1. Queensland is the front-line state for dealing with biosecurity threats because of the suitability of its climate and geography for the establishment and spread of many pests and diseases and its proximity to northern neighbours and extensive coastline. Queensland’s biosecurity system faces challenges that are increasing in intensity and complexity as a result of the increase in global trade and movement of people.
2. The *Queensland Biosecurity Strategy: Our Next Five Years (2018 - 2023)* establishes a new vision and series of directions for all entities across the biosecurity system in Queensland over the next five years.
3. The six strategic themes of the Strategy are: (i) Collaborative governance and leadership; (ii) Every Queenslander plays their part; (iii) Empowered to act; (iv) Bright ideas and better ways; (v) Valuing and building on our investments; and (vi) Better intelligence systems.
4. On 9 May 2017, the Queensland Audit Office released the *Auditor-General’s report 12: 2016-17 Biosecurity Queensland’s Management of agricultural pests and diseases*. The Agriculture and Environment Committee tabled its Report No. 42 regarding the audit report on 30 August 2017.
5. The Government response to the report includes:
   * All biosecurity responses are now managed on the completed $19.4 million Biosecurity Information Management System Program (BIMS). Surveillance by Biosecurity Queensland (BQ) officers is digitally captured directly in the field and available to decision makers within minutes. Work is underway to extend the use of BQ’s laboratory information management system to other BQ laboratories to improve the quality of diagnostic information.
   * DAF is implementing an Impact and Investment Framework that will meet legislated accountability requirements and position it to ensure that programs deliver impacts and represent good value for money.
   * The Biosecurity Investment Model under development will ensure BQ can allocate its investment to highest biosecurity risk and provide greater stakeholder involvement in development of decision making frameworks.
   * A new Biosecurity Emergency Operations Group has been established to improve logistics and preparedness activities.
6. Cabinet approved release of the Queensland Biosecurity Strategy (2018-2023).
7. Cabinet approved tabling of the Government’s response to the Agriculture and Environment Committee report No. 42 on the Queensland Audit Office’s report on Biosecurity Queensland’s management of agriculture pests and diseases.
8. *Attachments*
   * [Queensland Biosecurity Strategy: Our Next Five Years (2018 - 2023)](Attachments/Strategy.PDF)
   * [Government’s final response to the Agriculture and Environment Committee report No. 42](Attachments/Response.PDF)