

Media statement

Department of Mines and Energy

26 April 2008

1800 line set up for Collingwood Park residents

The Department of Mines and Energy has set up an 1800 number to assist residents affected by the subsidence at Collingwood Park that occurred early this morning.

The subsidence is located within an area near the intersection of Duncan Street, McInnerney Street and McLaughlin Streets.

As a precautionary measure, four homes have now been evacuated as a team of experts assesses the extent of the affected area, potential damage to homes, and whether the subsidence is continuing.

The Department of Mines and Energy's executive director of Statewide Services, Jim Grundy said there was no immediate risk to other residents or their properties.

"The department is already working with residents directly affected by this incident.

"We understand that some residents in surrounding streets may have concerns, so we will set up an 1800 number that they can call from tonight to arrange for their home to be checked.

"While the subsidence has mostly caused ground cracking, affected houses will be properly assessed for any possible damage," he said.

Mr Grundy said the department was continuing to monitor the subsidence site and nearby locations.

"It may take several days to get a good indication of the extent of the subsidence and whether it is continuing," he said.

"The response team has been in contact with the residents throughout the day, to keep them up to date with the situation and what is happening.

"We are providing alternative accommodation to two families, with two other families deciding to stay with relatives."

Mr Grundy thanked the Ipswich City Council and the Member for Bundamba Joanne Miller for their assistance throughout the day.

The 1800 number will take effect from 6.00pm tonight (Saturday 26 April).

Residents in the affected streets can contact the 1800 number to register their contact details and to get updated information over the next week.

The freecall number is: **1800 109 122**

ENDS

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