2.2.2,	 Issue BAL certificates at no cost or significant reduction. 	Ongoing – 1 year	Council
	6.2.2.3 and 6.2.2.4			
2	Bushfire recovery fast track team OP Link: 6.2.2.1, 6.2.1.2, 6.2.2.2,	• Dedicated team for enquiries, Bushfire Attack Level certificates and assessments to ensure smooth and efficient process.	Ongoing – initially one year	Council
	6.2.2.3 and 6.2.2.4			
3	Advocacy on bushfire controls OP Link: 6.1.1.2	• Precinct wide assessment of hotspots such as Rosedale, Guerrilla Bay.	6 month period. To start in future. Maybe July	Council NSW Rural Fire
				Service
4	Advocacy on biodiversity controls OP Link: 6.1.1.2	• Ensure new houses meet current standards and achieve best practice for Asset Protection Zone and other bushfire protection measures.	3 months	Council Department Planning, Industry and Environment
5	Planner assistance OP Link: 6.2.2.1	 Additional resources to cope with recovery action resourcing. Assistance with DA assessment (~\$400 per household). 	1 year	Council South east Councils
6	Newsletters/ Forums OP Link: 6.2.1.1	Ensure new information gets out to industry.	Next 6 months.	Council

	Planning				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
7	Undertake biosecurity programs (weeds and pests) OP Link: 3.2.1.1	 Seeking funding and support for weed control and feral animal control. Provide extension and site inspections for farms to assist in managing weeds associated with fodder drops. 		Council Local Land Services Land Managers	
8	Assist Landcare and community groups and projects OP Link: 3.2.2.1	 Supporting WIRES with water and feed stations. DPIE provided short term staffing support. Supporting Landcare and groups. 	Multiple grant submissions underway	WIRES Council Landcare	
9	Plan and implement environmental protection and restoration program OP Link: 3.2.2.2	 Coordinating a regional grant under Department Planning, Industry and Environment for the south east councils to develop and identify high risk sites for remediation works. Facilitate land managers to determine who, how and when actions can be implemented. Sediment and erosion works completed through Local Land Service funds of \$50 000 with Council and Batemans Bay Local Aboriginal Lands Council. Seek funds for rehabilitation works, erosion and sediment control, revegetation priorities, Threatened Species, Endangered Ecological Communities and monitoring and evaluation. 		Council	
10	Undertake estuary monitoring OP Link: 3.3.2.2 and 3.3.1.1	 Water quality action plan. Develop and implement water quality program to identify impacts of the bushfires. 	Joint submission made 20/2/20 with Bega and Shoalhaven councils	Council	
11	Delivery the onsite sewage management system inspection program OP Link: 3.3.2.3	 Assist fire impacted properties with OSMS issues that may be affect public and environmental health and safety. Advice and assessment of OSMS associated with Development Applications for Bushfire rebuilds. 	Initial property inspection by 30 June 2020. Ongoing	Council	

	Planning			
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s
12	Heritage Management	• Provide advice to community on repairs to and rebuilding of or in vicinity of heritage items.	Ongoing	Council Heritage Advisory
	OP Link 2.3.2.1	• Undertake assessment of and approve of proposed demolition of heritage items to facilitate bushfire clean-up.		Service.

	Local Government				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
1	Advocate for community on bushfire and recovery related issues OP Link: 3.1.3.4, 9.1.3.1 and 9.1.3.3	 Identify and escalate issues through regional to state committee. Participate and respond to inquiries and royal commissions. Advocate for improved telecommunications networks which are more resilient in response to natural disasters. 	Ongoing	Council	
2	Facilitate community grants OP Link: 9.1.2.1	 Develop and administer the Eurobodalla Disaster Relief Fund. 	Ongoing	Council	
3	Advocate for funding for bushfire and recovery related issues OP Link: 9.1.3.2	 Identify project and programs to enhance community connectedness and recovery. 	Ongoing	Council	
4	Communicate bushfire related recovery program OP Link: 9.1.3.2	 Coordinate letters to impacted residents and monitor help desk enquiries. 	Ongoing	Council	

Agriculture and Animal Welfare					
Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s		
 Provide temporary on-farm accommodation for landowners who have lost their farm home while they rebuild OP Link: 1.2.1.1 and 2.2.1.1 	 Advocate to the NSW Government for funding temporary pod/shed. Support Minderoo with collation of requests for pods Liaise with planning committee regarding approvals Identify and escalate issues through regional to state committee. Participate and respond to inquiries and royal commissions. Advocate for improved telecommunications networks which are more resilient in response to natural disasters. 	Ongoing	Council OEM Minderoo		
 Provide temporary lockable containers for farm equipment and tools for landowners who have lost their farm sheds OP Link: and 2.2.1.1 	 Support donors in providing loans of lockable shipping containers for storage of equipment 	Ongoing	Council Minderoo Maersk		
 Assist rural farmers re-establish fencing OP Link: 3.1.3.3 	 Direct ADF to clean-up of fence on public boundaries Advocate for improved funding solution Secure grant to support Blazeaid Support Blazeaid camp set-up Moruya 	Jan-March 2020 Ongoing	Council Local Land Service OEM Blazeaid		
4 Distribute emergency fodder OP Link: 3.1.3.3	Distribute fodder	Jan – Feb 2020	Local Land Services		
5 Support distribution of donated fodder	 Leverage farmers networks to secure and distribute fodder 	Ongoing	Local Land Services		
fodder OP Link: 3.1.3.3					

	Agriculture and Animal Welfare				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
6	Work with health providers to simplify access to mental health support and information. OP Link: 1.2.1.1	 Blazeaid dinner Moruya showground Provide information to Blazeaid for distribution Refer request to map mental health services and share information 	Ongoing	Council Land Services NSW Health	
7	Assist landowners in accessing financial and other support OP Link: 1.5.1.2	 Advocate for funding to support restocking Identify any gaps in financial support (eg bee keepers) Provide information via existing communications 	Ongoing	Local Land Services	
8	Assist landowners in environmental property management OP Link: 3.2.1.1 and 3.2.2.2	 Promote information on weed identification & feral pest management Weed checks on property underway Provide information to landholders on do-it-yourself 	Ongoing	Council Local Land Services	
9	Assist oyster growers to access support OP Link: 3.3.1.1	Prioritise and treat catchments to reduce erosion	Jan-March 2020	Council Local Land Service NSW Government	
10	Seek funding and support for natural resource management across the landscape OP Link: 3.2.2.2	 Prioritise works for sediment and erosion control, invasive species management, revegetation and wildlife management 	Ongoing	Council Local Land Service	

	Communications				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
1	Provide recovery information in print format OP Link: 8.1.2.2	 Prepare print version of recovery newsletter for community noticeboards in impacted areas and residents without access to internet. Create posters and other materials for community noticeboards 	Ongoing	Council	
2	Provide recovery information across various digital platforms OP Link: 8.1.2.3 and 8.1.2.4	 promoting recovery helpdesk and case management service. Prepare content, images and video for distribution to local media and for Council's communications platforms - website, enewsletters, social media, weekly print ad in local newspaper and quarterly printed newsletters to all households. Distribute Council's fortnightly recovery enewsletter, using new information from recovery agencies, Council's recovery helpdesk, and prepared Council content. Encourage recovery newsletter subscribers to reply to the email with questions or suggestions – these can addressed one on one, or if a shared issue, featured in a future edition. Repurpose recovery content for other relevant Council enewsletters, namely those for residents, business, tourism operators, builders and developers, plus copy for Council's weekly print ad in local newspaper. Maintain verified, up to date information on Council's recovery unchaine 	Ongoing	Council	
3	Provide in person media advice and respond to enquries. OP Link: 8.1.1.1	 website. Connect with editors of community-led newsletters and social media pages to offer exchange of content. Arrange regular interviews on local radio to discuss recovery issues using subject matter experts, can include talkback. 	Ongoing	Council	
4	Provide support and implement communication strategies for recovery	 Maintain the integrity of Council's bushfire recovery communications approach, respecting the privacy and grief of those impacted through personalised communications while 	Ongoing	Council	

	Communications				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
4	OP Link: 8.1.1.1 and 8.1.2.1 (cont)	 ensuring the broader community sees and understands recovery progress. Identify recovery stories in Council and in the community to share new information, successes and challenges. Liaise with recovery helpdesk staff, case management team and OEM communications to understand emerging issues with impacted residents, the wider community, council services and recovery agencies. 			

	Infrastructure				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
1	Advocate for further restoration works for Kings Highway OP Link: 7.1.1.1, 7.1.1.2, 7.1.2.1,	 Advocate for further clearing on the Clyde Mountain Kings Highway 	Ongoing	Council T4NSW	
	7.4.2.1				
2	Restore vehicular access to properties and villages on local roads. OP Link: 7.1.2.1	 Clean-up and make safe local roads within the fire affected area (approximately 490km of local roads): Inspect all roads Re-open all Council roads Clean-up of fallen and hazardous fire affected trees Rectify road pavement damage 	1 June 2020	Council with approval from RFS or T4NSW	
		Install guide posts, signs, protective fencing			
3	Restore 18 fire affected road and pathway timber bridges (destroyed or damaged)	 Initial work to establish emergency side tracks and/or undertake temporary repairs (where possible). Destroyed bridges 	Ongoing	Council T4NSW	
	OP Link: 7.1.2.1	 Four Gums Bridge Belowra Road, Belowra Pigeon Gully Bridge Araluen Road, Merricumbene Rosedale footbridge connecting North & South Bridge (partially destroyed) 			
		 Sitters Ditch Bridge Belowra Road Peach Tree Bridge Eurobodalla Road, Nerrigundah 			
		 Reedy Creek Bridge Eurobodalla Road, Nerrigundah Comans Bridge Gulph Creek Road, Nerrigundah Old Bolaro Mth Boad Bridge Old Bolaro Mat Boad, Bolaro 			
		 Old Bolaro Mtn Road Bridge Old Bolaro Mnt Road, Bolaro Belowra Bridge Belowra Road, Belowra Belimbla Bridge Belowra Road 			
		 Murphys Bridge Eurobodalla Road, Nerrigundah Old Tomakin Road Bridge, Old Tomakin Road, Mogo 			

	Infrastructure				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
		 Damaged bridges Clarksons Bridge Wagonga Scenic Drive, Narooma Kennys Creek Bridge Araluen Road, Merricumbene McGregors Creek Bridge Araluen Road Moruya west Cheese Factory Bridge Eurobodalla Road, Bodalla west Sinclairs BridgeEurobodalla Road, Bodalla West Gulph Creek Bridge Nerrigundah Mountain Road, Nerrigundah 			
4	Replacement and repairs to fire affected water and sewer infrastructure OP Link: 4.1.1.2; 7.1.2.2	 Damage to shed for Deep Creek Dam (DCD) aerators Remove destroyed shed at water pump station at DCD Mobile equipment -6" trailer mounted pump and toolbox trailer at Batemans Bay STP Damage to sewer pods on private lots at Rosedale Damage to Tuross River bores Pursue insurance claim for claimable losses Replacement of water meters 	Ongoing	Council	
5	Batemans Bay SES and Depot Building and shed destroyed OP Link: 3.1.3.1; 3.1.3.3	 Temporary housing of Batemans Bay SES Pursue insurance claim for destroyed building Demolish burnt SES sheds Work with SES to identify site for new SES building Secure additional grant funding for new SES shed Design and construct new SES shed 			
6	RFS Hot Fire Training Centre Jeremadra RFS building destroyed OP Link: 3.1.3.1; 3.1.3.3	 Pursue insurance claim for destroyed building Determine re-use of insurance payment 	Ongoing	Council	

	Infrastructure				
	Objective/Community Need	Recovery Actions	Timeframe	Responsible Agency/s	
7	Council Controlled Reserves Fire affected fallen and hazardous trees over approximately 20 km of urban bush interface directly impacted. Make safe. OP Link: 3.1.3.2	 Submit 'make safe' plan to the RFS Pursue external arborist resource to assist inspections Inspect fire impacted reserves Identify fire affected hazardous trees Call quotations and submit to RFS for approval Remove/treat fire affected hazardous trees 	Ongoing	Council	
8	Mt Wandera Telecommunications Tower Council equipment on tower and site building destroyed OP Link: 5.4.1.1	 Repair to tower structure Replacement of equipment 	31 August 2020	Council	
9	Funding for damage to local roads from transport of high waste volumes OP Link: 7.1.1.1	 Advocate for consideration in waste committee cost to Council of extra road damage 	Ongoing	Council Public Works	