

Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of Sport, Racing and Olympic and Paralympic Games
Name of the proposal	Sunset review of the <i>Major Sports Facilities Regulation 2014</i>
Submission type (<i>Summary IAS / Consultation IAS / Decision IAS</i>)	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	<i>Major Sports Facilities Regulation 2014</i>
Date of issue	17 August 2026

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

Overview of Sunset Review

The Department of Sport, Racing and Olympic and Paralympic Games (the Department) has administrative responsibility for the *Major Sports Facilities Act 2001* (the MSF Act) and the *Major Sports Facilities Regulation 2014* (the 2014 Regulation). Subject to section 54 of the *Statutory Instruments Act 1992*, the 2014 Regulation was due to expire on 1 September 2024. Following extensions, the 2014 Regulation now expires on 1 September 2026.

Purpose of the 2014 Regulation

The purpose of the MSF Act is to provide for the management, operation, use, development and promotion of facilities in Queensland for staging national or international sports, recreational or entertainment events, special events and for other purposes.

The MSF Act achieves this by providing a single legislative framework for the management of the State's major sports facilities. The MSF Act also establishes Stadiums Queensland as the authority responsible for managing, operating, using, developing and promoting facilities in Queensland for the staging of national and international sport, recreational, entertainment or special events. The MSF Act establishes Stadiums Queensland as an independent statutory authority that does not represent the State. The MSF Act also explicitly allows for the use of a major sports facility special events prescribed by regulation and creates a mechanism for prescribing conditions for special events (e.g. to control noise in order to manage impacts on resident community).

The 2014 Regulation supports the MSF Act by:

- Listing major sports facilities declared under the MSF Act.
- Providing the definition of a major sport event crowd size for Brisbane Stadium (Lang Park) / Suncorp Stadium (Suncorp Stadium).
- Providing conditions for special events (concerts and religious events) at Suncorp Stadium.
- Providing a list of prescribed events held by specific sporting organisations at major sports facilities that are automatically protected under the MSF Act ambush marketing/unauthorised advertising provisions.

The 2014 Regulation provides for special events at Suncorp Stadium and the conditions for these events, including various operational and administrative matters, the maximum number of special events able to be held per calendar year, and the crowd size number which provides the definition of a major sport event at Suncorp Stadium. Many of these provisions have been included for and continue to be relevant to protecting local residents from disamenity associated with events.

The impact of the 2014 Regulation and MSF Act is broad, with major sports facilities welcoming more than 5.5 million patrons at more than 130 major sport events and 40 special events across all facilities in the 2024-25 financial year. With Suncorp Stadium, which the 2014 Regulation plays a key role in regulating, patronage sat at 1,523,681 at major events (sports and special) during the 2024-25 financial year. The 2014 Regulation regulates Suncorp Stadium by allowing special events and setting the minimum crowd size for a major sport event. Special events and major sport event crowd sizes provide broad benefits to attendees, as well as local businesses, by attracting major events and increased spending to the local area. Conversely, while the stipulated conditions impose costs on event holders, they play a vital role in limiting disamenity for local residents. The 2014 Regulation also plays a role in declaring facilities as major sports facilities, allowing the MSF Act to function.

The role of the 2014 Regulation in setting conditions for special events and crowd sizes for major sport events also has a significant impact on the costs related to the operation of major events in Queensland stadiums. A stadium taskforce report in 2018 estimated that across key stadiums managed by Stadiums Queensland, public transport accounted for 30 per cent of event-day costs recovered from event hirers, security and policing accounted for 25 per cent and traffic management accounted for 10 per cent. These are costs that are significantly impacted by the 2014 Regulation on a broad level as the regulation vests property in the facilities in Stadiums Queensland, but also on a specific level for Suncorp Stadium. The transport management plan and operational management plan provisions set out requirements for the effective management of public transport, security and policing and traffic management. These provisions have a continuing need as while these matters impose significant costs on event hirers, the effective management of them provides significant benefits for both patrons and local residents.

A sunset review of the 2014 Regulation is required to evaluate the continuing need, effectiveness, and efficiency of the regulation. A consultation process was undertaken between 23 April 2025 and 6 May 2025 to inform the sunset review of the 2014 Regulation. The objective of this regulatory proposal is to evaluate the ongoing need for the following necessary matters:

Declaring major sports facilities

Section 4 of the MSF Act stipulates that the 2014 Regulation declares facilities that are classified as major sports facilities. Major sports facilities are facilities that have the capacity to stage national or international sports, recreational or entertainment events, or special events. Upon making the declaration, property in the facility vests in Stadiums Queensland. Additional parameters are set out for declaring a major sports facility that are designed to ensure the process occurs in a transparent manner. Due to the structure of section 4 of the Act, provisions in the 2014 Regulation declaring major sports facilities are necessary for the operation of the MSF Act.

Section 3 of the 2014 Regulation sets out that the facilities mentioned in Schedule 1 are declared major sports facilities for the purposes of section 4 of the MSF Act. This method of declaring major sports facilities provides a mechanism to ensure that the list of declared major sports facilities is current and fit for purpose. This approach allows the government to flexibly amend the list of major sports facilities through a regulation amendment process, a significantly less time-consuming and costly approach than an amendment bill.

Brisbane Stadium (Lang Park) / Suncorp Stadium major sport event crowd size

Section 30AL of the MSF Act defines a major sport event as a national or international sport event that has a crowd size of more than the number prescribed by regulation. Section 30AN prescribes that no more than 24 major sport events each year may lawfully be held at Suncorp Stadium. For the proper operation of these provisions, it is necessary for the 2014 Regulation to prescribe a minimum crowd size above which provides the definition of a major sport event.

Section 4 of the 2014 Regulation prescribes the minimum size for major sport events under the MSF Act as 45,000 attendees. This section has previously been amended by the Major Sports Facilities Amendment Regulation 2024, raising this number from 35,000 to 45,000 to meet increased demand for major sport events at Suncorp Stadium. This exemplifies the ongoing need for the major sport event crowd size limit to

be prescribed by regulation as it provides a flexible alternative to amending the MSF Act. Amending the 2014 Regulation is a significantly less time-consuming and costly alternative to an amendment bill.

Prescribed events for advertising provisions

Section 30D of the MSF Act defines a prescribed event for the purposes of the unauthorised advertising provisions under the MSF Act as an event held at a major sports facility, prescribed by regulation and organised by a national or international body prescribed by regulation for the type of event. Section 30E provides a method of gazettal by Governor in Council to declare events for the purpose of the advertising provisions. Section 30F and section 30G respectively restrict unauthorised advertising and provide a method for authorised advertising at declared events under the MSF Act. The purpose of this part is to protect event sponsors from unauthorised advertising by rival businesses which have not contributed to the event. This is an important consideration for the event organisers who hire the facilities and was inserted into the MSF Act in 2006 as a direct response to ambush marketing by Holden, which employed an aerial blimp at the AFL Grand Final.

Section 5A of the 2014 Regulation sets out that for section 30D of the MSF Act, a *prescribed event* is one for which entry tickets are issued, and is held at a major sports facility organised, scheduled or endorsed by a national or international body specified in Schedule 3. The purpose of this clause is to provide for the operation to the MSF Act in a flexible manner to allow for a list of prescribed events that is fit for purpose. Automatically protecting sporting events through their listing in Schedule 3 has provided substantial administrative efficiency, as opposed to individually declaring events through Governor in Council approval and gazettal. This provision of the 2014 Regulation has been effective at prohibiting ambush marketing and protecting event sponsors, evidenced by there being no ambush marketing at major sports facilities for events during restricted advertising periods, since the introduction of the provisions following the ambush marketing by Holden at the AFL Grand Final.

Concert conditions for special events at Brisbane Stadium (Lang Park) / Suncorp Stadium

The Development Approval (DA) for Suncorp Stadium did not allow for concerts or religious events (referred to as 'special events' under the MSF Act) to be held at the venue. Section 30A of the MSF Act was introduced in 2006 to override development approvals under the Planning Act to allow for special events as a lawful use of major sports facilities, subject to conditions. Section 30A, subsection 5 allows a regulation to prescribe special event conditions. The purpose of this part of the 2014 Regulation is to provide a mechanism to contemporise the use of Suncorp Stadium although the part was drafted generically to allow for the staging of special events at other major sports facilities where an override of some other head of power is required.

Section 5 and Schedule 2 of the 2014 Regulation prescribe the conditions for special events at Suncorp Stadium. In brief, the following is currently stipulated:

- The number of concerts to be held per calendar year (up to 12, but up to 21 in 2026)
- That a transport management plan and an operational management plan must be prepared and given to the chief executive before a special event begins
- The standards for lighting that must be complied with
- That building work complies with relevant legislation, and a stage and seating plan is given to the chief executive and complied with
- The operating hours for special events and sound tests/rehearsals
- Stadiums Queensland must notify the occupiers of the land impacted by the special event by letter drop box.
- The mechanism for required noise measurement of special events
- That a report must be prepared for the chief executive following a special event
- An additional report must be prepared for the chief executive by an accredited acoustical consultant.

The purpose of these conditions is to minimise the impact on residential amenity as a result of special events and provide reassurance to the community following the override of the DA for Suncorp Stadium to allow for special events to be held at the facility.

To evaluate if the Regulation is effective in minimising impacts on residential amenity, a review of the publicly available post-concert reports released since the establishment of the 2014 Regulation was undertaken. Exceedances have been minimal in the last five years, with only two concerts recording exceedances, which were minor, remedied immediately, and remained consistent with the 2014 Regulation requirements (e.g. only one limit was exceeded, which is permitted under the 2014 Regulation).

Noise measurement has been effective under the 2014 Regulation, with concerts remaining consistent with regulatory requirements. Where there have been exceedances of one noise limit at certain times, the noise measurement model under the 2014 Regulation has allowed the operator to remedy these issues immediately. This has resulted in no more than 10 noise complaints at any event since 2014, with one exception. This exception was an Ed Sheeran concert in 2023. However, this was a three-day event, and the complaints were due to the sound emanating from a different area than a typical concert (i.e. concert in the round staging).

Additionally, when noise complaints have been received by the stadium operator, the operator has deployed additional resources to the local neighbourhood to respond. As a part of this process, noise measurements at complaint locations have never been found to exceed the relevant noise limit under the 2014 Regulation.

To assist with broader complaints and issues, the stadium operator established a concert hotline for local residents and business during special events, which were also detailed in the post-concert reports. The vast majority of complaints from local residents concerned patron behaviour in the areas surrounding Suncorp Stadium. While the control of patron behaviour falls outside of the scope of the 2014 Regulation, it is noted that the stadium operator followed up with all complaints and distributed feedback to relevant areas to ensure continuous improvement.

A number of these conditions have been regularly reviewed and amended to meet the current operational needs of the stadium. These conditions are still necessary to ensure the proper function of special events at the facility. However, consultation with the public and key stakeholders identified various issues with these conditions, which included:

- burdensome requirements for operational / transport management plans for special events (i.e., concerts or religious events) which require repeated approvals by the Suncorp Stadium Management and Advisory Committee (SSMAC) and the Chief Executive Officer, Stadiums Queensland
- outdated disability language used in the transport management plan provision
- An outdated method to notify the community of special events. Stakeholders noted that the letterbox drop method costs \$10,000 per event and is antiquated as modern technology provides cost-effective alternatives
- the need to update an outdated noise monitoring location to ensure accurate measurements
- general public concerns regarding local resident amenity.

These issues have been considered when developing Option 3.

What options were considered?

Option 1 – No regulation – The 2014 Regulation is allowed to expire (status quo)

Declaring major sports facilities

Section 4 of the MSF Act states that a facility is considered a major sports facility if it is declared by regulation to have the capacity to stage national or international sports, recreational or entertainment events, or special events. On the making of this declaration, property in the relevant facility vests in the Authority (Stadiums Queensland). Section 3 of the 2014 Regulation declares the facilities listed in Schedule 1 of the 2014 Regulation are major sports facilities for the purpose of section 4 of the MSF Act.

Allowing these provisions to expire will remove all considerations of facilities as major sports facilities under the MSF Act. If this occurs, no provisions in the MSF Act will apply to the use of facilities as major sports facilities (e.g. ticket resale, advertising, use for special events, traffic and noise control). Additionally, property in the relevant facilities will no longer be vested in Stadiums Queensland as the Authority. An alternative method of achieving these purposes would need to be investigated by the Government (e.g. covering these matters in the MSF Act itself), which may increase administrative burden and reduce legislative flexibility.

Brisbane Stadium (Lang Park) / Suncorp Stadium major sport event crowd size

Section 30AL of the MSF Act defines a major sport event as having a crowd size more than a number prescribed by regulation. Section 4 of the 2014 Regulation prescribes the minimum size for major sport events under the Act as 45,000.

Allowing the 2014 Regulation to expire will remove the function of the cap on major sport events at Suncorp Stadium under section 30AN the MSF Act. The function of this provision will revert to *Condition 42* of the Suncorp Stadium Development Approval dating back to 2001, which places a cap of 24 major sport events with a crowd size exceeding 25,000 persons per annum.

Prescribed events for advertising provisions

Section 5A and Schedule 3 of the 2014 Regulation defines a *prescribed event* for the purposes of section 30D of the MSF Act. The current structure of sections 30D, 30E and 30F of the MSF Act means that both events prescribed by regulation and declared by gazette notice are defined as restricted advertising events.

Allowing the 2014 Regulation to expire will remove the consideration of prescribed events for the advertising provisions. In practice, this would mean that all events would have to be declared by gazette notice by Governor in Council for the advertising provisions to apply. This may also be impractical on occasions when late scheduling of events is unavoidable.

Concert conditions for special events at Brisbane Stadium (Lang Park) / Suncorp Stadium

The MSF Act is currently structured in a way in which special events are only a lawful use of Suncorp Stadium if the event is prescribed under regulation.

Allowing the 2014 Regulation to expire will mean that special events at Suncorp Stadium would no longer be a lawful use of the facility as those events would no longer be prescribed under regulation. The conditions stipulating the use of Suncorp Stadium for special events will revert to the Suncorp Stadium Development Approval. *Condition 41* of the Suncorp Stadium Development Approval explicitly states that the facility is not to be used for major concerts, cultural or religious events.

Option 2 – Remake the regulation as is

This option seeks to remake the 2014 Regulation as is, for all matters. This option would ensure that the 2014 Regulation would continue to function in an identical manner to the present, with no costs to government. However, in a consultation process undertaken by the Queensland Government, Stadiums Queensland and the Suncorp Stadium operator raised issues relevant to the current operation of the 2014 Regulation; remaking the 2014 Regulation is an opportunity to address these issues.

Option 3 – Remake the regulation, with minor amendments (Preferred Option)

This option seeks to remake the 2014 Regulation with minor amendments to address issues raised during consultation with key stakeholders including other Queensland Government agencies. Public consultation on the sunset review of the 2014 Regulation was undertaken by the department administering the MSF Act. Most of the concerns raised by members of the public living near Suncorp Stadium fell outside the scope of the 2014 Regulation (as they largely dealt with community impacts from sporting events, which are not directly regulated under the 2014 Regulation). However, substantive feedback was received by key stakeholders raising minor issues with the operation of the 2014 Regulation.

Enabling the use of standing form operational management / transport management plans

The requirement for approval of operational management / transport management plans for each special event has been in place since 2006, when only three major concerts were allowed in a calendar year. Recent amendments to the Regulation allowing up to 21 special events per year at Suncorp Stadium for the 2026 calendar year represent a significant increase in the administrative burden associated with this requirement. Stadiums Queensland also advised that, in practice, standard form plans are already in use by the stadium. However, current provisions are creating an unnecessary obligation to gain approval for each plan, even if they are functionally the same for each event.

This option seeks to reduce the administrative burden associated with this requirement by expressly allowing for standing operational management / transport management plans for special events at Suncorp Stadium in the *Major Sports Facilities Regulation 2026* (the Regulation). This will be achieved by inserting a new part in Schedule 2 of the Regulation. Schedule 2, sections 2 to 5 will now provide for the approval of standing plans that must be reviewed from time to time after initial preparation. To maintain oversight, a

minimum review period of two years has been inserted. SMAC and the chief executive must also be consulted when preparing the standing plans and when significant changes are made to the plans.

A government stakeholder also raised an issue with the use of outdated language referring to people with disability in the transport management plan provision. This option will also seek a minor amendment by contemporising this language.

Notification of special events

This option seeks to modernise the prescribed mechanisms of notice for special events. The remade provision changes the mechanism to notice being published on the website for the major sports facility at least 20 business days before the start of any part of the event. The transition from a letterbox drop method to publication on the stadium website will be supported by Stadiums Queensland and the stadium operator who already have in place an email distribution list to which members of the local community around Suncorp Stadium can subscribe. The existing email distribution list alerts residents of upcoming events and that more event-specific information can be found on the Suncorp Stadium website. Stadiums Queensland have also confirmed that digital signage around Suncorp Stadium will be used to display information on upcoming events, the stadium website and promote subscription. An alternative option of including a transitional provision in relation to the notification of special events in the 2014 Regulation was considered. However, the Department was satisfied this was not necessary considering the existing communication mechanisms identified by Stadiums Queensland and the stadium operator.

Mechanical updates (noise monitoring location and prescribed events)

In consultation, key stakeholders noted that one of the locations prescribed for noise monitoring in Schedule 2 of the 2014 Regulation is outdated and no longer in use. This option seeks to make the minor and mechanical change to update the listed address to reflect current use. This option will also make minor and mechanical updates to Schedule 3 Prescribed events to update outdated listings for national or international bodies.

What are the impacts?

Option 1 – No Regulation – The 2014 Regulation is allowed to expire (status quo)

Impacts for community

- Allowing the 2014 Regulation to expire will have a significant impact on the community, both broadly and to the local community surrounding Suncorp Stadium.
- The expiry of the 2014 Regulation will cause the ticket scalping protections under the MSF Act to cease to function, as there would be no major sports facilities prescribed for the purposes of the MSF Act. This will have a negative impact on the broader community as unregulated ticket scalping may significantly reduce the supply of tickets and increase the prices on the second-hand market.
- The override of the 2001 DA for Suncorp Stadium will also cease to function, prohibiting special events as a lawful use of the facility. The significant decrease in events will have an impact on local businesses and the community surrounding Suncorp Stadium and deprive concert goers from seeing artists in a conveniently located city-based stadium.
- Decreased regulation of major sports facilities may lead to weakening of community confidence in the Government's ability to provide a single legislative framework for the management of the State's major sports facilities.

Impacts for government

- There would be significant impacts on the government's ability to provide a single legislative framework for the management of the State's major sports facilities.
- The facilities listed in Schedule 1 of the 2014 Regulation would no longer be declared as major sports facilities. As such, property in these facilities would no longer be vested in Stadiums Queensland and the ownership of these venues would be in question.
- If no facilities are declared in regulation, many of the provisions within the MSF Act would either cease to function (e.g. advertising restrictions) or be made significantly ineffective as the government would

be prevented from practically implementing the MSF Act as it directly relies on declaration of venues under a regulation.

- No prescribed events for advertising provisions would present an extremely cumbersome administrative burden for government due to the Governor in Council gazettal process requiring a lead time of over eight weeks and significant processing by the department responsible for administering the MSF Act, in addition to the costs of gazettal. This would also result in Governor in Council having less time to process other matters and would increase administrative load broadly across government.
- A broad decrease in the ability of the government to support the delivery of recreational and entertainment events would have significant impacts on the events and tourism industry and the State's economy. Stadiums Queensland's 2024-2025 Annual Report estimates that overall patronage for major events at major sports facilities during the 2024-25 period was 3,607,428, with Stadiums Queensland generating in excess of \$1 billion in Gross State Product to the Queensland economy. This may be significantly impacted if the 2014 Regulation was allowed to expire and much of the MSF Act ceased to function.
- Decreased regulation of major sports facilities may lead to the weakening of community and stakeholder confidence in the Government's ability to provide a single legislative framework for the management of the State's major sports facilities.

Impacts for Industry (Stadiums Queensland, stadium operators, venue hirers and Suncorp Stadium management)

- An expired regulation would lead to uncertainty with regard to whether Stadiums Queensland could exercise its functions and powers in relation to the nine declared major sports facilities. This could lead to venues not operating, resulting in breaches of contract, loss of events, and an inability for athletes to train.
- An expired regulation would prevent Suncorp Stadium from meeting the demands of the sporting industry and responding to the growth in popularity of specific teams and games held at the venue over the two and half decades since the venue's development approval. Expiry would result in major sport event regulation reverting to *Condition 42* of the Suncorp Stadium Development Approval, which was made at a time when it was not envisioned that Brisbane would have four of the most successful teams in soccer, rugby union and rugby league. This success in the sporting industry has attracted more fans to attend games at Suncorp Stadium. A lower crowd size limit will result in an insufficient number of major sport events to meet market demand.
- The major sport event crowd size threshold of 45,000 at Suncorp Stadium under the 2014 Regulation would no longer operate, meaning sports events hosting more than 25,000 attendees would be counted as a major sport event and would be therefore subject to the cap of 24 sporting events per year at the venue.
- Venue hirers would no longer be able to utilise Suncorp Stadium for special events such as concerts and religious events as restrictions under the 2001 Development Approval would resume operation.
- In the absence of Schedule 3 (Prescribed events) under the 2014 Regulation, key sporting organisations staging events at major sports facilities would no longer be afforded the automatic unauthorised advertisement protections provided under Part 4B of the MSF Act. Instead, each sporting event would need to be declared by the Governor in Council via gazette notice at least 28 days before the start of the event period, a highly burdensome administrative process that Schedule 3 under the 2014 Regulation was introduced to remove (impact for government).

Option 2 – Remake the regulation as is

Impacts for community

- This option provides for continuity, and the protection of residential amenity for the public who reside in the vicinity of Suncorp Stadium through conditions for the use of the facility for special events being maintained by existing protections in the current regulatory framework.
- A consultation process undertaken in 2024 that surveyed the public and residents within the Lang Park traffic area indicated that the majority of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the prescribed crowd size of greater than 45,000 for major sport events. This consultation process also

confirmed that respondents who were residents of the Lang Park Traffic Area, alongside the wider response group, supported more than 12 concerts per year at Suncorp Stadium. Respondents also indicated that concerts were an important part of Brisbane's cultural fabric and international reputation. These results indicate that the broad impacts of setting the size of major sport events and allowing for special events such as concerts are positive for the community.

Impacts for government

- There would be negligible operational impact on government as the Department sees the current system as effective.
- Confidence in the government may decrease if no changes to improve efficiency and effectiveness are implemented following sunset review consultation.

Impacts for Industry (Stadiums Queensland, stadium operators, venue hirers and Suncorp Stadium Management Advisory Committee)

- This option provides for continuity, allowing for industry stakeholders to use Suncorp Stadium for special events and sporting and entertainment events would continue to benefit from the unauthorised advertising protections offered under the Act.
- Making no changes to the 2014 Regulation would allow the operational issues identified by stakeholders to continue without remedy. This will result in an unnecessary operational and financial burden on stadium operators, venue hirers and SMAC.

Option 3 – Remake the regulation, with minor amendments (Preferred Option)

Impacts for community

- This option also provides for the protection of the public who reside in the vicinity of Suncorp Stadium as there will be no changes to existing protections of residential amenity under the current regulatory framework. Instead, minor changes to allow for the operation of standing plans will result in administrative efficiencies (benefits to government and industry).
- The change to the prescribed method of notification, from a letterbox drop to being published on the stadium website, may have minor impacts on the community. This change has a potential impact of residents needing to regularly monitor the event website to plan for disruptions. The Department considered options to minimise this impact which have been explained in the previous section of this document. The Department is satisfied that the mechanisms identified by Stadiums Queensland and the stadium operator are sufficient in minimising impacts on local residents near Suncorp Stadium. This is because the email subscription service for local residents includes 4,000 people. This figure is significant considering the email distribution service is optional and the letterbox drop in the Lang Park Traffic area is distributed to 7,500 (this estimation also includes business and other non-residential addresses). Further, the digital signage at Suncorp Stadium (including both internal and external electronic signage) provides a cost-effective and immediate method of alerting residents to the stadium website, upcoming events and the email subscription service.
- The other minor changes being made (e.g. allowing for standard form plans and modernising community notification) will have no impact on community amenity as the purpose of each protection has been maintained. Requirements to minimise community impacts from and ensure public safety at special events will also continue to be addressed via operational management plans and transport management plans, however, these will not need to be provided to the SMAC for comment prior to each event unless significant changes to standing operational and transport management plans are required for specific events.

Impacts for Government

- The minor changes to the 2014 Regulation that have been made will deliver significant reductions to the existing administrative burden while maintaining achievement of the policy objectives of the regulation. These changes have been made following consultation with Stadiums Queensland and the Suncorp Stadium operator that identified the opportunity to streamline, simplify and modernise requirements under the Regulation.
- Modernising the mechanism for notification of special events will result in a reduced administrative and financial burden (as the current mechanism has a cost of \$10,000 per event), taking advantage

of contemporary methods to notify the local community (e.g. through enhanced promotion of the existing Suncorp Stadium event information email subscription service for local residents, available at <https://suncorpstadium.com.au/about/community/local-residents/locals-sign-up>).

- Enabling the use of standard form operational management / transport management plans will streamline processes and lower administrative burden by removing the requirement for approvals of individual plans for each special event.
- Confidence in the government may increase as the minor changes being made have been requested by key stakeholders in consultation.

Impacts for Industry (Stadiums Queensland, stadium operators, Venue Hirers and Suncorp Stadium management)

- Streamlined requirements for transport management plans, operational management plans, and notification will reduce administrative and financial burden for Stadiums Queensland, the stadium operator and SMAC.
- Broadly, the reduced administrative burden associated with running a special event at Suncorp Stadium may lead to a smoother experience for, and greater interest from venue hirers.
- Miscellaneous updates to noise monitoring locations (Schedule 2) and prescribed events (Schedule 3) to ensure currency will provide clarity and reduce ambiguity for industry stakeholders.

Who was consulted?

To inform the sunset review of the 2014 Regulation, public and targeted stakeholder consultation took place between 23 April and 6 May 2025. A discussion paper that posed various questions to stakeholders on the ongoing effectiveness of the 2014 Regulation was published on the department website and distributed to key stakeholders. During the consultation period, 23 submissions were received from members of the public (including business owners) who resided in the vicinity of Suncorp Stadium. Submissions were also received from Stadiums Queensland (incorporating Suncorp Stadium management) and other key stakeholders (e.g. Live Nation Australasia and a local government representative). Respondents were consulted on whether the 2014 Regulation achieved its purpose, and whether it did so with minimal costs and resources.

This consultation process provided an evidence base that informed the sunset review and the Regulation. No substantive issues were raised through consultation with government departments. While residents and key stakeholders supported events being held at the venue, some submissions highlighted a range of community and operational concerns which have been addressed in the recommended option, which include:

- Streamlining of event plans;
- Modernising of community notification methods;
- Updating a noise measurement site;
- Updating sporting organisational references in the prescribed events Schedule.

The department undertook a consultation process in 2024 that also informed the sunset review. This process – occurring between 16 February and 12 March 2024 – was undertaken through a survey hosted on the Get Involved website. During the consultation period, 442 responses were received comprising 434 online survey responses and eight written submissions.

Most respondents (60.4%) specified their preference for the special event cap to be greater than 12, with 56.7% of respondents living in the Lang Park Traffic Area also supporting more than 12 concerts per year.

Consultation responses also demonstrated that 84.1% of respondents either agreed (16.4%) or strongly agreed (67.7%) with increasing the prescribed crowd size for major sport events at Brisbane Stadium from greater than 35,000 to greater than 45,000. Importantly, 75.6% of respondents who live within the Lang Park Traffic Area either strongly agreed (56.1%) or agreed (19.5%) with the proposal. Many of these respondents indicated that the increase supported Queensland's already strong sporting culture and will help to meet the increasing demand for sport spectatorship in Queensland's southeast.

What is the recommended option and why?

Recommended policy option – *Remake the 2014 Regulation with minor amendments*

The Recommended option is to remake the 2014 Regulation with minor amendments (Option 3), to maintain the present system of declaring major sports facilities in Queensland, prescribing the minimum crowd size for a major sport event at Suncorp Stadium, prescribing events that are automatically protected from unauthorised advertising and providing special event conditions (e.g. for concerts) for Suncorp Stadium. The option to remake the regulation with minor changes has been chosen because:

- The 2014 Regulation continues to meet an identified need. In order to maintain the proper function of the MSF Act as a single legislative framework for the management of the State's major sports facilities, a regulation is required.
- There is no call from stakeholders to overhaul the 2014 Regulation or the overarching system of declaring and regulating major sports facilities in Queensland.
- Maintaining a regulation with minor amendments will have no impact on existing costs to government and provides for continuity.
- The community has concerns of the government prioritising events over local wellbeing. The current regulation plays an important role in reassuring the community near Suncorp Stadium and minimising community impacts from special events at the venue which remains necessary.

As a direct result of consultation with key stakeholders, the chosen option makes minor amendments to enable the use of standing operational management / transport management plans, modernise notice requirements and mechanically update outdated provisions.

Providing for standing plans in the Regulation has been evaluated to have no impact for community and government, and will reduce administrative burden for Stadiums Queensland, the operator of Suncorp Stadium and SSMAC. Additionally, measures to maintain regulatory oversight have been implemented to ensure the legislative framework remains comprehensive. This includes a two-year minimum review period for standing event plans for Suncorp Stadium and mandatory consultation with SSMAC and the chief executive when significant changes need to be made to plans for specific events and for the periodic review of plans.

Modernising the requirement for notice of special events at Suncorp Stadium by prescribing that a notice must be published on the website for the major sports facility has been implemented to reduce an unnecessary financial burden. Additionally, this change has been evaluated to have minimal impact on the community, as the requirement for written notice at least 20 business days prior to the event has been maintained in the updated requirement, and will be supported by a local resident email subscription service and signage around the stadium.

Other minor and mechanical updates have been made for the purposes of legislative currency, which have minimal to no impact on the community, government and key industry stakeholders.

Impact assessment

All proposals – complete [do not delete]:

	First full year	First 10 years**
Direct costs – Compliance costs*	0	0
Direct costs – Government costs	0	0

* The *direct costs calculator tool* (available at www.treasury.qld.gov.au/betterregulation) 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



Director-General
Department of Sport, Racing and
Olympic and Paralympic Games
Date: 17 August 2026



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

Date: 17 August 2026