



Collaborative initiatives

City Deals

The Cities Transformation Taskforce was established to lead and coordinate the Queensland Government's negotiations with the Australian and local governments on the Smart Cities Plan and City Deals initiatives with the aim of having productive, accessible, liveable cities that attract talent, encourage innovation and create jobs and growth.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in November 2016 between the Australian and Queensland Governments and provides a high-level framework and foundation for negotiation of City Deals between all levels of government. In December 2016, Townsville became the first City Deal to be signed in Australia providing a 15-year roadmap for Townsville's future geared towards growing the economy of Townsville and strengthening Townsville as a prosperous and lifestyle-rich city.

In its May 2017 Budget, the Australian Government committed to working with the Queensland Government and the Council of Mayors South East Queensland to develop a South East Queensland City Deals strategy.

Partners in Government Agreement

The Partners in Government Agreement was signed by the Queensland Government and the Local Government Association of Queensland in October 2015. The agreement formalises a set of principles to guide the relationship between the state and local governments and identifies the roles and responsibilities of each party.

The department is strongly committed to working in partnership with local governments and the Local Government Association of Queensland and recognises their significant role, ongoing effort and valuable contribution to Queensland's economy and growing prosperity.

The Partners in Government Agreement plays an important role in establishing this relationship and provides an opportunity to take an integrated approach to ensure our efforts and resources are appropriately positioned to maximise outcomes for all Queenslanders.

Initiatives including the response to Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie, Skilling Queenslanders for Work, the Works for Queensland Program, the Advance Queensland initiative, National Partnership in Remote Housing Program, Local Government Infrastructure Grants Review and the Queensland Climate Change Adaptation Strategy have been progressed through effective collaboration across government and with the Local Government Association of Queensland under the Partners in Government Agreement.

National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience

The National Partnership Agreement, between the Queensland and Australian Governments, delivers funding to projects to enhance communities' resilience to natural disasters. The agreement for the Natural Disaster Resilience Program was signed by the Prime Minister in March 2016 and by the Queensland Premier in May 2016. The agreement provides funding of \$24 million over two years (\$12 million state and \$12 million Commonwealth) to local governments and eligible non-government organisations to address various natural disaster risk mitigation initiatives. In addition, the funding can be used to enhance preparedness for natural disasters through community education and awareness training.

Collaborative delivery of accredited training programs

The department established strategic partnerships with the Local Government Association of Queensland and the Local Government Managers Australia (Queensland), to deliver training programs and offer professional development to women in local government as part of the annual local government capacity building program.

During the year, 65 scholarships to the value of \$262,000 were awarded to local government employees to undertake the Local Government Association of Queensland's nationally-accredited Diploma and Certificate IV programs in governance and administration, leadership and management, asset management, project management, financial management and land use planning.

The Women in Local Government strategy implemented in partnership with Local Government Managers Australia (Queensland) promotes greater diversity and inclusion in local government and provides female councillors and council officers with access to a range of mentoring and professional development opportunities. Through various initiatives:

- 11 female council officers from small rural, remote and Indigenous local governments were sponsored to attend the Local Government Managers Australia (Queensland) 2016 Women in Local Government Excellence Conference in Brisbane in November 2016
- 20 scholarships to the value of \$90,000 were granted to female council employees to undertake the Local Government Managers Australia (Queensland) Propeller, Ignite and Executive Management programs
- scholarships for eight female council officers from small rural, remote and Indigenous local governments to participate at the Inspiring Women's Leadership Forum, to be held in July 2017, were awarded in 2016–17.

Infrastructure Portfolio Office collaborations

The Infrastructure Portfolio Office has undertaken collaborative initiatives to build industry and community partnerships and ultimately to improve whole-of-government coordination and delivery of infrastructure investment. These include:

- establishing the Infrastructure Cabinet Committee to support whole-of-government integration in relation to infrastructure planning and delivery
- establishing a subcommittee of the Chief Executive Officer's Leadership Team comprised of Deputy Directors-General to lead and coordinate whole-of-government integration of infrastructure planning and delivery
- establishing the joint industry-government Infrastructure Innovation Taskforce – to improve early market engagement and simplify procurement contracts and approvals
- establishing the Community Infrastructure Reference Group – to advise on options to engage better with rural, regional and metropolitan areas of the state
- guiding the development of five new strategic infrastructure documents for Transport, Water, Energy, Digital and Social infrastructure in partnership with other departments.

National Insurance Affordability Initiative

This is a Project Agreement between the state and the Australian government to implement work under the National Insurance Affordability Initiative. Funding will provide for the construction of a flood levee embankment in Roma in the Maranoa Regional Council area and the upgrading of flood defences in Ipswich. Ipswich City Council completed its projects and received final payment of \$7 million in June 2017.

Housing Partnerships Office

Economic Development Queensland is collaborating with the Department of Housing and Public Works in the formation of a housing partnerships office to bring together expertise to leverage broader development opportunities and manage precinct development within Better Neighbourhoods areas. This collaboration will support the Housing Construction Jobs Program, the Queensland Housing Strategy and the objectives of the housing renewal and integration precinct zone within the Advancing our cities and regions strategy to renew ageing social housing to create better quality social housing and increase housing choice and affordability. This, in turn, will lead to improved home ownership and socio-economic outcomes for people living in revitalised communities.

Deputy Premier's Urban Design Awards

The inaugural Deputy Premier's Urban Design Awards recognise contemporary Queensland urban design projects of the highest calibre. Logan City Council's Beenleigh Town Square Project was named the winner of the Deputy Premier's Award for Urban Design 2017 by the Deputy Premier, the Honourable Jackie Trad MP, on Friday 24 March 2017 at the State Library of Queensland.

The Density and Diversity Done Well Open Ideas Competition

The Density and Diversity Done Well Open Ideas Competition was instigated to encourage new housing options that are practical, compact, affordable and relevant to South East Queensland neighbourhoods and communities. The competition is a joint initiative of the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and the Urban Development Institute of Australia Queensland endorsed by the Australian Institute of Architects and the Planning Institute of Australia and supported by the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects and the Urban Design Alliance Queensland.