1. On 10 September 2009, the Senate requested that the Community Affairs References Committee to conduct an inquiry into matters relating to the impact of suicide on the Australian community, including high risk groups such as Indigenous youth and rural communities.
2. The Premier of Queensland was invited by the Chair of the Senate Committee to provide a written submission addressing issues relevant to the Queensland Government. The Premier subsequently requested that the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health prepare a submission to the inquiry on behalf of the Queensland Government.
3. The Queensland Government Submission to the Senate Inquiry presents a summary of progress, issues and achievements in reducing suicide in Queensland, and addresses each of the eight terms of reference in detail.
4. The submission outlines the Queensland Government’s continuing commitment to cross-government suicide prevention initiatives and strategies. Since 1997, formal government strategies have been in place to reduce suicide risk and mortality across Queensland communities and build individual and community resilience.
5. The Queensland Government Submission to the Senate Inquiry calls for continuation of the current state and national directions and acknowledges that future success will rely on factors including the continued strategic and budgetary investment of state and national governments; increased quality of suicide prevention research and suicide data surveillance; and state and commonwealth leadership in maintaining the commitment to alignment and coordination across all levels of government.
6. Cabinet approved that the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health forward the Queensland Government Submission to the Senate Community Affairs Committee's Inquiry into Suicide in Australia, subject to final editorial changes to be determined.
7. *Attachments*
* [Queensland Government Submission to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee’s Inquiry into Suicide in Australia](Attachments/Qld%20Govt%20submission%20Senate%20Inquiry%20Suicide.pdf)