

Annual Report 2017-18

About the Queensland Disaster Management Committee

The QDMC is chaired by the Premier of Queensland, or her nominee, and comprises a core group of Ministers, supported by their Directors-General (Assisting Officials) and assisted by other Ministers, senior officers, and representatives from other government agencies (from all three levels of government) and non-government organisations (NGOs) as required. Additional support is provided through the State Disaster Coordination Group (SDCG), the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) and the Queensland Tropical Cyclone Consultative Committee (QTCCC).

The QDMC serves as the disaster management policy and decision-making committee for Queensland. Its role is to ensure the development and implementation of effective disaster management for the State and to provide clear and unambiguous senior strategic leadership in relation to the four phases of disaster management: prevention, preparation, response and recovery (PPRR). The QDMC allows direct Ministerial participation in the strategic management of disaster events, resulting in faster, better-informed decision-making during a disaster event.

Secretariat support is provided by the Queensland Police Service, with additional support from the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

Governance

The QDMC is established under section 17 of the Disaster Management Act 2003 (the DM Act) and its functions are prescribed in section 18 and include:

- Develop a strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State;
- Ensure effective disaster management is developed and implemented for the State;
- Identify resources inside and outside the State that may be used for disaster operations;
- Provide reports and make recommendations about matters relating to disaster management and disaster operations; and
- Prepare a State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP).

Members:

- Premier and Minister for Trade (Chair)
- Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
- Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services
- Minister for Housing and Public Works, Minister for Digital Technology and Minister for Sport
- Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors
- Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations
- Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
- Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
- Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs
- Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
- Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services
- Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Attending Officials:

- Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- Director-General, Department of Housing and Public Works
- Director-General, Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors
- Director-General, Department of Education

- Director-General, Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
- Under Treasurer, Queensland Treasury
- Director-General, Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs
- Director-General, Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
- Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Reconstruction Authority
- Director-General, Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Chief Health Officer, Queensland Health
- Commissioner, Queensland Police Service
- Commissioner, Queensland Ambulance Service
- Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Emergency Service

Observers:

- Inspector-General Emergency Management
- Chief Operating Officer, Local Government Association of Queensland
- Chief Operating Officer, Public Safety Business Agency

2017-18 Meetings

Ordinary meetings

- Two (2) meetings – 1 December 2017 and 29 August 2017.

Extraordinary meetings

- Four (4) meetings – 9 and 23 March 2018; and 3 and 4 April 2018.

The Year in Review

July 2017

Canada Bush Fires – July 2017

- A series of widespread thunderstorms between 6 July and 8 July 2017 contributed to over 190 new wildfire starts in British Columbia. Many of the wildfires grew rapidly and displayed aggressive, dangerous fire behaviour, prompting Evacuation Orders and Alerts for thousands of residents. A Provincial State of Emergency was declared on 7 July 2017 and was not rescinded until 15 September 2017.
- On 13 July 2017, the Australian Government received a request from Canada, for Australian support to British Columbia. Nine QFES personnel formed part of a larger 53 person Australian Contingent who were deployed to the area to perform roles including Air Operations Manager, Fire Behaviour Analyst, Air Attack Supervisor and Level 3 Operations Officer. One QFES representative was also deployed to Melbourne as Duty Officer for the National Resource Sharing Centre. The SOC remained Activated for the duration of the deployment, while SDCC staff monitored the situation, ensuring relevant information was reported to stakeholders as necessary.

October 2017

Severe Thunderstorms for Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields and Wide Bay and Burnett Forecast Districts – 2 October 2017

- Severe Thunderstorms with heavy rainfall impacted the Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields, and Wide Bay and Burnett Districts on Monday 02 October 2017. The Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) was activated at 18:13 hours on Monday, 2 October 2017, for parts of the Wide Bay and Burnett Districts for destructive winds and heavy rainfall. Flash

flooding resulted in local road closures, impacted train travel and afternoon flights from Bundaberg airport.

Severe Thunderstorms for parts of Southeast Queensland, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Central West, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego, Darling Downs and Granite Belt Forecast Districts – 14 October 2017

- Severe Thunderstorms with significant rainfall impacted parts of Southeast Queensland, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Central West, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego, Darling Downs and Granite Belt Districts on Saturday 14 October 2017.

Severe Weather for parts of Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Central Coast and Whitsundays Forecast Districts – 16-17 October 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with heavy rainfall impacted North Coast and Central Queensland on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 October 2017. The significant rainfall and localised flash flooding resulted in multiple road closures, and the closure of many schools and childcare centres within North Coast and Central Region. On Monday 16 October, QPS coordinated an extensive air and water search for the crew of a commercial fishing trawler which overturned in rough seas near Town of Seventeen Seventy. SEWS was activated at 04:01 hours on Tuesday 17 October. Several swift water rescues were carried out, with one person located deceased in a vehicle that had been swept off a causeway near Gympie.

Severe Thunderstorms for Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Southeast Coast and parts of Central Highlands and Coalfields, Central West, Wide Bay and Burnett, and Maranoa and Warrego Forecast Districts – 26 October 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with destructive winds, heavy rainfall and large hailstones impacted Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Southeast Coast and parts of Central Highlands and Coalfields, Central West, Wide Bay and Burnett and Maranoa and Warrego Districts on 26 October 2017.

Severe Thunderstorms for Northwest, Central West, Channel Country, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, and Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 29 October 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with damaging winds and large hailstones impacted Southeast Queensland on Sunday, 29 October 2017. Energex reported widespread power outages and numerous flights were delayed at the Brisbane International and Domestic airports due to the storm activity.

November 2017

Severe Thunderstorms for Peninsula, North Tropical Coast and Tablelands, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Central Coast and Whitsundays Forecast Districts – 01 November 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with damaging winds, heavy rainfall and large hailstones impacted Northern, Central and Far Northern Queensland on Wednesday 1 November 2017.

Severe Thunderstorms for Wide Bay and Burnett, Southeast Coast, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia and Darling Downs and Granite Belt Forecast Districts – 7 November 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with destructive winds and large hailstones impacted the Wide Bay and Burnett, Southeast Coast, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia and Darling Downs and Granite Belt Districts on Tuesday, 7 November 2017. Ergon Energy reported that 27,000 customers in the Bundaberg area lost power because of the storm activity.

Severe Thunderstorms for Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Herbert and Lower Burdekin and Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 29 November 2017

- Widespread storm activity impacted Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Herbert and Lower Burdekin and Southeast Coast Districts on Wednesday, 29 November 2017.

December 2017

Severe Thunderstorms for Southeast Coast, Central Highlands and Coalfields and Wide Bay and Burnett Forecast Districts – 4 December 2017

- A severe thunderstorm with heavy rainfall, generating flash flooding impacted Southeast Queensland on Monday, 4 December 2017.

Severe Thunderstorms for Southeast Coast, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, and Darling Downs and Granite Belt Forecast Districts – 9 December 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with destructive winds and large hailstones impacted Southeast Coast, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett and Darling Downs and Granite Belt Districts on 9 December 2017.

Severe Thunderstorms for Central Highlands and Coalfields, Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Maranoa and Warrego, and Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 25 December 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with significant wind gusts and heavy rainfall impacted Central Highlands and Coalfields, Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Maranoa and Warrego and Southeast Coast Districts on Monday 25 December 2017.

Severe Thunderstorms for Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Central West, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego and Southeast Coast Forecast Districts - 26 December 2017

- Severe thunderstorms producing large hail stones and damaging wind gusts impacted Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Central West, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego and Southeast Coast Districts on Tuesday, 26 December 2017.

Severe Thunderstorms for Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Wide Bay and Burnett, and Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 31 December 2017

- Severe thunderstorms with destructive winds, large hailstones and heavy rainfall impacted Southeast Queensland on the afternoon of Sunday, 31 December 2017.

January 2018

Severe Thunderstorms for Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt, and Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 01 January 2018

- Severe thunderstorms impacted Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt and Southeast Coast Districts on 1 January 2018. The storms caused significant power disruptions.

Severe Thunderstorms for in Wide Bay and Burnett, Southeast Coast, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia and Darling Downs, and Granite Belt Forecast Districts – 02 January 2018

- Severe thunderstorms with flash flooding impacted the Wide Bay and Burnett, Southeast Coast, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia and Darling Downs and Granite Belt Districts on 2 January 2018.

Severe Thunderstorms for Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt and Southeast Coast, Peninsula, Gulf Country and Northern Goldfields, and Upper Flinders Forecast Districts – 3 January 2018

- Severe thunderstorms with damaging winds and large hailstones impacted the Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt and Southeast Coast, Peninsula, Gulf Country and Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders Districts on 3 January 2018.

Severe Thunderstorms for North Tropical Coast and Tablelands Forecast District – 17 January 2018

- Severe thunderstorms with heavy rainfall impacted North Tropical Coast and Tablelands Districts on 17 January 2018.

February 2018

Monsoon Trough January-February 2018

- A monsoon trough extending across Cape York Peninsula and into the northern Coral Sea in the latter part of January and early days of February 2018, led to higher-than-average rainfall across the Gulf Country and Cape York Peninsula. Heavy rainfall combined with King Tides and strong winds contributed to beach erosion, infrastructure damage and localised property inundation, in coastal areas and Islands in the Torres Strait.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning North Tropical Coast and Tablelands Forecast District – 5 February 2018

- A Severe thunderstorm impacted parts of North Tropical Coast and Tablelands Districts on Monday, 5 February 2018, with areas around Cairns experiencing significant rainfalls. Swiftwater Rescue crews rescued three people from the top of their campervan in rapidly rising flood waters at a camping ground beside the Mulgrave River at Gordonvale in the early hours of Tuesday, 6 February 2018.

Severe Thunderstorms for Southeast Coast, Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt, and Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 11 February 2018

- Severe thunderstorms producing damaging winds and large hailstones impacted Southeast Coast, Wide Bay and Burnett, Darling Downs and Granite Belt and Southeast Coast Districts on 11 February 2018.

Severe Thunderstorms for Gulf Country, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Northwest, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego and Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 14 February 2018

- Severe thunderstorms impacted the Gulf Country, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Northwest, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego and Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Southeast Coast Districts on 14 February 2018 in two separate storm fronts across the northern and eastern interiors.

Severe Thunderstorms for Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Channel Country, Central West, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego and Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Forecast Districts – 20 February 2018

- Severe thunderstorms impacted much of Queensland in the Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Channel Country, Central West, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Maranoa and Warrego and Darling Downs and Granite Belt, Districts on 20 February 2018. Significant rainfall and damaging wind gusts were recorded throughout the State, resulting in partial roof loss and structural damage at the Mount Isa Hospital.

Severe Thunderstorms for Gulf Country, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Northwest, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Southeast Coast Forecast Districts – 22 February 2018

- Severe thunderstorms impacted large areas of Queensland, including the Gulf Country, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Northwest, Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Southeast Coast Districts on 22 February 2018.

Severe Weather for Southeast Coast Forecast District – 23 February 2018

- Severe weather with heavy rainfalls impacted Southeast Coast District on 23 February 2018. Heavy rain across Southeast Queensland extending from the Sunshine Coast hinterland down through Brisbane and into the Gold Coast hinterland created flooding. Multiple swift water rescues were performed by on both 22 and 23 February 2018, with the majority being the result of members of the public driving through floodwaters.

Severe Thunderstorms for Gulf Country, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Northwest, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Wide Bay and Burnett, and Darling Downs and Granite Belt Forecast Districts – 24 February 2018

- Severe thunderstorms impacted the Gulf Country, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Northwest, Central Highlands and Coalfields, Wide Bay and Burnett and Darling Downs and Granite Belt Districts on 24 February 2018.

Severe Thunderstorms for Southeast Coast Forecast District – 26 February 2018

- On Monday 26 February 2018 severe thunderstorms impacted Southeast Queensland, leading to localised flash flooding in Logan City, Goodna and Durack areas resulting in several swift water rescues of persons who were trapped in floodwater.

Severe Thunderstorms for Central Highlands and Coalfields Forecast District – Tuesday 27 February 2018

- Severe thunderstorms impacted Central Highlands and Coalfields Districts on 27 February 2018, resulting in flash flooding which caused infrastructure damage in the loss of a major foot bridge in the town of Springsure.

Severe Weather for Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Gulf Country, North Tropical Coast and Tablelands, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders Forecast Districts and Severe Thunderstorms for Herbert and Lower Burdekin Forecast District – 28 February 2018

- Severe weather creating flash flooding impacted Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Gulf Country, North Tropical Coast and Tablelands, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders Districts on Wednesday 28 February 2018. Heavy rainfall was experienced, particularly in Townsville and surrounding areas and remained active until Monday, 5 March 2018, as the slow-moving low-pressure system impacted the State.

March 2018

North Queensland Low - 28 February to 5 March 2018

- A low-pressure system impacted North Queensland from 28 February to 5 March 2018. The low tracked west from the north tropical coast to the northwest of the state during late February and into early March, resulting in major flooding in the north tropical coast. Heavy rainfall led to major flooding in the Gulf Country, most notably in Cloncurry and at Walkers Bend. Flooding then occurred in the southwest and southern inland parts of Queensland, with major flooding at Winton, and moderate flooding at Longreach. Burketown became completely isolated during this period.

The ongoing, heavy rainfall resulted in multiple roads across Queensland being closed or having travel restrictions imposed, delays and cancellations of some rail services and the temporary closure of several Queensland schools and childcare centres. Swiftwater Rescue teams responded to several incidents where people became isolated by fast rising floodwaters.

Severe Thunderstorms for Southeast Queensland – 5 March 2018

- A severe thunderstorm with heavy rainfall impacted Southeast Queensland on Monday, 5 March 2018.

Severe Thunderstorms for Gulf Country and North Tropical Coast and Tablelands Forecast Districts – 8 March 2018

- A severe thunderstorm impacted the Gulf Country, North Tropical Coast and Tablelands Districts on Thursday, 8 March 2018. Heavy rainfall led to flash flooding in areas of northern and far northern Queensland. A Watch and Act Emergency Alert (EA) campaign was sent to Hinchinbrook residents regarding an impending flood.

Severe Tropical Cyclone Nora – 23 March 2018

- A tropical low identified in the Arafura Sea on 20 March 2018, formed into Tropical Cyclone Nora at 04:00 hours Friday, 23 March 2018. The Category 3 cyclone crossed the west coast of Cape York Peninsula between Cape Keerweer and Pormpuraaw on Saturday, 24 March 2018. The cyclone damaged some houses and brought down numerous power lines and trees in the town of Pormpuraaw, resulting in power outages for the entire town of 230 residents.
- STC Nora weakened below tropical cyclone intensity on Sunday, 25 March 2018, however heavy rainfall and damaging winds impacted the Gulf Country. Ex-STC Nora moved slowly across northern Queensland, impacting the North Tropical Coast and Tablelands, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders Districts. The remnants of STC Nora tracked across the base of Cape York Peninsula and produced heavy rainfall and renewed major flooding in the Barron, Herbert, Tully and Murray, and Mulgrave and Russell catchments.

The ongoing heavy rainfall led to flash flooding around Cairns on the Monday, 26 March 2018, with multiple swift water rescues and the evacuation of two caravan parks. The SDCC moved to Stand Up in response to STC Nora at 18:00 hours Saturday, 24 March 2018 and moved to Stand Down on Friday, 6 April 2018. During the event, ten EA campaigns were issued. Eight campaigns were issued for residents in Pormpuraaw, Kowanyama, Karumba, Aurukun, Mapoon, Napranum and Weipa, one for the Cairns area and one for Ingham and Halifax.

April 2018

Tropical Cyclone Iris – 2 April 2018

- During the period of SDCC activation for Tropical Cyclone Nora, a tropical disturbance developed into Tropical Cyclone Iris. First identified over the eastern Solomon Islands on Tuesday, 20 March 2018 TC Iris was named by the Fiji Meteorological Service on Saturday, 24 March 2018. Within 24 hours however, the system had weakened below tropical cyclone strength.
- On Monday 2 April 2018, as the remnants of the system moved into the Australian area of responsibility, it redeveloped into a tropical cyclone. TC Iris reached Category 2 strength, making its closest approach to the Queensland Coast north of Hamilton Island. The system once again weakened below tropical cyclone intensity on Friday, 6 April 2018.

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games - 4 to 15 April 2018

- The 2018 Commonwealth Games ran from 4 to 15 April 2018, involving more than 6600 athletes and team officials from 71 Commonwealth nations and territories. Events were held in Gold Coast, Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville. In preparation for the event, SDCC developed predetermined EA

polygons covering event venues. During the Commonwealth Games, testing of the pre-prepared EA Watch Desk staff monitored the weather situation and familiarised themselves with the pre-prepared EA campaigns, testing them on a regular basis throughout the duration of the event.

Gayndah Earthquake – 28 April 2018

- On Saturday 28 April 2018, a Magnitude 3 Earthquake occurred 21km northwest of Gayndah. While Geoscience Australia received ‘Felt’ reports, no damage was reported.

Activations

There were six activations of the Commonwealth State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018. There were no activations of the State Disaster Recovery Arrangements (SDRA) between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018.

Declarations

There were three Disaster Situations declared pursuant to section 64 of the Disaster Management Act 2003 during the reporting period. Disaster declarations were made for Townsville, Far North and Mt Isa Disaster Districts.

Disaster Management Activities

The following is a sample of activities undertaken to maintain or enhance Queensland’s Disaster Management Arrangements during 2017-18:

- In August 2017, in response to the Inspector-General Emergency Management’s (IGEMs) identification that relief and recovery were the least exercised components of the Queensland Disaster Management Standard, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) delivered a recovery exercise for the SDCG.
- Approximately 300 Queensland Government staff received initial or refresher training for work in the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) and State Operations Centres. Roster officers were provided with updated process training to support efficient use of available staff and assist with management of fatigue. Additional meteorologists from the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) were also available to operate in the SDCC during the disaster season.
- The Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (QERMF) was used to develop the Queensland State Natural Hazard Risk Assessment, which identifies tropical cyclone and riverine flooding as equal high priority risks in Queensland.
- Completed comprehensive update of the State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP) which guides disaster management activity in Queensland.
- Hazard specific and functional planning was put in place for hazards with particular response requirements, such as electricity emergencies, heatwaves, and mass casualty incidents.
- An Energex Flood Risk Management Plan was implemented to address network impacts as a result of widespread flooding.
- The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) encouraged the use of the *Know Your Community* tool on the department’s website to generate community profiles to inform planning and logistical arrangements for disaster recovery.
- Queensland Government agency Business Continuity Plans (BCPs) remain in place and are updated at least annually. Agency BCPs generally include agency Disaster Management Frameworks; detailed business-critical information and communications technology (ICT) response and rapid recovery plans; and plans and processes relating to staff safety and communications.

- A BCP was also put in place for the Commonwealth Games Headquarters and exercising completed.
- IGEM commenced a review of capability at a district and local level for the Townsville disaster district.
- The QRA led a review of the Interim Queensland Recovery Plan which forms the basis of, and provides guidance for, disaster recovery operations and planning in Queensland.
- Two key disaster-related public awareness campaigns continued across the summer season. The Get Ready Queensland Program was officially launched on 9 October 2017 in conjunction with the BoMs seasonal outlook, with events and preparedness activities across the State. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) partnered with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) to deliver the “If it’s flooded, forget it” campaign, targeting a reduction in the number of people who die as a result of driving in floodwaters.
- The Emergency Alert system was exercised to ensure readiness to provide community alerts via SMS (text message) or recorded landline messages to emergency situations and what actions to take, as required.
- Energy Queensland participated in inter-agency exercises covering cyclone/severe weather, cyber security and load shedding business disruption scenarios.
- The Department of Natural Resources and Mines tested emergency readiness of all Queensland underground coal mines through annual simulations.
- QFES and QPS continued to collaborate on a joint review of damage assessment processes, focus on improving data collection, technology solutions for the future, data presentation and mapping.
- Queensland Health (QH) developed a Decision Support Systems mapping tool for use in the State Emergency Coordination Centre (SHECC) to provide a wide range of information on the capability, sustainability and resilience of QH’s building assets to withstand cyclonic and/or flood events.
- The Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS), in partnership with the Community Services Industry Alliance, has released a *Disaster Management Recovery Toolkit: Supporting and Encouraging the Role of Community-Based Organisations*. The Toolkit include information to help community organisations be disaster-prepared, resilient and better placed to support vulnerable people impacted by disasters.

Disaster Management Priorities

Disaster Management Priorities for 2018-19 are as follows:

- Implementing the Australian Government’s reforms to national natural disaster funding arrangements.
- Implementing the Resilient Queensland program to deliver on the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience.
- Building Queensland communities’ resilience to natural disaster through the implementation of a State-funded Disaster Fund valued at \$38 million over four years.
- Assisting communities recovering from Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie.
- Continued modernisation of the Community Recovery Disaster Management System, including programs to improve the disaster resilience of vulnerable people and support organisations, improve customer responsiveness, improve planning capability and enhance capability across the community recovery sector.

Abbreviations

BCP	Business Continuity Plan
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
DATSIP	Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
DCCSDS	Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
<i>DM Act</i>	<i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i>
DTMR	Department of Transport and Main Roads
EA	Emergency Alert
IGEM	Office of the Inspector General Emergency Management
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
NDRRA	Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
PPRR	Prevention, Preparation, Response and Recovery
QDMC	Queensland Disaster Management Committee
QFES	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
QH	Queensland Health
QERMF	Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework
QRA	Queensland Reconstruction Authority
QPS	Queensland Police Service
QTCCC	Queensland Tropical Cyclone Consultative Committee
SDCC	State Disaster Coordination Centre
SDCG	State Disaster Coordination Group
SDMP	State Disaster Management Plan
SDRA	State Disaster Recovery Arrangements
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SHECC	State Health Emergency Coordination Centre
SOC	State Operations Centre
STC	Severe Tropical Cyclone