



# Climate Change

Climate change is already impacting Queensland and affecting our environment, lifestyles and economy. Australia's response to climate change at a state and federal level has been tragically inadequate. In the continued absence of federal leadership, Queensland must act in line with the science and do what it takes to slow climate change. The government has shown it is willing to listen to experts in a health crisis - they must now recognise expertise and deliver a science based response to the climate crisis.

## Suggested policy solutions for the next Queensland government:

### Set science-based targets to cut climate pollution

- Set Queensland's emission reduction targets consistent with global efforts to avoid 1.5 degrees global warming by aiming for at least 65% cut in emissions by 2030 and zero net emissions well before 2050.
- Legislate 2025, 2030 and 2050 targets with a commitment to set 5 yearly interim targets that are based on independent advice and cannot be reduced.
- Set up a government-wide approach that mainstreams climate change into all government planning and decision-making and prioritises strong climate action across all areas of the Queensland economy. For example, by establishing an independent Climate Change Authority, similar to Victoria's.
- Set sectoral emission reduction targets for different parts of the Queensland economy to distribute effort across the economy in a way that best meets the public interest, and meets state-wide emission reduction targets.
- Implement a rigorous, transparent monitoring and reporting framework that includes an independent third party review at least every two years, to evaluate the effectiveness of policies in cutting emissions.

### Prepare for the impacts of climate change

- Implement vulnerability assessments to improve understanding of how communities, such as regional

and remote communities, will be impacted by climate change and commit to support them with resilience building and adaptation measures.

- Ensure that the vulnerable industry sectors identified in the Queensland Government's Climate Adaptation Strategy are supported with sufficient funding and policies to implement their Climate Adaptation Plans.
- Engage in a meaningful partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to develop a climate adaptation plan specifically focused on Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Extend QCOAST 2100 plans to include impacts from flooding and wind.
- Fund regional Aboriginal Councils to deliver QCOAST adaptation plans.

### Agriculture, Manufacturing & Industry

- Support farming practices proven to prevent and reduce emissions, sequester carbon and provide social and biodiversity co-benefits, avoiding carbon offsets.
- Promote electrification and fuel switching to reduce use of diesel and gas in heavy industries.

### No backwards steps:

Continue to implement all actions and policy commitments contained in the Queensland Government's Climate Adaptation Strategy and Climate Transition Strategy.