The Emergency Management Assurance Framework

Information Pack

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In October 2013, the Queensland Government established the new role of Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM) to ensure the best possible whole-of-government and whole-of-community arrangements exist to deal with emergencies and disasters in Queensland.

Further information:
IGEM Fact Sheet 1. – Overview of the IGEM

www.igem.qld.gov.au
The Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM) will provide vision, direction and leadership across the emergency and disaster management sector to ensure organisational and systems capability and performance to deliver the Government’s objectives and key disaster management related legislative requirements.

The way this will be done is captured in the IGEM Strategic Plan which was developed in consultation with key stakeholders.

The IGEM Strategic Plan outlines the Vision, Purpose, Values, Strategic Objectives and provides the direction for the Office of the IGEM staff.

This Plan includes key strategies that describe how we plan to deliver over the next four-year cycle (2014-18).
The Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM) is tasked with ensuring the best possible whole-of-government and whole-of-community arrangements to deal with emergencies and disasters.

To support this commitment to disaster management excellence, the Office of the IGEM has developed the Emergency Management Assurance Framework.

The Framework has **three parts** and is based on existing legislative responsibilities as prescribed in the [Disaster Management Act 2003](https://www.qld.gov.au/). The application of the framework enables agencies and disaster management groups to ensure their responsibilities are being met and to demonstrate that this is the case.

**Accountability is all about Responsibilities and Relationships.**
Released in September 2014, the framework is the crucial platform in the revitalisation of disaster management in Queensland. The Office of the IGEM has worked closely and thoroughly with stakeholders and disaster management experts in its development.
The Emergency Management Assurance Framework

More than 70 stakeholders have been involved in this work, from across all three levels of government, including local governments from the far north, far west and south east regions of Queensland as well as non-government organisations and government owned corporations.

This rare development approach of building and crafting the framework from the ground up, in close collaboration with stakeholders, ensures the relevance and value of the framework in fostering disaster management excellence in Queensland.
The framework’s journey commenced in October 2013 and will continue via a phased implementation approach from now to mid-2016.

This implementation approach will enable IGEM to work with the sector to integrate the framework across all levels of Queensland’s disaster management arrangements.

The key implementation elements include:

• Leadership and fostering partnerships to create a context conducive to change
• Assurance and Excellence Development Program, including:
  o Assurance Activities
  o Self-Assessment Survey
• Stakeholder forums and workshops

Sharing Responsibility, Accepting Accountability, Providing Assurance.
The Framework’s Assurance and Excellence Development Program (the Program) commenced in July 2014 with you providing feedback to IGEM about your key issues.

The Program uses feedback from assurance activities and the sector, to guide the Office of the IGEM’s program of work by understanding the issues and risks that require additional support or guidance.

What the Program means for your agency or group:
• You are able to raise issues for consideration by the IGEM
• Issues are addressed at the lowest possible level and with the least level of formality
• The focus of this Program is improvement rather than compliance
• Good practice is shared across the sector
The Assurance and Excellence Development Program

Sharing Responsibility, Accepting Accountability, Providing Assurance.

- Environment and Horizon Scanning
  - Observing, monitoring, engaging to identify issues

- Knowledge Management Program
  - Track report outcomes, validate recommendations, share insights

- Priority & Complexity Assessment
  - Executive Management Committee

- Analysis Program
  - Analysing data, documenting issues, context and suggested actions

- Enquiry Program
  - Assess, evaluate, review and/or research issues and provide reports

External Drivers

Disaster Management Sector

Click here for more information

Inspector-General Emergency Management
Assurance Activities are conducted in three tiers. Each tier represents the level of formality and involvement of the Office of the IGEM. All assurance activities guide improvement by enabling your agency or disaster management group to understand the level of performance you are achieving against the Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland.
The Self-Assessment Survey is a tier one Assurance Activity to assess, improve and provide assurance on the effectiveness of Queensland’s disaster management arrangements.

Potential benefits to you and your agency or group in completing the survey annually include:

• The opportunity to conduct an in-house quality system assessment of current practice to identify opportunities for improvement
• To determine priorities for improvement to your agency’s disaster management practices
• To determine areas of current exceptional practice you are already implementing
• To be able to monitor and demonstrate your practice improvement over time
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