

## Requesting activation of NDRRA & SDRA

### Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA)

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) administers Queensland's delivery and acquittal programs for events activated under the Australian Government's *Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) Determination 2017* (the Determination) for eligible events up to and including **31 October 2018**.

The NDRRA is a funding mechanism available to assist Queensland to recover from disasters. NDRRA is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments to provide grant and loan assistance to disaster affected community members, small businesses, not-profit organisations, primary producers and local government and state government agencies impacted by defined disasters.

### Definition of a disaster event under the NDRRA

For a disaster event to be activated under the NDRRA, the event must align with the definition of a disaster as detailed in the Determination:

A natural disaster or terrorist act for which:

- a coordinated multi-agency response was required; and
- state expenditure exceeds the Small Disaster Criterion.

A natural disaster is one, or a combination of, the following rapid onset events:

- |              |                    |           |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------|
| ✓ bushfire   | ✓ landslip         | ✓ tornado |
| ✓ cyclone    | ✓ meteorite strike | ✓ tsunami |
| ✓ earthquake | ✓ storm            |           |
| ✓ flood      | ✓ storm surge      |           |

To be eligible for NDRRA reimbursement, total eligible state expenditure on an eligible disaster must exceed the Small Disaster Criterion (currently \$240,000). The Small Disaster Criterion includes collated eligible expenditure across all local and state government agencies responding to the disaster event. The SDC for each event (not each agency) for 2018-19 is \$240,000.

### Criteria to request activation of NDRRA

To request activation of the NDRRA, a local government or state government agency must:

- ✓ be impacted by a disaster as defined in the Determination, and
- ✓ have identified a need for financial support to respond and recover from the event.

The local government must also have expenditure exceeding its Trigger Point to request activation of the Restoration of Essential Public Assets (REPA) relief measure (refer below for more detail).

### Activation request for NDRRA

The local government or state government agency can request activation by completing the NDRRA Activation Request Template at [www.qldreconstruction.org.au](http://www.qldreconstruction.org.au).

The local government or state government agency will need to detail the relief measures required to be activated for the event (refer below table). The completed form is to be emailed to: [NDRRA@qldra.org.au](mailto:NDRRA@qldra.org.au) and the relevant QRA Regional Liaison Officer (RLO).

Under the Determination, Queensland has three months to advise the Australian Government of an activated NDRRA event.

## QRA assessment of the activation request

QRA has whole-of-government responsibility for administering NDRRA and will assess the activation request to determine it meets the definition of an eligible disaster, as per the Determination. This will include ensuring the Small Disaster Criterion will be exceeded by all local government or state government agencies responding to the event. QRA will seek further information as required to assess the activation request to ensure it is in alignment with the Determination, then QRA can request activation of the NDRRA by the Minister for Fire and Emergency Services.

## Multiple NDRRA activations

Multiple NDRRA activations can be undertaken for the disaster as the situation unfolds and further information is gathered on the impact to local government areas.

Note: The local government area is activated for NDRRA, not the actual Local Government, thus allowing all relief measures to be activated and available as required for all local government or state government agencies responding to the event.

## Publishing of approved activation requests

If approved, an NDRRA Activation Summary will be released by QRA detailing the event name and date, along with the relief measures activated in the local government areas. The NDRRA Activation Summary is uploaded to: [www.qldreconstruction.org.au/ndrra](http://www.qldreconstruction.org.au/ndrra).

## Local Government Trigger Point

Local government trigger points apply to Restoration of Essential Public Assets (REPA), including emergent works funding. Local government must have eligible damage exceeding its trigger point to be able to claim under REPA. The trigger point amount is a contribution by local government towards REPA and applies to each activated event.

Each local government is required to contribute 25 per cent of eligible REPA expenditure up to their maximum calculated trigger point level. For example, if a Local Government trigger point is \$200,000 total eligible expenditure needs to exceed \$200,000 to be eligible. The Local Government contributes 25 per cent of all submissions or up to the trigger point whichever is lesser.

## State Disaster Relief Arrangements (SDRA)

The SDRA is a state funded, all hazards, personal hardship financial assistance package that can be activated to assist Queensland communities recover from a disaster event. The SDRA is not subject to the Australian Government Determination criterion that exists under the NDRRA. As a consequence, the SDRA is able to address a wider range of disaster events and circumstances where personal hardship exists.

The Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (DCDSS) has the responsibility to request activation of the SDRA. As a personal hardship program the SDRA can only be activated when advice is received from DCDSS to activate the Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme. The advice must stipulate that local service providers have reached their capacity to provide a service to people identified as experiencing personal hardship as a direct result of a disaster event, or that there are no local service providers to assist in the event of a disaster.

DCDSS will contact QRA requesting the SDRA is activated in response to a disaster. QRA will assess the request and if QRA determines the disaster meets the SDRA criteria, QRA will request the activation of the SDRA by the Director-General of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. If approved, an SDRA Activation Summary will be released by QRA detailing the event name and date, along with the two relief measures (Counter Disaster Operations and Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme) activated in the local government areas. The SDRA Activation Summary is uploaded to: [www.qldreconstruction.org.au/ndrra](http://www.qldreconstruction.org.au/ndrra).

Multiple SDRA activations can be undertaken for an event as the situation unfolds and further information is gathered on the impact to local government areas.

Note: As the SDRA is only available to reduce personal hardship, the request to activate must be received from DCDSS Community Recovery Branch in Brisbane. Requests received from DCDSS Regional offices, local government or other state government agencies will be forwarded to DCDSS Community Recovery Branch for assessment.

## Relief measures, requesting agency, and activation criteria

Relief measures	Requesting agency	Activation criteria
Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme	Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (DCDSS)	DCDSS identifies that local service providers have reached their capacity to provide a service to people identified as experiencing personal hardship as a direct result of a disaster, or that there are no local service providers to assist.
Counter Disaster Operations	Local government or state government agency who has responded or will respond to the disaster event	Extraordinary Counter Disaster Operations are required to be undertaken to provide direct assistance to an individual and for the protection of the general public.
Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme	Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (DCDSS)	DCDSS identifies that local service providers have reached their capacity to provide a service to people identified as experiencing personal hardship as a direct result of a disaster, or that there are no local service providers to assist.
Restoration of Essential Public Assets	Local government or state government agency where there has been impact to its essential public assets	Damage to essential public infrastructure caused by the eligible disaster. <i>Note: A local government's eligible damage costs must exceed its Trigger Point amount to be eligible to request activation.</i>
Disaster Assistance Loans for Non-profit Organisations	Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (DCDSS)	DCDSS identifies a need based on damage assessments and information gathered.
Disaster Assistance Loans for Primary Producers	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)	DAF identifies a need based on damage assessments and information gathered.
Disaster Assistance Loans for Small Business	Department of Employment, Small Business and Training (DESBT)	DESBT identifies a need based on damage assessments and information gathered.
Essential Working Capital Loans Scheme for Non-Profit Organisations	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)	DCDSS identifies a need based on damage assessments and information gathered.
Essential Working Capital Loans Scheme for Primary Producers	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)	DAF identifies a need based on damage assessments and information gathered.
Essential Working Capital Loans Scheme for Small Business	Department of Employment, Small Business and Training (DESBT)	DESBT identifies a need based on damage assessments and information gathered.
Freight Subsidies for Primary Producers	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)	DAF identifies a need to provide freight subsidies assistance.
Category C Community Recovery Fund	Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (DCDSS)	DCDSS identifies the community is severely affected and additional assistance is needed to assist with the recovery of the community. <i>Note: This requires joint agreement between the Prime Minister and the Premier.</i>
Category C Special Disaster Assistance – Recovery Grants for Non-profit Organisations and Small business	DESBT in conjunction with DCDSS	DESBT and DCDSS identifies additional financial assistance is required to support the recovery of the community from a severe event. <i>Note: This requires joint agreement between the Prime Minister and the Premier.</i>
Category C Special Disaster Assistance – Recovery Grants for Primary Producers	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)	DAF identifies additional financial assistance is required to support the recovery of the community from a severe event. <i>Note: This requires joint agreement between the Prime Minister and the Premier.</i>
Category D Extraordinary Special Assistance	Dependent upon the type of assistance being requested	This funding may be requested to meet the particular circumstances of the event, and where a gap or need for special assistance above and beyond the standard suite of NDRRA assistance arises. <i>Note: This requires joint agreement between the Prime Minister and the Premier.</i>

### For more information

Please email [ndrra@qldra.org.au](mailto:ndrra@qldra.org.au) if you have any queries about requesting activation.

**Where there are (unintended) inconsistencies between these tip sheets, the Australia Government NDRRA Determination 2017 and the Queensland Disaster Relief and Recovery Guidelines, the Australia Government NDRRA Determination will prevail.**