



Premier of Queensland
Minister for Trade

For reply please quote: PU/AB – TF/20/31218 – DOC/20/245918

1 William Street Brisbane
PO Box 15185 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7000
Email ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au
Website www.thepremier.qld.gov.au

01 DEC 2020

The Honourable Mark Furner MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and
Minister for Rural Communities
1 William Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Minister

On 11 November 2020, I announced a new Cabinet and reaffirmed our commitment to Queenslanders to provide a strong, stable majority Government, and to drive the Queensland Government's policy agenda.

The Government's objectives for the community are comprehensive and include safeguarding our health, supporting jobs, backing small business, supporting Making it for Queensland and Building Queensland, growing our regions, investing in skills, backing our frontline services and protecting the environment.

Queenslanders have entrusted us with providing principled and stable government, and delivering on the promises we made. It is critical to work hard to prove ourselves worthy of this trust.

For this reason, I write to outline the delivery priorities to meet our Government's objectives. For many of these delivery priorities, it will be essential that you work closely and constructively with other Ministers to deliver the best outcome for Queenslanders and drive our response and recovery from COVID-19 in the short and long-term.

The attached Portfolio Priorities Statement defines your key priorities for this term of Government. It is intended that these priorities will also inform Chief Executive Officer performance agreements and shape the functions and activities of departments and agencies.

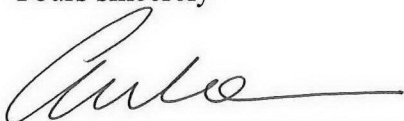
As part of these delivery priorities, it will be essential that you focus attention on your role in Australia's intergovernmental relations architecture to ensure Queensland's interests are proactively represented and the benefits to Queenslanders are maximised. This will include the National Cabinet Reform Committees, National Federation Reform Council Taskforces, the updated Ministerial Forum structures and new processes for development and finalisation of intergovernmental agreements.

I intend to regularly meet with you to discuss progress in implementing the actions identified.

I expect that at all times, Ministers will make all decisions and take all actions in the public's interest without regard to personal, party political or other immaterial considerations. I refer you to Governing Queensland, on the Department of the Premier and Cabinet website at <https://www.premiers.qld.gov.au/publications/categories/policies-and-codes/handbooks.aspx> for a suite of policy and administrative handbooks.

I look forward to working closely with you to deliver great outcomes for Queensland.

Yours sincerely



**ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR TRADE**

***Encl**

Portfolio Priorities Statement

Minister: Minister for Agricultural Industry
Development and Fisheries and Minister for
Rural Communities

Department: Agriculture and Fisheries

The Hon Mark Furner MP

Whole-of-Government Priorities

Overarching Direction	<p>All Ministers to work together to deliver the government's objectives for the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguarding our health;• Supporting jobs;• Backing small business;• Making it for Queensland;• Building Queensland;• Growing our regions;• Investing in skills;• Backing our frontline services; and• Protecting the environment.
Consultation	<p>All Ministers and their staff to meet regularly with the community and key stakeholders to inform policy development and achieve the best outcomes for all Queenslanders.</p>
Integrity and Accountability	<p>All Ministers and their staff demonstrate transparent, accountable and ethical behaviour and make all decisions and take all actions in the public interest without regard to personal, party political or other immaterial considerations.</p>
Collaboration	<p>All Ministers, supported by their Chief Executive Officers, establish strong working relationships across portfolios to deliver the Government's priorities.</p>
Investing in Our People	<p>All Ministers support their Chief Executive Officers to focus on motivating and increasing the capability of the public sector.</p>

Government Commitments

Election Commitments	<p>All Ministers prioritise the delivery of all election commitments.</p>
-----------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------

Delivery Priorities

Agriculture	<p>Oversee the implementation of the Government's package to assist the agriculture industry to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Develop a future-focussed Agribusiness and Food Strategy that enables the sector to sustainably adapt to the global challenges of climate change and technological advance.</p> <p>Continue drought policy reform, to ensure the agriculture sector is prepared and resilient in responding to drought in a changing climate.</p> <p>Promote rural economic development through the support of both traditional food and fibre products as well as encouraging niche, new and emerging products.</p> <p>Continue to promote collaboration between industry and government through the Agricultural Ministerial Advisory Council.</p> <p>Improve and expand growth in international markets for agribusiness and exports to meet a rising demand for food security, in consultation with the Premier and Minister for Trade.</p> <p>Build and strengthen partnerships with research organisations, industry bodies and government agencies to leverage expertise and share responsibility for managing risk.</p> <p>Support local solutions to meet the seasonal workforce needs of Queensland's agribusinesses.</p> <p>Complete the transition of the former Longreach Pastoral College and Emerald Agricultural College sites to economically viable alternative long-term uses.</p> <p>Continue the Government's work in conjunction with stakeholders to manage wild dogs and feral pests, including through the successful cluster fencing initiative.</p>
Biosecurity	<p>Maintain and enhance Queensland's biosecurity capability to protect the state's agriculture and the environment.</p> <p>Develop, monitor, and enforce animal welfare policy, legislation, and standards, and educate the community about animal welfare.</p>
Forestry	<p>Oversee the development and implementation of a policy on the future of timber production in state-owned native forests in close consultation with industry, government, the conservation sector, and relevant experts by establishing a Native Timber Advisory Panel and a Timber Industry Ministerial Committee.</p> <p>Continue to conduct commercial and environmentally responsible business activity for the allocation and sale of state-owned quarry material.</p>
Fisheries	<p>Continue to implement the <i>Queensland Sustainable Fisheries Strategy 2017-2027</i> to reduce red tape, support economic recovery and ensure the sustainability of Queensland's fisheries resources and fishing industry.</p> <p>Deliver a legislative framework for recreational and commercial fishers that is contemporary, simple to understand, and reflective of community expectations.</p> <p>Establish a Special Advisory Committee to work with key stakeholders in Cape York to allow traditional owners to utilise charter fisheries and tourism operations to attract new economic pathways, whilst ensuring sustainable fisheries are maintained.</p> <p>Continue to review and adapt the Shark Control Program in line with emerging science and community expectations.</p> <p>Ensure that fisheries legislation is enforced in a manner that is fair, transparent, consistent and achieves an optimal level of compliance.</p> <p>Work to support the development of a diverse aquaculture industry by ensuring aquaculture practices are sustainable and encouraging investment in aquaculture.</p>
Rural Communities	<p>Continue to work with rural communities to identify regional economic opportunities, improve the competitiveness of rural business and support the creation of jobs in rural communities.</p>

	<p>Assist in the agenda and facilitation of the Regional Community Forums to ensure rural communities can continue direct engagement with Government.</p> <p>Help rural communities and industry to promote economic continuity, development, and new investment.</p> <p>Boost rural business competitiveness through research, innovation and adaption across primary industries and regions to create jobs and exports to grow the economy.</p> <p>Work with the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services and contribute to delivering health care to rural areas.</p> <p>Support the Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water on Queensland's response to the Australian Government policy for the development of Northern Australia.</p>
<p>National Agreements, National Partnerships & Significant National Reform Projects</p>	<p>Support the Treasurer and Minister for Investment in relation to negotiation, management, and implementation of any intergovernmental funding agreements relevant to your portfolio.</p> <p>Support the Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water, in his role as Queensland's representative on the Rural and Regional National Cabinet Reform Committee.</p> <p>Support the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, in her role as Queensland's representative on the Australia-New Zealand Food Regulation Ministers' Meeting.</p> <p>Represent Queensland on the Agriculture Ministers' Meeting, noting National Cabinet has determined this group should only meet on an as-needed basis.</p>