Homes Reuse Program – Expressions of Interest



The artwork 'Healing together' was created by Monique Rennie, a proud Kamillaroi woman and illustrates organisations and communities joining together to find the strength to recover and rebuild after a disaster.

The Homes Reuse Program is offering buyback homes and temporary pods for relocation and community reuse.

About the program

The NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA), in partnership with Homes NSW, is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible organisations for the relocation of buyback homes acquired through the Resilient Homes Program (RHP), and temporary pods from the Northern Rivers and Central West.

The Homes Reuse Program EOI is offering buyback homes and temporary pods to eligible organisations for use as affordable, social, transitional, crisis or key worker housing, or as community spaces that provide human and social support services to local communities.

This includes:

- relocating and reusing suitable buyback homes acquired through the Resilient Homes Program (RHP) in the Northern Rivers
- relocating and reusing temporary pods used in the Northern Rivers and Central West flood recovery responses.



Image: Buyback home, Girards Hill, NSW Reconstruction Authority

About the program

The Homes Reuse Program forms part of the NSW Government's broader response to the 2022 floods, and ongoing housing pressures across the Northern Rivers and Central West.

The program helps to deliver housing outcomes by relocating existing safe and suitable buyback homes within the Northern Rivers, and temporary pods to communities where they are needed most.

The Northern Rivers continues to experience housing pressures, extending well beyond the immediate impact of the 2022 floods.

Through the program, we can prioritise housing outcomes for people directly impacted by the 2022 floods including Aboriginal communities, households requiring transitional housing, and disaster-affected residents.

Who can apply

The Homes Reuse Program EOI is open to the following eligible organisations:

- Aboriginal Community Housing Providers (ACHPs) and Community Housing Providers (CHPs) registered and compliant under the National Regulatory System for Community Housing (NRSCH)
- Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs)
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs)
- Local Councils
- Not-for-Profit community organisations
- NSW Government agencies and NSW State-owned corporations with a key worker or housing need.

Joint applications and partnerships are encouraged, however the primary contracting organisation must be an eligible organisation.

Assessment criteria

The Homes Reuse Program EOI sets out clear eligibility criteria, evaluation information and expectations for participating in the program, including but not limited to, an ability to demonstrate:

- land ownership or long-term leasehold
- that the proposed use will be for affordable, social, transitional, crisis or key worker housing, or as a community hub or office supporting the delivery of community activities and human and social support services to local communities, for a minimum of three years
- proven experience in project delivery, property management, construction and/or tenancy management
- funding capacity to complete the works required
- a low-risk destination site with evidence of the site being of low flood-risk and able to support appropriate land use and dwelling entitlements. The destination site for the Northern Rivers must be located outside of the **Priority 1, 2 and 3** areas shown on **NSW Reconstruction Authority** RHP Prioritisation mapping where relevant.

EOI applications will be assessed based on how closely proposals are connected to local communities, particularly flood affected communities in the Northern Rivers and Central West.



Image: Buyback home, Lismore, NSW Reconstruction Authority

Homes on offer

Over 100 buyback homes and up to 250 temporary pods are being offered for relocation through the EOI.

Homes on offer include:



Image: Buyback home, Lismore, NSW Reconstruction Authority



Image: Temporary pod, NSW Reconstruction Authority

Buyback homes

Buyback homes are residential homes impacted by flooding in 2022 and purchased by RA through the RHP buyback stream. Each home has been independently assessed as potentially suitable for relocation. All homes are provided on an 'as-is, where is' basis where the successful applicant receives the property in its existing condition, and with services disconnected.

Feasibility assessment including obtaining planning approvals to relocate the homes to new land is the responsibility of applicants.

Temporary pods

Temporary pods are stand-alone modular homes originally used in temporary housing villages across the Northern Rivers and Central West as part of the NSW Government's response to the 2022 floods. These pods provided temporary accommodation for flood-affected residents during flood recovery.

Pods are designed for temporary accommodation purposes only and require additional planning approvals to be used as a permanent dwelling.

Priority will be given to retaining buyback homes in the Northern Rivers where they can deliver the greatest community benefit.

Temporary pods are available for use across NSW where there is a demonstrated housing or other suitable social need, with preference given to flood-affected communities closest to where temporary pods are located.

How to apply

The Homes Reuse Program EOI has been extended, and is open for applications until **12pm (midday)** on **19 October 2026**.

The EOI sets out in detail:

- when homes and pods are available
- how to apply
- what information is required for applicants
- how applications are assessed.

Full details, including application materials, an example terms sheet, eligibility requirements and key conditions, are available in the EOI data room. Access to the data room is provided to eligible organisations that have registered for the Homes Reuse Program.

Funding available

A grant of up to $135,000 (excluding GST) is available to successful eligible applicants relocating buyback homes to destination sites within the Northern Rivers local government areas of Ballina, Byron, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Tweed.

Grant funding is **not available** for temporary pods or where a buyback home is being relocated outside of the Northern Rivers local government areas.

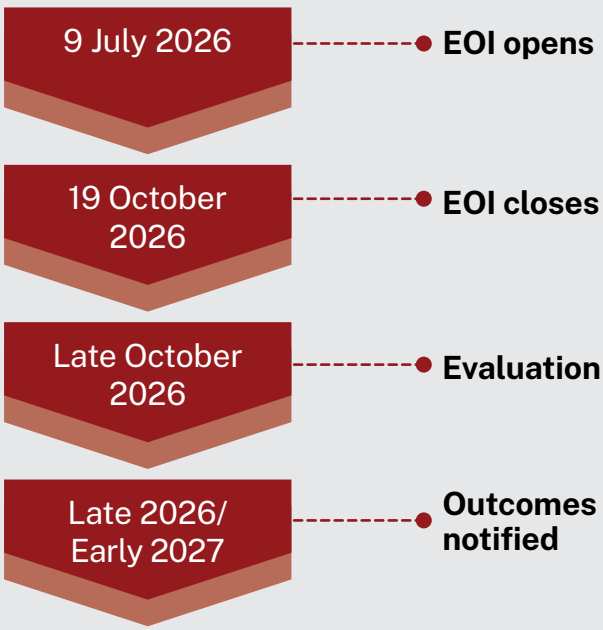
Grant funding can be used for:

- planning and approval costs including Development Applications (DA) and/or Complying Development Certificates (CDC), where required
- asbestos assessment and removal where applicable, to ensure the dwelling can be relocated and safely installed
- covering the physical transport and move of the home from its current location to the new destination site
- restoring the removal site (land) to a safe and suitable condition once the home has been removed
- preparing the new destination site, including works such as footings, re-stumping, connecting essential services (water, sewer, electricity), and providing access (such as driveways)
- fees for licensed and insured contractors to carry out the above works.

Funding helps cover the costs of safely moving a buyback home and preparing it for use at a destination site. It does not cover ongoing maintenance or full refurbishment of the home.

Further information on eligible grant funding activities is detailed in the **Homes Reuse Program – Relocatable Buyback Home Grant Program Guidelines**, available for registered applicants via the data room.

Timeline



Support available

Support is available to help registered applicants understand the process and prepare compliant EOI applications via the data room.

For more information about the Homes Reuse Program EOI or to speak to a member of the team, please call **1800 844 085**
or email homesreuse@reconstruction.nsw.gov.au
or visit our website nsw.gov.au/homes-reuse-program

Copyright and Disclaimer

© State of New South Wales through NSW Reconstruction Authority 2026. This publication is copyright. You may download, display, print and reproduce this material provided that the wording is reproduced exactly, the source is acknowledged, and the copyright, update address and disclaimer notice are retained.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (August 2026) and may not be accurate, current or complete. The State of New South Wales (including the NSW Reconstruction Authority), the author and the publisher take no responsibility, and will accept no liability, for the accuracy, currency, reliability or correctness of any information included in the document (including material provided by third parties). Readers should make their own inquiries and rely on their own advice when making decisions related to material contained in this publication.