



DRFAWA FACT SHEET

ESSENTIAL REPAIRS TO HOUSING

INFORMATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA), Category A assistance measures support individuals impacted by an eligible disaster.

Category A - Essential repairs to housing, including temporary repairs and repairs necessary to restore housing to a habitable condition – Clause 4.2.2.c

This measure is intended to help individuals whose homes have been directly damaged by an eligible disaster to undertake essential repairs to their homes to make them safe, habitable and secure, where they have no means of funding essential housing repairs themselves.

This assistance is assessed on a case-by-case basis; however, types of assistance that may be provided include:

- Safety inspections.
- Temporary repairs, tarping damaged roofs and covering broken windows.
- Permanent structural repairs, roof repairs, structural support repairs.
- Reconnecting essential household services, e.g. repairs to water, gas, electricity and sewerage.

Eligibility Criteria

- This assistance supports people who may be uninsured or underinsured make safe repairs to meet their immediate and basic housing needs following the disaster.
- Assistance is considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Is subject to income and asset testing.

Who provides this assistance?

The Department of Communities is primarily responsible for administering this assistance. In some cases, local governments may also be involved in the provision of this assistance.

If local governments choose to provide this assistance, they must do so in consultation with, and with the agreement of, the Department of Communities. For support, contact the Emergency On-Call Officer at 0418 943 835.

Other response related agencies may be involved in the delivery of this assistance, as appropriate.

What costs may be eligible?

Costs must be directly related to the provision of assistance following the eligible disaster and may include:

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- Engaging additional temporary personnel or service providers (e.g. a private company to undertake safety checks and repair works)
 - Operational costs, e.g. consumable costs such as ropes, tarpaulins
 - For state agencies and local governments, certain expenditure for salaries and wages and internal plant and equipment use may be available, such as:
 - Overtime for state and local government employees, outside normal working hours.
 - Employment costs for contractors or temporary (fixed term) employees as well as other associated costs such as travel expenses, accommodation and on costs including superannuation and workers compensation.
 - Costs of backfilling employees who have been seconded to assist with eligible disaster activities.
 - Additional fuel and maintenance costs required as a direct consequence of using internal plant and equipment.

What criteria applies to this Category A assistance measure?

Assistance is only eligible for reimbursement under the DRFAWA where an event is activated as an eligible disaster and the relevant local government area is included in the activation.

This assistance is subject to

- income and asset testing, and
- is assessed on a case-by-case basis.

The following criteria apply:

- The damage must be a direct result of the eligible disaster and be in the activated local government area.
- Costs must be related to eligible repairs (that is, repairs are associated with direct damage from the eligible disaster and are necessary to make the home safe and habitable).
- The assistance supports people who may be uninsured or underinsured to make safe repairs to meet their immediate and basic housing needs following the disaster.
- Is subject to income and asset testing.

Do timeframes apply to this assistance?

The Department of Communities manages the timeframes associated with the delivery of this assistance. The Department of Communities will liaise with DFES as required.



Evidence required to make a claim

Evidence is required for any works undertaken, or services provided and reimbursed under the DRFAWA.

- All supporting invoices (including evidence of payment) associated with the expenditure, including the services provided and activities undertaken and clearly identifying:
 - the event,
 - the type of assistance provided, and
 - the location.
- Evidence is required to demonstrate that the assistance provided was as a direct result of the eligible disaster. This includes photographic evidence with associated meta data attached or supporting information from inspections and assessments.

Further information and contacts

Contacts:

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-  Website: Click [here](#)