

# Building our Regions Round 6

## Construction projects: Detailed Application

### Frequently asked questions

#### 1. Why is this round limited to water and sewerage-related infrastructure projects?

The Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water administers the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, which provides the framework for regulating water service provider performance, and for providing recycled water and drinking water quality.

In Queensland, water and sewerage services are delivered to towns and cities predominantly by Local Governments. There are 75 service providers across the State, with 67 of these located outside of South East Queensland, each with varying capacity and capability to deliver these essential services.

This round of Building our Regions will support the delivery of fit for place and fit for purpose water supply and sewerage solutions in regional communities to improve water security, enhance drinking water quality and help to improve business sustainability of Queensland's regional water service providers.

This round also aims to support jobs in manufacturing and technology and underpin the social, economic, and environmental well-being of regional communities.

#### 2. Who is eligible to apply?

Only eligible councils that have been shortlisted through the Expression of Interest (EOI) stage are able to submit a Detailed Application.

#### 3. What kinds of projects are eligible?

Funding through Round 6 is available for construction projects that will provide water supply or sewerage system infrastructure including:

- water supply security (including recycled water for non-potable uses)
- water loss mitigation
- water quality improvement
- water for use in hydrogen projects or other priority manufacturing sectors or
- sewage collection and treatment

Appendix 5 of the Program Guidelines provides examples of eligible project types.

#### 4. Are there other eligibility requirements to consider?

There are a number of eligibility and mandatory requirements that councils submitting a Detailed Application need to comply with in order for a submitted Detailed Application to be assessed and considered for funding approval.

Councils with shortlisted EOIs should refer to the Program Guidelines to confirm that all eligibility and mandatory requirements have been satisfied.

Detailed Applications found to be ineligible will not be assessed.

#### 5. What funding is available?

Building our Regions Round 6 has \$70 million available. Funding has been provisionally allocated to the three funds as follows:

- Large Service Provider Fund – \$12 million
- Medium Service Provider Fund – \$10 million

- Small and Very Small Service Provider Fund – \$48million
  - \$12 million of this \$48 million will be provisionally allocated for planning projects.

Any funds not allocated to successful applications in a particular category will be made available to projects in the other categories.

## 6. How much funding can applicants apply for?

Eligible councils can apply for between \$100,000 and \$2 million per construction project.

The maximum that Building our Regions will contribute to a single project are as follows:

- Large Service Provider Fund – 40% of eligible project costs
- Medium Service Provider Fund – 50% of eligible project costs
- Small and Very Small Service Provider Fund – 100% of eligible project costs

Building our Regions funding may only be used to reimburse eligible project costs. Any ineligible projects costs must be funded by the applicant council or a third-party contributor. If the project scope will include any ineligible costs applicants will be required to identify these and ensure there are sufficient financial co-contributions to cover them.

## 7. Can I include third party contributions?

Eligible councils can include third-party financial contributions toward their project costs. All financial and in-kind contributions to the project must be approved at the time of submitting a detailed application.

However, it is important to note that the Program Guidelines identify that projects “that have previously secured any other Queensland Government or Federal Government grant or scheme funding for the same stage of the same project” will be ineligible.

## 8. What timeframes apply to the construction of approved projects?

Round 6 construction projects must be able to commence construction no later than 15 February 2023.

## 9. Can applicants submit more than one application?

If an eligible council has more than one EOI shortlisted they are able to submit a Detailed Application for each one.

Before preparing and submitting multiple Detailed Applications, councils should consider the following:

- the relative priority of each project for council and the community in terms of service delivery needs and expectations
- council’s capacity to successfully deliver multiple projects at the same time including:
  - availability of any required financial contributions
  - availability of appropriate resources, including suitable council employees to undertake project management and other project works if required
  - the ability to commence and complete projects within required timeframes.

When considering the availability of resources, councils are encouraged to focus their efforts on their highest priority and most advanced projects.

## 10. What if a proposed project crosses local government boundaries or involves two or more partners?

Regional collaboration is encouraged. Eligible applicants may partner with other organisations, including other local governments, to seek funding for a mutually beneficial project. In such cases, one eligible local government must be the lead partner and responsibility for contract management and project delivery.

## 11. Who can I contact for information and assistance?

If you have questions about the information in the Program Guidelines or what to discuss your proposed project, please contact your local Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning regional office. Contact details are available at <https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/about-us/contact-us>.

Alternatively, if you have general questions about the program and round 6, please email [buildingourregions@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au](mailto:buildingourregions@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au).



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