



Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

2012/13 WANDRRA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION

Bushfire Parkerville (12 January 2014)

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA), and pursuant to Section 4.2 of the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements Determination 2012 Version 1, issued by the Commonwealth Government Attorney-General. The State Government will provide immediate financial assistance to those people who have been affected through joint State and Commonwealth disaster relief and recovery arrangements.

On 12 January 2014, a bushfire started in Parkerville within the Shire of Mundaring, and to date, has burnt through almost 400 hectares, claimed the life of a 62-year-old man and destroyed more than 52 homes.

Pursuant to Section 2.1.1 of the NDRRA Determination 2012 Version 1, 'bushfire' is deemed to be eligible *natural disaster* event.

WANDRRA 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 WANDRRA, the Western Australian and Commonwealth Governments provide help to people who have suffered the direct impact of a proclaimed natural disaster event.

The Local Government district subject to this proclamation is as follows:

- Shire of Mundaring

Significant eligible costs have already been incurred through counter disaster operations activities carried out in order to protect homes the bushfire, with other costs being incurred for the provision of personal hardship and distress assistance measures. Assistance under this proclamation may also be available in respect of the cost of the restoration and/or replacement (to pre-disaster standard) of certain *essential public assets*. These costs are generally associated with the local and state road network infrastructure in the affected Local Government. Consideration may be given to proposals involving the *betterment* of roads to a more disaster-resilient standard than its pre-disaster standard. It is also anticipated that there will be costs relating to *counter disaster operations* type activities including the clean-up of local and state government owned property.

Assistance may be available for the following measures (*where appropriate*) typically covered by the WANDRRA:

- **For individuals and families** – Personal Hardship and Distress grants which are administered by the Department for Child Protection and Family Support (CPFS). Potential measures include emergency food, accommodation, clothing, temporary living expenses, replacement of essential household contents and housing repairs to return housing to a habitable, safe and secure condition. **Note** – ***some of these measures are subject to income and/or assets testing.***

- **For small businesses** – interest rate subsidies on ‘new’ loans approved by Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions.
- **For Primary Producers** – Assistance may be available toward freight costs, materials for boundary fences (***only where it is demonstrated that public safety is at risk***), professional advice grants and interest rate subsidies on ‘new’ loans approved by Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions. These *eligible measures* are administered by the Department of Agriculture and Food.
Important Note - Claims should be lodged before 14 July 2014.
- **For Local Governments & State Government Agencies** – Clean-up costs and the restoration or replacement (to pre-disaster standard) of *essential public assets* including local road damage. State road damage is also included through Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA). Only costs incurred that are ‘additional’ costs, and are directly related to the event, will be eligible for reimbursement.
Important Note - The *allowable time limit* for eligible claims expires on 30 June 2016.

Claims in respect of any other *eligible measures* may also be considered.

It should be noted that assistance under the WANDRRA 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:

- Department for Child Protection and Family Support, by phone on 6552 5058 or 1800 032 965, or via website [here](#);
- Local Government – Main Roads Western Australia regional offices for road infrastructure via website [here](#);
- Department of Agriculture and Food, Rural Business Development, by phone on 1800 198 231 or via website [here](#); and
- Other enquiries may be directed to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services - contact (WANDRRA Administrator) by phone on 9395 9404, or by email to - wandrra@dfes.wa.gov.au

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