

Proclamation – Emergency Services Reform Amendment Act 2024

Explanatory notes for SL 2024 No. 57

made under the

Emergency Services Reform Amendment Act 2024

General Outline

Short title

Proclamation – Emergency Services Reform Amendment Act 2024

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Emergency Services Reform Amendment Act 2024*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the Proclamation is to commence the provisions of the *Emergency Services Reform Amendment Act 2024* (ESRA Act) on 3 June 2024.

The ESRA Act is a component of a suite of legislative reforms that will restructure Queensland's emergency services and disaster management arrangements as recommended by the '*Independent review of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services*' and meet certain recommendations made in the '*Review of Queensland's Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA)*'. This will be achieved by:

- establishing Marine Rescue Queensland (MRQ) as a state-wide marine rescue service through the *Marine Rescue Queensland Act 2024*;
- establishing the State Emergency Service (SES) through the *State Emergency Service Act 2024*;
- aligning MRQ and SES under the control of the Queensland Police Service through the ESRA Act; and
- establishing the State Disaster Management Group within the *Disaster Management Act 2003* through the ESRA Act.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objective is achieved by fixing a commencement date of 3 June 2024 for the provisions of the ESRA Act that are not yet in force.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Proclamation is consistent with the policy objectives of the ESRA Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Proclamation is not inconsistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives

There are no alternative means to achieve the policy objectives.

Benefits and costs of implementation

Commencing the ESRA Act will improve Queensland’s emergency services and disaster management arrangements.

As outlined in the explanatory notes for the Emergency Services Reform Amendment Bill 2023 (the Bill), the estimated costs for government implementation will be met through an allocation of a total funding package of up to \$578 million over five years from 2023–2024 and \$142 million per annum ongoing.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

A Reform Implementation Taskforce was established to oversee and coordinate the implementation of the reforms to the emergency services portfolio. The Reform Implementation Taskforce consulted with relevant stakeholders during the development of the Bill. A consultation draft of the Bill was also provided to key stakeholders and stakeholder feedback was taken into account in finalising the Bill.

An Impact Analysis Statement has been completed that identifies that the Proclamation is not subject to regulatory impact assessment requirements under the *Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy* as it is a regulatory proposal that is machinery in nature.