

Southeast Queensland Health Disaster Readiness Alliance Symposium 2026

Preparedness 360

Navigating Crisis Before it Strikes

PROGRAM

24–25 September 2026
RBWH Education Centre



DAY 1		
7:30–8:30am	Registration and Welcome	Tea, coffee, networking
8:30–8:35am	Acknowledgement of Country	
8:35–8:50am	Opening address	Dr David Rosengren , Director General Queensland Health
8:50–9:00am	Event welcome	TBC
9:00–10:30am	Plenary 1: Mass Casualty Preparedness and Response	Chairs: Anthony Holley and Diane Bretherton
9:00–9:30am	Setting the Scene - Christchurch Mosque Mass Casualty Event	James McKay , Consultant Surgeon
9:30–10:30am	Panel discussion: How would we respond?	Panel members: Dr Marianne Gale , Chief Health Officer Queensland. Rear Admiral Sonya Bennett AM , Surgeon General Australian Defence Force. Queensland Police Service, TBC Stephen Zsombok , Chief Operating Officer, Queensland Ambulance Service. Mark Armstrong , Chief Officer, Queensland State Emergency Service.
10:30–11:00am	MORNING TEA	
11:00–12:30pm	Plenary 2: Frontline Strategic Leadership in Disaster Response	Chairs: TBC
11:00–11:15am	Frontline QAS Tactical Response	Matthew Meister
11:15–11:30am	Technical Response and rescue	TBC, Queensland Fire Department
11:30–11:45am	International Disaster Medicine Operations	Hector Fuentes
11:45–12:00pm	Public Health Response	TBC

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PROGRAM continued.



12:00–12:15pm	In country deployment of AUSMAT and resilience training	Angela Jackson
12:15–12:30pm	DISCUSSION TIME	
12:30–1:15pm	LUNCH	
1:15–3:15pm	Plenary 3: Surge Capacity in High Pressure Scenarios	Chairs: Michael Schuetz and Jenny Luke
1:15–1:35pm	Surge ICU capacity in SEQ	Shane Townsend
1:35–1:55pm	Trauma surge capacity	Carl Lisec
1:55–2:15pm	Paediatrics in a mass casualty setting	Roy Kimble
2:15–2:35pm	Mass Gathering, CBRN risks and contemporary practice	Mark Little
2:35–2:55pm	Surge capacity in regional settings	TBC
2:55_3:15pm	Aged and primary care strategies in a disaster setting	TBC
3:15–3:35pm	AFTERNOON TEA	
3:35–5:00pm	Plenary 4: Resilience, Wellbeing and Support in a Disaster	Chairs: TBC
3:35–4:00pm	Response and insights to the Bondi Beach attack	Mark Nicholls
4:00–4:15pm	Red Cross Response in a disaster setting	Deb Cox
4:15–4:30pm	Birdies Tree, Children's Health Queensland	Sophie Stone and Wendy-Kaye Rodgers
4:30–4:45pm	Forensic Profiling in a mass casualty event	Katrina Chiu
4:45–4:55pm	Southeast Queensland Disaster Alliance	Liz Rushbrook
4:55–5:00pm	Q&A	
5:00–5:15pm	Acknowledgements and close of event	
15:15–6:15pm	NETWORKING + DRINKS, RBWH EDUCATION CENTRE FOYER	