



## Premier of Queensland

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

**06 FEB 2024**

The Honourable Charis Mullen MP  
Minister for Child Safety,  
Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs  
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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 Child Safety, Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Multicultural Affairs are to:

- ensure the child safety system is working effectively to keep children safe
- prioritise early interventions to support families at risk of entering the child protection system
- improve the lives of Queenslanders with disability through optimising Queensland's investment in the National Disability Insurance Scheme and implementing reforms arising from the Independent Review into the NDIS and the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability
- deliver an age-friendly strategy for Queensland seniors.

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.

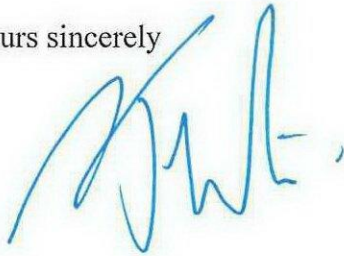
In delivering on these priorities, please ensure you are working with your federal and other Australian state and territory government counterparts to ensure Queensland's interests are proactively represented and the benefits to Queenslanders are maximised. I will meet with you regularly to discuss progress 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](http://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', is written over the text 'Yours sincerely'.

**STEVEN MILES MP  
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

**\*Encl**

# Portfolio Priorities Statement

**Minister:** Minister for Child Safety, Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Multicultural Affairs

**Department:** Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services

The Hon Charis Mullen MP

## Whole-of-Government Priorities

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

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| <b>Collaboration</b>           | All Ministers, supported by their Chief Executive Officers, establish strong working relationships across portfolios to deliver the Government's priorities. |
| <b>Investing in Our People</b> | All Ministers support their Chief Executive Officers to focus on motivating and increasing the capability of the public sector.                              |

### ***Government Commitments***

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| <b>Election Commitments</b> | All Ministers prioritise the delivery of all election commitments. |
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## Delivery Priorities

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| <b>Child Safety</b>        | <p>Work to eliminate the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, children and young people in the child protection system through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• continuing implementation of <i>Our Way: A generational strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families 2017–2037</i>;</li> <li>• partnering with Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak (QATSICPP) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to continue delegating statutory powers and functions of the department to CEOs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations;</li> <li>• transitioning funding to, and build capacity of, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are placed with kin, surrounded by their culture and supported in their community; and</li> <li>• delivering Family Wellbeing Services in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community organisations.</li> </ul> <p>Continue to deliver family support services to help families earlier and moderate the number of children entering the child protection system, including the Kinship Care Program and Families Caring for Families Program.</p> <p>Implement actions arising from the review of residential care to create a sustainable and contemporary model of residential and other out-of-home care arrangements.</p> <p>Continue to support the Government's response to the National Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse by designing and implementing Child Safe Standards and a Reportable Conduct Scheme.</p> <p>Continue to identify and implement strategies to address and manage the current and future demand on child safety services.</p> <p>Continue to work with other jurisdictions to implement the <i>Safe and Supported: National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021–2031</i>.</p> <p>Support the delivery of early interventions to improve outcomes for children, young people and families in or at risk of entering the child protection system, and in turn break intergenerational cycles of disadvantage and help prevent youth offending.</p> <p>Work with the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence to finalise a permanent model for child protection litigation matters and to improve coordination of child protection responsibility across all relevant portfolios.</p> <p>Work with the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence to assess options to integrate screening processes and realise efficiencies, including in the areas of working with children checks and disability screening.</p> |
| <b>Seniors</b>             | <p>Support older people to lead healthy and productive lives and ensure government policies and programs continue to be age friendly.</p> <p>Deliver a new seniors strategy for Queensland, informed by the perspectives of older Queenslanders reported through findings in the Age-Friendly Queensland Survey.</p> <p>Continue to deliver Queensland Seniors Month, including to fund Seniors Month grants.</p> <p>Support the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women and contribute to the reforms to palliative care.</p> <p>Expand elder abuse services provided under the Seniors Legal and Support Services program.</p>   |
| <b>Disability Services</b> | <p>Progress transformational disability reforms that will improve the lives of Queenslanders with disability and encompass responses to the recent recommendations of the Independent Review into the NDIS and the Disability Royal Commission, and the 6 December 2023 National Cabinet decision to design additional Foundational Supports to be jointly commissioned by the Australian Government and the States.</p>  |

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|   | <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the recommendations of the Independent Review into the NDIS, to ensure Queenslanders with disability and stakeholders receive the best possible outcomes and the Queensland Government optimises the value it receives for its significant NDIS investment.</li> <li>• Continue to work with relevant Ministers in reporting on acceptance and implementation of recommendations arising from the Disability Royal Commission.</li> </ul> <p>Continue to support Queenslanders with disability to lead better lives and maximise opportunities, by working with the Federal Government, and relevant Queensland Government agencies, to ensure effective operation and governance of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).</p> <p>Drive action relating to the seven key outcomes outlined in Australia's Disability Strategy through implementing <i>Queensland's Disability Plan 2022–2027: Together, a better Queensland</i>, which tailor approaches for the diverse individual experiences across the Queensland community.</p> <p>Implement strong safeguards by administering the nationally consistent NDIS worker screening check and the Queensland disability worker screening check.</p> <p>Continue to support advocacy for people with disability, including through funding the Queensland Independent Disability Advocacy Network for the Queensland Disability Advocacy Program, including the state-wide information and referral service 'Pathways'.</p> <p>Support the delivery of early interventions and strengthened services and supports for children and young people with disability and their families and in turn improve life outcomes.</p> <p>Work with the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women to develop an improved service delivery model for forensic disability services in Queensland.</p> <p>Work with the Federal Government and other states and territories to progress work towards nationally consistent authorisation processes for restrictive practices.</p> |
| <p><b>Multicultural Affairs</b></p>   | <p>Continue to lead actions and policy that will implement the principles of the <i>Multicultural Queensland Charter</i> and promote Queensland as a united, harmonious and inclusive community.</p> <p>Continue to work with other State and Federal Governments to build strength in diversity and social participation, work with vulnerable communities and implement diversion programs to address the marginalisation and radicalisation that leads to violent extremism.</p> <p>Continue to support social cohesion work across Queensland to enhance diverse and vibrant communities.</p> <p>Continue to work with the Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development in supporting the <i>Mentoring for Growth program</i> by assisting in the recruitment, training, and development of mentors from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.</p> <p>Continue to support community organisations in providing work rights education to new Queenslanders and assistance to vulnerable migrant workers.</p> <p>Continue to lead delivery of the <i>Queensland Multicultural Policy Our story, our future</i>, and associated <i>Multicultural Action Plan</i>, and collaborate across agencies to achieve a culturally responsive Government, support inclusive, harmonious and united communities, and improve economic opportunities for Queenslanders from culturally diverse backgrounds.</p>  |
| <p><b>National Agreements, National Partnerships &amp; Significant National Reform Projects</b></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 including the Disability Reform Ministerial Council.</p>  |

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|  | Work with the Federal Government and other state and territory jurisdictions to respond to the taskings of National Cabinet in relation to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. |
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