

LORD MAYOR OF NEWCASTLE
Councillor John S. Tate



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14 March 2011

Mayor Kimiko Kubota
Mayor of Ube

Dear Mayor Kubota

I and my fellow citizens of the City of Newcastle wish to express our distress and dismay at the havoc wreaked upon vast sections of your homeland by the recent earthquake and subsequent tsunami.

Graphic television coverage of the disaster as it unfolded, showed the immense suffering and loss of life inflicted upon the Japanese people as a result of the Earth's destructive forces. This has impacted upon all who witnessed it here and around the world.

Whilst we are relieved that Ube and Yamaguchi Prefecture was not directly harmed by this horrendous natural disaster, we appreciate that all Japanese people are affected and will remain so for years to come.

Newcastle expresses its sympathy and shares the pain with our sister city Ube at this time.

I am confident that the Japanese people will draw from their renowned inner strength and resilience to rise to this massive challenge.

At our Council Meeting on Tuesday 15 March 2011, we will observe two minutes silence as a mark of respect for the Japanese people.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Yours sincerely

COUNCILLOR JOHN S. TATE
LORD MAYOR OF NEWCASTLE

