

Friday May 11, 2018

Insurance Council declares Catastrophe for Hobart storm damage

The Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) has declared a Catastrophe for inundation and storm damage from May 10-11 to property and vehicles in Hobart, Tasmania.

The declaration means claims from affected policyholders will be given priority by insurers. Claims will also be triaged to direct urgent assistance to the worst-affected property owners.

ICA CEO Rob Whelan said: “The extent of the damage to property, and vehicles in and around Hobart will take several days to be known, and it’s too early to estimate the insured damage bill.

“Insurance companies are ready to help their affected customers, and more than 1000 claims have already been lodged.

“The catastrophe declaration is intended to help reduce the emotional and financial stress experienced by households and business owners affected by the inundation and storm damage.

“I encourage anyone who has suffered property or vehicle damage to contact their insurer as soon as possible to receive guidance on the claims process and the assistance they are entitled to under their policy.”

Under the declaration the ICA has:

- Activated its disaster hotline – 1800 734 621 – to assist policyholders if they are uncertain of their insurance details, or have general inquiries about the claims process
- Mobilised an ICA representative to work with local agencies and services and affected policyholders
- Established an industry taskforce to address and identify issues that arise

Community members can also visit www.disasters.org.au for information.

For Storm Recovery tips visit the ICA’s Understand Insurance website.

<http://understandinsurance.com.au/assets/factsheets/Storm%20recovery%20checklist.pdf>

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