

SERVICE DELIVERY STATEMENTS

Department of Women,
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
and Multiculturalism

Queensland Budget 2026-27

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Service Delivery Statements

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Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism

**Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security,
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and
Minister for Multiculturalism
The Honourable Fiona Simpson MP**

**Assistant Minister for Multicultural Affairs and International Student Attraction
Hermann Vorster MP**

**Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and
Multiculturalism
Director-General: Natalie Wilde**

Additional information about this agency can be sourced from:

dwatsipm.qld.gov.au

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism

Overview

The Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism (the department) will improve equity of access to opportunities for the Queenslanders we serve by working collaboratively, influencing and leveraging opportunities to make a positive difference to social and economic outcomes.

The department's strategic objectives are:

- Women's equality and economic security enhanced through participation in Queensland's community and economy
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders' economic and life outcomes improved
- Social and economic outcomes enhanced for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, through participation in Queensland's community and economy.

The department contributes to the *Government's objectives for the community*¹ by working to provide:

- *A better lifestyle through a stronger economy* by working collaboratively with communities, sector and industry partners, and Government agencies, to: improve employment and home ownership outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders, grow the economy in our regions, strengthen the economic inclusion of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and foster an environment that enables Queensland women to be economically secure
- *A plan for Queensland's future* by working collaboratively across government and with local communities to lift living standards in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, particularly in remote and discrete communities where basic amenities are often limited, and by ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are appropriately included in the planning of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games to showcase Queensland's cultural heritage, and to build bridges with our culturally diverse communities to participate economically and socially as Queenslanders.

Key deliverables

In 2026-27, the department will:

- deliver and implement the Women's Economic Security Strategy to enhance women's financial security and deliver initiatives that improve the economic security, skills development, and leadership opportunities of women and girls across Queensland
- collaborate with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Housing and Public Works to ensure the successful completion and unveiling of a statue in honour of the late Dr Merle Thornton AM
- administer the \$108 million Closing the Gap Priorities Fund to deliver frontline tangible projects in rural, remote and discrete areas which address critical priorities and will support a renewed approach to addressing the Closing the Gap focus areas of housing, education, employment and health initiatives in partnership with communities

¹ To find out more, go to qld.gov.au and search "government's objectives for the community."

- deliver programs including Multicultural Connect Grants, Strengthening Communities Multicultural Grants, Celebrating Multicultural Queensland and Community Action for a Multicultural Society to strengthen partnership and participation across Queensland's diverse communities
- support initiatives that contribute to economic outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including opportunities in the lead-up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic games
- work with the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers and Mayors in Indigenous Local Government Areas to deliver a new partnership through the Indigenous Mayors Accord
- work with the Department of Housing and Public Works and Queensland Treasury to deliver better housing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and support the delivery of key housing initiatives such as the Palm Island Home Ownership Rent to Buy Scheme
- support the conservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage consistent with the responsibilities and powers set out under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and the *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003*
- work with the Department of Trade, Employment and Training on pathways to employment and skills development for skilled migrants.

Budget highlights

In the 2026-27 Queensland Budget, the government is providing:

- \$4 million over two years from 2025-26 through the Jobs Academy to support women re-entering the workforce and thrive after career breaks. The extension of the program helps to address barriers to workforce participation, particularly for women living in regional, rural, and remote areas
- \$1.53 million in 2026-27 to support community-centred initiatives that strengthen community partnership. These initiatives support the safety, wellbeing and integration of new migrants.

Further information about new policy decisions can be found in *Budget Paper No. 4: Budget Measures*.

Performance statement

Office for Women

Objective

To improve the economic security of women in Queensland.

Description

This service area supports improvements to Queensland women's economic security by identifying barriers to full social and economic participation and working in partnership with government, community and business to deliver initiatives to help enhance the lives of women and girls.

Service standards	2025-26 Target/Est.	2025-26 Est. Actual	2026-27 Target/Est.
<i>Effectiveness measure</i>			
Percentage of women appointed to Queensland Government Boards	50%	54%	50%
<i>Efficiency measure</i>			
Not identified			

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships

Objective

To improve the economic and social outcomes for Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Description

This service area improves the economic and social outcomes for Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples by working closely with other agencies, peak bodies, local leaders and the community to lift the standards of Aboriginal communities and Torres Strait Islander communities. This includes leading Queensland's coordination and implementation of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Service standards	2025-26 Target/Est.	2025-26 Est. Actual	2026-27 Target/Est.
<i>Effectiveness measures</i>			
Overall customer satisfaction with cultural heritage services provided by the department ¹	75%	69.3%	75%
Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses securing government procurement	560	560 (as at Qtr 3)	560
Value of government procurement from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses ²	\$550M	\$600.7M (as at Qtr 3)	\$550M
<i>Efficiency measures</i>			
Average cost per cultural heritage search request processed ³	\$22.50	\$18.40	\$22.50
Total cost per hour of policy development, advice and engagement provided for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships service area ⁴	\$104.50	\$104.93	\$104.50

Notes:

1. The variance between the 2025-26 Target/Estimate and 2025-26 Estimated Actual is attributed to survey respondents' feedback highlighting opportunities to update the Cultural Heritage Online Portal's technology and design and improve functionality.
2. The 2025-26 Estimated Actual is higher than the 2025-26 Target/Estimate primarily due to stronger than anticipated procurement activity and engagement with Indigenous suppliers in the first three quarters.
3. The 2025-26 Estimated Actual is lower than the 2025-26 Target/Estimate primarily due to efficiencies in resources and delivery.
4. The 2025-26 Estimated Actual is higher than the 2025-26 Target/Estimate primarily due to the impact of the final state wage case increase.

Multicultural Affairs Queensland

Objective

To improve economic and social outcomes for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in Queensland, and to help build safe, caring and connected communities, with a focus on helping new migrant communities overcome barriers to full economic and social involvement and enhancing engagement and participation.

Description

This service area improves the economic and social outcomes of Queenslanders by harnessing the skills and expertise of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and celebrating the cultural diversity of our State. This involves building safe, caring and connected communities where multicultural communities want to call Queensland home.

Service standards	2025-26 Target/Est.	2025-26 Est. Actual	2026-27 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measure			
Percentage of Queensland Government entities' overall satisfaction with advice from Multicultural Affairs Queensland, including advice to effectively support them meeting their obligations under the <i>Multicultural Recognition Act 2016</i> ¹	85%	93.3%	85%
Efficiency measure			
Administration costs per \$1 of recurrent grant funding administered	≤\$0.10	≤\$0.10	≤\$0.10

Note:

1. The variance between the 2025-26 Target/Estimate and 2025-26 Estimated Actual is due to increased intergovernmental engagement through the refreshed Senior Officers Group on Multicultural Affairs and increased cross-agency engagement in response to geopolitical tensions.

Departmental budget summary

The table below shows the total resources available in 2026-27 from all sources and summarises how resources will be applied by service area and by controlled and administered classifications.

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	2025-26 Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CONTROLLED			
Income			
Appropriation revenue	166,594	107,846	166,456
Other revenue	661	909	609
Total income	167,255	108,755	167,065
Expenses			
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnership	131,942	79,127	143,387
Multiculturalism	26,439	24,391	19,477
Office for Women	9,194	5,557	4,368
Total expenses	167,575	109,075	167,232
Operating surplus/deficit¹	(320)	(320)	(167)
Net assets	29,906	32,674	32,507
ADMINISTERED			
Revenue			
Commonwealth revenue	2,122	2,122	..
Appropriation revenue	12,783	26,493	12,978
Other administered revenue	..	..	..
Total revenue	14,905	28,615	12,978
Expenses			
Transfers to government	..	..	..
Administered expenses	14,905	28,865	12,978
Total expenses	14,905	28,865	12,978
Operating surplus/deficit²	..	(250)	..
Net assets	..	..	..

Notes:

- Controlled deficit is due to a timing difference for recognition of revenue and expenses in relation to a Memorandum of Understanding with Queensland Mental Health Commission, \$87,000 of revenue was recognised in 2022-23 and \$600,000 in 2023-24 but expenditure was deferred to 2024-25 (\$200,000), 2025-26 (\$320,000) and 2026-27 (\$167,000), resulting in the deficits recognised in 2025-26 (Budget and Est. Act) and 2026-27 (Budget).
- Administered deficit is due to the timing of payments related to funds received in prior years.

Staffing

The table below shows the Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) as at the 30 June in the respective years.

Service area	2025-26 Budget	2025-26 Est. Actual	2026-27 Budget
Office for Women	8	8	8
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships ²	385	384	381
Multicultural Affairs Queensland	39	39	39
Total FTEs^{3,4}	432	431	428

Notes:

1. Corporate FTEs are allocated across the service to which they relate.
2. This is inclusive of the Strategic Policy and Legislation team which services the whole department.
3. FTE decrease from 2025-26 Budget to 2025-26 Estimated Actual is due to transfers to other agencies.
4. The difference between 2025-26 Budget and 2026-27 Budget is due to positions that were only funded to 30 June 2026 and transfers to other agencies.

Capital program

Of the total 2026-27 capital outlays of \$10.7 million, \$8.2 million will be invested in regional infrastructure to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community initiatives, and a further \$1.2 million will be provided to help multicultural community groups to build or upgrade facilities to support community gatherings across Queensland.

The table below shows the total capital outlays by the agency in the respective years.

	2025-26 Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
Capital purchases	1,240	902	1,240
Capital grants	9,402	2,628	9,428
Total capital outlays	10,642	3,530	10,668

Further information about the Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism capital outlays can be found in *Budget Paper No. 3: Capital Statement*.

Budgeted financial statements

Departmental income statement

Controlled income statement

The controlled budgeted expenses for the Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism are estimated to be \$167.2 million in 2026-27, with revenue estimated to be \$167.1 million.

Total Estimated Actual expenditure in 2025-26 is lower than 2025-26 Budget mainly due to the Closing the Gap Priorities Fund being delivered over multiple years. This reprofiling is inclusive of employee expenses and supplies and services being reprioritised to grants funding for this program.

Administered income statement

Total administered expenses and revenues are estimated to be \$13.0 million in 2026-27. The department administers payments for the Family Responsibilities Commission and the Western Cape Community Trust.

Total revenue and expenses in 2026-27 are lower than 2025-26 Estimated Actual mainly as a result of the finalised Western Cape Community Trust 2025-26 payment.

Departmental balance sheet

The department's controlled balance sheet is primarily represented by cash and property, plant and equipment. The net asset position remains consistent, with movements between the financial years primarily resulting from the effect of annual asset revaluation.

Total departmental assets are estimated to be \$44.8 million as at 30 June 2026.

Controlled income statement

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	169,020	107,846	166,456
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	119	552	552
Royalties and land rents	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	300	..
Interest and distributions from managed funds	..	..	..
Other revenue	542	57	57
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	169,681	108,755	167,065
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	90,430	57,523	60,440
Supplies and services	27,579	24,645	21,034
Grants and subsidies	50,615	25,539	84,615
Depreciation and amortisation	718	718	718
Finance/borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other expenses	659	650	425
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total expenses	170,001	109,075	167,232
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(320)	(320)	(167)

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Controlled balance sheet

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	24,631	18,244	17,263
Receivables	2,109	8,319	8,384
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	..	..	..
Other	(30)	..	..
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	26,710	26,563	25,647
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	18,225	18,214	18,773
Intangibles	(1)	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	18,224	18,214	18,773
TOTAL ASSETS	44,934	44,777	44,420
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	12,651	9,475	9,112
Accrued employee benefits	2,377	2,628	2,801
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total current liabilities	15,028	12,103	11,913
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	..	..	..
TOTAL LIABILITIES	15,028	12,103	11,913
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	29,906	32,674	32,507
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	29,906	32,674	32,507

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Controlled cash flow statement

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	169,020	93,810	166,093
User charges and fees	119	552	552
Royalties and land rent receipts	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	300	..
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	..	..	..
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	468	(17)	(17)
Outflows:			
Employee costs	(90,322)	(57,415)	(60,332)
Supplies and services	(27,542)	(24,608)	(20,997)
Grants and subsidies	(50,615)	(25,539)	(84,615)
Borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other	(659)	(650)	(425)
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	469	(13,567)	259
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	..	..	..
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	(1,240)	(902)	(1,240)
Payments for investments	..	..	..
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	(1,240)	(902)	(1,240)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	..	..	..
Equity injections	..	..	..
Appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Non-appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	..	..	..
Equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Appropriated equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Non-appropriated equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	..	..	..
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(771)	(14,469)	(981)
Cash at the beginning of financial year	25,402	32,963	18,244
Cash transfers from restructure	..	(250)	..
Cash at the end of financial year	24,631	18,244	17,263

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Administered income statement

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	12,783	26,493	12,978
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	..	..	..
Royalties and land rents	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	2,122	2,122	..
Interest and distributions from managed funds	..	..	..
Other revenue	..	..	..
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	14,905	28,615	12,978
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	14,905	28,865	12,978
Depreciation and amortisation	..	..	..
Finance/borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other expenses	..	..	..
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Administered revenue transferred to Government	..	..	..
Total expenses	14,905	28,865	12,978
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	..	(250)	..

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Administered balance sheet

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	(108,680)	(20,470)	(20,470)
Receivables	475	315	315
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	(108,205)	(20,155)	(20,155)
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	..	..	..
Intangibles	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	..	..	..
TOTAL ASSETS	(108,205)	(20,155)	(20,155)
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	4,257	3,224	3,224
Transfers to Government payable	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total current liabilities	4,257	3,224	3,224
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	..	..	..
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,257	3,224	3,224
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	(112,462)	(23,379)	(23,379)
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	(112,462)	(23,379)	(23,379)

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Administered cash flow statement

Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	12,783	26,493	12,978
User charges and fees	..	..	..
Royalties and land rent receipts	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	2,122	2,122	..
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	..	..	..
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Employee costs	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	(14,905)	(28,865)	(12,978)
Borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Transfers to Government	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	..	(250)	..
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	..	..	..
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	..	..	..
Payments for investments	..	..	..
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	..	..	..
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	..	..	..
Equity injections	..	..	..
Appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Non-appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	..	..	..
Equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Appropriated equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Non-appropriated equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	..	..	..
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	..	(250)	..
Cash at the beginning of financial year	(108,680)	(20,470)	(20,470)
Cash transfers from restructure	..	250	..
Cash at the end of financial year	(108,680)	(20,470)	(20,470)

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Glossary of terms

Accrual accounting	Recognition of economic events and other financial transactions involving revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity as they occur and reporting in financial statements in the period to which they relate, rather than when a flow of cash occurs.
Administered items	Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses an entity administers, without discretion, on behalf of the government.
Agency/entity	Used generically to refer to the various organisational units within government that deliver services or otherwise service government objectives. The term can include departments, commercialised business units, statutory bodies or other organisations established by Executive decision.
Appropriation	Funds issued by the Treasurer, under Parliamentary authority, to departments during a financial year for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivery of agreed services • administered items • adjustment of the government's equity in agencies, including acquiring of capital.
Balance sheet	A financial statement that reports the assets, liabilities and equity of an entity as at a particular date.
Capital	A term used to refer to an entity's stock of assets and the capital grants it makes to other agencies. Assets include property, plant and equipment, intangible items and inventories that an entity owns/controls and uses in the delivery of services.
Cash flow statement	A financial statement reporting the cash inflows and outflows for an entity's operating, investing and financing activities in a particular period.
Controlled Items	Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses that are controlled by departments. These relate directly to the departmental operational objectives and arise at the discretion and direction of that department.
Depreciation	The periodic allocation of the cost of physical assets, representing the amount of the asset consumed during a specified time.
Equity	Equity is the residual interest in the assets of the entity after deduction of its liabilities. It usually comprises the entity's accumulated surpluses/losses, capital injections and any reserves.
Equity injection	An increase in the investment of the government in a public sector agency.
Financial statements	Collective description of the income statement, the balance sheet and the cash flow statement for an entity's controlled and administered activities.
Income statement	A financial statement highlighting the accounting surplus or deficit of an entity. It provides an indication of whether the entity has sufficient revenue to meet expenses in the current year, including non-cash costs such as depreciation.
Outcomes	Whole-of-government outcomes are intended to cover all dimensions of community wellbeing. They express the current needs and future aspirations of communities, within a social, economic and environment context.
Own-source revenue	Revenue that is generated by an agency, generally through the sale of goods and services, but it may also include some Federal funding.
Priorities	Key policy areas that will be the focus of government activity.
Services	The actions or activities (including policy development) of an agency which contribute to the achievement of the agency's objectives.
Service area	Related services grouped into a high level service area for communicating the broad types of services delivered by an agency.
Service standard	Define a level of performance that is expected to be achieved appropriate for the service area or service. Service standards are measures of efficiency or effectiveness.

