



FORWARD WORK PLAN

June 2026

Queensland Audit Office

Forward work plan
2026–29

B. Acquittal of our prior published plan

As part of our annual planning process, we review our 3-year plan to ensure our current audit work reflects and focuses on strategic risks to the public sector. This document reflects the changes between our [Forward work plan 2025–28](#), published in June 2025, and our *Forward work plan 2026–29*. The table below identifies the proposed audit topics in our *Forward work plan 2026–29* and shows:

- where we have changed the timing of some audits from the 2025–28 plan
- the new audits included in our *Forward work plan 2026–29*.

In the table that follows overleaf, we provide an explanation for the timing changes, and a list of topics previously included in our 2025–28 plan that are not included in the 2026–29 plan with an explanation for their removal.

Changes between the published *Forward work plan 2025–28* and the *Forward work plan 2026–29*

2026–27 Audits	2027–28 Audits	2028–29 Audits
Existing topics (no change)	Existing topics (no change)	Existing topics (with timing change)
Supporting the safety and quality of patient care*	Coordinating custodial transport*	Skilling Queenslanders to meet labour market demands
Managing the psychosocial safety of frontline workers*	Maximising student attendance at Queensland state schools*	New topics (not previously on plan)
Using data to improve road safety*	Using Priority Development Areas to support housing supply*	Implementing National Disability Insurance Scheme foundational supports
Effective contract management in government owned corporations	Health workforce planning	Overseeing the delivery of services by non-government organisations
Planning for and mitigating the risks of bushfires	Planning to operate Cross River Rail	Regulating the early childhood education and care sector
Managing legacy information technology infrastructure and systems	Building resilience for future floods*	Managing council waste
Protecting information held by government	Making the most of artificial intelligence	Delivering Queensland's Hospital Rescue Plan
Existing topics (with timing change)	Managing the impacts and risks in red tape reduction initiatives	Prioritising maintenance and construction of Queensland's infrastructure
Rehabilitating and reintegrating prisoners*	Reporting on government performance	Growing primary industries
Implementing the Unify system*		Accessing digital government services
Improving the sustainability of local governments	Existing topics (with timing change)	Data use and governance in Queensland entities
New topics (not previously on plan)	Defending critical infrastructure from cyber risks	Managing Queensland's royalties and taxation collections
Growing Queensland's critical minerals industry	New topics (not previously on plan)	Readying the public service for technological advancements
	Delivering victim support services	
	Existing topic (expanded into topic series)	
Cross-entity governance and preparedness for the Brisbane Games	<i>Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games report series</i>	

Notes:

* We have renamed the following audits this year to better reflect the refined scope as we prepare to commence them:

- ‘Supporting the safety and quality of patient care’ was previously titled ‘Ensuring the quality and safety of health services’
- ‘Managing the psychosocial safety of frontline workers’ was previously titled ‘Managing psychosocial safety in the workplace’
- ‘Using data to improve road safety’ was previously titled ‘Improving road safety’
- ‘Rehabilitating and reintegrating prisoners’ was previously titled ‘Preventing prisoners from reoffending’
- ‘Implementing the Unify system’ was previously titled ‘Implementing the new child safety and youth justice case management system (Unify)’
- ‘Coordinating custodial transport’ was previously titled ‘Efficiency of custodial transport’
- ‘Maximising student attendance at Queensland state schools’ was previously titled ‘Student attendance at Queensland state schools’
- ‘Using Priority Development Areas to support housing supply’ was previously titled ‘Planning for liveable communities’
- ‘Building resilience for future floods’ was previously titled ‘Mitigating the risk of future floods’.

As part of our annual planning process, we reassessed our 3-year work plan to ensure we have the capacity to deliver the planned reports and that our reports are being delivered at the right time to provide meaningful findings and recommendations. The following table includes an explanation of the reason for the changes made to reports included in the [Forward work plan 2025–28](#).

Reports with timing change		
Reports	What’s changed	Explanation
Accessing legal representation services	Brought forward from 2026–27 to 2025–26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We brought forward <i>Accessing legal representation services</i> (previously titled <i>Accessing legal aid services</i>) to replace <i>Managing variations to contracts in transport infrastructure</i>. We planned to table this topic in 2026–27 in our <i>Forward work plan 2025–28</i> but will now table this in 2025–26.
Rehabilitating and reintegrating prisoners	Deferred from 2025–26 to 2026–27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This audit is underway but will now table in early 2026–27.
Improving the sustainability of local governments	Deferred from 2025–26 to 2026–27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This audit is underway but will now table in 2026–27.
Implementing the Unify system	Brought forward from 2027–28 to 2026–27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We brought forward this audit to ensure timely assessment of the system implementation following its go-live in April 2025 and challenges identified in the December 2025 review.
Defending critical infrastructure from cyber risks	Deferred from 2026–27 to 2027–28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have deferred this audit to 2027–28 due to prioritising other audits and to balance the timing of audits focused on information systems.
Skilling Queenslanders to meet labour market demands	Deferred from 2027–28 to 2028–29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Queensland Government released its new <i>The Right Skills Strategy 2025–2028</i> in November 2025. Timing of delivery of this audit has been postponed 6 months to ensure there is sufficient time for the Department of Trade, Employment and Training to implement its actions under this strategy.

As part of our annual planning processes, we may identify topics that we need to prioritise over audit topics previously on the plan – this could be due to a change in legislation, government announced reviews, or changes in government priorities.

No topics have been removed from those that appeared in our 2025–28 plan.





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