



Small Business Bushfire Recovery Package

The Government has announced a Small Business Bushfire Recovery Package, to help small businesses in bushfire affected communities get back up on their feet.

The package includes support for small businesses to recover and rebuild, address cash flow pressures, and access financial counselling and tax support.

Recovery Grants

The Australian and state and territory governments are providing recovery grants of up to \$50,000 to eligible small businesses and non-profit organisations*, where they have suffered direct damage to their premises or equipment from the bushfires and intend to re-establish in the community.

The grants are available for clean-up and reinstatement activities, including replacement of stock.

For more information visit

www.business.gov.au/news/bushfire-support

Concessional Loans

The Australian and state and territory governments are providing concessional loans of up to \$500,000 to eligible small businesses (including primary producers) and non-profit organisations.

The loans are available for:

- restoration and replacement of assets damaged by the bushfires; and
- working capital expenses where a business has suffered a significant loss of income as a result of the bushfires.

For more information visit

www.business.gov.au/news/bushfire-support

Small Business Financial Support Line

The Government is establishing a hotline to provide advice and support for small businesses in bushfire affected communities. The hotline will provide information on the assistance that is available and access to specialist small business financial counselling services.

Contact information for the hotline will be published on www.business.gov.au/news/bushfire-support

Tax Support

Businesses in bushfire-impacted postcodes are eligible for tax support and assistance through the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), including:

- deferring the due date for lodgement and payment of business activity statements, income tax returns and fringe benefits tax returns to 28 May 2020;
- allowing businesses that pay their Pay As You Go (PAYG) instalments quarterly to vary their instalments to nil for the December 2019 quarter without penalty, and also claim a refund for the instalment amount paid for the September 2019 quarter; and
- allowing businesses to opt in to monthly GST reporting from the start of a quarter (such as 1 April 2020), in order to get quicker access to GST refunds.

Further information is available by calling the ATO Emergency Support Infoline on 1800 806 218 or visiting the ATO website:

www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Dealing-with-disasters/In-detail/Specific-disasters/Bushfires-2019-20/