



**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**

BERRIGAN SHIRE COUNCIL

- 5 SEP 2016

FILE \_\_\_\_\_

REFER TO GM/DTS

COPY TO DCS

ACTION / CODE \_\_\_\_\_

ACKNOWLEDGE Y / N \_\_\_\_\_

*Matt*  
*Low*  
*the*  
*budget*

Appendix "N"



Mr Rowan Perkins  
 General Manager  
 Berrigan Shire Council  
 PO Box 137  
 BERRIGAN NSW 2712

Your ref:  
 Our ref: F16/0007

31 August 2016

Dear Mr Perkins

**2016-17 ALLOCATIONS – NSW RURAL FIRE FIGHTING FUND**

The Minister for Emergency Services, the Honourable David Elliott MP, has recently approved allocations for the 2016-17 Rural Fire Fighting Fund which supports volunteer brigades who protect your local community.

The Rural Fire Fighting Fund for 2016-17 is \$314.553 million. Highlights of this year's fund include:

- > \$9.9 million to continue the pilot of the use of Large Air Tankers to combat fast moving and dangerous grass and bush fires; and
- > Continuation of the commitment to develop the Guardian system to replace the existing Bushfire Risk Information Management System.

These enhancements build on the Government's pre-existing commitment to the NSW Rural Fire Service including:

- > \$37.9 million for mitigation and hazard reduction works;
- > \$11.7 million for fire fighting equipment and personal protective equipment;
- > \$31.4 million for new and refurbished tankers; and
- > \$19.1 million for volunteer brigade stations and Fire Control Centres.

As previously advised in correspondence of 31 May 2016, the NSW Rural Fire Service has moved to a percentage based allocation of the Rural Fire Fighting Fund. Accordingly, for your Council I hereby advise the:

Rural Fire Fighting Fund Allocation:	\$987,696
Council Contribution:	\$115,560
Percentage rate assigned:	0.314%

Shown at Appendix A is a schedule of key allocations including fire fighting appliances, infrastructure, equipment and grants that will be provided directly to your Council in the 2016-17 year. Your attention to completing and claiming reimbursement for the infrastructure works listed in the Appendix in the 2016-17 year is requested.

**Postal address**

NSW Rural Fire Service  
 Locked Bag 17  
 GRANVILLE NSW 2142

**Street address**

NSW Rural Fire Service  
 15 Carter Street  
 LIDCOMBE NSW 2141

T (02) 8741 5555  
 F (02) 8741 5550  
[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)



As in previous years, payments to Council for the Maintenance and Repairs grant will be made towards the end of the second quarter provided Council has made all Rural Fire Fighting Fund contributions due at that time.

Council are reminded that substantial additional resources are provided to Rural Fire Districts including:

- **Training and Volunteer Support**  
Costs associated with volunteer relations including the cadets program, work health and safety programs for volunteers, critical incident support, Chaplaincy, learning and development, volunteer training and competency.
- **Fire Mitigation Works**  
Bush fire mitigation works including the State Mitigation Support Services (SMSS) that operates across Local Government areas completing mitigation works, fire trail and hazard management works.
- **Insurances**  
Volunteer workers compensation insurance and other insurances (excluding red fleet insurance).
- **Radio Communications**  
Costs associated with communication assets, the private mobile radio network, the paging network and the Government Radio Network.
- **Emergency Fund**  
Costs associated with responding to bush fire emergencies including out of area assistance.
- **Aviation and Other Operational Support**  
Provision of the State Air Desk and aviation resources for emergency events, training and support of volunteers in aircraft operations and other operational support services such as Neighbourhood Safer Places, RART team and vulnerable communities support.
- **Engineering and Other Infrastructure**  
Design and development of mobile infrastructure including tankers, other vehicles and fire fighting equipment. Insurance of the red fleet of fire fighting appliances. Development of designs and standards for the construction of brigade stations and fire control centres.
- **Communications and Public Awareness**  
Management of media and corporate communications including the community advertising campaign, social media monitoring and provision of emergency messaging in emergency events.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Mr Stephen O'Malley, Chief Financial Officer on (02) 8741 5523 or at [stephen.omalley@rfs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:stephen.omalley@rfs.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



**Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM  
Commissioner**

cc: NSW RFS District Manager

## NSW Rural Fire Fighting Fund Allocation - 2016-17

**Council:** Berrigan Shire Council

### Infrastructure Projects

Nil	-
<b>Subtotal: Infrastructure Projects</b>	<b>-</b>

### Appliances

Berrigan	APPLIANCE - CAT 1 SINGLE CAB GRASSLAND	\$318,100
<b>Subtotal: Appliances</b>		<b>\$318,100</b>

### Equipment

Fire Fighting Equipment	\$7,415
Personal Protective Equipment	\$14,375
Community Education	-
<b>Subtotal: Equipment</b>	<b>\$21,790</b>

### Hazard Reduction

Hazard Reduction Grant	-
<b>Subtotal: Hazard Reduction</b>	<b>-</b>

### Maintenance and Repairs Grant

Petrol/Oil	\$12,000
Pumps	\$1,000
Radio	
Stations/Equipment Sheds	\$2,519
Vehicles	\$35,012
Maintenance and Repairs - Other	\$1,000
Data Cards	
Telephone (Fixed)	\$2,710
Telephone (Mobile)	\$2,500
Electricity	\$7,758
Gas	
Insurance - Vehicles	
Insurance - Sheds	\$1,500
Insurance - Radio Sheds	
Insurance - Other	\$250
Radio Base Station Site Fees	
Training Brigade	\$3,000
Cleaning	-
Security	-
Servicing Contracts	\$3,050
Other	\$3,750
<b>Subtotal: Maintenance and Repairs</b>	<b>\$76,049</b>

### Other Enhancements

Brigade Amenities Program	-
Electrical Residual Current Device Compliance	-
<b>Subtotal: Other Enhancements</b>	<b>-</b>





I hope this letter helps to set the record straight. That is, while we support the principle of smoothing spikes in council contributions to the RFFF, the RFS has a responsibility to ensure the implementation does not cause further or undue hardship.

If you would like to discuss the matter further, please feel free to contact me or Shaun McBride Senior Strategy Manager on telephone 9242 4072 or [shaun.mcbride@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:shaun.mcbride@lgnsw.org.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Rhoades', written in a cursive style.

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM  
**President**