

Department of Regional NSW

Regional Digital
Connectivity

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NSW Government Co-Investment in RCP3 and MBSP7 Program Guidelines





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The NSW Government has committed over \$400 million to the Regional Digital Connectivity program to ensure families and businesses across regional NSW have access to faster and more reliable digital networks.

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Background | 3 |
| About the Australian Government RCP3 and MBSP7 program | 3 |
| Program purpose and objectives | 4 |
| Program funding | 4 |
| Unspent funds | 4 |
| Mobile coverage solutions | 5 |
| Eligibility criteria | 6 |
| Eligibility assessment | 7 |
| Broadband services solutions | 8 |
| Eligibility criteria | 9 |
| Ineligible solutions | 9 |
| Eligibility assessment | 10 |
| Application and assessment process | 11 |
| Stage One: Application for DRNSW | |
| Co-funding – available Thursday 27 July | 12 |
| Stage Two: DRNSW eligibility assessment process | 13 |
| Stage Three: Australian Government assessment process | 14 |
| Stage Four: DRNSW verification process | 14 |
| Key dates | 15 |
| Application outcome | 15 |
| Important terms and conditions | 16 |
| Evaluation | 16 |
| Additional information | 17 |
| Glossary | 19 |

Background

The Department of Regional NSW (DRNSW) is committed to bridging the digital divide between metropolitan centres and regional areas. Through the Regional Digital Connectivity (RDC) program it will ensure families and businesses across rural and regional NSW have access to, and can take advantage of, new technology and digital opportunities.

In 2018, the NSW Government established the \$4.2 billion Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund (the Fund) to invest in transformational and economically productive infrastructure for regional NSW. The Fund's investment is guided by the 20 Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW. A key priority of the 20 Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW is improving regional digital connectivity.

Over \$400 million from the Fund has been committed to the RDC program to ensure families and businesses across regional NSW have access to faster and more reliable digital networks. A key part of the RDC program is the NSW Government Co-investment in Regional Connectivity Program Round 3 (RCP3) and Mobile Blackspot Program Round 7 (MBSP7) project with the Australian Government.

The NSW Government Co-investment in RCP3 and MBSP7 aims to significantly improve mobile and internet coverage in rural, remote and regional NSW where people live, work and play through transformative investment in infrastructure to support internet, mobile phone and emerging technologies.

The RDC program will provide co-funding for telecommunications projects funded by the Australian Government's RCP3 and MBSP7 in accordance with these guidelines.

About the Australian Government RCP3 and MBSP7 program

The Australian Government has allocated up to \$160 million through the RCP3 and MBSP7 grant to improve mobile and broadband connectivity in regional, rural and First Nations communities across Australia, through the following streams:



\$110 million

RCP3 stream for place-based solutions that deliver new or upgraded broadband services or upgraded mobile services in eligible locations across Australia



\$50 million

MBSP7 stream that delivers new handheld mobile coverage to rural, regional and remote locations across Australia

For full details of the Australian Government programs, please refer to the following websites:



[Regional Connectivity Program](https://infrastructure.gov.au/media-communications-arts/internet/regional-connectivity-program)

infrastructure.gov.au/media-communications-arts/internet/regional-connectivity-program



[Mobile Black Spot Program](https://infrastructure.gov.au/media-communications-arts/phone/mobile-services-and-coverage/mobile-black-spot-program)

infrastructure.gov.au/media-communications-arts/phone/mobile-services-and-coverage/mobile-black-spot-program

Organisations seeking co-funding from DRNSW for RCP3/MBSP7 must:

1. apply to DRNSW in accordance with these guidelines
2. meet the eligibility criteria and be identified by DRNSW as a priority project to receive a conditional letter of support
3. include their conditional letter of support in their application to the Australian Government RCP3/MBSP7 Grant, and
4. be successful in their RCP3/MBSP7 application to the Australian Government.



Please refer to the [Application and assessment process](#), for more detail.

Program purpose and objectives

The scope of this program is to provide digital solutions to rural and remote NSW through mobile and broadband solutions with all grant activity to be completed by 30 June 2026.

DRNSW is collaborating with the Australian Government to co-fund RCP3/MBSP7 as it aligns with the objectives of the RDC program. The objectives of this program are to:

The objectives of the grant opportunity are to:

-  extend and improve the depth and quality of regional NSW's digital footprint
-  increase rural, remote and regional consumers' choice and access to digital connectivity services (including internet and mobile services through active sharing outcomes)
-  investigate and pilot innovative solutions to address technical and commercial constraints to delivering enhanced digital connectivity services in rural, remote and regional areas.

The scope of this program is to provide digital solutions to rural and remote NSW through mobile and broadband solutions with all grant activity to be completed by 30 June 2026.

The NSW Government encourages applicants to read all program details before applying.

Program funding

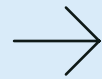
DRNSW will provide up to \$25 million in co-contribution funding towards eligible telecommunications projects funded under the Australian Government's RCP3/MBSP7 Grant.

The selection of the projects for the DRNSW co-funding will be based on eligibility criteria and prioritisation of the projects which demonstrate value and align with the objectives of the program.

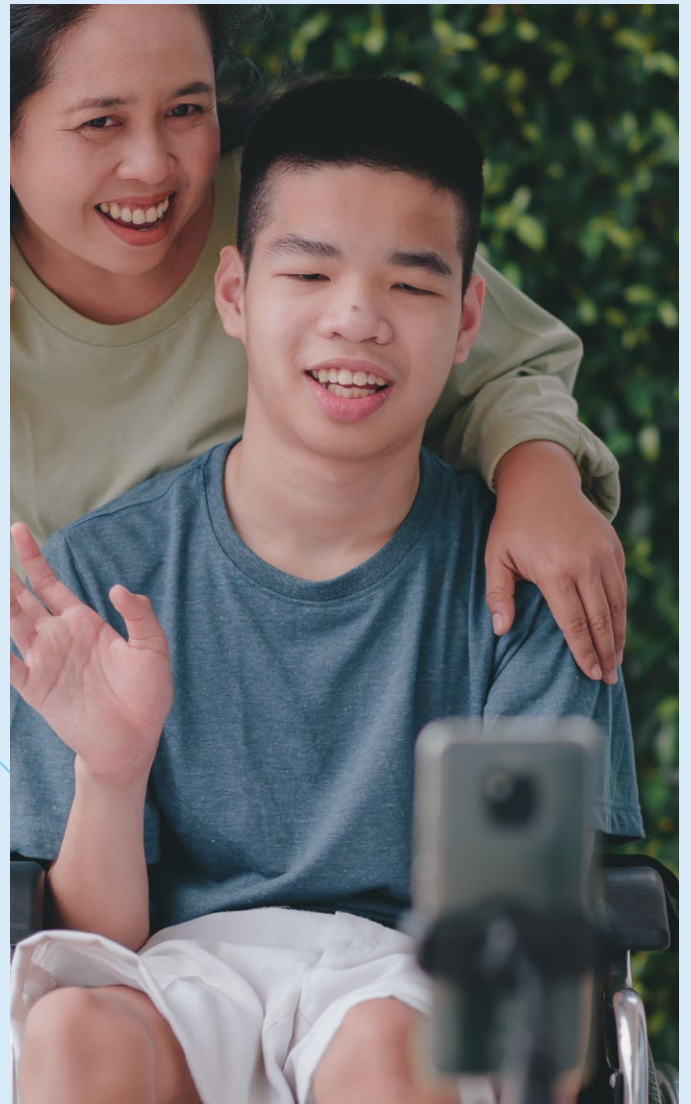
DRNSW will provide a conditional letter of support to selected applicants to fund up to 75% of the total project cost for solutions meeting the specified target locations list provided by the NSW Government and up to 50% of the total project cost for projects meeting RDC and community needs in rural and remote areas (as defined by the ABS).

Unspent funds

If the situation arises where a recipient's project is completed and there are unspent funds remaining from the program allocation, DRNSW may require the recipient to return the unspent funds. If the recipient requests to use the funds to extend the scope of the project, the DRNSW may assess that request if it aligns to the objectives of the co-investment program. DRNSW may require the recipient to provide supporting information such as revised economic or social impact data.



Mobile coverage solutions



Mobile coverage solutions

Eligibility criteria

In line with the Australian Government RCP3/MBSP7 Grant Opportunity Guidelines:

- new** mobile coverage solutions → apply under the **MBSP7** stream
- upgraded** mobile coverage solutions → apply under the **RCP3** stream

To be eligible for DRNSW co-funding, mobile solution applicants must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the Australian Government RCP3/MBSP7 Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the additional eligibility criteria outlined below:

- the proposed solution must use **active infrastructure sharing**
- active infrastructure sharing is defined to include the sharing of electronic infrastructure of the network including the radio access network (consisting of antennas/transceivers, base station, backhaul networks and controllers) and core network (consisting of servers and core network functionalities)
- proposed active sharing mobile solutions must use active infrastructure sharing to deliver mobile services. The following active infrastructure sharing types will be accepted by the department for consideration for funding:
 - Multi-Operator Radio Access Network (MORAN)
 - Multi-Operator Core Network (MOCN)
 - Core Network Sharing (CN Sharing)
- proposed active sharing mobile solutions may consider a hybrid approach to active infrastructure sharing (for example a MOCN solution with a MORAN overlay)
- proposed active sharing mobile solutions may also consider the use of Open-RAN (O-RAN) and/or any other standardised interfaces, approaches and technologies to deliver an active infrastructure sharing service
- proposed active sharing mobile solutions must enable consumers to perform a range of functions using mobile devices, such as making and receiving phone calls, sending emails and text messages, browsing the internet, accessing online services, downloading files, using mobile apps, and accessing emergency communications services
- all proposed active sharing mobile solutions will be required to deliver, at a minimum, 4G broadband data and voice services for the applicant's access seekers and access providers (if applicable) networks
- all proposed active sharing mobile solutions will be required to deliver mobile services in accordance with the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Cth) and other applicable laws and regulatory requirements
- proposed active sharing mobile solutions must have an auxiliary back-up power supply which provides back-up power for a minimum of 12 hours in the event of the loss of external power to the site, unless otherwise agreed by the department
- access providers must offer active sharing on a funded active sharing mobile solution to all MNOs and passive sharing to all other non-MNO access seekers, including NSW Government agencies, which were not part of the project team at the time of application submission
- where the lead applicant is a Mobile Network Operator (MNO) they must demonstrate commitment from another national MNO to use the infrastructure to deliver mobile services. If they are unable to obtain commitment from another national MNO, they must demonstrate that they have liaised with the other national MNOs, who have declined to participate. In this circumstance, the lead applicant must commit to making available active sharing mobile services on equivalent commercial and technical terms when requested by another MNO (and enter a commercial arrangement with that MNO)
- where the lead applicant is a Mobile Network Infrastructure Provider (MNIP) they must demonstrate commitment from a national MNO to use the infrastructure to deliver mobile services¹
- MNOs may participate in multiple applications. DRNSW may, at its absolute discretion, require an MNO to provide a probity plan on how it is implementing information barrier arrangements where it is participating in more than one application
- coverage provided must be made available to the MNO's wholesale network.

¹ In this scenario the MNIP and MNO cannot be related entities.

Mobile coverage solutions

Eligibility assessment

To determine eligibility, applications will be assessed using the criteria below.

Criteria and information to be submitted

- 1 Applicant eligibility under RCP3/MBSP7**
 - Evidence that the lead applicant has a valid ABN and is a licenced carrier (or holds a nominated carrier declaration) under the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Cth).
 - Declaration that the applicant meets all the eligibility criteria specified in the RCP3/MBSP7 Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

- 2 Active infrastructure sharing solution**

The proposed active infrastructure sharing mobile solution will be assessed against the following factors:

 - description of the solution proposed by the applicant including:
 - active infrastructure sharing type (e.g. MOCN, MORAN)
 - technical description of the solution (e.g. RAN supplier, tower types/ heights, spectrum to be utilised, backhaul arrangements, etc)
 - written evidence of intent from at least one National MNO, that offers national mobile coverage, to enter into a commercially binding commitment to use the infrastructure to deliver mobile services, in accordance with the RCP3/MBSP7 Guidelines for the Operational Period of the Proposed Solution
 - written evidence from the National MNO that the coverage provided by the funded solutions will be available to the MNO's wholesale network (if applicable), including mobile virtual network operators (MVNOs) and mobile resellers at a comparable, equivalent, or better prices to existing wholesale agreements, for the minimum operational period.

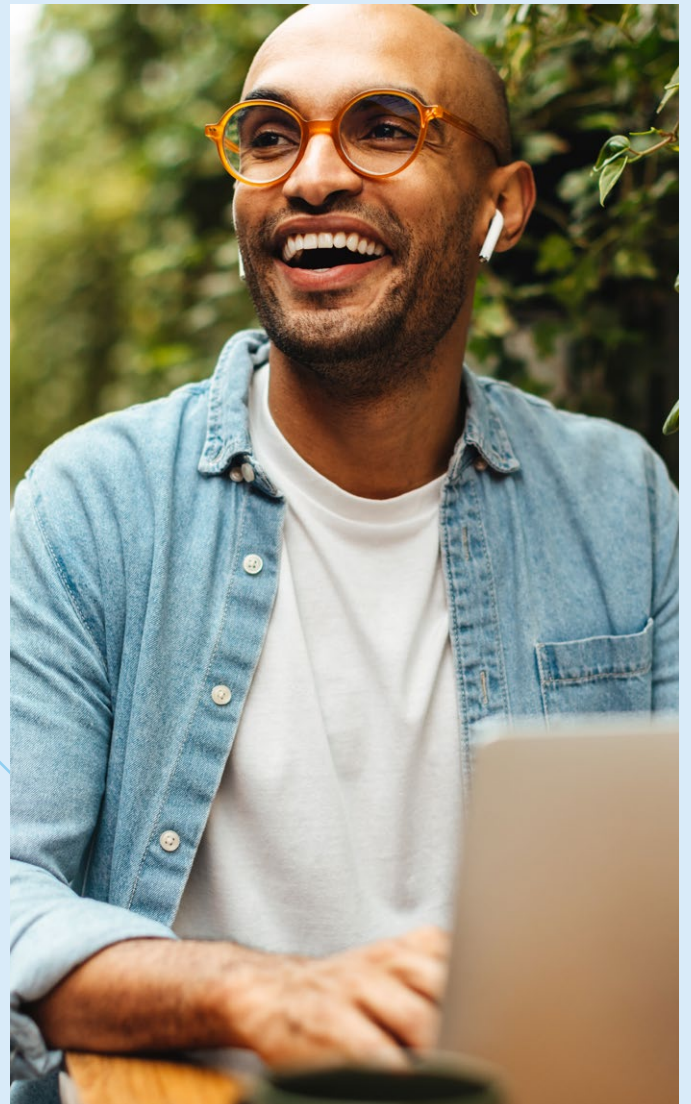
- 3 Alignment with the DRNSW's target locations**

The extent to which the proposed active sharing mobile solution's coverage aligns with DRNSW's target locations:

 - **Priority 1:** target locations (table 1) that the applicant wishes to apply for under RCP3/MBSP7
 - **Priority 2:** target transport corridors (table 2) that the applicant wishes to apply for under RCP3/MBSP7
 - **Priority 3:** other locations that are applicable under RCP3/MBSP7
 - alternative solutions that provide mobile coverage on road corridors (defined as State and Regional Roads by Transport NSW) and mobile solutions for First Nations communities (defined by the Australian Government in their guidelines) in other remote and very remote NSW locations (defined by the ABS) will also be considered, however, funding will be allocated to target locations and target transport corridors as a priority.



Broadband services solutions



Broadband services solutions

Eligibility criteria

In line with the RCP3/MBSP7 Grant Opportunity Guidelines:

new or upgraded broadband services solutions → apply under the **RCP3** stream

To be eligible for DRNSW co-funding, broadband solution applicants must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the RCP3/MBSP7 Grant Opportunity Guidelines and the additional eligibility criteria outlined below:

- minimum services of 50 Megabits per second download (Mbps) and 10 Mbps upload capacity (with no download limits) at the customer premise via fixed services using Layer 2 Infrastructure
- be in a location where current internet access is via satellite services only and there are no current (committed or planned) fixed services.

Ineligible solutions

The following are not eligible for DRNSW co-funding:

- solutions that rely on satellite technology for the access network (satellite backhaul is acceptable, but not at the access network level).



Broadband services solutions

Eligibility assessment

To determine eligibility, applications will be assessed using the criteria below.

Criteria and information to be submitted

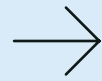
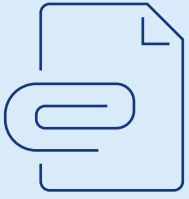
- 1 Applicant eligibility under RCP3**
 - Evidence that the lead applicant has a valid ABN and is a licenced carrier (or holds a nominated carrier declaration) under the *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Cth).
 - Declaration that the applicant meets all the eligibility criteria specified in the RCP3 Grant Opportunity Guidelines.
- 2 Description of proposed broadband solution**

The proposed broadband services solution will be assessed against the following factors:

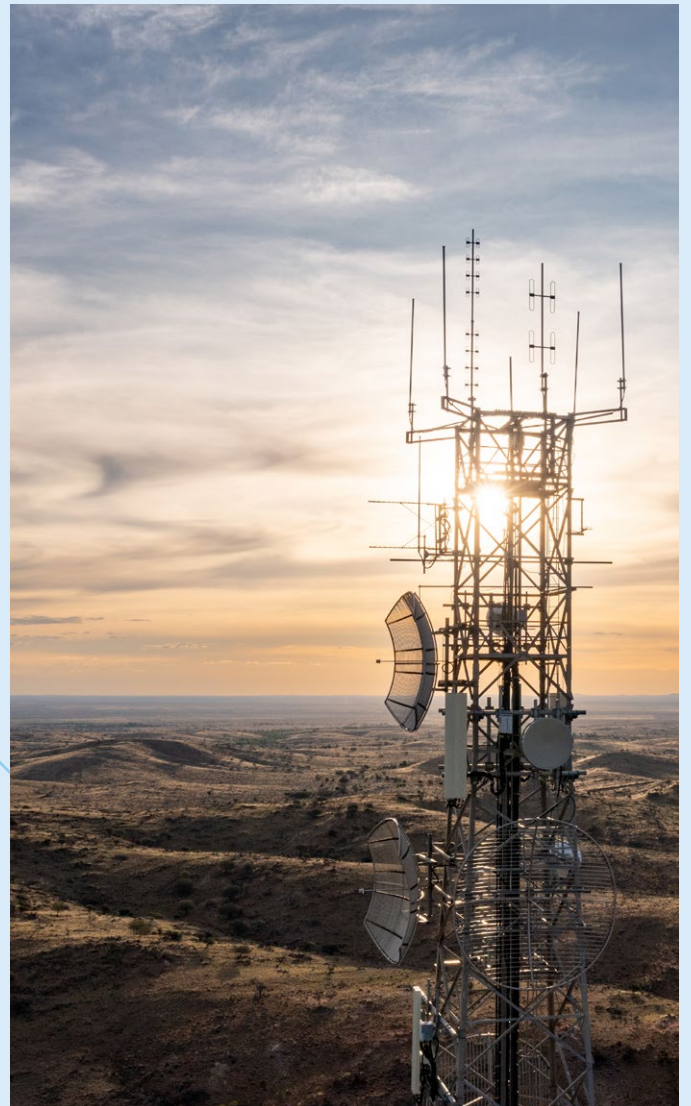
 - description of the solution proposed by the applicant including:
 - technical description of the solution (e.g. fixed line, fixed wireless or WiFi solution and the proposed equipment, spectrum utilised, tower types to be used, backhaul arrangements, etc)
 - consumer outcomes (service speeds, wholesale or retail service provided).
- 3 Alignment with DRNSW's target locations**

The extent to which the proposed broadband services solution's coverage aligns with DRNSW's targeted locations:

 - **Priority 1:** targeted locations (table 1) that the applicant wishes to apply for under RCP3
 - **Priority 2:** target transport corridors (table 2) that the applicant wishes to apply for under RCP3
 - **Priority 3:** other locations that are applicable under RCP3
 - alternative solutions that provide internet/mobile solutions for First Nations communities (defined by the Australian Government in their guidelines) and in other remote and very remote NSW locations (defined by the ABS) will also be considered, however, funding will be allocated to target locations and target transport corridors as a priority.



Application and assessment process



Application and assessment process

The application and assessment process has four stages:



1



Stage One: Application for DRNSW Co-funding – available from Thursday 27 July 2023

Applicants seeking DRNSW co-funding under RCP3/MBSP7 must submit an application using the Application Form template provided on the RDC website and email it to rdc.program@regional.nsw.gov.au by the closing date and time. Late applications will only be considered where DRNSW is satisfied that the acceptance of the late application would not compromise the integrity and competitiveness of the process.

The Application Form will request applicants to provide aspects of their proposed Australian Government RCP3/MBSP7 Grant application and additional criteria as specified.

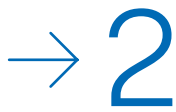
Where an application has not been submitted in the agreed template or format, DRNSW reserves the right to deem the application as non-conforming and set it aside from further consideration at our absolute discretion. DRNSW also reserves the right to seek additional information or clarification from an applicant should this be required, and subject to probity and fairness considerations.

Release of DRNSW target locations – available from 10 July 2023

DRNSW has prepared a list of target locations for applicants. To receive the list of target locations, applicants must provide a valid ABN, a current telecommunications carrier licence number and a fully executed confidentiality deed. The deed can be accessed via the RDC website and must be signed and then sent to rdc.program@regional.nsw.gov.au. DRNSW will then release the list of target locations to the applicant.

Changes to applications

Applicants are responsible for ensuring their application is complete and accurate. If an applicant identifies an error in their application after submission, the applicant lead should contact DRNSW immediately by email to rdc.program@regional.nsw.gov.au. Applications cannot be reopened or amended once the closing date has passed, with the exception of where DRNSW has requested additional information or clarification to assist with the eligibility assessment of the application.



Stage Two: DRNSW eligibility assessment process

Eligibility assessment

DRNSW will assess each application's compliance against the eligibility criteria set out in these Guidelines.

During the eligibility assessment, DRNSW may ask applicants to provide additional information to assist the assessment process. Advice may also be sought from other government agencies, or subject matter experts. Confidentiality will be maintained throughout the process.

Assessment panel

An assessment panel (RDC Assessment Panel) will be convened to consider applications against the eligibility criteria and to determine the suitability of each project for co-funding prior to issuing a conditional letter of support.

The RDC assessment panel will be convened by to ensure consistency in assessment. Each application will be assessed against the eligibility criteria and prioritised before a recommendation is made in writing to the decision maker.

This prioritisation will consider the requested co-contribution amount relative to the benefits provided, alignment with program objectives and available funding based on the number of applications received.

Applications that meet the requirements of these Guidelines, as assessed by the RDC Assessment Panel will be provided with a conditional letter of support to co-contribute by DRNSW.

Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria or have not been prioritised in the assessment phase as outlined in these guidelines will be notified in writing.

The RDC Assessment Panel meetings will involve RDC team members, subject matter experts and an independent probity advisor, voting members of the panel will be:

- manager, Regional Digital Connectivity program, Department of Regional NSW (Chairperson)
- a representative from NSW Telco Authority, Department of Customer Service
- a representative from Regional Programs, Department of Regional NSW
- a subject matter expert from Regional Digital Connectivity program's Technical Advisory Consultancy.

Conditional letter of support

The conditional letter of support will specify a co-investment amount for the applicant project/s. This letter of support is conditional on the outcome of the Australian Government grant which occurs after the Australian Government has reviewed all applications and provided DRNSW with successful solutions based on their criteria.

→ 3



Stage Three: Australian Government assessment process

Applicants should apply to RCP3/MBSP7 in accordance with the Guidelines for those programs and attach the DRNSW conditional letter of support to their application.

The Australian Government will independently assess and score applications in accordance with the RCP3/MBSP7 Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

The Australian Government is the decision maker in respect of all RCP3/MBSP7 applications.

→ 4



Stage Four: DRNSW verification process

Applications that the Australian Government has deemed successful and have a DRNSW conditional letter of support will be provided to DRNSW for review and verification.

The RDC Assessment Panel will be reconvened for this verification process. Advice may also be sought from other NSW Government agencies or other sources (such as probity advisors).

The criteria reviewed by the reconvening panel is as follows:

| Criteria | Outcome (PASS/FAIL) |
|--|---------------------|
| The verification process will look at the RCP3/MBSP7 application's compliance with the following criteria including, but not limited to: | |
| Risk assessment | |
| Technical review | |
| Available funding | |

Any applications that do not meet the verification process may have the DRNSW conditional letter of support rescinded, at the discretion of the decision maker.

The RDC Assessment Panel's advice and recommendations will be provided to the decision maker for consideration and approval.

DRNSW decision

The decision maker for DRNSW co-contributions under the RCP3/MBSP7 is the Secretary, Department of Regional NSW or their nominated delegate.

The decision maker will review the availability of grant funds and the Assessment Panel's recommendation before deciding which projects progress. The decision maker may take other factors into account that may make an application ineligible for funding, including issues that could cause reputational or other risks to the NSW Government.

The decision maker's decision is final in all matters, including:

- the approval of projects offered DRNSW co-funding under MBSP7/RCP3
- the grant funding amount offered, and
- the terms and conditions attached to the conditional letter of support.

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a co-contribution.

Key dates



Stage 1

Application for DRNSW Co-funding closes
17:00 (AEST) Friday 4 August 2023



Stage 2

DRNSW Eligibility Assessment process
7 August 2023 - 9 August 2023
(Conditional letters of support issued
9 August 2023)



Stage 3

Australian Government RCP3/MBSP7 applications close
11 August 2023, in accordance with RCP3/
MBSP7 timeframes



Stage 4

DRNSW verification process
Timeframe to be confirmed pending
Australian Government Assessment

In extenuating circumstances, applications submitted after the closing date may be accepted at the sole discretion of DRNSW provided their acceptance will not compromise the integrity and competitiveness of the process.

Project delivery and completion timeframes are to be in accordance with the RCP3/MBSP7 Guidelines and the executed funding deed - all co-funding activity is expected to be concluded by 30 June 2026 and operational asset periods are minimum seven (7) years under an RCP application and minimum ten (10) years under a MBSP application.

Application outcome

Notification

Applicants will be advised in writing of the outcome of their application.

Successful applicants will be notified confidentially as soon as possible after an application is approved. DRNSW's co-contribution may be subject to the successful applicant accepting specific terms and conditions outlined in their letter of offer and the applicant executing a funding deed with the Australian Government.

Unsuccessful applicants will be offered a feedback session within 20 business days of being advised of their application's outcome.

Funding Deed

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a funding deed with DRNSW. Parties will be provided with an NSW Government Funding Deed should they be successful following the DRNSW verification process.

DRNSW makes no binding funding commitment to an applicant unless and until both parties sign a funding deed.

Successful applicants must not make financial commitments for funded activities until funding deeds have been executed by both parties.

Important terms and conditions

The NSW Government may choose to publicly announce funding for individual applications. It may also use information submitted by an Applicant for promotional material. Public announcements by the NSW Government regarding funding outcomes will be arranged in conjunction with the Australian Government.

All recipients of NSW Government funding should acknowledge this financial support as per the Funding Acknowledgement Guidelines for Recipients of NSW Government Grants available at

→ [Funding Acknowledgements Guidelines](https://www.nsw.gov.au/branding/sponsorship-and-funding-acknowledgment-guidelines/funding-acknowledgement-guidelines)
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/branding/sponsorship-and-funding-acknowledgment-guidelines/funding-acknowledgement-guidelines>

Evaluation

DRNSW may conduct an evaluation at any time to assess the appropriateness, efficiency, effectiveness and/ or net social benefits of the grant opportunity and project. Successful applicants will be required to participate in a program evaluation. DRNSW may use information from applications and reports, and/or interview successful applicants or request additional information.



Additional information

Getting support

DRNSW are available to answer questions. Please contact rdc.program@regional.nsw.gov.au for more information. Please note, DRNSW is not able to assist applicants with the preparation of their applications.

Applicants are also encouraged to seek advice from their legal, business, and financial advisers to determine the suitability of the funding before applying for funding.

Probity

Independent probity advisors will provide guidance to DRNSW and the RDC Assessment Panel on any issues concerning integrity, fairness and accountability that may arise throughout the application, assessment, and decision-making process.

Prospective applicants may contact the DRNSW's probity advisors to discuss any probity related concerns using the below details:

Name: Beth Nilan
Phone: 0425 809 856
Email: bnilan@ocm.net.au

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Applicants should be aware that information submitted in applications and all related correspondence, attachments and other documents may be made publicly available under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW)*. Information that is deemed to be commercially sensitive will be withheld.

The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW) makes government information accessible to the public by:

- requiring government agencies to make certain sorts of information freely available
- encouraging government agencies to release as much other information as possible
- giving the public an enforceable right to make access applications for government information
- restricting access to information only when there is an overriding public interest against disclosure.

Complaints

Any concerns about the Fund or individual applications should be submitted in writing to. If you do not agree with the way the DRNSW handled the issue, you may wish to contact the NSW Ombudsman via ombo.nsw.gov.au.

Ethical conduct

Applicants must not participate in any anti-competitive conduct.

It is a condition of the grant program application process that no gifts, benefits or hospitality are to be made to any Department/Agency employee at any time. Any inducement in contravention of this condition may result in an applicant's proposal not being considered.

Conflicts of interest

There may be a requirement for a conflict-of-interest declaration to be submitted with all proposals or in the application form.

Where a conflict-of-interest detrimental to the assessment process is identified, mitigation measures must be put in place, or an individual may be asked not to participate in the application, assessment, or delivery stage of the process.

Confidentiality

Funding decisions and assessment outcomes must be kept confidential until announced by the NSW Government. Successful applicants will be required to provide a confidentiality undertaking. This means they must keep the outcome of the application process confidential until the NSW Government makes a public announcement.

Australian Government confidentiality requirements also need to be adhered to.

Upon entering into a funding deed, details about the funding deed may be made publicly available (subject to information which the Department/Agency deems to be commercial in confidence).

The applicant agrees not to disclose any confidential information pertaining to the grant program application or funding deed without prior written consent of DRNSW.

DRNSW rights

DRNSW may, in its absolute discretion, and without limiting any other right which it may have, do all or any of the following at any time without giving notice or reasons:

- require additional information from an applicant
- change any of the requirements of these Guidelines
- alter or vary any process, procedure or timing related to the grant opportunity, including any process, procedure or timing regarding the consideration or the evaluation of any proposal or all applications
- suspend or terminate the grant opportunity
- negotiate with one or more preferred applicants without prior notice to any other applicant

Additional information

- terminate any negotiations being conducted with any applicant
- readvertise for new applicants
- consider any non-conforming application
- terminate further participation in the grant opportunity by any applicant for any reason (including if DRNSW reasonably considers an application to contain any false or misleading claims or statements)
- not proceed with any funding deed, or
- proceed with a funding deed in ways not contemplated in these Guidelines.

Intellectual property

All intellectual property rights in these Guidelines remain the property of DRNSW. Applicants are permitted to use these Guidelines for the purpose of preparing an application only. Applicants must not use these Guidelines, or any information contained in these Guidelines for any other purpose.

Applications submitted in response to these Guidelines remain the property of the applicant, unless otherwise agreed between the applicant and DRNSW. The applicant agrees that DRNSW may make copies and reproduce applications for any purpose related to the grant opportunity. In addition, DRNSW will retain (electronic and hard) copies of all applications.

No offer

These Guidelines are not an offer, recommendation, or invitation by DRNSW in respect of any contract or commitment and, subject to a funding deed being fully executed by the parties to it, nothing in these Guidelines will form the basis of any contract or commitment.

The following costs are not eligible:

- costs or expenses incurred in connection with an application, including costs associated with the preparation, negotiation, and execution of the funding deed and other documents
- project expenses incurred prior to executing a funding deed with DRNSW.

Addenda

DRNSW may, in its absolute discretion, issue an addendum to these Guidelines. In each case, an addendum becomes part of these Guidelines.

Disclaimer

DRNSW does not guarantee or warrant and accepts no legal liability whatsoever arising from or connected to, the accuracy, reliability, currency, or completeness of any material contained in this publication. Information in this publication is provided as general information only and is not intended as a substitute for advice from a qualified professional.

DRNSW recommends that users exercise care and use their own skill and judgment in using information from this publication and that users carefully evaluate the accuracy, currency, completeness, and relevance of such information. Users should take steps to independently verify the information in this publication and, where appropriate, seek professional advice.

Glossary

| Term | Definition |
|---|---|
| Active infrastructure sharing solutions | <p>Defined to include the sharing of electronic infrastructure of the network including the radio access network (consisting of antennas/transceivers, base station, backhaul networks and controllers) and core network (consisting of servers and core network functionalities). The following active infrastructure sharing types will be accepted by DRNSW for consideration for funding on the basis they are provided under an active sharing model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• multi-operator radio access network (MORAN)• multi-operator core network (MOCN)• core network sharing (CN Sharing). <p>Proposed projects may also consider hybrid approaches to active infrastructure sharing solutions (for example a MOCN solution with a MORAN overlay) or the use of Open-RAN (O-RAN) and/or any other standardised interfaces, approaches, and technologies to deliver an active sharing service.</p> |
| MNIP, Mobile Network Infrastructure Provider | <p>An organisation, other than a MNO, that provides communications infrastructure, including the installation and operation of infrastructure to be used by one or more MNOs to provide public mobile telecommunications services. The MNIP must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a licenced telecommunications carrier under the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> (Cth), or• hold a nominated carrier declaration under the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> (Cth). |
| MNO, Mobile Network Operator | <p>An organisation that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• supplies a public mobile telecommunications service within the meaning of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> (Cth), and• holds an apparatus or a spectrum licence (or both) for the supply of public mobile telecommunications services under the <i>Radiocommunications Act 1992</i> (Cth). |

For more information

Email rdc.program@regional.nsw.gov.au
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