

Destination Gippsland

Incorporated

Bushfire Recovery – Cash flow difficulties?

The recent bushfires have put many Gippsland business owners under great pressure – physical, mental, and financial. To assist those feeling the financial effects, we have spoken with several major suppliers seeking some leniency on payment times for our operators. They have all been most understanding and encourage customers to contact them directly to discuss your particular circumstances.

If you are having difficulty making supplier payments, the general advice is to be proactive: contact your supplier as soon as possible, and be open about your situation. Most suppliers can work with you to establish a payment schedule so that you don't tarnish your credibility, miss out on great deals, or jeopardise future dealings with each other. Here are the suppliers we have spoken to so far:

SUPPLIER	PHONE/WEB	CONTACT/COMMENT
Tourism Alliance	03-9650 8399	Phone to discuss opportunities for bushfire affected members to extend membership payments without losing benefits
Tourism Victoria Online Team	1300 306 366	Online Support Desk for visitvictoria website listing payments
AAA Tourism	03-8601 2200	Liz Seymour (03-8601 2294) or David Leathem (03-8601 2295)
Beautiful Accommodation	0419 348 917	Jenni
Aus Taxation Office	www.ato.gov.au 13 11 42	The ATO website has a link to Bushfires Fact Sheet, and Bushfires Media Release with information on what to do if you are expecting difficulty in meeting your BAS obligations, or have lost assets etc in the fires
Telstra Country Wide	1800 816 025	Extended payment arrangements
Your Shire		Your Shire may have the capacity to discuss payment extension plans

Destination Gippsland Inc.

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A note from AAA Tourism:

January 2007

“AAA Tourism acknowledges the hardship and loss of business faced and being faced by the businesses of North East Victoria and Gippsland as they encounter and begin to recover from the Bushfires that have affected the region over summer.

To this end, AAA Tourism understand that many operators may experience difficulty paying their annual Star Rating Advantage membership and could benefit from being able to stagger payments or extend the payment terms. To take advantage of this assistance please contact either myself on 03-8601 2294, or David Leathem 03-8601 2295 to establish payment terms.”

A note from Telstra:

January 2007

On top of its relief package for residential customers, Telstra has announced it is offering extended payment arrangements to tourism operators in the bushfire affected areas across Gippsland. Telstra Country Wide® Gippsland is hoping to ease the burden by offering payment deferral on Telstra accounts.

“We want to let affected tourism operators know that Telstra has a range of options to help them maintain connection to their telecommunications services during these difficult times,” said Ms Jane Oakley, Telstra Country Wide’s Area General Manager for Gippsland.

“Telstra offers people in hardship, including those affected by bushfires, extended payment arrangements on Telstra bills including phone/fax, mobile and BigPond® services. “We hope that offering extended payment arrangements on Telstra accounts will mean one less thing that affected Tourism Operators, contractors and their families have to worry about until conditions improve.”

Tourism Operators should contact Telstra on 1800 816 025 to take up the offer. A staff member will assist customers on a case by case basis.

*For more information, please contact
Telstra Country Wide, Gippsland
Ph: 03 514245460*

*Telstra Corporate Affairs, Victoria
Ph: 03 9634 2864*

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