

Media Release

18 December 2020

Residents encouraged to sign up to new disaster and weather event warning system

Gladstone Regional Council is in the process of ceasing its subscription to Early Warning Network (EWN) alerts and moving all disaster and weather event communications to the QIT Plus (Guardian) system, which is the disaster response and communication system used by multiple agencies before, during and after disaster events.

Council currently has more than 4600 registered users within the EWN and are encouraging existing and new users to register with the new system.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said this change will allow Council to streamline communications and provide improved connectivity with the community during a disaster or weather event.

“Registering to the new disaster messaging system is free for users and will allow Council to share emergency news, severe weather events and other public safety alerts,” Councillor Burnett said.

“Once registered, alerts received via SMS and email alerts will show from ‘Gladstone RC’.

“This system also allows Council to create and send emergency messages for localised events that wouldn’t otherwise be generated by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).

“History has shown that our region is not immune to natural disasters and having a ‘what if’ plan could be the difference between staying safe or putting yourself and your family in danger.

“Council’s current utilises the Early Warning Network and this will no longer function as of Friday 26 February 2021, so it’s important users are registered with the new system before this time.”

Registering to the new system is easy and can be done using the following steps:

1. Go to <http://regionwatch.gladstone.qld.gov.au>
2. Click on ‘Register for Warning’
3. Complete registration form and click ‘sign up’
4. You will be sent an activation email, follow the link in the email to activate your account. Activation email may take a few minutes to come through, check junk mailbox if this process takes longer
5. Sign-in to your account to manage your subscriptions. You can subscribe to receive both email and SMS notification. SMS notifications will require a verification SMS to your mobile which may take a few minutes to come through.

ENDS