



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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9 December 2019

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

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Severe Weather Event - 5-7 December 2019

Email council@westlanddc.govt.nz

This letter is provided to support people affected by the severe weather event on the 5-7 December 2019 in South Westland.

Affected people wishing to lodge claims with their insurance companies for business interruption, property damage or travel insurance purposes, please print out a copy of this letter and attach it to your insurance claim form.

Background

Westland Civil Defence was activated in response to the severe storm which has isolated communities in South Westland due to damage to the State Highway infrastructure and subsequent road closures during the period 5-7 December 2019. State Highway 6 is the only route through South Westland from north to south.

Tourist flows to and from South Westland have been impacted with approximately 900 visitors to the region stranded in Franz Josef Township. Local businesses and residents have supported stranded tourists as well as cancel any pre-bookings for visitor experiences in the area. This disruption is likely to continue until at least Friday 13 December 2019 or longer, depending on the damage sustained to the roading infrastructure in this area.

Information for affected parties

For those with damage to their property in the recent floods you are most likely insured by EQC. If you have normal house insurance then you also have natural disaster insurance through EQC.

EQC insures damage to residential property and land caused by ANY natural disaster event. That means floods, landslips, wildfires, earthquakes, etc. Any damage to residential buildings, including garages, sheds and other structures as well as the land within 8m of these buildings is insured by EQC. EQC also insure the main access way (driveway) within 60m of the house. Retaining walls that support or protect insured buildings and land are also insured.

To place a claim, contact EQC on 0800 326 243 or visit www.eqc.govt.nz and place a claim online.

Should you require assistance please contact Council at council@westlanddc.govt.nz or 0800 474 834.

Sincerely

Bruce Smith
Mayor

BS/DM