



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025

August 2020

## The Role of the Governor

The Governor's function is to protect the constitution, secure the orderly transaction of governments, facilitate the work of Parliament and the Government, act as a non-political representative of the State and participate in the affairs of the Queensland community.

The Governor, on behalf of the Queensland public, recognises achievement and encourages worthwhile endeavour, reinforces the State's cultural identity and values and promotes Queensland.

## The Role of the Office of the Governor

Our Office provides support to the Governor in all aspects of the Governor's role as he or she carries out official duties for the benefit of the Queensland people. These duties include:

- Constitutional and legal duties;
- Ceremonial duties;
- Civic duties and community engagements; and
- Promoting Queensland.

The responsibilities of the Office of the Governor also include appropriate levels of corporate governance and the effective and efficient stewardship of Government House and its collections as a heritage and community asset of national importance.

## Our Vision

Our Vision is that the Office of the Governor enables the Governor of Queensland to be an outstanding advocate for the Queensland constitution, promoting all that is Queensland and unifying Queenslanders.

## Our Mission

As an independent entity, the Office of the Governor provides the best possible advice and support to the role of the Governor and provides efficient and effective stewardship of the Government House Estate.

## Our Values

The Office of the Governor staff are committed to the following shared values as the basis for working together:

- **Integrity** - we value honesty, authenticity, diligence and discretion in all our activities.
- **Respect** - we value diversity and what it can contribute.
- **Communication** – we communicate effectively and share knowledge to promote harmony and trust.
- **Flexibility** - we strive for continuous improvement, innovation, learn from experience and are agile and resilient.
- **Leadership at all levels** - we will all assume responsibility and foster participation.
- **Teamwork** - we achieve more, and better results when we work as a team.

## Our Strategic Priorities

- Enabling the Governor to perform the constitutional, ceremonial and civic duties of the appointment.
- Developing and maintaining effective and efficient corporate governance arrangements.
- Proactively engaging with our stakeholders including service providers, government, not-for-profit organisations and communities throughout the state of Queensland.
- Maintaining the estate and its collections at the highest standards, promoting its importance as a heritage asset.
- Developing and maintaining skills, knowledge and networks in order to promote Queensland's produce, business, trade, investment and culture.
- Procure and promote, where possible, Queensland produce and products.
- Fostering a broad understanding of the Governor's role and program through publications, media and social media engagement.
- Develop the Office of the Governor to be an employer of choice.
- Minimise the impact of the Office of the Governor on the environment.

## Our Strategic Opportunities

- Continuing to promote the Governor across Queensland and providing further education around the role of the Governor.
- Targeted international engagement in support of Queensland's trade, investment and cultural objectives.
- Governor to engage and participate in significant community and patronage anniversary events.
- Use of emerging technologies to enhance our service delivery.
- COVID-19 related international travel restrictions provide opportunity for increased engagement with state-based stakeholders.
- Domestic travel restrictions require innovative solutions to engage with all Queenslanders.

## Our Strategic Challenges

- Appropriate work force with the right skills and capabilities to effectively support the role of the Governor now and into the future.
- Have effective work place systems, processes and governance structures to support the activities of Government House within resource allocations which are subject to change.
- Impact of local, state, and federal government elections.
- Transition of Governors anticipated in July 2021.
- Potential change of Monarch.
- The Office of the Governor is not established by a Head of Power.
- Increased security and cyber security threats.
- Inadequate on-site storage space, staff working areas and amenities, and limited event capacity.
- COVID-19 impact on budget, Governor's program, and Office of the Governor operations.

## Key Focus Areas and Strategies

### **GOAL 1 – Support the Governor in safeguarding Queensland’s Constitution and democratic system of Government**

The constitutional and primary role of the Governor is the administration of the Government of the State. The Governor’s role is to protect the Constitution and to facilitate the work of the Parliament and the Government of the State of Queensland. The Office of the Governor will support the Governor in fulfilling his constitutional and legal responsibilities by providing high quality policy advice and executive support.

### **GOAL 2 – Support the Governor in fulfilling ceremonial responsibilities**

The Governor regularly hosts and officiates at a number of significant occasions of importance to the State. The Office of the Governor will provide administrative support for the Australian Honours and Awards System and organise ceremonial events such as the review of parades and military ceremonies.

### **GOAL 3 – Facilitate the Governor’s civic and community engagement with all Queenslanders**

The Governor engages with the broader community seeking to *support, encourage and inspire all Queenslanders*. In support of this the Office of the Governor will administer an extensive community and civic engagement program throughout Queensland and continue to develop improved public education and information resources on all aspects of the Governor’s role.

### **GOAL 4 – Promote Queensland**

An important part of the Governor’s role in promoting Queensland is providing Government House as a venue for cultural and business opportunities for the State and receiving diplomatic visitors. The Office of the Governor supports the Governor in promoting Queensland’s produce, industries, culture, trade and business objectives at home and abroad.

### **GOAL 5 – Provide strong corporate governance and management**

In order to provide the best possible support to the Governor, the Office of the Governor needs a strong corporate governance framework which utilises emerging technologies and continuously improves performance, capability, accountability and value for money service delivery.

### **GOAL 6 - Provide efficient and effective stewardship of Government House and Estate**

The Government House Estate is an invaluable part of Queensland’s cultural heritage and the residence of the Governor. The Office of the Governor has a shared responsibility with the Queensland Government to ensure the preservation, development and protection of the facility and its people.