



Premier of Queensland
Minister for Trade

For reply please quote: *PU/AB – TF/20/31218 – DOC/20/245922*

01 DEC 2020

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The Honourable Dianne Farmer MP
Minister for Employment and Small Business and
Minister for Training and Skills Development
1 William Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Minister

On 11 November 2020, I announced a new Cabinet and reaffirmed our commitment to Queenslanders to provide a strong, stable majority Government, and to drive the Queensland Government's policy agenda.

The Government's objectives for the community are comprehensive and include safeguarding our health, supporting jobs, backing small business, supporting Making it for Queensland and Building Queensland, growing our regions, investing in skills, backing our frontline services and protecting the environment.

Queenslanders have entrusted us with providing principled and stable government, and delivering on the promises we made. It is critical to work hard to prove ourselves worthy of this trust.

For this reason, I write to outline the delivery priorities to meet our Government's objectives. For many of these delivery priorities, it will be essential that you work closely and constructively with other Ministers to deliver the best outcome for Queenslanders and drive our response and recovery from COVID-19 in the short and long-term.

The attached Portfolio Priorities Statement defines your key priorities for this term of Government. It is intended that these priorities will also inform Chief Executive Officer performance agreements and shape the functions and activities of departments and agencies.

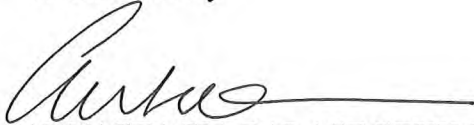
As part of these delivery priorities, it will be essential that you focus attention on your role in Australia's intergovernmental relations architecture to ensure Queensland's interests are proactively represented and the benefits to Queenslanders are maximised. This will include the National Cabinet Reform Committees, National Federation Reform Council Taskforces, the updated Ministerial Forum structures and new processes for development and finalisation of intergovernmental agreements.

I intend to regularly meet with you to discuss progress in implementing the actions identified.

I expect that at all times, Ministers will make all decisions and take all actions in the public's interest without regard to personal, party political or other immaterial considerations. I refer you to Governing Queensland, on the Department of the Premier and Cabinet website at <https://www.premiers.qld.gov.au/publications/categories/policies-and-codes/handbooks.aspx> for a suite of policy and administrative handbooks.

I look forward to working closely with you to deliver great outcomes for Queensland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Annastacia', followed by a horizontal line.

**ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR TRADE**

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Portfolio Priorities Statement

Minister: Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development

Department: Employment, Small Business and Training

The Hon Dianne Farmer MP

Whole-of-Government Priorities

Overarching Direction	All Ministers to work together to deliver the government's objectives for the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguarding our health;• Supporting jobs;• Backing small business;• Making it for Queensland;• Building Queensland;• Growing our regions;• Investing in skills;• Backing our frontline services; and• Protecting the environment.
Consultation	All Ministers and their staff to meet regularly with the community and key stakeholders to inform policy development and achieve the best outcomes for all Queenslanders.
Integrity and Accountability	All Ministers and their staff demonstrate transparent, accountable and ethical behaviour and make all decisions and take all actions in the public interest without regard to personal, party political or other immaterial considerations.
Collaboration	All Ministers, supported by their Chief Executive Officers, establish strong working relationships across portfolios to deliver the Government's priorities.
Investing in Our People	All Ministers support their Chief Executive Officers to focus on motivating and increasing the capability of the public sector.

Government Commitments

Election Commitments	All Ministers prioritise the delivery of all election commitments.
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Delivery Priorities

<p>Employment</p>	<p>Continue to work with all Ministers in supporting job creation in Queensland following the impacts of COVID-19, including through the implementation of <i>Unite and Recover: Queensland's Economic Recovery Plan</i>.</p> <p>Continue to implement the Back to Work program.</p> <p>Work with the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships to support the implementation of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap including the development of a jurisdictional implementation plan in a co-design approach with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and their representatives.</p> <p>Continue to support the work of Jobs Queensland (as an independent board), in close consultation with the Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing, to foster a skilled and productive workforce now and in the years ahead.</p> <p>Work with relevant Ministers to continue to support young people who are disengaged or at risk of disengaging in education, training and employment.</p> <p>Support the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships to publicly report on acceptance and findings arising from the Royal Commission into violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability.</p>
<p>Small Business</p>	<p>Support the small business sector in its recovery from COVID-19 in relation to its key role in supporting employment and helping the economy grow. Delivery of the \$140 million Big Plans for Small Business policy including grant support focused on priority industry sectors.</p> <p>Work with the Queensland Small Business Commissioner and with the Office for Productivity and Red Tape Reduction to continue to create a balanced regulatory environment for small business.</p> <p>Develop and implement the next Queensland small business strategy to build a strong a resilient small business sector to support growth and jobs.</p> <p>Lead the way in assisting small businesses through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the Small Business Commissioner in advocating for, supporting and providing information to small businesses; • Providing support to the Queensland Investment Corporation in managing the Business Investment Fund, assisting businesses to innovate and expand into new markets; • Developing and overseeing a Business Ready website which will provide easy access to critical information and support business to grow; and • Working with small businesses to achieve and benefit from the 25 per cent procurement target. <p>Ensure Queensland is represented at national meetings, so Queensland has input into the national small business agenda through the advocacy of the Queensland Small Business Commissioner.</p> <p>Focus on significant small business issues and receive advice and solutions from small business owners and representatives across a variety of industries and regional and rural Queensland through the Queensland Small Business Advisory Council.</p> <p>Ensure female business owners are supported, encouraged and recognised to start and grow their own businesses by engaging and partnering with women across the State to better understand their needs and to provide resources, events, networking, development and partnership opportunities to help women-led businesses start, grow and employ.</p> <p>Work with the Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water to increase access to new markets for regional small businesses, with a focus on women, young people, social enterprises, Aboriginal and Torres Strait</p>

	<p>Islander people and business owners from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.</p>
<p>Training and Skills Development</p>	<p>Oversee the Government's extended <i>Skilling Queenslanders for Work</i> initiative through program implementation and delivery.</p> <p>Continue to support vocational education and training to ensure Queensland has the skilled population needed to attract investment, and encourage job creation through the implementation of <i>Skills for Queensland - Great training for quality jobs</i> and as Queensland recovers from COVID-19.</p> <p>Support training and learning opportunities for Queenslanders through implementing the <i>Equipping TAFE for our Future</i> policy to deliver new and improved TAFE facilities across Queensland and continue to oversee the finalisation of the Advancing our Training Infrastructure commitment.</p> <p>Assist young Queenslanders to break into the job market through implementing the Government's commitment for free TAFE and apprenticeships for Queenslanders under the age of 25 in 26 priority skills areas and 139 priority qualification areas.</p> <p>Lead the development of a First Nations Training Strategy through consultation with the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, and communities to identify training gaps and deliver job-focused training to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including through supporting new and established community-led registered training organisations.</p> <p>Support the Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing to implement the Government's <i>Local Schools, Local Jobs</i> policy through delivering new and upgraded training facilities in schools across Queensland, ensuring young people have the right skills for regional economies to grow.</p>
<p>National Agreements, National Partnerships & Significant National Reform Projects</p>	<p>Support the Treasurer and Minister for Investment in relation to negotiation, management and implementation of any intergovernmental funding agreements relevant to your portfolio.</p> <p>Represent Queensland on the Skills National Cabinet Reform Committee.</p> <p>Represent Queensland on the Skills Ministers' Meeting.</p>