1. Panama Disease Tropical Race 4 (TR4) has been confirmed on a Tully banana property.
2. There are limited disease control options for TR4 as it cannot be effectively controlled using fungicides or other methods such as soil fumigants. The rate of spread of TR4 is dependent upon the success of physical containment and management mechanisms implemented on affected farms to reduce the risk of movement to other farms.
3. Banana fruit is not affected by TR4 and remains completely safe to handle and eat. Affected plants rarely produce marketable fruit.
4. A response is being managed in accordance with the Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan.
5. Cabinet noted the confirmed diagnosis of Panama Disease Tropical Race 4 on a Tully banana property, proposed response, longer term risk mitigation options and community and structural adjustment support options.
6. Cabinet noted that a taskforce, comprising relevant agencies, would be established to monitor and address the economic, social and community impacts on the banana industry and flow on effects to the local community.
7. *Attachments*
* Nil.