

Our Ref: 4381623

15 December 2020

Dr Brett Stevenson
Co-Convenor
A Better Eurobodalla
abettereurobodalla@gmail.com

Dear Brett

Evacuation Centres

Thank you for your correspondence of 1 December 2020 to General Manager Dr Catherine Dale, regarding evacuation centres. Dr Dale has asked me to respond on her behalf in my capacity as Local Emergency Management Officer.

One of the outcomes of last summer's extreme fire event was a review of the operation of evacuation centres to improve their resilience to future natural disasters.

Council has allocated \$200,000 from the funding made available to Eurobodalla Shire Council by the Australian Government under the *Disaster Recovery Funding – Commonwealth Government, Councils Affected by Bushfires* program to upgrade the primary facilities within the three evacuation centre zones.

The assets that have been upgraded are:

- Narooma Sport and Leisure Centre
- Moruya Basketball Stadium
- Moruya Showground Pavilion (Kitchen)
- Batemans Bay Basketball Stadium
- Hanging Rock Sports and Function Centre.

All of these sites have been fitted with electrical changeover switching to allow immediate generator connection in the event of an emergency.

In addition to these upgrades, Moruya Basketball Stadium and Narooma Sport and Leisure Centre had major upgrades of the amenities and disability compliant toilets installed, and several of the evacuation sites have also had new lighting, repainting, toilet cubicle doors replaced, new partitions, tiling and general amenities overhaul.



The decision on opening a particular evacuation centre is dependent upon the type of emergency unfolding, for example flood versus fire. Other facilities, both Council and private, may be utilised depending on the circumstances, as occurred during Black Summer.

We continue to work with others and within our own resources to improve the resilience across Eurobodalla. More detail on this advocacy is included in our submissions to the NSW and Australian Government Bushfire Inquiries at this link:

<https://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/living-in/about/emergency-information/bushfire-recovery/bushfire-inquiries>

If you wish to discuss this further, please contact me directly on 4474 1206 or email council@esc.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren Sharpe".

Warren Sharpe OAM
Director Infrastructure Services
Local Emergency Management Officer