

Dear Treasury,

At OBA Consulting we acknowledge these are difficult times economically for Australia & that Treasury are likely working through macroeconomic challenges on a scale unprecedented for this generation.

Further to OBA Consulting '**Webform submission from: Ministerial Correspondence**', dated 17th June 2021 below today we write with respect to the aforementioned Triennial Review.

Please read our Webform submission from below as a pre cursor to our response to the Triennial Review.

With respect to the 2021 Triennial Review it is dot point 2, highlighted below, specifically that we write to you about:

This consultation paper seeks stakeholder views on issues outlined in the Terms of Reference, which are:

- whether there continues to be market failure in the private sector supply of terrorism insurance, and consequently whether there is a need for the Act to continue;
- whether the governance, administration and resourcing of the scheme remain appropriate, including interactions between the Cyclone Reinsurance Pool and the Terrorism Reinsurance Pool; and
- whether the risk of cyber terrorism causing physical property damage should be included in the scheme.

Within OBA July, June & May 2021 Quick Bite newsletters attached please note several references to:

- 1. The Cyclone & Cyclone related Flood Reinsurance Pool;
- 2. The ARPC &
- 3. What OBA proposes being the AGPR - Australia Agriculture Reinsurance Pool;
- As reported in the Sydney Morning Herald in November 2019 the Federal Government has spent \$8billion on direct Drought assistance to Farmers since the turn of the century, noting some industry insiders suggest the metric of \$8billion is far more accurately stated as \$20billion;
- OBA seeks to initiate discussion that an amount the equivalent of the recent Cyclone & Cyclone related Flood in Nth QLD of \$10billion be designated (not 'spent') to a bespoke national agency for Agriculture to address this matter for farmers who seek to proactively outsource their risk to future such losses & largely put an end to reactive 'bail out' packages consequent to Drought;

- OBA hastens to add we do not consider the lack of a bespoke Government agency to address Drought Risk Transfer in Australia as a failing of the Morrison Government, more so we seek to stress we see it is a failing in Government policy in Australia with a retrospective inception date stretching back decades - nonetheless in 2021 the key stake holders in this matter have the ability to do something about it to address the matter for current & future generations of 'accountable' Australian farmers;
- Re-iterating OBA does understand the Treasurer & Treasury are dealing with several high priority matters post the Covid frenetic norm we now refer to as BAU including however not limited to the immediate, ongoing and future implications of the intergenerational report & the **ARPC 2021 Triennial Review** involving Treasury members including however not limited to:
 - Hon. Michael Sukkar MP, Member for Deakin, Assistant Treasurer, Minister for housing;
 - Mr Luke Spear - Insurance Manager Treasury;
- OBA first wrote to Federal Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud referencing the ARPC in June 2019 [here](#), accordingly OBA calls on Minister Littleproud, Prime Minister Scott Morrison & Treasury to investigate & apportion funds towards the formation of a bespoke Risk Transfer agency for Australian Agriculture including Livestock & Crops which OBA proposes be titled: **Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool - AGRP**

Please find 4 appendices as follows:

1. OBA Consulting Quick Bite May 2021 - attached in PDF
2. OBA Consulting Quick Bite June 2021 - attached in PDF
3. OBA Consulting Quick Bite July 2021 - attached in PDF
4. This [video](#)

Noting it was the Hon. Treasurer Josh Frydenbery our correspondence of the 17th June 2021 below was addressed to if at all possible

we would appreciate return correspondence from Hon. Treasurer Frydenberg.

In seeking to support the government as it seeks to support us as citizens please also find attached confirmation my 'immunisation history' including booked Covid vaccinations & OBA face masks as we seek to do our part & encourage our fellow citizens to all play our part in combating Covid-19.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Regards,

**Brett O'Brien
Managing Director**

OBA Ethos [here](#) & 2nd anniversary [here](#)



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OBA Consulting is a B2B consultancy operation.

We do not provide any advice to the general public whatsoever in relation to general insurance products.



OBA Quick Bite - May 2021

On the 20th of April 2021 OBA received correspondence from Office of the Premier of NSW Gladys Berejiklian, below left, followed by further correspondence from Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Western NSW Adam Marshall on the 26th April 2021, below centre, online [here](#), additionally for context reference is also drawn to a letter replying to OBA on behalf of the Prime Minister from April 2019, below right:

 <p>Office of the Premier of New South Wales</p> <p>Ref: A4022069</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien admin@obaconconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence of 15 April 2021 regarding correspondence sent to the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW.</p> <p>Having made enquiries on your behalf and I am advised the Minister's Office is aware of the issues you have raised and a reply will be sent to you shortly.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to bring this issue to the Government's attention.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, <i>Gayle Mitchell</i></p> <p>Gayle Mitchell Correspondence Manager</p> <p>GPO Box 5341 Sydney NSW 2000 • P: (02) 8574 5000 • F: (02) 9339 5500 • W: nsw.gov.au</p>	 <p>The Hon. Adam Marshall MP Minister for Agriculture Minister for Western New South Wales</p> <p>CMG1/772</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting admin@obaconconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email of 16 January 2021 regarding a national insurance scheme for the agricultural sector. I note you have written previously about this matter and appreciate your continued interest.</p> <p>Enhancing the ability of farmers to manage financial risk is a key goal for the NSW Government, and for the personally. How farmers manage such risk is a complex topic given the broad range of farming systems operating in Australia.</p> <p>I note from your previous correspondence and website information that you are an advocate of government subsidies to develop insurance products for farmers to better manage catastrophic risks such as drought and floods.</p> <p>Subsidising these type of insurance products for farmers is not NSW Government policy, and the provision of agricultural weather insurance in Australia is complicated by the volatility of climate. As the NSW Government evaluates its assistance measures under the recent drought, options for future drought and floods may be considered in more detail.</p> <p>I agree that programs to support farmers better manage risk are best initiated at a national level, which is why the NSW Government engaged the National Farmers Federation (NFF) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, and detail the purpose and operation of all existing and realistically potential financial risk management measures, products and services Make recommendations for Government, industry and other relevant bodies on ways to improve and expand the suite of financial risk management tools available. <p>I trust this is of assistance, however if you have any further enquiries, I have asked Mr Tim Edmondstone, Manager, Industry Analysis, Strategy and Policy, Department of Primary Industries to be available to answer any questions you may have. Mr Edmondstone can be contacted on 0439 332 221.</p> <p>Thank you again for your interest in this matter.</p> <p>Yours sincerely <i>Adam Marshall</i></p> <p>Adam Marshall MINISTER 26 APR 2021</p>	 <p>Australian Government North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency</p> <p>MC19-013007</p> <p>29 April 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.</p> <p>The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan. Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch</p>
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The above adds to the below chronology of correspondence with & from Federal & State Government officials which OBA thanks these persons & their staff for including pictured from left to right:

- The Prime Minister's (office) – Scott Morrison; The Federal Minister for Agriculture – David Littleproud;
- Member of the Senate – Bridget McKenzie; The Premier of NSW (office) – Gladys Berejiklian;
- Adam Marshall MP - Minister for Agriculture Western NSW; Bob Katter MP (office) - Member for Kennedy;
- Leader of the ALP (office) - Anthony Albanese;



 <p>Department of Primary Industries</p> <p>MF20274</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien admin@obaconconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Income protection insurance for farmers</p> <p>Thank you for your emails of 20 and 29 January 2020, to the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, regarding income protection insurance for farmers. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.</p> <p>I am grateful for your offer to lend your expertise in this area. I understand that the issue of insurance solutions for farmers is a complex question that has a history of extensive debate. It is in this context that the NSW Government announced last year that it has committed \$2 million to facilitate a process of industry collaboration and partnership that we expect will result in improved options available to farmers to mitigate business risk. I am well aware of the complexities that have shaped the debate in this area over many years, which is why we are deliberately taking a stakeholder approach in developing this scheme, and in this context I appreciate your valuable input.</p> <p>Through the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), the Government is working with other state governments and the Commonwealth to determine their appetite to commit time and resources to this project. DPI is also working with the National Farmers Federation, our partner on this project, to establish the relevant processes.</p> <p>These discussions will help develop a detailed course of action, where we will seek to engage with relevant industry groups and experts writing to offer their input and valuable experience. To this end, I thank you for your early engagement on this matter and welcome your contributions going forward.</p> <p>If you require additional information or wish to discuss the shape of the income protection scheme further, please contact Mr Darren Budekoff, Director, Industry Insights and Analysis, in DPI, on 0450 604 244.</p> <p>Thank you again for your interest in this matter.</p> <p>Yours sincerely <i>Kate Lormier</i></p> <p>KATE LORMIER GENERAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL DPI AGRICULTURE</p> <p>25/07/20 from NSW DPI</p>	<p>Submitted: Tuesday, 26 February 2019 - 10:58am</p> <p>Title: Mr First name: Brett Family name: O'Brien</p> <p>Subject: Income protection against drought and flood in Australia</p> <p>Dear Scott,</p> <p>Recently I have seen you on the news visiting rural communities - great to see.</p> <p>I am a 4th generation farmer and Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance. I have a solution I'd like to pose to you which respects farmers being able to insure stock for loss arising from drought or flood.</p> <p>I note we have recently lost 500,000 live stock in QLD as a result of flooding and the cyclic systemic drought issues in Australia are well well known.</p> <p>The are millions of head of stock nation-wide which are almost exclusively uninsured for drought and flood - they are insured for fire yet not drought and flood.</p> <p>My proposal centres around the Gov setting up a website under to http://www.nsw.gov.au in relation to stock.</p>  <p>Insurers are willing to insure the perils of drought and flood for stock - they just need to be pushed.</p> <p>I have recently promoted this cover - per flyer attached - yet am a lone voice nation-wide on the matter with Gov support and even already this could go places.</p> <p>Can you imagine the relief felt by farmers if through drought and flood and the tragic loss of life of hundreds of thousands of stock follows that it was at least receive able financially for farmers.</p> <p>I could change the fabric of farming in this great country of ours.</p> <p>I now work as a consultant and would make myself available to work with you / your ministers on this initiative.</p> <p>Keep up the great work Scott, look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Respectfully, Brett O'Brien - ANZIF Fellow - 0431 814 421</p> <p>26th Feb 2019 Email to PM S Morrison</p>	 <p>The Hon. David Littleproud MP Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Federal Member for Mackay</p> <p>Ref: MC19-00790 21 APR 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting admin@obaconconsulting.com.au</p> <p>You email received on 21 March 2019 about insuring stock against losses attributable to drought or flood.</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email of 21 March 2019 about insuring stock against losses attributable to drought or flood.</p> <p>Insurance is an important risk management tool for dealing with drought, floods and other events that can cause stock and crop losses. The Australian Government is not currently offering insurance or insulating protection for livestock products as the Minister is currently reviewing.</p> <p>The Australian Government is providing support for flood-affected North Queensland farmers, including through establishing the North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency to assist with the immediate response, recovery and reconstruction efforts. A large number of the flood-affected farmers had previously been dealing with years of drought, and the government also remains committed to providing drought assistance to eligible farmers across the country. More information on the range of drought assistance measures is available on my department's website at agriculture.gov.au/assistance. Further information on the range of flood-affected assistance measures are available at pau.gov.au/northern-queensland-livestock-recovery-agency.</p> <p>Thank you again for bringing this matter with me.</p> <p>Yours sincerely <i>David Littleproud</i></p> <p>DAVID LITTLEPROUD MP</p> <p>Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 Telephone: 02 6277 5000 Email: david.littleproud@agriculture.gov.au</p> <p>04/04/19 from Fed Ag Min D Littleproud</p>	 <p>Australian Government North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency</p> <p>MC19-013007</p> <p>29 April 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.</p> <p>On 1 March 2019, the North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency, led by the Honourable Shane Stone AC QC, was announced. Mr Stone is supported by an Advisory Board comprising members with extensive experience in the livestock industry, and from the communities affected. The Board also has federal and local government representatives.</p> <p>The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan. Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch</p> <p>APR Jobs for pau.gov.au/jobs and AusTender (tenders.gov.au) and for opportunities to contribute or directly to this work. More information about the Agency is available at 2019.gov.au/nqlira</p> <p>Yours sincerely <i>Nico Adams</i></p> <p>Nico Adams Deputy Secretary NQLIRA Taskforce Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</p> <p>29/04/19 - from PM's office</p>	 <p>Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie Deputy Leader of The Nationals Senator for Victoria</p> <p>Ref: MC19-004620</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting admin@obaconconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence of 31 May 2019, offering congratulations on my appointment as Minister for Agriculture. As a proud representative of regional Australia, it is a honour to serve in the Agriculture portfolio.</p> <p>Agriculture is key to Australia's prosperity and economic development. Strong leadership is needed to continue to benefit generations to come. The agriculture industry is diverse and our work continues to make Australia's farming, fishing and forest industries more resilient and prosperous while safeguarding Australia from animal and plant pests and diseases.</p> <p>My initial priorities include building Australian Agriculture into a \$100 billion industry by 2030, protecting Australia's biosecurity and our olive and grape vines, taking a hard look at on-farm animal welfare and maintaining and increasing access to foreign markets to ensure a premium price for our agricultural products.</p> <p>Strong international demand for agricultural products and ongoing improvements to Australia's market access to countries provide more opportunities for our exporters. A strong agriculture sector is vital for supporting regional jobs.</p> <p>Thank you again for your letter of support and your passion for the agriculture sector is appreciated.</p> <p>Yours sincerely <i>Bridget McKenzie</i></p> <p>22/07/19 From Senator Mckenzie</p>
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'Your (OBA) idea's regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan'



Pertaining to the aforementioned recent letter from Adam Marshall MP of the 26th April 2021 OBA has clarified with Adam that an [ARPC](#) style Risk Transfer mechanism (Government Agency), or similar such as a Reinsurance Pool Working Group that ultimately materialises an operating mechanism (Government Agency) is what we advocate for being a more sophisticated, wholistic & bespoke mechanism which is less reactive & conversely more proactive than traditional 'Government premium subsidises'.

OBA raised this directly with the Federal Minister of Agriculture David Littleproud [here](#), in June 2019 & has since made several further references to such including in our April 2021 Quik Bite as follows encompassing a short article from February 20th 2021 pertaining to the renewal of the program [here](#):

Insurance BUSINESS AUSTRALIA **ARPC renews terrorism reinsurance scheme**

2 ARPC webinars on the 3rd Sept & 12th Nov 2020 respectively OBA participated in [here](#)

ARPC CEO states that ARPC “remains well positioned to be an effective provider of terrorism risk insurance” – one that enables market participation, supports national resilience, & mitigates some of the potential losses resulting from terrorism events.

At OBA we have [been advocating](#) for a similar scheme to address Drought

Interestingly Bob Katter MP recently raised with Prime Minister Scott Morrison an ARPC style re-insurance pool for Flood / Cyclone / Storm effected North Queensland, which the Prime Minister responded to [positively](#) states Bob as follows from [article](#) in Insurance Business of 19th March 2021:

Floods, cyclones, and other emergency events have flattened and damaged homes in north Queensland – resulting in rising insurance premiums. As a result, Federal MP Bob Katter is calling to expand The Commonwealth’s terrorism reinsurance scheme to encompass state-of-emergency events such as those in the region.

Insurance BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

Mr Katter said Prime Minister Scott Morrison responded [positively](#) during their meeting.

Click [here](#) for a video from 19th March 2021 showcasing OBA MD discussing the above article with the [ASA](#)

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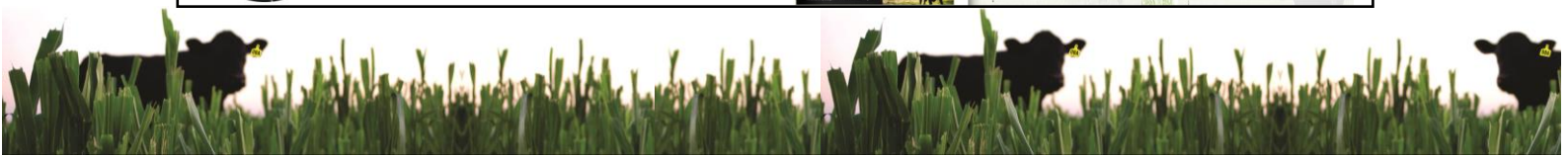
OBA, The ARPC & Risk Transfer for large scale weather events

Australian Government
Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation

Per above [video](#) OBA specifically referenced Flood insurance in QLD to the Prime Minister ([here](#)) in February 2019 & as referenced earlier in this document put a suggestion directly to Federal Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud that the Government investigate replicating the ARPC as the prototype for a reinsurance type scheme to address Drought – from our [YouTube Channel](#) 2 short videos on Cattle lost to Flood in February 2019 [here & here](#) – [The OBA Journey](#) [here](#)

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THE OBA JOURNEY



Following the release of our [April 2021 Quick Bite](#) on the 19th of April 2021 including reference to Bob Katter's aforementioned meeting with the Prime Minister from Insurance Business News 5th May 2021 an interesting development as follows from this [article](#) with excerpts below:

Insurance
BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

Insurers welcome government reinsurance pool for cyclone and flood risk

Insurers have welcomed the Federal Government's \$10 billion reinsurance pool for cyclone and cyclone-related flood risk in northern Australia and its \$40 million investment in making older strata buildings more resilient to extreme weather events.

The reinsurance pool will cover the cyclone and associated flood risk in home, strata, and small business insurance policies. Meanwhile, the \$40 million investment would help the North Queensland Strata Title Resilience Pilot Program to subsidise the cost of cyclone risk mitigation works for strata properties in north Queensland.

Reinsurance Pool Working Group (Group)

Now, the Group will work with the Federal Government's design and consultation process to determine the pool's operation.

[Insurance Council of Australia](#) (ICA) chief executive officer [Andrew Hall](#) has backed the government's commitment to improving the affordability and availability of insurance for homeowners and small businesses at risk of cyclones.

For some time OBA has been [calling for](#) a Reinsurance Pool Working Group to address 'Agriculture'.

OBA referenced recently appointed [ICA CEO Andrew Hall](#) in [issue 5](#) of Chewing The Cud as follows:

In relation to the Federal Government's involvement in such matters some exceptionally welcome, ([perhaps familiar sounding to OBA readers](#)), commentary from [recently appointed](#) Insurance Council Australia CEO Andrew Hall:

"the federal government must take the lead on building a more resilient Australia."





Further to the above & as per recommendations from the Bushfire Royal Commission referred to in Chewing The Cud [issue 5](#) the Government has established a new / re-hashed an existing agency to address climate change risks, full article [here](#) from 7th May 2021:

Insurance **Australian government establishes new agency to address climate change risks**

BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

This now means as a nation we have **Government Agencies** to address including however not limited to:

- 1. Terrorism including Cyber – **ARPC** 
- 2. **Nth QLD Home Insurance** - 

referenced to the PM 26th Feb 2019 by Brett O'Brien [here](#)

Submitted: Tuesday, 26 February, 2019 - 08:13am
Title: Mr First name: Brett Family name: O'Brien
Subject: Insuring livestock against drought and flood in Australia

Dear Scott,

Recently I have seen you on the news visiting rural communities - great to see.


I am a 4th generation farmer and Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance.

I have a solution I'd like to pose to you with respect to farmers being able to insure stock for loss arising from drought or flood.

I note we have recently lost 500,000 live stock in QLD as a result of flooding and the cyclic systemic drought issues in Australia are sadly well known.

The are millions of head of stock nation-wide which are almost exclusively uninsured for drought and flood - they are insured for fire yet not drought and flood.

My proposal is to **re-structure the current perils in relation to stock:**



Insurers are willing to insure the perils of drought and flood for stock - they just need to be pushed.

I have recently promoted this cover - per flyer attached - yet am a lone voice nation-wide on the matter.

With Govt support and even subsidy this could go places.

Can you imagine the relief felt by farmers if when drought and flood strike and the tragic loss of life of hundreds of thousands of stock follows that it was at least recoup-able financially for farmers.

It could change the fabric of farming in this great country of ours.

I now work as a consultant and would make myself available to work with you / your ministers on this initiative.

Keep up the great work Scott, look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely, Brett O'Brien - ANZII Fellow - 0421 814 401



Journey cont...

FEBRUARY 2019


In the midst of rampant Drought on Australia's east coast within the country's worst Drought in 100 years Brett O'Brien starts OBA Consulting to address wholistic Livestock Risk Transfer, namely Drought.

In doing so Brett writes to Prime Minister Scott Morrison in relation to a concept for Livestock Drought insurance, highlighting to the Prime Minister that Australian farmers are unable to insure Livestock against Drought within the mainstream Australian insurance market – a status quo Brett considers unacceptable.

Brett suggests to the Prime Minister the Government sets up an **agency** or website such as the one it established in 2009 to assist Australians unable to secure Flood insurance in Far Nth Queensland.






Brett O'Brien writes to Prime Minister Scott Morrison in relation to Livestock Drought Insurance


- 3. Climate Change – **National Recovery & Resilience Agency**  formerly named the NQLIRA referenced in [The OBA Journey](#) as follows:

APRIL 2019

March 2019, the Australian Government launches the the North Queensland Livestock Industry Recover Agency (NQLIRA) to address, amongst other things 500,000 cattle lost to floods in QLD February 2019 – the Agency would go on to be renamed Drought and Flood Response Recovery:

The NQLIRA writes to OBA Consulting on behalf the Prime Minister in April 2019:



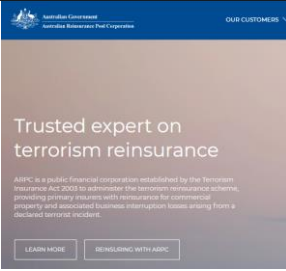
29 April 2019


Mr Brett O'Brien
bretto_brien@hotmail.com

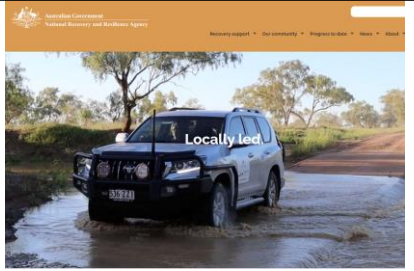
Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.

The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. **Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan.** Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch

1. 


2. 

3. 



For consideration:

- (4.) Agriculture – Yet to be formed
- (5.) Pandemics – Presumably inevitable, referred to in this OBA [update](#) of 11th May 2020:



Livestock Drought Insurance:
The importance of the Australian Governments support of
Agriculture Insurance Products

May 11th, 2020 | Categories: May 2020, Updates

Dear Readers, Further to update of April 27th 2020 here in which OBA described the Australian Government's response to Covid-19 as 'insuring' part of the financial impact(s), for which it could be said again [...]

[Read More >](#)



Livestock Drought Insurance – Blood Lines & March 2020
Rainfall Report

March 17th, 2020 | Categories: March 2020, Updates

Dear Readers, People often conclude the answer for pastoralists in times of Drought is to simply 'sell off stock'. Consider however that in addition to, in some cases, getting \$10 per head at the saleyards, farmers spend years creating [...]

[Read More >](#)

Whilst at OBA we see the announcement of the NRRRA as a step in the right direction questions have been raised about how effective it will be noting a raft of contentious views around its geneses agency the NQLIRA & its effectiveness or otherwise since inception, with examples as follows, yet not limited to:

March 1st 2019 [here](#) – The NQLIRA is referenced [The OBA Journey](#) noting it was announced shortly after OBA MD Brett O'Brien wrote to PM Scott Morrison 26th February 2019 [here](#)



ABC Rural

Flood-ravaged north Queensland cattle industry to get help from new recovery agency

December 19th 2019 [here](#)



ABC Rural

Can Liberal bureaucrat Shane Stone help farmers and rural towns survive their worst ever drought?

Farmers have mixed views on the Federal Government's new Drought Agency boss.

But some farmers caught in the worst drought they have ever known, are sceptical as to whether a Liberal Party man earning \$534,000 a year is qualified for the job.

"I've been involved in agripolitics for 30 years and I've never heard of him," said cherry grower, Guy Gaitor, of Orange in central-west New South Wales.

February 9th 2021 [here](#)



ABC Rural

Millions in flood recovery grants for Queensland farmers still on offer

February 13th 2021 [here](#)



ABC Rural

Low take-up of north Queensland flood relief prompts questions about offering debt to get out of crisis



Professor Bruce Chapman says governments should rethink offering farmers more debt



Re-iterating at OBA we feel the Government is on the right track with the announcement of the NRRA at least in principle, as things to have to 'change' & we welcome the exigency into such [as stated here](#)

Interesting [comments](#) from Mick Keogh, Executive Director of the Australian Farm Institute & Agriculture commissioner for the ACCC, speaking at the Southern Australia Livestock Research Council last year, reported in [farmonline](#) 25th September 2020 full article [here](#):



The screenshot shows a video player with the Australian Government logo and '2020 OUTLOOK' branding. The video title is 'Mick Keogh, Australian Compe...'. To the right is the logo for the Southern Australia Livestock Research Council, which features a green silhouette of a cow and a sheep. A red box highlights a quote from the video: 'Asked about whether Australia might ever have insurance products to cover the risk of climate variability with the government playing a role, Mr Keogh said current risk management in Australian ag was predominantly managed [at an individual level.](#)'

From above 'at an individual level', the below left [article](#) from Sky News 4th October 2019 features an individual pastoralist, Jim Wedge of Ascot Cattle Co., calling for Government intervention, whilst this [video](#) from Adam Marshall references that:

'the Commonwealth Government has changed its position & is now open to supporting this (agriculture insurance products) scheme'



The screenshot shows a news article from Sky News 2GB (873AM) dated 4/10/2019 at 1:15:00 AM. The headline is 'Farmers push for Industry-funded Insurance Scheme - 2600 | Sky News Australia'. The sub-headline reads: 'Farmers battling one of the worst droughts in living memory have called on the Coalition to create an insurance scheme to stop regional communities from dying.' The image shows three men in suits, with Adam Marshall on the left and David Littleproud in the center.

Adam Marshall on David Littleproud on 2GB radio [here](#)

Mick Keogh continuing from 25th September 2020, went on to say:

'Considerable advocacy would be required to bring about industry-wide institutional change for there to be risk management provided at a national level.'

Additionally, the following statements we noted:

'equity to manage risk will be slow to change'

'The inertia we have around our system will be difficult to change.'

Fortunately, as announced in July 2019 Australia's largest national farmer lobby group the [NFF](#) are working on this matter in concert with the NSW DPI:



The banner features the NFF logo on the left and the NSW Government logo on the right. The text in the center reads: 'The National Farmers' Federation is partnering with the NSW Government on a project aimed at improving the financial risk management options available to Australian farmers to help them manage drought and other natural disasters. The project is multi-commodity and national in focus.' On the right, there is a section for 'INSURANCE & RISK' with a search bar and the text 'NATIONWIDE INCOME PROTECTION FOR FARMERS'.

The NFF/NSWDPI project referenced in Insurance & Risk [here](#) & [here](#) above July 2019 & June 2020 respectively.



OBA stated our view of the work done by the NFF & NSW DPI in [issue 2](#) of Chewing The Cud as follows:

'OBA Consulting unreservedly supports this initiative & commends the NSW DPI & NFF for our this [exceptionally meritorious work.](#)'

NFF leads dive deep into risk management tools for Australian farmers
17 May 2020

OBA Consulting unreservedly supports this initiative and commends the NSW DPI and NFF for carrying out this exceptionally meritorious work'

NFF leads dive deep into risk management tools for Australian farmers
17 May 2020

OBA Consulting unreservedly supports this initiative and commends the NSW DPI and NFF for carrying out this exceptionally meritorious work'

At OBA we support the formation of a Rinsurance Working Group & ultimate Government agency for Agriculture:

Australian Government
Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation

THIS IS TO CONFIRM THAT

Brett O'Brien

HAS ATTENDED THE FOLLOWING WEBINAR

ARPC's Cyber Terrorism Research and Insurance Webinar

Dr Christopher Wallace
ARPC CEO

3 September 2020

Australian and New Zealand
Institute of Insurance and Finance

This is to certify that

Brett Anthony O'Brien

has qualified and been admitted as a

FELLOW CIP

given under the Seal of the Institute on this day

4 August 2016

ANZIF CEO

Australian Government
Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation

THIS IS TO CONFIRM THAT

Brett O'Brien

HAS ATTENDED THE FOLLOWING WEBINAR

ARPC's 2020 Terrorism Risk and Insurance Webinar

CIP Points: 2

Dr Christopher Wallace
ARPC CEO

12 November 2020



Nuffield Australia
PO Box 495, Kyogin, NSW 2474
Ph: 0422 453 209
Email: enquiries@nuffield.com.au
Website: www.nuffield.com.au
ABN 53 062 527 398

22 September 2020

To Brett O'Brien, Southbank VIC
Email: admin@obaconulting.com.au

Re: Nuffield Scholarship State Selection Interview

Thank you for your application for a 2021 Nuffield Australia Farming Scholarship. Based on your written application and eligibility we are pleased to offer you an interview. Your application and details have been forwarded to the relevant State Selection panel and your interview details have been set.

Your interview details are:

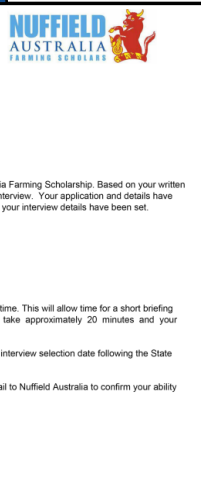
Date: Thursday 1 October
Interview Time: 3:00pm
Venue: Online virtually, via the Zoom platform

You must login exactly 15 minutes prior to your interview time. This will allow time for a short briefing on the Nuffield Australia program. Your interview will take approximately 20 minutes and your punctuality would be appreciated.

Successful applicants will be notified of the final, national interview selection date following the State Selections, in due course.

Upon receipt of this letter please sign and return it by email to Nuffield Australia to confirm your ability to attend an interview via Zoom.

Yours sincerely,
Jodie Redcliffe
Jodie Redcliffe
2013 Scholar and Chief Executive Officer



The Angus Society of Australia

ANGUS BREED BOOK REGISTER (BBR) CERTIFICATE

PROFANO NAME: **TYNARRAS PRIME 5182 (A1)**

ANIMAL ID: **VLV 5182** SEX: **M** BIRTH DATE: **15-JUL-1989** BIRTH WEIGHT: **18.00kg** COLOR: **BLACK**

OWNER: **DR S J & R A T LAMBON** BREEDER: **HERO GENT VLT**

CHASSINER: **ROAD TRAVELER 3717** OWNER: **HERO GENT**

RECORDED & CORRECTED: **100** BREED DETAILS

ANGUS COMPARISON: **AA 100 %**

ANGUS	REPRODUCTION		PRODUCTION		ADAPTATION		QUALITY	
	REPRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	ADAPTATION	QUALITY	REPRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	ADAPTATION	QUALITY
BBR	+13.2	+14.2	+19.8	+1.8	+1.0	+1.4	+1.4	+1.1
CC	+11.8	+11.8	+17.8	+1.8	+1.0	+1.4	+1.4	+1.1

PROFANO: **1** Purity: **400%** Star: **3** Overall Record: **Outstanding**



Online [here](#)

Online [here](#)



Testimonial

At Ascot Cattle Co. we welcome OBA Consulting's voice of support in assisting farmers to change the status quo on Livestock Drought Insurance in Australia.

Brett's Fellow status within the Insurance sector combined with direct experience in the Cattle industry as a former registered breeder with Angus Australia ideally positions him as a voice of knowledge and prominence on Livestock Drought Insurance.

Livestock Drought Insurance for farmers and graziers has long been an omission in Government policy in Australia, unlike our international Agricultural counterparts.

Brett's passion for the matter is evident by the many hours of his own personal time & expense spent lobbying Governments and industry bodies to adopt an Insurance scheme in Australia to de-risk the rural industry, something that is sorely needed.

Jim wedge owner of Ascot Cattle Co. with properties at Warwick QLD & Glen Innes NSW



Further Testimonials:

Professor Joe Sircusa

Australian Security Academy CEO – Mike Evans

Associate Professor – Salvatore Babones

Iconic Australian journalist, 6 times walkly award winner – Kerry O'Brien

Former CEO of ME Bank & former Australian u/19 Cricket captain– Jamie McPhee

Founding Director of Latevo Farmers Mutual – Andrew Trotter

Admidddted to the high court of NSW & Supreme court of Australia – [Mark Sheller](#)

CEO of The Australian & NZ Institute of Insurance & Finance – Prue Willsford

National Geographic presenter, musician & actor – Henry Rollins





Whilst many Australian's within the non-rural community, *understandably* tire of hearing of Farmers woes, the reality is that what decimates our Agriculture sector, including however not limited to Drought, is economically felt nation-wide by the vast majority of Australian's.

It's worth bearing in mind also that whether you are vegan, vegetarian, carnivore or other its highly likely somewhere in your nutrition supply chain that you will have had much less than 6 degrees of separation from the people (Australian Farmers) who grow the fresh fruit & vegetables, wheat, barley, herbs, poultry, dairy and meat most of 'us' enjoy and require from within 'our' world class Agriculture sector.

Brett O'Brien – Managing Director OBA Consulting

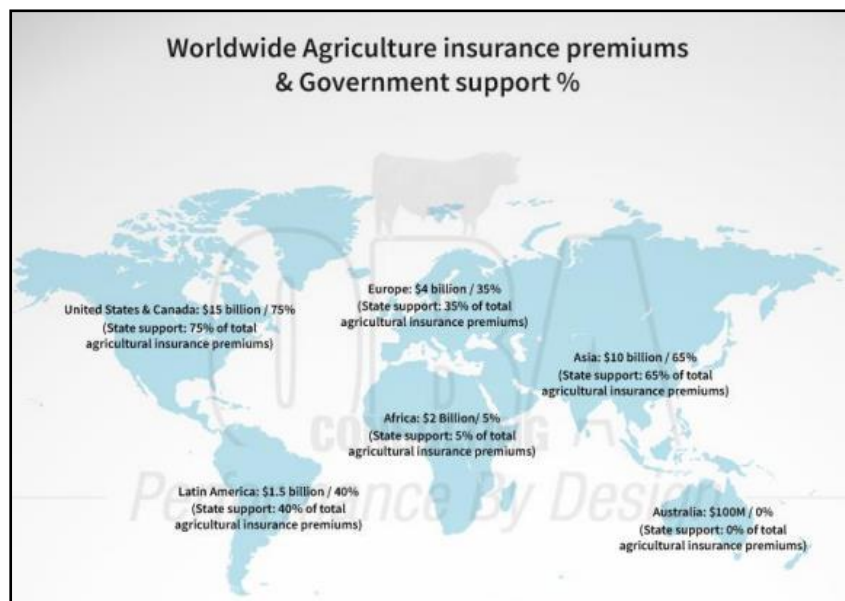


From our [YouTube Channel](#) the below video which is less than 4:25 seconds long:











You know, they're calling this one the 'one in a hundred year' drought

YouTube

From [issue 1](#) of Chewing The Cud, released 26th of May 2020 with assistance from The World Bank, reference is drawn as to how Australia's world class Agriculture sector compares for Government supported insurance premiums with other nations, in other regions, often competing nations to ours:



Below is a high-level summary of specialist Rural insurers within the mainstream Australian Insurance market highlighting 3 major peril weather related cover options for [Livestock](#):

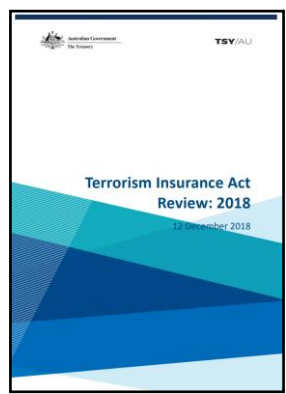
Insurer	Product	Fire	Flood	Drought*
				
 achmea	Farm Insurance	✓	✓	✗
 Allianz	Farm Insurance	✓	✓	✗
 Elders	Farm Insurance	✓	✓	✗
 wfi	Farm Insurance	✓	✓	✗
 Nutrien	Farm Insurance	✓	✓	✗

Similar to Business Pack & other classes of insurance a Farm Pack policy could follow a similar triage for 'Drought', which for the purpose of this hypothetical scenario / illustration the Agriculture Reinsurance Pool (AGRP*) would be inserted for the ARPC, similarly 'Drought' for 'Terrorism':

Operation and coverage

The Act operates by overriding terrorism exclusion clauses in eligible insurance contracts.¹ An eligible insurance contract is a contract that provides insurance coverage for:

- loss of, or damage to, eligible property owned by the insured;
- business interruption and consequential loss arising from loss of, or damage to, eligible property that is owned or occupied by the insured or an inability to use all or part of such property; or
- liability of the insured that arises from the insured being the owner or occupier of eligible property.²



When can a claim on the scheme be made?

A claim on the scheme may be made for eligible terrorism losses arising from any declared terrorist incident covered by an eligible insurance contract where the insurer has a reinsurance agreement with the ARPC. The scheme will not be triggered unless the Minister who has administrative responsibility for the Act declares that a terrorist incident has occurred for the purpose of the Act.⁷

Above excerpts taken from pictured document above right, online [here](#)

*NB: 'AGRP' is not a recognised acronym nor actual entity / agency – it is what OBA proposes is required & could be named





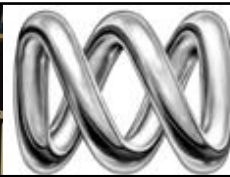
[Online here](#)



Apart from Antarctica, Australia is the driest continent in the world. About 35 per cent of the continent receives so little rain, it is effectively desert. In total, 70 per cent of the mainland receives less than 500 millimetres of rain annually, which classes it as arid, or semi-arid.

Actions such as de-stocking are not always the answer to this problem as referenced in OBA [update](#) of 17th March 2020 additionally [RIC](#) has received no shortage of criticisms as referenced in [issue 5](#) of Chewing The Cud & there is a raft of voices suggesting offering debt as a solution to disaster recovery [is perilous](#):

Professor Bruce Chapman says governments should rethink offering farmers more debt




ABC Rural


It would appear [our Government financially supports a Livestock Insurance program in Kenya](#) yet that is for more adept investigative minds than OBA's to confirm or otherwise including perhaps the entirely valid reasons for doing so when we do not have such a Government supported market here.

OBA advocates for supporting responsible Famers who are prepared to take accountable, responsible steps to outsource their risk, noting they do need to be enabled to do so via an effective, readily accessible, risk transfer market – ideally operating locally:

Australian Farmers ***do not plan to fail***, nonetheless not insuring Livestock for the financial impacts of Extreme Weather is ultimately ***failing to adequately plan***.

Brett O'Brien – Fourth generation Australian Farmer and Fellow of the Australian & New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance









Colac, Corangamite, Victoria, Australia - Jim, John & Brett O'Brien - 1957 & 1986

"It is said in life it is important to leave things, including your life, in a better state than you inherited them.

Currently Australian Farmers cannot readily insure their precious Livestock against the peril of Drought as the mainstream Australian insurance market does not offer such cover.

Introducing insurance to the mainstream Australian insurance market against Drought for Farmers who lose stock consequent to Drought would improve the livelihood of farmers & the farming landscape in this great country of ours for the current farming generation and those to follow"

Brett O'Brien - [Managing Director](#) - OBA Consulting



Performance By Design

'OBA Consulting - Supporting Rural Australia'

Brett O'Brien
Managing Director at OBA Consulting



OBA Consulting - supporting rural Australia

OBA Ethos online [here](#)





ABC Quiz: How much do you really know about the Australian beef industry?

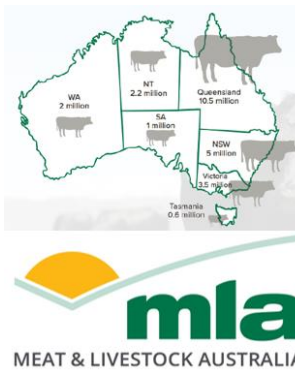


Take the quiz [here](#)

From OBA a little help with question 1 below courtesy of [MLA](#):

Which region in Australia has the most cattle?

- A Northern Territory
- B Central West, NSW
- C Fitzroy Basin, Qld
- D Northern Gulf, Qld



At OBA our clubhouse leader, not surprisingly is Brett, yet if you can beat his score below, please let us know and we will send you an OBA adhesive patch, pictured below:

Final score **9 / 10**
... (or 90%) which is 49% better than average.





See our 2nd anniversary April 2021 Quick Bite [here](#)



OBA Consulting Australia

OBA Consulting is a B2B consultancy operation.

We do not provide any advice to the general public whatsoever in relation to general insurance products.

In the course of referencing other sources of news & information in this document, including usage of third party entity logo's this is done so on the basis of 'information purposes'.

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OBA Quick Bite - June 2021



Pleasingly there is quite a lot happening in the space of Agriculture Risk Transfer which we are pleased to be able to share with OBA Readers 2.5 years on from [OBA writing to the Prime Minister](#), as follows:

News:

Below left from 25th May 2021 – full article [here](#):

ABC NEWS

Calls for grower-funded disaster assistance pool, amid criticism from cyclone-hit farmers

The federal government recently announced a [reinsurance pool for northern Australia](#) in the face of perceived market failure and sky-high insurance premiums for the tropics.

With **advocates** maintaining a similar issue exists for agricultural industries, governments are being urged to consider extending similar help.

Australian Government
North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency

29 April 2019

Mr Brett O'Brien
bretto_brien@hotmail.com

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. **I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister** as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.

The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. **Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan.** Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch

UK US CA AU NZ Asia

Insurance
BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

ARPC backs government's reinsurance pool

19th May 2021 - full article [here](#)

OBA first wrote to Federal Agriculture Minister David Littleproud referencing the ARPC in June 2019 [here](#).

Per the high level summary within [May 2021 OBA Quick Bite](#) the ARPC is not a 'premium subsidy' mechanism, more so it's a bespoke Government agency that as opposed to traditional 'Government premium subsidies', inherently incorporates **accountability** on ultimate beneficiaries - insurance policy holders.

It's essentially a user pay's program rendering activation of ARPC reserves, responding to insured losses, soundly rooted in **accountability**, such is its structure - OBA are advocates of the ARPC structure, steadfastly believing it's triage for activation drives a national societal culture of accountability.

Australian Farmers **do not plan to fail**, nonetheless not insuring Livestock for the financial impacts of Extreme Weather is ultimately **failing to adequately plan**.

OBA
Performance By Design
www.oba.org.au

Australian Farmers **do not plan to fail**, nonetheless not insuring Livestock for the financial impacts of Extreme Weather is ultimately **failing to adequately plan**.

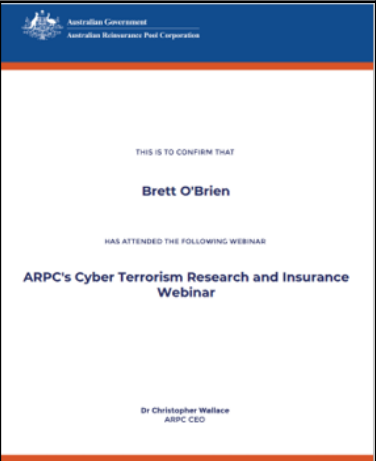

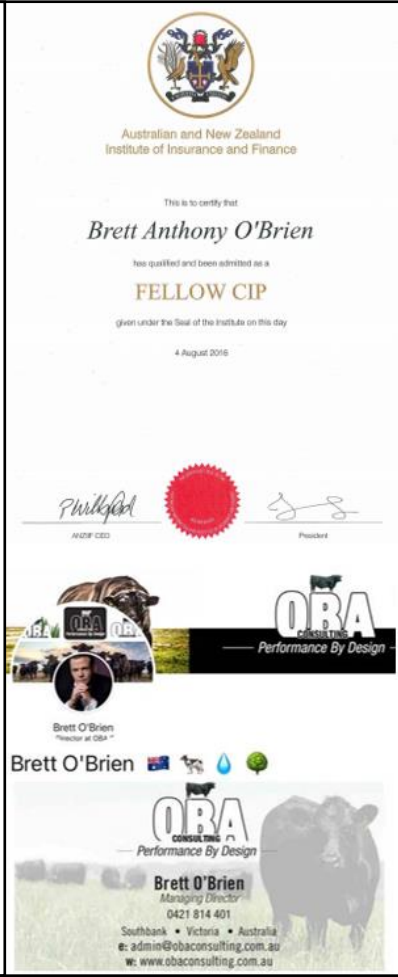



OBA advocates for supporting responsible Famers who are prepared to take accountable, responsible steps to outsource their risk, noting they do need to be enabled to do so via an effective, readily accessible, risk transfer market - ideally operating locally.

Brett O'Brien - Fourth generation Australian Farmer and Fellow of the Australian & New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance



OBA calls on Federal Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud, Prime Minister Scott Morrison & Treasury to investigate the replication of a similarly structured bespoke agency for Australian Agriculture.

ARPC CEO Dr Christopher Wallace, a fellow Fellow of the Australian & New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance (ANZIF) with OBA MD Brett O'Brien (Fellow) wrote to OBA on the 4th June 2021 as follows:

 <p>THIS IS TO CONFIRM THAT Brett O'Brien HAS ATTENDED THE FOLLOWING WEBINAR ARPC's Cyber Terrorism Research and Insurance Webinar Dr Christopher Wallace ARPC CEO 3 September 2020</p>	<p>Australian Government Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4 June 2021</p> <p>Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting admin@obaconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Brett</p> <p>Thank you for your email inquiry of 21 May 2021. I did not receive the original email you sent to my direct email address which was deleted due to ARPC's spam filter as your email had too many URLs. Thank you for forwarding your original email again to me. I have now received and read your email, thank you. We apologise for not responding to your email to our enquiries in-box.</p> <p>I understand the problem that is faced in agriculture insurance and recognise that agriculture is a very important part of our economy and society.</p> <p>ARPC is an administrative agency, and unfortunately, we do not have policy responsibility for insurance. This responsibility vests with the Australian Government's Treasury Department which is leading the pool design and consultation for the Cyclone and Related Flood Reinsurance Pool.</p> <p>You can contact the Treasury on Government policy related to insurance. You can also contribute to the Treasury consultation paper on the cyclone reinsurance pool. Submissions are due 18 June 2021.</p> <p>Here is a link to the Treasury Taskforce webpage where you can make submissions and register for updates: https://treasury.gov.au/consultation/c2021-175678. This includes an email address at Treasury that you could send enquiries through.</p> <p>I hope this information provides some assistance.</p> <p>Kind regards  Chris Wallace Chief Executive</p>	 <p>Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance</p> <p>This is to certify that Brett Anthony O'Brien has qualified and been admitted as a FELLOW CIP given under the Seal of the Institute on this day 4 August 2016</p> <p> ANZIF CEO President</p> <p> Brett O'Brien "Director at OBA"</p> <p> Brett O'Brien Managing Director 0421 814 401 Southbank • Victoria • Australia e: admin@obaconsulting.com.au w: www.obaconsulting.com.au</p>
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Per [May 2021 OBA Quick Bite](#) at OBA we propose the formation of the ARPC equivalent for Australian Agriculture which we suggest could be titled the Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool – AGRP

Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool

AGRP

From [April 2021 OBA Quick Bite](#) article from Feb 20th 21 pertaining to the renewal of the ARPC program [here](#):

Insurance BUSINESS AUSTRALIA **ARPC** renews terrorism reinsurance scheme



2 ARPC webinars on the 3rd Sept & 12th Nov 2020 respectively OBA participated in [here](#)

ARPC CEO states that ARPC “remains well positioned to be an effective provider of terrorism risk insurance” – one that enables market participation, supports national resilience, & mitigates some of the potential losses resulting from terrorism events.

At OBA we have [been advocating](#) for a similar scheme to address Drought



Our [April 2021 Quick Bite](#) referenced Bob Katter's meeting with the Prime Minister reported in Insurance Business News 5th May 2021 [article](#) below:

Insurance
BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

Insurers welcome government reinsurance pool for cyclone and flood risk

Insurers have welcomed the Federal Government's \$10 billion reinsurance pool for cyclone and cyclone-related flood risk in northern Australia and its \$40 million investment in making older strata buildings more resilient to extreme weather events.

The reinsurance pool will cover the cyclone and associated flood risk in home, strata, and small business insurance policies. Meanwhile, the \$40 million investment would help the North Queensland Strata Title Resilience Pilot Program to subsidise the cost of cyclone risk mitigation works for strata properties in north Queensland.

Reinsurance Pool Working Group (Group)

Now, the Group will work with the Federal Government's design and consultation process to determine the pool's operation.

For some time OBA has been [calling for](#) a Reinsurance Pool Working Group to address 'Agriculture'.

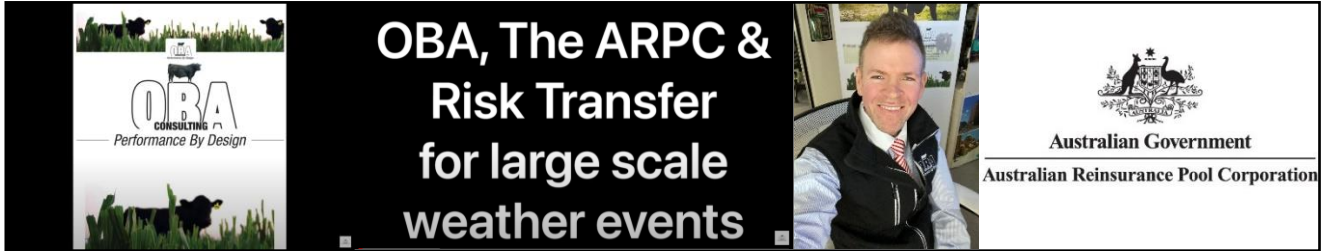
Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool

AGRP



22nd May 2021 - full article [here](#)

The reinsurance pool for Cyclone & Cyclone-related Flooding events as referenced in our [May 2021 Quick Bite](#) is space OBA have been active in & advocating for some time, including this [video](#) from March 2021:



2 years on from being announced the NSW DPI commissioned report has been released:

The Hon. Adam Marshall MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Western New South Wales

Mr Brett O'Brien
Managing Director
OBA Consulting
admin@obaconsulting.com.au

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your email of 16 January 2021 regarding a national insurance scheme for the agricultural sector. I note you have written previously about this matter and appreciate your continued interest.

Enhancing the ability of farmers to manage financial risk is a key goal for the NSW Government, and for me personally. How farmers manage such risk is a complex topic given the broad range of farming systems operating in Australia.

I note from your previous correspondence and website information that you are an advocate of government subsidies to develop insurance products for farmers to better manage catastrophic risks such as drought and floods.

Subsidising these type of insurance products for farmers is not NSW Government policy, and the provision of agricultural weather insurance in Australia is complicated by the volatility of climate. As the NSW Government evaluates its assistance measures under the recent drought, options for future drought policy may be considered in more detail.

I agree that programs to support farmers better manage risk are best initiated at a national level, which is why the NSW Government engaged the National Farmers Federation (NFF) to:

- Identify, and detail the purpose and operation of all existing and realistically potential financial risk management measures, products and services
- Make recommendations for Government, industry and other relevant bodies on ways to improve and expand the suite of financial risk management tools available.

I trust this is of assistance, however if you have any further enquiries, I have asked Mr Tim Edmondstone, Manager, Industry Analysis, Strategy and Policy, Department of Primary Industries to be available to answer any questions you may have. Mr Edmondstone can be contacted on 0439 332 221.

Thank you again for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely
Adam Marshall
Adam Marshall
MINISTER
26 APR 2021

Adam Marshall
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Western NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 4 June 2021

FARM RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT RELEASED

The NSW Government has welcomed the release of a report by the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) into risk management tools and strategies to help future-proof the agricultural sector from drought events.

Minister for Agriculture Adam Marshall said the report was the most comprehensive and detailed study into risk mitigation models ever completed in Australia.

"Our primary producers have faced unprecedented volatility over the past few years, from devastating drought to bushfires and floods," Mr Marshall said.

"As a Government, we thought big and commissioned a \$2 million report from the NFF to explore how primary producers could be better protected from climatic events such as drought, through innovative tools such as on-farm income protection.

"We now have a comprehensive summary of financial risk management products and services and can more definitively make recommendations for ways to improve and expand the suite of tools available.

"The report emphasises the need for a national approach, so I have formally requested it be tabled and discussed at the next Agricultural Ministers' meeting."

Mr Marshall thanked NFF and the steering committee for their collaboration in delivering the report.

"National Farmers' Federation has done a great job leading the report that included consultation with key industry stakeholders, farmers and global financial product experts," he said.

"Thank you to the steering committee, including NSW Farmers, for their valuable contributions. They will help ensure we get the right protections for our farmers."

The report is available bit.ly/3inJwVv

Department of Primary Industries

MF20/374

Mr Brett O'Brien
admin@obaconsulting.com.au

Dear Mr O'Brien

Income protection insurance for farmers

Thank you for your emails of 20 and 29 January 2020, to the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, regarding income protection insurance for farmers. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

I am grateful for your offer to lend your expertise in this area. I understand that the issue of insurance solutions for farmers is a complex question that has a history of extensive debate. It is in this context that the NSW Government announced last year that it has committed \$2 million to facilitate a process of industry collaboration and partnership that we expect will result in improved options available to farmers to mitigate business risk. I am well aware of the complexities that have shaped the debate in this area over many years, which is why we are deliberately taking a blank canvas approach in developing this scheme, and in this context I appreciate your valuable input.

Through the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), the Government is liaising with other state governments and the Commonwealth to determine their appetite to commit time and resources to this project. DPI is also liaising with the National Farmers Federation, our partner on this project, to establish the relevant processes.

These discussions will help develop a detailed course of action, where we will seek to engage with relevant industry groups and experts willing to offer their input and valuable experience. To this end, I thank you for your early engagement on this matter and welcome your contributions going forward.

If you require additional information or wish to discuss the shape of the income protection scheme further, please contact Mr Darren Budworth, Director, Industry Insights and Analysis, in DPI, on 0409 604 244.

Thank you again for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely
Kate Lorimer Ward
KATE LORIMER WARD
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
DPI AGRICULTURE

Future-Proofing Farming
Collaborating to manage risk and build resilience

Above left letter to OBA from Adam Marshall MP dated 26th April 2021 following OBA's enquiry to Adam re report release date & from Friday 4th June 2021, middle left, 'Media Release' announcing the reports release – report front page 2nd from right.

At OBA we reiterate [previous sentiments](#) praising the NSW DPI for this work whilst we also acknowledge feedback expressed to us from rural people that 2 years for the reports delivery seems exceptionally exorbitant noting the projects announcement of 18th July 2019, illustrated pictorially [below left](#), also referenced in OBA August 2019 [update](#)

Whilst a copy of the report, above right, has been provided to OBA we reference the following excerpt only:

Income protection for drought-affected farmers

The NSW Government's obligation is to ensure that the most vulnerable farmers are protected from drought.

Government provision

Provision of either insurance or reinsurance, either jointly or directly

Could provide benefits to farmers if the government is able to provide insurance or reinsurance at lower cost than private providers – **would need to be established**

Pertaining directly to such excerpt above, re-iterating, OBA proposes the formation, or 'establishment' to borrow the term above, of the Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool – AGRP

Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool – AGRP



In the week following the introduction of the Barley tariffs, & others shortly thereafter, just over a year ago OBA wrote the op-ed titled '*Less Reliance, More Resilience*', online [here](#), in May 2020.

The op-ed was run in [FarmTender](#) & per the below articles from May 2021 it has proven to be largely accurate:

- ABC 19/05/21: '[Australian Farmers Find New Markets as China Slaps on Tariffs](#)' &
- ABC 17/05/21 '[Is the dream over? Amid China's trade war, producers grapple with new world order](#)' - [here](#)

Reference to op-ed also featured in OBA's Chewing The Cud [issue 5](#) showcasing Treasurer Josh Frydenberg seen [here](#) providing advices as to how the Government does 'instruct' the insurance industry in Australia:

<p>Less reliance, more resilience – 19th May 2020</p> <p>"In terms of Australian Agriculture exports to China namely Beef and Barley, Australia needs to methodically correct the imbalance between reliance and resilience, in doing so maintaining supply chains into Asia and not decimating income to our farmers."</p> <p>6 months later....</p>  <p>With Vietnam's mulling barley imports set to nearly double by 2025, the Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre (AEGIC) is engaging with Vietnamese brewers and maltsters to ensure Australia maintains a significant market share.</p> 	<p>The Sydney Morning Herald</p>  <p>A property destroyed by bushfires at Collargo on the NSW south coast. Photo: James Brickwood</p>	<p>Treasurer Josh Frydenberg told insurance bosses at a meeting in Canberra on Tuesday to prioritise local tradespeople when they started paying out for rebuilds.</p> <p>"The insurance companies have already lined up builders to start the rebuild process, and what is very pleasing and I underlined this point to the insurance companies today, [is] to prioritise the use of local tradespeople," he told reporters.</p>
--	---	--





Less reliance, more resilience – 19th May 2020

"In terms of Australian agriculture exports to China namely beef and barley, Australia needs to methodically correct the imbalance between reliance and resilience, in doing so maintaining supply chains into Asia and not decimating income to our farmers."





OBA CONSULTING
Performance By Design
Brett O'Brien – Managing Director

'Whether we like it or not we must embrace diversification of exportation channels and supply chains – furthermore the sooner we evolve to such the better off and more resilient we (Australia) will be.'








Brett O'Brien
Managing Director at OBA Consulting

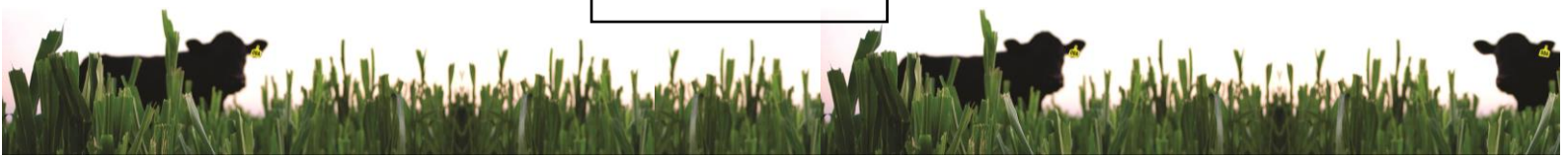


Australia's farming future

Above online at [OBA Ethos](#)

 <p>Fit Body Fit Mind</p>	<p>OBA Consulting Fit Bodies, Fit Minds..</p>				<p>The great country of Australia. Home to 25,000,000 people. Home to 28,000,000 Cattle.</p>	
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Short video [here](#)



Testimonial for OBA from Jim Wedge of Ascot Cattle Co.

At Ascot Cattle Co. we welcome OBA Consulting's voice of support in assisting farmers to change the status quo on Livestock Drought Insurance in Australia.

Brett's Fellow status within the Insurance sector combined with direct experience in the Cattle industry as a former registered breeder with Angus Australia ideally positions him as a voice of knowledge and prominence on Livestock Drought Insurance.

Livestock Drought Insurance for farmers and graziers has long been an omission in Government policy in Australia, unlike our international Agricultural counterparts.

Brett's passion for the matter is evident by the many hours of his own personal time & expense spent lobbying Governments and industry bodies to adopt an insurance scheme in Australia to de-risk the rural industry, something that is sorely needed.

Jim wedge owner of Ascot Cattle Co. with properties at Warwick QLD & Glen Innes NSW



News Article – 04/10/2019 – featuring Jim Wedge



Farmers battling one of the worst droughts in living memory have called on the Coalition to create an insurance scheme to stop regional communities from dying. 4/10/2019 1:15:00 AM

Farmers battling one of the worst droughts in living memory have called on the Coalition to create an insurance scheme to stop regional communities from dying.

Rachel Sibley, 2600 Producer Farmers battling one of the worst droughts in living memory have called on the Coalition to create an insurance scheme to stop regional communities from dying. Warwick farmer **Jim Wedge**, 62, wants the scheme to be topped up by farmers during profitable seasons. The funds could then be distributed to those (farmers).



Mr Wedge – who owns Ascot Cattle Co Charolais and Angus Stud – has backing from several other Warwick farmers who want the payments managed by an independent panel appointed by the federal government.

“The government is paying out drought funds that are all taxpayer funded, which really when you think about it, taxpayers shouldn’t really be paying for farmers problems at the end of the day,” he said.

“You can get crop insurance at the moment but not a general drought insurance, which could be for crops or livestock if you lose your income because you have to feed livestock.” **Mr Wedge** said insurance companies refuse to cover drought despite making payments on natural disasters such as floods, fires and storms.

The gap in the private sector leaves farmers vulnerable. However, the concept faced resistance yesterday from Water Minister David Littleproud who said a Farm Management Deposits Scheme already existed which allowed farmers to put tax-free deposits into a fund. headtopics.com

However, Mr Wedge said the current system was limiting as it wasn’t available to everyone and could tie up cash flow. “The insurance scheme takes it to a different level again, I think. It could also be available to small businesses in rural areas as well,” he said.

“There’s a huge gap there really ... These natural disasters are going to be more frequent than not. It’s just some way to keep the agriculture industry sustainable. “Treasurer Josh Frydenberg declined to answer questions on the idea but released a statement saying supporting drought affected communities was a “priority”.

Grain and fodder producer Stuart Judd, 50, said the community wanted an insurance scheme which would not be “eaten into” by fees. He wanted to see contributions based on average yield and profit margins so that farmers could remain in business in a bad season.

“You could have an insurance premium based on a percentage of average yields,” he said. “If this year there’s no crop you can draw on insurance. “Mr Judd said whatever the immediate financial solution, communities urgently needed long term water infrastructure like dams. headtopics.com

“We’re the second driest continent on the planet but we don’t manage our water well,” he said. “The dams should have been built thirty years ago. There’s been no major infrastructure in water management in this country since the snowy schemes and no major irrigation development.

“You can’t keep robbing that Murray-Darling system. “The water we need is on the other side of Range, we need diversion projects to deliver from coastal regions to the Downs. Fraser’s Livestock Transport owner Ross Fraser said an insurance scheme would give businesses stability during drought.

“The idea is not to limit it to farmers, but to include business because drought not only affects farmers. It severely affects local business in small towns,” he said. However, Mr Fraser conceded that administration could be difficult. “It’s a good idea but it runs the risk of being tied up in bureaucracy ... It would have to be very carefully managed in a way in which red tape is minimal,” he said.



Further Testimonials:
Professor Joe Sircusa

Australian Security Academy CEO – Mike Evans

Associate Professor – Salvatore Babones

Iconic Australian journalist, 6 times walkly award winner – Kerry O'Brien

Former CEO of ME Bank & former Australian u/19 Cricket captain– Jamie McPhee

Founding Director of Latevo Farmers Mutual – Andrew Trotter

Admitted to the high court of NSW & Supreme court of Australia – [Mark Sheller](#)

CEO of The Australian & NZ Institute of Insurance & Finance – Prue Willsford

National Geographic presenter, musician & actor – Henry Rollins



Latevo explains the benefits of MPCl

Andrew Trotter, Latevo CEO (left), provides the views of Ian's MPCl provider.

As a farmer myself, it was apparent that we could not sustain high input farming without being able to offset some risk. As such, we sought out the best overseas MPCl products and reconfigured them for the local market.

By offloading production and financial risk, farmers are able to be more progressive in their management strategies to capitalise confidently on high yield opportunities and high grain prices.

Is every grain grower eligible for crop insurance? What growers/regions are Latevo targeting?

Yes, our model allows for individual assessment. The principle is that every farmer is insurable based on their historic performance. Additionally, it is very important that we have a geographic spread across all production zones and as such we have proportional geographic capacity limits.

How is a claim assessed? What's covered and what's not?

We have a long list of perils to ensure the crop is correctly covered. The 22 named perils include: drought, water stress, heat stress, flood, hail, wind, frost, lightning, excessive rain, cyclone, fire, weed infestation, chemical overspray, insect/pest manifestation, plant disease, and more.

What do growers need to provide to be considered for MPCl?

We have a simple, low-documentation solution for people who are just happy with the district financial average. But for growers who want a policy based on their own business we need five years of financial history.

What factors are considered when Latevo determines the cost of MPCl?

Production and financial risk. Some geographic areas have more risk than others, hence they have higher premiums. We have policies as low as \$13/ha but not higher than \$28/ha.

Does Latevo tailor products for individual growers or regions?

Every policy is tailored to the individual farmer or their region.

How are payouts triggered? Is there an excess to be paid if a grower makes a claim?

All claims must be triggered by one of our 22 named perils. There is no excess to be paid by the grower if they make a claim.

Are there any situations where a claim won't be paid out? If yes, please explain these.

Yes, if the farmer intentionally attempts to destroy their crop with negligent management. A key feature of our product is that we cover germination risk. So coverage starts once the crop is planted. ■

'Creating a product to underpin livestock production in Australia is long overdue.'

Not only will it significantly improve farmers productivity and profitability in times of disaster, the risk transfer will be far more effective than the current ad-hoc approach the Federal Government is currently using for the livestock industry.

The livestock industry needs to come together with Brett (OBA Consulting) to find a solution.'

Andrew Trotter
Latevo Farmers Mutual – Founding Director



Above left courtesy of [Grain Growers](#), referenced [here](#)





Whilst many Australian's within the non-rural community, *understandably* tire of hearing of Farmers woes, the reality is that what decimates our Agriculture sector, including however not limited to Drought, is economically felt nation-wide by the vast majority of Australian's.

It's worth bearing in mind also that whether you are vegan, vegetarian, carnivore or other its highly likely somewhere in your nutrition supply chain that you will have had much less than 6 degrees of separation from the people (Australian Farmers) who grow the fresh fruit & vegetables, wheat, barley, herbs, poultry, dairy and meat most of 'us' enjoy and require from within 'our' world class Agriculture sector.

Brett O'Brien – Managing Director OBA Consulting



From our [YouTube Channel](#) the below video which is less than 4:25 seconds long:

'OBA Consulting – Supporting Rural Australia'



Below is a high-level summary of specialist Rural insurers within the mainstream Australian Insurance market highlighting 3 major peril weather related cover options for [Livestock](#):

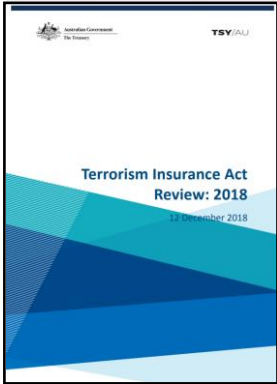
Insurer	Product	Fire	Flood	Drought*
				
	Farm Insurance			
	Farm Insurance			
	Farm Insurance			
	Farm Insurance			
	Farm Insurance			

Similar to Business Pack & other classes of insurance a Farm Pack policy could follow a similar triage for 'Drought', which for the purpose of this hypothetical scenario / illustration the Agriculture Reinsurance Pool (AGRP*) would be inserted for the ARPC, similarly 'Drought' for 'Terrorism':

Operation and coverage

The Act operates by overriding terrorism exclusion clauses in eligible insurance contracts.¹ An eligible insurance contract is a contract that provides insurance coverage for:

- loss of, or damage to, eligible property owned by the insured;
- business interruption and consequential loss arising from loss of, or damage to, eligible property that is owned or occupied by the insured or an inability to use all or part of such property; or
- liability of the insured that arises from the insured being the owner or occupier of eligible property.²



Above excerpt taken from pictured document right, online [here](#) & below from Australian Government Geoscience online [here](#)



Apart from Antarctica, Australia is the driest continent in the world. About 35 per cent of the continent receives so little rain, it is effectively desert. In total, 70 per cent of the mainland receives less than 500 millimetres of rain annually, which classes it as arid, or semi-arid.



Online [here](#) below is a letter replying to OBA on behalf of the Prime Minister from April 2019:



Australian Government
North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency

MC19-013007

29 April 2019

Mr Brett O'Brien
bretto_brien@hotmail.com

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. **I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister** as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.

The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. **Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan.** Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch

Australian Farmers *do not plan to fail*, nonetheless not insuring Livestock for the financial impacts of Extreme Weather is ultimately *failing to adequately plan.*



Brett O'Brien – Fourth generation Australian Farmer and Fellow of the Australian & New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance



OBA CONSULTING
Performance By Design
www.obaconsulting.com.au

The above letter forms an important part of correspondence with & from Federal & State Government officials which OBA thanks these persons & their staff for including pictured from left to right:

- The Prime Minister's (office) – Scott Morrison; The Federal Minister for Agriculture – David Littleproud;
- Member of the Senate – Bridget McKenzie; The Premier of NSW (office) – Gladys Berejiklian;
- Adam Marshall MP – Minister for Agriculture Western NSW; Bob Katter MP (office) – Member for Kennedy;
- Leader of the ALP (office) – Anthony Albanese;



 <p>Department of Primary Industries</p> <p>MF20374</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Income protection insurance for farmers</p> <p>Thank you for your emails of 20 and 29 January 2020, to the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, regarding income protection insurance for farmers. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.</p> <p>I am grateful for your offer to lend your expertise in this area. I understand that the issue of insurance solutions for farmers is a complex question that has a history of extensive debate. It is in this context that the NSW Government announced last year that it has committed \$4 million to facilitate a process of industry collaboration and partnership that we expect will result in improved options available to farmers to mitigate business risk. I am well aware of the complexities that have shaped the debate in this area over many years, which is why we are deliberately taking a blank canvas approach to developing this scheme, and in this context I appreciate your valuable input.</p> <p>Through the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), the Government is working with other state governments and the Commonwealth to determine their appetite to commit time and resources to this project. DPI is also working with the National Farmers Federation, our partner on this project, to establish the relevant processes.</p> <p>These discussions will help develop a detailed course of action, where we will seek to engage with relevant industry groups and experts willing to offer their input and valuable experience. To this end, I thank you for your early engagement on this matter and welcome your contributions going forward.</p> <p>If you require additional information or wish to discuss the shape of the income protection scheme further, please contact Mr Damien Budson, Director, Industry Insights and Analysis, in DPI, on 0420 604 244.</p> <p>Thank you again for your interest in this matter.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>  <p>KATE LORMER-WARD DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL DPI AGRICULTURE</p> <p>25/07/20 from NSW DPI</p>	<p>Submitted: Tuesday, 20 February 2019 - 10:31am</p> <p>Title: Mr First name: Brett Family name: O'Brien</p> <p>Subject: Having business against drought and flood in Australia</p> <p>Dear Scott,</p> <p>Recently I have seen you on the news visiting rural communities - great to see.</p> <p>I am a 4th generation farmer and Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance. I have a solution I'd like to pose to you with respect to farmers being able to insure stock for loss arising from drought or flood.</p> <p>I estimate we have recently lost 500,000 live stock in QLD as a result of flooding and the cyclic systemic drought issues in Australia are sadly well known.</p> <p>There are millions of head of stock nation-wide which are almost exclusively uninsured for drought and flood. They are insured for fire yet not drought and flood.</p> <p>My proposal centres around the Govt setting up a website under a .gov.au in relation to stock insurance.</p>  <p>Insurers are willing to insure the perils of drought and flood for stock - they just need to be pushed.</p> <p>I have recently promoted this cover - per flyer attached - yet am a lone voice nation-wide on the matter.</p> <p>With Govt support and even subsidy this could go places.</p> <p>Can you imagine the relief felt by farmers if when drought and flood strike and the tragic loss of tens of thousands of thousands of stock follows that it was at least recouped albeit fractionally for them?</p> <p>It could change the fabric of farming in this great country of ours.</p> <p>I know work as a consultant and would make myself available to work with you / your ministers on this initiative.</p> <p>Set up the great work Scott, look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Sincerely, Brett O'Brien - ANZIF Fellow - 0421 814 481</p>	<p>The Hon. David Littleproud MP Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Federal Member for Mackay</p> <p>Ref: MC19-00276 8 APR 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting</p> <p>Via email: bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email of 21 March 2019 about insuring stock against losses attributable to drought or flood.</p> <p>Insurance is an important risk management tool for dealing with drought, floods and other events that can cause stock and crop losses. The Australian Government is not currently offering insurance or subsidising provision for livestock protection in this matter to any significant extent.</p> <p>The Australian Government is providing support for flood-affected South Queensland farmers, including through establishing the North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency to assist with the immediate response, recovery and reconstruction efforts. A large number of the flood-affected farmers had previously been dealing with years of drought, and the government also remains committed to providing drought assistance to eligible farmers across the country. More information on the range of drought assistance measures is available on my department's website at agriculture.gov.au. Further information on the range of flood-related assistance measures is available at p.m.gov.au/australian-prime-minister/north-queensland-livestock-industry-recovery-agency.</p> <p>Thank you again for raising this matter with me.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>  <p>DAVID LITTLEPROUD MP</p> <p>Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 Telephone: 02 6277 7000 Email: david.littleproud@agriculture.gov.au</p> <p>04/04/19 from Fed Ag Min D Littleproud</p>	<p>Australian Government North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency</p> <p>MC19-013007</p> <p>29 April 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.</p> <p>On 1 March 2019, the North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency, led by the Honorable Shane Stone AC QC, was announced. Mr Stone is supported by an Advisory Board comprising members with extensive experience in the livestock industry, and from the community at large. The Board also has Federal and local government representatives.</p> <p>The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan. Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch</p> <p>The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan. Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch</p> <p>APR Jobs (in agriculture.gov.au) and Asst Leader (even landem.gov.au) for opportunities to contribute or directly to this work. More information about the Agency is available at pm.gov.au/nqlira</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>  <p>Brett O'Brien Managing Director Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet</p> <p>29/04/19 - from PM's office</p>	<p>Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie Deputy Leader of The Nationals Minister for Agriculture Senator for Victoria</p> <p>Ref: MC19-00450</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting</p> <p>Via email: bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence of 11 May 2019, offering congratulations on my appointment as Minister for Agriculture. As a proud representative of regional Australia, it is an honour to serve in the Agriculture portfolio.</p> <p>Agriculture is key to Australia's prosperity and economic development. Strong leadership is needed to continue to benefit generations to come. The agriculture industry is diverse and our work continues to make Australia's farming, fishing and forest industries more resilient and prosperous while safeguarding Australia from animal and plant pests and diseases.</p> <p>My initial priorities include building Australian Agriculture into a \$100 billion industry by 2020, protecting Australia's biosecurity and our clean and green image, taking a hard line on extreme animal activities and maintaining and increasing access to foreign markets to ensure a premium price for our agricultural products.</p> <p>Strong international demand for agricultural products and ongoing improvements to Australia's market access to countries provide more opportunities for our exporters. A strong agriculture sector is vital for supporting regional jobs.</p> <p>Thank you again for your letter of support and your passion for the agriculture sector is appreciated.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>  <p>Bridget McKenzie Minister for Agriculture</p> <p>22/07/19 From Senator Mckenzie</p>
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'Your (OBA) idea' regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan'





OBA CONSULTING
Performance By Design

THE OBA JOURNEY



Journey cont...

FEBRUARY 2019

APRIL 2019

The OBA Journey [here](#)





See our 2nd anniversary April 2021 Quick Bite [here](#)



OBA Consulting Australia is a B2B consultancy operation.

We do not provide any advice to the general public whatsoever in relation to general insurance products.

In the course of referencing other sources of news & information in this document, including usage of third party entity logo's this is done so on the basis of 'information purposes', including yet not limited to Insurance Business Australia & ABC Rural

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OBA *Quick Bite* – July 2021



At OBA we acknowledge these are difficult times economically for Australia & that Treasury are likely working through macroeconomic challenges on a scale unprecedented for this generation.

With that in mind & consistent with [our stated purpose](#) from the outset including writing to Hon. Prime Minister Scott Morrison on the 26th February 2019 [here](#), on the 17th June 2021 OBA wrote to Hon. Treasurer Josh Frydenberg* pertaining to stemming the bleeding with respect to cyclical, reactive government spending on Drought Recovery noting the paramount importance of how our countries finances are utilised.

Significant progress has been achieved on this issue since OBA wrote to Prime Minister Morrison in February 2019, most recently referenced in OBA June 21 Quick Bite [here](#), consequently with a view to further mitigation of government 'spending' following Drought, OBA wrote to Treasury noting:

- As reported in the Sydney Morning Herald in November 2019 the Federal Government has spent \$8billion on direct Drought assistance to Farmers since the turn of the century, noting some industry insiders suggest the metric of \$8billion is far more accurately stated as \$20billion:

The cost of drought - and it's just going to grow

[Full article here](#) also referenced in OBA [update](#) of 28th December 2019

- OBA seeks to initiate discussion that an amount the equivalent of the recent Cyclone & Cyclone related Flood in Nth QLD of \$10billion be designated (not 'spent') to a bespoke national agency for Agriculture to address this matter for Farmers who seek to proactively outsource their risk to future such losses & largely put an end to reactive 'bail out' packages consequent to Drought;
- OBA hastens to add we do not consider the lack of a bespoke government agency to address Drought risk transfer in Australia as a failing of the Morrison government, more so we seek to stress we see it is a failing in government policy in Australia with a retrospective inception date stretching back decades – nonetheless in 2021 the key stakeholders in this matter have the ability to do something about it to address the matter for current & future generations of 'accountable' Australian Farmers;
- Re-iterating OBA does understand the Treasurer & Treasury are dealing with several high priority matters post the Covid frenetic norm we now refer to as BAU including however not limited to the immediate, ongoing and future implications of the [intergenerational report](#) & the ARPC 2021 Triennial Review, involving Treasury members including however not limited to:
 - Hon. Michael Sukkar MP, Member for Deakin, Assistant Treasurer, Minister for housing;
 - Mr Luke Spear – Insurance Manager Treasury;
- OBA first wrote to Federal Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud referencing the ARPC in June 2019 [here](#), accordingly OBA calls on Minister Littleproud, Prime Minister Scott Morrison & Treasury to investigate & apportion funds towards the formation of a bespoke risk transfer agency for Australian Agriculture including Livestock & Crops which OBA proposes be titled:

Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool: AGRP



*17th June 2021 OBA's correspondence to Hon. Treasurer Josh Frydenberg:



From: Treasury no-reply@treasury.gov.au Sent: Thursday, 17 June 2021 5:12 PM
To: admin@obaconsulting.com.au Subject: Webform submission from: Ministerial Correspondence

Submitted on Thu, 06/17/2021 - 17:11 First name Brett Last name O'Brien Organisation OBA Consulting

Your correspondence

Minister you wish to contact	Message subject
Treasurer - The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP	Agriculture Risk Transfer

Your message to the Minister

Dear Treasurer Frydenberg member for Kooyong,

Whilst we are both Victorians, Hon. Treasurer, today I write to you in a Commonwealth perspective having previously written to Hon. David Littleproud & Hon. Scott Morrison, referenced within OBA Journey here: <https://www.obaconsulting.com.au/oba-journey/>

I am a Fellow of the Australian & New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance (ANZIIF) & 4th Generation Australian Cattle Farmer.

For the last 2.5 years, I have been working in risk mitigation for Livestock, namely Drought yet with an emphasis on Agriculture more broadly.

In doing so, I founded OBA Consulting: www.obaconsulting.com.au. Our ABN is under the name O'Brien Angus - my former registered breeding herd with Angus Australia, since dispersed.

In June 2019, I wrote to Minister Littleproud, Bridget McKenzie & Shane Stone proposing a risk transfer suggestion for Agriculture along the lines of the ARPC - referenced in OBA update August 2019 [here](#).

Formerly an accredited insurance broker when the ARPC was formed approaching 2 decades ago & I am an advocate of the ARPC not least of all its structure which I consider imbeds societal accountability pertaining to its triage for reserves activation.

I have been in liaison with Adam Marshall's (MP) office over the last 12 months with respect to the \$2M committed to Agriculture risk management by the NSW government & am fully across the Federal Government's recent \$10billion commitment to Cyclone & Cyclone related Flood in Nth QLD.

In February 2019, I wrote to Prime Minister Morrison referencing <https://nqhomeinsurance.gov.au/> for which I drew references to Agriculture.



My offices correspondence with & from government over the last 2.5 years can be found [here](#).

Having recently reached out to Dr Christopher Wallace, ARPC CEO, he referenced Treasury which is what led me to contact you today – Dr Wallace & I are both [Fellows of ANZIIF](#).

I would like to submit to you suggestions around the formation of an ARPC equivalent for Australian Agriculture which I suggest could be titled the Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool – AGRP.




Residing in Southbank 3006 with my wife, we found [your speech](#) pertaining to Covid & Victoria delivered to parliament on 27th October 2020 rousing.

Look forward to hearing from you Treasurer.

Sincerely,

Best wishes,

Brett O'Brien - OBA Consulting Managing Director

 <p>Australian Government Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation</p> <p>4 June 2021</p> <p>Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting admin@obaconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Brett</p> <p>Thank you for your email inquiry of 21 May 2021. I did not receive the original email you sent to my direct email address which was deleted due to ARPC's spam filter as your email had too many URLs. Thank you for forwarding your original email again to me. I have now received and read your email, thank you. We apologise for not responding to your email to our enquiries in-box.</p> <p>I understand the problem that is faced in agriculture insurance and recognise that agriculture is a very important part of our economy and society.</p> <p>ARPC is an administrative agency, and unfortunately, we do not have policy responsibility for insurance. This responsibility vests with the Australian Government's Treasury Department which is leading the pool design and consultation for the Cyclone and Related Flood Reinsurance Pool.</p> <p>You can contact the Treasury on Government policy related to insurance. You can also contribute to the Treasury consultation paper on the cyclone reinsurance pool. Submissions are due 18 June 2021.</p> <p>Here is a link to the Treasury Taskforce webpage where you can make submissions and register for updates: https://treasury.gov.au/consultation/c2021-175678. This includes an email address at Treasury that you could send enquiries through.</p> <p>I hope this information provides some assistance.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>  <p>Chris Wallace Chief Executive</p> <p>Letter to OBA from ARPC CEO Dr Christopher Wallace June 2021</p>	 <p>Australian Government North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency</p> <p>29 April 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.</p> <p>The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan. Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guideline, as such you may wish to watch</p> <p>Letter to OBA 'on behalf of the Prime Minister' April 2019</p>
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Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool:

AGRP



In addition to writing to the Treasurer per above, OBA have also responded (in part) to the 2021 Triennial Review of the Terrorism Insurance Act 2003, as follows:



Australian Government
The Treasury

Policy Topics Publications Consultations Reviews and inquiries Media The Depart

Home > Reviews > Terrorism Insurance Act Review 2021 > Terrorism Insurance Act Review 2021

Terrorism Insurance Act Review 2021

19 days left to have your say

Date: 02 July 2021 - 30 July 2021
Email: FSD.TIAreview@treasury.gov.au

Key Documents

[Consultation paper](#) - DOCX 1.23 MB
[Consultation paper](#) - PDF 367.04 KB

On 2 July 2021, the Government announced the commencement of the 2021 review of the *Terrorism Insurance Act 2003*.

This consultation paper seeks stakeholder views on issues outlined in the Terms of Reference, which are:

- whether there continues to be market failure in the private sector supply of terrorism insurance, and consequently whether there is a need for the Act to continue;
- whether the governance, administration and resourcing of the scheme remain appropriate, including interactions between the Cyclone Reinsurance Pool and the Terrorism Reinsurance Pool; and
- whether the risk of cyber terrorism causing physical property damage should be included in the scheme.

Responding

You can submit responses to this consultation up until 30 July 2021. Interested parties are invited to comment on this consultation.

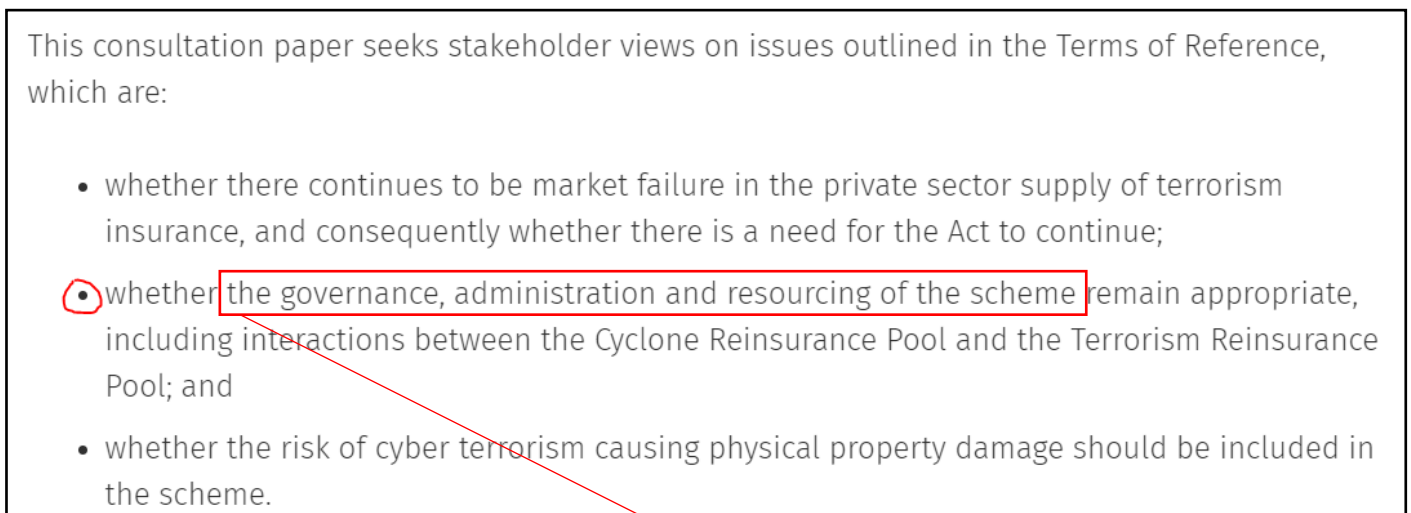
Treasury website [here](#)

Full [Consultation Paper](#)

Noting within our [June](#) & [May](#) 2021 Quick Bites OBA references:

- Cyclone & Cyclone related Flood in Nth QLD;
- The ARPC &
- What OBA proposes being the AGRP – Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool;

Within the Terms of Reference dot point 2 of the Triennial Review, highlighted below, OBA has responded:



This consultation paper seeks stakeholder views on issues outlined in the Terms of Reference, which are:

- whether there continues to be market failure in the private sector supply of terrorism insurance, and consequently whether there is a need for the Act to continue;
- whether the governance, administration and resourcing of the scheme remain appropriate, including interactions between the Cyclone Reinsurance Pool and the Terrorism Reinsurance Pool; and
- whether the risk of cyber terrorism causing physical property damage should be included in the scheme.

with an emphasis on initiating dialogue leading to a *working group* with a view to funding around the formation of a bespoke agency for Agriculture & how the 'governance, administration & resourcing' of such an agency may be facilitated.



Within our June 2021 Quick Bite [here](#), OBA stated the following in relation to the ARPC:

'.. bespoke Government agency that as opposed to traditional 'Government premium subsidies', inherently incorporates accountability on ultimate beneficiaries - insurance policy holders.

It's essentially a user pays program rendering activation of ARPC reserves, responding to insured losses, soundly rooted in accountability, such is its structure - OBA are advocates of the ARPC structure, steadfastly believing its triage for activation drives a national societal culture of accountability.'

The ARPC Triennial Review was referenced in Insurance Business Australia 5th July 2021 [here](#), below left, noting 4th April 2019 [here](#) Insurance Business Australia ran a profile on OBA Consulting relating to Government reinsurance, below middle:



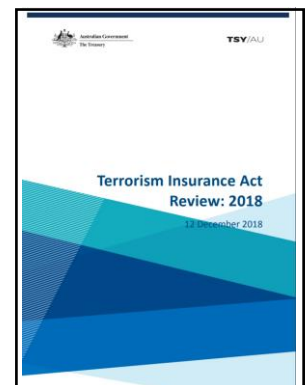
<p>Treasury releases terms of reference for latest Terrorism Insurance Act review</p> <p>by Roxanne Libatique 03 Jul 2021</p> <p>SHARE f t in</p> <p>Continuous results, boundless potential. Made on Duck Creek.</p>  <p>The Treasury has released the terms of reference for the 2021 Triennial Review of the Terrorism Insurance Act 2003 (TI Act).</p>	<p>Insurance veteran makes government plea</p> <p>by Nicola Middlemiss 04 Apr 2019</p> <p>SHARE f t in</p>  <p>MECON PUTS IT RIGHT.</p>  <p>A senior insurance figure is urging the government to provide more extensive subsidies to livestock farmers, saying many remain drastically exposed to uninsured stock loss as a result of drought or flood.</p>	<p>OBA video from March 2021:</p>  <p>OBA, The ARPC & Risk Transfer for large scale weather events</p>  <p>Australian Government Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation</p>
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Livestock & Crop losses consequent to 'Drought' under a Farm Pack or Crop Insurance policy could follow a similar triage to Property (& Business Interruption) losses consequent to 'Terrorism', which for the purpose of this hypothetical scenario / illustration the Agriculture Reinsurance Pool (AGRP) would be inserted for the ARPC, similarly 'Drought' for 'Terrorism':

Operation and coverage

The Act operates by overriding terrorism exclusion clauses in eligible insurance contracts.¹ An eligible insurance contract is a contract that provides insurance coverage for:

- loss of, or damage to, eligible property owned by the insured;
- business interruption and consequential loss arising from loss of, or damage to, eligible property that is owned or occupied by the insured or an inability to use all or part of such property; or
- liability of the insured that arises from the insured being the owner or occupier of eligible property.²



Above excerpt taken from pictured document right, online [here](#), & below from Australian government Geoscience online [here](#)

	<p>Apart from Antarctica, Australia is the driest continent in the world. About 35 per cent of the continent receives so little rain, it is effectively desert. In total, 70 per cent of the mainland receives less than 500 millimetres of rain annually, which classes it as arid, or semi-arid.</p>	 <p>Australian Government Geoscience Australia</p>
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Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool: AGRP



International & local news:



Drought indicators in Western US send warnings of the 'Big One'

"As far as drought goes, this is the big one, especially if we are talking about the broader drought across the whole Southwest," says Daniel Swain, a climate scientist at the University of California Los Angeles. "By a lot of metrics, it is the most severe drought on record."



Drought indicators in Western US send warnings of the 'Big One'
insurancebusinessmag.com

From Dry land to Dry July / Palate:

Aligned with our ['Wellness'](#) ethos in terms of 'Dry July', Brett has continued his from 2018 rendering 37 consecutive months 'Dry' - more [here](#), [here](#), within OBA [Gallery](#) & within OBA 2020 [Christmas party](#) noting further to April 2021 [#30-4-Thirty](#) the steps in 2021 continue to mount:

Short video [here](#)



Covid-19

Appointment Details

Booking for: Brett O'Brien
Booked with: Pfizer (available for 40-59 year olds)
Date: Mon 16/08/21 at 9:30AM



Appointment Details

Booking for: Brett O'Brien
Booked with: Pfizer (available for 40-59 year olds)
Date: Mon 06/09/21 at 9:30AM




Accreditation for OBA from 9th July 2021 issued by the Australian Security Academy:

Brett your work within Livestock and Drought insurance is truly impressive and will only assist to build genuine resilience within Australian Farming.

At the Australian Security Academy we partner with a variety of property owners, cattle and sheep producers as well as specialist or intensive crop growers, as ultimately our graduates will be required to operate within these environments.

Your work and knowledge is substantial and integral to that success.

Sincerely, Mike Evans, CEO, Australia Security Academy



AIRLAP Member

Awarded to **Brett O'Brien**
 Issued on Jul 9, 2021

Member of The Academy of Investigation, Risk and Loss Adjusting Professionals INC.

Verified
 Last verified by Badgr on Jul 9, 2021



Whilst many Australian's within the non-rural community, *understandably* tire of hearing of Farmers woes, the reality is that what decimates our Agriculture sector, including however not limited to Drought, is economically felt nation-wide by the vast majority of Australian's.

It's worth bearing in mind also that whether you are vegan, vegetarian, carnivore or other its highly likely somewhere in your nutrition supply chain that you will have had much less than 6 degrees of separation from the people (Australian Farmers) who grow the fresh fruit & vegetables, wheat, barley, herbs, poultry, dairy and meat most of 'us' enjoy and require from within 'our' world class Agriculture sector.


Brett O'Brien - Managing Director OBA Consulting




Feel free to drop by & visit OBA socials below:




[YouTube](#)



[LinkedIn](#)



[FB](#)



[Instagram](#)



"Introducing insurance to the mainstream Australian insurance market against Drought for Farmers who lose Livestock consequent to Drought would improve the livelihood of Farmers & the farming landscape in this great country of ours for the current farming generation and those to follow"

Brett O'Brien - [Managing Director](#) - OBA Consulting



OBA Ethos online [here](#) & visit OBA Ranch (Drought proof) [here](#)



Testimonial from Rob & Emmie Jennings - Owners of Farm Table:

Brett & Patricia O'Brien (OBA Consulting) are valued members of Farm Table & we welcome their ongoing membership, presence & contribution to Farm Table & our 16,000 plus members nationally.

OBA's passion for Australian Agriculture Risk Transfer is evident in dealings with them which we have known them to pursue at their own cost.

As a self-funded start-up only a few short years ago ourselves, we at Farm Table know the passion, dedication & time it takes to put in to seek to make a contribution to Australian Agriculture which is largely rooted in altruism.

One only needs to read OBA's Ethos to know what they are about & we are happy to have OBA on board.

Rob & Emmie Jennings - Owners of [Farm Table](#)

Making the Web a Better Place for Agriculture

Making the Web a Better Place for Farmers

FARM TABLE

An industry-wide agricultural ecosystem bringing together farming resources, opportunities and most importantly, people.

Dear Brett,

In another industry-led initiative, Brett O'Brien, MD of OBA Consulting and a Fellow of The Australian & New Zealand Institute of Insurance & Finance, is dedicating his time to the introduction of livestock drought insurance. He is investigating a livestock drought insurance policy that can respond to costs associated with loss of livestock, transportation costs and the purchase of feed. [Learn more here.](#)

Above right reference to OBA in Farm Table from Issue 3 of OBA's [Chewing The Cud](#) of June 2020 [here](#) with OBA [April](#), [May](#) & [June](#) 2021 Quick Bites on Farm Table - kudos to Rob & Jenny who now have 16,000 members!

[Further Testimonials:](#)

- Professor Joe Sircusa
- Australian Security Academy CEO - Mike Evans
- Associate Professor - Salvatore Babones
- Iconic Australian journalist, 6 times walkly award winner - Kerry O'Brien
- Former CEO of ME Bank & former Australian u/19 Cricket captain - Jamie McPhee
- Founding Director of Latevo Farmers Mutual - Andrew Trotter
- Admitted to the high court of NSW & Supreme court of Australia - [Mark Sheller](#)
- CEO of The Australian & NZ Institute of Insurance & Finance - Prue Willsford
- National Geographic presenter, musician & actor - Henry Rollins




'OBA Consulting - Supporting Rural Australia'



Brett O'Brien
Managing Director at OBA Consulting



OBA Consulting - supporting rural Australia



www.obaconsulting.com.au

OBA
CONSULTING
Performance By Design

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