

## STATE SITUATION REPORT

1800 hrs, 1/03/2014

<b>INCIDENT / EMERGENCY NAME:</b>	Latrobe Valley/Hazardous Material and Other Incidents		
<b>SITUATION REPORT NUMBER:</b>	# 6	<b>INCIDENT LEVEL:</b>	2

### SITUATION SUMMARY:

Situation Summary	<p>On Friday 28 Feb 14, an advice was issued for 'at risk' people who live in the southern Morwell area near the mine to relocate away from the smoke. Victoria's Chief Health Officer, Dr Rosemary Lester, identified 'at risk' individuals as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pregnant women</li> <li>• residents aged 65 and over</li> <li>• pre-school children (under 5 – including babies and infants)</li> <li>• anyone with pre-existing heart or lung conditions</li> </ul> <p>Help is available for those who are unable to organise suitable accommodation or transport for themselves. Individuals in these circumstances are being advised to ring DHS to make an appointment to speak with a DHS officer in person at one of four locations in Morwell.</p> <p>In East Gippsland two significant bushfires are not yet under control (Goongerah-Deddick Trail and Timbarra – Gil Groggin). Fire activity has subsided and there is currently no threat to community.</p>
Known impacts	The smoke issues associated with the Hazelwood Mine fire continue to affect the Morwell community.

### SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES:

Health Command/Coordination	<p>129 clients have attended the centre today. There have been 1015 clients attend the Community Health Assessment Centre since opening on 21 February 2014.</p> <p>Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, Bapcare St Hilary's Community Aged Care facility has re located their residents out of South Morwell.</p>																												
Health Protection	<p>The Chief Health Officer continues to advise that people aged over 65, pre-school aged children under the age of 5 years of age, pregnant women and anyone with a pre-existing heart or lung condition living or working in Morwell South to consider temporary relocation because of the Hazelwood mine fire.</p> <p>A community fact sheet as been updated and is available at <a href="http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hazelwood">www.health.vic.gov.au/hazelwood</a>.</p>																												
Human Services Command	<p>DHS resources continue to be deployed to the Gippsland region to assist regional DHS emergency management operations in Morwell.</p> <p>DHS funded services and DHS clients have been contacted and are being provided with information on the current situation by the Morwell office.</p> <p><u>Calls regarding Respite Hardship Payments (Moe Call Centre)</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Monday 24/2</th> <th>Tuesday 25/2</th> <th>Wednesday 26/2</th> <th>Thursday 27/2</th> <th>Friday 28/2</th> <th>Saturday 1/3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Calls</td> <td>79</td> <td>338</td> <td>364</td> <td>383</td> <td>762</td> <td>333</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Appointments made</td> <td>23</td> <td>284</td> <td>284</td> <td>256</td> <td>528</td> <td>65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Conversion rate</td> <td>29%</td> <td>84%</td> <td>78%</td> <td>67%</td> <td>69%</td> <td>19.5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* As at 3.45pm 1/3/14</p> <p><u>EM Workforce</u></p> <p>There are 73 DHS/DH staff working across the Gippsland area, call centre and assessment centres and additional staff in Melbourne and surrounding Divisions working in support by providing coordination of information and deployment of additional resources.</p>		Monday 24/2	Tuesday 25/2	Wednesday 26/2	Thursday 27/2	Friday 28/2	Saturday 1/3	Calls	79	338	364	383	762	333	Appointments made	23	284	284	256	528	65	Conversion rate	29%	84%	78%	67%	69%	19.5%
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Relief (inc Red Cross)	<p>DHS and Latrobe City Council continue to operate a Community Information and Recovery Centre in Morwell to provide support and information to Morwell residents in a local, air-conditioned environment. This centre is supported by Latrobe City Council, DHS, Red Cross, Victorian Council of Churches and other key agencies. Thirteen people attended today as at 1430hrs.</p> <p>Approximately 157 people have accessed the Community Respite Centre in Moe for relief and information (7 today). Services on offer include psychosocial support (from Red Cross and Victorian Council of Churches), fire information (from CFA and Victoria Police), health information (from Ambulance Victoria and EPA), child friendly spaces, food and fluids (tea, coffee and snacks). Latrobe council are providing a bus service to the respite centre, subject to demand.</p> <p>As at 1545hrs today, a total of 120 appointments with affected members of the public have been conducted for the issuing of Personal Hardship Respite and Relocation Payments. One member of the community has received assistance with finding accommodation for the purposes of relocation.</p> <p>Upon the direction of VicPol Red Cross has activated on-line registration for Register.Find.Reunite. People</p>																												

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

	planning to relocate are being encouraged to register. To date 433 people have registered.
Recovery	Recovery planning is now well underway in East Gippsland, the Grampians, Hume, Loddon-Mallee and North and West Metropolitan regions for the fires in January and February 2014.
Communications / Public Information	Communications and Public Information activities today have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• active media monitoring</li> <li>• media liaison (The Age, TEN News, ABC)</li> <li>• updating of Recovery website, and VERIL call centre scripts</li> <li>• re-drafting of key DHS messages, especially on payment information</li> <li>• participation in EMJPIC teleconference</li> <li>• liaison with communications officers working in Gippsland REOC</li> <li>• supporting senior DHS staff with media/comms issues</li> </ul>
Business Continuity	Nil significant for this report.

### ISSUES:

Issue	Diminished availability of accommodation in Morwell area.
Action Taken	The Gippsland Regional Relief Plan is being updated, including strategies to identify alternate sources of accommodation.

### OPERATIONAL STATISTICS:

#### RELIEF/ RECOVERY/RESPITE CENTRES

Region and LGA	Location	Type of Centre	Hours/Attendees
Hume Mitchell Shire Council	Wallan Library, 12/81 High Street, Wellington Square, Wallan	Information and referral service	9.30am – 5pm (Mon – Fri)
Hume Mitchell Shire Council	Kilmore Library, 12 Sydney Street, Kilmore	Information and referral service	9.30am – 5pm (Mon – Fri)
Grampians Northern Grampians Shire Council	Grampians Community Health Centre (Shack) Patrick Street, Stawell	Recovery	9am – 5pm
Gippsland Latrobe City Council	Community Respite Centre Moe Town Hall, Albert St, Moe	Respite	9am – 6pm  Cumulative total of attendees: 150
Gippsland Latrobe City Council	Community Information and Recovery Centre 22 Hazelwood Rd, Morwell	Community Information and Recovery Centre and Appointment location for Personal hardship Voluntary Relocation Payments	9am – 6pm
Gippsland Latrobe City Council	DHS Office 71—1 Hazelwood Road, Morwell	Appointment location for Personal hardship Voluntary Relocation Payment	9am – 6pm
Gippsland Latrobe City Council	Commercial Road Primary School, Morwell	Appointment location for Personal hardship Voluntary Relocation Payment	9am – 6pm
Gippsland Latrobe City Council	Senior Citizens Hall, Maryvale Crescent, Morwell	Appointment location for Personal hardship Voluntary Relocation Payment	9pm – 6pm
Gippsland Latrobe City Council	Ambulance Victoria Gippsland Regional Office, 2 Saskia Way, Morwell	Community Health Assessment	8am – 8pm

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (FOR THE FEBRUARY FIRE EVENT)

Region and LGA*	Number Emergency Grants	Total
Loddon Mallee – Macedon Ranges	186	\$199,500
Hume - Wallan	491	\$507,500
Hume - Kilmore	265	\$261,750
Hume - Seymour	46	\$49,000
Hume - Numurkah	57	\$46,600
Gippsland – Wellington	6	\$5,750
Gippsland – East Gippsland	39	\$30,500
Gippsland – Baw Baw	1	\$500
Gippsland – Latrobe	4	\$2,250
Eastern Metro - Manningham	5	\$5,750
North West Metro – Hume City Council	21	\$24,000
<b>Sum Total</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>\$1,133,100</b>

**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES  
EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT**

Region and LGA*	Number Re-establishment Grants	Total
Hume - Wallan	10	\$23,750
Hume - Kilmore	9	\$27,000
Hume – Numurkah	1	\$2,530
Gippsland – Wellington	1	\$3,000
North West Metro – City of Hume	1	\$3,000
<b>Sum Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>\$59,280</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,192,380</b>

\*Note: Figures represent the region and LGA in which the emergency relief or re-establishment payment was issued. This does not always correlate with the location of recipients' principal place of residence.

**Personal Hardship Respite Payments**

Region and LGA	Today's Payments	Total Cumulative Payments	Cumulative Total
Gippsland - Latrobe	51	349	\$176,750
		<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$176,750</b>

**Personal Hardship Voluntary Relocation Payments**

Region and LGA	Today's Payments	Total Cumulative Payments	Cumulative Total
Gippsland - Latrobe	103	103	\$92,750
		<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$92,750</b>

**Community Meetings**

Location	Date	Time
Bonang – Bonang Hall, East Gippsland Shire (includes a BBQ for local residents hosted by DEPI)	Sunday 2 March 2014	12.30pm

**Next Sit Rep: The next situation report will be issued on Sunday 2 March 2014 at 6.00pm**

**Endorsed by:**

**Alan Hall: State Recovery Coordinator**