



## State Budget 2001-02



**Department of Emergency Services**

Budget Highlights

## Department of Emergency Services



### Message from the Minister

**This record Emergency Services Budget for 2001/02 will provide for improved service delivery to communities throughout Queensland.**

For the first time the Budget for the portfolio has reached half a billion dollars – substantially boosting our operational arms of Queensland Ambulance Service, Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority and Counter Disaster and Rescue Services.

Funding allocations will allow renewed emphasis on disaster management and mitigation, training of volunteers and enhancement of our aeromedical services.

Queensland Ambulance receives an extra \$20.1 million to maintain world-class service delivery standards across Queensland. An additional \$1.3 million boost will provide improved aeromedical and rescue services in partnership with the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Queensland Rescue receives a \$1.1 million injection to meet increased service demand, while the Bundaberg aeromedical helicopter service receives \$450,000 to provide enhanced services. Funds have also been confirmed for the continuation of a rescue helicopter service in the Torres Strait.

Importantly, communities across the State will benefit from a \$4 million commitment over three years to enhance disaster management and mitigation.

The Department of Emergency Services leads the nation in disaster planning and mitigation. This initiative will increase staff resources, knowledge and skill levels and further recognises the economic and social benefits of modern disaster management and mitigation.

The 2001-02 Budget also highlights the commitment by the Beattie Government and this Department to training and protecting our volunteers. The State Emergency Service and Volunteer Marine Rescue will benefit from \$1 million in ongoing funding for essential personal protective equipment, safety equipment and communications.

The Rural Fire Service has been allocated \$500,000 in additional funding for volunteer training – the first installment of a five-year package.

Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority will continue a seven-year appliance capital replacement program and reinforce the focus on equipment and capital for operational firefighters.

This is a Budget that enables improvements in all phases of emergency management and continues our commitment to frontline service delivery across the State.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Reynolds'.

The Honourable Mike Reynolds AM MP  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister Assisting the Premier in North Queensland

## Budget Highlights 2001-02



### Service enhancement

**The 2001-02 Emergency Services Budget reinforces the State Government's commitment to providing world-class emergency services throughout Queensland.**

This document identifies the major highlights of this year's record \$517.538 million Budget. The resulting improvement in services, infrastructure and support to our extensive network of volunteers will maximise community benefits.

Service enhancements include:

- \$20.1 million to maintain service delivery standards by the Queensland Ambulance Service in the face of increased demand from the growing and ageing population, and increased equipment and operating costs;
- \$4 million over three years for disaster management and mitigation;
- \$2.85 million to enhance aeromedical and helicopter rescue services, including \$1.3 million to support a strategic partnership with the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

### Capital program

**The provision of effective emergency service capabilities relies heavily on modern effective vehicles, equipment and facilities.**

The capital program for Emergency Services, inclusive of Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority and Queensland Ambulance Service, is \$51.1 million.

Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority's capital program for 2001-02 is \$27.4 million and includes:

- 108 new urban and rural fire vehicles;
- construction of 11 fire and rescue facilities to meet the operational needs of the upcoming year (one new station, seven replacement and three refurbished stations); and
- the third and final stage of construction of the world-class fire training academy at Whyte Island.

Queensland Ambulance Service's capital program for 2001-02 is \$20.6 million and includes:

- 26 ambulance stations will be commenced or completed during 2001-02 at a cost of \$3.94 million;
- \$730,000 for one refurbished and three new residences;
- \$830,000 for land purchases; and
- \$8.8 million for more than 85 new ambulance vehicles.

The Department's capital program for 2001-02 is \$3 million and includes:

- \$1 million to complete the Information Technology Infrastructure Upgrade Project; and
- \$2 million for the replacement of property, plant and equipment used in the delivery and support of emergency services.

# Department of Emergency Services

## Volunteer and community support

**The Department of Emergency Services supports and works in partnership with more than 85,000 volunteers drawn from communities across Queensland.**

Funding allocations in this year's Budget will allow renewed emphasis on protecting and training our extensive network of emergency services volunteers.

Volunteer support includes:

- \$1 million funding for the second consecutive year for essential State Emergency Service and Volunteer Marine Rescue personal protective equipment, safety equipment and support; and
- \$500,000 to allow the Rural Fire Service to start a five-year program designed to update and, where necessary, develop a range of new training and reference materials needed to facilitate delivery of distance training to Queensland's 45,000 rural fire volunteers.

Community support includes:

- \$150,000 in additional recurrent funding as the first part of a five-year commitment to improve the delivery of emergency services to rural and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities;
- establishment of a Community Engagement Unit to further enhance our linkages with the community, stakeholders and other agencies; and
- funding for the continuation of helicopter rescue services in the Torres Strait.



Queensland  
Government

## Contact

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For more information on Queensland's 2001-02 Budget visit:

[www.treasury.qld.gov.au/budget2001-02](http://www.treasury.qld.gov.au/budget2001-02)

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