



# Community Drought Support Program

2019-20 Funding Grants

**Funding Information Paper for Applicant Organisations**

**November 2019**

## 1. Introduction

At 1 September 2019, there were 37 drought declared local government areas comprising 33 local government areas and 4 part local government areas (published on [www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/drought/drought-declarations/](http://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/drought/drought-declarations/)) representing 66.1% of the land area of Queensland.

Some local government areas, especially in western Queensland have been drought declared since mid-2013. Since the end of the 2018 wet season, much of Queensland and eastern Australia has received below average rainfall, with the exception of the recent monsoon in North West Queensland.

The Community Drought Support Package is part of the Queensland Government's 2019-20 Drought Assistance Programs.

The Community Drought Support Package aims to strengthen the resilience of drought-affected Queenslanders by building on existing community support mechanisms to increase access and participation. This will be done through the delivery of community events or activities and the delivery of Flexible Financial Hardship funding to alleviate cost of living pressures and alleviate hardship for individuals, households and communities impacted by the drought.

Funding will be covered by the *Community Services Act 2007*.

Design of the 2019-20 Community Drought Support Package is informed by: previous experience in the delivery of the package; the findings of two recent independent reports; and consultation with representatives of the Commonwealth Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development (DITCRD).

The objectives of this grant funding activity are to deliver community drought support to:

- enable place-based responses in drought-affected communities that improve wellbeing, connectedness, build resilience and support the community to thrive;
- enable drought-affected Queenslanders to access assistance that alleviates hardship and cost of living pressures;
- invest in quality responsive services and supports that respond to the needs of drought-affected communities, and
- encourage local and regional organisations the opportunity to apply and to play a role in supporting individuals and communities to thrive.

This is an invitation to organisations to deliver one or both parts of the Community Drought Support Package to one or more of the drought-declared local government areas.

The Community Drought Support Package is comprised of:

1. Flexible Financial Hardship (FFH) payments to alleviate hardship and cost of living pressures for individuals, families or households impacted by the drought.; and
2. a range of community events and activities that contribute to connectedness, social well-being and increase access to support services;

## 2. Grant Purpose

The Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (the department) seeks to support organisations to deliver the Community Drought Support Package to strengthen the resilience of drought-affected Queenslanders in drought-declared areas of the state.

These grants will deliver \$5 million in total to 37 drought-declared, and part drought-declared local government areas as at 1 September 2019.

Organisations are expected to commence an agreement from **1 March 2020 to 28 February 2021**.

The aim of the funding is to strengthen the resilience of drought affected Queenslanders by revitalising existing community support mechanisms and utilising community events to increase access and participation in direct support services that will increase the capacity of individuals and community groups in drought-declared local government areas to participate positively in their community, improve access to support and social connectedness.

### **Flexible Financial Hardship payments:**

Organisations are expected to identify individuals, households and families who require assistance with their cost of living pressures. Organisations are expected to provide payments to individuals, households and families using sensitive and respectful mechanisms. Innovative payment mechanisms are encouraged so that the payments reach the most vulnerable people.

Support is to be extended to non-farming small business operators and their families such as tradesmen and retail operators that rely on regional economies and the agriculture that underpins these economies to earn an income. Recipients can also include school Parent & Citizens Associations for the purchase of school uniforms, stationery/text books, or the replacement of tuckshop equipment such as toasters, blenders, fridge/freezers and other minor equipment. This also includes schools providing a school breakfast program where minor equipment is required (e.g. blenders/toasters).

### **Events and activities:**

Organisations are expected to identify community and individual needs and conduct local community family programs and activities, events, sporting and social support initiatives that enhance community connectedness and help participants to link with relevant support networks.

Organisations can apply to deliver either or both, flexible financial hardship payments and/or community events and activities, in one or more drought-declared local government areas. Organisations are not required to deliver both parts of the package.

### **Please note:**

Funded organisations can use **up to 10%** of funding for operating costs directly related to delivery of the package including:

- ✓ establishment costs
- ✓ administration and coordination
- ✓ salary-related costs for staff directly involved in the event or providing payments.

### **Ineligible costs include:**

- ✗ costs other than those listed above
- ✗ building and construction costs.
- ✗ purchase of vehicles.

### **Response should include:**

- The local government area(s) in which the organisation will deliver events and activities and/or Flexible Financial Hardship payments.
- Details of how Flexible Financial Hardship payments will be assessed and distributed.
- Details of community events to be held.

### 3. Funding Distribution

The value of funding available for **each** local government area is indicated in the below table (this funding has been allocated based on a rating system which takes into account the total length of time that the local government area has been in drought and indicators of vulnerability).

The Queensland Government has notionally set aside 80 per cent of funding to be prioritised towards FFH payments grants, subject to receiving sufficient suitable applications.

#### Funding available to each drought-declared local government area

Rating category	Drought-declared local government areas*	Funding per LGA
Rating 1	Boulia (S)	\$244,000
	Diamantina (S),	\$244,000
	Barcoo (S),	\$244,000
	Paroo (S),	\$244,000
	Quilpie (S)	\$244,000
	Winton (S),	\$244,000
Rating 2	Bulloo (S),	\$220,000
	Flinders (S),	\$220,000
	Mc Kinlay (S),	\$220,000
	Richmond (S)	\$220,000
Rating 3	Blackall-Tambo (R),	\$195,000
	Balonne (S),	\$195,000
	Barcaldine (R),	\$195,000
	Murweh (S)	\$195,000
Rating 4	Longreach (R),	\$161,000
	Charters Towers (R),	\$161,000
	Maranoa (R),	\$161,000
	Goondiwindi (R)	\$161,000
Rating 5	Isaac (R),	\$142,000
	Western Downs (R)	\$142,000
Rating 6	Banana (S),	\$116,000
	Toowoomba (R),	\$116,000
	Southern Downs (R)	\$116,000
Rating 7	Whitsunday (R),	\$88,000
	Cherbourg (S)	\$88,000
Rating 8	South Burnett (R),	\$72,000
	Somerset (R)	\$72,000
Rating 9	Lockyer Valley (R),	\$43,000
	Central Highlands (R),	\$43,000
	Woorabinda (S),	\$43,000

	Bundaberg (R)	\$43,000
Rating 10	Scenic Rim (R),	\$18,000
	Rockhampton (R),	\$18,000
	Livingstone (S),	\$18,000
	Gladstone (R),	\$18,000
	Ipswich (C),	\$18,000
	North Burnett (R)	\$18,000

\*Drought-declared local government areas are as published at 1 September 2019 at [www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/drought/drought-declarations/](http://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/drought/drought-declarations/). The local government area boundaries are as defined by the Queensland Government at: <https://www.dlgma.qld.gov.au/resources-ilgp/maps/local-government-maps.html>.

Codes indicated in the table are: \* Cities (C), Shires (S), Towns (T) and Regional Councils (R)

#### 4. Reporting

You will be required to report through the department's online agreement reporting system. The final report is due by **28 March 2021**.

##### For Flexible Financial Hardship payments:

Reports could include

- Milestone activities: number of people receiving payments or goods, reason/purpose for people receiving payments or goods, method of payment, amount of payment, how the payment was accessed.
- Case studies (de-identified): impact or outcome for the individual, household or family.

##### For Events and Activities:

Reports could include

- Milestone activities: date of event/activity; type of event/activity, community, local government area, , location and duration of event/activity, benefits and outcomes for the community and individuals participating, purpose of event/activity, expected community participation.
- Case studies (de-identified): including a summary of impacts or outcomes for the community

#### 5. Acknowledgement of Funding

You must ensure Community Drought Support funding is acknowledged in your organisation's Annual Report and in any promotional materials including on your website. This applies to activities funded solely or in part through the Community Drought Support package.

Any acknowledgement in promotion material must use an acknowledgement logo which You must obtain from Us.

#### 6. Insurance requirements

You must maintain public liability insurance for a sum of not less than \$10million

#### 7. Application Criteria

The department will select the applications assessed as providing the best value for money.

N.B. Please note only one application is required to be completed when applying for community events and/or flexible financial hardship in multiple LGAs. Select the funding and locations, then you will be required to answer each relevant criteria once, per LGA.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

**1. FLEXIBLE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP Payments - Describe your organisation's capability and capacity to deliver Flexible Financial Hardship payments.**

Outline your organisation's:

- Experience in delivering assistance of a like nature.
- Capacity to manage finance and governance requirements
- Capacity to report on the outcomes achieved for community.
- Capacity to commence delivery from 1 March 2020.

Please also provide the total amount of funding sought for each LGA and your strategy to disseminate funding to affected individuals, households and families.

**2. COMMUNITY EVENTS - Describe your organisation's capability and capacity to deliver the proposed community events and activities:**

Outline how you will meet the intended purpose of the CDSP, through demonstrating your:

- Ability to determine and coordinate events and activities with other community groups and/or
- Ability to have an accountable process in place;
- Ability to host events that strengthen the resilience of drought affected Queenslanders by revitalising existing community support mechanisms and utilising community events to increase access and participation in direct support services.
- Capacity to commence delivery from 1 March 2020.

Please also provide the total amount of funding required for each event.

**3. ALL APPLICATIONS – Describe your organisation's capacity to work collaboratively with relevant stakeholders**

- Provide evidence of your organisation's capacity and capability to collaborate with key service suppliers including small business and other local support.

**4. ALL APPLICATIONS – Describe the benefits to the local community that flexible financial hardship payments and/or community events will deliver.**

**Applicable to all applications:**

Your organisation must have no outstanding financial or reporting requirement with the department.

**8. Application process**

**Online application**

Applications are handled through the online Smartygrants grants administration system, accessible via this link: <https://communities.smartygrants.com.au/CDSP2019-20>

Key dates are outlined below.

<b>Applications open:</b>	<b>9:00am Friday 15 November 2019</b>
<b>Applications close:</b>	<b>5:00pm Friday 13 December 2019</b>
<b>Funding offers made:</b>	<b>February 2020</b>

**9. Assessment of Applications**

Applicants are required to address the requirements set out in the online application form to demonstrate capacity and capability to deliver the program. If required, applicants may be asked to submit further details or provide clarification during the assessment process.

Applicants will be informed in writing of the outcome of the assessment process.

## 10. Agreement Term

A funding agreement will be entered into with the successful applicants for the period 1 March 2020 to 28 February 2021.

### Further information and assistance

Questions about the program can be directed to: [grantqueries@communities.qld.gov.au](mailto:grantqueries@communities.qld.gov.au)

Questions about SmartyGrants can be directed to: [Service@smartygrants.com.au](mailto:Service@smartygrants.com.au)

Please refer to the *SmartyGrants—HelpGuideforApplicants*  
<https://appicanthelp.smartygrants.com.au/help-guide-for-applicants/> for assistance on completing your application form