1. The operation of Queensland’s *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (Qld) (WHS Act) has been the subject of two recent reviews, the *2022 Review of Queensland’s Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (the WHS Act Review) and the *2018 Review of the model work health and safety laws* (the Boland Review).
2. Commissioned by the Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing, the WHS Act Review sought feedback on the overall effectiveness of the key components of the WHS Act in achieving the objects of the Act.
3. On 21 December 2022, Independent Reviewers, Mr Craig Allen, Mr Charles Massy and
Ms Deirdre Swan, provided the WHS Act Review’s Final Report containing 31 recommendations to the Queensland Government.
4. The WHS Act Review makes recommendations seeking to clarify the existing WHS Act framework and ensure it is operating as intended. Key themes in the recommendations include:
* elevating the role of health and safety representatives (HSRs) at the workplace
* clarifying the rights of HSRs and worker representatives to enable them to effectively perform their role and functions and to remove unnecessary disputation; and
* clarifying and streamlining the issues and dispute resolution procedures in the WHS Act.
1. The Queensland Government response to the WHS Act Review accepts all 55
sub-recommendations of the Review Report (49 accepted in full and six accepted
in-principle).
2. Cabinet noted the Review of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* – Final Report.
3. Cabinet approved the Queensland Government’s response to the Review of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* – Final Report.
4. Cabinet approved that the WHS Act Review’s Final Report and the Queensland Government’s response be released publicly.
5. *Attachments*:
* [2022 *Review of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011* Final Report](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2023/Apr/WHSOLAB/Attachments/Report.PDF)
* [Queensland Government Response to the 2022 *Review of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011* Final Report’s recommendations](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2023/Apr/WHSOLAB/Attachments/Response.PDF)