



Mareeba Local Disaster Management Plan 2026–2027

The Mareeba Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP) provides the strategic framework for coordinated disaster management across the Mareeba Shire. The plan aligns with the **Disaster Management Act 2003**, the **Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA)**, and contemporary state frameworks, ensuring an integrated, all-hazards, all-agencies approach.

In Queensland, the disaster management system is led by the **Queensland Police Service (QPS)**. The Mareeba Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) operates within this structure, working collaboratively with district and state partners to support effective preparedness, response and recovery outcomes.

✦ **Capability-Based Approach**

This plan adopts a **capability-based approach**, focusing on the LDMG's ability to deliver critical functions regardless of which agency is responsible. Core capabilities include:

- Public information and warnings
- Evacuation and sheltering
- Resupply of isolated communities
- Coordinated, multi-sector recovery

Capability is strengthened through training, exercises, operational experience and continuous improvement.

✦ **Risk and Resilience**

The Mareeba Shire is exposed to a range of natural and non-natural hazards, including cyclones, flooding, bushfires and severe storms. Climate change is increasing the **frequency and intensity of extreme events**, while reliance on interconnected infrastructure introduces risks of **cascading system failures**.

The plan incorporates these risks into a structured risk management framework, supporting informed decision-making and targeted mitigation strategies. A strong emphasis is placed on **community resilience**, including partnerships with local organisations and support for vulnerable populations.

✦ Preparedness and Response

The LDMG coordinates preparedness activities to ensure agencies and the community are ready to respond effectively. During disaster events, the LDMG provides **strategic coordination**, supporting lead agencies while enabling a scalable, multi-agency response.

Response operations prioritise:

- Protection of life, property and the environment
- Timely and accurate public information
- Efficient coordination of resources and support

Recovery considerations are embedded early in response activities to support a seamless transition into recovery.

✦ Recovery

Recovery is a coordinated, multi-functional process addressing **human and social, economic, infrastructure and environmental needs**. Recovery operations are:

- Locally led and community-centred
- Coordinated across agencies and levels of government
- Focused on restoring essential services and building long-term resilience

Recovery planning aligns with **Queensland Reconstruction Authority frameworks** and is guided by impact assessments, community engagement and ongoing monitoring.

✦ Performance and Continuous Improvement

The LDMG monitors performance using **measurable indicators**, including:

- Activation and response timeframes
- Effectiveness of public warnings
- Timeliness of impact and needs assessments
- Recovery progress and community outcomes

Following exercises and disaster events, outcomes are reviewed to identify lessons learned and drive continuous improvement. The LDMG participates in assurance activities in accordance with the **Emergency Management Assurance Framework (EMAF)**.

✦ Conclusion

This LDMP ensures Mareeba Shire maintains a **coordinated, capable and adaptable disaster management system**, aligned with state expectations and focused on protecting the community. Through strong governance, clear capability focus and continuous improvement, the plan supports effective disaster management across all phases and builds long-term community resilience.

