1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders are resilient with cultures and customs continuing to be a source of strength and pride and the foundation for good social and emotional wellbeing.
2. However there is a significant gap in mental health and life outcomes with Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders being more likely to: experience psychological distress; be hospitalised for mental illness; die and be bereaved by suicide; and experience problematic alcohol and other drug use.
3. Social and emotional wellbeing is a protective factor against adversity, suicide, problematic drug use and some mental illnesses. It also supports those living with mental health problems and mental illness to recover reducing demand on hospital and other support services.
4. The whole-of-government Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social and Emotional Wellbeing Action Plan 2016-18 (the Action Plan) aims to improve social and emotional wellbeing. Based on consultation throughout Queensland, the Action Plan defines social and emotional wellbeing as being resilient, having and realising aspirations and being satisfied with life.
5. Based on evidence of what works and the views of more than 200 stakeholders, the Action Plan commits State Government agencies to implement actions under three inter-related priority areas:
* Inclusive communities
* Thriving and connected families
* Resilient people.
1. The Queensland Mental Health Commission will monitor and report on implementation of the Action Plan.
2. Cabinet endorsed theQueensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social and Emotional WellbeingPlan 2016–18 be publicly released.
3. *Attachments*
* [Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social and Emotional WellbeingPlan 2016–18](Attachments/Plan.PDF)