

The Queensland Plan

A 30-year vision for Queensland



Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council meeting communiqué

27 July 2023

The Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council (the Council) held its second meeting of 2023 in Brisbane on 27 July. The focus of this meeting was the *Queensland Plan's* foundation areas of 'Education' and 'Community'.

The Council received presentations from the Department of Education, Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training, TAFE Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, the Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities, and the Arts, and Neighbourhood Centres Queensland.

Professor Allan Dale, Deputy Chairperson of the Council also presented on place-based solutions and the benefits of economic analysis of place-based approaches in Queensland.

The Queensland Plan foundation area – Education

Stacie Hansel, Deputy Director-General, Schools and Student Support at the Department of Education presented on the *Education Strategy – Equity and Excellence: realising the potential of every student* (Education Strategy) released in 2022. Ms Hansel discussed the co-designed approach to the Education Strategy, designed with school principals, teachers and families across Queensland. Ms Hansel acknowledged the importance of embedding First Nations perspectives within the Education Strategy.

David Lucas, Executive Director, Service Delivery, Engagement Division, Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training presented on the Gateway to Industry Schools program. Mr Lucas outlined the various industries funded to deliver industry training to students across Queensland, including the Gateway to Industry Schools Program -Hydrogen announced in 2022.

Brent Kinnane, General Manager, Brisbane Region, TAFE Queensland discussed TAFE Queensland's alignment with *The Queensland Plan* goals including access and equity, applied learning, future-focused training and providing support and positive experiences across the entire student journey. Mr Kinnane presented on *TAFE Queensland - Strategic Plan 2023-2027* and the importance of practical learning and a future-focused curriculum.

Professor Robina Xavier, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) presented on *Connections – QUT Strategy 2023-2027*, including its focus on connecting knowledge and discovery, connecting people and purpose, and recognising and fostering Indigenous Australian excellence.

The Queensland Plan foundation area – Community

Belinda Drew, Deputy Director-General, Communities, and Brad McCoy, Executive Director, Community Services, Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts presented on its strategy, *Communities 2032* (the Strategy), and the *Communities 2032 Action Plan 2022–2025*. The presentation focused on the Strategy’s vision in which “Queensland’s communities empower every person to connect, participate, contribute and thrive”. The presenters also outlined the destinations of the Strategy including: vibrant, inclusive, and cohesive communities; healthy, accessible and liveable communities; safe and resilient communities, and supported and responsive communities. The presenters noted the LGBTIQ+ Roundtable has been reconvened and there has been record funding for Neighbourhood Centres Queensland.

Em James, Chief Executive Officer, Neighbourhood Centres Queensland noted the importance of Neighbourhood Centres to communities, and their role in delivering community-led initiatives and projects supported by volunteers and staff. Ms James noted the disaster resilience activities being delivered to communities by Neighbourhood Centres and current reforms underway.

The Honourable Grace Grace MP, Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing addressed the Council and provided an update on education, industrial relations and racing portfolio matters.

Local site visits

The Council attended a site visit to State Library of Queensland (SLQ). The Council received a tour of the First Nations showcase ‘Working Country’ and SLQ staff presented on their early literacy engagement, specialised services and schools engagement program.

Next meeting

The Council will hold its next meeting in Far North Queensland on 10 October 2023.