

**WHAT WE DO:**

QRA is charged with managing and coordinating the Government’s program of **recovery and reconstruction** works within disaster-affected communities, with a focus on working with our state and local government partners to deliver best practice administration of public reconstruction and resilience funds. QRA is also the state’s lead agency responsible for **disaster recovery and resilience policy**, working collaboratively with agencies and stakeholders to improve risk reduction and disaster preparedness.

**OUR VISION:**

Make Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia.

**OUR PURPOSE:**

Enable recovery and build resilience to disaster events within our communities.



Community engagement session for Queensland Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Program - Cloncurry September 2019.

**DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

**NDRRA/DRFA Grants Program**

QRA administers and coordinates joint Commonwealth State disaster recovery grant measures in Queensland through Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) and Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).



**Acquittal:**

The State’s next claim to the Commonwealth for DRFA is due by **31 March 2020**.

QRA is currently processing the close-out of completed works for the claim.

**Status of NDRRA/DRFA Delivery Program**

	2018 Events	2019 Events	2020 Events
<b>\$1,770M</b> Delivery Program	<b>\$288M</b> Program	<b>\$1,466M</b> Program	<b>\$16M</b> Program
<b>\$497M</b> Current Spend	<b>\$180M</b> Spend to date	<b>\$317M</b> Spend to date	-
<b>Deadline for Delivery</b>	<b>30 June 2020</b>	<b>30 June 2021</b>	<b>30 June 2022</b>
<b>Time Elapsed</b>	62%	12%	-
<b>% Completion</b>	63%	22%	-

**In October**

- **no new activations for DRFA measures**
- **\$127M submissions approved**
- **\$94M works reported as delivered**

**Additional Recovery Measures**

QRA is administering a suite of exceptional DRFA assistance measures for recent events.

**North & FNQ Monsoon Trough (2019)**  
- \$242 million

<b>Infrastructure</b> \$134.5M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$32M allocated to date to 15 projects, to restore and improve the disaster resilience of flood damaged essential public, community and water assets.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic</b> \$39M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 Industry Recovery Officers and 3 Rural Financial Counsellors in operation</li> <li>• 94 small business grants approved to the value of \$910,546</li> <li>• 12 Travel bursaries provided for delegates to attend the DestinationQ Events Conference</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b> \$36M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Riparian Recovery Program - 77 projects worth \$13.0M recommended across riparian reconnaissance, urgent riparian works, Coastal Recovery Program and the Regional Invasive Species Program.</li> <li>• \$100,000 Emergency Response Program for Parthenium Weed is being delivered through Department of Agriculture and Fisheries as an emergency response immediately following the Monsoon Trough.</li> </ul>

**Central Queensland Bushfires (2018)**  
- \$12.0 million

<b>Human &amp; Social</b> \$3.79M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 Community Development Officers delivering program across 8 councils</li> <li>• Mental Health program - 6 clinicians appointed across Rockhampton, Mackay and Wide Bay HHSs. 441 people screened, 3 individuals have received clinical treatments and 127 clinical hours undertaken.</li> </ul>
<b>Resilience</b> \$8.25M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1.5M Rural Residential Recovery program has commenced rollout with over \$366k paid to date</li> <li>• 17 projects being delivered under Flexible Funding Grant program, round two of the Flexible funding grants closed on 5 November 2019</li> <li>• Bushfire awareness campaign underway</li> </ul>



<b>Human &amp; Social</b> \$12.75M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 Community Development Officers in place</li> <li>• Mental Health program has commenced delivery with 9 clinicians, social and health workers delivering services through the Townsville, North West and Central West Hospital and Health Services (HHS).</li> </ul>
<b>Resilience</b> \$19.75M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexible Funding Grants totalling \$4.5M approved across 68 projects. The projects will continue to support and enable recovery, and contribute to building awareness and resilience.</li> <li>• Townsville Flood Mapping project initiated</li> </ul>

**RECOVERY**

QRA works extensively on recovery planning with councils impacted by major disaster events, increasing capability and awareness through active participation and providing support for local recovery governance.

**Recovery Plans**

QRA is currently coordinating 3 state event specific recovery plans:

**Southern Queensland Bushfires (2020)**

Functional Recovery Groups are completing recovery action plans for incorporation into the Recovery Plan. Noosa Shire and Scenic Rim Regional council are being assisted to develop event specific recovery plans by QRA. Southern Downs Regional Council has endorsed its event specific recovery plan.

**North & FNQ Monsoon Trough (2019)**

Event specific State Recovery Plan was released on 3 September 2019. The first quarterly progress report has been completed.

**Central Queensland Bushfires (2018)**

Second progress report on recovery has been completed. The reporting process has enabled QRA to support council overcome challenges to develop relationship to facilitate community recovery.

**Recovery Planning and Governance Project**

As a result of the 2018-19 disaster season, assisting local governments with developing and/or strengthening local disaster recovery capabilities has been identified as a key recovery priority for Queensland.

Delivery underway on completed Council event-specific recovery plans

**19**

related to the Central Queensland Bushfires and the NFNQ Monsoon Trough

**3** Council event-specific recovery plans being finalised for the Southern Queensland Bushfires

**24** Council Recovery sub-plans underway or endorsed

**District Recovery Alignment Project**

QRA commenced the District Alignment Project in October 2019. The project will identify how recovery is managed in each Disaster District with reference to the five lines of recovery and any capability gaps through engagement with selected District Disaster Management Groups.

5 pilot districts confirmed for the District Recovery Alignment Project:

- Cairns
- Mount Isa
- Rockhampton
- Logan
- Maranoa

**PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT**



QRA launched its third annual Get Ready Queensland (GRQ) Week in October 2019, and proved the annual event gets bigger and better every year!

GRQ Week 2019 kicked off on Sunday 13 October at Moreton Bay Regional Council's Emergency Services Expo, which attracted more than 3,000 visitors from the community of Bribie Island.

The official media launch for the week took place on Monday 14 October at King George Square in partnership with GRQ ambassador Johnathan Thurston and 17 partnering organisations including the Bureau of Meteorology, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, Red Cross, Lifeline, RSPCA and more.

The launch day attracted excellent media coverage which reached more than 1.3 million people nationally.

The team continued the week with activities each day including an event on Speaker's Green at Parliament House; a visit to Wynnum State School with Channel Seven's Tony Auden; a Community Recovery Forum hosted by the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors; and a visit to Berrinba East State School with Minister Cameron Dick to wrap up the week.

Following Get Ready Queensland Week, the team was back out on the road talking with North West Queensland locals about how they prepare for severe weather and disasters.

Over two days, the team met with councils and presented to schools in Richmond, McKinlay, Cloncurry and Mt Isa. The trip was a great opportunity for the team to get a better understanding of regional communities and their needs heading into disaster season.



## RESILIENCE

QRA leads disaster resilience and mitigation policy in Queensland.

### Resilience grant programs

#### Queensland Disaster Resilience Fund (QDRF) and Prepared Communities Fund

\$10.65M allocated to 73 projects for the 2018-19 round of the State-funded QDRF (\$9.5M, 62 projects) and State-Commonwealth Prepared Communities Fund (\$1.15M, 11 projects). Applications for the 2019-20 allocation of QDRF funding are expected to open in early 2020.

#### Get Ready Queensland (GRQ)

GRQ provides Queensland Government funding for grants and community awareness campaigns to help local governments improve their communities' resilience.

GRQ's annual preparedness advertising campaign launched on 13 October 2019 and will continue through November. Following delivery of the Line of Fire bushfire awareness campaign in partnership with Queensland Fire & Emergency Services, market research will now be undertaken to assist in planning future GRQ advertising campaigns.

The new Get Ready Queensland website is now live at [getready.qld.gov.au](http://getready.qld.gov.au). with refreshed branding, updated factsheets and resources, a council hub, social feeds and a news page.

### Resilience projects and activities

#### Resilient Queensland 2018-2021: Delivering the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience

- Three pilot projects are underway to develop regional resilience strategies in Central West Queensland, Mary River and Fitzroy catchments. All three pilots are expected to be completed and launch early 2020
- Evaluation and planning for statewide rollout is underway and expected to ramp up in early 2020.

#### Resilient Building Guidance for Queensland Homes

- Flood Resilient Building Guidance for Queensland Homes – launched 9 April 2019
- Cyclone Resilient Guidance for Queensland Homes – near finalisation
- Storm Tide Resilient Guides for Queensland Homes – near finalisation
- Bushfire Building Guideline for Queensland homes – in development.

#### Flood Mapping and Flood Warning Programs

- Burdekin & Haughton Catchment Resilience Strategy Project – procurement underway; commence January 2020
- Queensland Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Program – 4 areas of operation in Far North, Central West, North West Queensland and Townsville/surrounds. Procurement currently being finalised for delivery of Network Optimisation Phase in Q1 2020.
- Townsville Recalibrated Flood Modelling and Mapping Project - supporting Townsville City Council to update and recalibrate flood modelling and mapping across the council area including the Ross River.

#### Resilience policy

- QRA is working with CSIRO to develop an adaptation of their Resilience, Adaptation Pathways and Transformation Approach (RAPTA) for Queensland to support state agency resilience building activities.

#### Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan (SFMP)

- QRA has oversight of 52 SFMP actions including 34 for state government and 12 which QRA is responsible for.
- The Brisbane River SFMP Steering Committee met on 29 October with representation from the CEOs of Brisbane, Ipswich, Somerset and Lockyer Valley councils and relevant state agencies.



The Brisbane River SFMP Steering Committee met on 29 October with representation from the CEOs of the four councils and relevant state agencies, pictured above holding their certificates as joint winners of the government category of the Queensland Resilient Australian Awards.