1. On 28 November 2019, the Electoral and Other Legislation (Accountability, Integrity and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2019 was introduced into the Legislative Assembly and referred to the Economics and Governance Committee for consideration and report. The Bill included proposed amendments relating to State elections and the conduct of Ministers and Local Government Councillors in managing conflicts of interest.
2. In referring the Bill, the Legislative Assembly requested the Committee also consider recommendation 1 from the Crime and Corruption Commission’s (CCC’s) Operation Belcarra Report (Belcarra Report) regarding the feasibility of introducing expenditure caps for Queensland Local Government elections, with a view to the model commencing after the 2020 Local Government elections.
3. On 15 September 2020, the Economics and Governance Committee tabled its Report No. 47 *Inquiry into the feasibility of introducing expenditure caps for Queensland local government elections* which recommends that an electoral expenditure caps scheme be established for Queensland’s Local Government elections to achieve consistency with the electoral expenditure caps regime which now applies to State elections. The report contained seven recommendations.
4. The Government response to the Report supports all seven recommendations in principle.
5. Cabinet approved support, in principle, of the recommendations of the Report No. 47 *Inquiry into the feasibility of introducing expenditure caps for Queensland local government elections* and approved the Government response, to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly.
6. Cabinet endorsed that further analysis and consultation with stakeholders be undertaken with respect to the recommendations.
7. *Attachments*
* [Economics and Governance Committee Report No. 47 *Inquiry into the feasibility of introducing expenditure caps for Queensland local government elections*](Attachments/Report.PDF)
* [Government response](Attachments/Response.PDF)