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DRFAWA: Eligible essential public assets

Definition of an eligible essential public asset

Under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA), an eligible essential public asset is a transport or public infrastructure asset of an eligible undertaking which is integral to the State's infrastructure and normal function of a community and must be either:

- Owned and maintained by an eligible undertaking; or
- Operated and maintained by an eligible undertaking.

Eligible assets

Following are examples of eligible assets:

Transport Infrastructure

- Roads and road infrastructure e.g. footpaths, bike lanes, pedestrian bridges
- Bridges
- Tunnels and culverts

Public Infrastructure

- Public hospitals
- Public schools
- Public housing
- Prisons/correctional facilities
- Police, fire and emergency services' stations
- Levees and stormwater infrastructure
- State and local government offices.

Ineligible assets

The following assets are ineligible under the DRFAWA:

- Sporting, recreational and community facilities e.g. playgrounds, ovals, swimming pools and related facilities
- Religious centres e.g. churches, temples and mosques
- Memorials
- Privately owned infrastructure, including houses

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- Fire trails
- Boat ramps or jetties in national parks and recreation areas.

Definition of an eligible undertaking

An eligible undertaking is either:

- A department or other agency of a state government; or
- Established by or under state legislation for public purposes e.g. local government; and
- Provides services free of charge, or at a rate that is 50 per cent or less than the cost to provide those services.

Eligible undertaking incorporated under Commonwealth legislation

A number of Aboriginal communities in Western Australia are incorporated under Commonwealth legislation. This means they do not meet the definition of an eligible undertaking.

If an Aboriginal community has been impacted by an eligible disaster event and the incorporation is not known or unclear, please contact DFES to discuss and determine whether an exemption may be sought.

Evidence required to prove an asset is eligible

The asset owner must be able to provide evidence that the asset is:

- Owned and maintained or operated and maintained. For example, the asset is listed on the local government or state government agency's asset register and maintenance records can be provided; and
- Operated at a rate 50 per cent or less of the cost to provide the service. For example, a local government landfill facility must be able to show that the landfill fees are at a rate 50 per cent or less than the cost to provide the service to the community.

Insured eligible assets

If a damaged asset is insured, an insurance claim must be made in the first instance.

Insurable but not insured eligible assets

If a damaged asset is insurable but a business decision has been made to not insure it, then it is not claimable under the DRFAWA.

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More information and advice

For assets not listed in this fact sheet, please contact the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to confirm if it is eligible.

The full suite of DRFAWA fact sheets and other related documents are available on the DFES website (www.dfes.wa.gov.au).

If you have any questions or need additional support, contact the Disaster Recovery Funding team at drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au.