

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 a request for comments to:

- Minister for Education and the Arts
- Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training
- Director-General, Department of Education
- Director-General, Department of Trade, Employment and Training.

We also provided a copy of the report to the following entities and gave them the option of providing a response:

- Premier and Minister for Veterans
- Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of TAFE Queensland
- chancellors and vice-chancellors of the 7 universities
- principals and chairs of the 8 grammar schools.

This appendix contains the responses we received.

The heads of these entities are responsible for the accuracy, fairness, and balance of their comments.



Comments received from Director-General, Department of Education

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Office of the
Director-General

Department of
Education

10 June 2026

Ms Rachel Vagg
Auditor-General
Queensland Audit Office
Email: qao@qao.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Vagg

Thank you for your email dated 27 May 2026 regarding the *Education 2025* proposed report to Parliament. I note you have also written to the Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP, Minister for Education and the Arts, about the same matter. I have been asked to respond on the Minister's behalf.

I appreciate the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the proposed report. I note the content of the report and that you have not made any new recommendations; however, draw our attention to recommendations from previous years that require further action. The Department of Education will assess and implement those recommendations specifically relevant to this agency.

In relation to the proposed report's Figure D1 *Status of recommendations from Education 2023 (Report 13: 2023–24)* relevant to the department:

- Recommendation one *Strengthen information system controls*: the department has implemented a range of controls to strengthen identity and access management in alignment with the recommendation and will continue to monitor and improve the processes for managing third-party cyber security risks. The department notes that this recommendation relates to the current status of prior recommendation one (Education 2020 (Report 18: 2020–21)).

With regards to the proposed report's Figure D2 *Status of recommendations from Education 2021 (Report 19: 2021–22)* relevant to the department:

- Recommendation two *Complete regular and timely assessments of the condition of assets*: I acknowledge that you have noted that the department has completed its asset condition assessments for buildings and intends to continue these regularly.

The department's Audit and Risk Management Committee will monitor any required actions to address the relevant recommendations.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact [REDACTED].

Thank you for consulting with the department on this important piece of work.

Yours sincerely

SHARON SCHIMMING
Director-General

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Comments received from Director-General, Department of Trade, Employment and Training

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Department of
**Trade, Employment
and Training**

Our ref: TF26/1077; D26/10028
Your ref: PRJ04658

Ms Rachel Vagg
Auditor-General
Queensland Audit Office
Email: gao@gao.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Vagg 

Thank you for your email dated 27 May 2026 regarding your proposed *Education 2025* report to Parliament and for the opportunity to provide feedback.

I acknowledge the report and accept its findings, noting the report's focus on recommendations from prior years.

The Department of Trade, Employment and Training continues to focus on strengthening the security of our information systems to avoid potential threats to our data and systems, noting the report acknowledges the Department has an action plan to address all information system recommendations. Through continued investment, sector collaboration and vigilance, the Department is seeking to deliver a resilient digital environment that protects critical systems, supports public trust and ensures Queenslanders continue to benefit from secure, reliable services.


As highlighted by the Queensland Audit Office, the Department has made notable progress on findings related to asset management, with delivery of the Asset Condition Assessment Program. This program has resulted in completion of condition assessments of statewide Department assets and facilitated delivery of a 4-year risk-based remediation plan and 10-year capital renewal program.

The Department remains committed to ensuring the sustainability, safety, and efficiency of its asset portfolio to support delivery of quality education and training services across Queensland.

The Department also continues to work in partnership with TAFE Queensland to support their ongoing financial sustainability.

I thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the report.

Yours sincerely


Peter McKay
Director-General
10.06.2026

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Comments received from Chief Executive Officer, TAFE Queensland



15 June 2026

Ms Rachel Vagg
Auditor-General
Queensland Audit Office

QueenslandAuditOffice@gao.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Vagg

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a response to the Queensland Audit Office 2025 Education Report to Parliament.

The report is correct in its assessment of TAFE Queensland's financial performance and outlook as outlined in Section 4.2. TAFE Queensland recorded a second consecutive operating surplus in 2024–25 of \$25.1 million, supported by the introduction of Community Service Obligation funding from the Queensland Government.

The report appropriately highlights that financial sustainability remains a risk. It is also correct in noting the forecast loss in 2025–26, which is primarily driven by an anticipated reduction in student demand as the impacts of initiatives such as Fee-Free TAFE, moderate. As the report also details, TAFE Queensland continues to pursue a range of strategies to ensure a financially sustainable organisation into the future.

TAFE Queensland remains committed to fulfilling its role as the State's primary provider of vocational education and training, ensuring equitable access to high-quality training across Queensland while continuing to strengthen its financial position.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Rawlings".

Tim Rawlings
Chief Executive Officer
TAFE Queensland

Ref: 8986867

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TAFE Queensland

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