



Premier of Queensland
Minister for Trade

For reply please quote: *PU/SA – TF/18/115 – DOC/18/22737*

27 FEB 2018

The Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP
Minister for Employment and Small Business and
Minister for Training and Skills Development
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Dear Minister

On 11 December 2017, I announced a new Cabinet team and reaffirmed our commitment to Queenslanders to provide a strong, stable majority Government, and to drive the Queensland Government's policy agenda which prioritises jobs, health and education.

We will work closely together advancing Queensland to create jobs in a strong economy, ensure a great start for our children, improve the health of Queenslanders, support safe communities, protect the Great Barrier Reef and ensure a responsive Government.

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

For this reason, I write to outline the delivery priorities to meet our Government's commitments. For many of these delivery priorities, it will be essential that you work closely and constructively with your colleagues to deliver the best outcome for Queenslanders.

Following on from last week's Council of Australian Governments meeting, it is essential that you focus your attention on National Agreements, Partnerships and reforms related to your portfolio responsibilities to ensure Queensland's interests are represented and the benefits to Queenslanders are maximised.

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.

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

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, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line.

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

***Encl**

Portfolio Priorities Statement

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

The Hon Shannon Fentiman MP

Department(s): Employment, Small Business and Training

Environment and Science

Whole-of-Government Priorities

Overarching Direction	All Ministers and their staff to work closely together advancing Queensland, focusing on the following priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create jobs in a strong economy;• A great start for our children;• Healthy Queenslanders;• Safe communities;• Protect the Great Barrier Reef; and• A responsive Government.
Consultation	All Ministers and their staff to focus on meeting 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

Employment	<p>Work with relevant ministers to support job creation in Queensland.</p> <p>Support the work of Jobs Queensland (as an independent statutory authority), in close consultation with the Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations, to foster a skilled and productive workforce now and in the years ahead.</p> <p>Appoint a prominent Queenslander as an Ambassador for mature-aged friendly workplaces.</p> <p>Implement the Sticking Together program pilot to reduce youth unemployment through coaching and mentoring to build skills, confidence and resilience both in and out of the workplace.</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>Extend and monitor the Back to Work program for a further two years in regional Queensland and introduce a special Back to Work Boost for six months for mature-aged job seekers aged 55 and over.</p>
Small Business	<p>Provide support for the small business sector in relation to its key roles in supporting employment and helping the economy grow.</p> <p>Oversee the work of the Better Regulation Taskforce to continue to create a balanced regulatory environment for small business.</p> <p>Establish small business consultation panels to provide government departments with easier access to experienced small business owners and operators when developing policy and legislation.</p> <p>Continue to deliver the <i>Advancing Small Business Queensland Strategy 2016-20</i>, creating an environment for Queensland to be the place for small business to start, grow and employ, simplifying and coordinating service delivery and connecting small business to opportunities.</p> <p>Ensure Queensland is represented at national meetings so Queensland has input into the national small business agenda through the advocacy of the Queensland's Small Business Champion.</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>Deliver targeted support for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people who are business owners and operators, enabling them to unlock their full potential and navigate the rapidly changing economic landscape.</p>
Training and Skills Development	<p>Oversee the Government's expanded Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative with increased investment over the next three years.</p> <p>Work with relevant Ministers, to implement actions and initiatives in the Queensland Government's <i>Pathways to Training, Skills and Jobs</i> policy to provide pathways that lead to safe, secure employment such as apprenticeships and traineeships.</p>

	<p>Invest up to \$85 million over three years in the redevelopment, refurbishment and expansion of six identified high-need TAFE facilities (Gold Coast, Pimlico, Mt Gravatt, Toowoomba, Redlands and Cairns).</p> <p>Develop a strategy for vocational education and training in Queensland to ensure Queensland has the skilled population needed to attract investment, and encourage job creation.</p>
<p>Protected Area Management on Moreton Island and North Stradbroke Island</p>	<p>Support the administration of the <i>North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability Act 2011</i>.</p> <p>Support the work of the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation.</p>
<p>COAG National Agreements, National Partnerships & Significant National Reform Projects</p>	<p>Lead the implementation of existing National Agreements and Partnerships and negotiations associated with proposed new Agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development • Skilling Australians Fund National Partnership Agreement. <p>Contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap) • National Disability Strategy • The Bilateral Agreement between the Commonwealth and Queensland for the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme • The Small Business Regulatory Reform Project Agreement.