

The Inspector-General Emergency Management

The Queensland Government has recently established the position of Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM).

The IGEM is tasked with the establishment and implementation of an assurance framework to direct, guide and focus work of all agencies across all tiers of Government to the desired outcomes of the disaster management arrangements for Queensland. This framework will include outcome-focussed performance standards and a range of review activities designed to identify and action opportunities for improvement.

Mr Iain MacKenzie (AFSM, MLshipMgt) was appointed to the inaugural position of Inspector-General Emergency Management in October 2013. Iain's experience in emergency management within Queensland is extensive, having played pivotal leadership roles in the responses to most major disaster events between 2001 and 2012.

Iain served 32 years with the Queensland Fire Service and held the position of Deputy Commissioner for more than seven years. In addition, Iain has worked at Executive and Deputy Executive Director levels within the former Emergency Management Queensland and Counter Disaster and Rescue Services.

The Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management

The Office of the IGEM supports the IGEM and employs 22 staff who plan, develop and conduct assurance projects. Office of the IGEM staff come from a range of professional disciplines including social and applied sciences, strategic policy development, analysis and evaluation, inter-government and community relations, media and communications, project management, and business management. Many have significant experience in applying their professional expertise within emergency management contexts in Queensland, interstate and overseas.

The Office of the IGEM is structured under four main business streams:

- Community and Stakeholder Relations
- Emergency Management Standards, Best Practice and Evaluation

- Interoperability and Innovation
- Performance, Reporting and Policy Analysis

The activities of each of these areas are guided by a four year strategic plan and annual business plans. These plans provide the framework against which the Office of the IGEM will progressively monitor and measure the achievement of its strategic objectives.

Value and benefit

The functions of the IGEM are established within the *Disaster Management Act 2003*. The key priority is for the Office of the IGEM to facilitate improvement to Queensland's disaster management arrangements to enable confidence in the system and enhance public safety outcomes.

The initial focus is to collaborate with disaster management stakeholders in the development of an assurance framework that will reduce bureaucracy and the focus on compliance by providing a more adaptable system that incorporates:

- an ability to provide assurance, and mechanisms for enabling continual improvement;
- standards that support disaster management groups to develop a world-class emergency management program and enable analysis of performance against the standards;
- flexibility to achieve required outcomes;
- a clear and consistent approach to disaster management planning; and
- the ability to focus on local needs and recognise local limitations.

Contacts:

Phone: (07) 3029 8813

Email: info@igem.qld.gov.au

Web: www.igem.qld.gov.au

Postal Address:

GPO Box 1425, Mail Cluster 15.7
Brisbane, Queensland 4001

Location:

Level 26, 111 George St Brisbane,
Queensland 4000