

SERVICE DELIVERY STATEMENTS

Department of the Environment, Tourism,
Science and Innovation



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Service Delivery Statements

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Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation

Portfolio overview

Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation
The Honourable Andrew Powell MP

Assistant Minister for Tourism, Early Learning, Creative Industries and Far North Queensland
Bree James MP

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation
Director-General: Patricia O'Callaghan

The Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation is also responsible for:

Tourism and Events Queensland
Chief Executive Officer: Craig Davidson

Additional information about these agencies can be sourced from:

detsi.qld.gov.au

queensland.com

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation

Overview

As part of the machinery-of-government changes effective from 1 and 21 November 2024, the former Department of Environment, Science and Innovation was renamed the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (the department). As a result, there were changes to the following functions:

- the fish habitat area policy was transferred to the Department of Primary Industries
- the tourism function was received from the former Department of Tourism and Sport.

The department's vision is a thriving environment and economy for all. Our purpose is sustainably protecting, developing and delivering for Queensland.

The department's strategic objectives are to:

- Steward: protect, conserve, and showcase Queensland's environment for current and future generations
- Partner: partner and meaningfully engage with stakeholders to drive outcomes
- Grow: deliver sustainable growth for Queensland
- Enable: embrace new ideas and technologies to create lasting economic and environmental benefits.

The department contributes to the *Government's objectives for the community*¹ by working to provide *A better lifestyle through a stronger economy* by implementing strategies and actions under the department's Grow and Enable objectives. It also supports *A plan for Queensland's future* through the department's Steward and Partner objectives.

Key deliverables

In 2025–26, the department will:

- deliver the new *Queensland Waste Strategy 2025–2030 – Less Landfill, More Recycling*, in consultation with industry and local government stakeholders, to deliver targeted programs that boost recycling rates resulting in less waste being delivered to landfill
- address threats to the Great Barrier Reef through genuine environmental action, partnering with landholders and industry-led best practice programs to reduce run-off and improve water quality
- support biodiversity conservation through the development of a new koala strategy to halt the decline of this precious species
- utilise the threatened species prioritisation framework to guide the delivery of priority recovery projects and enhance the conservation and recovery of threatened fauna and flora species, along with initial work on new and expanded wildlife hospitals
- boost Queensland's protected area estate through strategic acquisitions and support farmers to be the environmental stewards of their land
- progress actions under the *Destination 2045: Delivering Queensland's Tourism Future*, and priority initiatives under the *45 by 45: Getting Ecotourism Moving in Queensland Policy* and the *Ecotourism Plan for Queensland's Protected Areas 2025–2030* with a key focus on streamlining permission and approvals and increasing and diversifying ecotourism opportunities on protected areas
- support Queensland's tourism industry by reducing red tape by reviewing our laws, regulations and permitting processes to reduce timeframes and barriers
- support a range of grassroots and community-based environmental care and stewardship groups in their work protecting and preserving Queensland's natural and built environment
- provide essential storm tide, wave and air quality monitoring to support natural disaster response and recovery, as well as expert water modelling to support a water security plan for all Queenslanders

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

- support a world class science and innovation ecosystem as a driver of economic growth, investment and productivity to help tackle challenges facing Queensland businesses and the community
- support the resource industry to fully transition to progressive rehabilitation and closure plans, including working with the Queensland Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner to provide leading practice advice.

Budget highlights

In the 2025–26 Queensland Budget, the government is providing:

- \$446 million over 4 years to support *Destination 2045: Delivering Queensland's Tourism Future*, including:
 - \$200 million for new product development and aviation attraction
 - \$146 million additional supplementation for Tourism and Events Queensland
 - \$100 million for event attraction.
- \$130 million Resource Recovery Boost Fund over 3 years to build critical waste infrastructure, divert waste from landfill and increase recycling
- \$84.6 million over 5 years and \$29.6 million per annum ongoing under the More Rangers, Better Neighbours initiative for enhanced management of national parks and protected areas including 150 additional Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Indigenous Land and Sea Rangers over 4 years, including restoring funding for 40 specialist fire rangers
- \$35 million over 5 years to partner with local government to upgrade stormwater network infrastructure and prevent litter escaping into Moreton Bay as part of the Zero Litter to the Bay initiative
- \$39.6 million over 3 years to support the construction or expansion of 5 wildlife hospitals around the state, increasing their capacity to provide care to sick and injured native wildlife
- \$19.7 million over 2 years to deliver the next stage of the Wangetti Trail, creating a world-class adventure-based ecotourism experience
- \$15.5 million over 4 years to provide approximately 52 kilometres of additional mountain bike trails and supporting visitor infrastructure at the Smithfield Mountain Bike Trail in Cairns
- \$5 million over 2 years to support the construction of the Whitsunday Skyway, delivering a world-class tourist attraction which will showcase the natural and cultural values of the Whitsunday area
- \$4.9 million over 4 years to support Palm Island tourism, including the development of cultural and ecotourism opportunities with First Nations people.

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

Performance statement

Environmental Programs and Regulation Services

Objective

Enable improved environmental outcomes through effective policy, programs and regulation.

Description

The service area delivers the state's environmental legislation and policy priorities and provides targeted, consistent and transparent regulation that facilitates sustainable development. It proactively manages and monitors environmental risks as part of its administration of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, and through a modern and innovative regulatory framework that includes assessment, compliance, investigation and enforcement programs. It also leads the development and delivery of programs that support improving water quality in the Great Barrier Reef and waste, recycling and resource recovery initiatives.

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Service: Environmental assessment and compliance			
Effectiveness measures			
Percentage of compliance and assessment original decisions upheld after internal review	90%	94%	90%
Percentage of environmental enforcement notices issued by the administering authority complied with by operators ^{1,2}	80%	95%	80%
Percentage of matters finalised with a conviction or a successful application ³	85%	100%	85%
Percentage of decisions relating to environmental authorities made within statutory timeframes	New measure	New measure	100%
Efficiency measures			
Average cost per compliance action finalised ⁴	\$5,500	\$4,344	\$5,500
Average cost per application finalised: ⁵			
– non-complex assessment application ⁶	\$350	\$302	\$350
– complex assessment application ⁷	\$10,000	\$13,000	\$10,000
Service: Waste regulation and resource recovery programs			
Effectiveness measures			
Percentage of waste-related enforcement notices issued by the administering authority complied with by waste operators ^{8,9}	85%	95%	85%
Annual percentage reduction in the amount of waste disposed to leivable landfills in Queensland's waste levy zone ^{10,11}	2.2%	5.5%	2.2%
Efficiency measure			
Administration cost per dollar of annual waste levy revenue received ¹⁰	≤2.7 cents	1 cent	≤2.7 cents
Service: Great Barrier Reef water quality programs			
Effectiveness measure			
Queensland contributes to progress towards 2025 targets of: ¹²			
– 60 per cent reduction in anthropogenic end-of-catchment dissolved inorganic nitrogen loads	≥2%	..	≥2%
– 25 per cent reduction in anthropogenic end-of-catchment sediment loads	≥1%	..	≥1%

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Efficiency measure			
Administration cost per dollar of the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program funding distributed for the previous financial year ^{10,13}	≤20 cents	17 cents	≤20 cents

Notes:

1. The service standard was presented in the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation (DESI) 2024–25 *Service Delivery Statement* (SDS) as 'Percentage of operators compliant with the environmental obligations specified in an enforcement notice issued by the administering authority'. The service standard name has been amended to accurately reflect what is being measured. No changes have been made to the scope or calculation methodology.
2. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributable to a higher-than-expected number of operators becoming compliant with the environmental obligations specified in an enforcement notice during the 2024–25 financial year to date.
3. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is due to all matters finalised by the department's Litigation Unit during the 2024–25 financial year to date resulting in a successful conviction or application.
4. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributable to a higher-than-expected number of compliance actions finalised during the 2024–25 financial year to date.
5. The first part of this service standard name was presented in the DESI 2024–25 SDS as 'Average cost per application finalised: standardised assessment applications' and has been amended to accurately reflect the class of applications being measured. No changes have been made to the scope or calculation methodology.
6. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributable to a higher-than-expected number of non-complex assessment applications finalised during the 2024–25 financial year to date.
7. The variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributable to fewer-than-expected complex assessment applications being finalised during the 2024–25 financial year to date. This is not inclusive of complex applications currently being assessed. This measure will be monitored to determine if adjustments are required in future as a result of increased complexity associated with some complex application types.
8. The service standard name was presented in the DESI 2024–25 SDS as 'Percentage of waste operators compliant with the environmental obligations specified in an enforcement notice issued by the administering authority' and has been amended to accurately reflect what is being measured. No changes have been made to the scope or calculation methodology.
9. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributable to a higher-than-expected number of waste operators becoming compliant with the environmental obligations specified in an enforcement notice during the 2024–25 financial year to date.
10. The 2024–25 Estimated Actual presented is reported one year in arrears due to data availability and reflects the 2023–24 Actual result.
11. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributable to less levy exempt waste disposed to landfill, particularly clean earth following the removal of its exemption. This measure reports on total waste disposed which includes municipal solid waste (household waste), commercial and industrial waste, as well as construction and demolition waste. Construction and demolition waste and commercial and industrial waste recycling rates have increased, which is offset by the municipal solid waste (household waste) recycling rate which has decreased.
12. The 2024–25 Estimated Actuals have not been included as the Reef Water Quality Report Card is published every 2 years, with the next reporting to include results for 2023 and 2024. Reporting will be provided once state and federal approval is received.
13. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is due to the execution of large project contracts during the 2023–24 financial year.

Parks, Wildlife and Conservation Services

Objective

To conserve, protect and promote Queensland's unique biodiversity and protected areas.

Description

The service area provides stewardship of the natural environment, conserves natural and cultural values on Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services (QPWS) managed estate, facilitates nature-based ecotourism, recreation and heritage experiences including building and maintaining tourism infrastructure and providing visitor interpretation and activities. It partners with First Nations peoples, Queensland Government agencies, partners and volunteers to manage and conserve the QPWS managed estate, ecosystems and species and delivers the joint field management of the Great Barrier Reef in partnership with the Australian Government. It also manages the administration of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and the *Marine Parks Act 2004*.

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Service: Protected area management, expansion and experiences			
Effectiveness measures			
Percentage of the prescribed Protection Zone fuel management treatment achieved on Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) managed areas to protect life and property ¹	90%	40%	90%
Area of the QPWS managed estate with fuel loads reduced by planned burning, to reduce fire risk to life and property and protect biodiversity ^{2,3}	637,210 ha	900,000 ha	637,817 ha
Percentage of Queensland's land area that is protected	8.61%	8.59%	8.71%
Number of hectares of state land and national parks transferred to Traditional Owners in Cape York Peninsula ^{4,5}	17,868 ha	19 ha	17,930 ha
Percentage of user experience ratings of 4 stars or higher received for key Queensland protected area locations	90%	90%	90%
Efficiency measure			
Average cost of processing protected area-related authorities:			
– General protected area authorities	\$1,500	\$1,368	\$1,500
– Camping and vehicle permits	\$7.50	\$6.94	\$7.50
Service: Wildlife and habitat management and protection			
Effectiveness measure			
Median time taken to resolve declared problem crocodiles ⁶	≤7 days	1 day	≤7 days
Efficiency measures			
Cost per session for the Queensland wetland information system (WetlandInfo) ^{7,8}	\$0.55	\$0.85	\$1.30
Average cost of processing protected plant and animal authorities:			
– General authorities ⁹	\$200	\$219	\$255
– Macropod authorities	\$80	\$78	\$80

Notes:

- The variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is due to most of the 'Protection Zones' being located in South East Queensland. The ongoing inclement weather and above average rainfall do not provide the necessary conditions to undertake the required treatment methods in these zones to allow for the removal of most of the ground and lower fuel layers, through either burning or mechanical treatment. Predictions for a drier winter will provide more favourable conditions and allow for greater focus on treating these zones during July to September rather than the traditional May to June window.
- This service standard reflects the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission recommendation that a 5 per cent target for prescribed burning of the managed estate should be established. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25

Estimated Actual reflects the successful implementation of the QPWS Fire Management Uplift Program and the additional \$39 million investment and 39 temporary FTEs, along with favourable conditions in northern Queensland enabling broadscale aerial planned burning.

3. The 2025–26 Target/Estimate has been increased to proportionally reflect the increase in the managed estate.
4. The variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is due to some land transfers not proceeding as scheduled, caused by complex indigenous governance and authority issues arising from Cape York United #1 Native Title Claim matters as well as negotiations being dependent on the free prior and informed consent to the transfer of lands by Traditional Owners. The dispute between Traditional Owner parties was settled in March 2025, and the Cape York Land Council are now working with the Claim Applicant to consider authorisation of legal documents.
5. The 2025–26 Target/Estimate reflects the number of hectares scheduled for transfer during the 2025–26 financial year and includes those parcels of land which were unable to be transferred as scheduled during the 2024–25 reporting period.
6. The variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributed to factors such as the location and accessibility of reported crocodiles, which have facilitated timely resolution.
7. The variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributable to lower than usual website sessions due to site disruptions and fewer than normal site releases.
8. The 2025–26 Target/Estimate has been revised to reflect expected increases in system maintenance and developer costs and a temporary reduction in site usage while planned major improvements to the site are being implemented during the 2025–26 reporting period.
9. The 2025–26 Target/Estimate has been adjusted to reflect the requirement for additional manual assessment of some authorities.

Heritage Protection Services

Objective

Queensland's built heritage places are conserved and restored.

Description

The service area performs its own functions, as well as supporting those of the Queensland Heritage Council, under the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*. It promotes the value and an understanding of Queensland's heritage, manages archaeological artefact discoveries and underwater cultural heritage sites and ensures the value of heritage places are maintained through the provision of advice and decisions relating to the development of Queensland heritage places. The service area also manages the currency of information contained in the Queensland Heritage Register.

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measure			
Percentage of chief executive decisions under the <i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i> made within statutory timeframes	New measure	New measure	100%
Efficiency measure			
Average cost per Heritage Register entry reviewed and updated	\$245	\$245	\$245
Discontinued measure			
Percentage of departmental heritage recommendations accepted by the Queensland Heritage Council ¹	90%	95%	Discontinued measure

Note:

1. The service standard has been discontinued as it does not adequately represent outcomes of the services provided by the department.

Tourism Industry Development¹

Objective

Drive the growth of a sustainable and competitive tourism industry, attracting capital investment and maximising the benefit of tourism and major events to boost Queensland's economy.

Description

Lead policy and programs that drive a competitive and sustainable tourism industry for the economic benefit of Queensland through increased market share, sustainable industry growth, projects and regional, economic and jobs growth. Outcomes are achieved by partnering with the tourism industry stakeholders to grow demand, improve business capability, secure investment, develop new tourism infrastructure and experiences, and deliver a pipeline of mega events.

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measure			
Value of tourism industry investment leveraged through grant funds	New measure	New measure	\$1:\$2
Efficiency measure			
Ratio of tourism investment attraction costs to the value of direct capital attracted ²	\$1:\$78	\$1:\$886	\$1:\$78
Discontinued measure			
Amount of additional capital attracted into tourism investment ^{3,4}	\$50M	\$350M	Discontinued measure

Notes:

1. Due to machinery-of-government changes effective from 1 November 2024 this service area was transferred to the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation and was previously presented in the former Department of Tourism and Sport 2024–25 *Service Delivery Statement* (SDS).
2. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is due to higher than anticipated capital attracted, and lower than anticipated staffing costs during the reporting period.
3. The service standard has been discontinued as it does not adequately represent outcomes of the services provided by the department.
4. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is due to the completion of a major capital investment in a Gold Coast accommodation project. Variations of time between 3 to 5 years can occur from the initial investment and development approval decision, and actual development timeframes for infrastructure projects construction and completion.

Science Services

Objective

Enable informed government, industry and community decision making through the provision of leading-edge scientific services and advice.

Description

The service area delivers scientific and technical expertise and assessments for environmental, natural resource and sustainable agricultural industries. It manages foundation scientific information and modelling to support evidence-based policies and plans including the *Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan*, delivers state-wide environmental monitoring programs and leads the modernisation of scientific information systems. The service area directly supports the Queensland Chief Scientist and has regulatory responsibility in administering the Queensland component of the National Gene Technology Regulatory Scheme as well as biodiscovery activities conducted on Queensland state land and waters under the *Biodiscovery Act 2004*.

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measures			
Percentage of customers from government agencies satisfied with the natural resource and environmental science services and information provided (overall satisfaction)	≥90%	88%	≥90%
Percentage of laboratory tests completed and made available within agreed timeframes and quality specifications to support <i>Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan</i> and other government priorities	≥89%	93%	≥89%
Efficiency measure			
Average annual operational cost per environmental monitoring point: ¹			
– air quality	\$11,500	\$11,465	\$11,500
– water quality	\$6,400	\$6,020	\$6,400
– coastal (storm tide and wave)	\$2,250	\$2,142	\$2,250

Note:

- Results for this service standard are reported one year in arrears due to data availability, with the 2024–25 Estimated Actual reflecting the 2023–24 Actual results.

Stimulating Queensland Innovation¹

Objective

Enable the growth of a world-class, connected and sustainable innovation ecosystem in Queensland.

Description

The service area provides support to foster the right environment for innovation in the state and to address key opportunities for innovation as a driver of economic growth, productivity and prosperity.

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measures			
Percentage of stakeholders who are satisfied with innovation and commercialisation consultative and engagement processes (overall satisfaction)	>85%	98%	>85%
Percentage of the department's innovation funding recipients satisfied with contract management services provided for related grant programs (overall satisfaction) ^{2,3,4}	>85%	97%	>90%
Ratio of investment leveraged as a result of Queensland Government funding invested ⁵	\$1:\$1.25	\$1:\$1.36	\$1:\$1.25
Efficiency measure			
Average cost to administer \$1,000 of grant funding ⁶	\$150	\$66	\$150

Notes:

1. The service area was presented in the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation 2024–25 Service Delivery Statement (SDS) as 'Advancing Queensland through Innovation'. The revised service area name better reflects the services provided.
2. The service standard name was presented in the DESI 2024–25 SDS as 'Percentage of the department's Advance Queensland funding recipients satisfied with contract management services provided for related grant programs (overall satisfaction)' and has been amended to reflect funding program name changes. No changes have been made to the calculation methodology.
3. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributed to higher-than-expected levels of satisfaction with the department's services reported during the 2024–25 reporting period.
4. The 2025–26 Target/Estimate has increased due to consistent positive results over several years.
5. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual is attributed to an increase in new contractual commitments arising from programs which required industry co-investment.
6. The positive variance between the 2024–25 Target/Estimate and the 2024–25 Estimated Actual reflects the high volume of grant payments administered during the 2024–25 reporting period to date.

Departmental budget summary

The table below shows the total resources available in 2025–26 from all sources and summarises how resources will be applied by service area and by controlled and administered classifications.

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2024–25 Adjusted Budget ² \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual ² \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
CONTROLLED			
Income			
Appropriation revenue ¹	894,116	857,733	943,618
Other revenue	269,938	273,605	318,137
Total income	1,164,054	1,131,338	1,261,755
Expenses			
Environmental Programs and Regulation Services	384,177	328,683	416,364
Parks, Wildlife and Conservation Services	483,101	494,747	491,917
Heritage Protection Services	5,147	6,220	6,089
Tourism Industry Development	89,136	102,038	129,884
Science Services	146,337	133,487	135,847
Stimulating Queensland Innovation	57,162	49,850	100,186
Business Corporate Partnership	2,555	2,530	2,565
Total expenses	1,167,615	1,117,555	1,282,852
Operating surplus/deficit³	(3,561)	13,783	(21,097)
Net assets	6,483,672	7,105,881	7,146,595
ADMINISTERED			
Revenue			
Commonwealth revenue	..	..	..
Appropriation revenue	95,857	92,429	127,859
Other administered revenue	462,885	473,062	488,607
Total revenue	558,742	565,491	616,466
Expenses			
Transfers to government	462,885	473,062	488,607
Administered expenses	95,857	92,429	127,859
Total expenses	558,742	565,491	616,466
Net assets	..	..	..

Notes:

1. Includes state and Australian Government funding.
2. The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.
3. Surplus and deficits are as the result of the timing difference between the receipt of funds from third parties, primarily other government agencies for environmental outcomes and disaster recovery, and the expenditure of that funding. The 2025–26 budget deficit of \$21.1 million relates primarily to funding received from the SEQ City Deal Innovation Economy program, the Commonwealth Reef Trust and disaster recovery funding for environmental recovery, with funds received in 2024–25 or prior years but expected to be expended in 2025–26.

Staffing

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

Service area ¹	2024–25 Adjusted Budget ²	2024–25 Est. Actual ²	2025–26 Budget
Environmental Programs and Regulation Services	760	759	760
Parks, Wildlife and Conservation Services ^{3,4}	1,742	1,761	1,758
Heritage Protection Services	30	30	30
Tourism Industry Development ⁴	69	68	67
Science Services	401	401	401
Stimulating Queensland Innovation ⁴	86	86	76
Business Corporate Partnership ⁵	14	14	14
Total FTEs⁶	3,102	3,119	3,106

Notes:

- Corporate FTEs are allocated across the service to which they relate.
- The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.
- Increase to 2024–25 Estimated Actual related to additional rangers under the More Rangers, Better Neighbours election commitment, with a minor reduction to 2025–26 Estimate due to ceasing limited life programs.
- 52 FTE were due to end at 30 June 2025 because of limited life funding. This included 10 FTE for Innovation and 39 FTE for the Fire Management Uplift program for Parks, Wildlife and Conservation Services which have been restored as part of the 2025–26 Budget.
- The department participates in a partnership arrangement in the delivery of its services, whereby corporate FTEs are hosted by the department to work across multiple departments and therefore cannot be allocated by Service Area.
- Total FTEs increase by 17 from 2024–25 Adjusted Budget to 2024–25 Estimated Actual primarily due to an increase in Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service's rangers.

Capital program

The capital program for the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation in 2025–26 totals \$279.4 million. The 2025–26 program will focus on protecting and promoting Queensland's protected areas and driving the growth of a sustainable and competitive tourism industry.

The capital program includes \$39.6 million for acquisition of land to expand the protected area estate, \$18.3 million for the development of the Wangetti Trail, a walking and mountain biking trail with public and eco-accommodation facilities, over \$28 million in recreation and visitor facility upgrades in Queensland's parks and forests and \$11.2 million for Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service's Fire Management Uplift program.

The department's capital program will also include capital grants of \$156.4 million including \$101.6 million under the SEQ City Deal program for innovative and resource recovering infrastructure, \$30.1 million for Tourism investment programs and \$21.2 million for wildlife hospitals and rehabilitation facilities.

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

	2024–25 Adjusted Budget ¹ \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual ¹ \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
Capital purchases	105,331	124,300	123,065
Capital grants ²	90,288	83,428	156,368
Total capital outlays	195,619	207,728	279,433

Notes:

- The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post machinery-of-government basis.
- Capital grants have increased in 2025–26 primarily due to the SEQ City Deal programs with an increase of \$76.9 million in 2025–26.

Further information about the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation capital outlays can be found in *Budget Paper No. 3: Capital Statement*.

Budgeted financial statements

Departmental income statement

Controlled income statement

Total expenses for 2025–26 are \$1.283 billion, an increase of \$165.3 million from 2024–25 Estimated Actuals. The increase is primarily due to planned expenditure for *Destination 2045: Delivering Queensland's Tourism Future*, Wildlife Hospital Network, More Rangers, Better Parks, Waste Package and SEQ City Deal programs. Total revenue for 2025–26 is \$1.262 billion, an increase of \$130.4 million from 2024–25 Estimated Actuals. The increase is primarily due to additional funding for programs including *Destination 2045: Delivering Queensland's Tourism Future*, Wildlife Hospital Network, More Rangers, Better Neighbours, Waste Package and SEQ City Deal programs.

Surplus and deficits are as the result of the timing difference between the receipt of funds from third parties, including other government agencies, and the expenditure of that funding. The 2025–26 budget deficit of \$21.1 million relates primarily to funding received from the SEQ City Deal Innovation Economy program, the Commonwealth Reef Trust and disaster recovery funding for environmental recovery, with funds received in 2024–25 or prior years but expected to be expended in 2025–26.

Administered income statement

Administered income for 2025–26 is estimated to be \$616.5 million, an increase of \$51 million from the 2024–25 Estimated Actuals largely due to the full year impact of machinery-of-government changes incorporating Tourism into the department including annual grant funding to Tourism Events Queensland.

Departmental balance sheet

In 2025–26, the department's net assets are projected to be \$7.147 billion, with total assets of \$7.203 billion offset by liabilities of \$56.1 million.

The department's budgeted asset balances in 2025–26 are primarily comprised of heritage and cultural land held as national parks (\$2.084 billion), land (\$716.3 million), infrastructure (\$3.624 billion), buildings (\$342.3 million), plant and equipment including intangibles (\$108.3 million) and financial assets representing investments (\$137.3 million). The 2025–26 asset balances include the 2025–26 capital acquisitions program of \$123.1 million which includes \$39.6 million for land, \$60.7 million for buildings and infrastructure, \$18.6 million for plant and equipment and \$4.2 million for systems development. The 2025–26 capital program includes programs of work to acquire land, upgrade visitor infrastructure, invest in plant and equipment, and develop systems.

Controlled income statement

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation*	2024–25 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	894,116	857,733	943,618
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	109,611	106,819	110,594
Royalties and land rents	1,366	1,725	1,830
Grants and other contributions	154,302	158,609	198,991
Interest and distributions from managed funds	2,750	3,360	4,272
Other revenue	1,909	3,092	2,450
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	1,164,054	1,131,338	1,261,755
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	392,498	406,657	417,452
Supplies and services	296,644	309,322	281,809
Grants and subsidies	409,624	332,081	512,629
Depreciation and amortisation	61,041	64,202	63,402
Finance/borrowing costs	100	67	100
Other expenses	6,208	4,676	5,960
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	1,500	550	1,500
Total expenses	1,167,615	1,117,555	1,282,852
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(3,561)	13,783	(21,097)

*The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.

Controlled balance sheet

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation*	2024–25 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	122,575	170,676	148,950
Receivables	32,170	31,873	31,575
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	..	..	..
Other	8,391	7,761	7,555
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	163,136	210,310	188,080
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	671	829	829
Other financial assets	95,078	134,238	137,338
Property, plant and equipment	6,234,190	6,789,245	6,847,902
Intangibles	26,667	27,644	28,588
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	6,356,606	6,951,956	7,014,657
TOTAL ASSETS	6,519,742	7,162,266	7,202,737
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	19,160	20,058	19,800
Accrued employee benefits	11,533	12,060	12,116
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	1,127	1,351	1,338
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	1,076	3,014	3,052
Total current liabilities	32,896	36,483	36,306
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	3,174	2,805	2,749
Provisions	..	97	87
Other	..	17,000	17,000
Total non-current liabilities	3,174	19,902	19,836
TOTAL LIABILITIES	36,070	56,385	56,142
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	6,483,672	7,105,881	7,146,595
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	6,483,672	7,105,881	7,146,595

*The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.

Controlled cash flow statement

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation*	2024–25 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	897,445	822,194	943,618
User charges and fees	110,763	121,135	109,377
Royalties and land rent receipts	1,366	1,725	1,830
Grants and other contributions	154,302	158,609	198,991
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	2,750	3,360	4,272
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	1,909	3,092	2,450
Outflows:			
Employee costs	(392,252)	(406,514)	(417,381)
Supplies and services	(296,630)	(352,498)	(282,077)
Grants and subsidies	(410,057)	(330,655)	(512,423)
Borrowing costs	(100)	(67)	(100)
Other	(6,156)	(4,372)	(5,922)
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	63,340	16,009	42,635
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	162	162	162
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	(105,331)	(124,300)	(123,065)
Payments for investments	(41,345)	(91,000)	(3,100)
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	(146,514)	(215,138)	(126,003)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	(12)	(12)	(13)
Equity injections	127,613	162,629	107,982
Appropriated equity injections	127,613	162,629	107,982
Non-appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	(56)	644	(56)
Equity withdrawals	(43,182)	(51,193)	(46,171)
Appropriated equity withdrawals	(43,182)	(51,193)	(46,171)
Non-appropriated equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	84,363	112,068	61,742
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	1,189	(87,061)	(21,626)
Cash at the beginning of financial year	131,963	258,643	170,676
Cash transfers from restructure	(10,577)	(906)	(100)
Cash at the end of financial year	122,575	170,676	148,950

*The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.

Administered income statement

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation*	2024–25 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	95,857	92,429	127,859
Taxes	452,339	462,208	477,381
User charges and fees	4,826	4,867	5,032
Royalties and land rents	3,390	3,458	3,576
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distributions from managed funds	..	..	..
Other revenue	2,330	2,529	2,618
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	558,742	565,491	616,466
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	95,857	92,429	127,859
Depreciation and amortisation	..	..	..
Finance/borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other expenses	..	..	..
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Transfers of Administered Revenue to Government	462,885	473,062	488,607
Total expenses	558,742	565,491	616,466
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	..	..	..

*The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.

Administered balance sheet

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation*	2024–25 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	22,855	22,914	35,478
Receivables	58,310	60,408	47,844
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	81,165	83,322	83,322
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	..	..	..
Intangibles	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	..	..	..
TOTAL ASSETS	81,165	83,322	83,322
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Transfers to Government payable	81,165	83,589	83,589
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total current liabilities	81,165	83,589	83,589
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	..	..	..
TOTAL LIABILITIES	81,165	83,589	83,589
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	..	(267)	(267)
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	..	(267)	(267)

*The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.

Administered cash flow statement

Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation*	2024–25 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	95,857	92,429	127,859
User charges and fees	5,062	17,561	17,596
Royalties and land rent receipts	3,390	3,458	3,576
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	..	..	..
Taxes	452,339	462,208	477,381
Other	2,541	2,740	2,618
Outflows:			
Employee costs	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	(95,857)	(92,429)	(127,859)
Borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Transfers to Government	(463,076)	(473,253)	(488,607)
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	256	12,714	12,564
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	256	12,714	12,564
Cash at the beginning of financial year	22,599	10,200	22,914
Cash transfers from restructure	..	..	..
Cash at the end of financial year	22,855	22,914	35,478

*The 2024–25 Budget and 2024–25 Estimated Actuals information disclosed is presented on a post-machinery-of-government basis.

Statutory body

Tourism and Events Queensland

Overview

Tourism and Events Queensland's (TEQ) vision is to inspire travellers to visit Queensland as their destination of choice through bold and globally recognised marketing and events that increase visitor expenditure to the state and build community pride. TEQ's purpose is to partner with industry and work across government to grow the visitor economy by promoting Queensland's destinations, experiences and events, and to positively contribute to the broader Queensland community through the economic and social benefits of tourism and events.

TEQ supports the delivery of *Destination 2045: Delivering Queensland's Tourism Future* through its 5 key objectives and associated strategies, all underpinned by the legacy opportunities presented by the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games for Queensland and enabling actions to drive TEQ into the future as a high performing organisation:

- Accelerate growth to reclaim the dominant share of Australia's domestic holiday market
- Assist industry to grow international visitor expenditure
- Grow the value of Queensland's global events calendar
- Use the strength and influence of Queensland's destinations and industry to maximise opportunities in market
- Deliver high-impact marketing campaigns to drive consumer demand.

TEQ contributes to the *Government's objectives for the community*¹ by working to provide *A better lifestyle through a stronger economy* and *A plan for Queensland's future*, by growing overnight visitor expenditure and building community pride, supporting the delivery of *Destination 2045: Delivering Queensland's Tourism Future*, and maximising the legacy opportunities presented by the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Key deliverables

In 2025–26, TEQ will:

- work with the department, broader government and tourism and events industry partners to support the delivery of Queensland's visionary 20-year tourism plan – *Destination 2045: Delivering Queensland's Tourism Future*
- activate the new Queensland brand while elevating and unlocking the potential of the state's areas of natural competitive advantage including ecotourism, First Nations experiences and the Great Barrier Reef
- collaborate with government and industry to curate and deliver a global events calendar, ensuring Queensland is set up to capitalise on the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games provides
- deliver a high-impact global marketing campaign backed by conversion partners to drive consumer demand, dispersal and grow visitor expenditure for the state.

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

Performance statement

Tourism and Events Queensland

Objective

To grow the tourism and events industry in partnership with industry and broader government, driving economic and social benefits for the state.

Description

TEQ works closely with the department and broader government, and partners with industry to generate consumer demand, attract and promote major events, support tourism experience and destination development, and provide support and leadership to Queensland's tourism industry. TEQ provides research and analysis to inform decision-making, drives visitation to regional Queensland, attracts and leverages business events and supports regional events.

Service standards	2024–25 Target/Est.	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measures			
Direct and incremental spending generated by events within the TEQ portfolio ^{1,2}	\$700M	\$860M	\$900M
Direct visitor nights generated by events within the TEQ portfolio ^{1,2}	2,800,000	3,400,000	3,500,000
Visitors to Queensland generated by events within the TEQ portfolio ^{1,2}	275,000	380,000	400,000
Value of collaborative support ²	\$45M	\$47M	\$48M
Ratio of TEQ's investment to regional and strategic partnership investment	\$1:\$1	\$1:\$1	\$1:\$1
Total visitor expenditure generated by events within the TEQ portfolio	New measure	New measure	\$810M
Ratio of domestic holiday visitor expenditure generated to domestic marketing investment ³	New measure	New measure	..
Efficiency measure			
Total cost per hour of strategy and research, marketing, events, and stakeholder engagement activities ⁴	\$142	\$142	\$148
Discontinued measures			
Overnight visitor expenditure generated by events within the TEQ portfolio ^{1,5}	\$600M	\$740M	Discontinued measure
Ratio of holiday overnight visitor expenditure generated to domestic marketing investment ^{5,6}	\$49:\$1	\$53:\$1	Discontinued measure

Notes:

1. The 2024–25 Estimated Actual reflects the stronger-than-expected performance of the TEQ events portfolio during the 2024–25 reporting period to date.
2. The 2025–26 Target/Estimate reflects performance exceeding expectations during the 2024–25 reporting period to date and predictions of continued strong performance in 2025–26.
3. This new service standard will be baselined during 2025–26 with a Target/Estimate to be included in the 2026–27 *Service Delivery Statement*.
4. The 2025–26 Target/Estimate reflects expected increases to salary and corporate costs in line with wages policy, and consumer price index increases.
5. The service standard has been discontinued as it does not adequately represent outcomes of the services provided by the agency.
6. The 2024–25 Estimated Actual reflects stronger-than-expected performance during the 2024–25 reporting period.

Budgeted summary

Staffing

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

Service area	2024–25 Budget	2024–25 Est. Actual	2025–26 Budget
Tourism and Events Queensland	130	130	130
Total FTEs	130	130	130

Income statement

Tourism and Events Queensland	2024–25 Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	4,000	4,000	4,000
Grants and other contributions	140,309	148,287	135,572
Interest and distributions from managed funds	200	200	200
Other revenue	..	..	..
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	144,509	152,487	139,772
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	22,053	23,963	25,259
Supplies and services	67,455	68,882	62,188
Grants and subsidies	52,550	57,191	50,100
Depreciation and amortisation	330	330	330
Finance/borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other expenses	2,121	2,121	1,895
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total expenses	144,509	152,487	139,772
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	..	..	..

Balance sheet

Tourism and Events Queensland	2024–25 Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	8,168	6,927	6,927
Receivables	5,754	3,320	3,560
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	..	..	..
Other	1,487	2,214	2,217
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	15,409	12,461	12,704
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	777	644	414
Intangibles	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	777	644	414
TOTAL ASSETS	16,186	13,105	13,118
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	4,069	3,729	3,682
Accrued employee benefits	4,071	3,753	3,803
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	3,235	825	825
Total current liabilities	11,375	8,307	8,310
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	486	473	483
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	486	473	483
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,861	8,780	8,793
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	4,325	4,325	4,325
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	4,325	4,325	4,325

Cash flow statement

Tourism and Events Queensland	2024–25 Budget \$'000	2024–25 Est. Actual \$'000	2025–26 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
User charges and fees	3,772	2,380	3,772
Grants and other contributions	140,309	149,679	135,572
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	200	200	200
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	(12)	(12)	(12)
Outflows:			
Employee costs	(21,993)	(23,903)	(25,199)
Supplies and services	(67,505)	(78,932)	(62,238)
Grants and subsidies	(52,550)	(57,191)	(50,100)
Borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other	(2,121)	(2,121)	(1,895)
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	100	(9,900)	100
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	..	..	..
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	(100)	(100)	(100)
Payments for investments	..	..	..
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	(100)	(100)	(100)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	..	..	..
Equity injections	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	..	..	..
Equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	..	..	..
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	..	(10,000)	..
Cash at the beginning of financial year	8,168	16,927	6,927
Cash transfers from restructure	..	..	..
Cash at the end of financial year	8,168	6,927	6,927

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 Commonwealth 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.

