

## UPDATES

### Mayoral Relief Fund

The Council approved a trust deed on Thursday, appointing three Trustees and registering the Mayoral Relief Fund. The first Trust meeting will now be held to establish the grants criteria and application procedure. Mayor Tony Bonne says the funds will be “allocated to community members affected by the floods, according to criteria decided by the Trustees”.

Total donated funds now stand at: \$132,360.

### Security

Security patrols around red-stickered properties are being continued and mobile security is also in place. Police are working closely with the community group which is keeping an eye on homes in other flood-affected areas.

Please report any suspicious activity to Police in the first instance.

And a big thank you to the Māori Wardens from Auckland who have been an essential part of the security patrols since the event in April.

### EQC

EQC has now received 176 claims from insured properties for the removal of silt and debris. The clean-up of 32 of those properties is now underway.

### Waste

Just to clarify, for those still in need of skip bin services in Edgecumbe, there has been no withdrawal of these services. Demand for bins is still high as residents continue to clear out their houses. Bins are being emptied and replaced as quickly as possible to try and meet the community's needs. If you need a bin, please call 0800 306 0500.



### Temporary accommodation

If you need temporary accommodation, or expect to need it in the future, register online at [www.temporaryaccommodation.mbie.govt.nz](http://www.temporaryaccommodation.mbie.govt.nz) or call 0800 779 997.

When your registration is received, MBIE temporary accommodation staff will contact you to help you find suitable housing options. There will be a cost for temporary accommodation; check with your insurance provider to see if your policy will cover any temporary accommodation rent. If not, you can contact MSD to see if you qualify for financial assistance.

### Community feedback

Together with Rural Support Trust, the Recovery Team attended a community barbeque at the Galatea Hall on 3 May. The 50 or so attendees were updated on Recovery Project activities.



**Interesting fact:** the Whakatāne District usually sends a total of 700 to 900 tonnes of solid waste to landfill each month. We are currently sending about the same volume per week, from Edgecumbe alone.

## Donated goods – coordinated approach from here...

Organisations and agencies which have been receiving and distributing donated goods have agreed to take a more coordinated approach as the Recovery Project develops.

Rather than the duplication of these wonderful efforts, it has been decided to coordinate donated goods.

- Furniture and whiteware and appliances are to be located at Pou Whakaaro (1 Bracken St), with further donations to be directed there
- Clothing and soft furnishings will be available from the old Countdown building (King St)
- Te Teko Hall will continue to operate and will limit goods to food, clothing, linen and small household items.

Due to the generosity of people giving clothing, the group has decided to ask that donations of clothing stop for now.

People able to volunteer for a few hours to help organise donated items can contact Michelle at Pou Whakaaro on 07 308 8170.

### IF YOU WANT TO DONATE

We are accepting donations of clean, good quality furniture: beds, dressers, lounge suites, dining tables and chairs, fridges, freezers, washing machines, microwaves, jugs and toasters.

### HOW DO PEOPLE RECEIVE FURNITURE

You will need to register with us and provide address verification of the property that was flood-damaged. You then choose the items you need, and take them away.

**Donated goods distribution centres will be open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and Saturday, 10am to 1pm.**



### Liveable Homes

John Pullar, coordinator of the Liveable Homes project, is seeking registrations from people who want their homes to be part of this ‘making your home liveable’ service.

Please call in at the Liveable Homes portacom next to the Edgecumbe

Library, or call 0800 306 0500 to register your details.

The Liveable Homes service offers to return flood-damaged homes to a ‘liveable’ state (walls and floors dry and intact) and is designed to help people who may not have the means to achieve that.

### Red-stickered properties



The recovery office is working with the owners of the 15 red-stickered houses in Edgecumbe to facilitate safe access for assessors, such as EQC and insurance providers. Risk to people has prevented access to some of these properties until now.

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council has indicated that it is interested in purchasing some of the red-stickered properties to allow stopbank improvements to be undertaken. Before this process can progress, owners will need information from their insurance assessors.

To support this, the Recovery Office has appointed a facilitator to work with the owners of red-stickered properties, on an individual basis.

### Task Force Green

Funding has been provided for Task Force Green workers to get stuck into rural and open spaces clean-ups. They are eager for work so please call 0800 327 646 and let them know about any clean-up work you have.

Task Force Green offers services to rural properties where there may still be flood debris caught in fences, fallen trees to be removed and general tidying up.

## Te Tari Awhina community hub

The Te Tari Awhina community hub is now operational at the Edgecumbe Library, offering a suite of services for anybody who would like assistance, advice or just a friendly ear.

This marks an important milestone for the community – meaning the auditorium area at the Edgecumbe War Memorial Hall is once again available for community use. The lounge and kitchen area will continue to be available for socialising and community support, until an alternative venue is decided in consultation with the Community Board and volunteers.



**TE TARI  
AWHINA  
community hub**

**OPENING HOURS**  
**Monday – Friday**  
**9am to 4pm**  
**Saturday**  
**9am to 1pm**  
**At Edgecumbe Library**  
*- All Welcome -*