1. In June 2016, the Queensland government endorsed Advancing North Queensland – Investing in the Future of the North, which outlines actions dedicated to growing the North Queensland (NQ) economy, with efforts focussed on five priority areas:

* roads infrastructure
* water and energy security
* research and innovation
* tourism, trade and investment
* North Queensland Stadium

1. Under this plan, the Government reconfirms its commitment to NQ with a range of actions to create jobs and grow the north’s economy. Although energy security was not initially included in the five priorities, it has now been incorporated to address the increasing community interest on energy security for NQ.
2. North Queensland has a number of strengths including tropical research and development expertise, agriculture, world-class attractions, land and mineral deposits, and its geographic position as Australia’s gateway to Asia. Building on these strengths and ensuring water and energy security is vital for Queensland’s future economic performance.
3. Cabinet noted the update on the 2016-17 progress across the five priority areas of the Advancing North Queensland plan.
4. *Attachments*

* Nil.