1. In February 2010, the Queensland Government released a public discussion paper outlining the resources development and urbanisation pressures which are increasingly competing for land with agriculture.
2. Queensland has a small area of land resources that are the most suitable for cropping production. The discussion paper proposed that the best cropping land, defined as strategic cropping land, should be conserved and managed for the longer term, and that as a general aim planning and approval powers should be used to protect such land from those developments that lead to its permanent alienation or diminished productivity.
3. Departmental Representatives from the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation and the Department of Environment and Resource Management have consulted with landholders and key stakeholder organisations about the protection of strategic cropping land in Queensland. The issues identified are outlined in the *Consultation report: Strategic cropping land draft policy and planning framework.*
4. These discussions and public forums have guided the policy framework for strategic cropping land in Queensland. This framework is detailed in the *Protecting Queensland’s strategic cropping land: a policy framework.* The policy framework is intended to give effect to the government’s commitment to protect Queensland’s best cropping land and strike a balance between the competing land use activities such as agriculture, mining and urban development.
5. Cabinet approved the release of the *Consultation report* to the February 2010 discussion paper.
6. Cabinet approved the release of the *Protecting Queensland’s strategic cropping land: a policy framework*.
7. *Attachments*
* [Consultation report: Strategic cropping land draft policy and planning framework](Attachments/strategic-cropping-land-consultation-report%5B1%5D.pdf)
* [Protecting Queensland’s strategic cropping land: a policy framework](Attachments/strategic-cropping-policy-complete%5B1%5D.pdf)