1. In July 2011, the Productivity Commission released their report into Disability Care and Support. The Queensland Government has provided support for a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) as proposed by the Productively Commission including that the Commonwealth Government should meet the extra cost associated with its establishment and ongoing operations.
2. Many elements of Queensland’s current disability system are congruent with the proposed model of an NDIS. Additionally, feedback received through recent consultations about the Growing Stronger reforms is also calling for similar changes to the system in Queensland.
3. There is an opportunity to take a proactive and deliberate approach to further reform of disability services that will position Queensland well relative to other jurisdictions, and for an NDIS in the future.
4. In particular, the proposed program of reform will:
* Improve services for people with disability and their families, implement the foundations of the NDIS, including: streamlining and improving service access; providing opportunities for self directed funding; and enhancing early intervention and prevention
* Ensure better value for money, reduce red tape and have more local connections between families and service providers.
1. Cabinet noted the pressures confronting disability services in Queensland.
2. Cabinet approved the strategy to strengthen front-line disability services, including enabling individuals with a disability to exercise greater choice and control over their disability supports.
3. Cabinet noted the changes to strengthen front-line disability services were consistent with the key elements of individual funding and sector development currently being developed at a national level for a proposed NDIS to ensure readiness for future reforms.
4. Cabinet noted that work was continuing on a review of the *Disability Services Act 2006* (the Act), the National Disability Strategy and strengthening early intervention services for children with disability at risk of relinquishment.