

Planning and Building Assistance Rebate Scheme for Flood Recovery Factsheet

Providing financial assistance to repair and rebuild flood impacted homes.

In October 2022, Victoria experienced significant flooding that caused power outages, road closures, and damaged tens of thousands of homes. The Victorian Government is committed to helping communities recover by providing a rebate to homeowners to support the rebuilding process.

Rebuilding after a disaster

Rebuilding after a disaster can be challenging. The Planning and Building Assistance Rebate Scheme for Flood Recovery provides rebates up to \$3000 per household to homeowners who have applied for a planning and/or building permit as a part of their rebuild. The Scheme will be delivered to flood impacted communities by Windermere Child and Family Services on behalf of the State Government.

Windermere is a Victorian non-profit organisation with extensive experience in delivering recovery support programs following natural disasters.

What is the Planning and Building Assistance Rebate Scheme for Flood Recovery?

The scheme provides a financial rebate (up to \$3000 per household) for work associated with planning and/or building permit applications required for the repair or rebuilding of a home destroyed or severely damaged by the October 2022 Victorian flood event.

How do I know if I'm eligible?

You are eligible for the scheme if a house you own was impacted by the October 2022 Victorian floods and requires a planning and/or building permit to repair or rebuild the house.

How does it work?

An application and relevant receipt/s are submitted to Windermere via email or by post. The application is assessed by Windermere and if found to be eligible, a payment will be made to the applicant equal to the amount shown in the provided receipt(s) up to a total of \$3000.

What will be funded?

Some examples of what can be funded include:

- Preparation of a concept plan
- Architectural plans

- Preparation of a planning permit application report
- Technical reports (bushfire planning, flood or hazard assessments etc)
- Land surveys
- Title documents
- Geotechnical assessments
- Engineering reports or equivalent
- Arborist reports
- Planning consultant fees
- Building permit fees.

What will not be funded?

Some examples of what will not be funded include:

- Work not associated with the repair or rebuilding of the house (i.e. fences, swimming pools, sheds)
- Purchase of land and conveyancing services
- Building or repair work.

What is a planning permit?

Planning permits give permission to develop or use land in a particular way. You may require a planning permit for a new home, extension, renovation, or an additional dwelling on the land.

Your local council is responsible for issuing a planning permit. If you need a planning permit, it must be issued from your local council before you can obtain a building permit.

What is a building permit?

Building permits are documents certifying that a proposed building complies with the relevant building regulations. A building permit is written approval by a private or municipal building surveyor.

You may need to discuss the need for a building permit with your local council. It allows the building work to be undertaken according to the approved plans, specifications and other relevant documentation.

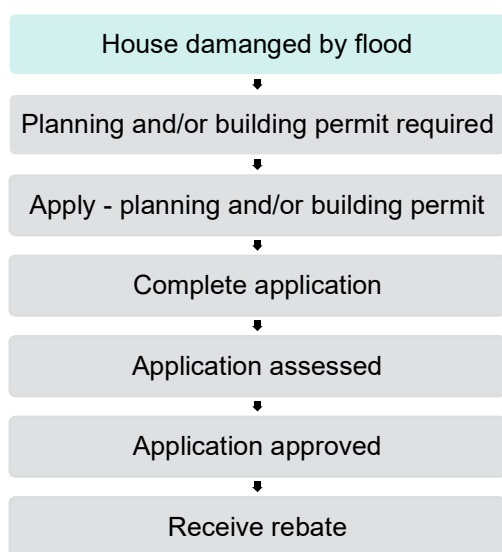
A building permit provides you with protection by ensuring:

- The building practitioners working on your project are registered and carry the required insurance
- Adequate documentation is prepared so the construction can be carried out correctly and according to building legislation
- Key stages of the work are independently inspected
- Your building is suitable for occupation.

For further information visit the Victorian Building Authority website:

<https://www.vba.vic.gov.au/surveyors/building-permits>

What is the application process?



How do I apply for the scheme?

To apply via email:

- Visit the Windermere website: <https://www.windermere.org.au/services/financial-assistance-to-repair-and-rebuild-victorian-homes-impacted-by-the-october-2022-floods/>
- Download and complete the application form.
- Email completed form and attach copies of all supporting documents to RecoverySupport@windermere.org.au

To apply via mail:

- Go to the Windermere website: <https://www.windermere.org.au/services/financial-assistance-to-repair-and-rebuild-victorian-homes-impacted-by-the-october-2022-floods/>
- Download and print the application form to complete.
- Post completed form together with copies of all supporting documents to:

Planning and Building Assistance Rebate Scheme for Flood Recovery
C/o Windermere Child & Family Services Inc.
48 Webb Street
Narre Warren, VIC 3805

What documentation do I need?

- Proof you own the property (e.g. council rates notices or a title document)
- Evidence of registration of your flood affected property with a Recovery Support Provider (if applicable)
- Copies of tax invoices and receipts for the services undertaken to support your planning or building permits. Should receipts or invoices be unavailable, a Statutory Declaration as evidence of an eligible expense is acceptable.
- Bank account details for the transfer of rebate funds upon approval.

When will the scheme end?

Applications for the scheme close on 31 May 2025.

How do I know my personal details will be safe?

All personal details are kept in strict accordance with Victorian Government privacy laws. To help manage and protect your information, there are security policies, standards and guidelines which establish and promote security governance arrangements. We also take reasonable steps to destroy or permanently de-identify information that is no longer needed for any purpose, or as otherwise required by the Public Records Act, or other relevant law. For further information, go to:

<https://vic.gov.au/department-of-transport-and-planning-privacy-policy>

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information contact Windermere:

Email: RecoverySupport@windermere.org.au

Call: 03 8781 9988

The Planning and Building Assistance Rebate Scheme for Flood Recovery is delivered in partnership with Windermere Child and Family Services:



CLICK OR SCAN FOR MORE INFO



link.windermere.org.au/2p8tzuxh

Need more information?

Find out more about the government's initiatives at dtp.vic.gov.au