

# Household Resilience Program

## External structures

The Household Resilience Program aims to assist eligible homeowners in coastal parts of Central and Northern Queensland to improve the resilience of their homes against cyclones.

Houses built prior to 1984 in Queensland may not be built to cyclone building standards and therefore can be more susceptible to damage during a cyclone or extreme weather event.

Upgrading tie-down to existing external structures such as sheds, carports and water tanks can also assist to improve their cyclone resilience.

The design for tie-down of these structures can vary and it is recommended to consult a builder or engineer for advice.

## Work eligibility

To be eligible for funding, the works must meet the following requirements:

- The design must comply with Australian Standard AS 4055 Wind Loads for Housing or AS 1170.2 Structural design actions. Design Form 15 is required using evidence of one of the following:
  - design must be engineered by a Registered Professional Engineer Queensland (RPEQ) accredited engineer; or
  - Form 15 will be provided by the supplier if the design used is a proprietary system.
- The installer must provide Form 43 self-certification, that the tie-down has been installed to the engineer's requirements.
- If the upgrade works are certified by a Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) licenced Building Certifier, a Form 21 from the certifier for the works will replace the requirement for the Form 15 for design and Form 43 for installation.
- Works must be completed on existing buildings to meet the program objectives of increasing cyclone resilience for buildings built prior to 1984.

\* House restumping is not included in this program.

## Contractor quotes

When sourcing a quote from a contractor, it must contain:

- the contractor's QBCC licence number
- a reference that:
  - the design will comply with the relevant Australian Standards
  - certification for the works in the quote.
- a full breakdown of the quote, and if additional items and/or multiple improvement options are included such as:
  - a scope of works
  - engineering

- certification
  - QBCC Home Warranty Insurance covering the full value of the quote or more (where applicable).
  - any additional information to assist the quote assessment, such as areas not included or out of scope.
- If these requirements are not provided, the quote review process will be delayed and will require clarification from the contractor.

## Approvals

If your application is approved, you will be notified by email. You will then need to enter a contract for the works in line with the approved quote. Contractors cannot be changed once the grant has been approved.

While works are underway, you and the contractor are responsible for the coordination of all works including site safety, protection of property and temporary accommodation, as required.

Grant funds cannot be paid as a lump sum on acceptable completion of the works and cannot be paid as progress payments. Funds will be paid directly to the contractor.

## Completion of the improvement works

On completion of the tie-down of external structures, you will need to provide the following documentation to the Household Resilience Program grants team, via the grant's portal:

- **\*Form 15** for design, that the system complies with AS 4055 Wind Loads for Housing.
- **\*Form 43** Self-certification from the installer that the install complies with the engineer's requirements.
- **Copy of the contractor's invoice:**
  - Addressed to the homeowner (full name)
  - referencing the Household Resilience Program application number
  - itemising and quantifying the works completed.
- **QBCC Home Warranty Insurance** details taken out by the contractor covering the full value of the quote or more (where applicable), prior to the work starting.

\*If works has been certified by a QBCC licenced Building Certifier, a Form 21 will replace the requirement for the Form 15 for design and Form 43 for installation.

If these requirements are not provided, the grant payment process will be delayed and will require clarification from the contractor.

## Payment of grant funds

When the documentation has been provided, an assessor will inspect the completed works to assess if the grant funds can be released. The Household Resilience Program team will arrange for the grant funding to be paid directly to the contractor. This is expected to take to 10 business days after receipt of the documentation and the onsite inspection is completed.

You will be required to pay the balance of your co-contribution, plus any additional costs for works that are not covered by the grant, to the contractor, once you are satisfied that the works have been completed in full.

## Additional benefits

Undertaking tie-down of external structures, program participants have found additional benefits including:

- improvement in cyclone resilience
- protection of surrounding structures from wind driven debris
- value for money
- potential reduction in insurance premiums.

It is recommended that you contact your home insurer to find out if you are eligible for a reduction in your home insurance premium after undertaking these buildings improvements to increase the cyclone resilience of your home.

For more information relating to insurance premiums, speak to your preferred home insurer.

## More information

**Phone:** 07 3007 4485 (Option 1)

**Email:** [strongerhomes@epw.qld.gov.au](mailto:strongerhomes@epw.qld.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.qld.gov.au/StrongerHomes](http://www.qld.gov.au/StrongerHomes)