## **Media Release**



Monday 16 October 2023

## **Council supporting recovery from fire in Stirling Village Mall**

A major fire in the Stirling Village Mall yesterday has destroyed the Woolworths store and considerably impacted other businesses within the mall.

"Fortunately, there were no injuries to the public or first responders but we recognise the personal and economic effects of the fire for those who were involved in some way. That includes staff, shoppers, business owners, first responders and their family and friends," said Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom.

"Council acknowledge and thank all emergency service personnel for their rapid response which saved adjoining businesses and the telephone exchange, and also Woolworths and other business staff for evacuating customers safely."

"Council have activated a Stirling Village Mall Fire Recovery Team to manage our response and support following this incident."

"We recognise the smoke produced by the fire also has potential health implications and have closed the Stirling library and office today while we assess the air quality. We are also providing information to local businesses and residents about the impact of smoke and practical steps they can take to mitigate any health impacts."

"I have been in contact with Sarah Burchell, Chair of the Stirling Business Association, and we are working closely with them as we develop the best way to support impacted businesses and our community," said Dr Wisdom.

"This is the time to show our support for local businesses and to aid them in their recovery from this catastrophic incident."

"Obviously pre-Christmas is traditionally a busy and important time for businesses so we will be exploring alternative trading options."

"We are also in contact with the Woodside Commerce Association (WCA) requesting practical assistance and advice for their business colleagues given that the WCA and townships have experience of business 'first aid' following the recent bushfires."







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"These events can be extremely stressful. If you would like some support, we encourage people to see your regular GP or a trusted health professional. Alternatively, you can call lifeline on 13 11 14 to talk to someone."

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