

FACT SHEET 6 – SOLID CORE DOOR UPGRADES

CYCLONE SEROJA RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE GRANTS PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR INSURED PROPERTY OWNERS

The Resilience Grant, of up to \$20,000, helps residents impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja to improve the resilience of their insured residential property for future cyclonic events.

This fact sheet provides information to help you understand the benefits of upgrading your existing external hollow doors to solid core doors. Upgrading your external doors is an eligible reimbursement activity through the Resilience Grant.

What is the Resilience Grant?

The Resilience Grant reimburses eligible homeowners for specific building works that improve the resilience of their residential property against future cyclones. These works include the replacing of existing external doors with new external solid core doors by a registered business.

Why is it a good idea to upgrade my external doors?

Building investigations following cyclonic events have shown that broken windows can result in further damage to the building. In part due to rain and wind entering the house, but also due to increased wind pressure on the roof, which can result in roof failure.

Resisting the wind pressure requires strong connections in the roof and walls and stronger doors and windows. Replacing existing external doors that are hollow core or semi-solid doors with solid core doors is one activity you can undertake to help resist these pressures and increase the resilience of your property against a future cyclone.

How do I upgrade to a solid core door?

Solid core doors are doors that are fully filled with wood or wood composite materials inside a frame. They are stronger than hollow doors and can better withstand high winds.

Under the Recovery and Resilience Grant Program the solid core door installed must be rated for external use. If an external door contains glass the area of glass must not exceed 0.27m². A good quality lock set and hardware must also be installed.

Who can organise the work?

Works can be undertaken by your insurer, or you can arrange them yourself.

Works through insurers

Insurers are aware of the Resilience Grant and can arrange the works using their contractors. The property owner must discuss this with their insurer. Insurers will need to provide a breakdown of the additional cost involved and evidence of the work.



Works arranged by the owner

Property owners can organise the works through a registered builder. Property owners will need to request the following documents from the builder:

- itemised quote for the roof works stating the labour and material cost breakdown; and
- structural drawings with reference to the wind classification and required tie-downs.

The builder will need to read the relevant *Technical Specifications* prior to quoting the works.

How do I apply?

- Visit <https://dfes.wa.gov.au/site/recoveryandresiliencegrants/> and click on apply now.
- Start your application which requires information about you and your damaged property.
- Submit the application and receive a confirmation email it has been received.
- A grants officer will contact you to discuss your application and confirm your eligibility.
- A grants officer will liaise with you while your upgrade works are under way and the required evidence is collected.

If you need help with submitting your application or are unable to complete it online, please contact the Recovery and Resilience Grants Team on 1800 490 678 or visit your Community Recovery Hub.

What evidence is required to apply for the grant?

As your application progresses, you will be asked to provide evidence of the solid core door upgrades. This includes:

- Receipt, label or Tech Data Sheet detailing the external core door meets the relevant standards.
- Quote from a registered business outlining the works to be undertaken.
- Completed *Resilience Works Completion Form* signed by the installer.
- Photos of the installed window protection screens or shutters.
- Evidence of payment, tax invoice and receipt.

A member of the Recovery and Resilience Grants Team may also inspect the work.

Grants Closing Date

The Recovery and Resilience Grants Program closes on 31 March 2023.

Further Information

Read about the Recovery and Resilience Grants Program at <https://dfes.wa.gov.au/site/recoveryandresiliencegrants/>

Contact

Recovery and Resilience Grants Team

Email: serojainfo@dfes.wa.gov.au

Phone: 1800 490 678

The Recovery and Resilience Grants Program is being administered by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services and is jointly funded through the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.