

# Business Support October Floods 2022

3 November 2022



# 55 local government areas and one alpine resort are currently deemed eligible for assistance under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement (as at 1 November 2022)

Alpine Shire  
 Ararat Rural City Council  
 Banyule City Council  
 Baw Baw Shire Council  
 Benalla Rural City  
 Boroondara Council  
 Brimbank City Council  
 Buloke Shire  
 Campaspe Shire  
 Central Goldfields  
 City of Ballarat  
 City of Greater Geelong  
 Colac Otway Shire Council  
 City of Greater Bendigo  
 City of Greater Shepparton  
 Corangamite Shire  
 East Gippsland Shire Council  
 Gannawarra Shire  
 Glenelg Shire  
 Golden Plains Shire Council  
 Hepburn Shire

Hindmarsh Shire Council  
 Horsham Shire  
 Hume City Council  
 Indigo Shire Council  
 Loddon Shire  
 Macedon Ranges Shire  
 Manningham City Council  
 Mansfield Shire  
 Maribyrnong City Council  
 Melbourne City Council  
 Mildura Rural City Council  
 Mitchell Shire Council  
 Moira Shire  
 Moonee Valley City  
 Moorabool Shire Council  
 Mornington Peninsula Shire Council  
 Mt Alexander Council  
 Moyne Shire  
 Murrindindi Shire  
 Nillumbik Shire Council  
 Northern Grampians

Pyrenees Shire  
 Rural City of Wangaratta  
 Southern Grampians Shire Council  
 Strathbogie Shire  
 Surf Coast Shire Council  
 Swan Hill Rural City Council  
 Towong Shire Council  
 Warrnambool City Council  
 Whittlesea City Council  
 Wodonga Council  
 Wyndham City Council  
 Yarra Ranges Council  
 Yarriambiack Shire Council  
  
 Alpine Resort ~ Falls Creek

See [business.vic.gov.au](https://business.vic.gov.au)  
 for the eligible LGAs

# Supporting Flooded Victorian Businesses to Return to Trade

## Australian and Victorian Governments' \$877 million Flood Recovery Support Package

### Announced 1 November 2022

- **\$877 million Recovery Support package**, supporting businesses, farmers, and not-for-profits to rebuild and return to trade as quickly as possible, following the recent devastating floods.
- Grants of up to **\$50,000** will be available to eligible businesses, not-for-profit organisations, community sport and active recreation organisations to support recovery efforts including rebuilding damaged infrastructure and replacing damaged assets.
- To help businesses navigate through the recovery period, more than **\$22 million** has been made available for support services to facilitate the development of recovery plans, provide mental health support and assist in grant applications.
- **Business Chamber and Trader Groups Programs** will be established to enable locally led solutions for business activation.
- Primary producers and rural landholders grants of up to **\$75,000**.
- To find out more visit [vic.gov.au/2022-flood-recovery](https://vic.gov.au/2022-flood-recovery) or subscribe to the **Business Victoria Update newsletter** to receive details as programs launch.

# Small Business Immediate Flood Relief Grant \$5,000

## Small Business Immediate Flood Relief Grant

OPEN

Closes:  
14 January 2023

### What it is

One-off \$5,000 payment that can be used to cover expenses arising from damage caused from flooding to the place of business, business assets, stock or equipment, such as:

- qualified tradespeople to conduct safety inspections, repair premises and internal fittings
- equipment, materials and services needed for clean-up
- removal and disposal of debris, damaged materials or damaged stock
- equipment, stock and materials essential for immediately resuming operations.

### Who can get it

To be eligible, a business must:

- be located within an eligible local government area
- hold an active ABN on and from 14 October 2022
- be registered for GST on and from 14 October 2022
- have incurred significant direct damage from flooding to the place of business, business assets, stock or equipment
- not have received support under the Primary Producer Flood Relief Program or the Community Sport Emergency Flood Assistance Program.

### How to apply

See [business.vic.gov.au](https://business.vic.gov.au) for Program Guidelines and to apply. Call 13 22 15 if you have any questions.

# Business Relief Advisers are available to provide one-to-one support to help people navigate information and access assistance

## Business Relief Service

OPEN

Free service one-on-one support from a local business relief adviser available via telephone and on the ground to:

- guide business owners through the available Commonwealth, state and local supports
- help businesses assess impacts, manage insurance, landlord issues,
- form strategies for recovery.

The **Business Relief Service** can be accessed via **submitting an online form on the Business Victoria website [business.vic.gov.au](https://business.vic.gov.au)** or contacting the **Business Victoria hotline on 13 22 15**. The hotline operates seven days a week from 7.30am-7.30pm.

Drop in sessions at recovery centres to be arranged with local councils and business chambers.

# Support for Primary Producers, Community Sport & Councils

## Primary Producer Immediate Flood Relief Program

OPEN

### Primary Producer Clean-Up Relief Grants

\$10,000 grants to cover the cost of the clean-up and get businesses up and running again.

### Primary Producer Concessional Loans

Up to \$250,000 to restore or replace damaged equipment and infrastructure or cover short-term business expenses.

### Primary Producer Transport Subsidies

Up to \$15,000 to support the transport of emergency fodder or stock drinking water, and the movement of livestock

See [agriculture.vic.gov.au](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au) for details. Call **1800 260 425** if you have any questions.

## Community Sport Emergency Flood Assistance Program

OPEN

Closes: 13 Jan 2023

### Community Sport Emergency Flood Assistance Program

\$5,000 one-off grants to assist Victorian sport and active recreation organisations in the replacement of playing, injury prevention and first aid equipment, canteen and clubroom items and maintenance equipment.

## Council Support Fund

### **Council Support Fund**

Immediate payments of \$500,000 to **the 24 local government** areas that have experienced the most profound flood damage to start clean-up activities and restore local facilities and services that are the lifeblood of regional communities, like sports clubs and community centres.

# Commonwealth Government payments can assist individuals with costs and income support

## Disaster Recovery Allowance

Up to 13 weeks payment to help eligible individuals losing income as a direct result of the Victorian Floods that started on 6 October 2022.

Available to eligible individuals that work or live in an affected Local Government Area, lost income as a direct result of the floods, and earn less than the average Australian weekly income in the weeks after this income loss.

Apply through [Services Australia](#).

## Disaster Recovery Payment

A lump sum payment to help individuals significantly affected by Victorian Floods in October 2022. It is not for minor damage or inconvenience. Its purpose is to help with major damage to your property or other assets.

Available to individuals that are in a Local Government Area that has been declared for a disaster. If you're eligible you'll get:

- \$1000 per adult
- \$400 for each child younger than 16

Apply through [Services Australia](#).

# Wellbeing and mental health, resources and support

## Flood Recovery Hotline

OPEN

### Flood Recovery Hotline 1800 560 760

- immediate help on clean up and temporary accommodation, and mental health and wellbeing.

## Wellbeing and Mental Health

OPEN

### Partners in Wellbeing Helpline 1300 375 330

- confidential, one-on-one financial, business advice and wellbeing support to Victorian small business owners.

### Workplace Wellbeing Hub

- one-stop-shop for business owners and advisers to access a range of wellbeing and mental health information. See [business.vic.gov.au](https://business.vic.gov.au)

## Business Victoria resources

OPEN

### Information, grants, tools and templates at [business.vic.gov.au](https://business.vic.gov.au)

Disaster Resilience for Business - a resource designed to help businesses prepare for and manage disasters

- [checklist](#) for business response and continuity to help when disasters strike
- [toolkit](#) to businesses be more resilient to future disasters.



# Financial Counselling

## Small Business Debt Helpline

OPEN

### **Small Business Debt Helpline** 1800 413 828

National support line staffed by specialist small business financial counsellors – immediate assistance and referral for ongoing support.

Call 1800 413 828 or [click here](#) for online chat 9am – 5.30pm weekdays

## Financial Counselling

OPEN

### **Financial Counselling Victoria**

In person or phone-based support for sole traders, business partners, personal and family finances and dealing with financial hardship and debt. [Click here](#) to find your nearest service.

### **Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS)** [rfcsnetwork.com.au](http://rfcsnetwork.com.au) or call 1300 771 741

Free financial counselling to rural businesses.

### **AgBiz Assist** [agbizassist.org.au](http://agbizassist.org.au) or call 1300 834 775

Free rural and small business financial counselling.

### **National Debt Helpline** 1800 007 007

For immediate assistance and/or to be connected to your nearest service contact or [click here](#) for online chat 9.30am – 4.30pm weekdays.

# Non-Victorian Government resources and support

## Donations and Volunteering

**GIVIT** [givit.org.au/storms-and-flooding](https://givit.org.au/storms-and-flooding)

Item requests and donations to those impacted by Victoria's flooding.

**Australian Red Cross** [redcross.org.au/donation/disaster-response-and-recovery/](https://redcross.org.au/donation/disaster-response-and-recovery/)

Donate to on-ground emergency response teams in flood-affected areas.

**Disaster Relief Australia** [disasterreliefaus.org/volunteer/](https://disasterreliefaus.org/volunteer/)

Volunteer organisation providing expert and civilian disaster relief.

**Community Enterprise Foundation**

[communityenterprisefoundation.com.au/disaster-appeals/victorian-flood-appeal/](https://communityenterprisefoundation.com.au/disaster-appeals/victorian-flood-appeal/)

Donation fund providing support to a range of local charitable groups in flood-affected areas.

**Victorian Farmers Federation Disaster Relief Fund** [vff.org.au/donations/](https://vff.org.au/donations/)

Donate to farmers impacted by Victoria's flooding.

**Wildlife Victoria October Flood Appeal 2022** [wildlifevictoria.org.au/actnow](https://wildlifevictoria.org.au/actnow)

Donate directly to Wildlife Victoria's Emergency Rescue Service.