

2018/19 DRFAWA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION **AGRN839 ST RONANS BUSHFIRE IN THE SHIRE OF YORK (10 January 2019).**

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, Western Australia (DRFAWA) on 23 January 2019, pursuant to clause 5.1 of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) (the *Arrangements 2018*), issued by the Commonwealth Government Department of Home Affairs. The Western Australian State Government will provide financial assistance to those people who have been affected through joint State and Commonwealth disaster relief and recovery arrangements.

On Thursday 10 January 2019, a fire was reported in the St Ronans area, approximately 12 km west of the town of York. The fire burnt in a northwest direction covering an area of approximately 600 hectares burning through stubble paddocks and bushland, destroying '6 Mile Brook Bridge' and impacting the Great Southern Highway and farming properties.

Pursuant to subclause 1.1.1 of the *Arrangements 2018*, 'Bushfire' is deemed to be an eligible *natural disaster* event.

For the purposes of the DRFAWA this event will be referred to as '**St Ronans Bushfire in the Shire of York (10 January 2019)**'.

DRFAWA is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments and administered by the Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), with assistance from other agencies. Through DRFAWA, the Western Australian and Commonwealth Governments provide assistance to people who have suffered the direct impact of a proclaimed disaster event.

At this time, only the Shire of York is deemed to have been impacted, and therefore no additional local governments are expected to be added to the activation proclamation. If information becomes available that identifies other local government districts as potentially having been directly impacted by this disaster event, subject to further assessment; these local government districts may, at a later date, be included in the affected area.

It is anticipated the eligible costs for this event will primarily be associated with the restoration and replacement of the State road network infrastructure.

Assistance may be available for the following measures (*where appropriate*) typically covered by the DRFAWA:

- **For Local Governments & State Government Agencies** – Clean-up costs and the restoration or replacement (to pre-disaster function) of *essential public assets* including local road damage. State road restoration is through Main Roads Western Australia. Only costs incurred that are 'additional' costs, and are directly related to the event, will be eligible for reimbursement.
Note - The allowable time limit for eligible claims expires on 30 June 2021.

Claims in respect of any other *eligible measures* may also be considered.

It should be noted that assistance under the DRFAWA is not designed to supplant, or operate as a disincentive for self-help by way of commercial insurance.

Primary Contacts

Primary contacts for assistance/advice are:

- Department of Communities, Emergency Services (Child Protection and Family Support) by phone on 1800 032 965, or via website [here](#);
- Main Roads Western Australia regional offices for State road infrastructure via website [here](#);
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Agriculture and Food) Rural Business Development Group, by phone on 1800 198 231 or via website [here](#); and
- Other enquiries may be directed to the Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services. Contact DRFAWA Administrators by phone on 9395 9973 or 9395 9341, or by email to drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au

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