

Inspector-General's message

I am pleased to present the Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management (IGEM) Annual Report 2021–22.

This past year has not been easy for the communities in which we live, the communities we serve and the disaster management sector. The COVID-19 pandemic situation has been compounded and complicated by four rainfall and flooding events that overlapped and cascaded onto the community between 16 November 2021 and 20 May 2022.

Ongoing challenges for delivery of community support, sustaining supply chains and managing fatigue within the disaster management sector underscores the importance of the disaster management sector, research sector and communities working together to deliver on shared responsibilities in planning and preparing, responding, and recovering from disasters.

IGEM has continued to work with existing and new partners and stakeholders to contribute to the Queensland Government's objectives of Safeguarding our health and Backing our frontline services. In 2021–22, IGEM worked to deliver the following activities:

- undertook the *South East Queensland Rainfall and Flooding Event February to March 2022 Review* (South East Review) including a number of community forums to enable delivery of the Report by 31 August 2022.
- conducted the *Locust Plague Capability Review 2021-22* in partnership with the Maranoa Regional Council, Roma District Disaster Management Group (QPS) and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
- delivered community awareness and resilience activities to support the implementation of the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan
- continued delivery of the Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Program and undertook Disaster Management Plan assessments
- delivered the inaugural Queensland Disaster Management Research Forum bringing together university researchers, disaster managers, government and non-government agencies through the Queensland Disaster Management Research Framework.

Our focus for the future will be to lead continuous improvement in emergency management in Queensland through our disaster management partners and stakeholder network. We will continue to seek opportunities to engage and learn from Queensland's first nations peoples in the sector.

The emergency management sector is a dynamic environment constantly evolving, this requires futures based analytical systems thinking to ensure the disaster management system is reflective of the increasing frequency, severity and compounding effects of natural disasters, and vulnerability to a changing climate.

Finally, I would like to thank our professional and hardworking IGEM staff and we look forward to continuing to lead continuous improvement across the sector in emergency management.



Alistair Dawson APM
Inspector-General of Emergency Management