1. In Queensland, the blue card system is governed by the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* (the Act) and complements other laws which aim to keep children safe. The blue card system is comprised of two elements: the ‘blue card’ or working with children check; and the requirement for organisations to develop and implement child and youth risk management strategies.
2. The Queensland Family and Child Commission has completed their report *Keeping Queensland’s children more than safe: Review of Blue Card System* (the Review). The scope of the review included a detailed examination of the Act, its operation, scope, gaps, barriers and opportunities for further improvements to keep Queensland children safe.
3. The Government welcomes the findings of the review and broadly supports the intent of all 81 recommendations made by the Queensland Family and Child Commission. Some of the recommendations are dependent on national action taken following the final report of the Commonwealth Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.
4. The next step in progressing the Review’s recommendations will be the development of a detailed staged implementation plan. Work to be prioritised in the first stage of implementation includes: scoping of initiatives which will be required to streamline blue card processes; and building cultural capability within the blue card system to improve outcomes for and engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This work will provide a strong foundation for strengthening the system in Queensland and implementing the report’s recommendations.
5. Cabinet approved the release of the Queensland Family and Child Commission’s report: *Keeping Queensland’s children more than safe: Review of the Blue Card System*.
6. *Attachments*
* [*Keeping Queensland’s children more than safe: Review of the Blue Card System*](Attachments/Report.PDF)