

The Queensland Plan

A 30-year vision for Queensland



Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council meeting communiqué

15 September 2022

The Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council (the Council) held its third meeting of 2022 in Brisbane on 15 September 2022. The Council welcomed Ambassadors who had travelled from across Queensland and those participating virtually.

During the meeting, the Council continued its work on identifying opportunities to effectively support place-based solutions and initiatives. The focus of this meeting was *The Queensland Plan's* foundation areas of "People" and "Environment". The Council heard presentations from Queensland Government representatives and industry stakeholders on matters relating to youth justice, Path to Treaty, sustainable housing, the environment, renewable minerals and workforce strategies to support the changing Queensland economic and social landscape.

Place-based solutions

The Council welcomed Professor Allan Dale and Mr Michael Hogan to continue discussions on place-based initiatives. Professor Dale noted that not-for-profit organisations, Primary Health Networks and philanthropies are interested in creating a dialogue with the government regarding outcomes for children and youth using a place-based approach to funding models. Professor Dale and Mr Hogan indicated this is an area Queensland could lead in.

The Council also welcomed back Father Mick Lowcock, Mr Faisal Khan and Father Emene Kelemete who provided an update from Northwest Queensland Indigenous Catholic Social Service Limited on the delivery of key social services in Mount Isa – an outcome from the 15 December 2021 Council meeting in Mount Isa.

The Chair and Father Mick Lowcock presented the *2022 Multicultural Festival Certificate of Appreciation* to the Queensland Government, in recognition of its support for the Good Shephard Parish Mount Isa Multicultural Festival.

Council foundation area - people

The Council welcomed Ms Kathy Parton, Deputy Director-General, Strategic Policy, Legislation and Program Reform, Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, and Mr Michael Drane, Senior Executive Director, Youth Detention Operations and Reform, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs to present on youth justice and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships.

Ms Parton provided a summary of key priorities of the Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and how they intersect with *The Queensland Plan*,

particularly focusing on most recent work on Path to Treaty. Mr Drane spoke about various initiatives the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs is leading to support a reduction in youth crime.

The Council also received a presentation from Mr Mark Wall, General Manager, Strategy, Policy and Programs, Housing and Homelessness Services, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy and Dr Mark Jones, Associate Professor, School of Architecture, University of Queensland on the current housing challenges in Queensland and the opportunities for developing sustainable housing in regional Queensland.

Council foundation area – environment

The Council welcomed the Honourable Ian Macfarlane, Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Resources Council, Mr Dave Copeman, Director, Queensland Conservation Council, Mr Mark Jacobs, Deputy Director-General, Department of Environment and Science, and Ms Lana Bartholomew, Executive Director, Geo-resources Policy, Department of Resources to present on the foundation area of 'environment'.

Mr Macfarlane spoke to the Council about health and safety, environment and industry infrastructure, highlighting that the resources industry contributes to several foundation areas of *The Queensland Plan*. Mr Copeman discussed the current climate situation in Australia including impacts of climate change on the state.

Mr Jacobs highlighted the Department of Environment and Science's current priorities including the protection of native flora and fauna, disaster resilience and creating a climate-positive 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Ms Bartholomew provided information on the recently released *Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan* which sets out a pathway for "A resilient, responsible and sustainable Queensland resources industry that grows as it transforms".

Ambassador Mr Taj Pabari facilitated a discussion between the Council and these representatives, to explore challenges and opportunities to protect Queensland's environment whilst maintaining sustainable and agile industry.

Next meeting

The Queensland Plan highlights that "our regional centres are the strongest in the nation and critical hubs for our growing industries". The Council acknowledged the importance of holding meetings in regions and agreed to hold the next meeting in Gladstone on 14 and 15 December 2022. This meeting will focus on the identified 2022–23 foundation area of 'governance'.