GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DFES Department of Fire & Emergency Services

DRFAWA FACT SHEET

Category C and D Assistance Measures

Information for local governments and state government agencies

This fact sheet provides guidance for local governments and state government agencies on Category C and D assistance measures under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA).

Overview

Category C and D assistance measures may be made available under the DRFAWA only in exceptional circumstances, where an eligible disaster has severely affected a community, region or sector and standard assistance is not enough to support recovery.

These measures provide targeted recovery support. They are not intended to compensate for losses, restore pre-disaster lifestyles or provide economic stimulus.

Category C and D measures are not automatic. The Western Australian Government must seek Commonwealth agreement before assistance can be made available for cost sharing under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements. A request is generally supported by a Premier's letter, a Category C/D Measure Proposal and a Category C/D Assistance Request Form.

Category C and D assistance measures at a glance

Measure	When it may apply	Examples
Category C	Where Category A or B assistance has been made available and additional support is needed for longer-term recovery after severe impacts to a community, region or sector.	Clean-up and recovery packages, Community Recovery Funds and recovery grants for eligible small businesses, primary producers and, where approved, non-profit organisations.
Category D	Where exceptional recovery needs are not adequately addressed by Categories A, B or C or by other Commonwealth or State programs.	Event-specific measures such as homeowner recovery grants, community housing repair and rebuild, environmental recovery, infrastructure betterment, or temporary accommodation.

Key requirements

- DFES is the Administering Agency for DRFAWA Category C and D measures and coordinates requests on behalf of the Western Australian Government.
- Each measure has one or more delivery agency responsible for financial, operational and delivery requirements.
- Requests must explain the disaster impact, recovery need, intended outcome, proposed delivery approach and supporting evidence.
- For Category D, requests must also explain the recovery gap and why Categories A, B or C, or other government programs, are not sufficient.

Approval, guidelines and communications

Commonwealth agreement confirms whether a measure is approved in full or in part, the cost-sharing arrangements and any conditions. Measures should not be announced, and expenditure should not commence, until agreement is confirmed, unless DFES advises otherwise.

A program guideline is developed for each approved measure. It must be consistent with the Commonwealth agreement and cannot broaden eligibility. The guideline sets out eligible recipients, eligible and ineligible activities and costs, funding limits, evidence and record keeping requirements, key dates, reporting, claims, monitoring and evaluation.

Approved measures must be jointly announced by the Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments, unless otherwise agreed. Public communications should acknowledge that assistance is jointly funded under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Further information and contacts

Further information on the DRFAWA, including fact sheets, guidelines and training, is available from the DFES Recovery Funding website.

💻 DFES Recovery Funding website

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