



30 August 2018

Council donates to Red Cross Drought Appeal

Circular Head Council has today made a \$4000 donation to the Red Cross Drought Appeal, to support the communities affected by drought in New South Wales and Queensland.

Mayor Daryl Quilliam and fellow councillor John Oldaker presented a cheque to Red Cross Regional Manager – North West Ian Waller on a visit to Smithton.

Council resolved to donate to the appeal at the August Council meeting, earlier this month.

“We spoke about the best thing to do and we wanted to make sure the money went to the people and we decided the Red Cross was the best way to do it, because 100% per cent of the donation will go to the people,” Mayor Daryl Quilliam said.

“The amount that we came up with worked out to about 50 cents per head of population in Circular Head and now we are challenging other Councils to do the same, or something similar.

“A couple of years ago when we had dramatic fires here in Circular Head we had people come from the mainland and we feel that it’s our turn now to help others out.”

Cr John Oldaker, who is a farmer himself, brought the suggestion to the table at a recent Council workshop.

“The reason I brought it to the table is we see all the national media and how hard some of these people are doing it,” Cr Oldaker said.

“To go 18 months without any substantial rain and to see not only farmers, but whole communities struggling is really sad.

“As farmers we like to stick together and help out our mates.”

Red Cross Regional Manager – North West Ian Waller commended Council for their commitment.

“We tend to get wrapped up in the dryness of the ground and the animals, but sometimes we forget that there are people out there that are hurting; their lives are being impacted every day,” Mr Waller said.



“Red Cross really wants to be able to support those people that are suffering as a consequence of the drought and these sort of funds will certainly be able to contribute towards that.”

Mr Waller said he was always amazed with Tasmania’s willingness to help out those in need.

“We go through some tough times in our state but there is a constant readiness by Tasmanians to support communities,” he said.

“If this contribution from the Council makes a difference to someone’s life, then that’s a great outcome.”