

## MEDIA RELEASE

20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### UNREQUESTED DONATIONS DISTRACTING FROM FLOOD RECOVERY EFFORTS IN BURKE SHIRE

Online donation platform [GIVIT](https://givit.org.au) is calling on well-meaning Australians to use the official donation channel to assist people impacted by floods in the Burke Shire region earlier this month.

GIVIT works directly with councils, recovery outreach teams, charities and community groups in flood impacted regions that have begun receiving donation offers of goods they are not able to manage or store.

GIVIT Queensland Manager Christina Spehr said GIVIT is working with the Queensland Government and Burke Shire Council to manage donations of essential items that would overwhelm frontline services and distract them from their primary roles in response and recovery.

“Burke Shire Council have received well-meaning offers of donations from people across the country of goods they currently do not need, and are unable to store,” said Christina.

“This also presents a logistics challenge as roads are still blocked and we don’t want to see vehicles moving into the area that may hamper recovery efforts.”

“Our message to people that want to help is please go to the [Northwest Queensland Flooding Appeal](https://www.givit.org.au/northwest-queensland-flooding-appeal) on [GIVIT.org.au](https://givit.org.au) to find out exactly what’s needed.”

100% of publicly donated funds received by GIVIT will be used to purchase essential items. Where possible, GIVIT uses donated funds to purchase items from local providers to support the economic recovery of impacted regions.

Visit [www.givit.org.au/northwest-queensland-flooding](https://www.givit.org.au/northwest-queensland-flooding) to find out what’s needed in your local area.

If you have an item to donate that is not listed, please register the item on [www.givit.org.au/donate-items](https://www.givit.org.au/donate-items).

If you are a local charity or frontline service in need of donated goods and services, please register at [givit.org.au/charity-registration](https://givit.org.au/charity-registration).

**For more information please contact E: [kate.fisher@givit.org.au](mailto:kate.fisher@givit.org.au) M: 0444 503 759**

#### About GIVIT

GIVIT is the smart way to give. Through [GIVIT.org.au](https://givit.org.au), we channel generosity where it is needed to support vulnerable people and communities in Australia.

Working with more than 4,500 support organisations, we ensure people get what they need when they need it most – whether recovering from an emergency event, or experiencing hardship due to circumstances such as drought, domestic and family violence, homelessness, disability, and mental health.

GIVIT captures offers of goods and services online, removing the need for charities and services to sort, store and dispose of unrequested donations, saving valuable resources. 100% of publicly donated money received by GIVIT to support people in need are used to purchase essential items and services. We buy locally, wherever possible, to support local businesses and the economic recovery of affected communities. GIVIT’s operational costs are covered by government contracts and corporate partners.