

# Summary

## Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2022–2027

### About the Strategy

The Queensland Government is committed to strengthening disaster resilience so our communities are better equipped to deal with the increasing prevalence of natural disasters.

The Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2022-27 (QSDR) promotes a systems approach to resilience that connects with a range of agencies and sectors to deliver improved outcomes for Queensland.

Queensland is the most disaster impacted state in Australia. Queenslanders are susceptible to hazard risks including flooding, severe weather, cyclones and bushfires.

We are facing unprecedented change in both our current and future operating environment with a dynamic political, social, economic and policy landscape surrounding disaster risk reduction and resilience. This is being amplified by natural hazards becoming more frequent and intense due to a changing climate.

Over the past 10 years, our thinking has evolved. We've moved from having a reactive approach to recovery to an approach that is strategic, proactive and planned. Our approach to resilience is locally-led, regionally coordinated and state supported.

There's been greater recognition that more work needs to be done. Looking forward, we need our leaders in communities, governments and other organisations to consider and recommend resilient results when making decisions, investments and developing core services, products, infrastructure and mitigation activities.

This new QSDR is for all Queenslanders – governments, businesses, individuals and communities – because stronger, safer and more resilient communities benefit everyone.

The new QSDR aims to embed resilience activities into business as usual and mandates the need for collaboration across stakeholders to ensure strategic commitments, actions and responsibilities are clearly outlined with agreed responsible lead agencies for delivery.

The QSDR was developed following extensive consultation with partner delivery agencies.

The QSDR identifies new strategic commitments that will embed disaster risk reduction and resilience into decision making, and address systemic disaster risk by coordinating across stakeholders and sectors. Risk reduction will be enhanced through capacity building programs, and there will be a focus on aligning investment pathway opportunities to local needs.

The QSDR will build on the excellent work completed to date. Every region across Queensland is now part of a locally-led and regionally-coordinated blueprint to strengthen disaster resilience. The Regional Resilience Strategies were completed as a deliverable under the previous QSDR and as a commitment under the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Sendai Framework.

With the new QSDR, we can continue that momentum, and strengthen the lines of resilience across human and social, built, economic, environmental and roads and transport.

*The following tables outline objectives, describe what success looks like, outline new and current strategic commitments and actions with lead agencies and partners identified alongside indicative timeframes.*

### Vision

The QSDR vision is:

***Stronger, safer and more resilient Queensland communities.***

### Objectives

- **Objective 1**  
We understand the potential disaster risks we face
- **Objective 2**  
We work together to better manage disaster risk
- **Objective 3**  
We seek new opportunities to reduce disaster risk
- **Objective 4**  
We continually improve how we prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters.

### Strategic commitments

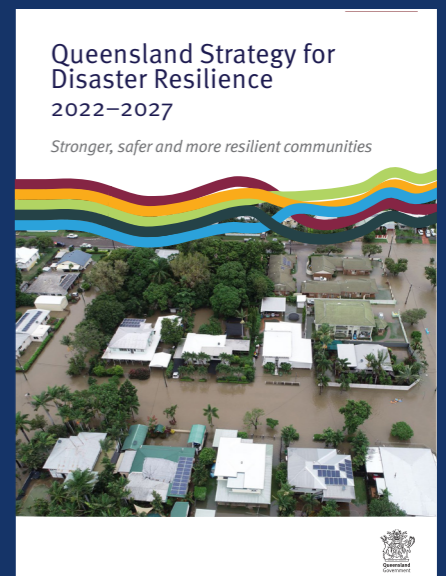
Through consultation with partner agencies, the QSDR reflects strategic commitments, actions and lead agencies that will strengthen disaster resilience over the next five years. These commitments will support future Queensland communities to be able to anticipate, resist, absorb, recover, transform and thrive in response to shocks and stresses, to realise positive economic, social, built and environmental outcomes.

### Delivery and monitoring

Lead agencies will be responsible for the delivery, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of actions with support from the partner agencies identified. To measure progress over time in developing increased levels of resilience, six-monthly progress reports will be provided to the Queensland Resilience Coordination Committee.

#### Read the QSDR 2022–2027

The Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2022–27 is available online at:  
[www.qra.qld.gov.au/QSDR](http://www.qra.qld.gov.au/QSDR)



## Objective 1 – We understand the potential disaster risks we face

### Describing success

Having a clearer understanding of potential risks empowers us all to make informed decisions so that we can better prevent, prepare and respond, and minimise recovery efforts.

We are resilient when:

- we have access to real-time information about disaster events and impacts to assist communities to understand local risk
- we continuously update, share and release natural hazard risk information across stakeholders to raise awareness
- we find ways to engage with hard-to-reach and vulnerable people such as those from non-English speaking backgrounds
- we build systemic disaster risk reduction considerations into our governmental decision making
- our community makes risk-informed personal, financial and household decisions every day

New Commitments		Actions		Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5+ yrs
C1.1	Embed disaster risk reduction, mitigation and resilience into decision making	A1.1.1	Explore opportunities to formalise lines of resilience into decision making and governance structures (in consultation with relevant state agencies) to increase the role of state-led delivery of resilience outcomes	All	QRA	State agencies	✓		
Current Commitments		Actions		Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5+ yrs
C1.2	Drive attitudinal, cultural and behavioural change across the state, enabling Queenslanders to anticipate, respond and adapt to disaster impacts	A1.2.1	Strengthening relationships with partners and key stakeholders with a renewed focus on a collective approach to promoting preparedness and resilience	Human and Social	QRA	DCHDE Councils	✓	✓	✓
		A1.2.2	Improve the information and intelligence systems that support decision-making in emergencies for both disaster practitioners and the community by harnessing available data, providing more granular and local information, and integrating systems (including disaster dashboards)	All	QFES QRA DCHDE	DES DEPW DAF Councils DTMR and DoR	✓		
		A1.2.3	Distribute human and social disaster management and awareness information in languages other than English and in accessible formats catering for a diversity of cultures and abilities throughout the regions, and using methods suitable for transient populations including tourists and visitors.	Human and Social	QFES QRA	Councils	✓		
C1.3	Understand the risks associated with a changing climate	A1.3.1	Undertake investigations on the long-term impacts of multiple hazards on settlements across Queensland – via integrated multi-hazard assessments	Building	QRA DEPW	Councils DES QFES	✓	✓	
		A1.3.2	Queenslanders understand the risks a changing climate presents to communities, businesses and the natural environment, and the economic opportunities for new sustainable industries	Environment /Economic	DES DAF QFES	DSDILGP Councils	✓	✓	
		A1.3.3	Queenslanders have access to the best available science, near real-time monitoring of hazards, impact forecasting information, and risk assessments and tools to support adaptation decisions	Environment	DES DAF QFES	DSDILGP Councils	✓	✓	
		A1.3.4	Prepare and continuously update risk studies, disaster management plans and risk awareness portals across all hazards	All	QRA QFES	DSDILGP Councils	✓	✓	✓
		A1.3.5	Continue to develop and implement the Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (QERMF) to better understand hazard risk, exposure, and vulnerability	All	QFES	Councils	✓	✓	
C1.4	Increase community awareness and preparedness for all hazards through community engagement	A1.4.1	Coordinate and administer annual Get Ready Queensland program providing total \$2 million in state funding to help local governments strengthen resilience of their communities	All	QRA	Councils	✓	✓	✓
		A1.4.2	Coordinate all-hazards, resilience building campaigns and initiatives to help Queenslanders prepare for natural disasters (Public Safety Campaigns and Get Ready)	All	QRA QFES	Councils Community groups	✓	✓	✓
		A1.4.3	Support local governments to understand their baseline disaster resilience maturity to strategically plan for more effective community engagement activities by developing and implementing a disaster resilience maturity matrix tool	All	QRA DSDILGP	DES Councils	✓		
		A1.4.4	Queensland implementation of the Australian Warning System to deliver a comprehensive approach to emergency warnings	All	QRA QFES	Disaster Management partner agencies	✓	✓	
C1.5	Initiate research and evaluation projects to promote the positive trajectory of building resilience in Queensland	A1.5.1	Lead continuous improvement in emergency management in Queensland through forward-thinking research activities to meet challenges faced by Queensland	All	IGEM QRA DES QFES	Councils Research sector	✓	✓	✓

For resilience initiatives currently being delivered and previously delivered under the QSDR visit [www.qra.qld.gov.au/QSDR](http://www.qra.qld.gov.au/QSDR)

## Objective 2 – We work together to better manage disaster risk

### Describing success

When it comes to disaster risk, we have found people most value their safety and security, the opportunity to thrive and prosper, and the reliable and continuous operation of critical infrastructure despite the stresses or shocks that may occur. We can always work better together to coordinate and concentrate our efforts to protect and enhance these values.

#### We are resilient when:

- our community is involved in disaster preparedness activities that meet local needs
- we encourage, promote, and facilitate shared responsibility for all Queenslanders in building disaster resilience
- cross sector and cross border collaboration ensures evidence of local vulnerability and risk is used to inform our decision making in providing baseline services of government
- we utilise individual capabilities and capacities to ensure everyone understands the role they play in contributing to the resilience of our community

New Commitments		Actions	Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5+ yrs	
C2.1	Address systemic disaster risk by coordinating across stakeholders and sectors	A2.1.1	Advocate for government investment in and consistent delivery of programs and initiatives to improve access and reliability of whole-of-government services in regional, remote and rural areas (including health, mental health, education, transport and telecommunications) to reduce the impact of long-term stresses and repeat shocks	All	QRA DCHDE QH DoE	Councils Community groups	✓	✓	
		A2.1.2	Identify and understand current and future risk using a scenario based approach to use this knowledge to inform decision making and community engagement - including strengthening of local and district disaster management plans to incorporate direct, indirect and systemic risks	All	QFES	Councils	✓		
		A2.1.3	Incorporate outcomes of hazard risk assessments into regional land use and infrastructure plans and support Councils to reflect this in local planning schemes where appropriate	Building and Environment	QRA DES DSDILGP QFES	Councils DAF	✓	✓	
Current Commitments		Actions	Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4yrs	5+ yrs	
C2.2	Develop locally-led and community-based solutions to the impacts of disasters	A2.2.1	Assist Councils to understand their baseline resilience levels and how to enhance resource allocation to meet resilience needs	All	QFES QRA	Councils	✓		
		A2.2.2	Encourage knowledge and information sharing by improving public availability and awareness of hazard mapping and risk resources (including through the Queensland Disaster Resilience Alliance, Queensland Government Disaster Management Site and Future Climate Dashboard)	All	QFES DES	Councils Community groups QRA	✓		
		A2.2.3	Continue environmental stewardship programs that protect and enhance Country, including natural resource management, land restoration and biosecurity programs, the Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger program, and other initiatives that incorporate First Nations knowledge, and ongoing proper management of State and private lands that conserves their significant natural and cultural values.	Environment	DoR DES DAF	Councils Community groups QFES	✓	✓	✓
C2.3	Build partnerships across community, industry, research organisations and government to better manage disaster risk and strengthen resilience	A2.3.1	Build public-private partnerships (ie. Insurance agencies) to develop recommendations to make homes more resilient to all hazards	Building	QRA	Insurance QFES	✓	✓	
		A2.3.2	Partner with special interest, community services and community groups to enhance support to vulnerable community members	All	DCHDE	Councils Community groups	✓		
		A2.3.3	Support Indigenous local councils to complete adaptation planning as part of a wider climate change program for remote communities	Environment	DSDSATSIP DES	DSDILGP Councils Community groups	✓		
		A2.3.4	Work in partnership with insurance, not for profit and community groups to harness existing capabilities in 'on the ground' resilience building	All	QRA	Councils Community groups Insurance	✓		
		A2.3.5	Work with First Nations councils to develop regional waste management plans, including the identification of actions to reduce disaster risk from legacy waste (e.g. abandoned vehicles, metals) and options to avoid future accumulation.	Environment	DES	Councils	✓	✓	
		A2.3.6	Continue to implement the QCoast2100 program aimed at assisting local councils impacted by coastal hazards to be proactive in adaptation planning to implement mitigation measures	Environment	DES	Councils	✓	✓	✓
C2.4	Implement the Queensland Statewide Assessment of Flood Risk	A2.4.1	Develop and implement a 10-year investment plan for flood risk management in Queensland, including the development of a Statewide Assessment of Flood Risk Tool to establish a systems approach to prioritising needs and investments in flood management	All	QRA	Councils DRDMW DoR QFES DES DSDILGP	✓	✓	
		A2.4.2	Continue implementation of the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan	All	QRA	Councils DoR DES QPS DTMR DSDILGP QFES DEPW	✓	✓	✓

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## Objective 3 – We seek new opportunities to reduce disaster risk

### Describing success

Having a big picture view of the interrelated and systemic nature of risk and a long-term commitment to disaster risk reduction helps us identify innovative opportunities for making our communities, infrastructure and environment stronger and more adaptable to future stresses and shocks.

#### We are resilient when:

- we incorporate resilience into everyday activities
- we take a proactive approach to resilience building, rather than a reactive one, and ensure resilience is a key consideration in long-term planning
- we have clear knowledge of the risk reduction and mitigation requirements / priorities across the state
- we understand how to link policy and funding to prioritised actions to progressively improve certainty of resourcing and delivery
- we collaborate locally and regionally on long-term risk reduction and resilience to plan for future generations, the economy and the environment

New Commitment		Actions	Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5+ yrs	
C3.1	Enhance risk reduction, mitigation and capacity building programs drawn from local need	A3.1.1	Continue to support local councils and communities in the implementation of Local Resilience Action Plans and Regional Resilience Strategies	All	QRA	Councils Community groups	✓	✓	✓
		A3.1.2	Further investigate partnerships with the private sector on investment opportunities in risk reduction and pilot innovative delivery mechanisms to achieve long-term adaptation and risk reduction	All	QRA DEPW	Council Community groups Insurance	✓	✓	✓
		A3.1.3	Support existing work of non-government entities (not-for-profit, community and private sector) in community capacity building programs and enhance linkage to state, regional and local resilience needs and priorities (with a focus on engaging with organisations that assist people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and poverty)	Human & Social	DCHDE QH	Community groups NDIA	✓	✓	
		A3.1.4	Improve the resilience of small and medium businesses through targeted activities and harnessing learnings from responding to and recovering from disaster events	Economic	DESBT	DAF DES Councils DSDILGP DRDMW	✓	✓	
		A3.1.5	Explore opportunities to invest in sustainable infrastructure and economic catalysts to create economic stability and resiliency to extreme weather events, particularly in regional areas	Economic / Building	DSDILGP DES	DTIS Councils DRDMW	✓	✓	✓
Current Commitment		Actions	Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5+ yrs	
C3.2	Deliver more resilient infrastructure to enhance connectivity and supply chain resilience	A3.2.1	Continue to administer the Queensland Betterment Program and identify and address repeated road impact hotspots	Roads & Transport	QRA	Councils	✓	✓	✓
		A3.2.2	Utilise best available data and evidence throughout the infrastructure lifecycle (planning, designing, constructing, maintaining and disposing) to better understand and respond to disaster and emergency risks and opportunities to strengthen infrastructure resilience	Building	QFES QRA DJAG QPS	QCS DCYJMA DES	None	✓	✓
C3.3	Protect and enhance the natural environment through effective land use planning	A3.3.1	Develop, preserve and enhance green and blue infrastructure to mitigate the effects of climate change	Building	DSDILGP DEPW DES	DTMR Councils	✓	✓	
C3.4	Promote the incorporation of risk reduction in all planning and development	A3.4.1	Design and deliver resilience programs that are place-based, reflecting local priorities and community characteristics that expand beyond traditional hazards to embed resilience and climate change adaptation	All	QRA DSDILGP DEPW	Councils Community groups	✓	✓	✓
C3.5	Encourage innovation in urban area design for living with the impacts of natural disasters	A3.5.1	Increase awareness of resilient building guidance	Building	QRA DEPW	QFES DSDILGP	✓		
		A3.5.2	Effectively deliver the Resilient Homes Fund designed to support Queenslanders whose homes were impacted by flooding to raise, repair, retrofit or have their home voluntarily bought back	Building	DEPW QRA	Councils DSDILGP	✓		
		A3.5.3	Incorporate climatic design and urban heat reduction considerations into public realm design when funding local projects such as streetscape revitalisation or public space upgrades	Building	DEPW	QH Councils DES	✓	✓	
C3.6	Further the understanding and management of natural landscapes to reduce the impacts and effects of natural disasters	A3.6.1	Explore opportunities to invest in the sustainable stewardship of natural assets (whether in public or private ownership) including increasing the capacity and capability of landowners to sustainably manage healthy historical heritage places, land and waterways	Environment	DES DAF DoR	Councils QFES	✓	✓	✓
		A3.6.2	Collaborate with fire authorities, State land management agencies, First Nations groups, neighbours and lessees on a landscape-scale approach to protective fire management and risk mitigation that builds resilience within the landscape to help reduce adverse impacts of large-scale, severe bushfires	Environment	QFES DES	Councils DoR	✓	✓	
C3.7	Build greater individual and business resilience and preparedness	A3.7.1	Enable and empower individuals, households, organisations, and businesses to build their resilience, paying particular attention to those people and groups who may be disproportionately affected by disasters	All	QRA DES DCHDE	Councils Community groups	✓	✓	✓
		A3.7.2	Uphold environmental regulation by monitoring environmental risks through a range of assessment, compliance, investigation and enforcement activities, to ensure environmental best practice and resilience to natural disasters	Environment	DES	Councils	✓	✓	✓

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**Objective 4 – We continually improve how we prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters**

**Describing success**

**Learning from past events and how they have impacted us as Queenslanders enables us to anticipate what’s next, improve our current practices, and adjust where required to dynamic and uncertain circumstances.**

**We are resilient when:**

- our disaster management systems are scalable and resourced to anticipate and respond to changing needs
- we are on a journey of continuous improvement to reduce existing risk and anticipate future events and their impacts
- we work across disciplines and organisations to proactively plan for resilience of people, property and place
- we embrace a culture of ongoing improvement through regular monitoring and information sharing
- we prioritise investments in innovative resilience building activities that align to long-term planning and objectives to strengthen resilience over time

New Commitment		Actions	Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5+ yrs	
C4.1	Align investment pathway opportunities to local priorities	A4.1.1	Review funding arrangements and opportunities to provide more streamlined, sustainable, and targeted resilience activities for communities, environments and places in need	All	QRA	DSDILGP Councils DAF	✓	✓	
		A.4.1.2	Develop and implement the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Efficiencies Framework to develop a clearer and more direct connection of funding to need	All	QRA	Councils	✓		
Current Commitments		Actions	Sector	Lead/s	Partners	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5+ yrs	
C4.2	Identify adaptation opportunities following disasters and recognising the impacts of climate change	A4.2.1	Direct public and private capital to finance new and/or adapt existing infrastructure that can increase resilience and measure the socio-economic and environmental outcomes of investments	Building / Roads & Transport	QRA	DEPW Councils DSDILGP	✓	✓	✓
		A4.2.2	Explore opportunities to address gaps in recovery, resilience and mitigation policy, particularly in light of climate change adaptation, where feasible	All	QFES DES	DEPW QRA	✓		
		A4.2.3	Transfer resilience and capacity building practices developed following certain hazard events (such as recent bushfires) to other hazards and situations (such as flooding) through a lessons learned process	All	QRA	DEPW DAF Councils	✓	✓	✓
		A4.2.4	Take opportunities to improve asset resilience in upgrade and renewal processes	Building	DEPW DSDILGP	Councils DTMR QRA	✓	✓	✓
C4.3	Drive continuous improvement in disaster management in Queensland via assurance frameworks and accompanying Strategy performance measures.	A4.3.1	Work with agencies to implement a monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework that includes lessons management to measure progress against resilience strategic commitments	All	QRA	IGEM	✓		
		A4.3.2	Explore opportunities to advance resilience in long term regional planning	Building	DSDILGP	DEPW Councils QRA		✓	✓

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