

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 3

Program 1.2

Question No. 22

Senator Furner asked the following question at the hearing on 29 May 2013:

Senator FURNER: I was interested in getting some feedback on the announcement from 30 April this year as a result of the eligible primary producers for the \$25,000 grants. Do you have any feedback on how that is progressing and the numbers of successful applicants?

Mr Sheehan: At this stage we do not have any data. It is something that we could consult with Queensland on. Because the payments to the primary producers are part of the national disaster recovery and relief arrangements, the Commonwealth provides a share of those payments, depending on what threshold the state has reached, up to a maximum of 75 per cent, but the administration is actually done at state level. We would be able to check, I think, and get some data for you.

Senator FURNER: Yes, I will put that on notice. I would be interested to see what contribution the state governments made towards those particular locations. And perhaps you could list the locations as well.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Under the National Partnership Agreement administered by the Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport, the Queensland Government report on the Category C grants made available to primary producers. Specific to the announcement of 30 April 2013, the Queensland Government has reported the following.

As at 13 June 2013:

Local Government Area	Claims Approved	Value of approved claims
Toowoomba	78	\$439,000
Western Downs	69	\$374,000
Somerset	121	\$861,000
Sunshine Coast	62	\$461,000
Goondiwindi	46	\$266,000
Southern Downs	131	\$973,000

Under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), the cost of Category C is equally shared between the Commonwealth and State governments. As at 13 June 2013, Queensland's total Category C contribution for those LGAs announced on 30 April 2013 for primary producers was \$1,687,000.