1. The Queensland Government released the *Sustainable Fisheries Strategy 2017-2027* (the Strategy) in June 2017, paving the way for a world-class fisheries management system. The Strategy commits to delivering a more modern, responsive and consultative fisheries management framework for Queensland.
2. One of the most fundamental changes is to introduce harvest strategies for each key fishery by 2020. Harvest strategies provide for clearer and more responsive decision making by outlining the pre-determined actions that will be taken based on the performance of the fish stock (e.g. if biomass falls below a certain level, a certain reduction in quota would occur).
3. Reforms to the current management arrangements are essential to allow a harvest strategy to work effectively. In particular, it will be necessary to establish quotas or total allowable commercial catches that can be adjusted over time.
4. The Strategy identifies the crab, trawl, and east coast inshore fisheries as priorities for reform. Over the past year, Fisheries Queensland engaged commercial, recreational and charter fishers, conservationists, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fishers and members of the community about options for reforming management of the priority fisheries. Discussion Papers on the proposed reform and review options were released for public consultation in March 2018, with almost 500 online survey responses and 340 face-to-face meetings across the state. Reform options have been narrowed down in consultation with fishery working groups and advice from the Sustainable Fisheries Expert Panel.
5. The proposed reforms for the crab, trawl, and east coast fisheries are consistent with the policy and principles set out in the Strategy and the fishery objectives set by stakeholders.
6. Further consultation will occur on the details of these reforms, in particular on allocation approaches with commercial fishers and development of harvest strategies for each of the fisheries. The reforms will then be implemented as part of the remake of the *Fisheries Regulation 2008*.
7. Cabinet approved the proposed fisheries reforms in accordance with the Sustainable Fisheries Strategy 2017-2027.
8. Cabinet approved the implementation of the reforms as part of the remake of the *Fisheries Regulation 2008*.
9. Cabinet approved the public release of the “Queensland Government direction on fisheries reform”.
10. *Attachments*
* [“Queensland Government direction on fisheries reform”](Attachments/Direction.PDF)