

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

### Section 263 and 271B of the *Corrective Services Act 2006*

I, Paul Stewart APM, Commissioner, Queensland Corrective Services, reasonably believe a situation exists, that is likely to threaten the security of corrective services facilities and the safety of prisoners and staff at corrective services facilities currently within the warning area for Cyclone Alfred (Affected Centres), namely the predicted impact of cyclonic winds and flooding.

With the approval of the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Services and the Minister for Corrective Services, I declare under section 271B of the *Corrective Services Act 2006* (CS Act), that an emergency exists in relation to the Affected Centres for the period commencing on 6 March 2025 and expiring at 11:59pm on 19 March 2025 (the Declaration Period).

I have consulted with the State Disaster Coordinator and the Commissioner of the Fire Service in making this declaration who support this declaration.

The reason for the emergency is Tropical Cyclone Alfred is moving west towards the southeast Queensland coast. The Bureau of Meteorology has advised that there is a warning zone from Double Island Point in Queensland to Grafton in New South Wales, including Brisbane, Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast.

Hazards identified by the Bureau of Meteorology include:

- Gales with damaging wind gusts to 120 kilometres per hour are expected to develop along the southeast Queensland and northeastern New South Wales coastal and island communities between Double Island Point and Grafton from later today and persist on Thursday.
- Destructive wind gusts of up to 155 kilometres per hour may develop about coastal and island locations near and to the south of the track from Thursday afternoon as Alfred's destructive core approaches and crosses the coast.
- A dangerous storm tide may occur along the coastal foreshore, particularly in areas near and south of the cyclone centre, if the time of coastal crossing coincides with the high tide early Friday morning. Tides are likely to rise significantly above the highest high tide mark with damaging waves and dangerous inundation of coastal low-lying areas.
- Heavy rainfall is forecast for southeast Queensland and northeastern New South Wales from Thursday. Heavy to locally intense rainfall which may lead to dangerous and life-threatening flash flooding may occur near and south of the cyclone centre as Alfred approaches the coast late on Thursday and persist into Friday.

This declaration will lapse on the earlier of the end of the Declaration Period, unless earlier revoked or replaced by me.

While this declaration is in force I may:

- a) Restrict any activity in the corrective services facility, including, for example, restricting movement within the facility to the extent necessary because of the emergency;
- b) restrict access to the corrective services facility, including, refusing entry to the facility by any person;
- c) limit or withhold the privileges of a prisoner at the corrective services facility if the chief executive reasonably believes that because of the emergency it will not be practicable for the prisoner to receive privileges to the extent the prisoner would otherwise have received them;
- d) authorise police officers to perform a function or exercise a power of a corrective services officer at the corrective services facility, under the direction of the senior police officer present;
- e) transfer prisoners to another corrective services facility, including a temporary corrective services facility declared under section 271B(3)(b); or
- f) return prisoners to the corrective services facility.

**Affected Centres** means Woodford Correctional Centre, Brisbane Correctional Centre, Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre, Wolston Correctional Centre, Brisbane Womens Correctional Centre, Southern Queensland Correctional Centre, Borallon Training & Correctional Centre, Palen Creek Correctional Centre, Numinbah Correctional Centre, Helana Jones Correctional Centre.



Paul Stewart APM

Commissioner, Queensland Corrective Services

5 March 2025