

Residents update McCrae landslide recovery



21 February 2025

Emergency Orders update

Residents at an additional three properties (14 View Point Road, 18-20 View Point Road and 2/613 Point Nepean Road) are now able to return to their homes.

The Emergency Orders were lifted at 9am today on these three properties, meaning a total of 11 out of 19 properties have now had the orders lifted.

We expect these properties to have power and water supply reinstated by the utility providers very soon, if not done already.

Our Building Maintenance Team is on stand-by, ready to assist residents as they move back in. Additional waste collection will also be arranged.

We have instructed our contractors to reposition the security fencing to allow access to these three properties. Please see attached map for details of the updated exclusion zone.

Security update

Following our update on Tuesday morning, we are pleased the new CCTV cameras arrived earlier than expected and were installed on Tuesday afternoon. They have been placed at strategic locations to maximise coverage and complement the 24/7 security patrols.

These cameras detect motion and send live alerts to the security company, which then immediately contacts the security onsite to advise of any potential intruders.

We are also pleased Victoria Police have installed a camera outside 613 Point Nepean Road.

We remind everyone that if there is an intruder in your home or evidence of a break-in, you should immediately call Triple Zero (000) for police help.

Power and other utilities

Power has now been reinstated to many properties and we are working with United Energy to restore the remaining properties where possible.

South East Water has reinstated water to properties that have had emergency orders lifted. Following the reconnection of water services, you may find some minor issues with water coming through your taps. South East Water have provided an information sheet to guide you when checking your water connection and ensuring it is flowing correctly. Please see attached. Should you continue to experience issues with your water flow, please contact South East Water for further advice.

The eight properties that had emergency orders lifted last Friday have also now had their gas reconnected, and we are coordinating the reconnection at the three additional properties.

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Rubbish collection

We have organised additional kerbside rubbish collection for the three new properties that have returned to their homes. Please place your household bins at your usual collection point and they will be emptied on both Saturday and Sunday this weekend (22-23 February).

Fridges

We understand some residents may wish to dispose of their fridge due to mould and/or smell.

In the first instance, we encourage affected residents to speak to their insurers in relation to the loss of, or damage to, their fridges.

If the loss of or damage to your fridge is not covered by your insurer, we can assist with a \$200 voucher to contribute to the cost of a replacement. You will need to provide written evidence from your insurer that it is not covered plus a photo of the fridge. Please email mccraerecovery@mornpen.vic.gov.au.

If you are purchasing a new fridge, please be aware that delivery companies will often also remove the old fridge for a small additional fee. We will reimburse this additional removal fee with a receipt from the delivery company, up to a limit of \$50.

If you still need your fridge removed, we are able to assist with collection from your kerbside. Please email mccraerecovery@mornpen.vic.gov.au for assistance.

Shire Building Maintenance Team

Our Building Maintenance Team remains on call for residents who have had emergency orders lifted and need emergency repairs.

Please contact Eastern Property Services, Matthew Sloper, on 0459 900 557 if you need further assistance.

Wellbeing

Red Cross volunteers have been visiting properties that have had their Emergency Orders lifted. The purpose for their visit is to check in on those who have returned and offer support through their Psychological First Aid service and expertise. There is no obligation to speak with Red Cross, however any conversations with the volunteers are confidential. They may provide you with further information on self-care including booklets and websites to visit.

Next steps for remaining properties

As conditions vary across the site, the Municipal Building Surveyor is putting together tailored plans for each property to map out steps required to return people safely to their homes.

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Information is changing daily, so we appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through this process. Our commitment remains focussed on getting people back into their homes as quickly and safely as possible.

Geotechnical update

We are working with the geotechnical engineers to further understand and assess conditions across the exclusion zone. This includes site investigations and reporting across the evacuation area and the escarpment, monitoring systems and geotechnical assessment and reporting.

A summary of tasks completed or in progress for week ending 14 February includes:

- ☐ Continuing commissioning and testing of monitoring system
- ☐ Baseline surveys from monitoring equipment
- ☐ Continuation of intrusive field program

We will continue to provide a weekly summary of tasks from the geotechnical engineers if/when available.

Community meeting 4pm Friday 28 February

Derek Rotter (Director – McCrae landslide) and David Kotsiakos (MBS) will continue to attend these meetings to give further updates and answer questions from the community.