

Burke Shire Flood Update – Gregory

Please be cautious when moving about the community because although the floodwater is receding, we do not know what damage has been caused to the road network and various infrastructure which may be still under water. There could be concealed hazards and other dangers that cannot be seen.

Due to the likelihood of bacteria being within the floodwaters, people should avoid walking in the water where avoidable. **Please do not swim in the floodwaters.**

If you notice other hazards in the community, please contact Council as a matter of priority.

Resupply of food:

Resupply was delivered to the Gregory community yesterday and remaining items today.

Going forward, the process for resupply will be as follows:

- Any Gregory businesses or residents that are still in their homes will be required to order and pay for their own food supplies. Council will organise and cover the costs of transportation of food to the community whilst the road remains closed.
- Any residents who have been evacuated from their properties and are accommodated elsewhere will need to liaise with Madison Marshall on 0427 436 086 in relation to food orders.

At this stage, we will be trying to organise weekly resupplies from Cloncurry and will be touching base with all residents over the coming days to have an arrangement in place.

As a general reminder, **resupply is for essential items only**. See attached a copy of the essential resupply guidelines.

Over the coming days Council will releasing further community notices, particularly on Community Recovery.

If you have any concerns or queries, please contact one of the following:

- Burketown Police 0475 823 556
- CEO Dan McKinlay 0437 238 957
- Clinton Murray 0408 872 377
- Madison Marshall 0427 436 086

Dan McKinlay
Chief Executive Officer
14 March 2023

Queensland Resupply Guidelines

2.3. Essential Goods Guidance

The following goods are considered 'essential' to maintaining human and domestic animal life and or health until normal supply operations can recommence:

- Basic foodstuffs – preferably either dried or tinned or otherwise packaged to last 'on the shelf' without special storage requirements by the isolated communities.
- Basic cleaners, disinfectants etc. to enable communities to maintain adequate hygiene practices (subject to clearance by the carrying agency).
- Baby foods, formula and nappies.
- Foodstuffs other than above to meet special dietary requirements (on certification by an appropriate authority).
- Medicines and medical supplies, water purification tablets/treatments (subject to clearance by the carrying agency).
- Dried pet foods (tinned pet food should be obtained prior to isolation).
- Fuels (subject to clearance by the carrying agency) for essential motor transport, to keep electrical generators running to provide power for cooking, heating, lighting, refrigeration, water pumps and similar electrically powered appliances used to prepare or preserve food, maintain life, or provide purified water.
- Aviation fuel (subject to it being used for reconnaissance or to resupply local homesteads).
- Batteries (subject to clearance by the carrying agency) for powering radios, or hand held/ portable radio transmitters/receivers.
- Other goods which, in the opinion of the Assistant Commissioner, QFES (on advice from the appropriate authority), are deemed necessary to maintain the physical and/or psychological welfare of the inhabitants of the isolated communities.

The following are not considered as 'essential' goods:

- Any alcoholic drinks and canned or bottled soft drinks (except on the advice of appropriate health authorities);
- Any tobacco products;
- Entertainment equipment and electrical goods of any description (other than those to replace unserviceable household food preparation and similar goods); and
- Any merchandise to allow retailers to trade in anything other than those items considered essential to maintain human/animal health.

2.3.1. Frozen or Chilled Goods

Resupply operations may not have access to aircraft or watercraft equipped with suitable units to carry refrigerated or frozen goods. It is recommended where possible, that alternative products are considered (e.g. UHT or powdered milk instead of fresh milk).

However, if the Assistant Commissioner (AC), QFES deems frozen and/or chilled goods to be 'essential', or alternative products are unavailable or unsuitable, then a resupply request containing chilled/frozen goods may be approved. In these cases, it is recommended that arrangements be made by the supplier to keep the goods at the appropriate temperature from the time they are delivered to the dispatch point until the time they are delivered to the receiving point.

Accurate coordination is required to ensure foodstuffs reach their destination without spoiling. It is important that goods are delivered to the departure point and collected at the destination point in a timely manner to minimise the period without refrigeration. Transportation of frozen/chilled goods will be undertaken on the understanding there is a risk of deterioration due to delays in projected delivery times. It is the responsibility of recipients of frozen or chilled goods to take extra care to check their suitability for consumption.