

Learn about Parliament: Ministers

Cloze Passage

Read through the following passage and select the word or phrase from the table that best fits in each space. You can use each word or phrase only once.

Question Time	reporting	Executive	supported	health	stable
responsibility	Premier	eighteen	portfolios	scrutiny	Cabinet
Council	Public service	parliament	resign	Governor	morning

After an election, up to _____(1) ministers are selected by the Premier and officially appointed to the Executive Council by the _____(2). In Queensland, ministers are always members of the party that has formed government. Ministers form part of the _____(3) branch of government and, together with the _____(4), are known as the 'Cabinet'. The _____(5) is one of the driving forces in creating policy and presenting it to their party, the Legislative Assembly and to the public.

As members of the Executive _____(6), Cabinet Ministers are allocated one or more _____(7), or areas of responsibility. _____(8) departments support the ministers by carrying out the decisions of the government in areas such as education, _____(9), transport or environment. When carrying out their ministerial duties, ministers are accountable to the entire _____(10) for the actions of their departments and for their personal decisions. This is known as individual ministerial _____(11).

Each _____(12) in parliament, ministers present a Ministerial Statement on a different issue within their portfolio, as a way of _____(13) to the people of Queensland what their government is doing. During _____(14), government ministers may be asked questions by other Members of Parliament. This process enables the opposition to do its important job of _____(15), holding the government to account for its actions and decisions.

Cabinet operates on 'collective responsibility'. This means that all ministers are jointly responsible for decisions taken by the Cabinet, and all decisions must be publicly _____(16) by ministers. If a minister doesn't believe they can publicly support a Cabinet decision, it is traditional that they _____(17). This is important to ensure a _____(18) government, and to avoid contradictions or public disagreements between members of the Executive Council.