

MEDIA RELEASE

Community views to help inform K'gari Bushfire Review

The views and experiences of community members, businesses and tourist operators will be sought as part of a review underway into recent bushfire events on K'gari (Fraser Island).

Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM), Alistair Dawson APM announced the community forums would be held in January to inform IGEM's review into the preparedness and response to the bushfire events.

"We are seeking feedback from community members, business and tourist operators and interest parties about what they thought worked well and any opportunities for improvement to ensure we have the best possible disaster management arrangements in place," Mr Dawson said.

"It's vital the review hears from those people who can speak first-hand about their own experiences and reflections.

"The forums will focus on the review's terms of reference and will also consider the cultural and environmental significance of the island.

"We'll also be looking to consolidate observations, insights, findings and recommendations from previous bushfire reviews and the recent Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements."

The forums will be held between Tuesday 19 January and Friday 22 January 2021 on K'gari and in Hervey Bay, including:

- Tuesday 19 January - Orchid Beach - Community focus
- Wednesday 20 January - Happy Valley - Community focus
- Thursday 21 January - Kingfisher Bay - Community focus
- Thursday 21 January - Kingfisher Bay - Business and Tourism Industry focus
- Friday 22 January - Urangan - Business and Tourism Industry focus

IGEM is committed to ensuring the community forums are COVID-Safe.

Attendees are encouraged to submit their expression of interest by 5pm Tuesday 12 January 2021 via [the online form](#).

Mr Dawson said in addition to the forums, the community also invited to make a written submission to the review.

"Public submissions will remain open until 5pm on Friday 22 January to allow people the opportunity to provide their thoughts and feedback to us," he said.

"Submissions should include a written element but we also encourage people to share any photographs, videos or documents they may believe relevant to the review's terms of reference."

For more information about how to make a submission visit:
<https://www.igem.qld.gov.au/kgari-fraser-island-bushfire-review>

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