

Impact Analysis Statement template

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of Sport, Racing and Olympic and Paralympic Games (DSROPG)
Name of the proposal	<i>Major Sports Facilities (Major Concerts at Brisbane Stadium (Lang Park)) Amendment Regulation 2025</i>
Submission type (Summary IAS / Consultation IAS / Decision IAS)	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	<i>Major Sports Facilities Regulation 2014</i>
Date of issue	December 2025

For all other proposals, complete below.

What is the nature, size and scope of the problem? What are the objectives of government action?

Under the Major Sports Facilities Regulation 2014 (the Regulation), Brisbane Stadium (also known as Suncorp Stadium and Lang Park) is currently limited to hosting up to 12 concerts each calendar year.

In late 2022, following community consultation, the Regulation was amended to temporarily increase the number of major concerts at Brisbane Stadium, from up to six to up to 12 per calendar year (for the 2023 and 2024 calendar years only), to satisfy an increase in demand for concerts to be held at the venue following the removal of COVID-19 related international travel restrictions.

In 2024, after further consultation with stakeholders, local residents, and the broader community, the Regulation was amended to permanently enable up to 12 concerts per calendar year to be held at Brisbane Stadium from 2025 onwards.

In mid-June 2025, Legends Global (the managers of Brisbane Stadium) advised Stadiums Queensland (SQ) that rising demand for concerts would likely result in the current cap of 12 concerts permitted at Brisbane Stadium being exceeded early in 2026 should these concerts be confirmed and booked.

SQ subsequently requested the Queensland Government consider a temporary increase to the Brisbane Stadium concert cap to up to 21 concerts for the 2026 calendar year only to provide Legends Global with the regulatory certainty and scope to meet anticipated demand and confirm further concerts.

Out of the 12 total allowable concerts at Brisbane Stadium per calendar year, Ministerial approval has already been provided for seven concerts by major international artists to be held over January and February 2026. Concerts for a further nine acts have already been sought by promoters for 2026, however, due to the current limit on the number of concerts imposed by the Regulation, Brisbane Stadium is unable to secure these events at this stage.

The objective of the *Major Sports Facilities (Major Concerts at Brisbane Stadium (Lang Park)) Amendment Regulation 2025* (Amendment Regulation) is to temporarily increase the number of major concerts that can be held at Brisbane Stadium for the 2026 calendar year only, to satisfy an increase in demand for concerts to be held at the venue, noting the associated economic and social benefits of hosting concerts at Brisbane Stadium and the support for more than 12 concerts per calendar year by community in consultation undertaken in 2024. More broadly, the purpose of temporarily increasing the number of concerts that can be held for 2026 is also to promote public participation in cultural life through the enjoyment of artistic and cultural expression.

What options were considered?

Option 1: Temporarily increasing the concert cap to up to 21 concerts for 2026

As this matter is currently prescribed by Regulation, a temporary increase to the total allowable number of concerts at Brisbane Stadium can only be implemented by amending the Regulation. A cap of 21 concerts has been identified by SQ and Legends Global as the best estimate of the maximum required to meet the extra demand for concerts from significant international artists at Brisbane Stadium for 2026.

Option 2: No change to the number of concerts that can be held

An alternative approach to the proposed Regulation would be to not make any temporary amendment to the current legislative framework and for the current concert cap at Brisbane Stadium to remain at up to 12 concerts for the 2026 calendar year. This option is not recommended as it does not provide the operating conditions required to meet increased demand for concerts at Brisbane Stadium for 2026. Additionally, this option may result in the forgoing of social, economic, and reputational benefits that staging concerts at the venue provide. It would also overlook the documented majority community support for calendar year total of concerts at Suncorp Stadium that is higher than 12, as captured during 2024 consultation.

Option 3: Temporarily increasing the concert cap to a number higher or lower than 21

Another approach would be to temporarily increase the number of concerts that can be held at Brisbane Stadium to a number greater than, or less than 21 concerts for the 2026 calendar year. A temporary increase in the number of concerts allowable for 2026 that is less than 21 could still provide SQ and Legends Global with an increased ability to cater to demand for concerts to be held at Brisbane Stadium. However, there would still be uncertainty as to whether the concert cap would be sufficient to meet anticipated

demand. Considering that SQ and Legends Global have advised that 21 concerts is the estimated maximum total number of allowable concerts required to meet demand, a higher number would be surplus to requirements.

Option 4: A permanent concert cap increase

Another additional approach would be to permanently increase the number of major concerts that could be held at Brisbane Stadium from up to 12 to up to 21. This approach would broadly align with the outcomes of the 2024 consultation on proposed amendments to the Regulation, with 60.4% of all responses and 56.7% of responses from those residing within the Lang Park Traffic Area indicating that their preferred number of concerts each year at Brisbane Stadium/Suncorp Stadium would be greater than 12. However, DSROPG has not received advice that the demand for concerts at Brisbane Stadium in 2026 is likely to continue at this level beyond 2026. In addition, considering an increase from up to 12 concerts in a calendar year to up to 21 concerts in a calendar year would be a significant increase if made permanent, it has been determined that further evaluation, including community consultation, should take place regarding the on-going benefits and impacts of concerts held at Brisbane Stadium prior to any potential future regulatory decision-making on this matter.

What are the impacts?

Temporarily increasing the number of concerts allowable at Brisbane Stadium/Suncorp Stadium for the 2026 calendar year from up to 12 to up to 21 may have potential negative impacts on the communities neighbouring the stadium. These impacts may include, but are not limited to, increases in noise, traffic, lighting, and other general nuisances. These impacts also have implications for the human rights of residents in the areas surrounding Brisbane Stadium. Temporarily increasing the concert cap to a number higher or lower than 21 would also cause these impacts to a similar extent, with a permanent increase causing an increase in the frequency of these impacts on an on-going basis. If there were to be no increase in the number of concerts, the frequency of these impacts would remain at their current level, noting that up to 12 concerts are already permitted per calendar year.

Under existing provisions in the Regulation, operators as well as hirers of Brisbane Stadium, are required to ensure that concerts comply with relevant conditions for noise, lighting, building, operating hours, and notification requirements and with transport and operational management plans. These stakeholders are also required to submit summarised details of the event including the number, location and type of any complaints received, as well as details on noise measurements and other information relevant to the consideration of negative impacts from the event on the residents of neighbouring communities.

Should the proposed Amendment Regulation proceed to temporarily increase the Brisbane Stadium concert cap to up to 21 concerts for 2026, these existing provisions which aim to mitigate impacts experienced by residents neighbouring Brisbane Stadium will remain in effect and will continue to ensure that operators and hirers comply with appropriate operating standards.

Results of the previous 2024 consultation on the number of concerts held at Suncorp stadium, including less supportive responses to categorical and open-ended survey questions from local residents, have been shared with SQ and the stadium operator to ensure relevant feedback can inform enhancement of transport and other operational management plans, wherever possible.

It is also expected that the proposal would have positive impacts, such as an increase in touring artists and special events to Brisbane, leading to increases in tourism, employment opportunities, and revenue for local businesses. Additionally, this proposal may further enhance Brisbane's global reputation as a premier destination for national and international touring artists.

The Brisbane Economic Development Agency estimated in 2022 that a large concert event at Brisbane Stadium selling 50,000 tickets generates \$21.2 million dollars of economic activity, supports approximately 650 full-time equivalent jobs and brings an estimated 30,000 out of region visitors to Brisbane, including intrastate, interstate and international visitors. In addition, it has been estimated that the four Edinburgh Military Tattoo shows scheduled to take place in February 2026 will generate approximately \$39 million for the Queensland economy.

There would be no compliance costs for local businesses, community or government resulting from the proposed option of regulatory amendment.

Any regulation costs of complying with mitigation strategies set out in the Regulation for special events (in order to moderate the impacts of events on the surrounding community) will be borne by the venue hirer or promoter. For example, increased police presence will be required as a result of the increased numbers of concerts. Police presence depends on a number of factors considered in a risk assessment done by the Queensland Major Events Policing team. The cost of police is passed through to the concert promoter or hirer, this cost is not borne by government, SQ nor the stadium operator. Furthermore, concerts at Brisbane Stadium/Suncorp Stadium are profitable and are not supported or subsidised by taxpayer funds. Potential exceptions to this would include charity events such as the Fire Fight Australia Concert for National Bushfire Relief that was held at ANZ Stadium in Sydney in February 2020.

Furthermore, all Brisbane Stadium events use integrated ticketing. The cost for transport services is included in the ticket price. Transport costs are then recouped from the hirer at event settlement.

Ultimately, any additional costs due to an increase in the amount of concerts at Suncorp Stadium are borne by the hirer or promoter – whether that be additional transport costs or the cost of an increased police presence.

Who was consulted?

Between 16 February and 12 March 2024, statewide consultation took place on a previous regulatory proposal to permanently increase the Brisbane Stadium concert cap from up to six to up to 12 concerts per calendar year. Consultation was undertaken through a survey hosted on the *Get Involved* website, including the option to provide a written submission. Direct invitation to other stakeholders, including local governments, was also provided. Consistent with the *Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy*, consultation was promoted through various channels to ensure that the local community and other interested stakeholders had reasonable opportunity to engage with and respond to the survey. Respondents were consulted on a range of potential concert cap limits, namely:

- no change (up to six concerts per year)
- up to eight concerts per year
- up to 10 concerts per year
- up to 12 concerts per year
- more than 12 concerts per year.

During the consultation period, 442 responses were received comprising 434 online survey responses and eight written submissions. A clear majority of respondents (81.3%) either agreed (9.9%) or strongly agreed (71.4%) that Brisbane Stadium should be permitted to hold up to 12 concerts per year on a permanent basis from 2025 onwards. Respondents indicated that concerts were an important part of Brisbane's cultural fabric and international reputation. Based on the findings of this consultation, a permanent amendment to the Regulation concert cap, increasing it from up to six to up to 12 concerts per calendar year from 2025 was made in late 2024. However, it should also be noted that most respondents (60.4%) also specified their preference for the cap to be greater than 12 concerts per year, including those living within the Lang Park Traffic Area (56.7%). Further evaluation will take place after the implementation of the temporary increased concert cap to determine ongoing benefits and impacts of concerts at Suncorp Stadium.

Results of consultation from 2024, including feedback from local residents on noise, traffic and other impacts from concerts, such as anti-social behaviour of patrons, were shared with SQ and the stadium operator to ensure relevant feedback can support enhancement of transport and other operational management plans for concerts, wherever possible.

What is the recommended option and why?

Following the results of community consultation in 2024 as well as consultation with SQ, the recommended option is to temporarily increase the prescribed number of concerts allowable at Brisbane Stadium from up to 12 to up to 21 concerts for the 2026 calendar year only. This proposal for a temporary increase to the Brisbane Stadium concert cap is seen as a sensible option which allows for the stadium operators to meet short-term demand from concert promoters to hold concerts at Brisbane Stadium, without prematurely anticipating future demand. It would also provide an opportunity to evaluate the benefits and impacts of a regulatory environment in which more than 12 concerts are permitted, which could inform any future consideration of this matter post-2026.

Ultimately, a temporary increase in the concert cap to up to 21 concerts for 2026 only will provide a significant boost to the economy, satisfy demand for large concert events, support the entertainment industry, and represent the views and support from a majority of respondents to the 2024 consultation process, including respondents who are local residents and business owners. The proposal to temporarily increase the Brisbane concert cap to up to 21 per year for the 2026 calendar year only will ensure demand for large concert events is satisfied, and economic benefit is maximised, noting that operational management plans in place to mitigate adverse local-area impacts will continue.

Impact assessment

All proposals – complete [do not delete]:

	First full year	First 10 years**
Direct costs – Compliance costs*	See impacts above	N/A
Direct costs – Government costs	0	N/A

* The *direct costs calculator tool* (available at qpc.qld.gov.au/best-practice-regulation) should be used to calculate direct costs of regulatory burden. If the proposal has no costs, report as zero. **Agency to note where a longer or different timeframe may be more appropriate.

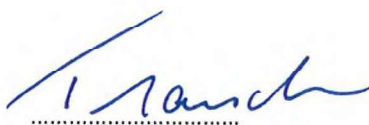
Signed



Andrew Hopper, Director-General

Department of Sport, Racing and
Olympic and Paralympic Games

Date: 21.11.25



Tim Mander MP

Minister for Sport and Racing
Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

Date: 24/11/25