

STATEMENT FROM THE MAYOR

15 February 2025

McCrae landslide update

Yesterday's announcement that residents from eight properties affected by the McCrae landslide could safely return home was a significant step forward.

Our building surveyors and specialist engineers continue working diligently to assess the remaining properties, with the goal of allowing more residents to return as soon as it is safe. However, ensuring the safety of residents remains our absolute priority.

We are deeply saddened to report that several homes within the exclusion zone were broken into, ransacked, and had items stolen. This is an appalling violation at a time when these residents have already endured significant hardship.

To help secure the area before these incidents occurred, the Shire installed fencing, deployed CCTV cameras with licence plate recognition, placed warning signage, and engaged a private security company for 24/7 patrols. These measures were implemented to support Victoria Police, who are responsible for law enforcement.

I visited and spoke with several affected residents yesterday, and I share their anger and frustration at these despicable acts. In response, our Building Maintenance Team acted swiftly to board up broken windows and secure the affected homes. I commend them for their prompt action.

The Shire will continue to do all it can to support affected residents. We urge anyone with information about these crimes to contact Victoria Police.

Our community stands together in difficult times, and we remain committed to ensuring residents feel safe and supported as they rebuild and recover.