BUSHFIRE RECOVERY

Purpose

To facilitate and support recovery from a bushfire.
To facilitate the construction and use of temporary accommodation following a bushfire.
To enable businesses and services to continue operating following a bushfire.

Exemption from planning scheme requirements

Any requirement of this planning scheme to obtain a permit or any provision of this planning scheme that prohibits the use or development of land, requires the use or development of land to be carried out in a particular manner, or requires a specified thing to be done to the satisfaction of a specified person or body, does not apply to any of the following use or development if requirements of Clause 52.07 are met:

- The use of land or the construction of a building or the construction or carrying out of works:
  - Associated with bushfire recovery carried out by or on behalf of a municipal council or public authority; or
  - For accommodation; or
  - For a use (other than accommodation) that was lawfully carried out in a building immediately before that building was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire.

- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation.

This exemption does not apply to:

- The requirement in Clause 45.03-1.
- The use or development of land to which Clause 52.14 applies.
- The use or development of land identified in a schedule to Clause 51.01.
- The use or development of land in the Specific Controls Overlay.

The provisions of this clause prevail over any inconsistent provision in this planning scheme.

Information to responsible authority

Before the commencement of a use or the construction of a building under Clause 52.07, the following information must be given in writing to the responsible authority and to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- A description of the proposed use.
- A description of the proposed building.
- A description of the land on which the use will be carried out or the building will be constructed by:
  - Stating the address of the land; or
  - Stating the title particulars of the land; or
  - Including a plan showing the land; or
  - Any combination of these.

Temporary accommodation requirements

The following requirements do not apply to the use or development of land associated with bushfire recovery carried out by or on behalf of a municipal council or public authority.
Land must only be used for accommodation under this clause to accommodate a person whose principal place of residence was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire on the same land or contiguous land in the same ownership.

Land used for accommodation under this clause must meet the following requirements:

- Access to the accommodation must be provided via an all-weather road with dimensions adequate to accommodate emergency vehicles.
- The accommodation must be connected to a reticulated sewerage system or if not available, the waste water must be treated and retained on-site in accordance with the *State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria)* under the *Environment Protection Act 1970* or treated and disposed of to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- The accommodation must be connected to a reticulated potable water supply or have an alternative potable water supply.
- The accommodation must be connected to a reticulated electricity supply or have an alternative energy source.

The use of land for accommodation under this clause must not continue after 3 years of the commencement of the use unless in accordance with the requirements of this planning scheme.

A building or works constructed or carried out under this clause for accommodation must be on the same land, or on contiguous land in the same ownership, as a building used for accommodation that was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire and must be completed within 18 months of the date that building was damaged or destroyed.

Unless in accordance with the written agreement of the responsible authority, the combined gross floor area of all buildings constructed for accommodation under this clause on contiguous land in the same ownership must not exceed 60 square metres.

**Other use and development requirements**

The following requirements do not apply to the use or development of land:

- For accommodation; or
- Associated with bushfire recovery carried out by or on behalf of a municipal council or public authority.

Unless in accordance with the written agreement of the responsible authority, the use of land under this clause for a use that was carried out in a building immediately before that building was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire must be carried out on the same land, or on contiguous land in the same ownership, as the damaged or destroyed building.

A use commenced under this clause must not continue after 3 years of its commencement unless in accordance with this planning scheme.

A building or works constructed or carried out under this clause for a use that was carried out in a building damaged or destroyed by a bushfire, must be on the same land, or on contiguous land in the same ownership, as the damaged or destroyed building and must be completed within 18 months of the date that building was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire.

Unless in accordance with the written agreement of the responsible authority, the combined gross floor area of all buildings constructed under this clause on contiguous land in the same ownership must not exceed 100 square metres.

**Vegetation removal requirement**

Vegetation must only be removed, destroyed or lopped to the minimum extent necessary:
To enable the removal of a building, equipment or other material that was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire within 3 years of the date it was damaged or destroyed; or

To enable the repair or reconstruction of a fence that was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire within 3 years of the date it was damaged or destroyed for a combined maximum width of 4 metres either side of the fence.

This requirement does not apply to:

- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation within 10 metres of a building constructed for accommodation under this clause; or
- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation (other than a tree) within 30 metres of a building constructed for accommodation under this clause; or
- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation (other than a tree) within 50 metres of a building constructed for accommodation under this clause in a Bushfire Management Overlay.

**Overlay requirements**

Development of land in a Bushfire Management Overlay or Erosion Management Overlay that would require a permit, or would be prohibited, under the overlay were it not for the exemption in Clause 52.07-1, must be sited to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Development of land in a Heritage Overlay that would require a permit, or would be prohibited, under the overlay were it not for the exemption in Clause 52.07-1, must be undertaken to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

Development of land in a Floodway Overlay, Land Subject to Inundation Overlay or Special Building Overlay that would require a permit, or would be prohibited, under the overlay were it not for the exemption in Clause 52.07-1, must be sited to the satisfaction of the relevant floodplain management authority.