1. Successful intergovernmental relations are a critical component of the Queensland Government’s ability to deliver for the Queensland community given the interwoven nature of policy setting and service delivery and the significant Vertical Fiscal Imbalance between the Federal and State and Territory governments under Australia’s system of federation.
2. 2020 saw major changes to the Australian federal relations environment and intergovernmental relations institutional architecture. This includes the discontinuation of the Council of Australian Governments; the establishment of the National Cabinet, National Cabinet Reform Committees, the National Federation Reform Council, and the National Federation Reform Council Taskforces; a rationalisation and reframing of how Ministers’ Meetings operate; and the Council on Federal Financial Relations assuming responsibility for the negotiation, monitoring, and reporting of all intergovernmental funding agreements.
3. These changes continue Federal Government control of intergovernmental processes and require proactive management to ensure Queensland can pursue strategic priorities and policy agendas at the national level.
4. The *Queensland Cabinet Handbook* reflects the changes to the intergovernmental relations landscape.
5. Cabinet noted the impact of the changes to the Australian federal relations environment, institutional architecture, and the authorising environment for foreign agreements during 2020.
6. Cabinet approved amendments to *The* *Queensland Cabinet Handbook* and revised *Queensland* *Principles for intergovernmental activities*.
7. Cabinet noted the updated *Cabinet Handbook* be published on the Department of the Premier and Cabinet website.
8. Cabinet noted the obligations under the *Australia’s Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020* (Cth) and new processes to ensure the state’s compliance with the new Federal Government requirements.
9. *Attachments*
* [*The Queensland Cabinet Handbook*](Attachments/Handbook.PDF).
* [Revised *Queensland Principles for intergovernmental activities*](Attachments/Principles.PDF)*.*