



MOUNT BARKER  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Federal Government funding for bushfire recovery

Media Release 10 February 2020

**On 20 December 2019, the Cudlee Creek bushfire rapidly spread across the Adelaide Hills and into the Mount Barker District with severe impacts to life, property and the natural environment. The fire area was some 23,966 hectares and resulted in tragic losses that our community are still recovering from.**

Earlier today Federal Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management David Littleproud together with South Australian Minister for Human Services Michelle Lensink announced further funding for fire-impacted areas of South Australia.

The total package of \$5.95 million, includes \$4.55m towards a community recovery and resilience program for the Mount Barker District, Adelaide Hills, Rural City of Murray Bridge, Mid Murray and Kangaroo Island. A further \$1.4m will support a targeted community recovery and resilience effort in the Mount Barker District Council area.

Mayor Ann Ferguson welcomes this funding announcement and said she was very relieved the Government has come through with \$1.4m to support recovery efforts for the Mount Barker District community.

“It’s a weight off our shoulders to be able to talk to our community and give them some hope in recovery efforts. Our community works best when we work together, I know we will not just recover but do things better than before” added Mayor Ann Ferguson.

The community recovery package includes:

- A \$1.3m Community Recovery and Resilience Program
- A \$3m Tourism Recovery Package and
- A \$250,000 Blaze Aid Support Program for volunteer help

Mayor Ferguson is grateful for today’s announcement from Federal Minister David Littleproud and South Australian Minister Michelle Lensink, and would also like to thank Senator the Hon Anne Ruston, Federal Member Rebekha Sharkie and Member for Kavel, Dan Cregan, for all their support.

“We were significantly impacted by the Cudlee Creek fire, our community needs to rebuild and recover and we are all grateful for the funding support provided by the Government” said Mayor Ferguson.

“Council has an important role to play, but we were limited in the answers we could provide. Hopefully now with this funding we can ask our community what they require to recover and go about facilitating that outcome” added Mayor Ferguson.