

Delivery focus areas



Healthy waterways, rivers, aquifers and sustainable water management

Respond swiftly to climate change, using the best available science to maximise our water resources and sustain healthy, more resilient catchments



First Nations partnerships, access and ownership

Partner with First Nations peoples and develop sustainable practices that build on traditional wisdom and provide opportunities for social and economic development



Water for regional economic prosperity

Build state water infrastructure to boost established industries and jobs underpinned by long-term water security



Safe and secure water supply

Ensure every community across Queensland has safe and secure water, alongside support for boosting resilience and contingency plans even in times of severe drought or floods



Healthy waterways, rivers, aquifers and sustainable water management

DELIVERY FOCUS AREA 1
OCTOBER 2023 TO DECEMBER 2024

INITIATIVES	INITIATIVE OWNER
Finalise replacement of Mary Basin Water Plan	DRDMW
Progress the review and replacement of water plans for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Burdekin Basin Water Plan - Fitzroy Basin Water Plan - Pioneer Valley Water Plan - Logan Basin Water Plan - Gold Coast Water Plan 	DRDMW
Complete performance assessment reports for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Condamine and Balonne Water Plan - Border Rivers and Moonie Water Plan - Baffle Creek Basin Water Plan - Cape York Water Plan - Cooper Creek Water Plan 	DRDMW
Publish climate change information to raise awareness and literacy of climate change impacts on water	DRDMW
Continue to progress water reform efforts through the Rural Water Futures program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deliver Water 1Q enhancements and establish the future data platform - implement telemetry within the Queensland Murray–Darling Basin (QMDB) - amend water regulation to strengthen the measurement of water taken including telemetry 	DRDMW
Continue to implement the Great Artesian Basin (GAB) capping and piping with the Australian Government	DRDMW and the Australian Government
Develop a strategy to tackle rising groundwater levels in the Lower Burdekin that includes on and off-farm actions	DRDMW, DES, DAF and Sunwater
Ongoing engagement with water stakeholders on water initiatives including through the Water Engagement Forum (WEF)	DRDMW
Champion water resource projects led by Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisations in their delivery of water projects	DRDMW, DES, DAF
Improve the mapping of groundwater connectivity for Condamine Alluvium Groundwater System	DRDMW and Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA)
Deliver timely and reliable surface and groundwater monitoring data to inform water resource management	DRDMW
Continue to support Murray–Darling Basin Plan implementation	DRDMW
Deliver regulatory functions as outlined in the Regulatory Strategy and prioritised in the annual compliance plan	DRDMW



First Nations partnership, access and ownership

DELIVERY FOCUS AREA 2
OCTOBER 2023 TO OCTOBER 2024

INITIATIVES	INITIATIVE OWNER
Embed a state-wide approach to cultural engagement to strengthen participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in water planning, starting with plans under review	DRDMW
Deliver First Nations Water Strategy in the first year by engaging with First Nations peoples on country to inform a listening report with DRDMW and First Nations peoples	DRDMW
Partner with Queensland Water Modelling Network (QWMN) and University of Queensland (UQ) to develop and implement approaches to build trust and enhance communications between First Nations people, water modelling and the community through specific funded projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project 1: Githabul First Nations Water Modelling Project - Project 2: Incorporating First Nations Knowledge in Water Modelling 	QWMN including DRDMW, DES, First Nations organisations
Establish a First Nations Advisory Group to strengthen participation in and input to water programs	DRDMW
Deliver unallocated water reserves to support First Nations cultural, economic, social and environmental aspirations on Minjerribah in consultation with QYAC (on behalf of the Quandamooka People)	DRDMW and QYAC together with Minjerribah (Quandamooka Country) Steering Committee
Deliver initiatives to improve water supply security and wastewater services in First Nations communities	Partner with DSDILGP, DES, QH and First Nations councils
Include water initiatives in reframing the relationship plan	DRDMW
Finalise a statement of commitment to set the context for improved First Nations outcomes	DRDMW
Grant water allocation to Darumbal People Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body (DPAC RNTBC) under the Rookwood Weir Indigenous Land Use Agreement, along with other benefits in the agreement	DRDMW and Sunwater



Water for regional economic prosperity

DELIVERY FOCUS AREA 3

OCTOBER 2023 TO OCTOBER 2024

INITIATIVES	INITIATIVE OWNER
Deliver the Strategic Water Infrastructure Plan and Pipeline (SWIP)	DRDMW
Facilitate funding for enabling water infrastructure for Townsville City Council's Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct	DRDMW, DSDILGP and the Australian Government
Continue to implement recommendations from the Bradfield Regional Assessment and Development Panel's Report	DRDMW
Provide oversight of the planning and delivery of key water infrastructure projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Burdekin Falls Dam Raising project: Environmental impact assessment preparation - Rookwood Weir: Project completion - Paradise Dam Improvement Project - Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline - Seqwater Dam Improvement Program 	DRDMW, Sunwater, Seqwater, GAWB
Implement South East Queensland (SEQ) water initiatives under the trilateral SEQ City Deal program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deliver the SEQ Agricultural Regional Water Assessment, including opportunities to enhance food security and water use efficiency - support Lockyer Valley Regional Council with funding and advice in the Water for Lockyer project - support COMSEQ (Council of Mayors South East Queensland) in progressing the resilient rivers agenda 	DRDMW, DES
Develop recommendations for Queensland's approach to the Australian Government Water Reform Roadmap for improving integrity and confidence in Murray-Darling Basin water markets	DRDMW
Continue to deliver actions under the Queensland Water Markets Optimisation Action Plan	
Progress onsite investigations and technical analysis supporting the detailed analytical report for the Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project	Queensland Hydro
Continue detailed design and approval activities for the Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project	Queensland Hydro
Progress the detailed business case on a desalination plant in Gladstone to supply water to the green hydrogen industry	DRDMW
Provide water resource availability advice and opportunities to inform the McKinlay and Richmond Critical Minerals Zone Working Group in delivering the Critical Minerals Strategy	DRDMW
Deliver a detailed business case for water supply options in the Julia Creek and Richmond Critical Minerals Zone	Sunwater
Lead regional water assessments (RWA) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Southern and Darling Downs – finalise assessment - Bundaberg and Burnett – finalise assessment - Tablelands – finalise assessment - Central Queensland (proposed) - Burdekin – progress assessment - South East Queensland – refer to SEQ City Deal 	DRDMW



Safe and secure water supply

DELIVERY FOCUS AREA 4

OCTOBER 2023 TO OCTOBER 2024

INITIATIVES	INITIATIVE OWNER
Deliver the Urban Water Risk Assessment to identify drinking water supply and wastewater service risks in regional and remote communities	DRDMW
Continue to work with local government proponents to bring forward proposals for National Water Grid Funds (NWGF) for essential infrastructure to improve water security in regional and remote First Nations communities	DRDMW, DSDILGP and the Australian Government
Continue to work with local governments to deliver funding under the Building our Regions Round 6 Program for drinking water and sewerage services	
Deliver and implement revised SEQ Water Security Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - proceed with business cases for the proposed Gold Coast Desalination Plant expansion and Wyaralong Water Treatment (WTP) to determine if these are the best short-term options to meet growth - complete a new detailed business case by the end of 2024 for the next major enhancement: a new desalination plant 	Seqwater
Support at-risk towns with water security advice, including climate change resilience	DRDMW
Deliver a refreshed waterwise education program	DRDMW
Progress water security infrastructure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Toowoomba to Warwick Pipeline - South West Pipeline 	DRDMW Seqwater
Partner with the Australian Government to deliver urban water funding projects including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mt Morgan Water Supply Pipeline - Cairns Water Security Program - Haughton Pipeline Project Stage 2 	DRDMW and the Australian Government
Deliver Queensland Water Regional Alliance Program (QWRAP) to drive regional collaboration across nine regions to support water and sewerage services delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - analyse workforce skills gap to better understand regional training needs so staff can deliver water and sewerage services to communities - create workforce development opportunities through the Water Industry Worker (WIW), which provides coordinated and targeted training for water network and field staff or labourers - procure contractors at a regional level to provide economies of scale and scope and greater regional purchasing power - encourage ideas and tailored initiatives to address common regional water and sewerage issues through the annual meeting of the nine QWRAP chairs and coordinators - continue support of the statutory Key Performance Indicator Data Collection and data publication via the Queensland Urban Water Explorer online dashboard, which enables evidence-based decision making to continue improving service delivery 	DRDMW, Queensland water Directorate and LGAQ
Partner with DSDILGP, DES, QH and First Nations councils to deliver improved water and wastewater services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - support capacity of operator staff through Queensland Indigenous Councils Water Operators Network (QICWON) - leverage DSDILGP's Indigenous sustainability assessment to help inform DRDMW's Urban Water Risk Assessment, particularly in First Nations communities 	DRDMW, DSDILGP, DES, Queensland Health and First Nations Councils

KEY OF INITIATIVE OWNERS:

COMSEQ: Council of Mayors South East Queensland

DES: Department of Environment and Science

DRDMW: Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water

DSDILGP: Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

GAWB: Gladstone Area Water Board

LGAQ: Local Government Association of Queensland

QH: Queensland Health

QMDB: The Queensland Murray–Darling Basin (QMDB)

QWMN: Queensland Water Modelling Network

QYAC: Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation

DPAC RNTBC: Darumbal People Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body