

Flood Recovery - Temporary accommodation sites

Wollongbar Sports Field

The Wollongbar temporary accommodation site has been leased to host housing for local people who cannot return home because of flood damage.

The site can host approximately 116 self-contained housing units which will be home to up to 336 people.

These housing units will be located at the site for up to two years, depending on housing needs, to ensure flood-affected residents have time to finalise their long-term housing solutions.

Who will live at the Wollongbar temporary accommodation site

- The Wollongbar temporary accommodation site is on Council owned land that has been leased by NSW government to provide temporary housing for local people who are unable to return home due to damage caused by the February and March floods.
- The site has been operational since May 2022 with residents moving in progressively as housing units become available.
- The people who move into the Wollongbar site will all be Northern Rivers region residents and will have been through an assessment and eligibility process prior to moving in.
- People will be allocated to the Wollongbar site according to a prioritisation process that works to place people as close to their original homes as possible – the people who move into the Wollongbar site will be from, or live close to, the Ballina or Lismore local government areas.

Managing the site

- All Wollongbar residents will sign an occupancy agreement before moving in. This sets out appropriate behaviour and conduct for living in the temporary accommodation.
- If someone is unable to comply with the terms of occupancy agreement, they may be required to leave the site.
- North Coast Community Housing (NCCH), a Community Housing Provider, has been appointed as site and tenancy manager for the Wollongbar site.
- NCCH will work to ensure there is appropriate security on-site and ensure residents adhere to the occupancy agreement.
- All housing units will be cleaned before residents move in and then the residents are responsible for all ongoing clean-up of the housing unit, as it is their private home.

Construction

- Construction commenced in April and is progressing in stages until all housing units are installed on site. These works are designed to prepare the land to safely host the housing units, manage access routes for cars, and provide for utilities.
- The site will be supported with all utilities such as power, water, sewage, garbage collection.

Parking

- The site includes parking for residents to ensure the new residents do not take up local parking spots.

Pets

- Domestic pets will be permitted on a case-by-case basis with consideration given to the type of animal, if they are suitable to the housing unit and the need to maintain a safe and well-functioning living environment for all residents.

Ballina Shire Council

- The NSW Government is working closely with council to establish the temporary housing site and ensure it provides safe and secure accommodation to flood affected residents with minimal disruption to the local community
- The neighbouring sports fields are still available for community use.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding the temporary housing site, you can contact Resilience NSW at HousingTaskforce@resilience.nsw.gov.au.

Accommodation support for flood-affected residents in the Northern Rivers

The NSW Government is working to ensure anyone impacted by the Northern Rivers region floods who needs temporary housing can access it.

Temporary accommodation sites will host groups of temporary modular homes (also called pods) and caravans. There are a number of these sites being established across the Northern Rivers region.

The sites will include supporting infrastructure and amenities. They will vary in size, depending on the land and the available amenities.

The temporary homes are stand-alone accommodation units that can house between 1 and 4 people. Some temporary homes will include their own internal facilities. Some sites will have communal bathrooms and kitchen facilities.

Flood-affected community members seeking housing support should register their need as soon as possible by calling Service NSW on 13 77 88, visit nsw.gov.au/floods or speak to recovery centre staff.

Site Map – Wollongbar Sports Field

The site boundary is shown by the red outline.

