

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 1288**

**Asked on Tuesday 26 October 2021**

**MS S BOLTON** asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure (HON S MILES) –

### **QUESTION:**

Will the Deputy Premier advise what grants or funding will be made available to communities and local government to assist with climate hazard adaptation works in relation to mitigation, construction and relocation of infrastructure?

### **ANSWER:**

Queensland is the most disaster impacted state in Australia, and we know that the threat of climate change is real.

As the climate changes, we can expect more intense tropical cyclones, rising sea levels and unstable temperatures, leading to a higher risk of flooding and inundation of homes and communities.

History has shown that the better prepared and more resilient a community is the faster it can recover from these types of disaster events.

That's why the Queensland Government is partnering with the Commonwealth to deliver the \$66.5 million Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund (QRRRF) as part of a five-year National Partnership on Disaster Risk Reduction.

The third round of this program has just opened with \$19.1 million available to help local governments, state agencies and non-government organisations deliver projects to better protect Queensland communities from future natural disasters. More information about the QRRRF is available at [www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrrf](http://www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrrf).

Funding is available for a range of infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects, from upgrades to roads, bridges, floodways and causeways, installation of new mitigation infrastructure such as storm water detention and levees, weather warning and flood monitoring systems, community education programs, local disaster hazard modelling and risk studies, and bushfire mitigation activities.

The 2019-20 QRRRF saw 67 projects funded and the 2020-21 QRRRF resulted in 82 projects being approved to deliver resilient infrastructure and initiatives to better prepare Queensland communities.

I am also pleased to advise that the Queensland Government has made \$10 million available in 2020-21 to help eligible councils in northern Queensland reduce disaster risk in their communities.

The North Queensland Natural Disasters Mitigation Program will help 33 local governments and one town authority in high risk, cyclone-prone coastal areas with population centres within 50 kilometres of the coastline, from Bundaberg all the way up to the Northern Territory border, reduce the impacts of future natural disasters.

Expressions of interest for the program are now open, with eligible applicants invited to apply for up to \$2 million through the program. For information on how to apply please visit [www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrrf](http://www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrrf) or email [grants@qra.qld.gov.au](mailto:grants@qra.qld.gov.au)

Projects can include initiatives to encourage locals to make their homes more cyclone or flood resilient, studies into a community's disaster risk, new or upgraded drainage systems, storm water detention, levees and culverts, or the design of larger infrastructure or non-infrastructure projects to help reduce the impact of natural disasters.

In 2020-21, the Queensland Government also provided an additional \$3 million over two years to expand the \$13.2 million QCoast2100 Program, administered by the Department of Environment and Science. This program helps eligible local governments to further develop and implement coastal hazard adaption strategies.

It is initiatives and programs such as these that are helping the Queensland Government make Queensland communities safer, stronger and more resilient to the impacts of natural disasters and climate change.