

Question on Notice

No. 718

Asked on 24 June 2022

MRS D FRECKLINGTON ASKED MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES AND MINISTER FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Disaster Assistance Recovery Grants and the breakdown of assistance delivered by Local Government Areas for primary producers, small business and non-profit organisations (last updated 20 June 2022)— Will the Minister clarify (a) the reason for nearly 50 percent of applications for Small Business being declined, (b) why nearly 25 percent of primary producer applications were declined and (c) why nearly 29 percent of non-profit organisations applications were declined?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) is currently delivering Disaster Assistance Recovery Grant assistance to primary producers, small business and non-profit organisations across several major rainfall and flooding events including:

- South East Queensland Rainfall and Flooding (February – April 2022)
- Ex-Tropical Cyclone Seth (January 2022)
- Central, Southern and Western Queensland Rainfall and Flooding (November – December 2021).

As at 20 June 2022, QRIDA had approved a total of 3,795 Disaster Assistance Recovery Grant applications for just over \$55.69 million across all three disaster events.

Across all activated Local Government Areas (LGAs), the five most frequent reasons for decline by category are:

(a) Small Business

1. Incomplete – insufficient information provided.
2. Did not suffer direct damage from the disaster event.
3. Not a Small Business.
4. Costs claimed covered by insurance.
5. Proposed activity or purpose not eligible.

(b) Primary Producer

1. Not a primary producer – does not meet Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements definition of primary producer – i.e. spend majority of labour and earn majority of income from primary production enterprise.
2. Not a Primary Production Enterprise.
3. Incomplete – insufficient information provided.
4. Proposed activity or purpose not eligible.
5. Did not suffer direct damage from the disaster event.

(c) Non-Profit Organisations

1. Costs claimed covered by insurance.
2. Proposed activity or purpose not eligible.
3. Incomplete – insufficient information provided.
4. Did not suffer direct damage from the disaster event.
5. Not a registered not for profit organisation.

Applicants who have received a decline decision are given the opportunity to appeal the decision or re-apply during the application period to provide any new information against their application.

Providing decline reasons for LGAs where a limited number of applications have been submitted holds a privacy risk for individual clients.