1. Cross River Rail is the Queensland Government’s highest priority infrastructure project. In April 2016, the Government announced it would establish a Delivery Authority that will lead the development, procurement and delivery of the Cross River Rail project and support wider economic and social outcomes from this transformational project.
2. In June 2016, the Queensland Government announced it would invest $50 million in 2016-17 to establish the Cross River Rail Delivery Authority (the Authority) to oversee the final planning and delivery of the project. This initial investment was bolstered by a further $800 million in-principle commitment by the Queensland Government on 27 June 2016, following Building Queensland confirming the project as ‘ready for government investment decision’ in its inaugural Infrastructure Pipeline Report.
3. The Cross River Rail Delivery Authority Bill 2016 proposes the formal establishment of the Delivery Authority as an independent statutory body, operating on a commercial basis. The Delivery Authority’s purpose is to undertake activities to facilitate economic development in a Cross River Rail Priority Development Area and to facilitate the efficient delivery of the Cross River Rail project and associated prescribed ‘transport-related projects’. The Bill sets out the Delivery Authority’s specific functions, powers and obligations, including the functions and powers of the Delivery Authority’s board, and the power to acquire land connected to the Cross River Rail project.
4. The Bill also amends:
* the *Economic Development Act 2012* so that the functions and powers of the Minister of Economic Development Queensland (MEDQ) under that Act can be delegated to the Delivery Authority, to enable the Delivery Authority to exercise MEDQ’s development powers and functions.
* the *Right to Information Act 2009* so that the Act does not apply to the Delivery Authority in carrying out its commercial functions, which will ensure that the Delivery Authority’s commercial functions are not compromised by requirements to release information under that Act.
1. The Bill will commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation to ensure that amendments can be made to regulations and the appointed members of the board of the Delivery Authority have been approved prior to commencement. If no proclamation is made, the Bill will automatically commence on 1 July 2017.
2. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Cross River Rail Delivery Authority Bill 2016 into the Legislative Assembly.
3. *Attachments*
* [Cross River Rail Delivery Authority Bill 2016](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)