Victorian Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

Tip Sheet 6: Common examples of Category A Early Relief & Recovery and Category B Counter Disaster Operations

## Introduction

Victoria's Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) scheme is available to Delivery Agencies including local councils, to relieve some of the financial burden that may be experienced following a disaster in accordance with the [Australian Government’s Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)](https://www.disasterassist.gov.au/Documents/Natural-Disaster-Relief-and-Recovery-Arrangements/disaster-recovery-funding-arrangements-2018.pdf). The DRFA does not cover all costs resulting from a disaster.

This Tip Sheet relates to Common Examples across all relevant Claim Types and DRFA Clauses for ***Category A Early relief and recovery and B Counter Disaster Operations***.

**Common Examples of Costs associated with Category A Relief and Recovery & Category B Counter Disaster Operations**

Delivery Agencies should use the claim form [**V Form A-Relief Recovery and CDO**](https://www.emv.vic.gov.au/how-we-help/disaster-recovery-funding-arrangements-drfa/disaster-recovery-funding-arrangements-drfa-claims/fd-victorian-drfa-claim-forms-a-dec2-relief-and-recovery-expenditure) and complete all the fields then click save for all relief and recovery and counter disaster operations.

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| Tip Sheet Number | DRFA Measure | DRFA Category A or B clause | Common examples at a glance (refer to the relevant Tip Sheet for more information) |
| Tip Sheet 1 | Emergency food, clothing, or temporary accommodation | Category A - Clause 4.2.2 (a) | * Extraordinary costs associated with the **establishment and operation of a relief and/or recovery centre** including the provision of:
	+ **basic catering** such as bottled water, beverages and food for evacuees;
	+ **emergency food or essential supply drops to affected communities**,
	+ **clothing** for affected individuals.

This includes establishment of an evacuation or relief centre (other than a designated relief centre normally established by the local council) by communities impacted by a disaster notified under the DRFA and where, this process has been written into any local Council recovery plans.Recent bushfire and storm examples for costs associated with isolated communities include the hiring of two portable showers positioned at a Town Hall to assist a number of residential households which had sustained damage to their solar systems and had power supplies interrupted following the bushfires. The hiring of the showers allowed for the continuation of essential amenities within that particular community. These local communities may be required to make use of the local halls to provide community meals, power (supplied by generators) for impacted residents to charge mobiles and medical devises and showers/toilet facilities, thereby also allowing for the continuation of essential amenities.* **Emergency accommodation/shelter** including short term accommodation for individuals at a relief or recovery centre or through a service provider such as a hotel where rooms were occupied. This include costs associated with transporting these individuals to the emergency accommodation.
* Extraordinary costs associated with **fuel supplies** required to run essential power to impacted residential homes i.e. through an emergency generator, to allow those residents to remain in their dwellings.
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| Tip Sheet 2 | Removal of debris from residential properties to make them safe & habitable | Category A - Clause 4.2.2 (e) | * Removal of debris from residential properties (that are the primary residence) to **make them safe and habitable** and therefore, **preventing displacement**. Eligible activities must be preventing a resident from returning and living within their primary place of residence including:
	+ **Debris immediate inside and immediately outside a home;**
	+ **Impeding access to the home i.e. on the driveway**.
* Engagement of contractors or the **hiring of skips, transportation and disposal** costs for the debris including any temporary dump sites to accommodate debris removal, the hire of additional specialised cleaning machinery, the replacement of consumable items (i.e. chainsaw chains and fuel) and extraordinary staffing costs (i.e. overtime and allowances waived – for example, if a local council allows households to dispose of their disaster related debris free of cost at a council owned dump site. Costs associated with mulching (excluding any sale costs if sold) is also eligible.
* Establishment of **temporary dump sites for disposing of disaster related debris** (includes establishment, operation, and decommissioning costs).
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| Tip Sheet 3 | Counter Disaster Operations - Category A  | Category A - Clause 4.2.2 (f)) | * Cleaning and refilling of **residential potable water** and **septic tanks** due to contamination from the disaster.
* **Damage assessment** of the condition of residential buildings and its immediate footprint following a disaster.
* **Tree bracing** to protect damage to residential properties.
* Establishment of **temporary dump sites** for disposing disaster related debris.
* **Restoration of assets damaged** during eligible counter disaster operations (i.e. fences that have been damaged when emergency access is required to combat the eligible disaster).
* **Sandbagging and/or the construction of portable temporary levees/flood barriers** to prevent inundation of residential properties including the hire of machines to fill sandbags.
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| Tip Sheet 4 | Personal & financial counselling | Category A - Clause 4.2.2 (g)) | * Counselling to impacted individuals and households following a disaster including the hire of a facility, basic catering and engagement of service providers (specialist counselling organisations).
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| Tip Sheet 5 | Counter Disaster Operations - Category B | Category B - Clause 4.3.2 (a) | * A **Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre** (MECC) used to support the disaster response operations including assistance to disaster affected people/communities.
* **Bushfire suppression** activities to protect the general public, including grading or dozer support in the immediate proximity of a community where fire impact is imminent.
* Establishment of **temporary access routes** required for disaster relief operations to allow individuals and families to return home.
* **Sandbags** to protect the town/community as part of the flood response.
* **Traffic management** and **road closures** in order to maintain public health and safety before, during and immediately after the event (irrespective of whether emergency or immediate works are undertaken).
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## Further information

For further information, refer to the:

* [*Victorian DRFA Guideline 3: Claims and eligibility for relief and recovery activities (Category A) and counter disaster operations (CDO) – Category A & B*](file://G:\NDFA\NDFA%20Working%20Documents%20for%20DTF%20Website\2024\mockup%20of%20new%20GLs%20tip%20sheets%20etc\Cat%20A%20and%20Cat%20B%20CDO%20-%20February%202024\Victorian%20DRFA%20Guideline%203:%20Claims%20and%20eligibility%20for%20relief%20and%20recovery%20activities%20(Category%20A)%20and%20counter%20disaster%20operations%20(CDO)%20–%20Category%20A%20&%20B.)*.*

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