



Update #9: Thursday 8 July 2021.

Nearly three months on from Cyclone Seroja, we understand a lot of effort has gone into, and still continues, on homes, properties and infrastructure. We are extremely grateful for all the hard work and comradery from the Midwest community and we understand it isn't over yet. We want to reiterate ongoing services as well as financial assistance available for those who were severely impacted. You may get a visit from Red Cross over the coming weeks with the organisation visiting residents and checking in post-cyclone to offer further support.

As a reminder, **applications can still be received for the Lord Mayors Distress Relief Fund** which offers \$25,000 for every household classified as totally destroyed and \$10,000 for those assessed as sustaining major damage making it uninhabitable. **Where to apply:** Application forms, as well as FAQs and the criteria can be found on the Appeals WA website at <https://appealswa.org.au/apply-for-assistance/>

Department of Communities Funding

Department of Communities is offering further financial support through its Disaster Relief Assistance program for eligible people whose primary residence was impacted by Tropical Cyclone Seroja. If your household has limited income and assets, and your home was not insured or was underinsured at the time of the cyclone, you may be eligible for financial assistance to help repair and live safely in your home. Funds may be provided to replace or repair essential household items that were lost, damaged or destroyed by the cyclone.

If you are an owner/occupier and your home was damaged by the cyclone, funds may also be provided to make repairs to ensure your home is habitable and in a safe and secure condition. If you believe you are eligible to apply, or have any queries, please call the Communities' Disaster Response Hotline on 1800 032 965. Applications for immediate disaster relief assistance from Communities can be made at recovery centres or online at www.communities.wa.gov.au/disasterrelief

As outlined in the Emergency support services document from the Department of Communities, the following financial assistance remains available:

Further financial assistance available

For the latest available financial assistance information please visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au/emergencywa/recovery

Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP):

Support for eligible people adversely affected by TC Seroja. \$1,000 per adult, \$400 per child under 16 years.

Australian Government Disaster Recovery Allowance:

For those able to demonstrate loss of income as a direct result of TC Seroja. To apply, please visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/tropical-cyclone-seroja-april-2021 or call 180 22 66.

Lord Mayors Distress Relief Fund:

\$25,000 for every household classified as totally destroyed and \$10,000 for those assessed as sustaining major damage making it uninhabitable. Application forms, as well as FAQs and the criteria can be found on the Appeals WA website at [Apply For Assistance – Lord Mayor’s Distress Relief Fund \(appealswa.org.au\)](http://appealswa.org.au)

Western Power Relief Package

For outages lasting more than 12 hours eligible people may be provided an outage payment of \$80 to \$160. For information visit www.westernpower.com.au/faults-outages/make-a-claim/extended-outage/

Synergy

Further support may be available for eligible people that have lost their home or business property. For information visit www.synergy.net.au/Your-home/Help-and-advice/Bills/Cyclone-Seroja-Support

Water Corporation Relief Package

A range of assistance can be applied for by those impacted by TC Seroja from <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/emergency-response/disaster-recovery-funding-arrangements> or by calling 13 13 85.

Measures to Assist Primary Producers

Relief measures are available for primary producers whose assets or business has been affected by TC Seroja. For information please visit www.agric.wa.gov.au/emergency-response/disaster-recovery-funding-arrangements

BlazeAid BlazeAid efforts continue we would like to extend our ongoing thanks to the tireless work of the BlazeAid team and volunteers. Since being in the Midwest post-Cyclone, the team have cleared more than 130km of fencing and rebuilt over 15kms of fencing. If you need help, or would like to volunteer call 0418 990 267.

If you need to chat or you’re struggling, Lifeline provide crisis support calls on 13 11 14. You can reach them 24/7 or visit the Lifeline website for resources.

Important Contact Details

Western Power: 13 13 51
Telstra: 1800 888 888
Insurance Council: 1800 734 621
Water Corporation: 13 13 75

Department of Communities’
Disaster Response Hotline: 1800 032 965
SES: 13 25 00
DFES: 13 33 37
Emergency: 000
City of Greater Geraldton: 9956 6600

IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE ARE EXPERIENCING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES PLEASE CONTACT

LIFELINE: 131114 RURALINK: 1800552002 SAMARITANS: 135247 OR 1800198313

