

A. Entity responses

As mandated in Section 64 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, the Queensland Audit Office gave a copy of this report with an invitation to comment to:

- the Premier and Minister for the Olympics
- chief executive officers of the 50 audited entities
- respective ministers for the 50 audited entities.

This appendix contains the responses we received.



Comments received from Director-General, Department of Energy and Public Works



Queensland
Government

Department of
Energy and Public Works

Our Ref: MN07654-2021
Your Ref: 9196P

03 NOV 2021

Mr Brendan Worrall
Auditor-General
Queensland Audit Office
PO Box 15396
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Mr Worrall

Thank you for your email of 21 October 2021 providing a draft copy of your report to Parliament, *2021 status of Auditor-General recommendations* for review.

I confirm the information included on the status of recommendations for the Department of Energy and Public Works (DEPW) is up to date and accurate. Our recommendations are either fully implemented or no longer applicable.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the report and look forward to the ongoing audit support you provide DEPW to ensure we deliver better services to Queenslanders.

I hope this information answers your enquiry. If you need any more information or help with this matter, _____ can be contacted on _____.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Martyn', written over a horizontal line.

Paul Martyn
Director-General

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Comments received from Acting Director-General, Department of Education



Office of the
Director-General

Department of
Education

9 NOV 2021

Mr Brendan Worrall
Auditor-General
Queensland Audit Office
Email: gao@gao.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Worrall

Thank you for your email dated 21 October 2021 providing a copy of the proposed report to Parliament titled *2021 status of Auditor-General recommendations*. I understand you have also written to the Honourable Grace Grace MP, Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing, about the same matter. The Minister has asked me to respond on her behalf.

I appreciate the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the proposed report and I thank you and your team for your collaborative approach. I understand that feedback has previously been provided on specific wording included in Appendix B, Implementation of recommendations by report, relevant to the Department of Education, and acknowledge that this feedback will be incorporated into the final report.

The report has provided some insights on trends, challenges and shared learnings across how entities implement the Queensland Audit Office audit recommendations.

If you or your team require any further information or assistance, I invite you to contact

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Allen".

CRAIG ALLEN
Acting Director-General

Ref: 21/667704

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Comments received from Director-General, Department of Health



Queensland Health

Enquiries to:

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Mr Brendan Worrall
Auditor-General
Queensland Audit Office
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Email: qao@qao.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Worrall

Thank you for your email dated 21 October 2021, regarding the Queensland Audit Office (QAO) report to Parliament *2021 status of Auditor-General recommendations*.

I note the report provides an update on entities' self-assessed progress in implementing performance audit recommendations between 2015-16 and 2017-18.

I was pleased to note the high percentage of recommendations self-assessed as fully implemented by the Department of the Health (the Department). Recommendations included within QAO performance audit reports are monitored each quarter by our Internal Audit Unit with the status reported to the Department's Audit and Risk Committee.

Your report provides specific insights in relation to the High Value Medical Equipment report published in February 2017. Our self-assessment response highlighted the recommendations within this report allocated to the Department were approved for closure by the then Director-General in 2018.

Considerable work was performed in this area in the months following the publication of your report including:

- the establishment of the Medical Equipment Renewal Project;
- collaboration with Hospital and Health Services through the Medical Equipment Renewal Project Steering Committee;
- the publication and implementation of the Strategic Asset Management Framework in 2019; and
- a full review of the Health Technology Equipment Replacement program – including its policies, processes, models, templates and governance sponsored by the Medical Equipment Renewal Project Steering Committee.

This is a complex area and the landscape has continued to change since publication of your report. Work continues with:

- the development and implementation of a revised Sustaining Capital Funding Framework which includes revised Health Technology Equipment Replacement policies and guidelines;

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- development of a single point of entry system for high value (>\$900,000) medical equipment – this will be implemented in 2022;
- ongoing engagement with the Department's Strategic Procurement Team to develop a Statewide Health Technology procurement model;
- the development of a revised 5-year strategic plan for medical equipment replacement – which will go live in 2022; and
- improving processes to support Hospital and Health Service disposal of replaced equipment.

Your report also highlights some inconsistencies between self-assessment responses received from the Department and Hospital and Health Services and provides commentary regarding collaboration. While I appreciate the advice, the self-assessment approach did not take account of the significant passage of time between the initial recommendations (February 2017), performance of the self-assessment (April 2021) and the current report (November 2021). As such the transition of corporate knowledge through this period may have influenced the insights highlighted on page 17.

I also note that the time provided to complete the self-assessment did not allow for the size and complexity of the Health system. Additional time would allow for greater consultation and increased likelihood of a consistent outcome. I would appreciate your consideration of this when future reports to Parliament of this nature are undertaken by QAO.

I do, however, believe the self-assessment process is a valuable initiative and the Department looks forward to continuing to work with the QAO on these engagements.

Should you require further information, the

Yours sincerely



Dr John Wakefield PSM
Director-General
12/11/2021

