1. The Queensland Government has a regulatory and policy framework to minimise the risks of exposure to asbestos in workplaces, domestic premises and the environment. Four State Government departments and over 70 local councils are responsible for administering and enforcing asbestos-related legislation. At times, the multiplicity of laws and the division of regulatory responsibilities across agencies has contributed to inconsistent and inefficient responses to asbestos-related complaints.
2. The Queensland Government is committed to improving asbestos safety and supports a coordinated whole-of-government approach towards the management and regulation of asbestos.
3. The Premier has appointed the Department of Justice and Attorney-General as lead agency for strategic coordination of asbestos regulation and management and, where necessary, incident response.This will not affect the operational activities of agencies who will continue to regulate and enforce asbestos-related legislation and response to incidents within their jurisdiction.
4. A *Statewide Strategic Plan for the Safe Management of Asbestos in Queensland 2014-2019* has been developed to provide a strategic and coordinated approach to the regulation and management of asbestos in Queensland to minimise the risk of inadvertent exposure to asbestos fibres at workplaces, domestic premises and in the natural environment. Three key areas have been identified to achieve this aim:

* minimising the risk of exposure to asbestos;
* seamless and integrated government service delivery; and
* community education and awareness about asbestos.

1. The Plan will operate over 2014-2019 and will be reviewed annually to ensure the priorities and initiatives remain relevant. Annual progress reports will also be made available on the Government’s asbestos website.
2. Cabinet approved the *Statewide Strategic Plan for the Safe Management of Asbestos in Queensland 2014-2019.*

7. *Attachment*

* + [*Statewide Strategic Plan for the Safe Management of Asbestos in Queensland 2014-2019*](Attachments/plan.pdf)