



Robyn Preston MP

Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

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HAWKESBURY WELCOMES DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Disaster recovery assistance is now available in the Hawkesbury local government areas following the severe storms and floods from 10 March 2021 onwards.

Minister for Emergency Management, David Littleproud MP, said the storms and floods have caused widespread damage across the impacted council areas.

“This is a serious event with heavy rainfall, severe winds and widespread flooding, resulting in a high number of flood rescues, damage to roads and properties and a large-scale, multi-agency response led by the NSW SES,” Mr Littleproud said.

New South Wales Minister for Police and Emergency Services, David Elliott MP, said communities experienced significant disruption due to heavy rainfall and flooding.

“As NSW continues to deal with this serious weather event, today’s announcement will help reassure those already affected that there is assistance available to cover the costs associated with the operational response and support households, small businesses, primary producers, not-for-profit organisations and councils as they continue to repair the damaged assets and essential public assets, such as roads,” Mr Elliott said.

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP, has welcomed the announcement of disaster assistance provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

“We know our community is resilient to disaster, but when the worst occurs it is a relief to know that there is help available,” Ms Preston said.

Assistance available under the DRFA may include:

- Help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged
- Support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets
- Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations
- Freight subsidies for primary producers, and
- Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.

For information on personal hardship and distress assistance, contact Service NSW on 13 77 88. To apply for a concessional loan or grant, contact the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit www.raa.nsw.gov.au

Further information on disaster assistance is available on the Australian Government’s Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au and Service NSW at disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au