1. The introduction of shield laws is a complex issue that requires detailed analysis and proper consideration and consultation.
2. Journalist shield laws need to balance a journalist’s obligation to maintain the confidentiality of their sources in the interests of a free, independent and effective press and the public interest in the ability for the court to have access to all relevant evidence.
3. A Consultation Paper has been prepared to facilitate consultation by seeking submissions on a range of key issues relating to the introduction of a legislative framework for shield laws in Queensland. An online survey will also be available as an alternative method for the general public and key stakeholders to provide feedback.
4. Cabinet approved the consultation paper *Shielding confidential sources: balancing the public’s right to know and the court’s need to know* and its public release*.*
5. *Attachments*
* [*Shielding confidential sources: balancing the public’s right to know and the court’s need to know*](Attachments/Paper.PDF)