

2018/19 DRFAWA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION HEAVY RAINFALL AND ASSOCIATED FLOODING – SHIRE OF PLANTAGENET (19 MARCH 2019).

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, Western Australia (DRFAWA) on 17 April 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 State Government will provide financial assistance to those people who have been affected through joint State and Commonwealth disaster relief and recovery arrangements.

On the 19 March 2019 the Shire of Plantagenet experienced heavy rainfall and flash flooding as a result of thunderstorm activity in the Great Southern region. Satellite and radar imagery showed several thunderstorm cells in the southern parts of the Great Southern, South Coastal and the adjacent South West district. High rainfall totals were caused by a stagnant trough in the area, plus relatively high moisture content in the atmosphere. Much of the rainfall occurred in a one hour period at approximately 18:00 hours on the 19 March 2019.

Pursuant to subclause 1.1.1 of the *Arrangements 2018*, ‘*Storm*’ and ‘*Flooding*’ are deemed to be eligible *natural disaster* events.

For the purposes of the DRFAWA this event will be referred to as ‘**Heavy Rainfall and Associated Flooding in the Shire of Plantagenet (19 March 2019)**’.

DRFAWA is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments and administered by the Department 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.

The Local Government districts currently subject to this proclamation are as follows:

- Shire of Plantagenet

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.

The eligible costs for this event are anticipated to be largely associated with the restoration and replacement of the 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:

- All enquiries for this disaster event are to be directed to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Contact DRFAWA Administrators by phone on 9395 9973 or 9395 9341 or 9395 9374, or by email to drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au.

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