1. In September 2016, the Premier and Minister for Arts announced that an Expert Panel would work with the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) to conduct a review of the Blue Card and Foster Care Systems.
2. As part of this review, the Premier and Minister for the Arts announced that Ms Linda Apelt, former Director-General, Queensland Department of Communities, as a member of the Expert Panel, would also undertake a review of the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services’ (DCCSDS) Child Safety Services. The review was tasked with assessing whether Child Safety Services is operating effectively and to determine any capacity issues or pressure points in meeting the safety needs of children in the Child Protection System.
3. The QFCC submitted Ms Apelt’s *Report on Term of Reference 5 Blue Card and Foster Care Systems Review: Strengthening capacity across Queensland’s child protection system* (the Apelt Report). This report relied on a report commissioned by DCCSDS, *Review of demand and resourcing for child protection in Queensland Final Report* (the KPMG report).
4. The KPMG report presents a comprehensive assessment of demand and resourcing of the Queensland child protection system.
5. Following from the findings of the KPMG report, and extensive stakeholder consultation, the Apelt Report concludes that DCCSDS faces a resourcing challenge in delivering core services at the same time as major reforms arising from the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry.
6. Cabinet noted the Apelt Report *Strengthening capacity across Queensland’s Child Protection System* and the associated KPMG report *Review of demand and resourcing for child protection in Queensland Final Report*.
7. Cabinet approved the public release of the Apelt Report and the associated KPMG report.
8. *Attachments*
* [Queensland Family and Child Commission - *Report on Term of Reference 5 Blue Card and Foster Care Systems Review: Strengthening capacity across Queensland’s child protection system* (the Apelt Report, including the KPMG report - *Review of demand and resourcing for child protection in Queensland*)](Attachments/Report.PDF)