

Our Executive Management Team



The Department of Emergency Services Executive Management Team. From left: (rear) Alan Brunner, Lee Johnson, Jim Higgins and Phil Clarke. (front): Michael Kinnane and Margaret Smith.

Michael Kinnane ESM, FAIM Director-General

Michael was appointed as Director-General in December 1998. Prior to this he held executive leadership positions within the department from 1990, including Director, CHEM Unit, and Executive Director roles in Statewide Services and the then Support Services Business Unit. Michael previously held positions with the Commonwealth public service and with the International Labour Organisation of the United Nations. He was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2003 for distinguished service to the public sector, and the Emergency Services Medal in 2005 for his leadership in reforming Queensland's emergency services into a unique model, based on coordination, collaboration and cooperation.

Alan Brunner MComm, BE(Chem) Executive Director, Counter Disaster and Rescue Services

Alan was appointed Executive Director in November 2002 after eight years service as Director, CHEM Unit. Alan has a strong background in private and public sector management and in the development, coordination and implementation of government policy. He is also the Executive Officer of the State Disaster Management Group.

Phil Clarke MRegSc, BAppSc, DipTeach, MAICD Executive Director, Strategic Policy and Executive Services

Phil was appointed Executive Director in May 2004. Phil held a number of executive roles in the TAFE sector prior to Emergency Services. He was previously the Institute Director of the Brisbane North Institute of TAFE and brings with him a wealth of experience in strategic policy and service delivery in the public sector.

Jim Higgins ASM, MPSM, MHA, AFCHSE Commissioner, Queensland Ambulance Service

Jim was appointed as Commissioner in April 2003. Jim joined the NSW Ambulance Service in 1981 and transferred to Victoria in 1983 where he gained experience as a paramedic, senior station officer, superintendent and General Manager Operations for the South-West region. Jim became an Assistant Commissioner in QAS in 1997 and gained appointment as Deputy Commissioner in 2002.

Lee Johnson AFSM, Assoc Dip AppSc (Fire Tech), FAIM, MIFireE Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service

Lee was appointed Fire Commissioner in January 2002. Lee began his fire service career in 1975 as a firefighter with the Townsville Fire Brigade Board. Lee has held fire fighting, officer and management positions on the Gold Coast, Rockhampton and in Brisbane. He is currently the President of the Australian National Road Accident Rescue Association and sits on the Built Environment and Urban sub-groups of the Australian Fire Authorities Council.

Margaret Smith Grad Dip BA, Dip Teach, B Ed Executive Director, Business Support Services

Margaret joined the department in 1994 and has held this position since May 1999. She has held key strategic leadership positions in public and private sectors. Her expertise has been demonstrated in organisational change management, industrial relations, education and training, public sector management and reform, strategic planning and policy development.