

17 March 2014

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Door knocks completed

With the help of a multitude of volunteer doorknockers, Latrobe City Council has completed the mammoth task of visiting all homes in Morwell.

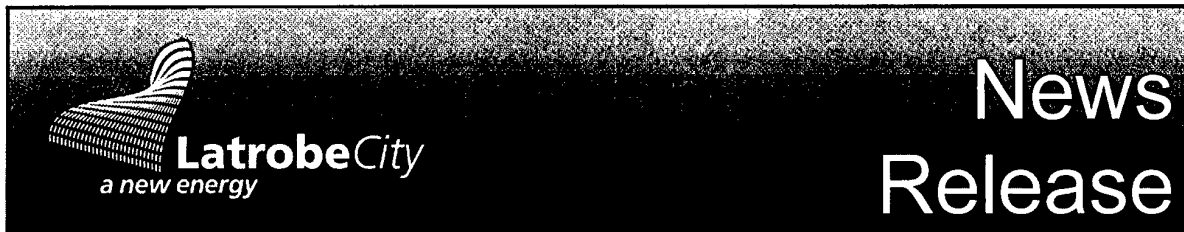
Latrobe City Council's mayor, Councillor Sharon Gibson, said that by the end of Friday the target of visiting more than 6400 homes had been achieved and over 2700 surveys had been completed.

"It was so important for residents to have that face to face experience with our volunteers. As well as being an opportunity for residents to express any concerns or ask any questions, we were able to collect surveys from them which have raised some emerging themes, such as cleaning up and health. This sort of information is key to being able to provide support for short term and long term recovery.

"Our volunteers, more than 40 people, came to us from a variety of organisations and we are indebted to them for giving up their time to help over the last two weeks. There were door knockers from 33 other Victorian councils and five different agencies including CFA, MFB and Red Cross.

"Such has been the success of this process that this kind of personal response may become the model used by other councils during other emergencies and at the very least our learnings from this exercise will be shared with other agencies," Cr Gibson said.

"It is important to add that whilst the door knocking has concluded there is still an opportunity for residents to contact us to arrange an appointment with our recovery team. There is a hotline number to call - 1800 017 777 and the Community



Information and Recovery Centre in Hazelwood Road, Morwell is also open 9am to 6pm daily for general advice," Cr Gibson concluded.

Media Enquiries:

***Cr Sharon Gibson, Latrobe City Mayor
Telephone: 0429 338 762***

***Cr Dale Harriman, Latrobe City Deputy Mayor
Telephone: 0419 399 093***

***Media Relations Office
Telephone: 5128 5458***

For general enquiries, contact Latrobe City Council on 1300 367 700.