

# Fire Recovery Unit



**The Fire Recovery Unit, within Regional Development Victoria, was established by the State Government to assist people and communities affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires.**

The Fire Recovery Unit (the Unit) is responsible for monitoring and reporting on rebuilding progress, communicating key information and providing advice and support to communities and local Government. It also provides an important interface between the State Government and affected communities regarding bushfire recovery.

The Unit sits within Regional Development Victoria (RDV) in the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD). Its presence within RDV complements the work already being done to develop initiatives to restore the economic independence of individuals and communities impacted by the 2009 bushfires. The Unit also works closely with the Mobile Rebuilding Advisory Service and the Bushfire Response Planning Unit in DPCD, as well as the Victorian

Bushfire Appeal Fund to respond to medium to longer term recovery needs.

## **Specifically, the Fire Recovery Unit:**

- Responds to enquiries from the public;
- Produces a monthly newsletter with information, services and support;
- Maintains a website with up-to-date fire recovery information;
- Monitors and reports on progress of bushfire recovery projects;
- Provides advice to communities on the VBAF medium term allocation;
- Assists with the delivery of community recovery projects;
- Advocates for bushfire affected people when other departments are involved; and
- Assists in the implementation of major infrastructure projects.

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## **Contacting the Fire Recovery Unit**

The Unit has three Community Engagement Coordinators who work directly with people affected by the fires. The staff members work remotely and can travel to most areas of the State as required:

<i>Community Engagement Coordinator</i>	<i>Phone number</i>	<i>Email</i>
Mr Laurie Paton	0438 307 083	<a href="mailto:laurie.paton@dpcd.vic.gov.au">laurie.paton@dpcd.vic.gov.au</a>
Ms Kim Fawcus	0400 278 555	<a href="mailto:kim.fawcus@dpcd.vic.gov.au">kim.fawcus@dpcd.vic.gov.au</a>
Ms Bec Nicoll	0434 211 241	<a href="mailto:bec.nicoll@dpcd.vic.gov.au">bec.nicoll@dpcd.vic.gov.au</a>

Alternatively, staff in the Melbourne office can be contacted on:

Phone Number: **1800 055 714**  
Email: [fire.recovery@rdv.vic.gov.au](mailto:fire.recovery@rdv.vic.gov.au)  
Website: <http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/fire-recovery-unit>

