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## New Interactive Map to Support Climate Resilience in Gippsland Communities

Gippsland Primary Health Network (Gippsland PHN) has launched a first-of-its-kind interactive map identifying the region's most climate-vulnerable communities—marking a major milestone in local efforts to strengthen emergency planning and climate resilience.

The **Gippsland Geospatial Climate Vulnerability and Risk Map** is a key output of the [Preparing Gippsland Communities Project](#), a regional initiative responding to the rising health risks associated with climate change, including bushfires, floods, and extreme heat events.

Funded through the [Preparing Australian Communities Program – Local \(PACPL\)](#) and led by Gippsland PHN, the project is designed to strengthen emergency planning, build resilience in local health systems, and better support vulnerable populations during disasters such as bushfires, floods, and heatwaves.

The Gippsland Geospatial Climate Vulnerability and Risk Map was developed in partnership with strategic consultancy [Mosaic Insights](#). The map draws on publicly available data—including ABS census data and socio-economic, health, and environmental indicators—to help identify and support communities most at risk during climate-related emergencies.

Gippsland PHN Chief Executive Officer, Amanda Proposch, said the project represents a critical step forward in climate-responsive health planning.

“The Geospatial Risk Map is a strategic breakthrough for enhancing preparedness and protecting vulnerable communities. We’re incredibly proud to be leading the way in climate-responsive health planning – taking action to address the growing health risks posed by climate change,” said Amanda.

“By geographically pinpointing vulnerabilities, this tool allows health services, emergency planners and local organisations to prioritise resources and improve coordination. We hope it also serves as a model for other regions across Australia.”

Minister for Emergency Management, Kristy McBain, said the map will increase the capabilities of hard to reach Gippsland communities and better prepare them to respond to and recover from bushfires.

“Through the support provided by our Government, Gippsland PHN has been able to develop this risk map which clearly outlines vulnerable communities and defines the roles and responsibilities of responders,” Minister McBain said.



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“This information will be critical for emergency planning and prioritisation, and I’d like to congratulate everyone involved with this project for their work to support communities impacted by Black Summer to improve community resilience.”

The interactive map is now available on the Gippsland PHN website and is intended to be used by health services, emergency planners, local councils, and community organisations.

Access the Map [here](#).

### **Additional Resources Developed**

Alongside the interactive map, two additional resources have been developed to support climate-resilient healthcare planning across Gippsland:

- **Primary Care Emergency Pathways Document**

Developed with input from local clinical and community councils, this guide outlines how primary healthcare providers can prepare for, and respond to, climate-related emergencies to support vulnerable populations.

Access the Emergency Pathways Document [here](#).

- **Priority Populations Contact Guide**

A practical directory of key organisations supporting vulnerable communities across Gippsland. Designed to help health services build partnerships and improve care coordination during emergencies.

Access the Contact Guide [here](#).

Together, these resources provide a strong foundation to help Gippsland communities prepare for and respond to the impacts of climate-related emergencies—enabling greater health equity and system-wide collaboration.

### **Acknowledgement**

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Gippsland PHN CEO available for comment.

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