



21 January 2025

Ms Vicki Ward MP
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Natural Disaster Recovery
GPO Box 4367
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

By email: minister.ward@dffh.vic.gov.au

Dear Minister

Urgent Request for Technical and Financial Support Following the McCrae Landslide

I request urgent assistance from the State Government in addressing the significant challenges arising from the landslide that occurred in McCrae on 14 January 2025. The Mornington Peninsula Shire (Shire) has been working closely with the Victoria State Emergency Service and other agencies to respond to this event, which has caused considerable disruption to our community and will require extensive investigation and ongoing recovery efforts.

Key impacts of the landslide include:

- The closure of **Point Nepean Road**, a critical state road during the peak summer season, has caused significant disruption and safety concerns.
- The evacuation of **19 homes**, requiring significant Shire resources to monitor ground stability, safeguard public safety, and manage the exclusion zone. This situation has also understandably caused heightened anxiety among nearby residents, who are concerned about the potential risks to their properties and the broader stability of the area.
- Establishing a **Community Relief Centre** and regular communication with residents, including ongoing community meetings to provide vital updates.

Investigations into the cause of the landslide are ongoing. **South East Water** has issued the following statement, *'the preliminary data from our tests indicate the water is not from South East Water's network.'* The Shire's preliminary investigations on drainage infrastructure have not yet detected any issues. As such, the cause remains unknown, and further geotechnical assessments and ground movement monitoring are essential to address this ongoing uncertainty and to identify the cause.

Contact the Mornington Peninsula Shire

📞 1300 850 600
🌐 mornpen.vic.gov.au
✉ customerservice@mornpen.vic.gov.au

By post: Private Bag 1000,
90 Besgrove Street, Rosebud VIC 3939
ABN: 53 159 890 143



To effectively manage the recovery and ensure community safety, the Shire urgently requests assistance from the State Government in the following areas:

Technical Expertise:

- Geotechnical engineering support to determine the cause of the landslide and develop long-term mitigation measures.
- Assistance from state agencies in addressing infrastructure and safety concerns.

Financial Support:

- **Geotechnical Survey Costs:** Monitoring and stabilising the affected area is critical but expensive.
- **Traffic Management Expenses:** Closing Point Nepean Road requires complex traffic redirection measures, including collaboration with the Department of Transport and Planning.
- **Staffing and Overtime Costs:** The Shire is committing significant resources to maintaining public safety, managing the exclusion zone, and communicating with residents, resulting in substantial unplanned expenses.

The Mornington Peninsula Shire is committed to managing this situation effectively but cannot do so alone. The State Government's support will be critical in ensuring a coordinated and comprehensive recovery process.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Yours Sincerely

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Cr Anthony Marsh

Mayor, Mornington Peninsula Shire

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Acting Chief Executive Officer

Mornington Peninsula Shire

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cc: Tom McIntosh, Member for Eastern Victoria
Sam Groth MP, Member for Nepean
Kelly Grigsby, CEO, Municipal Association of Victoria