

Application BSBR000600

Application summary

Application ID

BSBR000600

Application title

BSBR - CAPERTEE AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Program name

Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program

Applicant

CAPERTEE AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Submitted date

9/09/2021

Program selection

CAPERTEE AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Are you a trustee acting on behalf of a trust?

No

Do you have an ABN?

Yes

Entity details

What is your ABN?

91355411067

Legal name

CAPERTEE AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Business name

CAPERTEE AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Date registered

15/03/2010

GST registered

No

Are you a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)?

No

Are you a not-for-profit?

Yes

Program Selection

What program are you applying for?

Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program

Component

Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program

Eligibility

Select which entity type you are.

an incorporated association

Is your project in one or more of the eligible Local Government Areas (LGAs) listed in Appendix A of the grant opportunity guidelines?

Grant opportunity guidelines can be found on [Business.gov.au](https://www.business.gov.au)

Yes

Will your project support the recovery or resilience efforts of communities in eligible Local Government Areas (LGAs) affected by the 2019-20 bushfires?

Yes

Does your project have at least \$20,000 in eligible project expenditure?

Yes

Applicant address

Applicant street address

Is the address located in Australia?

Yes

Address details

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Applicant postal address

Is the address located in Australia?

Yes

Address details

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

About your organisation

We collect the following data from all applicants. We use this data to better understand your organisation and to help us develop better policies and programs.

Indigenous organisations

Is your organisation Indigenous owned?

An organisation is considered Indigenous owned where at least 51% of the organisation's members or proprietors are Indigenous.

No

Is your organisation Indigenous controlled?

An organisation is considered Indigenous controlled where at least 51% of the organisation's board or management committee is Indigenous.

No

Project information

Recovery or Resilience Needs

Identify one or more of the recovery or resilience needs your project aims to support.

You need to select one or more of the kinds of recovery or resilience needs - social recovery and resilience, economic recovery and resilience and/or resilience and recovery of the built environment. See Section 6.1 of the grant opportunity guidelines.

social recovery and resilience

Yes

economic recovery and resilience

Yes

recovery and resilience of the built environment

Yes

Project Type

Select one or more of the criteria below that best describes/supports your eligible project activities.

[See section 6.3.1 of the grant guidelines and Appendix B.](#)

projects that address an urgent and unmet need resulting directly from the 2019-20 bushfires

Yes

enhance the cultural life of the community

No

preserve or increase employment

Yes

help to mitigate climate-related risk and damage

Yes

address the health impacts of the bushfires

Yes

benefit of Indigenous people or communities

No

protect or promote interstate and overseas trade and commerce

No

be delivered through a relevant communications service

No

undertaken in the Australian Capital Territory

No

run by local councils

No

involve meteorological observations or statistical collection and analysis

No

relate to insurance

No

Project title and description

If your application is successful, we will publish some grant details on [GrantConnect](#) and other government publications. Published details include:

- name of the grant recipient
- a project title
- a brief project description and its intended outcome

- amount of grant funding awarded

Provide a project title.

CATEGORY 6 BULK WATER TANKER

Provide a brief project description for publication.

Ensure your project description focuses on your project's key activities and outcomes. Outline what it is you are going to do and how it will benefit your community.

Capertee & the surrounding district was very badly affected by the 2019/2020 bushfires, with life, property & livestock lost & threatened. This was exasperated by the drastic need for water. Capertee & District Progress Association Inc., on behalf of the community, are applying to purchase a Cat 6 Bulk Water Tanker (BWT) for the Capertee RFS. It will also be supporting other brigades of the district. The BWT has a far bigger capacity than other fire fighting vehicles, & will address the issue of having to leave the fire grounds to refill. It will benefit by supporting other brigades in our entire district, & its introduction will provide confidence that the RFS is better equipped for future events.

Detailed project description and key activities

This information will be included in your grant agreement if your application is successful.

Provide a detailed description of your project including the project scope and key activities.

Capertee & District was very badly affected by the Black Summer Bush fires, becoming totally encircled, with life, property & livestock lost. This situation was exasperated by the ongoing drastic need for a Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker (BWT). We are applying for a grant to provide Capertee RFS with one of these fully functional fire fighting vehicles as the water capacity is so much greater.

During the 2019/2020 bushfires, with the district having suffered months of drought, and with very little available water, the only way of supplying bulk water was by semi-trailer, which unfortunately couldn't traverse the fire trails & 4WD terrain to be able to get to the fireground. This resulted in crucial time wasted as RFS vehicles drove away from the fireground to fill up from the semi, before returning. Had a BWT been on site, at the fireground, it would been of great benefit.

The need of a BWT is long overdue, and could be utilized not only for bushfires, but all incidents that the local RFS brigade is called out to, such as house, grass & car fires.

An example of this need was an awful house fire in Capertee in which tragically a small child was killed. 8 tankers were used in the call out, of which 5 were used to supply water & were coming & going from the Capertee RFS station filling up, because none of them had the capacity of a Cat 6 BWT to remain on site.

Capertee & District Progress Association is applying for this grant to purchase this essential piece of fire-fighting equipment in order that it will help mitigate the damage of climate-related risks of bush fire. It will also support the mental health of the members of the community, including that of the fire fighters, providing confidence in the firefighting capabilities of the RFS of the district. The introduction of the Cat 6 BWT, will address the urgent and previously unmet needs of the local RFS brigade that fully became apparent during the 2019/2020 devastating bushfires.

We have the backing of the community, surrounding districts, and RFS units (including but not restricted to Glen Alice, Glen Davis, Bogee & Ilford), which will also benefit greatly from the BWT being available at Capertee, and we have the backing of Andrew Gee MP & Tony Abbott, who both experienced first-hand, the 2019/2020 bushfires in and around Capertee, the Capertee Valley & the surrounding district.

For whatever reason unknown to us, the RFS has not been able to equip

Capertee with a Cat 6 BWT in the past, so with this grant money, we will be to fill an urgent need for one. It will be ordered and engineered professionally by the RFS, and stationed at the Capertee RFS. We have been told that it will take approximately 2 years to be built to code, so we want to get the ball rolling prior to the threat of another devastating bushfire as its introduction will provide resilience for the future.

Project outcomes

This information will be included in your grant agreement if your application is successful.

Provide a summary of the expected project outcomes.

Purchase of Cat 6 Bulk Water Tanker for Capertee RFS brigade to assist in the protection of the district.

Project duration

Your project must be completed in line with the dates provided in the grant opportunity guidelines.

Your project can start upon execution of the grant agreement, estimated to be from January 2022.

You must complete your project by 31 March 2024.

Estimated project start date

01/01/2022

Estimated project end date

01/01/2024

Estimated project length (in months)

25

Project milestones

Provide details on the project milestones including the key activities occurring at each milestone.

The milestone start and end dates must be between the project start and end dates. You can add up to 10 milestones.

Milestone title

The Purchase of CAT 6 BWT Vehicle

Description

This is the ordering of the CAT 6 Bulk water tanker.

It is an Izuzu truck. The RFS Engineering subcontracts out the installation of the components of the BWT. 99% of the work for this project will take place by them

When the work is completed, the BWT will then be delivered to Capertee RFS, and training on the equipment will be conducted by RFS members. This is the remaining 1% of the project. There is no cost for this portion of the project.

Estimated start date

01/01/2022

Estimated end date

01/01/2024

Eligible Local Government Areas (LGAs)

You can only undertake project activities in a Local Government Area (LGA) that has been declared as eligible for assistance under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) for the 2019-20 bushfires. Individual projects may include activities that are undertaken in multiple eligible LGAs. Eligible LGAs are listed in Appendix A.

State

Please select from the list below.

NSW

LGA's Eligible in NSW

Lithgow

Project location

Project site 1

NSW RFS Capertee
34 Castlereagh Highway
Capertee NSW 2846
Australia

Estimated % of project value expected to be undertaken at site

1

Project site 2

NSW RFS Engineering
2 Enterprise Drive
Glendenning NSW 2750
Australia

Estimated % of project value expected to be undertaken at site

99

Project budget

Provide a summary of your eligible project expenditure over the life of the project.

If you are registered for GST, enter the GST exclusive amount. If you are not registered for GST, enter the GST inclusive amount. We only provide grant funding based on eligible expenditure. Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for guidance on eligible expenditure.

The minimum project expenditure for this grant opportunity is \$20,000.

You will also be required to attach a detailed project budget later in the application form. Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for the requirements of the budget.

Please note the below budget limitations:

- Administrative support/overheads (including project management or project co-ordination) (max 10% of the grant)
- Staff training (max 5% of the grant)
- Contingency costs (max 10% of the grant)
- Report on project outcomes (max 5% of the grant)

Project budget summary

Head of expenditure	Financial year	Total
Equipment/ Materials (purchase or hire)		s47G
Equipment/ Materials (purchase or hire)	2021/22	
Equipment/ Materials (purchase or hire)	2022/23	
Equipment/ Materials (purchase or hire)	2023/24	
Salary		
Salary	2021/22	
Salary	2022/23	
Salary	2023/24	
Contracts		
Contracts	2021/22	
Contracts	2022/23	
Contracts	2023/24	
Infrastructure / Building, including approvals		
Infrastructure / Building, including approvals	2021/22	
Infrastructure / Building, including approvals	2022/23	
Infrastructure / Building, including approvals	2023/24	
Workshops, conferences and events		
Total project expenditure		\$504,500

Head of expenditure	Financial year	Total
Workshops, conferences and events	2021/22	s47G
Workshops, conferences and events	2022/23	
Workshops, conferences and events	2023/24	
Domestic travel		
Domestic travel	2021/22	
Domestic travel	2022/23	
Domestic travel	2023/24	
Administrative support/overheads (including project management or project co-ordination)		
Administrative support/overheads (including project management or project co-ordination)	2021/22	
Administrative support/overheads (including project management or project co-ordination)	2022/23	
Administrative support/overheads (including project management or project co-ordination)	2023/24	
Planning, environmental or other regulatory approvals		
Planning, environmental or other regulatory approvals	2021/22	
Planning, environmental or other regulatory approvals	2022/23	
Total project expenditure		\$504,500

Head of expenditure	Financial year	Total
Planning, environmental or other regulatory approvals	2023/24	s47G
Staff training		
Staff training	2021/22	
Staff training	2022/23	
Staff training	2023/24	
Contingency		
Contingency	2021/22	
Contingency	2022/23	
Contingency	2023/24	
Report on project outcomes		
Report on project outcomes	2021/22	
Report on project outcomes	2022/23	
Report on project outcomes	2023/24	
Other		
Other	2021/22	
Other	2022/23	
Other	2023/24	
Total project expenditure		\$504,500

Financial year	Costs
2021/22	s47G
2022/23	
2023/24	
Total project expenditure	\$504,500

What is the total project cost including ineligible expenditure not included above?

This is the sum of eligible and non-eligible costs to the project.

\$ 504,500

Source of funding

In this section you must provide details of how you will fund the project.

The total of all sources of funding should be equal to your total project expenditure in the section above. Sources of funding include

- grant amount sought
- your contribution
- other contributions as allowed in the grant opportunity guidelines.

Grant amount sought

Enter the grant amount sought. We will add GST to this where applicable.

The minimum grant amount under this grant opportunity is \$20,000. The maximum grant amount under this grant opportunity is \$10,000,000.

\$ 500,000

Your contribution

Enter your organisation name. In the description field, provide additional details. Indicate whether your contribution is sourced from cash flow, loans, equity etc.

Other non-government contribution

Enter the organisation name. In the description field, provide additional details.

If you have project partners we will ask you for their details later in the application. You must provide their name and their contribution here.

Name of contributor

Capertee RFS

Details of contribution

Contribution type	Due date	Amount	Description
Cash	1/01/2022	s47G	Contributions from members of the public donated specifically for this project.
In-Kind	1/02/2023		Cost that would have been incurred in time/wages in the training of the RFS Brigade for the BWT, had this not been a voluntary organisation.
Total		\$4,500	

Assessment criteria

We will assess your application based on the weighting given to each criterion and against the indicators listed beneath each criterion. We will only consider funding applications that score at least 50 per cent against each criterion, as these represent best value for money.

The amount of detail and supporting evidence you provide should be commensurate with the project size, complexity and grant amount requested. You should define, quantify and provide evidence to support your answers.

To support your responses you must include mandatory attachments later in the application.

Assessment criterion 1

How your project will assist in community recovery from the 2019-20 bushfires?

(Score out of 50)

You should demonstrate this by identifying:

- a. how your project addresses the recovery or resilience needs of the community directly related to impacts of the 2019-20 bushfires through the adoption of/or investment in one or more of the following benefit areas:
 - **social recovery and resilience needs** of the local community may include improving community connections and social inclusion through community development activities, cultural events and workshops, protecting local heritage and addressing disadvantage within the community, preserving Aboriginal cultural heritage and supporting Indigenous communities through activities, workshops and events.
 - **economic recovery and resilience needs** of the region may include job creation, new businesses, tourism and supporting local producers and suppliers. Projects must support communities, not just individual businesses or organisations.
 - **recovery and resilience of the built environment needs** may include the improvement or extension of existing infrastructure in a manner that drives economic growth, creates jobs and makes the affected LGA or broader region a more attractive place to live or visit.
- b. how your project complements, builds on and does not duplicate existing or planned 2019-20 bushfire recovery efforts in the community.
- c. the broader benefits that your project will deliver for the region and the community.

The 2019/2020 bushfires had a devastating effect on our economy and our community. The Capertee district is greatly dependent upon tourism, the Capertee Valley, which bore the brunt of the bushfires, is the widest canyon in the world, with an abundance of bird species & wildlife. The fires devastated vast areas of bushland, threatening the future of our natural heritage area. The recovery and resilience of the area is dependent upon more effective bushfire fighting methods and equipment, the Cat 6 BWT being integral in this. There were huge areas of bushfire ravaged areas, not only in the Valley, but all the way along the Castlereagh highway, being the areas that the Capertee RFS support. The fires had a negative affect on business & economic growth, not to mention extreme hardship for some property owners, and mental stress and anguish for those residents who were literally cut-off by the fires that cut the highway from Ben Bullen through to Running Stream & Ilford. Our project, to have a Cat 6 BWT available at Capertee RFS to support the other brigades in the district, to better equip the district in the event of further bushfires, will encourage not only economic growth of business to the area, but it will also be very beneficial in providing confidence & resilience to current & future residents of our local community. Capertee & District Progress Assoc. has been working towards promoting the district for tourism & as an attractive area to live since the current committee were elected, some 7 years ago. We see the strengthening of the resources of the local RFS brigade as a very important part of attracting business, residents & tourism to the area. People want to feel that they are protected, the Cat 6 BWT forms an integral part of that confidence.

The Capertee RFS has been asking for a large bulk water tanker for approximately 7 years. With increased traffic along the Castlereagh highway, being the road from Lithgow LGA to the Central West, Mudgee, and increasing people moving from Sydney to our district, it has also put more pressure on RFS responses to accidents. The introduction of the Cat 6 BWT will provide increased immediate support to meet these events. In our support attachments there is an article about the Brian James motor vehicle accident death. This triggered immediate community support, and from this the Capertee RFS secured \$3500 in trust for the purchase of a Cat 6 BWT. I have also previously mentioned in our application for the grant for the BWT, the dreadful housefire on 14/04/2018, which claimed the life of a small child.

We may appear to be a small community, but the Capertee district spans a huge area & encompasses a great many people, property, livelihoods &

livestock. The edge of the Gosper's Mountain Fire was frighteningly visible from our landscape every night. Homes and lives were at risk all around our district, cutting off communities, causing panic with our residents. One outbreak, on Crown Station Road, just outside Capertee, threatened to take out the entire valley & everything in its pathway. Because of a lack of available water, through previous droughts, dry dams & little water in tanks, the RFS refilled from a semi-trailer provided by Lithgow Council. As it couldn't travel to the fireground, RFS units had to leave the fireground to re-fill, which took some 1 to 1.5 hours. Within that time, the fire front had progressed an incredible 2 kms onto people's properties. Some residents left, some couldn't, others had no where to go if they did leave. It was a horrific experience.

The 2019/2020 summer bushfires taught us a great many things. The main thing was a need to be able to better equip our firefighters with the equipment they need on the ground, here, now, and having a fully functional fire-fighting bulk water tanker on hand is essential, the need to become more resilient, for the future. This is why Capertee & District Progress Association have put forward this grant application. We see that through improving our local RFS resources, we can move forward & recover confidence, and encourage economic growth, tourism & continue to encourage regional population growth to our area.

As mentioned, we have the full support of Andrew Gee MP & Tony Abbott, who were both supporting our RFS during the 2019/2020 Black Summer Bushfires.

Assessment criterion 2

Capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project

(Score out of 50)

You should demonstrate this by identifying:

- a. your track record managing similar projects and access to personnel and/or partners with the right skills and experience
- b. sound project planning to manage and monitor the project, including scope, implementation methodology, timeframes, budget and risk management planning (including mitigation of health risks associated with the current COVID-19 pandemic).

The engineering of the Cat 6 Bulk Water Tanker will be carried out by the NSW RFS Engineering division, therefore professionally completed by experts within set timeframes & guidelines. The management of the project will be undertaken by s 22(1)(a)(ii) the Captain of the Capertee RFS, who has 31 years of experience in the RFS, and has been Captain of the Capertee RFS since 2012.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) the Secretary of Capertee Progress, who has extensive history of finance, planning, including risk management, both with Capertee Progress & the corporate world (Finance & Training - 40 years), will be working with s 22(1)(a)(ii) in order that outcomes are met.

Project partners

If applicable, provide details about all project partners

For details about project partner contributions refer to the grant opportunity guidelines.

Project partner

No Project partners found for this Application.

Bank Account Details

If your application is successful we will need to set up a payment process to pay your grant. We need your bank account details to do this. If your application is not successful we will not process these details.

Account Name

Capertee and District Progress Assoc

BSB

s47G

Account Number

s47G

Payment Contact

We will send the payment remittance advice to this person. All other notifications are sent to the primary contact whose details you provide on the last page of this application.

Title

s 22(1)(a)
(iii)

Given name

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Family Name

s 22(1)(a)
(ii)

Position Title

Secretary

Email address

caperteeprogress@gmail.com

Phone number

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Mobile Number

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Application finalisation

Conflict of interest

Do you have any perceived or existing conflicts of interest to declare?

[Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for further information on your conflict of interest responsibilities.](#)

No

Program feedback

How did you hear about this grant opportunity?

Word of mouth

Additional information

You should attach any additional supporting documentation here. You should only attach documents that we have requested or you have referred to in your application.

Project plan

A detailed project plan that includes a risk assessment plan.

ESTIMATED QUOTE FOR CAT 6 BULK WATER TANKER.docx

Project budget

A detailed project budget that identifies costs under each head of expenditure and includes an explanation of how the costs were determined. Include any third party contributions.

ESTIMATED QUOTE FOR CAT 6 BULK WATER TANKER.docx

Evidence of community support

This could include items such as letters of support for your project and testimonials.

Special Committee Meeting for RFS Grant.pdf
Additional Support for the Projec1.docx
Brian James Support - pg1.jpg
Brian James Support - pg2.jpg
Brian James Support - pg3.jpg
Letter of Support from Tony Abbott.pdf
Letter of Support from Andrew Gee.pdf

Evidence of landownership or environmental approvals (where applicable)

Where the proposed project site/s are not owned or managed by you, written consent is required from the property owner and/or property manager that allows for the implementation of the proposed project on each project site.

Trust documents

Where you have indicated your entity type is a trustee applying on behalf of a trust, you must attach trust documents showing the relationship of the incorporated trustee to the trust. If your trust deed is too large or you cannot upload your document please contact us via BSBR@industry.gov.au.

Primary contact

Title

s 22(1)(a)
(ii)

Given name

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Family name

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Position title

Secretary

Email address

caperteeprogress@gmail.com

Primary phone number

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Secondary phone number

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Business postal address of the primary contact

Is the address located in Australia?

Yes

Address details

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Declaration

Privacy and confidentiality provisions

I acknowledge that this is an Australian Government program and that the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (the department) will use the information I provide in accordance with the following:

- [Australian Government Public Data Policy Statement](#)
- [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines](#)
- grant opportunity guidelines
- applicable Australian laws.

Accordingly, I understand that the department may share my personal information provided in this application within this department and other government agencies:

- a. for purposes directly related to administering the program, including governance, research and the distribution of funds to successful applicants
- b. to facilitate research, assessment, monitoring and analysis of other programs and activities

unless otherwise prohibited by law.

I understand that where I am successful in obtaining a grant, the financial information that I provide for the purposes of payment will be accessible to departmental staff to enable payments to be made through the department's accounts payable software system.

I understand that information that is deemed 'confidential' in accordance with the grant opportunity guidelines may also be shared for a relevant Commonwealth purpose.

The department will publish information on individual grants in the public domain, including on the department's website, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

Applicant declaration

I declare that I have read and understood the grant opportunity guidelines, including the privacy, confidentiality and disclosure provisions.

I declare that the proposed project outlined in this application and any associated expenditure has been endorsed by the applicant's board/management committee or person with authority to commit the applicant to this project.

I declare that the applicant will comply with, and require that its subcontractors and independent contractors comply with, all applicable laws.

I declare that the information contained in this application together with any statement provided is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate, complete and not misleading and that I understand that giving of false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

I acknowledge that I may be requested to provide further clarification or documentation to verify the information supplied in this form and that the department may, during the application process, consult with other government agencies, including state and territory government agencies, about the applicant's claims and may also engage external technical or financial advisors to advise on information provided in the application.

I agree to participate in the periodic evaluation of the services undertaken by the department.

I approve the information in this application being communicated to the department in electronic form.

I understand that the applicant is responsible for ensuring that it has met relevant state or territory legislation obligations related to working with children, and that any person that has direct, unsupervised contact with children as part of a project under this grant opportunity, has undertaken and passed, a working with children check, if required under relevant state or territory legislation. The applicant is also responsible for assessing the suitability of people engaged on this project to ensure children are kept safe.

I acknowledge that if the department is satisfied that any statement made in an application is incorrect, incomplete, false or misleading the department may, at its absolute discretion, take appropriate action. I note such action may include excluding an application from further consideration; withdrawing an offer of funding; using the information contained in the application for a fraud investigation that would be consistent with the Australian Government's Investigations Standards and Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework and/or for a grant under management, terminating a grant agreement between the Commonwealth and the grantee including recovering funds already paid.

I declare that I am authorised to submit this form on behalf of the applicant and acknowledge that this is the equivalent of signing this application.

By checking this box, I agree to all of the above declarations and confirm all of the above statements to be true.

Yes

Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program				
Application #:	BSBR000600	Total Project Cost:	\$504,500	
Applicant Name:	CAPEETEE AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED	Grant Amount sought:	\$500,000	
Project Title:	CATEGORY 6 BULK WATER TANKER	Assessor Name:	s 22(1)(a)(ii)	
Assessment Criterion 1 How your project will assist in community recovery from the 2019-20 bushfires (50 points)		Assessor Notes (copy and paste this information into BGM under Merit Assessment "Comments")	Enter Score	Dataset - MC Scores Select from dropdown menu
a)	The applicant must demonstrate how their project addresses the recovery or resilience needs of the community directly related to impacts of the 2019-20 bushfires through the adoption of/or investment in one or more of the following: - social recovery and resilience needs - economic recovery and resilience needs - recovery and resilience of the built environment needs	The Applicant has stated that the project aims to support economic, social and built environment recovery and resilience. The proposed project will purchase a Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker for the Capertee Rural Fire Service (RFS). The Applicant has stated that the project will address recovery and resilience by strengthening resources of the local RFS Brigade, thus mitigating the damage of climate-related bushfires and improving community confidence. The Applicant has identified that, following the 2019-20 bushfires, the target region has faced difficulties in relation to inadequate water supplies for emergency fire services in the Capertee district. The Applicant stated that during the 2019-20 bushfires, the Capertee Rural Fire Service did not have an adequate portable water supply to effectively fight the bushfires, with only access to a semi-trailer incapable of traversing the fire trails and four wheel drive terrain. The Applicant emphasised that time was wasted from RFS vehicles driving away from the fireground to refill water tanks, a task that could take between one and one and a half hours, enough time for the fire to progress an additional 2km. The Applicant further stated the bushfires had a devastating effect on the economy and community, with residents struggling mentally and the important tourist destination, the Capertee Valley, suffering directly from bushfire devastation. Based on this information, the assessor found that the Applicant has provided a comprehensive and relevant description of the need for the project and the importance of addressing the need for the community. The Applicant has provided a media article and two letters of support from Andrew Gee MP and Tony Abbott. The assessor found that the letters of support highlighted the need for the Category 6 Built Water Tanker, confirming the impact of the bushfires on the region and the lack of efficient water resources for the local RFS. The assessor found that the letters of support and media article were comprehensive and relevant in evidencing the existence of identified needs and demonstrating the importance of addressing these needs for the community. The Applicant has stated that the project will target the Capertee Rural Fire Service and the surrounding community, located in the Lithgow local government area (LGA). The Applicant has stated that the project will respond to the region's needs by: enhancing community confidence in the local fire service which in turn will support the mental health of residents and firefighters. The Applicant claimed strengthening the resources of the local RFS brigade is an important part of attracting businesses, residents and tourism to the area as people want to feel protected. In addition, the Applicant has stated that the project will improve the Capertee Rural Fire Service's resources, thus mitigating the risks relating to climate-related bushfire damage. As evidence of this, the Applicant has provided a media article and two letters of support from Andrew Gee MP and Tony Abbott, confirming the project will improve the recovery and resilience of the built environment through the strengthening of the local fire service's resources. The media article, provided by ABC News, outlined that the targeted region was challenged by inadequate water supply when fighting the 2019-20 bushfires. As a result, the assessor found that the Applicant provided a comprehensive and relevant description of how the benefits of the project will be delivered to the broader community and how the proposed activities were linked to the needs of the community. The Applicant has stated that the project will build upon existing efforts by the Capertee Rural Fire Service. The Applicant has identified that the proposed upgrade to a Bulk Water Tanker will provide the community greater capacity to fight fires and ensure the RFS are better equipped for future events. The Applicant has stated that the project will leverage current firefighting abilities in the region. As evidence of this, the Applicant has provided a letter of support from Andrew Gee MP that noted how the proposed upgrade will enhance existing bushfire recovery efforts in the region, with the letter outlining how the community previously relied on finite tank water to fill vital firefighting units. The assessor found this information to provide a detailed description concerning how the project will build upon existing bushfire recovery efforts.	48	Strong Response
b)	The applicant must demonstrate how their project complements, builds on and does not duplicate existing or planned 2019-20 bushfire recovery efforts in the community.			
c)	The applicant must demonstrate the broader benefits their project will deliver for the region and the community.			
Total Assessment Criterion 1 (scaled out of 50)				48
Assessment Criterion 2 Capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project (50 points)		Assessor Notes (copy and paste this information into BGM under Merit Assessment "Comments")	Score	Assessor Response
a)	The applicant must demonstrate they capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project by identifying their track record managing similar projects and access to personnel and/or partners with the right skills and experience.	The Applicant has stated the NSW Rural Fire Service Engineering division will deliver the technical elements of the project, noting the proposed water tanker is already in service at four brigades. The assessor found that the letter of support from Andrew Gee provided detail on the Applicant's capability in delivering the proposed project. Based on the information provided, the assessor found that the Applicant has provided a satisfactory description of their experience delivering similar projects, noting that the Applicant did not provide detail on the previously completed projects that were identified, such as implementation methodology or value.	33	Good Response
b)	The applicant must demonstrate they capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project by identifying their sound project planning to manage and monitor the project, including scope, implementation methodology, timeframes, budget and risk management planning (including mitigation of health risks associated with the current COVID-19 pandemic).	The Applicant has stated that key personnel in project delivery are s 22(1)(a) , the Captain of the Capertee RFS, and s 22(1)(a)(ii) , the secretary of the Capertee and District Progress Association Incorporated. The Applicant noted s 22(1)(a) has 31 years' experience in the RFS. s 's role involves following the progress of the project and providing updates to s 22(1) during project delivery. Considering the above information, the assessor found that the Applicant has provided a detailed description of their access to experienced and qualified personnel, noting that the Applicant did not address how the key personnel's relevant skills will directly contribute to the project's desired outcomes. The Applicant has stated that the project will be managed by the Captain of the Capertee RFS, s 22(1)(a) . The Applicant has stated that management practices will include ordering the tanker, following the progress of the RFS Engineering subcontracts and training the RFS members. The Applicant has stated that the project will be delivered in 25 months and involves one milestone. The Applicant noted the tanker will take two years to be built to code. The assessor found that the information provided an adequate explanation of how the project will be managed. As part of the assessment process, the assessor observed that project timelines are detailed at a high level and the project plan and application do not provide detailed information on how the project will be delivered. The Applicant has provided an email from the Executive Director of Infrastructure at NSW Rural Fire Service which evidenced the cost of the Category 6 Build Water Tanker. The Applicant stated in an additional comment that the added \$65,000 in the proposed budget will allow for inflation and shipping. The Applicant intends to contribute an extra \$4,500 towards training for the brigade members. The assessor found that the attached evidence reconciled with the budget provided in the Application. As a result, the assessor found that the Applicant provided a detailed project budget and evidence to support project costs. Noting this, the assessor observed that the Applicant did not provide a detailed project budget outlining the cost of shipping and the need for the additional \$65,000. The Applicant has identified no risks, however the Applicant noted that all RFS Capertee members will be trained on how to use the tanker. Based on this information, the assessor found that this provided unsatisfactory detail on the relevant risks and mitigation strategies the Applicant has considered in preparing to undertake project activities. As part of the assessment process, the assessor observed that the Applicant provided a poor explanation of how they will manage the project's key risks. The Applicant did not identify risks and mitigation strategies relating to COVID-19.		
Total Assessment Criterion 2 (scaled out of 50)				33
		Criterion Scoring Guide		
		Strong Response	43 - 50	
		Good Response	32 - 42	
		Satisfactory	25 - 31	
		Poor	10 - 24	
		Very poor	0 - 9	
SUMMARY SCORE				
Assessment Criterion 1 48				
Assessment Criterion 2 33				
TOTAL SCORE (out of 100) 81				
Primary Assessment (copy this comment into Assessment Outcome in the "Comments" section under Merit Assessment in BGM)				
The Assessor should write the strengths and weaknesses based on how well the applicant has developed the proposed project and the extent to which the project relates to Criteria 1 and 2. Provide information that explains why a particular statement or recommendation was made.	The strengths of the application are: - The assessor considered that the Applicant provided detailed statements describing social, economic and built environment needs and that the Applicant provided a detailed description of the linkage between the identified needs and the impacts of the Black Summer Bushfires. - The assessor found that the Applicant provided letters of support and a media article which support the link between aspects of the bushfires and the identified needs. - The assessor determined that the Applicant has provided a clear description of project activities with clear links from these activities to identified needs and to benefits that flow to the community as a whole. - The assessor found that the Applicant identified the names of key personnel as well as their key roles and/or responsibilities in the project. The weaknesses of the application are: - The assessor determined that the Applicant provided a poor explanation of how they will manage the project's key risks. The applicant did not identify risks and mitigation strategies relating to COVID-19. Any issues identified with the activities and expenditure: Project budget includes costs for a Water Tanker (\$500,000) which may not be eligible. A detailed cost check will be required at agreement if the application for funding is successful.			

Capertee & District Progress Association Incorporated

Committee Meeting Minutes -7/08/2021

Meeting Commenced: 3:15pm

Location: Phone Meeting due to Covid.

In attendance: Committee Members: s 22(1)(a)(ii) (Vice President), s 22(1)(a)(ii) (President), s 22(1)(a)(ii) (Secretary), & s 22(1)(a)(ii) (Treasurer).

Apologies: N/A

Order of Business:

1: Black Summer Fires Grant Application

1: BLACK SUMMER FIRES Grant Application

s 22(1)(a)(ii) (Secretary) advised that we have been approached by the Capertee RFS Captain, s , for the need for finance for a Bulk Water Tanker for Capertee & the district. This will be of benefit to other brigades in the area, for general as well as bushfires in the future. s 22(1)(a) has advised that the cost for the Bulk Water Tanker would be \$500,000. The Tanker would enable 11,000 litres of water to be brought into firegrounds, and as it is 4WD, it can traverse rough grounds that other vehicles may not be able to.

Given the severity of the 2019/2020 bushfires in our locality, and the grave concern for our community, s 22(1)(a)(ii) (President) added that this tanker is of essential importance for the local brigade to have the equipment to protect life and property, especially in the event of another bushfire such as what we experienced. As we know, Capertee was completely surrounded & cut-off by the bushfires, the RFS brigades worked tirelessly, and this is our way of not only giving back, but

Motion put forward by s 22(1)(a)(ii) (Secretary) that we apply for a grant for \$500,000 under the BLACK SUMMER FIRES Grant.

If successful, the funds will be received by Capertee Progress & dispersed to the Capertee RFS as required.

Accepted by: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Seconded by: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Motion carried.

Meeting Closed: 3:22 pm

The date of the next Ordinary General Meeting to be advised.

Minutes taken by Secretary, s 22(1)(a)(ii) & emailed/posted to current members.

Contact: caperteeprogress@gmail.com

Phone: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Additional Support for the Project

Capertee & District Progress Association Inc., represents the greater area of the district. The committee is in total agreement for the need for the Cat 6 Bulk water Tanker, and were very keen to agree to put in a grant for funding for the Capertee RFS to purchase one. Having been personally affected by the 2019/2020 bushfires, we immediately saw the need.

Aside from the members of the community, the Capertee RFS have the backing of supporting districts, being but not limited to: Glen Alice, Glen Davis, Bogee, Ilford, as having a Cat 6 BWT in our area as it will benefit them by having greater support. s 22(1)(a) (Capertee RFS Captain) has spoken to their captains since and during the 2019/2020 bushfires, and they are well aware of our plight to obtain the Cat 6 BWT, and totally support the introduction of the unit in Capertee.

The Capertee RFS also has the backing of local MPs Andrew Gee & Paul Toole, and of ex-PM Tony Abbott. Andrew Gee also spent time with s 22(1)(a)(ii) on the fire ground and he has met with him personally as well since the fires. (As with Tony, Andrew was with the RFS before he became a politician, Andrew Gee at Wattle Flat, which is also on the Castlereagh Highway).

We have separate letters of support from Andrew Gee & Tony Abbott uploaded in this section of the application.

Trish Doyle Blue Mountains MP is a huge supporter as well. s 22(1) did radio interviews with 2GB s 22(1)(a) / s 22(1)(a) podcast as well as interviews with Prime 7 news and Channel nine news.

Mourners of former Rabbitohs player help community get new fire truck

ABC Central West / By Kathleen Ferguson

Posted Thu 28 May 2020 at 10:34am, updated Thu 28 May 2020 at 10:37am



Brian James was a successful footballer, and a tree changer from Sydney to the Capertee Valley. (Supplied: South Sydney Rabbitohs)

At the height of the recent bushfire season, the Capertee Rural Fire Service found itself in a unenviable position — fighting fires with little to no water.

The brigade, based in the New South Wales Central West, had made an impassioned plea for money to buy a new tanker, but the funding that would help pay for it would come from an unexpected and tragic event.

Brian James, a former Rabbitohs player and life member of the club, moved to the Capertee Valley with his wife, Elizabeth, about three years ago.

He was passionate about trying to help the local

Key points:

- Mourners of late farmer and footballer Brian James donate to the RFS in lieu of flowers
- The RFS has started the process of ordering a new truck
- Elizabeth James says her late husband would have been "delighted" to have helped the

RFS get its new truck, especially after watching the crews protect his property and others.

When he died in a farming accident earlier this year, his family asked mourners to donate to the Capertee brigade in lieu of flowers.

"It means so, so much to the brigade and neighbouring brigades," Capertee RFS Captain Steve Dalli said.

Elizabeth James said the firefighters worked tirelessly to protect them and their neighbours.

"They just worked, Steve and the crew, worked constantly day and night without sleep. How can you repay that?" she said.

"Brian would be just delighted to think that he helped them."

Rural Fire Service



Brian James was inducted as a Life Member of the South Sydney Rabbitohs. (Supplied: South Sydney Rabbitohs)



The Capertee RFS unit filling up its truck from a bulk water tanker during the 2019/20 bushfire season. (Supplied: Capertee RFS)

Mrs James said her late husband would have been happy to have helped, and that her family was grateful to the RFS for more than just fighting fires.

The local crew were also the first responders to the accident which took Brian James' life.

"The local RFS were the first people to get here and to help him and to order the helicopter that took him to Liverpool emergency," Mrs James said.

She said the support had not stopped, despite the fires being out and the donations from her husband's funeral finalised.

"The local people have come to chop wood for me. I have had help with the solar energy," Mrs James said.

"They are amazing, and it is such a shame we can't catch up with them because of COVID-19 more frequently."

The type of truck and final amount of donations was not confirmed by the Rural Fire Service, but a spokesman told the ABC the process to order the vehicle had begun.

THE HON TONY ABBOTT

27 AUG 2021

The Hon Andrew Gee
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Member for Calare
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister 

I'm writing in support of the Capertee Progress Association's application for a bushfire recovery grant towards the purchase of a Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker for the Capertee RFS.

As you might recall, after I'd spoken to the local RFS captain, s 22(1)(a)(ii) I raised this with you in January last year at the height of the Black Summer fire season, and it's good that you and your office are now trying to steer this forward.

Back then, I'd been on a three day RFS deployment to Glen Davis, not far from Capertee. Nearly all firefighting water had to be trucked in by contracted semi-trailers as the dams were dry and there was no readily available town water. A purpose-built Cat 6 Tanker would have been so much more useful and made fire fighting operations so much more effective because it could have gone to the fire front. Instead, fire fighting vehicles had to leave the fire line to rendezvous with the contract semis that couldn't navigate fire trails or go off-road. This sometimes was an hour turn-around at perilous times.

Because of the large area that the Capertee brigade covers, and the distance from other similar vehicles in Lithgow, Bathurst or Mudgee, a Cat 6 Tanker at Capertee would be an important addition to effective fire-fighting in the region.

I very much hope that this grant can urgently be processed and approved.

Yours sincerely 

TONY ABBOTT

GPO BOX 36
SYDNEY NSW 2001

www.tonyabbott.com.au



Andrew Gee MP
Federal Member for Calare

Our Ref: GM21/08.108

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Capertee and District Progress Association Incorporated
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Email: caperteeprogress@gmail.com

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Dear

**Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program
Community Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker**

I write in support of the application by Capertee and District Progress Association Incorporated for funding under the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program for the purchase of a Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker to be based in Capertee, for use by local RFS Brigades in times of fire and other emergencies.

I understand that the funding would enable community members of Capertee, in the Lithgow Local Government Area, to purchase a Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker that will provide critical firefighting and emergency responses that are currently unmet in the wider Capertee, Glen Alice and Ilford communities. The bulk water carrier will assist in addressing the social and economic recovery and resilience of residents and businesses directly and severely affected by the Black Summer Bushfires of 2019/2020.

There can be no doubt that a Bulk Water Tanker would also be a vital piece of infrastructure that will enable the communities to adequately protect their residents and visitors, as well as existing infrastructure, to ensure the district can continue to economically prosper and safely attract new residents and tourists.

I was in Capertee during the Black Summer Bushfires and witnessed first-hand the dire need for a locally owned and based Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker. Fire fighters in the remote community of Capertee rely on finite tank water to fill vital firefighting units. Once tanks ran dry during the Black Summer Fires, crews were left at the fire front without water. Not only were volunteers, surrounding properties and livestock put at risk, the fire was able to spread several kilometres. This compromising scenario played out on several occasions.

A small, borrowed water tanker was brought in to assist, but it was unable to traverse the rugged bushland, which meant fire fighting units were forced to leave the unrelenting fireground to refill their vehicles.



A community-owned Category 6 Bulk Water Tanker holds 9,000 litres of water; enough to fill six to eight fire trucks at a fire front. Such an asset would ensure fire fighters and fire trucks wouldn't need to leave the fireground to refill. The Bulk Water Tanker is also capable of carrying firefighting equipment and two crew.

A locally owned and based Bulk Water Tanker would equip the local community with a critical resource it urgently needs to fight all future bush fires, as well as allow for an adequate local response to motor vehicle accidents on the Castlereagh Highway which links Mudgee with Lithgow, the Blue Mountains and Sydney.

As a volunteer firefighter myself, I understand the urgent need for such an essential resource. I think it is commendable that the application is for a community-led recovery. The drive among all community members to secure a water tanker has been very strong and the wider community has itself invested significant time and effort in the fight for such a resource.

I understand that Capertee and District Progress Association Incorporated can provide the necessary governance and project management structures for this critical project.

It is for these reasons that I strongly support the application by Capertee and District Progress Association Incorporated and wish it every success.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Gee MP

Federal Member for Calare

Dated:

8/9/21

ESTIMATED QUOTE FOR CAT 6 BULK WATER TANKER

This is part of an email trail that provides the background decision for choosing the CAT 6 BWT as suitable for the Capertee & District area.

Please also see footnotes below

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Sent: Friday, 21 February 2020 2:31 PM

To: s 22(1)(a)

Subject: Brian Knight James memorial tanker

s 22(1)

(a)(iii)

Nice to catch up yesterday.

I understand that in discussions with the A/District Manager s 22(1)(a)(ii) , the brigade would now consider a Category 6 tanker. The key difference between a Category 6 and a Category 13, is that the Cat 13 is purely a logistics appliance used for carrying 11,000 litres of water as against a Cat 6 which has a 9,000 litre capacity as well as being a firefighting appliance. The Cat 6 was designed and introduced some 5 years ago with grassland firefighting in mind as it can be operated by 2 people, has a monitor on the front and if used as bulk water can still fill 3 of our basic bread and butter fire appliances the Cat 1.

Given that your brigade area has both grasslands and forested lands this may be a better option and I have had discussions to understand its more supported by the Senior Management Team than the single purpose appliance (Cat 13). You should expect though that a Cat 6 firefighting appliance will be requested to assist other brigades more often as they have proven their worth in matters such as truck fires on major arterial roads and the protection of exposures in well involved structure fires.

As discussed, both vehicles are built on the same chassis and simply have a different operating platform so in terms of size and dimension, they would be the same. I have attached a Category 6 brochure for your information, although I think there was one attached in our original correspondence.

Cat 6 firefighting appliances of the latest version as per the attached spec are in service at Hunter Valley (Muswellbrook), Canobolas (Canobolas Support Brigade), Cudgegong (Mudgee HQ) and Central Coast (Wyang Operational Support Brigade). There are others but these are the closest to your Brigade location. I am happy to facilitate visits should your brigade seek to do so.

There is a price difference as the Cat 6 is around \$435,000. (i) This reflects the additional firefighting equipment, tanker protection etc. Obviously whilst I am here to facilitate it is important that there is general agreement both amongst the brigade and the Chifley Lithgow Senior Management Team, I know you have had discussions with s and will continue that and for transparency I have copied him into this mail.

Let me know how you would like to proceed.

Regards

S



Senior Assistant Commissioner s 22(1)(a)(ii) AFSM | Executive Director Infrastructure Services

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Ave Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 | Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142

P s 22(1)(a)(ii) F s 22(1)(a)(ii) M s 22(1)(a)(ii) E s 22(1)(a)(ii)

www.rfs.nsw.gov.au | www.facebook.com/nswrfs | www.twitter.com/nswrfs

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Footnotes:

- (i) – As you will note from the information that was given by the RFS Senior Assistant Commissioner, s 22(1)(a)(ii), 18 months ago, the cost was estimated as being \$435,000 at that point of time. Note: Estimate. We have allowed for an additional cost of \$65,000 in our grant application, allowing for inflation & the need for the CAT 6 BWT to be transported from Sydney to Capertee.

If we are successful in our application for the grant, we will be in a position to submit a formal request for a quote from the RFS, which we will then be able to forward to the portal. We didn't want to find ourselves in a situation that we didn't quite have enough to purchase the CAT 6 BWT if we only applied for the amount guesstimated in this email.

If the cost of the CAT 6 BWT is less than we have estimated in our grant application, we will of course adjust our application accordingly.

- (ii) We have been advised that it takes 2 years from the date of order to the date of delivery of the Cat6 BWT to the Capertee RFS. We would of course place our order as soon as funds are made available from the grant funding.
- (iii) s 22(1)(a) (RFS Captain Capertee) will be following up on the progress of the engineering, and providing updates to s 22(1)(a)(ii) (Secretary Capertee & District Progress Association Inc.) so they can be provided to the grant body via the portal.
- (iv) There is no Risk Assessment plan required, as all the RFS Engineering takes care of the build of the CAT 6 BWT, and all RFS Capertee members who will have access to the tanker will be trained in its use prior to the tanker becoming utilized.