

Toodyay fire victims to get payments from Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund

7th Jan 2010

The first round of payments from the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund (LMDRF) to victims of the Toodyay bushfires have been approved.

Lord Mayor Lisa Scaffidi said approximately \$90,000 was ready for distribution to applicants who had suffered loss or hardship as a result of the fires.

Ms Scaffidi said the Fund's board had considered all applications received so far and the payments would be distributed tomorrow.

"These payments will go some way towards easing the plight of those affected by the devastating fires, but with more donations obviously more can be done," the Lord Mayor said.

"The payments have been determined by the board in consultation with the local recovery committee and the aim has been to make the money available as soon as possible.

"I visited the area earlier in the week and was impressed by the spirit shown by the community, some of whom have lost virtually everything in the fires and are really suffering.

"I strongly encourage people to donate to the Toodyay Bushfire Appeal so that more assistance can be provided.

"I have been encouraged by the generosity of those who have contributed to the appeal so far, such as ANZ and Apache Energy who have both contributed \$10,000.

"The LMDRF board will meet weekly to consider any further applications from the bushfire victims."

Donations to the Toodyay Bushfire Appeal can be made at:

- All Bankwest branches
- City of Perth, Council House, 27 St Georges Tce, PERTH

Donations can be mailed to:

Toodyay Bushfire Appeal
C/- City of Perth, GPO Box C120, PERTH, WA 6839

ABOUT THE LORD MAYOR'S DISTRESS RELIEF FUND

The Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund was established in 1961 to provide relief of personal hardship and distress arising from natural disasters occurring within Western Australia.

The perpetual fund is a registered charitable body and has approval of the Australian Taxation Office for tax deductibility of contributions.

Recent examples where the Fund has been used to directly support Western Australian communities include the 2007 Dwellingup Fires, the 2003 Bridgetown fires and West Australians affected by the 2002 Bali Bombings.



Picture caption: John Bedingfield from Apache Energy hands over a cheque to Lord Mayor Lisa Scaffidi.

<http://appealswa.org.au/>