First Slab Laid in Upper Murray

On New Year’s Day, Bill Pryce’s house near Colac Colac was destroyed by fire, leaving his family without a home. For three months the family rented before moving into a shed on the property where they still live.

Following building and planning approvals for his new home, last week the slab of Bill’s new house was laid. “It seemed to take a while but at the end of the day we’ve started building so we’re really happy,” he said.

“The grants helped. If it hadn’t been for the grants, we wouldn’t have been building this house right now”. Mr Pryce worked with Elke, Council’s Planner, who guided and gave advice on the planning and building exemptions that had been introduced by Local and State Government to speed up the rebuild process. If you need Building or Planning advice, call the Recovery Hub on 1800 518 222.

Short-Term Modular Housing

Residents who lost their primary place of residence in the bushfires now have the option to move into a quality, modular home on their property for up to three years while they rebuild.

The housing will be delivered to the property or another location where agreed, in line with planning permit exemptions announced by the Victorian Government.

The homes will be installed and built at no cost and recipients will pay hiring fees benchmarked to public housing rates. Hardship arrangements will be put in place if needed to ensure that fees do not exceed 25 per cent of a household’s total income.

Short-term modular housing is jointly funded by the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments.

We hope that the grant program will assist community groups to take the next steps towards recovery by giving them the funds they need to deliver on their ideas.

Cr David Wortmann, Mayor

Contact Council’s Bushfire Recovery Team by calling 1800 518 222 or email recovery@towong.vic.gov.au

Newsletters and updates at www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery

Visit the Upper Murray Community Recovery Hub

Cnr Donaldson St and Towong Rd, Corryong. Open Monday to Friday 9am - 4pm.