1. The *Women on Boards* strategy (the Strategy) establishes that where possible 50 per cent of new appointees to Queensland Government bodies should be women.
2. The Strategy aims to increase the number of female new appointees to Government boards. Key components of the Strategy are:
3. active recruitment of women with skills that match board requirements;
4. increased Ministerial and Executive leadership;
5. amendment of the Cabinet Handbook to require departments to demonstrate gender equity measures in Significant Appointment processes;
6. improved agency awareness and use of the ‘Queensland Register of Nominees to Queensland Government bodies’; and
7. identifying necessary board skills and building women’s capabilities to nominate and successfully compete for board appointments.
8. At the commencement of the Strategy, approximately 33.6 per cent of all government body members were female. Following the introduction of the Strategy there has been an improvement in the overall percentage of women on bodies, with women comprising an estimated 36.9 per cent of all Government body members, as at 9 November 2010. In the third quarter of 2010, 39.7 per cent of new appointments to government bodies were women.
9. Cabinet noted that the Cabinet Handbook had been amended to identify that the Office for Women can work with agencies to proactively identify opportunities for the appointment of women to government bodies.
10. *Attachments:*
* Nil.