



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday October 25, 2013

## CALLING ON ALL BLUE MOUNTAINS BUSHFIRE AFFECTED RESIDENTS

The Blue Mountains Bushfire Recovery Centre have called for residents with destroyed and damaged properties to attend tonight's Public Meeting at Winmalee High School so they can be informed of health and safety issues on their property, including asbestos.

Fire & Rescue NSW Impact Assessment Teams have been undertaking assessments of fire damaged property in the Blue Mountains, checking for hazards such as asbestos and other contaminants, the structural integrity of buildings and trees, and other safety issues.

The Bushfire Recovery Coordinator, Mr. Philip Koperberg said

"Safety is still our number one concern and it is crucial that the residents contact Council to get the information and help they need to make sure their property is safe to enter.

"Properties that have been assessed as posing a health and or safety risk have been clearly marked. With 350 properties destroyed or damaged, it's important we inform impacted residents of the health and safety issues on their property as quickly as possible."

The assessments are being overseen by the Blue Mountains Bushfire Recovery Centre which is working closely with Fire & Rescue NSW, WorkCover, the Environment Protection Agency and the Blue Mountains City Council.

There will be a Community Meeting tonight at Winmalee High School, located at High School Drive Winmalee at 7pm where residents can register for information on their property or they can call Blue Mountains City Council on 4723 5000

For media enquiries contact Lyndal Edwards on 0411 440 096.

<u>Bushfire Recovery Coordination Centre</u> – one stop shop for residents and workers needing support from the impact of the bush fires.