1. Queensland’s rich natural resources, tropical location, robust regulatory framework and investment in research and development (R&D) provide a competitive advantage for the production of high-quality, internationally competitive food.
2. Population growth and rising affluence in developing countries presents significant opportunities for Queensland as a net exporter of food. However, major challenges like competing land use, skill and labour shortages and climate change can undermine this opportunity and offset the State’s competitive advantage in food production.
3. For Queensland to continue to capitalise on its food strengths, food needs clearer focus in decision-making. Investment decisions must recognise the interdependencies that exist between food production and other activities and interventions. On a more practical level, public and private investment in the food value chain needs to better target those areas where there is potential for the greatest gain.
4. The draft policy framework, *Food for a Growing Economy: An Economic Development Framework for the Queensland food industry*, aims to address these challenges.
5. Cabinet approved the release of the draft *Food for a Growing Economy: An Economic Development Framework for the Queensland food industry* for public consultation.
6. *Attachment*
* [Draft policy framework: *Food for a Growing Economy: An Economic Development Framework for the Queensland Food Industry*](Attachments/Report.pdf)*.*