1. Section 41 of the *Legal Aid Queensland Act 1997* (the Act) establishes Legal Aid Queensland (LAQ).
2. The main functions of LAQ, as provided for in the Act are to:
3. ensure legal assistance is given to persons in the most effective, economic, commercial and efficient way;
4. manage its resources so as to make legal assistance available at a reasonable cost to the community and on an equitable basis throughout the State;
5. control and administer amounts given to it by the State or Commonwealth under a legal assistance arrangement or otherwise; and
6. pursue innovative ways of giving persons legal assistance to minimise the need for individual legal services in the community.
7. LAQ is also responsible for managing the Community Legal Service program throughout Queensland on behalf of both the Federal and State Governments.
8. Section 64 of the Act provides that LAQ is to have a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) appointed by the Governor in Council, by gazette notice, on the Legal Aid Board’s (the Board’s) recommendation. The responsibilities of the CEO, as set out in the Act, include:
9. controlling LAQ’s day to day administration in accordance with priorities and strategies decided by the Board; and directions given to the CEO by the Board;
10. ensuring legal services are provided to legally assisted persons under this Act; and
11. for legal services to legally assisted persons provided by LAQ lawyers, ensuring arrangements are made for the provision of the legal services and the legal services are supervised.
12. Cabinet endorsed that Ms Nicola Davies be recommended to the Governor in Council for appointment as the Chief Executive Officer of Legal Aid Queensland for a term of five years commencing on and from 1 March 2021 up to and including 28 February 2026.
13. *Attachments*
* Nil.