1. Queensland continues to make progress in improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders:

* Life expectancy is improving for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.
* Mortality rates continue to decrease for Queensland’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children;
* Fewer older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders are dying from cardiovascular disease; and
* The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in Queensland smoking during pregnancy is decreasing.

1. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Far North Queensland (FNQ) generally experiences poorer health outcomes and access to services. However, some areas of FNQ are seeing access comparable to the local non-Indigenous population in areas such as attendance at antennal appointments and immunisation.
2. While it is unlikely that Queensland will realise the Council of Australian Government closing the gap health targets within the specified timeframes, data is suggesting that the system is starting to respond to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.
3. Strategies and plans are in place or under development for mental illness, rheumatic heart disease, and syphilis among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders to address these.
4. The transition of State and Commonwealth primary healthcare services to community controlled services will improve access to culturally safe and effective health care for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents. This has been completed in Yarrabah, and is underway in Cape York.
5. Cabinet noted Queensland’s continued progress in improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.
6. Cabinet noted that Queensland Health would publicly release the *Queensland Health* *Closing the gap performance report 2016*.
7. *Attachments*

* [*Queensland Health* *Closing the gap performance report 2016*](Attachments/Report.pdf)