

The 2019 Monsoon Trough Rainfall and Flood Review

Terms of Reference for a review of preparedness for and response to the monsoon trough rainfall and flooding event across Queensland

Purpose

Section 16 C of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* provides the Inspector-General Emergency Management with functions including:

- to regularly review and assess the effectiveness of disaster management by the State, including the State disaster management plan and its implementation;
- to review, assess and report on performance by entities responsible for disaster management in the State against the disaster management standards;
- to report to, and advise, the Minister about issues relating to the functions above
- to make all necessary inquiries to fulfil the functions above.

In accordance with these functions, the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management will assess the effectiveness of preparedness activity for and response to the monsoon trough rainfall and flooding event in January and February 2019 that occurred in Queensland.

Approach

For the weather event in January and February 2019, the Review team will work closely with the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, local, state and federal agencies, and other relevant entities to assess:

- the preparation and planning by state and local governments and the community;
- the response to the weather event, including measures taken to:
 - inform the community;
 - protect life and private and public property; and
 - manage the supply of essential services;
- dam operations, in particular for the Ross River Dam, and associated emergency procedures;
- resourcing, overall coordination and deployment of personnel and equipment; and
- other related matters the Inspector-General Emergency Management considers relevant, including for example land use planning and building codes.

The Review will identify lessons that will inform continuous improvement in Queensland disaster management arrangements. The scope of these lessons will be bound by the Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland and other relevant doctrine.

In conducting the Review, the team will consider the views of community members, relevant agencies and operational staff, and also be informed by any relevant expert advice.