



Premier of Queensland Minister for Trade

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01 DEC 2020

The Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
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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.

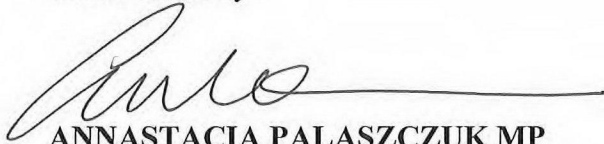
As part of these delivery priorities, it will be essential that you focus attention on your role in Australia's intergovernmental relations architecture to ensure Queensland's interests are proactively represented and the benefits to Queenslanders are maximised. This will include the National Cabinet 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anastacia', followed by a long horizontal line.

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

***Encl**

Portfolio Priorities Statement

Minister: Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

The Hon Yvette D'Ath MP

Department(s): Queensland Health

Queensland Ambulance Service

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>
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Delivery Priorities

Health

Continue to lead the COVID-19 health response, working closely with other agencies in line with Queensland's disaster management arrangements.

Continue to invest in new frontline staff into the future in order to deliver a world-class level of public health care.

Maintain oversight of the construction of the major refurbishments to Logan, Ipswich and Caboolture hospitals as part of the South East Queensland - Planning for Growth program.

Continue to invest in, build and expand new facilities across Queensland to strengthen Queensland's hospital and health system and deliver better health care for all Queenslanders. This will include existing commitments to health infrastructure, such as in Bundaberg and Toowoomba, as well as new projects, through:

- Delivering business cases for hospital expansions including in Mackay, Moranbah, Bowen and the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital;
- Investing in hospital expansions including in Townsville, Cairns and the Gold Coast; and
- Reviewing Queensland Health's Base Capital Program to support Queensland Health's growing asset base into the future.

Oversee the \$265 million investment to deliver seven new Satellite Hospitals across South East Queensland at Redlands, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Bribie Island, Pine Rivers, Brisbane South and Caboolture, providing residents with better access to health services in more convenient settings closer to home.

Work with community stakeholders to develop a model for expanding nurse-to-patient ratios in places experiencing high demand, including operating theatres, emergency departments and maternity wards.

Consider the findings of the final report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care, particularly in relation to improvements to staff to patient ratios, in consultation with aged care sector stakeholders, and in line with the roles and responsibilities for aged care.

Support mental health care services across Queensland through:

- Continuing the *Connecting Care to Recovery 2016-21* five-year mental health plan to provide comprehensive, high quality and safe recovery-oriented mental health, alcohol and other drug services;
- Developing a subsequent mental health plan that will continue to build on the success of *Connecting Care to Recovery*;
- Investing \$46.5 million in funding to boost community mental health, suicide prevention and community resilience grant programs; boost capacity of alcohol and other drug treatment residential rehabilitation centres; and expand co-responder services;
- Planning and delivering priority infrastructure projects to improve mental health facilities in hospital and community settings; and
- Continue to support the Queensland Mental Health Commission in the delivery of *Shifting Minds: Queensland Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategic Plan 2018-2023*.

Deliver preventive health strategies including in tobacco reduction, with a focus on strengthening Queensland's tobacco legislation retail provision, strengthening Queensland's advertising and promotion provisions; and increasing smoke-free places.

Continue to oversee Health and Wellbeing Queensland, and support delivery of their Strategic Plan to achieve real and measurable improvements in the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders.

Continue to support the implementation and monitoring of the *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016-26* in conjunction with the Attorney-General and

	<p>Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence.</p> <p>Continue the implementation of the Government's plan for <i>Action on Ice</i> to address use and harm caused by crystal methamphetamine.</p> <p>Advance health equity for First Nations People including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading the development and finalisation of local health equity strategies for each Hospital and Health Service in consultation with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services sector; and • Developing and implementing a First Nations Workforce Strategy for Queensland Health. <p>Work with the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships to support the implementation of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap including the development of a jurisdictional implementation plan in a co-design approach with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and their representatives.</p> <p>Lead the reforms to palliative care through the development and implementation of a new Palliative and End-of-Life Care Strategy, employing sufficient staff and supporting practitioners, and delivering public education and advocacy.</p> <p>Establish a new Office of Hospital Sustainability and deliver the \$30 million Solar Panel and Energy Efficiency Program, including solar panels at 50 hospital sites.</p> <p>Permanently establish a new office for rural and remote health, which will be based in Townsville, with locations in Cairns, Toowoomba and the Western Corridor and a presence in Brisbane to complement existing units in Cairns and the Darling Downs.</p> <p>Work with the Premier, Deputy Premier and the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence to introduce legislation and lead the health sector implementation of Queensland's approach to voluntary assisted dying.</p>
Ambulance Services	<p>Continue to support the delivery of timely, quality and appropriate, patient focused services in the face of increasing demand.</p> <p>Investigate pathways to better integrate the work of the Queensland Ambulance Service with Hospital and Health Services.</p> <p>Deliver six new and replacement Ambulance Stations across Queensland.</p>
National Agreements, National Partnerships & Significant National Reform Projects	<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>Represent Queensland on the Health National Cabinet Reform Committee.</p> <p>Represent Queensland on the Health Ministers' Meeting.</p> <p>Represent Queensland on the Australia-New Zealand Food Regulation Ministers' Meeting, noting National Cabinet has determined this group should only meet on an as-needed basis. As Queensland's representative you will also be responsible for consulting with, and representing the views of, the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities.</p>