

**Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal**  
**Distribution Committee Report**

**August 2007**

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# Chairperson's Introduction

Tropical Cyclone Larry crossed the coast of Queensland on the morning of 20 March 2006, leaving a trail of destruction and loss across Far North Queensland.

While the worst damage from Cyclone Larry was experienced in the communities around the towns of Innisfail and Babinda, the category 4 cyclone impacted communities across seven local government shires, destroying homes, community facilities and the surrounding environment.

In response to the devastating effects of the cyclone, the Premier of Queensland, the Honourable Peter Beattie MP, called a public appeal for donations to relieve the suffering and distress of the cyclone affected community.

The Prime Minister, the Honourable John Howard MP, immediately lent the support of the Australian Government, with the Queensland and Australian Governments contributing \$1.1 million each to commence the appeal.

The initial target of \$10 million was surpassed in late March 2006, as the overwhelming generosity of the Australian public and business community exceeded all expectations.

The final collection of donations reached \$21.814 million, with accrued interest of \$1.23 million providing a fund total of \$23.044 million. The response to the appeal has again demonstrated the unsurpassed willingness of Australians to lend a hand in times of need.

The responsibility for disbursing this fund was vested in a Distribution Committee which I have been privileged to chair. The Distribution Committee has always endeavoured to direct the Appeal Fund to the greatest need within the cyclone affected community.

The Distribution Committee has been guided by the principles of equity and access, and the need to balance the expeditious distribution of funds with appropriate safeguards to protect the public interest.

Given the tremendous loss to homes and personal property, the Distribution Committee was also guided by its principal priority of rebuilding owner occupied residences.

This report provides the Trustees of the Appeal Fund and the donating public with a full acquittal of how the donations were applied to help rebuild the communities devastated by Cyclone Larry.

It has been an honour for the Distribution Committee to participate in the recovery of the resilient communities affected by the cyclone.

The Distribution Committee extends its warm appreciation to all the generous donors who have contributed to the Appeal Fund. I also wish to thank the Insurance Council of Australia for its cooperative approach, and the Queensland Government agencies who have supported and assisted the work of the Distribution Committee.

In particular, the Distribution Committee acknowledges the support provided by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and the work of Ms Glenys Jenkin, Ms Holly Portley and Mr Leighton Craig.

The Committee's work is rewarded with the knowledge that the assistance provided from the Appeal Fund has helped rebuild the lives of many people who suffered loss from Cyclone Larry.



The Honourable Terry Mackenroth  
Chairperson  
Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal

31 August 2007

# Table of Contents

<b>1. Governance Arrangements</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Trustees	1
1.2 Distribution Committee	1
1.3 Sub-Committees	1
1.4 Secretariat - Department of the Premier and Cabinet	2
1.5 Costs	2
1.6 Privacy	2
1.7 Audit	2
<b>2. The Distribution Committee</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 Role	3
2.2 Guiding Principles	4
2.3 Conducting Business	4
2.4 Public Awareness	4
<b>3. Collections – The Public Response</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4. Disbursements – Summary</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5. Assisting Displaced Persons</b>	<b>8</b>
5.1 Eligibility	8
5.2 Assessment	8
5.3 Disbursements	8
<b>6. Repairing Structural Damage to Homes</b>	<b>9</b>
6.1 Eligibility	9
6.2 Assessment	9
6.2.1 Insured Applicants	9
6.2.2 Uninsured Applicants	10
6.3 Disbursements	12
<b>7. Repairing Community Facilities of Non-profit Groups</b>	<b>13</b>
7.1 Eligibility	13
7.2 Assessment	14
7.3 Disbursements	15
<b>8. Relieving Continuing Hardship</b>	<b>16</b>
8.1 Eligibility	16
8.2 Assessment	16
8.3 Disbursements	17
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>19</b>
A Sub-committee members	19
B Structural Damage to Residence Application Form	21
C Income and Asset Test	25
D Funded Community Groups	26

# 1. Governance Arrangements

## 1.1 Trustees

The Honourable Peter Beattie MP, Premier and Minister for Trade

The Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure

The Honourable Neil Roberts MP, Minister for Emergency Services

## 1.2 Distribution Committee

The Appeal Fund's Trustees established a committee to coordinate the distribution of the funds for the purpose of relieving the suffering and distress of cyclone victims.

The Distribution Committee comprised the following members:

The Honourable Terry Mackenroth	Chairperson
The Honourable Warren Pitt MP	Minister for Communities, Disability Services Queensland, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Seniors and Youth
Mr Alan Clayton	Australian Red Cross, Queensland Chairman
Mr Neil Clarke	Former Mayor, Johnstone Shire Council
Mr Peter Searston	Area Manager, Centrelink (representing the Australian Government)
Mr Brian Sheehan	Regional Director, Department of Housing (representing the Queensland Government)

## 1.3 Sub-Committees

To facilitate assessment of emergent *Displaced Persons* assistance, sub-committees were established by the Trustees in the seven shires worst affected by the cyclone: Cairns, Johnstone, Cardwell, Herberton, Atherton, Eacham and Mareeba. The membership of each sub-committee comprised:

- The Mayor of the local council (Chairperson)
- The Chief Executive Officer of the local council
- A representative of the Queensland Police Service
- A representative of the State Emergency Service
- Three community representatives (nominated by the Mayor)

A complete list of the sub-committee membership is provided at Appendix A.

#### **1.4 Secretariat – Department of the Premier and Cabinet**

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet provided secretariat support to the Distribution Committee, including the provision of full-time staff to manage the processing and assessment of applications, and general administration of the Appeal Fund. Officers engaged full-time in this role were:

Mr Leighton Craig	Manager
Ms Holly Portley	Principal Project Officer
Ms Glenys Jenkin	Senior Project Officer

The prudent investment and financial management of the Appeal Fund was controlled by the Department's Chief Financial Officer.

#### **1.5 Costs**

All administration costs associated with Appeal Fund were met from the operating budget of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. This ensured all donated funds were applied to the intended purpose of assisting cyclone victims.

Members of the Distribution Committee and the sub-committees donated their services free of charge.

#### **1.6 Privacy**

The use of personal information collected throughout the Appeal was compliant with the Commonwealth *Privacy Act 1988* and the Information Privacy Principles as reflected in Information Standard 42 issued by the Queensland Government.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet adopted safeguards to protect records containing personal information against loss, unauthorised access, use, modification or disclosure. This included utilising restricted access databases and locked storage facilities.

Members of the Distribution Committee and sub-committees were required to sign a *Deed of Agreement and Undertaking – Access to Personal and Confidential Information* ensuring all were aware of their obligation to adhere to Privacy Principles.

#### **1.7 Audit**

The Auditor-General was engaged by the Trustees to audit the financial management of the Appeal Fund. The audited financial statements of the Appeal Fund will be reported separately in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's Annual Report.

The Queensland Audit Office was also engaged at an early stage to review procedures and the approval process.

The Auditor-General's report No.5 2007 to the Queensland Parliament contained the results of an audit into the use of government resources in the Cyclone Larry recovery. The audit extended to the Appeal Fund due to public interest considerations.

Detailed transaction testing was conducted in relation to receipting to and payments from the Appeal Fund. The Auditor-General found that "the receipting and expenditure of public donations was well controlled".

## 2. The Distribution Committee

### 2.1 Role

The Distribution Committee was formed by the Trustees to oversee the proper management and administration of the distribution process, and provide an acquittal of all funds expended. The role of the Distribution Committee was to:

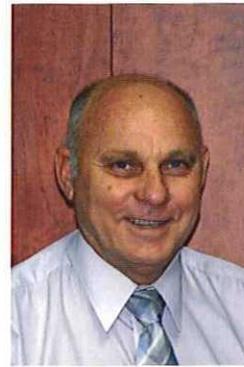
- determine the criteria for distribution of funds including the quantum of each application
- call for applications for funds, ensuring wide publicity and ease of lodgment
- review applications and make any further enquiries necessary to ensure proper assessment of hardship and distribution of funds
- ensure speedy distribution of funds
- oversee proper accountabilities of funding disbursement
- report to the Trustees of the fund on the management and distribution of the fund.



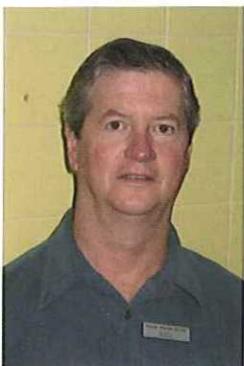
*The Hon Terry Mackenroth  
(Chairperson)*



*The Hon Warren Pitt*



*Mr Alan Clayton*



*Mr Neil Clarke*



*Mr Peter Searston*



*Mr Brian Sheehan*

## 2.2 Guiding Principles

**Local knowledge** - the composition of both the Distribution Committee and sub-committees placed a strong emphasis on local knowledge, with only the Chairperson based outside Far North Queensland. Similarly, the services of locally based government agencies were used to support the work of the Committee.

**Equity** - the Distribution Committee was guided by the principle of fair and equitable distribution of funds throughout the cyclone affected community. Payments were made available to insured and uninsured applicants, and to individuals and community groups.

**Access** - information on the available funding rounds and application forms was made readily available throughout the cyclone affected region through print media, the Department of Communities' One Stop Shops and a freecall 1800 service.

**Greatest need** - identifying the greatest need within the community guided the formation of each funding round. This responsive approach acknowledged calls for assistance and other feedback from the local community.

The principles and practices used to administer and disburse the Appeal Fund were consistent with Emergency Management Australia's *Australian Emergency Manual - Disaster Recovery*.

## 2.3 Conducting Business

The Distribution Committee's Chairperson attended the inaugural meeting of the Operation Recovery Taskforce in Innisfail on 28 March 2006, surveying first hand the damage sustained to Innisfail and outlying areas of the Johnstone Shire.

The membership of the Chairperson on the Operation Recovery Taskforce ensured that the Distribution Committee remained informed of the broader recovery effort, and was linked to the coordinated recovery work of government agencies.

On 30 and 31 March 2006, the Chairperson returned to the region with secretariat staff from the Department of the Premier and Cabinet to meet with council representatives and discuss the cyclone's impact and the role of sub-committees in the assessment of emergent assistance.

The Chairperson also inspected damage to property and homes throughout the seven shires affected by the cyclone. The visit provided an invaluable opportunity to meet with affected residents and identify unmet need within the community.

The Distribution Committee met a total of 19 times through the course of the appeal, with meetings occurring at regular intervals in Innisfail, Cairns and via teleconference.

The Distribution Committee reported regularly to the Fund's Trustees, providing updates on disbursements and seeking Trustee approval for the funding proposals.

## 2.4 Public Awareness

Each funding initiative was advertised in the following regional newspapers: *The Cairns Post*, *Innisfail Advocate*, *Atherton Tablelander*, *Mareeba Tablelands Advertiser* and the *Tully Times*.

All application forms were available from the One Stop Shops operated by the Department of Communities in Innisfail, Babinda, Tully and Malanda. The forms were also available from the Operation Recovery and Premier's websites, and via post.

Following the cyclone, the Department of Communities engaged 95 recovery workers to support members of the community. These workers were instrumental in making application forms available throughout the community and raising public awareness of the funding rounds. Recovery workers delivered application forms when visiting homes, and assisted residents to complete the forms.

The One Stop Shops offered applicants free fax and postal services for the lodgement of application forms and associated documents.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet also established a freecall 1800 telephone number to assist the community with enquiries about the Appeal Fund and the assessment status of applications.

The Distribution Committee maintained public awareness on the progress of disbursements through regular media statements detailing new funding rounds, major milestones and the amount of funding allocated. The Distribution Committee's Chairperson conducted interviews with print, radio and television media.

Regular community updates were also published in the Operation Recovery Newsletter, which was circulated to thousands of households throughout the cyclone affected region.

### 3. Collections – The Public Response

The public response to the devastation caused by Cyclone Larry was overwhelming. Donations flowed from all sectors of the community, including individuals, corporate donors and government.

A 1800 telephone pledge line was immediately available for donors to call, and banks across Australia generously acted as collection points. The immediacy and ease with which funds could be donated in the days following the cyclone facilitated a swift response.

As at 31 August 2007, the final collection of donations reached \$21.814 million, with accrued interest of \$1.23 million providing a fund total of **\$23.044 million**. This stands as one of the largest appeals conducted in Australia, and a testament to the generosity of the community.



*Distribution Committee Chairperson, the Hon Terry Mackenroth, receives a cheque for \$110 522 from The Right Hon Sir Rabbie Namaliu. The Government of Papua New Guinea donated \$100 000 to the appeal, with an additional \$10 522 raised at a fundraising event organised by the Papua New Guinean community in Canberra. (L to R: Mr Paul Nerau, Consul-General for Papua New Guinea in Queensland; the Hon Terry Mackenroth; The Right Hon Sir Rabbie Namaliu, CSM KCMG, former Foreign Affairs Minister; and the High Commissioner for Papua New Guinea, His Excellency Mr Charles Lepani) (Photograph: Hugh O'Brien)*

## 4. Disbursements – Summary

The Distribution Committee adopted a measured approach to disbursements, ensuring sufficient funds were available to complete its principal priority of rebuilding owner occupied homes before commencing further funding rounds.

The following graph represents the percentage of the Appeal Fund allocated under the four funding rounds.

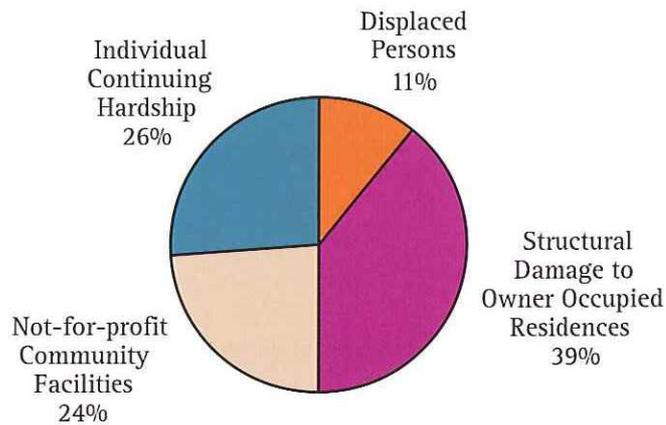


Figure 1. Distribution of the Appeal Fund through four funding rounds

As at 31 August 2007, the Distribution Committee had allocated all of the donated funds and the majority of the accrued interest. Approximately \$91 000 of accrued interest remains in the Appeal Fund as a contingency for costs associated with housing and community facility projects that have already been approved by the Distribution Committee.

Any residual funds will be directed to benefit the victims of future disasters when the Trust Fund is wound up.

## 5. Assisting Displaced Persons

On 30 March 2006, the Chairperson announced the first funding round in Innisfail to provide emergent assistance to displaced persons.

Application forms were available from 3 April 2006, with the funding round officially closed in October 2006.

### 5.1 Eligibility

Given the emergent nature of the assistance, the Distribution Committee determined that this initial funding round should not be subject to an income and asset test to determine eligibility. The only eligibility criteria required the applicant's dwelling to be:

- their principal place of residence at the time of the cyclone
- uninhabitable as a result of the cyclone.

### 5.2 Assessment

The assessment of eligibility was delegated to sub-committees in each of the seven affected shires. The sub-committee structure reflected an important balance of council, community and government representatives (see Appendix A for membership details).

In assessing applications, sub-committees relied on the local knowledge of committee members concerning damage to dwellings, conducting site visits as necessary to confirm eligibility. The Johnstone Shire sub-committee warrants particular mention, assessing over 1000 applications.

The sub-committees made recommendations to the Distribution Committee on each application.

To ensure funds flowed swiftly into the community, the Distribution Committee approved cheque payments progressively, rather than making payments after all applications had been received.

### 5.3 Disbursements

Payments of \$2000 per household commenced on 25 April 2006.

A total of 1724 applications for assistance were received for *Displaced Persons* assistance.

Payments were approved to 1328 applicants, expending \$2.456 million of the Appeal Fund.

A review of the original decision to decline payment was sought by 60 unsuccessful applicants, who provided further information to support their original claim.

The Distribution Committee approved 48 of the reviewed applications.

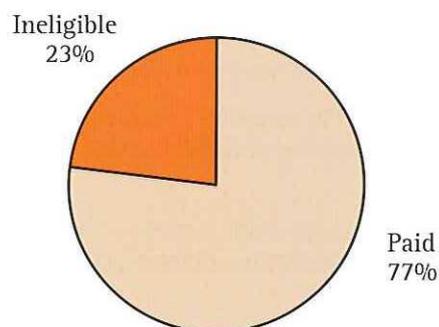


Figure 2. Assessment of applications received for the Displaced Persons funding round

## 6. Repairing Structural Damage to Homes

On 10 May 2006, the Distribution Committee announced the second funding round - *Structural Damage to Residence*. This funding round gave effect to the Committee's principal priority of rebuilding homes in the cyclone affected region.

While applications formally closed on 12 June 2006, late applications were accepted until June 2007 when all money in the Appeal Fund was allocated.

### 6.1 Eligibility

To be eligible for assistance, applicants were required to:

- have sustained cyclone damage to their principal place of residence
- be an owner occupier of the dwelling at the time of the cyclone
- have a limited capacity to recover from the effects of the cyclone.

The applicant's capacity to recover was measured through the application of an income and asset test. Copies of the application form and income and asset test are provided at Appendices B and C respectively.

The funding round focussed on repairs to the applicant's dwelling. Fences, sheds and other outbuildings were excluded from this funding round, but were addressed in the subsequent *Continuing Hardship* funding round.

### 6.2 Assessment

The assessment process for applicants varied depending on their insurance status.

#### 6.2.1 Insured Applicants

The process for assessing insured applicants was developed in consultation with the Insurance Council of Australia. The insurance industry supported the work of the

Distribution Committee by providing a timely and cooperative response.

Insured applicants claiming assistance under \$10 000 were required to complete a statutory declaration identifying their underinsured sum, and provide copies of their insurer's advice on their claim, with quotes for the cost of repairs.

All other insured applicants were required to complete a form consenting to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet liaising with their insurer to obtain information about their insurance claim.

Insurance companies involved with the Appeal Fund nominated a contact officer, and provided timely advice to assist the Distribution Committee in the assessment of applications.

Reports provided by insurers identified the extent of cyclone damage to the property, the insured value of the property and the settled amount of the insurance claim.

Applicants were required to provide two quotes from registered builders for repairs to cyclone damage or a copy of the contract they had entered to repair their home. The Distribution Committee approved payments from the Appeal Fund to meet the difference between the actual cost of repairs to cyclone damage and the insurance payment advised by the insurer.



*Cyclone Larry destroyed Mr Eugenio Quartiero's home at El Arish. Assistance from his insurer and the Appeal Fund helped Mr Quartiero rebuild his home.  
(Photographs: Laura Sinton).*

Subject to the applicants level of underinsurance, a maximum payment of \$100 000 was available from the Appeal Fund. A cap of \$250 000 combined insurance payment and Appeal Fund assistance was established by the Distribution Committee.

### 6.2.2 Uninsured Applicants

The Department of Communities managed the repairs to uninsured properties with the Building Coordination Centre. The Building Coordination Centre was established in Innisfail by the Queensland Building Services Authority to assist the local community rebuild after Cyclone Larry.

The majority of uninsured applicants were eligible for Government assistance under the Natural Disaster Relief Arrangements (NDRA) *Phase Three Repairs to Dwellings*. The total NDRA assistance available was \$20 000 for a couple or family and \$17 000 for an individual.

As a matter of principle, assistance from the Appeal Fund was not made available to uninsured applicants until the NDRA assistance was exhausted. A number of uninsured applicants ineligible for NDRA assistance were subsequently assisted from the Appeal Fund.

Preliminary property inspections were conducted by QBuild. Properties requiring major repairs were the subject of a second detailed building inspection and report commissioned by the Building Coordination Centre, who also sourced quotes for the repair work.

The involvement of the Building Coordination Centre in the rebuild process ensured that building work funded from the Appeal Fund was performed by licensed tradespeople.

The Department of Communities assessed the eligibility of applicants, administered the NDRA component of funding assistance and requested additional assistance from the Appeal Fund as necessary. The Distribution Committee accepted all recommendations for additional funds that were forwarded from the Department of Communities.



*Cyclone Larry destroyed Ms Tammy Maitland and Mr Edgar Dewis' Babinda home. Assistance from their insurer and the Appeal Fund helped them rebuild their home.*

A total of eight uninsured applicants required assistance to rebuild their dwellings. These applicants were provided a combined NDRA and Appeal Fund rebuild assistance package of up to \$150 000 depending on household composition. One applicant was solely funded from the Appeal Fund. Demolition of the properties was also funded from the Appeal Fund.

The eight uninsured rebuild applicants were provided assistance by the Department of Communities and the Building Coordination Centre to source quotes within the allocated funding. However, the responsibility to select an appropriate supplier and enter a contract to rebuild the dwelling was a matter for the property owner.

To ensure the donated funds were used for intended purpose, uninsured rebuild applicants were required to sign a deed confirming their intention to live in their new home and not sell it within 12 months from the date of occupancy (other than in exceptional circumstances).

### 6.3 Disbursements

A total of 598 applications were received for *Structural Damage to Residence* assistance. The Distribution Committee approved assistance of \$9.047m to 266 eligible applicants.

A review of the original decision to decline payment was sought by 12 unsuccessful applicants, who provided further information to support their original claim. The Distribution Committee approved two of the reviewed applications.

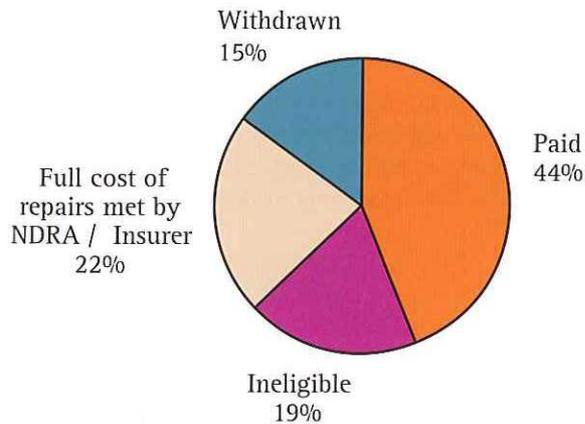


Figure 3. Assessment of applications received for Structural Damage to Residence funding round

The distribution to insured and uninsured applicants is represented in the following graph:

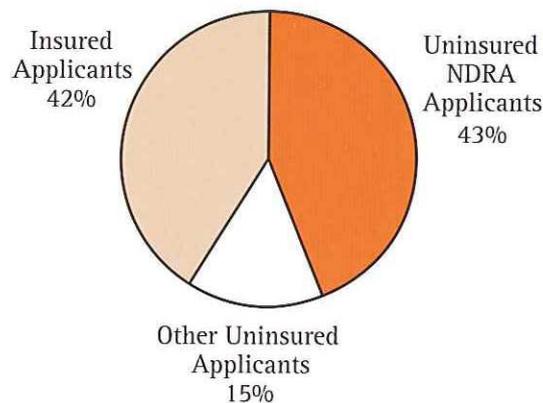


Figure 4. Distribution of Structural Damage to Residence funding by insurance status

To protect the integrity of the Appeal Fund and ensure that donations were directed to the intended purpose, payments in excess of \$10 000 were held on behalf of applicants in accounts established by the Queensland Building Services Authority. These funds were then paid on the production of an invoice to the applicant's contracted builder or supplier.

Payments under \$10 000 to insured applicants were made by cheque.

While the rebuilding of dwellings in the cyclone affected area is largely complete, as at the date of this report there are a number of Appeal Fund applicants who are yet to commence reconstruction of their dwelling. The Distribution Committee has assessed the eligibility of these applicants and allocated money into the Queensland Building Services Authority accounts to assist their recovery.

Any unexpended money from these allocations will be returned to the Appeal Fund and directed to benefit the victims of future disasters.

## 7. Repairing Community Facilities of Non-profit Groups

A number of representations were made to the Distribution Committee at an early stage requesting assistance to rebuild the facilities of not-for-profit organisations.

While the focus of disbursements remained the rebuilding of homes, the Distribution Committee recognised the value of providing this positive recovery symbol to the whole community.

However, disbursements to community groups could not be made from the Appeal Fund until amendments to the Commonwealth *Income Tax Assessment Act* came into effect in July 2006.

On 4 August 2006, the Distribution Committee called applications for the *Restoration of Community Facilities* funding round. While applications formally closed on 4 September 2006, late applications were accepted until June 2007 when all money in the Appeal Fund was allocated.

### 7.1 Eligibility

To be eligible for assistance, organisations were required to:

- have sustained cyclone damage to their facilities, including equipment
- own the damaged facilities
- be a not-for-profit organisation.



*The Appeal Fund provided funding for a new facility to replace the destroyed RSL Memorial Hall in Babinda. (Photograph: Murray Anderson-Clemence)*

## 7.2 The Assessment Process

The assessment of applications was conducted by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. Appropriate checks were conducted with the Office of Fair Trading and Australian Business Register to confirm the not-for-profit status and legitimacy of applicant organisations.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet liaised with the organisation to source quotes and confirm insurance settlements. Where necessary, the Building Coordination Centre organised an inspection of the facilities.

The two significant community projects funded by the Appeal Fund, Babinda RSL Memorial Hall and the Millaa Millaa Country Women's Association Hall, conducted tenders for reconstruction of their damaged facilities.

Payments approved by the Distribution Committee deducted the organisation's insurance payment from the quoted cost of repairs.



*The Queensland Country Women's Association Hall in Millaa Millaa sustained irreparable damage in the cyclone. The Appeal Fund provided funding for a new facility. (L to R: Mrs Penny Campbell-Wilson (Secretary), Mrs Mary Daley (Treasurer), Cr Don Fraser (Eacham Shire Council), Mrs Lou Crowther (Vice-President) and the Hon Terry Mackenroth (Distribution Committee Chairperson)).*

### 7.3 Disbursements

A total of 116 applications were received for *Community Facilities Restoration* assistance. The Distribution Committee approved assistance of \$5.421 million to 92 eligible organisations.

One unsuccessful applicant organisation requested a review of the original decision and was approved on review by the Distribution Committee.

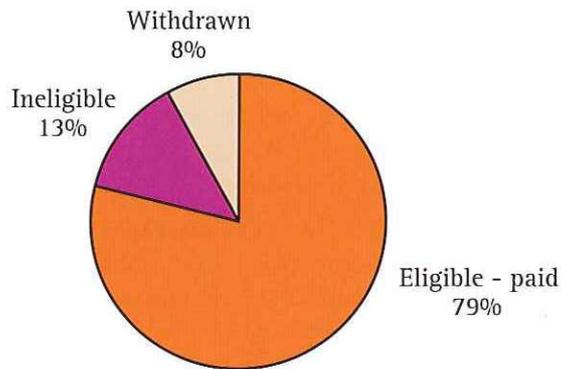


Figure 5. Assessment of applications received for Restoration of Community Facilities funding round

Payments to eligible community groups are detailed in Appendix D.

Payments for significant building work were made into the Queensland Building Services Authority holding accounts, and paid direct to registered builders and other suppliers upon provision of an invoice. Other payments were made by cheque to the successful organisation.

## 8. Relieving Continuing Hardship

By October 2006, it was apparent that there would be surplus money in the Appeal Fund after the Distribution Committee had completed the first three funding rounds.

The Distribution Committee acknowledged the significant hardship that was being experienced by community members who had been unable to fully recover and fund the losses incurred by Cyclone Larry.

On 16 October 2006, the Distribution Committee announced the *Continuing Hardship* funding round. While applications formally closed on 1 December 2006, late applications were accepted until 31 January 2007.

This funding round presented an opportunity to relieve hardship that had not been previously met from other funding sources. For example, residents on rural residential properties had not previously received assistance with the removal of dangerous debris.

Similarly, the Distribution Committee was now able to consider repairs to property that had been excluded from the *Structural Damage to Residence* funding round and NDRA assistance, including fences, sheds and garages. The funding round also provided help with the replacement of lost household content.

### 8.1 Eligibility

To be eligible for assistance, applicants were required to:

- be suffering continuing hardship as a result of the cyclone
- have a limited capacity to recover from the effects of the cyclone.

The applicant's capacity to recover was measured through the same income and asset test used in the *Structural Damage to Residence* funding round (see Appendix C).

Assistance was not made available to businesses, or for loss of income, increased costs of living or pre-existing hardship.

### 8.2 Assessment

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet managed the assessment process. The application form required a statement describing the applicant's circumstances of hardship, accompanied by photographs and documents supporting the claim for assistance.

A telephone assessment was conducted with each applicant to quantify their eligible losses and seek further information if required. Applicants requesting assistance to repair items were required to provide quotes.

Liaison occurred with the Department of Communities in some instances to confirm the extent of hardship, and the level of NDRA assistance that had already been provided to replace household contents.

To safeguard the integrity of the Appeal Fund, a large number of late applicants were asked to complete a statutory declaration confirming the legitimacy of their claim. As a result, several applications for assistance were withdrawn.

The Distribution Committee capped payments on household content at \$15 000.

### 8.3 Disbursements

A total of 1511 applications were received for *Continuing Hardships* assistance. The Distribution Committee approved assistance of \$6.029 million to 1259 eligible applicants.

A review of the original decision to decline payment was sought by 20 unsuccessful applicants, who provided further information to support their original claim. The Distribution Committee approved ten of the reviewed applications.

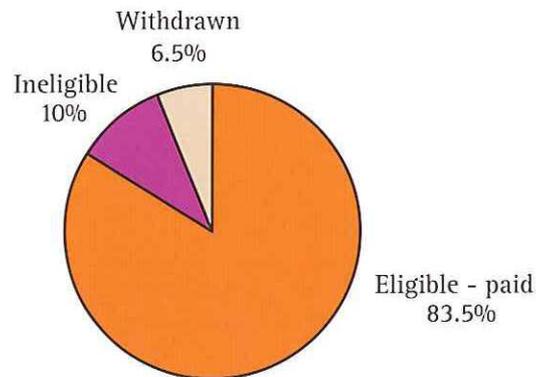


Figure 6. Assessment of applications received for Continuing Hardship funding round

The majority of payments were made by cheque. Payments for more significant repair work were made into the Queensland Building Services Authority accounts, and paid direct to tradespeople upon provision of an invoice.

## APPENDIX A - SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Atherton

Cr Jim Chapman	Mayor, Atherton Shire Council
Mr Phillip Stark	CEO, Atherton Shire Council
Inspector Rolf Straatemeier	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Inspector Katarina Carroll	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Mr Paul Russell	Local Controller, State Emergency Services
Mr Rodney Morris	Community Representative
Mr Guido Poggioli	Community Representative
Cr Louise De Marzi	Community Representative

### Cairns

Cr Paul Gregory	Delegate of the Mayor, Cairns City Council
Mr David Farmer	CEO, Cairns City Council
Inspector Stephen Wardrope	Innisfail District, Queensland Police Service
Mr Terry Ball	Local Controller, State Emergency Services
Mr Guido Ghidella	Community Representative
Mr Peter Carnsew	Community Representative
Ms Debra Quabba	Community Representative

### Cardwell

Cr Joe Galeano	Mayor, Cardwell Shire Council
Mr Mark Kelleher	CEO, Cardwell Shire Council
Inspector Stephen Wardrope	Innisfail District, Queensland Police Service
Mr Kevin Gray	Local Controller, State Emergency Services
Mr Buk Bukbardis	Community Representative
Mr Tom Harney	Community Representative
Mr Ron Darlington	Community Representative
Mr Lou Lardi	Community Representative

## Eacham

Cr Ray Byrnes	Mayor Eacham Shire Council
Mr Ian Church	CEO, Eacham Shire Council
Inspector Rolf Straatemeier	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Inspector Katarina Carroll	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Mr Paul Mazlin	Local Controller, State Emergency Services
Mrs Ann Robb	Community Representative
Mrs Rhonda Sorensen	Community Representative
Mr Bernie Dobe	Community Representative

## Herberton

Cr Anne Portess	Mayor, Herberton Shire Council
Mr Gordon Malcolm	CEO, Herberton Shire Council
Inspector Rolf Straatemeier	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Inspector Katarina Carroll	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Mr Owen Higginson	Local Controller, State Emergency Services
Ms Doreen Mortimore	Community Representative
Mr George Hollinshed	Community Representative
Ms Margaret Smith	Community Representative

## Johnstone

Cr Neil Clarke	Mayor Johnstone Shire Council
Mr Peter Roberts	CEO, Johnstone Shire Council
Senior Sergeant Rhys Newton	Innisfail District, Queensland Police Service
Mr Alan Green	Local Controller, State Emergency Services
Mr Greg Archer	Community Representative
Mr Serry Leotta	Community Representative
Rev Glen Louttitt	Community Representative

## Mareeba

Cr Mick Borzi AM OBE	Mayor, Mareeba Shire Council
Mr Noel Briggs	CEO, Mareeba Shire Council
Inspector Rolf Straatemeier	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Inspector Katarina Carroll	Mareeba District, Queensland Police Service
Mr Grant Bell	Local Coordinator, State Emergency Services
Mr Con Iacutone	Community Representative
Ms Tanya Piggott	Community Representative
Ms Joan Moore	Community Representative

# Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal

## Financial Assistance Application – Structural Damage to Residence

The Australian and Queensland Governments have conducted an appeal to assist victims of Cyclone Larry. The Australian public and business community have given generously to the appeal.

The second round of financial assistance is now available to people suffering financial hardship and with limited capacity to recover from the affects of Cyclone Larry. Assistance will be provided to eligible applicants for the repair of structural damage to owner occupied residences. Further details of the criteria for funding eligibility are provided at the end of this form.

This assistance is separate to any other assistance that may have been provided by the Department of Communities to repair structural damage, or under Phase One of the Appeal.

To apply for Structural Damage Assistance, please fill out this form and reply post to:

Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal  
Structural Damage Assistance  
PO Box 15185, City East Qld 4002

**Closing date for applications: 12 June 2006**

### Claimant Details:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner/spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Dependant children: \_\_\_\_\_

Current telephone/contact details: \_\_\_\_\_

Current address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address (if different from your current address): \_\_\_\_\_



Australian Government



Queensland  
Government

DPC747

# Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal

**Damaged residence details:**

Address at which loss/damage occurred: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own the residence at which the damage occurred?  yes  no

*(If you answered No to this question, you are not eligible for Structural Damage to Residence assistance)*

Description of damage to residence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you received quotes for repair to the damage?  yes  no

*(If yes, please attach copies of the repair quotes to your application form.)*

Has your residence been assessed by QBuild for assistance under the Department of Communities Phase Three Repairs to Dwellings?  yes  no

*(If yes, your consent to access the QBuild assessment is sought in the Declaration and Consent section)*

**Insurance Details:**

Is the residence insured against the loss caused by Cyclone Larry?  yes  no

*(If you answered No to this question, please proceed to the next section – Other assistance received)*

Name of insurance company: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount the property is insured for: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you lodged a claim with your insurer for damage caused to your residence by Cyclone Larry?  yes  no

If Yes, please specify the relief being provided by your insurer: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any outstanding structural repairs that have not been covered by your insurance policy: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal

Page ?

## Other assistance received

Please indicate in the table below the assistance you have already received from the Queensland and Australian Governments:

Funding Assistance	Received			Amount \$
	Yes	No	Awaiting advice	
Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal – Phase One				
Department of Communities Phase One – Emergent Assistance				
Department of Communities Phase Two – Essential Household Contents				
Department of Communities Phase Three – Repairs to Dwellings				
Centrelink – Ex-gratia payments				
Department of Housing – Mortgage Relief Scheme				
<b>Total</b>				

## Income and assets details

Please provide details in the table below of your realisable assets. Realisable assets include monies held in bank, building society and credit union accounts, stocks, shares, debentures, investments, business equity, real-estate and property (other than the family home).

In calculating your realisable asset value, please disregard your family home, household contents, 1 x motor vehicle and tools of trade.

Net realisable assets	\$ value
<b>Total net realisable assets</b>	

## Mortgage and other debt details

Home loan (how much you owe)	\$
Weekly home loan repayments	\$
Other significant weekly loan repayments (please specify)	\$
	\$
	\$



# Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal

Page ?

Please provide details in the table below of your gross weekly wages, salary, business returns, investments, pensions and benefits.

	Your weekly income details	Your partner's weekly income details
Weekly wage/salary		
Business returns		
Investments		
Centrelink payments		
Other benefits		
<b>Total</b>		

## Consent to access information

You may have already provided personal information to the Queensland Department of Communities and Department of Public Works for the purpose of receiving Cyclone Larry relief assistance.

Your consent to access that information is sought below to assist with assessment of your application. The information will not be used for any purposes other than assessment of your application.

## Declaration and consent

I declare that the information provided in this form is true and correct and that I have not lodged another claim for Structural Damage to Residence assistance from the Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal.

I understand that any overpayment from the Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal may be recouped by the Tropical Cyclone Larry Relief Appeal Distribution Committee.

I understand that false declaration in this application may lead to prosecution.

For the purposes of assessing this application, I consent to the use of personal information I have recently provided when applying for Cyclone Larry relief assistance from the Queensland Departments of Communities and Public Works. This includes the QBuild estimate of repair costs made under the Department of Communities Phase Three funding round.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Eligibility criteria and payment principles

1. Priority is given to those applicants who are:
  - suffering financial hardship, and
  - have a limited capacity to recover.

This will be determined by the application of an income and assets test.

2. Payment of money will complement and recognise other forms of assistance received by applicants. This means:
  - Payments will not be made for structural damage that has been or will be covered by insurance.
  - Payments will take account of other assistance payments that have already been provided by Government agencies.
3. Payment of money will focus on, but is not limited to, residents of those areas worst affected by Cyclone Larry. These include the Babinda district and the shires of Johnstone, Cardwell, Herberton, Eacham, Atherton, and Mareeba.
4. Payment of money will, in most instances, be made direct to the tradesperson rather than the applicant.



## APPENDIX C

### Financial Hardship and Capacity to Recover Test

This test is applied to determine an applicant's level of financial hardship and capacity to recover.

#### 1. Income

Income is calculated as:

Gross weekly earnings less  
Weekly home loan repayments and other significant weekly loan repayments

The upper income limits are:

Individual applicant	\$1240 per week*
Applicant couples/families	\$1640 per week*

\*These limits are increased by \$100 per week for each dependent.

#### 2. Assets

Total net realisable assets are:

- monies held in bank
- building society and credit union accounts
- stocks
- shares
- debentures
- investments
- business equity
- real-estate and
- property (other than the family home) less  
Any mortgage held against real estate/property.

The upper asset limit is \$100 000 for all applicants.

## APPENDIX D

### *Community Facilities Restoration assistance*

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Assistance provided</b>	<b>Approved repairs</b>
Silkwood Local Ambulance Committee	\$4,750.00	Replacement of office, stationery, fundraising and catering equipment
Silkwood District Action Group	\$2,900.00	Repairs to the irrigation system
Innisfail Kennel Club	\$3,280.00	Repair of damage to caravan and equipment
Innisfail Woodworking Guild Inc	\$84,000.00	Replacement of the cyclone damaged shed
Canetoad Circus Inc	\$2,799.50	Replacement of circus equipment
Teddy Bears Playgroup (Playgroup Qld)	\$330.00	Replacement of puzzles, craft materials and a rug
Brothers Rugby League Football Club Innisfail Inc	\$3,355.00	Replacement of signs
Innisfail Cowboys Junior Rugby League	\$5,291.00	Replacement of fridge and freezer
Tepon Equestrian Club Inc	\$1,765.00	Repair of the Club's irrigation pump
Babinda Junior Cricket Club	\$650.00	Replacement of damaged cricket equipment
Miriwinni Cricket Club	\$4,744.65	Replacement of roller doors at the clubhouse
Tableland Community Housing Association Inc	\$3,413.00	Repairs to two properties
Flying Fish Point & Coconuts Ratepayers & Residents Assoc Inc	\$6,050.00	Repair of the TV tower
Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Innisfail Branch) Inc	\$9,037.53	Repair of cyclone damage to range and replacement of target storage shed
Cairns Basketball Inc	\$69,000.00	Replacement of cyclone damaged awning
Kurrimine Beach Progress Recreation & Sporting Association Inc	\$30,000.00	Repair of cricket nets and fences and purchase of shade covers
Innisfail Inclusive Education Centre	\$3,100.00	Replacement of a shade shelter
Innisfail and District Tennis Association	\$17,920.00	Repairs to fences
Cairns Hinterland Railway Interest Society Inc	\$828.00	Repairs to railcar and fence
Innisfail Swimming Incorporated	\$4,725.00	Replacement of cupboards, tables and office desks

Atherton Senior Rugby League Club	\$14,588.45	Repair of clock, canteen and grandstand
Guides Australia - Innisfail/Flying Fish Point	\$11,752.10	Replacement of windows and basins
Innot Hot Springs Progress Association Inc	\$3,468.88	Repair of roller door, guttering and water pipes
South Johnstone Bowls Club	\$55,554.00	Repair of clubhouse, cool room and retractable shade systems
Barrier Reef Sun Club	\$3,000.00	Repairs to clubhouse window and fences
Ravenshoe and District Junior Rugby League Club	\$6,016.00	Replacement of grandstand seating
Innisfail Rowing Club	\$123,112.00	Repair of signage and pontoon and replacement of three damaged boats
Ravenshoe Touch Association Inc	\$5,277.00	Repair of floor in clubhouse
St Rita's Feast Committee	\$14,807.80	Replacement of shed and its contents
Aloomba State School P&C Association	\$10,635.90	Repair of damage to oval and grounds
Babinda & District Pony Club	\$16,016.66	Repairs to the lunge area, round yard, day yards, clubhouse roof and storage shed
Eagles Nest Wildlife Hospital	\$1,440.00	Repair sections of fence
Innisfail and District BMX Club	\$6,477.90	Repair of damage to the starting gate
Atherton Tableland Kennel Club	\$13,486.00	Replacement of shade tents and floodlights
Lions Club of Tolga & District	\$12,000.00	Repair of shade structure, picnic table and cement pad
Silkwood Clay Target Club	\$54,992.00	Repair clubhouse and internal fixtures, including fence, roof, gutters, security doors, reception area and storeroom floor
St John's School Silkwood Parents and Friends Association	\$26,802.60	Replacement of storage/uniform room
Silkwood Junior Soccer Club Inc	\$20,981.00	Replacement of storage shed
Dimbulah Bowls Club Inc	\$6,270.00	Repair of shade cloth and supporting structure around bowling green
Johnstone River Heritage Lodge	\$500,000.00	Repair of hall at Innisfail
Millaa Millaa Community Kindergarten	\$32,245.00	Replacement of damaged playground equipment

Silkwood Tennis Club Inc	\$61,000.00	Repair of the tennis court, shed and kitchen bench tops
Yungaburra Community Kindergarten	\$8,036.00	Repair of the gravel path and soft fall around play area
Innisfail Business Service - Endeavour Foundation	\$10,000.00	To assist with insurance policy excess
Innisfail Jubilee Community Housing Association Inc	\$1,949.90	Replacement of mower and water pressure cleaner
Tully Branch Little Athletics Centre	\$6,940.00	Replacement of equipment, including BBQ, shade tents, phone, chairs, stationery and tables
Chjowai Housing Cooperative Society Ltd	\$5,245.50	Replacement of the fridge, microwave and dishwasher at the community hall
Inarlinga Sporting and Developmental Association Inc	\$4,200.00	Repair of floodlights and pole outside the clubhouse
Innisfail Pistol Club Incorporated	\$2,812	Repair of the hydraulic water pump and fences
Mission Beach Sailing Club	\$472.00	Replacement of radio
Innisfail Horse and Pony Club	\$15,558.00	Repairs to facilities including jump wings and poles, hot water and PA systems, landing ramp, wash down bay and shade systems
Ma'ddaimba-Balas Indigenous Men's Group	\$5,947.00	Replacement of office equipment
The Lower Silver Valley Rural Fire Brigade	\$2,778.00	Repairs to roller door
Mourilyan District Kindergarten Association Inc	\$2,500.00	Replacement of resources
QCWA Atherton Tableland Division	To be confirmed-funds allocated	To re-build the QCWA hall at Millaa Millaa
Innisfail Golf Club Inc	\$50,000.00	Re-establishment of the Club's greens and replacement of mowing equipment
Mena Creek State School P&C Association	\$36,894.48	Repairs to sandpit, playground equipment, shade sail, instant marquee, and timber wall surrounding play equipment
Innisfail State School P&C Association	\$28,256.00	Replacement of the copper log fort
Silkwood State School Junior Red Cross	\$2,000.00	Replacement of computer and printer

St Ritas Babinda P&F Association	\$1,520.00	Replacement of the equipment that the P&F Association had stored in its shed
Australian Rafting Federation Inc	\$5,504.00	Replacement of lifejackets, helmets and paddles
Wangan Sports Club Incorporated	\$48,134.00	Repairs to the clubhouse
Mission Beach Cricket Club	\$6,995.00	Replacement of cricket equipment
Tinaroo Sailing Club Inc	\$12,603.00	Repairs to drainage behind clubhouse, access tracks and car parks
Scout Association of Australia - Qld Branch Inc	\$261,661.32	Repairs to damaged facilities and replacement of equipment for various Scout groups
Atherton Bowls Club Inc	\$9,900.00	Repair of the synthetic playing surface
Innisfail Community Preschool and Kindergarten Association Inc	\$8,888.00	Replacement of two portable shelters and repair of timber stall used for fundraising activities
Upper Tableland Parochial District	\$5,337.60	Repair of windows
Kairi State School Parents and Citizen's Association	\$16,492.60	Repairs to paved and edged areas near the storage shed and tennis courts and clean up around oval
Atherton State High School Parents and Citizens Association	\$11,732.00	Repair of wall sheeting in the Community Hall and replacement of paving
Babinda Golf Club Inc	\$36,912.90	Repairs to clubhouse, four greens and eight foot bridges
Silkwood Early Learning Centre	\$9,890.00	Repair of the sandpit, planter boxes and fencing and replacement of toys
The Abbeyfield Society (Babinda) Inc	\$1,000.00	To assist with the insurance policy excess
Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation Inc	\$14,640.00	Replacement of the garden shed
Qld Homicide Victims Support Group	\$5,941.50	Repairs to photocopier and assistance with insurance policy excess
Innisfail District Flexi Respite Association Inc	\$29,769.39	Installation of a wheelchair accessible toilet
Association for Relatives and Friends of Mentally Ill Cairns Inc (ARAFMI)	\$5,965.00	Replacement of floor coverings
Silkwood State School P&C Association	\$9,075.00	Repair of the school oval
Babinda RSL Sub Branch	\$2,100,000	To rebuild the RSL Memorial Hall at Babinda

Innisfail Youth and Family Care	\$603.00	Assistance towards the cost of moving back to original premises that organisation was displaced from as a result of the cyclone
Millaa Millaa Lion's Club Incorporated	\$13,453.00	Replacement of playground equipment
Rotary Club of Fitzgerald - Innisfail	\$34,000.00	Replacement of the Rotary Club's caravan
Children's Activity Groups Association (Circus Arts North)	\$1,346.00	Assistance with insurance policy excess and replacement of office equipment and other equipment
Stratvell Film Society	\$4,199.90	Replacement of amplifier, mixer and speakers
The Community Gardens - auspiced by Johnstone Regional Landcare Group	\$1,973.00	Repair of tool shed and replacement of gardening equipment
Innisfail Indigenous Women's Group	\$3,761.00	Replacement of office equipment
Innisfail Community Justice Group	\$1,755.00	Replacement of office equipment
Roman Catholic Trust Corporation Diocese of Cairns - Trading as the St John's Catholic Primary School Silkwood	\$67,768.80	To repair the car park and kitchen cabinets
Cairns Full Gospel Church	\$12,650.00	Replacement of poles connecting electricity to the Church's outreach and convention facilities
St Rita's Primary School South Johnstone	\$54,972.15	Replacement of playground equipment, shade sails, awnings, curtains, sand pit and repair of the car park
Yungaburra Business and Citizen's Association	\$170,000.00	To repair the Yungaburra Community Centre
East Palmerston and Nerada Progress Association	\$10,842.17	To repair the Community Hall