

Queensland
Counter-Terrorism
Strategy
2013–2018

Our Vision

Safeguarding the Queensland community through effective and collaborative arrangements to counter terrorism and its consequences.

The Terrorist Threat

Queenslanders enjoy the freedoms associated with living in a peaceful and democratic society. Unfortunately, the threat of terrorism is a real and enduring one which has the potential to undermine the safety and stability of our community. Since the terrorist attacks on the United States of America in 2001, successful collaborative efforts have seen the disruption of a number of potential terrorist events in Australia, which if carried out, would have resulted in loss of life and serious damage to property.

Queensland cannot afford to be complacent as the terrorist threat in this country continues to evolve and adapt as Queensland increasingly takes its place on the world stage. This Strategy will guide the efforts of Queensland agencies to work collaboratively with other Australian governments, the business sector and the wider community to implement and give effect to comprehensive plans and arrangements that exist to counter this threat.

Our Approach

The Queensland Government's approach is underpinned by the following principles:

- Building and sustaining resilience to terrorism is a responsibility shared between government, communities, businesses and individuals
- Actions to countering terrorism and its consequences will be intelligence-led and risk-based to ensure that our efforts are balanced, focussed and proportionate to the threat
- Security arrangements, policies, legislation and capabilities are adaptive and responsive, so that they remain contemporary, robust and effective
- Queensland's counter-terrorism efforts form part of a collaborative and coordinated national approach that takes account of the international environment.

Our Objectives

To achieve our vision the Queensland Government will:

Inform and Engage

Provide advice, education and guidance to Government agencies, business and communities to help them understand the risks of terrorism and the steps we all must take to reduce those risks. Initiatives include:

- Working with all levels of government, business and the community to promote a security culture and a shared understanding of risk
 - Developing and maintaining effective relationships to promote community resilience, social cohesion and reduce vulnerability to the influences of violent extremism
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- Providing information and guidance to key infrastructure owners and operators to raise awareness of emerging issues and threats and support best practice and compliance
- Using innovative communication tools and technologies to connect with and inform the community

Mitigate and Deter

Maintain and develop targeted preventative strategies and capabilities to minimise the likelihood and lessen the impact of a terrorist incident. Initiatives include:

- Applying appropriate intelligence, interdiction and investigative capabilities and tools to identify threats and implement effective pre-emptive measures
- Improving security and resilience by working in partnership with the owners and operators of critical infrastructure assets and systems to address vulnerabilities, meet emerging challenges and enhance business continuity and recovery
- Ensuring that efficient and effective regulation, compliance, control and reporting measures and mechanisms are in place to address and mitigate risk
- Ensuring that effective mechanisms are in place to enable and encourage suspicious activity reporting

Prepare and Plan

Ensure that effective capabilities, comprehensive plans and well-practised arrangements are in place to respond to and recover from a terrorist incident. Initiatives include:

- Reviewing and refining security policies, plans, legislative tools and regulatory frameworks to ensure that they keep pace with emerging risk
- Developing and maintaining agency capabilities that underpin capacity to gather intelligence, analyse threats and risk and deliver an effective and coordinated response in the event of a terrorist incident
- Exercising counter-terrorism arrangements to maintain readiness, assess and review capability and identify improvements
- Ensuring that security risks are considered and integrated as part of planning for and managing major events

Coordinate and Cooperate

Robust and effective governance frameworks are in place to guide and focus counter-terrorism efforts. Initiatives include:

- Ensuring that Queensland remains an active participant in effective national counter-terrorism arrangements through inter-jurisdictional and inter-agency cooperation
- Coordinating programs and activities to maximise outcomes that contribute to a strengthened Queensland and nation-wide counter-terrorism capability
- Building on existing networks, linkages and frameworks to facilitate improved information-sharing and develop partnerships between government agencies, and key business and community stakeholders
- Leveraging existing emergency management arrangements to ensure effective consequence management and recovery following a terrorist event

The Queensland Counter-Terrorism Committee will monitor the implementation of the Strategy across government and will report on activities and initiatives that give effect to the Strategy and the Queensland Counter-Terrorism Plan as part of the Committee's annual report to Government.

