



## Premier of Queensland

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The Honourable Lance McCallum MP  
Minister for Employment and Small Business and  
Minister for Training and Skills Development  
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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 Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development are to:

- build a strong and diverse workforce to meet Queensland industries' needs
- focus on supporting disengaged young people into training and employment
- create a balanced regulatory environment for small business
- ensure the long-term strength and sustainability of the vocational education and training sector, with a particular focus on TAFE
- maximise uptake of free TAFE and apprenticeships for Queenslanders in priority skills and qualification areas.

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



**STEVEN MILES MP  
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

**\*Encl**



# 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 Lance McCallum MP*

## Whole-of-Government Priorities

<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>

<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**

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

<b>Employment</b>	<p>Continue to implement and evaluate the <i>Back to Work program</i>.</p> <p>Lead the delivery of Queensland's whole-of-government <i>Good People. Good Jobs: Queensland Workforce Strategy 2022–32</i> in collaboration with other Ministers, to build a strong and diverse workforce ready to seize today's jobs and adapt to future opportunities.</p> <p>Lead the development of innovative employment policies and programs with a focus on supporting under-represented cohorts across Queensland's workforce.</p> <p>Continue to support the work of Jobs Queensland (as an independent board), in close consultation with the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice 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>Work with the Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts to support the implementation of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap including the development of Queensland's annual <i>Closing the Gap implementation plan</i> in a co-design approach with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and their representatives.</p> <p>Continue to support the Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts in reporting on acceptance and implementation of recommendations arising from the Royal Commission into violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability.</p>
<b>Small Business</b>	<p>Continue to support the small business sector to drive job creation and growth.</p> <p>Develop and implement the next <i>Queensland Small Business Strategy</i> to continue to build a strong and resilient small business sector to drive job creation and growth.</p> <p>Lead support and evaluation of Social Enterprise small and medium businesses, including the co-operative sector.</p> <p>Lead the way in assisting small businesses through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• providing support to the Queensland Investment Corporation in managing the Business Investment Fund, assisting businesses to innovate and expand into new markets;</li><li>• overseeing the Business Ready website which will provide easy access to critical information and support business to grow;</li><li>• working with small businesses to achieve and benefit from the small and medium enterprise 30 per cent procurement target; and</li><li>• collaborating with the Small Business Commissioner in advocating for, supporting and providing information to small businesses.</li></ul> <p>Ensure Queensland is represented at national meetings, so Queensland has input into the national small business agenda.</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 Child Safety, Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Multicultural Affairs to support 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>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 Islander people and business owners from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.</p>
<p><b>Training and Skills Development</b></p>	<p>Oversee the Government's <i>Skilling Queenslanders for Work</i> initiative to support disadvantaged Queenslanders to gain skills, qualifications and experience through program implementation and delivery.</p> <p>Support the work of Manufacturing Skills Queensland and support the Minister for Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water in enhancing Queensland's manufacturing capability.</p> <p>Lead delivery of reforms and strategic investment in Queensland's vocational education and training sector as agreed to by the Queensland Government under the new five-year National Skills Agreement.</p> <p>Lead the development of a Queensland Vocational Education and Training Strategy to ensure the long-term strength and sustainability of the vocational education and training sector and the public provider.</p> <p>Continue to support vocational education and training to ensure Queensland has the skilled population needed to attract investment, encourage job creation, address immediate and long-term workforce challenges and capture opportunities in emerging industries.</p> <p>Lead delivery of Queensland's <i>Hydrogen Industry Workforce Development Roadmap 2022-32</i>, delivering key actions under the Roadmap to build a strong and adaptable workforce for a safe and thriving Queensland hydrogen industry.</p> <p>Lead delivery and implementation of Queensland's <i>Future Energy Workforce Roadmap</i> to build future workforce capacity and capability for Queensland's energy sector in alignment with the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.</p> <p>Continue to implement the <i>Equipping TAFE for Our Future</i> program – delivering modernisation upgrades to TAFE campuses across Queensland.</p> <p>Oversee implementation of the Queensland Government's commitment for free TAFE and apprenticeships for Queenslanders in priority skills and qualification areas, assisting Queenslanders to break into the job market.</p> <p>Lead implementation of the Queensland Government's <i>Paving the Way – First Nations Training Strategy</i> to support Aboriginal peoples' and Torres Strait Islander peoples' skills development and respond to local and community employment needs.</p> <p>Support the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice 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><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.</p> <p>Proactively engage with your Federal Government counterparts 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 for Queensland.</p>