



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Infrastructure  
 and Regional Development**

## **BRIDGES RENEWAL PROGRAMME (BRP) ROUND ONE**

### **PROGRAMME CRITERIA and PROPOSAL FORM**

The Australian Government has committed \$300 million over five years from 2014-15 under the Bridges Renewal Programme (BRP) for bridge projects that contribute to productivity and/or community access. State, territory and local governments are eligible to apply and are encouraged to work together on priorities. Proponents are also encouraged to consult industry and local communities to gauge the need for projects and to obtain supporting evidence. Projects under the BRP will be selected as part of a competitive, merit-based process on their ability to meet the four criteria set out in this form.

Round One of the BRP will provide up to \$100 million. Round One proposals must be well developed, with appropriate levels of scope, planning and approvals already underway so construction can commence in the 2014-15 financial year. Proponents should consider whether proposals meet Round One criteria or if they would benefit from further development for Round Two, which is expected to be open later in 2015.

Round One of the BRP will be run concurrently with Round 4 of the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Programme (HVSPP). The process and criteria for both programmes have been aligned. Proponents are responsible for ensuring proposals across both programmes are aligned with their investment priorities.

One form is required for each discrete project. However, where related projects are proposed these should be cross-referenced on each form. Proponents should note any additional benefits of coordinated projects (E.g. along a network). Where possible, the Department will consider these in the assessment process.

#### **Proponents should note that:**

- The Australian Government will contribute a maximum of 50% of the project cost.
- No proposal forms will be accepted by the Department after 28 August 2014.
- Proponents should answer all questions in the proposal form.
- Attachments to proposal forms will be considered as supporting evidence only.
- There is no word limit, but more detail would be expected for larger and more complex proposals.
- State and territory governments will be asked to prioritise ALL eligible projects within their jurisdictions. Note that state and territory agencies will use information provided in proposal forms to assist in prioritising.
- The Department will use the information provided in this proposal form to check eligibility and assess projects against the appraisal criteria. The relevant criteria are set out within the form, followed by specific questions.
- The Department may request further information to assist with the assessment or management of a proposal at any time.
- Where projects seek to improve access for heavy vehicles, proponents must provide assurances that all efforts will be made to ensure regulatory access (through the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator) is also gained.

The Department will assess proposals against programme criteria to develop a merit list representing best value for money and make recommendations to the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development who will make decisions on funding under *the Nation Building Program (National Land Transport) Act 2009*, as amended. The value for money assessment and decisions by the Minister may take account of the overall mix and funding source of projects.

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Successful projects and payments to proponents will be managed through state and territory governments under the National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects and the related Notes on Administration. The Department may impose conditions on funding.

### A. PROPONENT DETAILS

Name of Organisation	
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#### Contact Details

Name	
Title	
Telephone	
e-mail	
Postal address	

### B. PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name	
Project Summary	
Project Scope Include details on length, width and height of bridge, as well as any associated infrastructure (including approach roads).	
Project Location	
Geographical References / GIS Identification	Longitude: Latitude:
Is this project related to another BRP or HVSPP proposal? If yes, which proposals?	

### C. PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

- The BRP is open to bridge projects carrying road vehicles on recognised public roads.
- Funding is not available for rail bridges; or stand-alone cycleway, pedestrian or stock bridges.
- Bridges situated on the National Land Transport Network are excluded.

#### Funding will not be provided for any of the following:

- projects that have already commenced,
- projects that have received or are receiving funding under another Australian Government programme (including Roads to Recovery and disaster relief),
- projects that include ongoing operational and maintenance costs; or
- projects consisting solely of planning and design.

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**The BRP will contribute a maximum of 50% of the total project cost.**

- State/territory and local governments can form partnerships to meet the 50% matching funding requirement and appropriate contributions from industry can also be included in the 50% requirement.

**The BRP will also only contribute a maximum of 50% of the costs in the first year of the project.**

- Australian Government funding should not be used for ‘front-loading’ of projects so Proponents should ensure that funding for their contribution can cover at least 50% of the first year costs.

EXAMPLE: If the total project cost is \$2m over two years, the BRP will only fund \$1m of the total. If it is estimated that \$500,000 will be required in the 2014-15 year, the BRP will only fund up to \$250,000 in that year. The proponent should ensure that \$250,000 of its own, or partner, contributions are available in 2014-15.

**Note: Proponent contributions are cash only and in-kind contributions will not be considered.**

Please provide overall budget details below in 2014-15 dollars:

(More details are sought under Section E and F.)

	2014-15 \$000s	2015-16 \$000s	2016-17 \$000s	Total \$000s
Australian Government				
Proponent				
Other				
Total				

Are contributions from the proponent and any others confirmed?	
What is the status of these contributions and what steps will be taken to confirm them? [For Local Councils Only – is a proposed state or territory government contribution subject to an application/grants process? E.g. Fixing Country Roads Programme in NSW]	

**Proponents must demonstrate that projects can commence in 2014-15.**

Are you able to demonstrate that the project can commence in 2014-15?	Yes/No
To verify your claim, please <u>briefly</u> outline the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning/scoping already undertaken,</li> <li>• Approvals required and their status,</li> <li>• Costings undertaken,</li> <li>• Expected start date, and</li> <li>• Key project dates and timelines.</li> </ul> (Further detail, and supporting evidence, is to be provided by proponents under Criteria 4)	

**D. APPRAISAL**

The key objectives of the programme is to contribute to the productivity and community access of bridges serving local communities, and facilitating increased productivity by enhancing access to allow for greater efficiency.

Outputs of the BRP will include renewed, replaced and upgraded bridges.

Proponents are encouraged to discuss the programme with relevant industry stakeholders and local communities early in the process.

**Criterion 1 – Improved Productivity and Access**

The degree to which the project is consistent with the programme objectives. This will include consideration of evidence to support claims relating to how the project:

- a. facilitates access to services for the local community;
- b. facilitates integration with key freight networks;
- c. increases access for higher mass and productivity vehicles;
- d. facilitates improvements to ‘last mile’ freight logistics (the portion of the supply chain from the final delivery hub to the customer’s door);
- e. facilitates improvements in the ‘whole of journey’ for freight in the overall supply chain; and
- f. aligns with industry and community priorities.

Describe how the project will contribute to the objectives of the programme.	
What evidence can you provide to support these claims? (Please make specific reference to relevant sources in any attached documents.)	
Has industry and/or the community been consulted on the proposal? If so, what are their views and what evidence has been provided to support their views?	

**Criterion 2 – Quantified Benefits**

The degree to which the project provides a level of measurable benefits relative to other proposals.

The Department will consider stated benefits and supporting evidence provided by proponents to assess projects relative to other proposals, including:

- a. Analysis and evidence supporting claimed benefits in terms of:
  - i. capacity for greater efficiency;
  - ii. reduced operating costs;
  - iii. shortened distances travelled;
  - iv. traffic volumes, including proportion of heavy and higher productivity vehicles; and
  - v. community access
- b. Benefit-to-cost (BCR) analysis, where available.

What are the quantifiable benefits of the project?	
What data is available to demonstrate the benefits identified above?  Identify where projections of vehicle numbers or freight volumes are cited.	
Are there other benefits to community access provided by the project?	
If a benefit-to-cost ratio for the project is available, please outline the basis on which this was calculated, and attach worked documents.	

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**Criterion 3 – State/Territory Priority**

Project proposals will be prioritised by each state or territory government and higher ranked projects will be assessed by the Department as meeting this criterion to a higher degree.

**Criterion 4 – Construction-Readiness**

The degree to which proposals demonstrate that they can be delivered within required timeframes - commencement in 2014-15 and completion by 30 June 2017.

Evidence may include:

- a. completed planning documents, including preliminary or final design;
- b. project costings, where possible supported by an independent Quantity Surveyor;
- c. progress on gaining relevant Development Approvals and other approvals such as environmental, cultural and heritage; and
- d. identification of any risks and steps for managing those risks, including scope, construction, approvals, financial and delivery.

What planning has already been undertaken?	
What approvals are required for your project? What is the current status of these and what steps are being taken to obtain and manage these approvals?	
<p>Have you identified and/or considered risks/impediments which may impact on project commencement in 2014-15 and completion by 30 June 2017 in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. funding and contributions</li> <li>ii. construction (including pre-construction activities)</li> <li>iii. project scope</li> <li>iv. approvals (environmental, cultural, Development Approvals, other planning)</li> <li>v. compliance with Building Code and OHS Accreditation Scheme</li> <li>vi. contracting</li> </ul> <p>Answers should be consistent with budget and milestones in Section E and F.</p>	

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## E. PROJECT COSTS

Project costs are required to assist with assessment and management of projects. Note that the Department may seek additional information from the proponent, or third parties, to verify costs.

If this project proposal is successful, final costs will be settled with the proponent from the information provided below and in accordance with relevant provisions contained in the Notes on Administration. Note that contributions from all parties must be confirmed at that stage.

This is a guide of likely project cost items. Please delete any that do not apply and include costs for additional items against the "Supplemental" category and provide comments.

Project Cost Category	Cost (2014-15 dollars)	Comments
Project management		
Design & investigation		
Applicant supplied insurances, fees, levies		
Property purchase price		
Property purchase transaction costs		
Business compensation		
Environmental offsets		
Environmental works		
Traffic Management and temporary works		
Public utilities adjustments		
Bulk earthworks		
Retaining walls		
Drainage		
Bridge costs		
Tunnels		
Pavements		
Finishing works		
Traffic signage, signals, signals and controls		
Design (if by contractor)		
Supplementary items		
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BASE COST</b>		
Contingency (if applicable) – Please include the basis for the contingency cost estimate in the "Comments" column.		
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST (2014-15 Dollars)</b>		

Please specify the methodology used to determine the costings? (e.g. reference to similar projects, first principles cost estimates etc)	
Are costings supported by independent advice, (e.g. Quantity Surveyor?), or other qualified personnel with previous construction experience, particularly in bridgeworks? If so, please provide details.	

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**Budget** (Note that costs are to be expressed in 2014-15 dollars)

	2014-15 \$000s	2015-16 \$000s	2016-17 \$000s	Total \$000s
Australian Government	\$	\$	\$	\$
State / Territory Government	\$	\$	\$	\$
Council	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$	\$	\$
Australian Government as percentage of total for year	%	%	%	%

**F. MILESTONES**

Milestone Description	Time completed	Amount proposed to be spent per milestone (2014-15 dollars)	Comments
1.	%		
2.	%		
3.	%		
4.	%		
5.	%		

Please provide up to a maximum of five indicative milestone events.



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**(FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROPONENTS ONLY)**

**G. COUNCIL INFORMATION**

Additional information is sought from Local Governments to provide context for assessment, and so the Minister can consider this in the mix and funding sources of projects to be selected.

**Council Revenue and Asset Base**

Council Area (km2)	
Roads (km) council is responsible for	
Number of road bridges council is responsible for (Please include only trafficable bridges.)	

Quantitative

Please provide gross Council rate revenue data for: 2013-14 2012-13 2011-12  Please provide project cost (cost should reflect Total Project Cost in 2014-15 dollars as indicated in Section E and F).	Gross Council rate revenue: 2013-14 _____ 2012-13 _____ 2011-12 _____  A. Total rate revenue over 3 years _____ B. Total project cost _____ C. Ratio (A/B) _____
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Qualitative

For Local Council projects with no funding from other sources:

Demonstrate actions you have taken to secure funding from other sources (for example, state/territory government, industry sources).	
Why have previous approaches been unsuccessful? Please provide evidence.	

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## H. HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

Proposals must be sent to the Bridges Renewal Programme email address ([bridgesrenewal@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:bridgesrenewal@infrastructure.gov.au)) by 11:59pm local time on **Thursday 28 August 2014**.

No proposal will be accepted after this time.

Emails are limited in size to 10MB and will not be accepted through the Department's email gateway if they exceed that size. No support will be available after 5pm AEST.

Do not post your proposals. Only emailed proposals will be assessed.

General enquiries can be either emailed to [bridgesrenewal@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:bridgesrenewal@infrastructure.gov.au) or proponents can contact the Department on the programme general enquiry number, 02 6274 6758.

Written enquiries can be directed to:

Programme Manager  
 Bridges Renewal Programme  
 Infrastructure Investment Division  
 Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development  
 GPO Box 594  
 CANBERRA ACT 2601

## I. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A conflict of interest may exist, for example, if the proponent or any of its personnel:

- has a relationship (whether professional, commercial or personal) with a party who is able to influence the project appraisal process, such as a Department staff member;
- has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the proponent in carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently; or
- has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain as a result of the provision of funding under the BRP.

Each proponent will be required to declare as part of their proposal, existing conflicts of interest or that to the best of their knowledge there is no conflict of interest, including in relation to the examples above, that would impact on or prevent the proposal from proceeding with the project or any agreement it may enter into with the Australian Government, represented by the Department, if funding were approved under the BRP.

Where a proponent subsequently identifies that an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest exists or might arise in relation to this proposal for funding, the applicant must inform the Department in writing immediately.

Does the proponent or any of its personnel have a potential conflict of interest? (If yes, please provide details separately with the proposal.)	Yes/No
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