



Queensland
Government

Queensland Disaster Management 2016 Strategic Policy Statement



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Queensland Disaster Management 2016 Strategic Policy Statement

Purpose

The Queensland Disaster Management Strategic Policy Statement informs the Queensland Government's strategic approach to keeping people safe and making communities more resilient to disaster risks and impacts.

Background

This Statement meets the requirements referred to in sections 18(a) and 49(2)(a) of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (the Act).

The Act governs:

- how Queensland Local, District and State levels of government work together to reduce disaster impacts and build the capacity of communities to manage disaster risks
- how disaster operations are focused on reducing: illness, injury or the loss of human life; the loss of or damage to property; and damage to the environment.
- the Inspector-General of Emergency Management's (IGEM) functions, including development of standards and assurance of disaster management performance.

Responsibilities under the Act are implemented through Queensland's disaster management system. The system includes regulations, plans, standards, policies and guidelines to facilitate effective disaster management across the four phases of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

Approach

Queensland has adopted the four principles of leadership, public safety, partnership and performance in IGEM's *Emergency Management Assurance Framework* to drive effective disaster management and continual improvement of the disaster management system.

The Queensland Government's disaster management objectives and strategies recognise that communities are at the forefront of disaster impacts and the importance of supporting communities to prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from and become more resilient to disasters.

Objectives

Strive to safeguard people, property and the environment from disaster impacts

Empower and support local communities to manage disaster risks, respond to events and be more resilient

Strategies

To drive an effective disaster management system we will:

- Ensure disaster operation capabilities are responsive and effective
- Build capacity, skills and knowledge to enable adaptation to changing environments
- Effectively collaborate and share responsibilities for disaster management across all levels of government, industry and communities
- Effectively communicate to engage all stakeholders in disaster management
- Incorporate risk based planning into disaster management decision making
- Continuously improve disaster management through implementation of innovation, research and lessons learned

Implementation

The State Disaster Management Plan will incorporate separate sections for the Queensland Government's strategic approach to disaster management and disaster operations. The Strategic Policy Statement will inform the Government's strategic section.

Reporting on the State Disaster Management Plan implementation is through the Queensland Disaster Management Committee annual report.