Telstra network crashes
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TELSTRA put the lives of North Queenslanders at risk when triple 0 was disconnected for several hours, Emergency Services Minister Chris Cummins said. He said the emergency communication breakdown, which lasted for almost four hours early yesterday, affected the state from Mackay north, including the larger cities of Townsville and Cairns.

All emergency calls had to be diverted to Brisbane, where staff were forced to contact police, ambulance and firefighters using satellite phones.

All long distance phone calls from North Queensland were also cut off.

Mr Cummins said he had ordered a full investigation into the matter, slamming both Telstra and the federal government for the breakdown.

"Putting the lives of Queenslanders at risk for, you know, obviously due to an inadequate federal government who wants to sell Telstra, well it's about time they sit up and take note," he told ABC radio.

"Queenslanders and Australians demand better out of this carrier and Telstra want to lift its game."

AAP

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