



QUEENSLAND
GOVERNMENT

Six month action plan

July – December 2012

Getting Queensland back on track

Premier's message



The Queensland Government has already made a strong start in getting Queensland back on track by delivering all of the 58 actions committed to in our First 100 Days Action Plan.

Delivery of these commitments clearly shows that what we promise, we will deliver.

In going beyond the first 100 days, and recognising the difficult decisions that the government has to make as highlighted by the Commission of Audit Interim Report, it is vital to continue to share our plans with Queenslanders and set out clear delivery targets.

This six month action plan sets out the way forward by building confidence in our economic future, increasing certainty for industry and delivering on the five pledges made to the people of Queensland.

My government is committed to getting Queensland back on track by balancing the budget, achieving our four per cent unemployment target and continuing to oppose the impost on Queensland businesses and communities that comes with the introduction of the carbon tax.

This plan sets out the priorities and deliverables for the next six months and will be the next yardstick used to measure our progress in returning prosperity, accountability and opportunity to this state.

For the next six months, this document will be both a map and a report card, outlining our work towards ensuring that Queensland has the necessary frameworks, infrastructure and front-line services to ensure a bright future for our state and its people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Campbell Newman'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'C'.

CAMPBELL NEWMAN

We will grow a four pillar economy

The government is renewing focus on developing Queensland's strengths in tourism, agriculture, resources and construction.

We are cutting red tape and regulation, speeding up project approvals for business to help get Queensland's economy growing and creating jobs. Encouraging more business activity and more jobs creation is key to getting the state and its finances back on track.

We've signed a new bilateral agreement on environmental approvals with the federal government, held our first DestinationQ conference in Cairns, established a new standalone agriculture department, and we've announced a major construction project that will use private investment to completely revitalise the government precinct in Brisbane.

The government is committed to delivering the following actions over the next six months:

- Call water allocation tenders under the North Queensland Irrigated Agriculture Strategy.
- Commence developing a statewide approval process for wind farms.
- Amend the *Racing Act 2002* to establish a new racing industry structure.
- Improve access for tourism and ecotourism operators in national parks and reduce permit classes by 50 per cent.
- Support country racing by introducing a new clubs cooperation scheme.
- Start rolling out 20 additional country race meetings.
- Support development of the South of Embley project by amending relevant laws.
- Roll out of new water metering policy for irrigators.
- Improve reporting to local government about current and future mining developments.
- Review legislation and regulation for the small mining sector to reduce red tape.
- Work with mining companies to finalise plans for a load out facility for Cloncurry.
- Legislate to support the Gold Coast Waterways Authority.
- Finalise the Commonwealth Games Village business case and commence work to develop a Games Venue and Village Master Plan.
- Develop a regional tourism strategy consistent with DestinationQ outcomes.
- Encourage the promotion of tourism destinations through the development of a Queensland drive tourism strategy.

- Engage with key airline partners to attract new aviation business and routes into Queensland.
- Finalise the tourism strategy to provide marketing, product development and trade events opportunities.
- Amend the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act* to get rid of the waste levy.
- Finalise legislative changes to improve flying fox damage mitigation permits.
- Review the overarching framework for the Biodiversity Offsets Policy.
- Finalise a revised Coal Seam Gas Water Management Policy.
- Finalise contribution to establish the Australian Institute for Tropical Health and Medicine with James Cook University.
- Establish agreements with mining, construction, agricultural and tourism companies for Indigenous employment opportunities.
- Deliver 15 new front-line officers to strengthen Queensland's biosecurity.
- Finalise agricultural land audits in the Darling Downs and Central Queensland regions for release in early 2013.
- Commence the \$9 million voluntary buyback program of commercial fishing licences.
- Commence a process to restore access for beekeepers to native forests.
- Provide funding to vets for protective suits to assist in the fight against Hendra Virus.
- Commence stakeholder consultation on a 30 year strategic plan for Queensland agriculture.
- Finalise consultation to develop a horticulture workforce plan for the next three years.
- Invest in the future of the sugar industry by providing first funding to the Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations.
- Develop a Queensland timber industry plan.

We will lower the cost of living for families by cutting waste

The government is acutely aware that every time Queenslanders fill up their cars, turn on the tap, flick on the lights, buy a home or pay their car registration they are paying more as a direct result of the economic mismanagement of the previous government.

We are constantly looking for new ways to push down the cost of living for Queensland families.

So far, the government has focused on reducing the cost of commuting, freezing the domestic electricity tariff, freezing car registration costs and opposing the job-destroying carbon tax that will be a huge impost on cost of living for Queenslanders. We've started the work to amalgamate South East Queensland (SEQ) bulk water entities to save on water bills and we've re-introduced the principal place of residence stamp duty concession to save up to \$7000 when buying the family home.

The government is committed to delivering the following actions over the next six months:

- Treasurer to deliver the government's first budget in September to start getting Queensland back on track and to lower the cost of living.
- Amalgamate South East Queensland bulk water entities.
- Finalise a 30 year plan for Queensland's electricity sector.
- Release a discussion paper for a 30 year plan for Queensland's water sector.
- Halve the planned public transport fare hike scheduled for January 2013.
- Review laws mandating rain water tanks and solar hot water systems on new buildings.
- Introduce legislation to streamline home sale contracts.
- Oppose the federal government's Carbon Tax.
- Commission a review of the Queensland Building Services Authority to remove red tape.
- Create options for home ownership on Indigenous land.
- Reduce red tape for landholders by making it easier to renew fodder permits.
- Finalise options to link the *go* card with the CityCycle scheme.
- Expand the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme.
- Complete review of Queensland public housing occupancy.

We will deliver better infrastructure and better planning

The government will share the proceeds of the mining boom, improved government efficiencies and better economic management to build roads and provide critical local infrastructure, open up National Parks so that all Queenslanders can enjoy them and protect the state's best cropping land.

We have commenced work to ensure local councils have the power they need to better plan for the future growth of local communities.

The government is committed to delivering the following actions over the next six months:

- Commence construction of the Sunshine Coast University Hospital.
- Simplify planning by amending the *Sustainable Planning Act*.
- Complete the Galilee and Surat Basin infrastructure plans and progress the Surat Basin rail project.
- Deliver legislation to support the work of the Gasfields Commission.
- Prepare draft statutory regional plans for the Darling Downs and the Golden Triangle for public consultation in 2013.
- Publish new guidelines to support Royalties for the Regions, and receive and assess first round applications.
- Submit priorities for infrastructure funding from the federal government.
- Deliver the first draft of the 10 year strategy for the Bruce Highway upgrade.
- Develop a strategy to revitalise the Mary Valley.
- Transfer responsibility for South Bank to the Brisbane City Council.
- Work with Indigenous councils to implement their community plans.
- Identify and complete five priority pest management programs for Queensland's National Parks.
- Release a new infrastructure plan for Queensland racing.
- Identify the first projects for the Marine Infrastructure Fund.
- Finalise the policy to create simplified, single state planning arrangements.
- Complete design for the Toowoomba CBD ring road and the West Creek railway bridge.
- Develop options to expand heavy vehicle access to the existing road network.

- Determine the optimal approach to improving access to Trinity Inlet.
- Finalise the strategy and commence the business case to deliver an increase in the SEQ rail network capacity.
- Introduce 15 minute off peak services on the Ferny Grove train line from Monday to Friday.
- Release plans for flood mitigation work at Blakey's Crossing and for the Woolcock and Mather Street intersection upgrade.
- Deliver the 2012 roll out of flashing lights at school zones.
- Complete priority recommendations of the Floods Inquiry Report.
- Commence works on the redevelopment of the government administrative precinct in Brisbane.
- Transfer management of Roma Street Parklands to the Brisbane City Council.
- Finalise the Boundaries Commissioner's decision on which local councils will proceed to a poll about de-amalgamation.
- Develop and commence implementing the Indigenous Councils Capacity Building Program.
- Announce first round of Everyone's Environment grants to improve our local environment.
- Commence work to amend the Queensland Coastal Plan.
- Complete the consultation report on suitable areas of Cape York for World Heritage listing.
- Progress the strategic assessment for the Great Barrier Reef including a ports strategy.
- Investigate acquisition of habitat for the preservation of koalas, commence a four year koala research grant program and invite applications for koala rescue and rehabilitation services.
- Deliver, in partnership with the sugarcane and beef industries, a framework for a best management program to protect the Great Barrier Reef.
- Finalise consultation and a preliminary draft of the Cape York Bioregion Management Plan.
- Deliver a plan for a government digital communication radio network in partnership with industry.

We will revitalise front-line services for families

Not only do Queenslanders deserve access to essential government services, but they deserve to receive the right level of services as efficiently and cost effectively as possible.

The government is getting back to basics to deliver better quality and value for money in key service areas such as health, transport, emergency services, policing and education.

The government is committed to delivering the following actions over the next six months:

- Award contract to deliver additional services for victims of child abuse and sexual assault.
- Call applications for the Caring for Communities small grant program.
- Commence Parent Connect to assist parents of newborns with a disability.
- Commence Fostering Families trial in three sites around Queensland.
- Commence trial of self-directed funding for people living with a disability.
- Start the \$22 million flexible respite initiative for 16 to 25 year olds.
- Commence school program to teach children to protect themselves and report abuse and sexual assault.
- Announce 30 independent public schools to commence in 2013 school year.
- Announce initial projects under the \$115 million Building our Future Schools fund.
- Announce the first round of university scholarships for women in male dominated career and skill shortage areas.
- Announce first schools to receive additional services from speech and language pathologists.
- Provide all special schools with 20 eTablets.
- Review the *Grammar Schools Act*.
- Commence a review of the Queensland Studies Authority.
- Complete a first funding round to support chaplaincy in schools.
- Complete the Skills and Training Taskforce Report.
- Deliver the business case for co-locating a high school with James Cook University in Townsville.
- Determine priorities for 2012–13 under Queensland Schools Plan Commission.
- Fund Step Up into Education initiatives for 2013.

- Roll out an eKindy pilot for isolated families.
- Announce high school students to attend overseas ANZAC ceremonies in 2013.
- Establish a Queensland Centenary of ANZAC committee to develop a celebration program for the state.
- Hold the first meeting of the new expert Ministerial Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS to determine the immediate priorities.
- Recruit additional visiting medical officers to improve GP referral at 20 public hospitals.
- Establish arrangements with private hospitals to cut elective surgery waiting lists for 'long wait' patients.
- Establish the General Practice Advisory Group to improve access to specialist care in hospitals.
- Progress the Maternal and Child Health Service to give mums and bubs the best possible start.
- Finalise the model and structure for Queensland's first Mental Health Commission.
- Expand the Flying Obstetrics and Gynaecologist Service.
- Engage with Indigenous communities to start a review of alcohol management plans.
- Commence roll out of Get in the Game programs.
- Deliver 15 more school and community based police.
- Extend licence periods for legitimate gun owners and establish a new Weapons Advisory Group.
- Amend the *Weapons Act* to bring in tougher sentences for possession and trafficking of illegal firearms.
- Develop framework for improved GPS tracking of dangerous sex offenders.
- Appoint new parole board members and issue new guidelines to ensure community safety is considered in parole decisions.
- Prepare for Parliament introducing new, tough anti-hooning laws.
- Provide crime fighting resources in Cairns, Townsville and the Gold Coast to focus on juvenile crime and alcohol management.
- Establish the major crime squad and relocate the illegal firearms squad to the Gold Coast.
- Renew the Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Stoppers programs.
- Finalise recruitment of 300 new police.
- Launch a blitz on anti-social behaviour on school buses.

- Commence a review of the *Retirement Villages Act* to ensure the welfare of seniors is protected.
- Establish a Graffiti Grants Program, the Graffiti Offender Clean Up Program, and the GraffitiSTOP hotline, and increase offence penalties for graffiti.
- Amend laws to address synthetic drugs, penalties for child pornography and some child sex offences, including a new child grooming offence.
- Amend the *Proceeds of Crime Act* to crack down on the unexplained wealth of organised criminals.
- Appoint a red-tape reduction expert panel to review liquor licencing, gaming, trading hours and noise restriction laws.
- Draft new laws to ensure drug traffickers serve at least 80 per cent of their sentence before being eligible for parole.
- Engage community based organisations to provide additional victim support services in 2013.
- Engage service providers to deliver youth boot camp trials, beginning in January 2013.
- Establish future arrangements following the completion of current Drink Safe Precinct trials.
- Establish the central Coroner's office in Mackay to assist in clearing a backlog in delayed cases.
- Increase penalties for drug traffickers who target children.
- Appoint a new Supreme Court Justice for Queensland.
- Commence implementation of a new crocodile management policy, including initiation of an independent scientific survey to identify risk areas.
- Place priority on enforcing the law in relation to the illegal trade of dugong and turtle meat and products.
- Establish an Arts Grants Advisory Board to improve access to arts grants.
- Finalise the plan for one-stop shop access to Queensland Government services.
- Open applications for the Regional Arts Fund and the Arts Superstar Fund.
- Pass laws to stop cruelty in the hunting of turtles and dugongs and support Indigenous communities with these changes.

We will restore accountability in government

A key commitment is to make the government more open, accountable and accessible for all Queenslanders.

Ministers need to be accountable for the activities, efficiencies and performance levels of their departments, and we have already moved to establish clear reporting lines between each department and a single Minister.

Key reforms have already taken place to make sure that the decisions we make are open and transparent, this includes our commitment to six monthly reporting on delivery of our commitments as outlined in this report.

The government is committed to delivering the following actions over the next six months:

- Complete a review of Queensland Health's \$1 billion grants program to ensure funding is streamlined; priority health areas are properly targeted; and the risk of waste and fraud is minimised.
- Commence operation of the Hospital and Health Boards to deliver regional management of Queensland's health system.
- Implement first tranche payroll reforms to start fixing Queensland Health's payroll system.
- Complete the recruitment of a new Police Commissioner to replace the retiring Police Commissioner.
- Establish a Ministerial Code of Conduct that sets a higher standard of performance and behaviour for Ministers.
- Commence the Public Sector Renewal Program.
- Revamp the *Local Government Act* and the *City of Brisbane Act* to give more power to Queensland local councils.
- Complete a whole-of-government ICT audit.

