

7.5 Disaster Recovery Funding Update

REPORT BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICER
 TO 20 APRIL 2022 ORDINARY MEETING
 GOV400098, AA0060009; GRA600016

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. receive the report by the Emergency Management Officer on the Disaster Recovery Funding Update ; and
2. amend the 2021/22 budget to reallocate unspent grant funding from the Make Safe Program to Kerrys Ridge Fire Recovery.

Executive summary

In January 2020 the Federal Government announced Disaster Recovery Funding (DRF) of \$1.275 million for Mid-Western Regional Council as one of the 42 most severely impacted Local Government Areas (LGAs) following the 2019/20 Black Summer Bushfires. Funding needs to be fully spent by 30 June 2022. This report provides an update on the DRF funding and recommends a reallocation of unspent funds.

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

The \$1.275 million DRF received from the Federal Government was allocated to a number of programs to support bushfire recovery and resilience by Council in March 2020. Funding needs to be fully spent by 30 June 2022.

Office of Local Government – Quarterly 2 2021/22 Reporting

A progress report was submitted to the Office of Local Government in February 2022 and is included as an attachment to this report.

Major Projects Update

Below is a budget breakdown for each project:

| Project | Budget | Total Budget | Remaining | % Remaining |
|------------------------------|--------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bushfire Recovery | 20114 | \$272,600.00 | \$36,665.51 | 14% |
| Make Safe program | 20119 | \$370,000.00 | \$84,877.60 | 23% |
| Large Water Tanks | 20212 | \$250,000.00 | -\$5,975.62 | -2% |
| Economic Stimulus | 20213 | \$90,000.00 | \$0.00 | 0% |
| Iford Hall upgrades | 20214 | \$60,000.00 | \$50,255.15 | 84% |
| Running Stream Hall upgrades | 20215 | \$80,000.00 | \$0.00 | 0% |
| Olinda Hall upgrades | 20216 | \$137,400.00 | \$46,872.46 | 35% |
| Community Welfare | 20217 | \$15,000.00 | \$5,651.90 | 38% |

Bushfire Recovery

The Emergency Management Officer position which is funded through this budget is vacant.

Hall Upgrades

Running Stream – complete.

Olinda – in progress.

Iford – in progress. Delays are being experienced due to contractor availability and COVID-19.

Make Safe Program

Complete. Remaining funds to be re-allocated, see below.

Re-allocation of funds from Make Safe Program

Council spent over \$2.1 million on recovery works and after natural disaster funding, Council was out of pocket approximately \$100,000. The re-allocation of unspent funding allocated to the Make Safe program will contribute to those costs incurred.

Community Welfare

Council's Community Recovery Officer will utilise these funds as part of ongoing community recovery events and activities.

Community Plan implications

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Theme | Good Governance |
| Goal | Strong civic leadership |
| Strategy | Provide accountable and transparent decision making for the community |

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

Operational Plan

Council Policies

Not applicable

Legislation

Local Government Act 1993

Financial implications

As the funding is allocated towards expenses incurred in a prior year, this will result in an improvement to Council's operating performance ratio in 2021/22.

Associated Risks

Not applicable

ALAYNA GLEESON
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICER
24 February 2022

Attachments: 1. Disaster Recovery Funding 21/22 FY Quarter 2 Reporting to Resilience NSW.

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER

Actual Expenditure at the Account balance level
Period: 1 July 2021 to 31 December 2021

Mid-Western Regional Council

| Project Number | Project Name <i>(please list the projects in this column)</i> | Mid-Western Regional Council | Mid-Western Regional Council |
|--|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Funding allocation for projects | YTD December 2021 |
| | Category D - Event AGRN 871 | | |
| A20114 | Bushfire Recovery Minor / Bushfire Liason Officer | 272,600 | 26,535 |
| A20119 | Bushfire Recovery - Makesafe Program | 370,000 | 99,291 |
| A20212 | Bushfire Recovery - Large Water Tanks | 250,000 | 6,088 |
| A20213 | Bushfire Recovery - Economic Stimulus | 90,000 | 0 |
| A20214 | Bushfire Recovery - Ilford Hall | 60,000 | 5,700 |
| A20215 | Bushfire Recovery - Running Stream Hall | 80,000 | 0 |
| A20216 | Bushfire Recovery - Olinda Hall | 137,400 | 78,983 |
| A20217 | Bushfire Recovery - Community Welfare | 15,000 | 3,476 |
| Total - Natural Disaster expenses | | 1,275,000 | 220,073 |

INSTRUCTIONS

1) Pick Council name from drop down box in cell C1

2) Add project number in Column A

3) Add project name in Column B

4) Add total project actual expenditure for FY21-22 in Column D, each project total should match the detailed transaction listing provided on the individual project tab; Add total funding allocation for each project, total should match total amounts of funding received in Jan and Feb 2020.

5) Provide a PDF signed copy of the report. The report should be signed by the CFO or a nominee who has the carriage and the authority to sign the report.

I confirm the monthly expenditure report:

- only includes expenditure that meets the eligibility criteria as agreed with the Commonwealth under the Category D of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements 2018 (DRFA).
- agrees with our general ledger records from which the transactions listing accompanying this report has been provided.
- includes appropriate expenditure accruals that can be reliably measured in accordance with normal accounting practices.
- is free from material misstatements (such as incorrect classification of expenditure by event and/or category).
- evidence for expenditure has been reviewed to ensure it is sufficient to ensure compliance with the DRFA's requirements and can be provided upon request.



Digitally signed by Leonie Johnson
 Date: 2022.02.04 12:03:56 +11'00'

Signature of Authorising Officer (CFO) Date

Leonie Johnson

Summary council Account balance