

Question on Notice
No. 1049
Asked on 17 September 2025

MR M HEALY ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON D PURDIE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the 2023-24 Severe Weather Season Review and the 30 June Inspector General of Emergency Management (IGEM) Monitoring and Evaluation Report published in September, that shows of the 9 recommendations, only 1 recommendation is substantially implemented and 1 is partially implemented —

Will the Minister (a) outline the status of each individual recommendation, (b) outline the evidence, if any, that was provided by the responsible agencies to the IGEM for each of the 9 recommendations (reported separately by recommendation), (c) outline what steps are being undertaken by the Queensland Police Service to deliver on these 9 recommendations, (reported separately by recommendation) and (d) assure Queenslanders that the remaining recommendations will be implemented by the severe weather season?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) is responsible for recommendations 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 from the Inspector-General of Emergency Management's (IGEM's) 2023-24 Severe Weather Season Review. The remaining four recommendations require response by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (recommendation 3), Queensland Fire Department (recommendation 4) and the IGEM (recommendations 8 and 9) respectively.

Recommendations 1, 2, 5 and 6

In relation to recommendations 1, 2, 5 and 6, progress is underway as the QPS is delivering the Queensland Disaster Management Doctrine Review and Renewal Program (the Program). The Program is providing a structured framework for the continuous review and renewal of Queensland's disaster management doctrine, and the release of a revised suite of disaster management doctrine products informed by the disaster management sector.

Disaster management sector stakeholders are participating in the Program through stakeholder engagement workshops. Between 9 July and 1 October 2025, 21 workshops with a total of 480 participants have been held across Queensland, including in Cairns, Cooktown and Croydon. The considered approach to this Program of work will ensure long-term sustainable outcomes are achieved to support the disaster management sector and enhance community safety. For recommendations 1 and 2, an updated Evacuation Manual was released in December 2024. The updated manual is available on the Disaster Management Website

((https://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/551043/evacuation-manual.pdf)). However, this manual forms a part of the broader Review and Renewal Program and will be reviewed in line with the broader program objectives.

Similarly, an updated Queensland Warnings Manual was also published to the Disaster Management Website (https://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0035/549539/queensland-warnings-manual-v.1-101224.pdf) in December 2024.

Recommendation 7

QPS is also committed to recommendation 7 where it continues to work with partners to strengthen community warnings and public information during disaster events. The Queensland Warnings Manual provides a model of continuous improvement including information on the warning support model whereby the State Government supports issuing agencies during disaster events.

A Warnings Community of Practice has been established consisting of core members representing entities with a role in issuing Australian Warning System warnings. The purpose of the group is to share best practice and strengthen collaboration with disaster and emergency management practitioners engaged in public information and warnings activities.

I am informed that whilst work is underway to onboard a warnings common publishing platform for Queensland, the Warnings Community of Practice will ensure the successful creation and distribution of Australian Warning System warnings for the upcoming season.

Recommendations 3 & 4

I am informed by the IGEM that the relevant agencies (QRA and QFD respectively) have commenced work in relation to these recommendations and the monitoring and evaluation process will continue. For further information please contact the relevant agency directly.

Recommendations 8 and 9

Recommendations 8 and 9 ensure that the IGEM can contribute to clarifying the recommendations intent and effectively monitor the implementation of recommendations. These recommendations will be considered implemented once all associated work by the relevant agencies is complete.

In his 2023-24 Severe Weather Season Review report, the IGEM acknowledged that achieving long term, sustainable outcomes time will be required. As such, full implementation of all recommendations is not expected prior to the 2025-26 high risk weather season.

QPS remains committed to strengthening the disaster management system through a continuous improvement approach. This ensures that recommendations are not only actioned but embedded into practice that drives enduring sector-wide enhancement, supports operational readiness and contributes to safer, more resilient communities.