



Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: *PU/LM – TF/23/18318 – DOC/23/258215*

06 FEB 2024

The Honourable Glenn Butcher MP
Minister for Regional Development and
Manufacturing and Minister for Water
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Dear Minister

Together we have a responsibility each and every day to make Queensland an even better place, to create opportunities, tackle challenges, and deliver for hardworking Queenslanders.

Easing cost-of-living pressures, delivering better healthcare and more housing, and keeping our communities safe are core priorities that we are all responsible for driving, regardless of which portfolio we lead. Collectively, we must also focus on safeguarding Queensland's future by lifting our ambition on climate action, while supporting new industries and creating jobs where they are needed most.

This letter outlines a range of delivery priorities in your portfolio, which I know you will work relentlessly towards achieving.

The highest priorities I want you to focus on as Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water are to:

- grow regional economies
- increase Queensland's manufacturing capability
- ensure trains are built in Queensland under our pipeline of train building work in Maryborough
- ensure water security for all Queensland communities, industry and agriculture.

Listening to the voices of Queenslanders and working closely with other ministers will be essential to achieving meaningful outcomes. The priorities set out in the attached portfolio priority statement will also inform chief executive officer performance agreements and shape the functions and activities of departments and agencies.

In delivering on these priorities, please ensure you are working with your federal and other Australian state and territory government counterparts to ensure Queensland's interests are proactively represented and the benefits to Queenslanders are maximised. I will meet with you regularly to discuss progress in implementing the actions identified.

At all times, I expect that ministers and assistant ministers will make all decisions and take all actions in the public's interest, without regard to personal, party political or other immaterial considerations.

We cannot achieve our goals for Queensland without the public service, and I expect that ministers and their staff will engage with chief executive officers and departmental staff with the utmost respect and in accordance with *The Queensland Ministerial Handbook*, *Ministerial Code of Conduct*, *Code of Conduct Ministerial Staff Members'* and the *Protocols for communication between ministerial staff members and public service employees*. I refer you to *Governing Queensland* for the suite of policy and administrative handbooks, which is available on the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's website at www.premiers.qld.gov.au.

I look forward to continuing to work closely with you to deliver better services and create opportunities for all Queenslanders.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Miles', with a small checkmark at the end.

**STEVEN MILES MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

***Encl**

Portfolio Priorities Statement

Minister: Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water

The Hon Glenn Butcher MP

Department: Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water

Transport and Main Roads

Whole-of-Government Priorities

<p>Overarching Direction</p>	<p>All Ministers to work together to deliver the government's priorities for Queensland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting jobs: Good, secure jobs in more industries to diversify the Queensland economy and build on existing strengths in agriculture, resources and tourism. • Keeping Queenslanders healthy: Ensure all Queenslanders can access world-class healthcare no matter where they live. • Educating for the future: Give our children the best start by investing in our teachers and schools. • Listening to Queenslanders: Bring together business, industry, communities, and unions to work together for Queensland's future. • Backing our frontline services: Deliver world-class frontline services in key areas such as health, education, transport and community safety. • Keeping communities safe: Support police to work with the community to tackle the complex causes of crime and support victims. • Making it for Queensland: Grow manufacturing across traditional and new industries, making new products in new ways and creating new jobs. • Investing in skills: Ensure Queenslanders have the skills they need to find meaningful jobs and set up pathways for the future. • Protecting the environment: Protect and enhance our natural environment and heritage for future generations and achieve a 70 per cent renewable energy target by 2032, 75 per cent emissions reduction by 2035 and net zero emissions by 2050. • Growing our regions: Help Queensland's regions grow by attracting people, talent and investment, and driving sustainable economic prosperity. • Delivering the Big Build: Drive investment in the infrastructure that supports the State's economy and jobs, builds resilience and underpins future prosperity. • Deliver more homes: Provide more social homes and work with all levels of government to increase housing supply across the state. • Providing cost of living relief: Continue to use our energy assets to deliver savings on energy bills, and freeze or reduce costs where we can. • Honouring and embracing our rich and ancient cultural history: Create opportunities for First Nations Queenslanders to thrive in a modern Queensland.
<p>Consultation</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Integrity and Accountability</p>	<p>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.</p>

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>Regional Development</p>	<p>Enhance engagement in regional communities, particularly working with key stakeholders including local government, industry, and peak bodies to create jobs and grow regional economies.</p> <p>Continue to work with relevant Ministers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the Queensland Community Forum program including Regional Community Forums, Gold Coast Community Forum and Sunshine Coast Community Forum to ensure rural and regional communities can continue direct engagement with government, and influence government decision making. • Deliver regional economic development opportunities including coordinated projects associated with mining and mining infrastructure, renewable energy, and clean energy technology manufacturing and industrial processes; • Increase access to new markets for regional manufacturers, with a focus on women, young people, social enterprises, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and business owners from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds; and • Identify regional economic opportunities, improve the competitiveness of regional business, and support the creation of jobs in regions. <p>Deliver the <i>Building our Regions</i> program to support local government infrastructure projects in regional communities.</p> <p>Work with the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice and, Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development to support the building and upgrade of regional industry-linked school training facilities in priority industries such as hydrogen, aquaculture, agriculture, manufacturing, defence aviation and aerospace.</p>
<p>Manufacturing (including Train Manufacturing)</p>	<p>Continue to oversee the <i>Queensland Advanced Manufacturing 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan</i> and working closely with industry reference groups including chairing the Manufacturing Ministerial Council.</p> <p>Continue to implement a comprehensive strategy to protect jobs in key regional industries to grow regional economies and create long-term jobs.</p> <p>Continue to support manufacturing hubs, including delivery of the Manufacturing Hub Grants Program to support regional manufacturers become more competitive, as part of the permanent funding established for Queensland Manufacturing Hubs.</p> <p>Continue to support Queensland's manufacturing sector through the provision of grants under the Made in Queensland grants program.</p> <p>Enhance Queensland's manufacturing capability by working collaboratively with Manufacturing Skills Queensland on shared initiatives.</p> <p>Critically examine new opportunities for advanced manufacturing particularly in areas of pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and supplies, marine, aviation and mining equipment and technology to generate the jobs of the future, including high value, highly skilled jobs.</p> <p>Deliver the <i>Rail Manufacturing Strategy for Queensland</i> to transform Queensland's rail manufacturing sector to be a sustainable, leading provider of rail manufacturing products and services with the capacity to capture a significant portion of the national rail market.</p> <p>Oversee implementation of the <i>Queensland Craft Brewing Strategy</i> to support the industry to develop its capability and capacity through access to new markets and increasing its economic contribution to create direct and indirect jobs, attract private sector investment and facilitate innovation.</p> <p>Work with Rockhampton suppliers to identify components that can be manufactured locally to support the renewal of manufacturing in the area and build Queensland's capabilities.</p> <p>Work to secure ongoing and high-skilled manufacturing jobs in regional Queensland through the construction of trains for Cross River Rail in Maryborough.</p>

	<p>Build Queensland trains in Queensland, delivering a guaranteed pipeline of train building work in Maryborough and strengthening regional supply chains, including in Rockhampton.</p> <p>Oversee industry consultation to determine the best use of the purchased Rockhampton rail yards, creating more regional rail manufacturing jobs.</p> <p>Work with the Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing, Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs and Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development to support implementation of relevant initiatives under the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, including manufacturing and supply chain development.</p>
<p>Water</p>	<p>Continue to ensure that Queensland's catchment-based water plans will provide sustainable water allocation for the environment, agriculture, industries, and population centres.</p> <p>Continue to support the delivery of water security for Townsville by providing \$420 million for completion of project milestones, which includes the Haughton Pipeline Stage 2.</p> <p>Work with relevant Ministers to deliver water security for the Bundaberg region supporting long-term jobs and deliver significant flow-on economic benefits for the region.</p> <p>Work with all levels of Government and project proponents to implement the Queensland bulk water opportunities statement to maximise the benefits of new and existing bulk water supply infrastructure.</p> <p>Continue to improve water security and identify future options for Queensland communities and industries, including progressing the Southern and Darling Downs, Bundaberg and Burnett, Tablelands, Burdekin and Central Queensland regional water assessment programs, and seek to partner with the Federal Government wherever possible to investigate and invest in key water infrastructure for the State, including the Burdekin Falls Dam raising project.</p> <p>Continue to strengthen rural water regulation and management through the Rural Water Futures program.</p> <p>Support the agricultural industry through implementing reductions to irrigated and horticultural water costs.</p>
<p>National Agreements, National Partnerships & Significant National Reform Projects</p>	<p>Support the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment in relation to negotiation, management, and implementation of any intergovernmental funding agreements relevant to your portfolio.</p> <p>Represent Queensland on National Ministerial forums relevant to your portfolio.</p> <p>Proactively engage with your Federal Government counterpart to ensure Queensland is well placed to leverage key opportunities associated with the commitments made by the Federal Government and advocate for a fair share of funding.</p>