

Public Account and Estimates Committee

Inquiry into the 2026-27 Budget Estimates

Vicki Ward MP
Minister for Natural Disaster Recovery

Friday 15 May 2026



Recovery coordination

Victoria is continuously improving how we manage and support recovery, coordinated through Emergency Management Victoria.

- **Leads** state and regional relief and recovery coordination through a **NEW** dedicated Deputy Commissioner for Relief and Recovery
- **Delivers** funding arrangements (including Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements with the Commonwealth)
- **Advocates** and advises government on community need
- **Coordinates** capability and capacity in the recovery system
- **Assurance and monitoring** to government that recovery needs are being managed



EMV delivers recovery programs as requested by Government (e.g. clean-up).

Total recovery investment since 2019

over \$4 billion



January 2026 Victorian bushfires recovery | funding

The 2026-27 Budget provides over \$420 million in output and asset funding to address recovery needs from the Victorian Bushfires.

Investments include:



Immediate relief



Clean-up



Local recovery support



Agricultural supports



Environment supports



Mental health



Temporary accommodation



Business supports

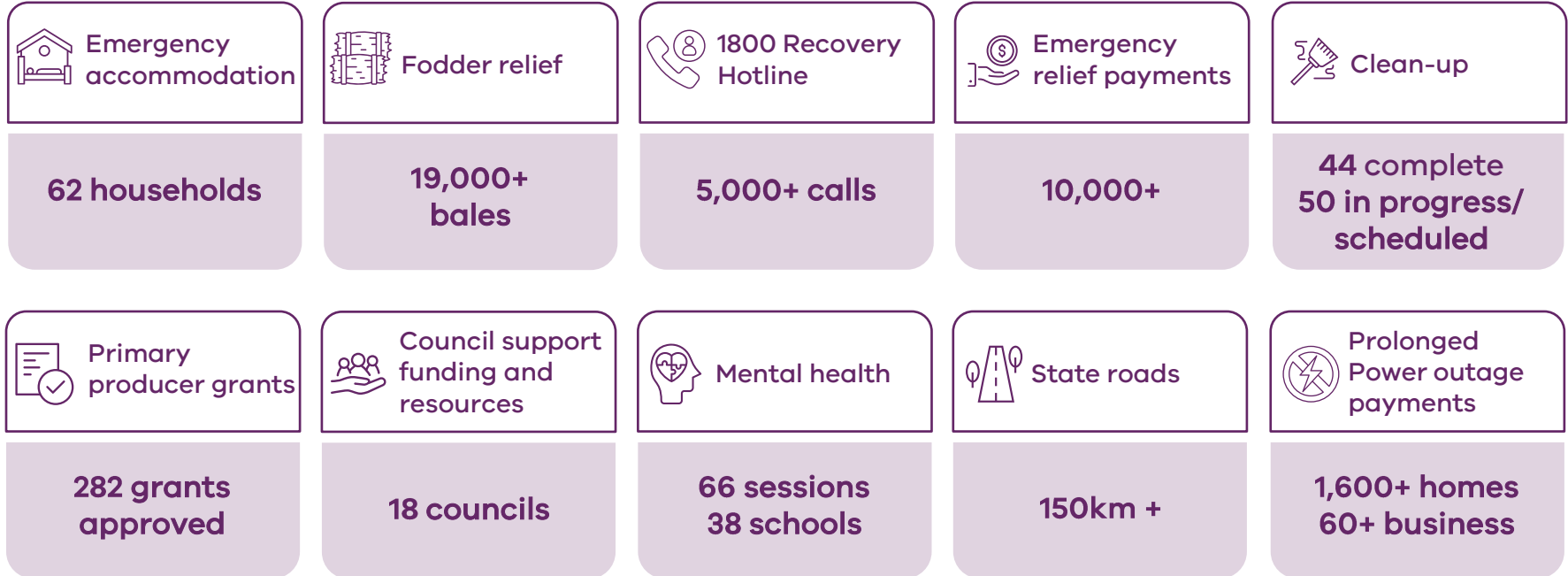


Financial support



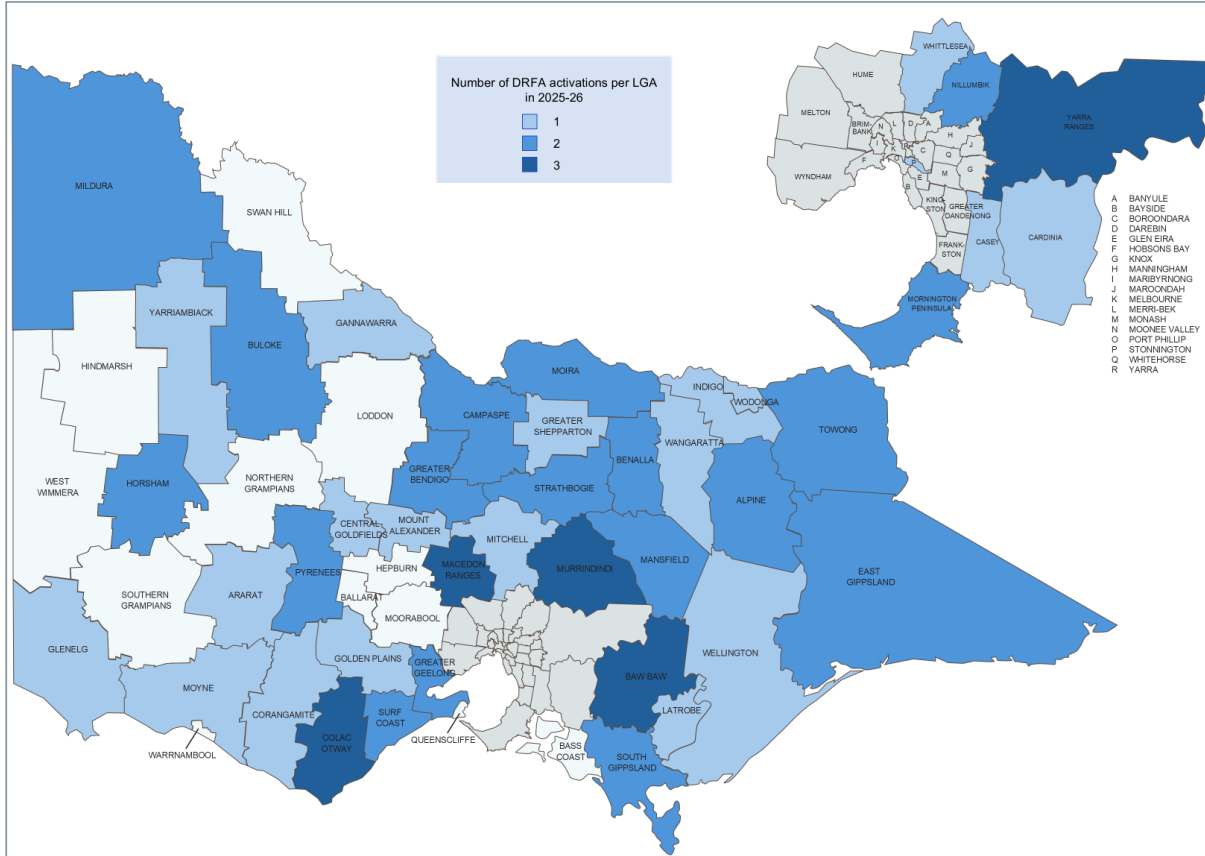
Infrastructure repairs

January 2026 Victorian bushfires recovery | progress



Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) in 2025-26

Number of DRFA activations per LGA in 2025-26



In 2025-26



Natural disasters

- **12** natural disasters (DRFA)
- **43** LGAs impacted
- **\$57.3 million** council estimated costs for relief and recovery for January 2026 bushfires)



Funding to councils

- **\$62.7 million** approved (across 23 events) for council works completed
- **\$47.75million** approved for reconstruction works to be completed
- **\$5 million** advances to councils

Thank you.

