

The Queensland Plan Annual Progress Report 2016–17

About the report

This report outlines the implementation of *The Queensland Plan* (the Plan) over the 2016–17 financial year.

It highlights a range of activities by Queensland governments (state and local), industry, community groups and not-for-profit organisations. These activities align with the 30-year vision developed by the citizens of Queensland.

The report is developed in accordance with the *Queensland Plan Act 2014* (the Act), and is available online at www.qld.gov.au/queenslandplan.

The 2016-17 year in review

The main purposes of the Act are to establish a long-term vision for the future growth and prosperity of Queensland, and reflect the aspirations of the community, business and industry for the future of Queensland.

Amendments to the Act were assented to on 9 December 2016 and commenced 26 May 2017. The amendments streamline the Act by replacing the requirement to develop and implement a government response to the Plan with a requirement for the State Government to consider the Plan in developing its statement of government objectives for the community under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*. The change will ensure there is one strategic direction document – the government’s objectives for the community – that will be used as the basis for government planning and reporting. It removes the additional layer of reporting for local governments, and retains the requirement for an annual report on implementation progress.

These amendments are consistent with the Interim Government Response, dated 1 July 2015, which aligned the Queensland Government’s contribution to achieving the vision and goals of the Plan to the objectives of the community: creating jobs and a diverse economy, delivering quality frontline services, protecting the environment, and building safe, caring and connected communities.

The Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council (the Council) is responsible for advocating for the Plan’s implementation. In 2016–17, the Ambassadors Council met five times in person and twice by teleconference. The meetings were held in Ipswich, Brisbane and Townsville, and at each meeting Ambassadors met with a variety of community, business and industry representatives. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet provides Secretariat support to the Council.

The current members of the Ambassadors Council are:

The Honourable Tony McGrady (Chair)	Mr Mark Henley (Deputy Chair)
Ms Shelley Argent	Mr Taj Pabari
Professor John Cole	Ms Karen Tully
Professor Allan Dale	Ms Kate Tully
Ms Erin Faithful	Emeritus Professor Roger Scott
Mr Daniel Gschwind	Mr Leon Yeatman

How to read the report

The report provides an overview of programs and activities across Queensland that are aligned to each of the Plan’s nine foundation areas. The Plan recognised that the foundation areas are intrinsically interconnected. Where initiatives relate to a number of foundation areas, they have only been included once.

The report also provides examples of partnerships across sectors and local community collaboration that align with the vision of the Plan.

Finally, the report takes a look at the year ahead, and outlines a number of initiatives that will be delivered in 2017–18.

For more information about Queensland Government activities in 2016–17 visit:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/about/staying-informed/reports-publications/annual-reports>.

For information about local governments, refer to individual local government websites.

Message from the Premier

I am pleased to table this progress report for the 2016–17 financial year on *The Queensland Plan*.

The Queensland Plan encapsulates what Queenslanders pictured an ideal Queensland to be in 2044. Over the last three years, my government has made great strides in working with Queenslanders to create jobs and a diverse economy, deliver quality frontline services, protect the environment, and build safe, caring and connected communities. My government has delivered on our objectives for the community, which align with *The Queensland Plan's* vision and goals, and frame our progress moving forward.

We must continue to be flexible and innovative in positioning Queensland for the future, in order to work towards and build on Queenslanders' 30-year vision.

We are in the midst of rapid change, and Queensland must keep pace to ensure the continuing strength and resilience of our businesses and economy. My government is focused on diversifying our economy and creating the jobs and industries of the future. We want to ensure Queensland's capacity to adapt and thrive under new and different pressures. That is why my government has committed a further \$93 million over four years under our flagship Advance Queensland jobs and innovation initiative, lifting the total Advance Queensland package to more than \$500 million.

Advance Queensland is a long-term investment in the future of Queensland. At the end of the 2016–17 financial year we had already invested more than \$205 million and backed more than 1650 innovators, supporting more than 4800 jobs. Our startup ecosystem in Queensland will continue to grow. And, we will continue to focus on emerging markets and on the opportunities Queensland can harness, while supporting our State's traditional economic performers.

We need to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of the future, but this cannot be done by government alone. We achieve more when we work together to benefit all Queenslanders. In order to move forward together, it is vital that we strengthen partnerships between community, business and industry. Our opportunities and our successes are created and shared for the whole state.

I would like to thank The Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council for its continued advocacy for implementation of *The Queensland Plan* and acknowledge the valuable contribution of each Ambassador. The Chair, the Hon. Tony McGrady and ambassadors Ms Shelley Argent, Professor John Cole, Professor Allan Dale, Ms Erin Faithful, Mr Daniel Gschwind, Mr Mark Henley, Mr Taj Pabari, Emeritus Professor Roger Scott, Ms Karen Tully, Ms Kate Tully and Mr Leon Yeatman all contribute their time and expertise to promoting *The Queensland Plan* and providing advice on its implementation in a volunteer capacity. I would also like to recognise the contribution of former Ambassadors who stepped down from the Council during the 2016-17 financial year – Ms Jordyn Archer, and Mr Joel Buchholz.

My government is committed to working with Queenslanders to continue to build a healthy, prosperous and sustainable Queensland for all. Together, we will advance our state, grow our economy, strengthen our regions, support our communities and protect our environment.

ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR TRADE

Message from the Leader of the Opposition

I was proud to be part of the government that kick-started *The Queensland Plan* process in 2013 as a conversation about where all of us as Queenslanders wanted our great state to head.

The Plan was devised by Queenslanders for Queenslanders and this third annual report tracks how we are going in fulfilling the visions set down over three years ago.

Queenslanders expect and deserve a bipartisan approach to the many economic, social and environmental challenges and opportunities that Queensland faces.

The foundation areas identified in the Plan: economy, infrastructure, regions, education, community, health and wellbeing, environment, people and governance must be front of mind for all Members of Parliament on a day to day basis.

The Opposition continues to fully support this Plan and our priorities reflect the fundamental priorities Queenslanders themselves have set.

The Opposition's priorities are tackling ICE, creating jobs and busting congestion by building more infrastructure, delivering better services and easing the pressure on household budgets.

As Opposition Leader, I'm excited to lead a team that represents all of Queensland, so we can unite Queensland.

I encourage all Queenslanders to continue to get involved, make their views heard and create a state we can all be proud of.

DEB FRECKLINGTON MP

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Message from the Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council

In 2014 the Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council was established to promote awareness of, and advocate for, the implementation of *The Queensland Plan* by the community, business and industry. As a group, we represent the many Queenslanders whose contribution to the original consultation process informed the development of *The Queensland Plan*, and bring expertise across a range of areas and community sectors, including youth. Our role as Ambassadors is also to provide advice to the Premier about the implementation of *The Queensland Plan*.

To support and inform us in our work, the Ambassadors Council brings together representatives from the community, business and industry, and all levels of government in our regular meetings. These meetings provide us with valuable insight into activities across the state that are contributing to achieving the goals outlined in *The Queensland Plan*. We have been honoured to continue this work throughout 2016–17.

Seeking to reflect the statewide focus of *The Queensland Plan*, in 2016–17 the Council held meetings in Ipswich and Townsville and engaged directly with representatives from local government, industry, education, and community organisations. The focus of these meetings was on how the different regions were addressing current challenges and positioning themselves for future growth and prosperity. Presentations by our guests at these meetings made clear the vital importance of economic diversification and services growth in regional economies to the sustainability, prosperity and liveability of regional Queensland.

In Townsville, Ambassadors were reminded of the importance of advanced education, research and development, and of strong social infrastructure being available in regional centres. The Council met with Kirwan High School Principal, Meredith Went, and the Vice-Chancellor of James Cook University, Professor Sandra Harding. Significant discussion included the provision of culturally appropriate and vocationally relevant school programs for Indigenous students; the significance of the relationship between schools and the TAFE system with respect to vocational training generally; and the importance for the wider Townsville community of James Cook University delivering courses attractive to overseas students and research of international significance. The President of the Royal Society of Queensland provided a briefing paper for discussion on curriculum issues linked to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The Council also met with the Mayor of the City of Townsville, Councillor Jenny Hill, and a number of local councillors, to discuss the action that they are taking to address the issues arising from changing global and economic circumstances.

At Ipswich's Fire Station 101, Ambassadors were briefed on technology innovation and the opportunities shaping the emergence of the new knowledge economy. Ambassadors were appraised of the major trends and developments shaping the global economy and community and the implications of the global megatrends impacting on Queensland and the 30-year vision captured by *The Queensland Plan*. The Council also received a briefing from the then Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General on actions to address domestic and family violence.

Following the election of the 56th Queensland Parliament, the Ambassadors Council notes the commitments made by the new Queensland Government and their alignment with *The Queensland Plan*. By the end of 2019, the Premier must formally review *The Queensland Plan*, and will ask the Ambassadors Council for their advice. In 2016–17, our meetings included a focus on three of *The Queensland Plan*'s nine foundation areas – Education, Community, and Health and Wellbeing. In the coming year, the Ambassadors Council will focus on the remaining six – Infrastructure, Environment, People, Economy, Regions, and Governance – with a view to preparing a report for the Premier on the continuing relevance of *The Queensland Plan*, its implementation, and whether *The Queensland Plan* should be revised.

Each Ambassador has been assigned a foundation area aligned with their background and sphere of influence, and is responsible for leading a considered review of presentations and briefings by experts, government officials, community and sector representatives, and other relevant stakeholders. The Ambassadors Council has asked the Queensland Government for an update on the availability of data against each of the 68 targets in *The Queensland Plan*, including those for which there is currently no baseline measure, to inform our advice to the Premier. By the time this work is completed in September 2018, the Council will be well positioned to provide advice to the Premier regarding the implementation of *The Queensland Plan* and any changes needed to ensure it remains relevant to all Queenslanders.

The Ambassadors Council is grateful for the support of the Premier and Minister for Trade, the Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk, in the form of an additional funding commitment that will enable further community engagement initiatives in 2017–18. The Ambassadors Council would also like to thank the Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Assistant Minister of State, the Honourable Jennifer Howard for her ongoing commitment in representing the Premier at Ambassadors Council meetings.

We encourage all Queenslanders to engage with *The Queensland Plan*, and to think and act civically, as the long term vision for their state is progressively realised. We look forward to continuing to promote the implementation of the goals of *The Queensland Plan* in active collaboration with all stakeholders over the coming year.

New challenges and opportunities

The Plan was developed with an understanding of the impacts of global economic, environmental, social and cultural trends likely to affect the state over the next 30 years. The Plan identified the following global trends:

- Community profile
 - Changes in demographics, including a growing and ageing population with an associated increased demand for public services such as health, education and infrastructure.
- A new world economy
 - Movement of the centre of the global economy from west to east, and north to south, with developing nations becoming major contributors of resources and innovation
 - People becoming global citizens with increased mobility driving urbanisation and placing pressure on the environment, infrastructure, housing and employment.
- Naturally Queensland
 - Climate change, decreasing biodiversity, water and food scarcity and land degradation, as well as increasing demand for natural resources, driving a need for a global response for sustainable resource management.
- Virtual reality
 - Digital technology enabling exponential growth in the capture of data, increased connectivity, and advancements in artificial intelligence and automation; while also disrupting established industries and sectors.

Since 2014, ongoing challenges and emerging issues for Queensland have been identified. Some of the ongoing challenges we face include domestic and family violence, drought and its impact on families and local communities, youth unemployment (particularly in regional Queensland), the fluctuation in the resources sector and displacement of jobs, and risks to the Great Barrier Reef. During this time, Queenslanders have also supported each other through several natural disasters.

Emerging issues, such as increasing demand for technologies, the growth of the biofutures and renewable energy industries, the use of data and real-time analytics, and new ways of connecting, all present a range of opportunities for talented Queenslanders.

Under the Advance Queensland initiative, the Queensland Government has developed programs which seek to address emerging issues and harness opportunities from global trends. The government has committed a further \$93 million over four years for the Advance Queensland jobs and innovation initiative, lifting the total Advance Queensland package to more than \$500 million. Advance Queensland is driving innovation across Queensland and positioning the state to take advantage of globalisation, digital transformation and new technologies.

In addition, the draft South East Queensland Regional Plan was prepared in 2016, with significant consultation occurring over 2016–17. A community attitudes survey conducted as part of this process noted that nearly 85 per cent of South East Queensland residents ‘completely agreed’ with the survey statement ‘I really enjoy living in South East Queensland’. The draft North Queensland Regional Plan and formal public consultation is expected to be completed in the 2017–18 year.

Other plans and industry roadmaps developed in 2016–17 cover a range of areas including vocational education and training, transport, children and families, youth, trade and investment, biofutures, biomedicine, sustainability and health.

2016–17 Activity Statement

In 2015, the Premier tabled a statement of the government's objectives for the community:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- increasing workforce participation
- ensuring safe, productive and fair workplaces
- stimulating economic growth and innovation
- delivering new infrastructure and investment.

Delivering quality frontline services

- achieving better education and training outcomes
- strengthening our health system
- providing responsive and integrated government services
- supporting disadvantaged Queenslanders.

Protecting the environment

- protecting the Great Barrier Reef
- conserving nature and heritage
- ensuring sustainable management of natural resources
- enabling responsible development.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- ensuring an accessible and effective justice system
- providing an integrated and reliable transport network
- encouraging safer and inclusive communities
- building regions.

The Interim Government Response to *The Queensland Plan* identifies how the four community objectives align with the foundation areas and targets.

Foundation Area	TARGETS	JOBS AND ECONOMY	FRONTLINE SERVICES	ENVIRONMENT	COMMUNITIES
Education	T1 Literacy and numeracy 100 per cent of Queensland children have basic literacy and numeracy in primary school.		●		
	T2 Skills for life All Queenslanders enter adulthood with life skills and broad knowledge.	●	●		●
	T3 Valuing of education Education is highly valued by all Queenslanders.		●		●
Community	T4 Household prosperity Increase the wealth of all Queenslanders while achieving Australia's narrowest gap between the wealthy and the poor.	●			
	T5 Opportunity for all Anyone who makes Queensland their home has meaningful employment opportunities and participates in their community.	●			●
	T6 Community connection Queensland has the highest rates of volunteering and community participation in Australia.				●
Regions	T7 Liveable regions All Queenslanders are highly satisfied with the liveability of their region.	●		●	●
	T8 Growing regions Double the regional population outside South East Queensland.	●	●		●
Economy	T9 Growing prosperity Queensland has the highest income, trade and employment growth in Australia.	●			
	T10 Bright ideas Our brightest ideas have real social and economic benefits.	●	●		●
Health and wellbeing	T11 Life expectancy		●		●

Foundation Area	TARGETS	JOB AND ECONOMY	FRONTLINE SERVICES	ENVIRONMENT	COMMUNITIES
	Regional and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders have the same life expectancy as other Queenslanders.				
	T12 Disease and injury prevention Queensland has the lowest incidence of preventable disease and injury in Australia.		●		●
	T13 Mental health Queensland leads Australia in improving mental health and wellbeing.		●		●
Environment	T14 Environmental guardian Queensland is recognised as a world leader in environmental management and protection.			●	
	T15 Environmental balance Queensland has the best balance of environmental protection and economic development in Australia.	●		●	
People	T16 Inclusive participation Queensland leads Australia in meaningful community and workforce participation especially for seniors and people with a disability.	●			●
	T17 Indigenous opportunity Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders have the same opportunities and rates of employment as non-Indigenous Queenslanders.	●			●
	T18 Liveability Queensland is the best place to live in Australia	●	●	●	●
Infrastructure	T19 Tailored and timely infrastructure The right infrastructure is delivered in a timely way to support economic growth and social needs.	●	●		
Governance	T20 Community governance Queenslanders are highly satisfied with the ways governments deliver for their communities.	●	●	●	●

This 2016–17 Activity Statement section identifies Queensland Government activities that align with the Plan and sets them out under the Plan’s nine foundation areas, and then identifies where they align with the community objectives.

Education

Access to quality education and training is fundamental to Queensland's future success. Queenslanders' vision for education includes all Queenslanders engaging in, and valuing, education. Education and training will allow us to gain practical skills, enrich our lives, find secure jobs and improve the competitiveness of the economy. If we are to keep pace with the world, our schools, training places and universities need to adapt and evolve further. We need a practical, future-focused curriculum, support for teachers and a focus on lifelong learning. We also need to use partnerships and local expertise to build our skills for emerging industries.

The Queensland Government believes that early childhood and school-based education and training are critical to the future success of all Queenslanders. In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- awarded 100 grants through the Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow program, supporting Queensland students in 116 state schools to learn the digital and entrepreneurial skills needed in innovative businesses and emerging industries
- awarded 49 Engaging Science Grants through the Advance Queensland initiative to schools, community groups, scientists and small businesses to deliver activities and events to help Queenslanders engage in, recognise, support and advocate for science
- delivered the Flying Scientists program through a partnership between Advance Queensland and the Wonder of Science's Young Science Ambassador initiative, with scientists travelling to seven regional and remote Queensland locations to participate in school visits, community events and public seminars
- initiated the Robotics for the Future program in collaboration with SoftBank, bringing cutting edge robotics to Queensland state schools to build students' interest in coding and applying it in the real world
- released *Advancing futures: New senior assessment and tertiary entrance systems in Queensland*, and commenced implementation of the reforms
- released the Youth Engagement Plan as part of *Advancing education: an action plan for education in Queensland*, to maximise educational engagement from early childhood through to post-Year 12
- approved 367 community-driven projects, worth \$67.2 million, to provide nationally-recognised training, skills and jobs to more than 13,000 disadvantaged Queenslanders under the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative
- allocated \$3.75 million to 58 local governments, including 12 Indigenous local governments, to employ 300 additional trainees under the First Start Program
- allocated \$2.4 million to 49 community-based organisations to employ 120 additional trainees under the First Start Program
- provided \$1.36 million to private sector employers for employing former Skilling Queenslanders for Work participants as trainees and apprentices
- appointed Jobs Queensland Board members and provided direction on key priorities to the Board through the Minister's Statement of Expectations
- launched Jobs Queensland's Positive Futures: Apprentices and Traineeships in Queensland project, building on what is working well within the apprenticeships and traineeships system, with outcomes helping to chart the course for developing the workforce of tomorrow
- assisted 328 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to successfully transition into employment, training or higher education following Year 12 through the Youth Employment Program
- provided supplementary funding of \$6 million to assist the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation to continue Queensland Certificate of Education Scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people undertaking Year 11 and 12 studies
- launched the Queensland Vocational Education and Training (VET) Quality Framework, a comprehensive and systematic approach to ensuring quality in Queensland's publicly funded VET
- provided subsidies to assist existing and aspiring early childhood education and care educators to complete certificate and diploma qualifications and industry-endorsed skill sets through the Certificate 3 Guarantee and the Higher Level Skills program
- released the *2016–17 Annual VET Investment Plan*, including strengthened quality measures for approved training providers

- awarded 65 scholarships to local government employees to undertake nationally-accredited diplomas and Certificate IV-level programs conducted by the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ)
- delivered the Queensland Tourism Workforce Plan 2017–20, developed by Jobs Queensland, as a key component of the *Advancing Tourism 2016–20: Growing Queensland Jobs* (Advancing Tourism Strategy), to ensure Queensland has a skilled workforce to support the growing and thriving tourism industry
- released the consultation drafts of:
 - *Advancing skills for the future: a strategy for vocational education and training in Queensland*, and conducted statewide consultation
 - *Advancing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education and training action plan* to drive improvements in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early childhood, school education and training outcomes.

Delivering quality frontline services

- offered 319 scholarships/grants/bursaries to encourage preservice teachers to teach in Queensland state schools, particularly in areas of high demand
- continued six Teacher Education Centres of Excellence, developing classroom-ready teachers for state schools through mentoring and high-quality professional development
- provided targeted professional development to support teachers to implement the *Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies* in all Queensland state schools by the end of 2020
- released *#codingcounts: A plan for coding and robotics* in Queensland state schools to support our students to be digital creators and innovators
- released *Global schools through languages: A plan for supporting successful global citizens* in Queensland state schools to enable students to communicate across languages, cultures and access increased opportunities
- continued implementing *Schools of the Future – a strategy for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)* in Queensland state schools, including supporting regionally-based STEM champions, hosting the Peter Doherty Awards for Excellence in STEM Education, and expanding the annual STEM Girl Power Camp
- expanded the Queensland Virtual STEM Academy and launched a new video conferencing platform to deliver innovative programs for Queensland’s best and brightest Year 5–9 students
- provided MoneySmart Teaching professional learning to 1740 primary, secondary and pre-service teachers to build the financial capability of teachers to deliver consumer and financial literacy education, and met and exceeded the milestones of the MoneySmart Teaching National Partnership Agreement as at June 2017
- provided the P-10 Literacy continuum in OneSchool to support ongoing literacy improvement in schools
- developed *Supporting successful transitions* resources for schools, parents and early childhood services to strengthen collaboration and enhance children's continuity of learning
- provided access to kindergarten in 38 state schools through the Remote Kindy Pilot, delivering a face-to-face kindergarten program to more than 100 kindergarten aged children
- provided access to kindergarten in 29 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities through pre-Prep services operating within Queensland state schools
- developed a further four series of the Australian-first television series, *Sally & Possum*, broadcast on ABC Kids, enhancing early literacy and numeracy for deaf and hard of hearing children learning AUSLAN
- supported the early childhood education and care workforce under the *Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Action Plan 2016–2019*:
 - launched *Inspire the future choose a career in early childhood*, promoting the value and professional standing of early childhood careers
 - delivered four intensive residential programs, supporting over 30 educators in priority identified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote communities
 - offered the Early Childhood Teacher Bridging Program, supporting over 120 registered primary teachers to gain qualifications to work as early childhood teachers
- delivered Early Years Connect professional development resources for educators in early years settings to support the inclusion and participation of children with disability and complex additional needs

- launched the Foundation for Success website to support educators deliver strengths-based programs that place Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children at the core of teaching and learning
- delivered pedagogical, mentoring and leadership support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators, in partnership with the Federal Government, through the Remote Indigenous Professional Development Project
- continued delivery of Better Together forums in regions for school leaders, teachers, early childhood educators and local community organisations, to focus on early childhood development and transition to school
- increased the percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 12 students achieving a Queensland Certificate of Education or Queensland Certificate of Individual Attainment to 97 per cent in 2016
- established a team to provide strategic support for schools and regions to prepare for the new senior assessment and tertiary entrance (SATE) system commencing with Year 11 students in 2019
- supported school leaders and teachers to transition to the new SATE system by visiting 138 secondary schools and developing targeted SATE communications through a webpage and e-newsletter
- commissioned an independent review of education policies and practices for students with disability in Queensland state schools and created a dedicated Assistant Director-General State Schools Disability and Inclusion role to oversee implementation of the review's 17 recommendations
- developed a response plan to the *Queensland Disability Review Report*, which outlines accountability measures to track progress in lifting the education opportunities for students with disability
- provided 12 new scholarships valued at up to \$14,600 over three years for current Queensland State School Principals to undertake a Master in Education (Inclusive Education) at Queensland University of Technology
- expanded the services and support available through the Autism Hub to help build the confidence and capability of school communities to improve educational outcomes for students with autism
- introduced a new assessment and intervention service through the Reading Centre to provide specialist advice to parents and schools on supporting students with dyslexia
- met participation targets for all children and vulnerable and disadvantaged children enrolled in kindergarten and increased participation by Indigenous children
- provided opportunities for Queensland students to participate in one or more of the 49 school sport State Champions held across 21 sports
- supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students by:
 - enhancing learning and achievement of over 700 high-performing students participating in the Solid Pathways project, implemented in partnership with the University of Queensland
 - expanding Be well Learn well, an early intervention program that integrates education and health to support student developmental needs in remote state schools
 - implementing Indigenous girls programs to provide additional education support to over 620 female students across Queensland, in partnership with Stars Foundation, Role Models and Leaders Australia, Brisbane Broncos and Netball Queensland
 - expanding the delivery of the Clontarf Foundation program to reach over a 1000 young male students identified at risk of disengaging
 - commissioning an independent review of the Department of Education and Training's Transition Support Services to determine the effectiveness of the program and ensure students and families across communities in Cape York and Palm Island receive high quality support to enable successful transition to secondary boarding schools
- supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students learning English as an additional language or dialect (IEAL/D) through the work of the Indigenous Language Perspectives team, with a Principal Coach and a Principal Education Advisor in each region
- launched the *School Improvement Model*, providing the common language and process for schools and regions to engage in an evidence-informed inquiry approach to school improvement
- supported 142 aspiring Principals and Deputy Principals to develop the capability to lead schools, particularly in rural and remote locations through the *Take the Lead* program
- the Queensland Training Ombudsman:

- reviewed 506 complaints and enquiries and reported to government on the quality of training for electrical apprentices, and on the quality of training and assessment in the security industry
- commenced a review of quality outcomes delivered by Group Training Organisations.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- partnered with Headspace School Support to deliver suicide prevention and ‘postvention’ training to all Senior Guidance Officers and Guidance Officers across the state
- established the Mental Health Hub as an online portal of expertise to support school staff, principals and school leadership teams to integrate mental health and wellbeing support for students into whole school practices to improve educational outcomes
- provided education programs to support young Queenslanders’ health and wellbeing through
 - the Respectful relationships education program, giving Prep to Year 12 students opportunities for social and emotional learning
 - the Alcohol and other drugs education program, building Years 7–12 students’ understanding of the impacts of alcohol and other drug use, and their capacity to make responsible, safe and informed decisions
 - Indigenous Perspectives - Curriculum and Pedagogy (IPCP) workshops, delivered across Queensland to enhance current teacher practices in creating a culturally appropriate curriculum
- co-funded Success Coaches with 18 schools to work with students in Years 7–9, developing strategies to re-engage students and drive improvements in attendance, behaviour, participation and attainment
- engaged students from over 130 state schools in the Global Education Program as part of the Embracing 2018 Legacy Program for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018)
- installed flashing school zone signs at 100 risk assessed school zones as part of *Queensland’s Road Safety Action Plan (2015–17)*
- continued Transition 2 Success, a therapeutic and vocational training program for young people aged 14–18 years involved or at risk of entering the youth justice system, with 10 sites are now in operation at Aurukun, Cairns, Townsville, Bundaberg, Hervey Bay, Caboolture, Sunshine Coast, Western Districts (Inala), Logan, and the Gold Coast
- delivered year three of the *First 5 Forever* family literacy initiative—a four-year, \$20 million program through public libraries, supporting families to help children develop language and literacy skills
- attracted 182,000 participants to the second World Science Festival in March 2017, promoting STEM literacy to a broad range of audiences through events at the Queensland Museum in Brisbane and regional programs in Gladstone, Toowoomba and Chinchilla
- implemented the \$200,000 Artists in Residence Fund, providing funding for kindergartens and schools to increase engagement with arts and culture, particularly students experiencing disadvantage
- continued to support the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts, providing accredited training in dance, music and theatre and showcasing the next generation of young Indigenous performers
- supported education programs across Queensland through programs facilitated by the Queensland Ballet, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Opera Queensland and Queensland Theatre
- delivered, through the Queensland Music Festival, a performing arts youth touring program, the Score It! statewide film scoring competition for primary and secondary school students, a regional tour, and the Cape York Instrumental Music Program in partnership with the Cape York Academy.

[Read more about the Plan’s goals, targets and measures for education.](#)

Community

Queenslanders want to reduce disadvantage, create opportunity, embrace diversity and work together so no one is left behind. We want our communities to be vibrant places where the contribution of everyone is valued and we all have opportunities to enrich the lives of others.

Queenslanders seek a united, harmonious and inclusive community that is free from discrimination, violence, poverty and prejudice. Our communities are our heartland—places where the Queensland spirit shines through.

Building safe, caring and connected communities is one of the Queensland Government's objectives for the community. In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- contracted three Social Benefit Bonds creating a market for impact investment in Queensland and providing opportunities to attract private investors and to find new ways to tackle some of our most challenging social issues
- released and commenced implementing *Queensland's Personalised Transport Horizon: Five year strategic plan for personalised transport services 2016–21*, providing access to safe, reliable and affordable personalised transport services and a sustainable and competitive industry to deliver them
- implemented outcomes of the South East Queensland Fare Review, making it easier and more affordable for people to connect to employment, education and other essential services by reducing zones and fares, introducing free travel for children on weekends, new travel incentive schemes, concession fares for job seekers and asylum seekers, and extending off-peak travel periods
- progressed the \$2.1 million redevelopment of the Three Rivers Community Centre in Aurukun which will be used to run training programs and cultural events, and will support six full time jobs
- extended eligibility for the Electricity Rebate to Federal Health Care Card holders and asylum seekers, an additional 157,000 low-income and vulnerable households in Queensland with help towards their electricity bills
- supported 39 Queensland arts organisations through the expanded Organisations Fund 2017–2020, creating opportunities and strengthening corporate governance for local artists and cultural organisations
- continued the Queensland Arts Showcase Program (QASP), supporting the arts sector to develop and present vibrant and accessible arts and cultural experiences and investing more than \$2.43 million in 74 projects across Queensland
- established the three-year Carol Lloyd Award in partnership with the Queensland Music Festival, APRA AMCOS and Hutchinson Builders to support the careers of Queensland's next generation of female musicians
- continued support for the Grant McLennan Fellowship in partnership with APRA AMCOS, and the Billy Thorpe Scholarship.

Delivering quality frontline services

- commenced transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) on 1 July 2016
- commissioned new services to support people experiencing domestic and family violence
- commenced trials of new approaches to working with perpetrators of domestic and family violence, including clients of Child Safety, to support families to be free from violence
- provided domestic and family violence victims with easier pathways to suppress their transport record, cancel their vehicle registration and remove themselves from a jointly registered vehicle
- fielded more than 76,563 information enquires through the free Women's Infolink service, including 60,300 website information contacts and more than 16,260 referrals through the telephone, email and web services
- commenced rollout of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Wellbeing services—a total of 17 services are now operating in South Burnett, Moreton Bay, Mackay, Roma, Townsville, Palm Island, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, Gold Coast, Beaudesert, Gympie, Logan, Redlands, Toowoomba and Far North Queensland
- continued to fund services to deliver a range of programs across Queensland to help reduce older people's risk of isolation, improve their health, and strengthen links with their community

- continued to fund the Elder Abuse Prevention Unit and Seniors Legal and Support Services
- supported National Volunteer Week
- delivered professional development and mentoring opportunities through the Women in Local Government strategy to promote greater diversity and inclusion
- delivered integrated public transport ticketing, supporting major events including New Year's Eve, Anzac Day, Riverfire, Ekka, State of Origin, V8 Motor Racing on the Gold Coast and in Townsville, and music concerts
- hosted more than 1.3 million visitors at four major musicals, QPAC International Series, 77 seasons in collaboration with 29 arts local arts companies, and 46 free performances of Green Jam sessions showcasing emerging and established artists
- hosted 1.73 million visits at Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), with another 300,000 visits to QAGOMA exhibitions touring in regional Queensland, interstate and overseas
- hosted 2.02 million visitors at the Queensland Museum and Sciencentre, placing visits to the museum in line to be the highest to any single museum in Australia
- provided support and consultation to home ownership applicants, local governments and trustees to progress home ownership aspirations in remote Indigenous communities
- continued to assist delivery of the Reparations Scheme, engaging with individuals and service providers to complete reparations claims on behalf of living and deceased claimants
- supported Opportunity Hubs to deliver services for parents and children in the four Welfare Reform communities.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- made significant progress on the whole-of-government approach to domestic and family violence reforms, implementing around two-thirds of the recommendations of the landmark *Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an end to domestic violence in Queensland* report (*Not Now, Not Ever* report)
- developed an advertising campaign targeting young Queenslanders to help achieve generational change in behaviour as part of a \$9.6 million program, Stop the Hurting – End Domestic Violence
- strengthened the justice system's response to domestic and family violence in Queensland, by:
 - continuing the specialist domestic and family violence court at Southport and announcing roll out of specialist approaches in four other locations
 - expanding the Domestic Violence Duty Lawyer Service across the state through Legal Aid Queensland
 - establishing an independent Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board, to make recommendations to improve systems, practices and procedures to prevent future deaths
 - introducing legislation allowing Queensland to participate in the National Domestic Violence Order Scheme, providing for automatic recognition of orders made in other Australian jurisdictions
 - amending the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009*, improving financial assistance and strengthening the rights of victims, including victims of domestic and family violence
 - amending the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012* to strengthen domestic violence laws, by allowing police to act more quickly and ensuring protection orders remain in place for a minimum period of five years, unless there are reasons for a shorter period
 - introducing sexual assault counselling privilege provisions in the *Victims of Crime and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2017*
- worked in partnership with discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, identifying strategies to reduce supply of, and demand for, alcohol and reduce alcohol misuse and harm
- supported community residents to seek Dry Place Declarations and encouraged service providers to assist residents to consider the option—dry places are houses where no alcohol is allowed and are available in Mossman Gorge, Coen, and all discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- enhanced the Government Champions Program, by including Ministerial Champions, and supporting a number of significant projects like the Lockhart River Solar Power trial and rolling out 4G in Aurukun
- developed and implemented an Aurukun Four Point Plan, with four priority areas: strengthening community capacity, access to education, strengthening the community and governance, and harnessing jobs and economic opportunities
- implemented responses to the Commission of Inquiry into Organised Crime in Queensland
- established Taskforce Orion to combat the online sharing of child exploitation material

- released *Towards an all abilities Queensland*, where over 1000 Queenslanders had their say in shaping the new state disability plan, to build more inclusive and accessible communities
- continued to implement the *National Disability Strategy 2010-20 Second Implementation Plan – Driving Action 2015-2018* in collaboration with all levels of government to improve outcomes for people with disability across the strategy outcome areas; and increased collaborative efforts in additional focus areas of the strategy, particularly to identify and undertake activities to reinvigorate the strategy
- continued to implement the *Queensland Women’s Strategy 2016–21*, with a vision of making Queensland a place where all women and girls are respected, gender equality is embraced, and the rights, interests and wellbeing of women and girls are promoted and protected
- delivered Queensland Women’s Week with YWCA Queensland, including events for women and girls across Queensland
- launched Women on Boards, providing targeted support to achieve gender parity on boards, including online resources to support government, business and community sectors to increase women’s representation on boards
- continued implementing recommendations of the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry through the *Supporting Families, Changing Futures* reforms, including further rollout of Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Support services
- delivered *Our Way — a generational strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families 2017–2037* and *Changing Tracks — an action plan for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families 2017–2019*
- implemented actions from *Queensland: an age-friendly community implementation schedule* and the government response to the Parliamentary inquiry’s recommendations into the adequacy of existing financial protections for Queensland’s seniors
- delivered the Elder Abuse Prevention campaign, helping Queenslanders to recognise the signs of elder abuse and raise awareness
- released the *Queensland Youth Strategy — Building young Queenslanders for a global future*, focussing on four building blocks: supporting our most vulnerable young people, housing, healthy futures, and educating into employment
- supported National Youth Week 2017 to promote the voices and achievements of young people
- supported the delivery of the YMCA Youth Parliament, building the leadership and civic participation skills of young people
- continued Tackling Alcohol-Fuelled Violence Policy initiatives to reduce alcohol related harm in and around licensed venues and Queensland’s key entertainment precincts
- introduced Murri Courts in 14 locations across the state, enabling members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to participate in a court process where defendants take responsibility for their offending behaviour and which respects and acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture
- continued intensive case management at Caboolture Youth Justice Service Centre with serious young offenders and expanded the trial to include young people in Townsville
- introduced a specialist High Risk Youth Court in Townsville with a dedicated Magistrate, prioritising sentencing options for defendants aged 10 to 16 years identified as repeat offenders at high risk of future offending
- amended the Criminal Code to ensure that an unwanted sexual advance would not be enough to establish the partial defence of provocation unless there were exceptional circumstances
- continued to protect consumers against unsafe products and unethical behaviour in the marketplace
- permanently established Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Justice of the Peace (JP) services, improving timely access to justice services by allowing JPs to hear some minor civil disputes
- commenced work on enhancing information sharing between relevant agencies to increase visibility of home-based child-related services, such as foster and kinship care, family day care and stand-alone care
- continued, through the Youth Justice First Nations Action Board, to design and deliver youth justice policy, programs and interventions to divert Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people from a life in the youth justice system and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities
- established the Youth Justice Cultural Unit, providing expert advice and support to central and regional youth justice staff to support best outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and communities

- accepted all recommendations of the Youth Detention Centre Review to improve practices and services pivotal to the safety, wellbeing and rehabilitation of young people in youth detention
- re-commissioned community partnership funding across Queensland to better address the needs of young people in the youth justice system
- implemented the LGBTIQ practice framework for young people in the youth justice system
- commenced the Emotional Regulation and Impulse Control trial with Deakin University for young people in the youth justice system
- helped fund community sport and recreation infrastructure developments through:
 - upgrades to statewide national parks infrastructure, such as coastal walking tracks in Noosa National Park
 - Get Playing Places and Spaces and the Get Playing Plus programs for new or upgraded sport and active recreation facilities
 - upgrades to government-owned sport and recreation venues and ongoing construction of the Queensland State Netball Centre, Rockhampton Riverfront and Yeppoon Foreshore Revitalisation and support for the development of the North Queensland Stadium
- conducted the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) challenge through the Advance Queensland initiative to identify flexible, sustainable and cost efficient next generation lighting solutions for community field-based sports venues
- supported a statewide peer-driven network of disaster management officers and local disaster coordinators to build capability and collaboratively identify best practice in disaster management
- reviewed the Mackay District Disaster Management Group and the Local Disaster Management Groups of Mackay, Whitsunday and Isaac Regional Councils, enhancing confidence in emergency management during Tropical Cyclone Debbie
- reviewed the effectiveness of Queensland's disaster management system in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Debbie, identifying areas of improvement and enhanced the Disaster Management Portal
- worked to build resilient communities and ensure community preparedness for disaster events by
 - making new laws requiring all domestic dwellings to install interconnected photoelectric smoke alarms in all bedrooms of the home, in hallways where bedrooms are connected and on every level
 - partnering with local governments across the state to provide guidance and support in the development and review of Local Disaster Management Plans and ongoing disaster management planning
 - conducted Operation Cool Burn 2016, focussing on fuel reduction and mitigation of bushfire risk across Queensland
 - continued to promote a number of community safety education campaigns including the 'If it's flooded, forget it' campaign highlighting the dangers of flooded roads, and the Bushfire Safety campaign helping Queenslanders know how to prepare their home, property and family for bushfires
- continued implementing the *Transport and Main Roads Disability Action Plan – Improving Access to 2017*, improving Queensland public transport accessibility for people with disability
- included five Aboriginal Shire Councils as full members of Regional Roads and Transport Groups in the Roads and Transport Alliance – Woorabinda, Wujal Wujal, Yarrabah, Doomadgee and Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Councils
- worked through the Bowen Basin Regional Roads and Transport Group to assist Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council in developing a 10-year plan for transport infrastructure projects
- initiated the Bus Driver Safety Review to understand the nature, extent and triggers of violence towards bus drivers and identify potential initiatives to make bus drivers safer
- launched and began implementation of the *Queensland Housing Strategy 2017–2027*
- brought together over 150 community choirs from across Queensland and interstate to raise awareness and sing out against domestic violence through the Queensland Music Festival and You're the Voice
- presented *The Power Within* in Moranbah, through the Queensland Music Festival and in partnership with Isaac Regional Council, attracting 5500 people and over 250 local performers including choirs and schools from Central Queensland mining communities including Clermont, Dysart, Middlesbrough, Moranbah and Nebo
- engaged the community in creative programs, including the Digital Futures Signature Program, the Queensland Literary Awards, black&write! Indigenous writing and editing program and the Edge's

Fabrication Lab

- provided funding to Police-Citizens Youth Clubs to collaboratively deliver activities across Queensland to celebrate young people
- delivered the Queensland Indigenous Youth Leadership program, providing 42 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people with the opportunity to participate
- continued to deliver reforms supporting non-government organisations, including partnering with stakeholders to develop a community services industry strategy, and supporting social innovation
- established the Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council in August 2016 following the commencement of the *Multicultural Recognition Act 2016* on 1 July 2016
- delivered a new Queensland Multicultural Policy, *Our story, our Future* and the *Queensland Multicultural Action Plan 2016–17 to 2018–19*
- allocated \$100,000 to support delivery of educational activities promoting water safety for recently arrived migrants, refugees, international students and visitors
- continued funding for 19 organisations to deliver activities across Queensland under the Community Action for a Multicultural Society program, strengthening social connectedness
- celebrated the inaugural Queensland Multicultural Month, our largest celebration of multiculturalism, in August 2016
- allocated \$1 million under the Celebrating Multicultural Queensland grants program to support delivery of more than 130 diverse cultural events and community projects across Queensland, promoting an inclusive and welcoming community.

[Read more about the Plan's goals, targets and measures for community.](#)

Regions

Our regions are one of Queensland's greatest strategic assets to position the state for growth in a new century. Queenslanders' vision for our regions is that they will have strong and diverse economies with sustainable economic growth and reliable, accessible infrastructure. Our regions are key population centres and transport, communication and service hubs, critical to Queensland's economy and future. However, our regions also face challenges in maintaining a critical mass of population as more people move to cities.

The Queensland Government is committed to tackling infrastructure constraints and delivering projects that will be catalysts for economic growth and jobs in our regions. In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- announced the Jobs and Regional Growth Fund (JRGF), a \$130 million initiative to help drive economic growth in regional Queensland, supporting two projects including Cape York Timber in Far North Queensland and Bio Processing Australia's biorefinery in Mackay, and 50 new jobs—JRGF is part of the \$200 million Jobs and Regional Growth Package
- implemented the Back to Work Regional Employment Package to give businesses the confidence to employ regional job seekers, while providing an economic boost to the regions in challenging times, including a range of Employer Support initiatives, including the Youth Boost payment for young unemployed jobseekers (15 to 24 years) with 5275 jobseekers supported overall
- invested in innovative, high growth businesses through the \$40 million Business Development Fund with funding matched from private sector co-investors—investments have been made across industry sectors ranging from payment and procurement platforms to environmental and sustainability outcomes initiated the Advance Queensland Advancing Regional Innovation Program, supporting local economies to coordinate their efforts to spur innovation in regional economies, with local partnerships across 12 Queensland regions, including:
 - Ignite FNQ, a special purpose company formed with the support of partners across Far North Queensland to roll out an innovation action plan targeting youth, startups, small businesses, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and smaller communities across the region
 - the Sunshine Coast Regional Innovation Pipeline Team, a consortium of 26 partners working together to appoint a Regional Innovation Coordinator, build online platforms, and deliver activities and events that showcase the region and support greater connections and collaboration
- worked with the Federal Government to finalise the establishment of its Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, headquartered in Cairns, which will see the Queensland and Federal governments working together to invest in economic infrastructure that benefits Northern Australia
- commenced implementing the *Advancing Our Cities and Regions Strategy*, an innovative 10-year strategic approach to renewing and repurposing surplus and underutilised state property to deliver a range of economic, community and financial outcomes for Queenslanders
- continued work with stakeholders on North Stradbroke Island, including the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation, Straddie Chamber of Commerce, Redland City Council and the University of Queensland, to deliver *North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy* initiatives, focussed on increasing economic, cultural, tourism and residential opportunities
- released *Advancing Tourism in North Queensland*, part of Advancing Tourism Strategy, the Queensland Government's plan to grow tourism and jobs to increase market share and boost tourism jobs
- promoted expansion of tourism in the regions by hosting overseas investment delegations, such as a Chinese investment mission which inspected a range of tourism and ecotourism investment opportunities in Cairns, the Whitsundays and the Gold Coast in June 2016
- delivered a Business Capability Development Program, open to all businesses, providing 85 workshops for 879 businesses and 1053 participants
- delivered workshops to 307 businesses supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business development and growth to 447 owners and staff
- held an Indigenous Women in Business Conference in Cairns, focussing on business development and the role of leadership in corporations, attended by 40 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women

- declared a 6076 hectare Bundaberg State Development Area—a defined area of land established by the Coordinator-General to promote economic development in Queensland—responding to growing demand for land for port-related and industrial activities around the Port of Bundaberg
- introduced the Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Bill 2016, proposing a prohibition on 100 per cent fly-in, fly-out workforce arrangements, social impact assessment requirements for future resource projects and a draft amended social impact assessment guideline
- fast tracked seven private sector construction projects in North Queensland, resulting in 1100 construction jobs and a \$3.1 billion capital expenditure commitment
- leveraged \$413.37 million of private sector capital investment through project facilitation support
- signed the Townsville City Deal, Australia's first City Deal, on 9 December 2016, in partnership with the Federal Government and the Townsville City Council, including 16 commitments and nine future opportunities to deliver job creation, economic growth, investment in local infrastructure and a more vibrant and liveable city
- commenced development of a City Deal Strategy for South East Queensland in collaboration with the South East Queensland Council of Mayors and the Federal Government
- established the Works for Queensland program with an initial \$200 million funded out of the State Infrastructure Fund, supporting job-creating maintenance and minor works projects in 65 rural and regional local governments across the state
- promoted Queensland agriculture by supporting trade missions to key markets (including Indonesia and China), and by hosting international delegations and exchanges focused on investment attraction in Queensland agriculture
- supported industry in promoting the forest and timber industry to job-seekers and the broader community as a long term career by funding the *Timber and Building Materials Association Queensland Forest and Timber Workforce Development Plan*
- committed \$120 million over four years to implement the Indigenous Councils Critical Infrastructure program, addressing water, wastewater and solid waste infrastructure in remote and discrete communities, and providing economic and employment opportunities and capacity building within the communities of the 16 Indigenous local governments
- granted a total of 100,000 megalitres of water from the Flinders, Leichhardt and Gregory rivers catchments in the Gulf to successful tenderers to support economic development in the region.

Delivering quality frontline services

- held Local Jobs First roundtable discussions with industry and employers in Bundaberg and Townsville, generating ideas and actions for providing better employment opportunities for local young people
- worked to improve Queensland Government service availability and quality for 31 rural, regional, and remote communities through the Regional Services Outlet project
- completed the replacement fire and rescue station at Petrie, replacement auxiliary station at Cunnamulla, and auxiliary station extensions at Port Douglas, Dimbulah and Thursday Island
- delivered replacement police stations at Nanango, Maleny and Kingaroy and upgraded facilities to support public safety at Yarrabah and Kingaroy watchhouses
- provided nine regional communities with a wider range of services in a single location at Childers, Chinchilla, Clermont, Cunnamulla, Moranbah, Oakey, Springsure, Toogoolawah and Tully
- managed seven biosecurity eradication programs and over 95 biosecurity incidents triggered by exotic and established animal and plant pest and diseases
- continued assisting rural producers and communities across the State affected by unprecedented drought conditions and high debt
- worked with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other stakeholders to promote and develop business opportunities, and increase support options for Indigenous clients through the rollout of NDIS in Townsville, Charters Towers and Palm Island.

Protecting the environment

- delivered more than \$24.2 million in infrastructure and plant and equipment, supporting improved parks and forests conservation and visitor experiences, including at Blackdown Tablelands, Capricorn Coast,

Conondale and Girramay national parks, and visitor facility and amenity upgrades in a range of camping, day use areas and national parks

- dedicated 104,983 hectares as national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land), bringing the total to 2,068,252 hectares (as at 30 June 2017)
- secured re-certification of our native forest timber production practices under the *Australian Standard for Sustainable Forest Management AS4708-2013*, ensuring state-owned forests deliver community benefits
- continued to implement QCoast₂₁₀₀, assisting local governments with the development of coastal hazard adaption strategies and projects
- established the Queensland Climate Resilient Council program in partnership with the LGAQ, supporting local governments to develop their own climate change responses.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- increased engagement in the blue card system by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote community applicants by working with nine identified communities, including Mornington Island and Doomadgee
- conducted round one of the community conversations program for preparing the draft North Queensland Regional Plan, involving 712 people attending 20 community engagement events, and round two of the community conversations program about the draft South East Queensland Regional Plan involving 22 ‘talk to a planner’ sessions, three Indigenous and Traditional Owner workshops and one youth summit
- assisted 62 local governments activated for Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements to respond and recover following seven significant weather events—including Tropical Cyclone Debbie
- completed the Palm Island town square rejuvenation, providing new landscaping, improved shade shelters, pavement resurfacing and streetscaping, and creating a great place for locals and visitors to meet
- continued to roll out the TransLink brand to regions, with increased investment in public transport services in Mackay and Toowoomba providing better access for local communities
- committed an additional \$30 million in 2020–21 for the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) as part of the Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program (QTRIP), extending the ongoing base investment to \$70 million per annum
- delivered over \$500 million in road safety related initiatives over the life of the *2015–17 Road Safety Action Plan* through the Targeted Road Safety Program
- completed four Regional Water Supply Security Assessments in collaboration with local governments to assist in planning for long term water supply needs—a further nine assessments are now underway
- committed \$2.76 million through the Playing Queensland Fund, supporting 33 regional tours, 1633 performances, exhibitions and/or community engagement activities in 411 visits to regional Queensland communities
- partnered with 59 local governments to deliver \$2.08 million in arts and cultural experiences through the Regional Arts Development Fund
- continued \$3.15 million investment in the Backing Indigenous Arts initiative, supporting the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival, Winds of Zenadth Cultural Festival, 14 Indigenous Art Centres in Far North Queensland and their peak body, the Indigenous Art Centre Alliance, and the Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund launched the Queensland Drought Mitigation Centre—central to the Drought and Climate Adaptation Program—funding research, development and extension services to promote drought preparedness and climate risk mitigation
- collaborated with Indigenous local governments to finalise the first ever planning schemes for 14 Indigenous local governments in Cape York and the Torres Strait, with the remaining two planning schemes for Yarrabah and Northern Peninsula Area to be completed by the end of 2017.

[Read more about the Plan’s goals, targets and measures for regions.](#)

Economy

Queenslanders want a strong performing and diverse economy with the best jobs on offer. We want to focus on industry development and diversification, with centres of excellence that drive innovation.

Success will come from building on our strengths and turning our ideas into commercial enterprises.

Queenslanders recognise that our proximity to Asia provides key opportunities for growth. Our skilled workforce and reputation as a reliable and competitive supplier of resources demonstrate our state is a dynamic place to invest.

Creating jobs and a diverse economy is one of the Queensland Government's objectives for the community. In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- accelerated the Queensland Government's Advance Queensland program, backing 1650 innovators across the state whose projects will drive 4821 jobs
- appointed influential business leader Mark Sowerby as Australia's first Chief Entrepreneur, an office created under the Advance Queensland initiative
- supported the southern hemisphere's inaugural Myriad festival through a partnership between Advance Queensland and Myriad Live, attracting 3300 entrepreneurs, investors, business owners, tech-lovers, and innovators and 131 visitors from overseas; with 45 startup exhibitors and 12 regional hubs representing 123 startups
- backed 119 startups and small to medium Queensland businesses through the Advance Queensland Ignite Ideas Fund, supporting rapid commercialisation of market-ready Queensland innovations
- delivered 35 workshops across the state through the Advance Queensland initiative's Innovate Queensland program with Impact Innovation Pty Ltd, connecting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with the right people and practical know-how to translate innovative ideas into commercial outcomes and incomes
- attracted 25 international and interstate entrepreneurial companies to Queensland through the Advance Queensland Hot DesQ program, to inject new talent, increase connectivity and skills and improve access to global startup communities and international programs
- established The Precinct in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley, to bring together Queensland startups, incubators, investors and mentors under one roof—established under the Advance Queensland initiative, The Precinct has digital links to innovation centres and accelerators across Queensland and around the world
- launched the Advance Queensland Testing within Government (TWiG) program, allowing SMEs to improve the positioning of their products by working collaboratively with the Queensland Government on business problems—16 SMEs received funding to test and refine their products while addressing real business problems
- supported collaboration between 40 small businesses and seven universities through the Advance Queensland Knowledge Transfer Partnerships program
- co-funded Queensland's participation in the MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration program through the Advance Queensland initiative, supporting Queensland's entrepreneurial ecosystem
- provided funding under the Advance Queensland Industry Accelerators Program to six industry-focused business accelerators to provide intensive mentoring for up to 30 early stage businesses and startups, enabling faster development of new products and services
- supported six Queensland businesses through the Advance Queensland Biofutures Commercialisation program, to work with leading international or national bio-industrial organisations to scale up and test new or improved bio-industrial technologies and processes
- awarded 15 Queensland research organisations with Advance Queensland Innovation Partnership grants to collaborate on projects with industry that will increase the speed and scale of translation of our science and research to boost productivity growth, improve the competitiveness of existing industries and accelerate the development of emerging industries and technologies
- developed and commenced implementation of the whole-of-government *Advancing Trade and Investment: Queensland Trade and Investment Strategy 2017–2022*, providing
 - comprehensive case management service

- industry-led trade missions
- accreditation service supporting trusted exporters and an international advisory circle providing market support for Queensland businesses looking to export
- expansion of Trade and Investment Queensland's (TIQ) international and regional footprint
- development of targeted trade and investment Regional Action Plans across Queensland
- expanded TIQ's international footprint by opening new offices in China (Chengdu) and Singapore to maximise trade and investment opportunities
- established a partnership between Advance Queensland and Startup Catalyst to send Queensland youths, startups, investors, corporates and innovation leaders on international missions to startup-rich environments such as Silicon Valley, Germany and London, to help understand differences in business cultures, and build networks and connections for trade
- awarded Queensland and Chinese Academy of Sciences funding under the Advance Queensland initiative to three recipients to work on identified priorities in the agricultural biotechnology and food research, human health and energy spaces
- established a partnership arrangement with Trade and Investment Queensland to facilitate market opportunities for Queensland-based businesses to capitalise on the opportunities provided in the new Dubai South development in the United Arab Emirates
- hosted the 2016 Queensland International Business Series, an annual program of events and activities for the Queensland Trade and Investment Commissioners across Queensland
- launched the *International Education and Training Strategy to Advance Queensland 2016–2026*, including a \$1.2 million per annum International Education and Training Partnership Fund to work with industry to grow Queensland as a study destination and partner
- enabled commencement of Destination Brisbane Consortium (DBC)'s demolition and site establishment works for the \$3 billion Queen's Wharf Brisbane Integrated Resort Development
- continued to implement the *Jobs Now, Jobs for the Future Employment Strategy*, including the *Working Queensland Jobs Plan*
- developed the North Stradbroke Island Workers Assistance Scheme to support workers affected by the cessation of sand mining on North Stradbroke Island
- supported workers affected by the closure of Queensland Nickel by providing case management support and coordination of support and advice across the three levels of government (local, state and national)
- led investigations, including scoping studies, for economic development opportunities in the Southern Gulf region, including enabling infrastructure to expand phosphate mining and live cattle export industries
- managed the necessary approvals and prerequisites to ensure timely commencement of the new SCT rail terminal at the Bromelton State Development Area in Beaudesert
- approved Environmental Impact Statements for the Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure, Coopers Gap Wind Farm and Nathan Dam and Pipelines projects, with potential to support around 1050 jobs
- facilitated 19 major projects with a combined capital expenditure of almost \$34 billion, 15,900 construction jobs and 13,500 operational jobs
- continued implementing the \$19.73 million *Advance Queensland Biofutures 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan* by:
 - launching the Biofutures Acceleration Program to attract and support new or expanding biorefinery projects. In 2016–17, two projects were announced under the program, together supporting up to 120 jobs
 - launching the \$5 million Biofutures Industry Development Fund (BIDF), which provides funding to support the finalisation of due diligence for commercial-ready biofutures projects. In 2016–17, two applications were received under the BIDF for projects located in North Queensland, together with potential to support 950 construction jobs and 453 operational jobs
 - hosting the Queensland Government - US Navy Biofutures Industry Forum, which brought together 160 domestic and international proponents to accelerate the development of the state's biofutures industry
 - launching the Biofutures Commercialisation Program to attract bio-industrial expertise to partner with Queensland researches and businesses to scale-up and test new or improved bio-industrial technologies and processes. In 2016–17, five projects were announced under the program

- launched the \$7.8 million *Queensland Advanced Manufacturing 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan*, under the Advance Queensland initiative, to assist manufacturers to transition and capitalise on Industry 4.0 – key initiatives, including a Design in Manufacturing seminar series, BrisMakerFest, Queensland Hackerspace Grants and Business Model Innovation workshops
- launched the \$4 million *Advance Queensland Biomedical 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan* with a vision that by 2027 Queensland will be a globally competitive Asia-Pacific biomedical hub—key initiatives include a \$2 million Biomedical Assistance Fund, 'Lean Launchpad' incubator and a biomedical voucher scheme
- launched the \$20 million Made in Queensland grants program to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) engaged in manufacturing to become more internationally competitive by adopting innovative manufacturing processes and technologies
- continued to work with defence prime contractors and Department of Defence to attract new major defence projects such as LAND400 (Armoured Combat Reconnaissance Vehicle), JP2060 (Deployable Health Capability) and ongoing sustainment opportunities to Queensland
- supported Queensland defence and aerospace industries to showcase capabilities at national land and air shows including at Landforces 2016 and Avalon 2017
- delivered, in partnership with the Industry Capability Network (Queensland), 10 capability development workshops attended by 211 participants from SMEs across Queensland—plus seven 'pitching' workshops, attracting 50 industry participants
- continued to work with the Department of Defence to increase Queensland businesses' access to information on supply chain opportunities from Australian Defence Force Integrated Investment Plan and the forthcoming Singapore \$2.25 billion Australia-Singapore Military Initiative
- continued implementing key initiatives through METS Ignited, a Federal Government Industry Growth Centre based at the Queensland University of Technology—including a technology accelerator workshop program and enhancing METS (mining equipment, technology, and services) industry clustering in Mackay
- launched the \$40 million Advance Queensland Industry Attraction Fund, encouraging industry to relocate, establish or expand their operations in Queensland to help generate jobs, increase investment and drive economic growth—three projects were announced:
 - Oji Fibre Solutions is building a corrugated box manufacturing facility at Yatala supporting up to 55 operational jobs
 - Softbank has chosen to set up its Australian headquarters and robotics studio in the government's new innovation hub, The Precinct in the TC Beirne Building
 - Southern Oil, a renewable fuels company is currently constructing an \$18 million advanced biofuels pilot plant in Gladstone
- funded a \$1.7 million maintenance dredging campaign for the Port of Karumba, ensuring ongoing viability of live cattle exports
- committed \$39 million over four years for new measures supporting a strong and prosperous future for the North West Minerals Province region
- provided support to regional economies impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie to help return key supply chains to full operation and allow local businesses recover from the impacts
- provided funding of \$6 million to support country racing, which stimulates economic activity and social engagement and provides pathways into the racing industry across regional Queensland
- released land for gas production within the CSG-rich Surat Basin with a condition to ensure the gas will be supplied to the Australian market, contributing to gas supply security
- continued to deliver the *Advancing Small Business Queensland Strategy 2016–20*, helping Queensland small businesses start, grow and employ, supporting jobs as Queensland transitions into the knowledge economy
- appointed Queensland's first Small Business Champion to provide a voice for small business at a state and national level
- launched ongoing implementation of the 'Go Local: Keep small businesses strong' campaign, promoting the benefits of buying locally and supporting small business across Queensland
- transitioned to a new ICT contracting framework that makes it easier for industry— especially SMEs and startups—to do business with government
- promoted increased business confidence and capability by linking small business to Advance

Queensland programs, and assisting small businesses to be games ready for GC2018

- launched Trade 2018 in London, coinciding with the start of GC2018 Queen's Baton Relay from Buckingham Palace—leveraging the Games to promote Queensland trade and investment opportunities
- launched the *GC2018 Reconciliation Action Plan*, a historic first for an event of its kind including initiatives to develop the capacity of, and partnerships with, Indigenous businesses and support employment, training and procurement outcomes
- secured eleven pre-Games training camps ahead of GC2018, with sporting teams from across the Commonwealth staying in Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast and Toowoomba
- developed the Tourism Legacy Action Plan, identifying key legacy outcomes for the Tourism industry in areas such as Indigenous Tourism, Accessible Tourism and Industry Capability
- developed and released the Advancing Tourism Strategy and its supplements, the Connecting with Asia Strategy, Queensland-Asia Tourism Strategy, Advancing Tourism in North Queensland, Queensland Ecotourism Plan, Ecotourism Development Toolkit, and the Inclusive Tourism Guide
- secured four new or expanded airline services to Queensland under the Attracting Aviation Investment Fund from key source markets including Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, and flights from Melbourne to Townsville
- secured the first flights under the Connecting with Asia Fund with China Southern Airlines to operate a new direct service from Guangzhou to Cairns
- developed a Queensland Tourism and Transport Strategy, highlighting the importance of transport infrastructure in supporting tourism growth in the state—projects include refreshing the Queensland Camping Options Toolkit, reviewing Queensland cycle tourism opportunities, and exploring opportunities to enhance safety information for overseas drivers
- launched the Young Tourism Leaders Program, energising the tourism industry by supporting students and post-school leavers to explore a career in the tourism industry
- established the Great Barrier Reef Island Resorts Interagency Working Group, maximising tourism opportunities for the Great Barrier Reef by rejuvenating Great Barrier Reef island resorts
- held the annual DestinationQ tourism forum in Mackay in October 2016
- declared and prepared development schemes for The Mill at Moreton Bay and the Herston Quarter Priority Development Areas (PDAs) which will result in two transformative health and knowledge PDAs in South East Queensland
- secured funding under the \$600 million Northern Australia Roads Program for improvements to a number of key freight routes, including the Capricorn Highway (Rockhampton–Duarlinga), Kennedy Developmental Road (The Lynd – Hughenden), and Flinders Highway (Charters Towers–Richmond and Townsville–Torres Creek)
- secured funding in collaboration with stakeholders and peak bodies to improve cattle supply chains under the \$100 million Northern Australia Beef Roads Program, such as the Rockhampton Road Network – Road Access Stages 1 and 2, Clermont–Alpha Road Packages 1, 2 and 3, and Burke Developmental Road Package 1 and 2
- completed the construction of a purpose-built Rollingstock maintenance Centre at Wulkuraka, west of Ipswich, under the New Generation Rollingstock project, generating up to 500 full-time jobs—including 150 ongoing full-time jobs at Wulkuraka for 30 years—to service 75 new six-car passenger trains
- opened the \$988 million Redcliffe Peninsula railway line, a 12.6 km dual-track passenger rail line between Petrie and Kippa-Ring with six new rail stations at Kallangur, Murrumba Downs, Mango Hill, Mango Hill East, Rothwell and Kippa-Ring
- continued to deliver Community Service Obligation arrangements supporting regional Queensland communities through approximately 3300 regional freight services annually under the Regional Freight Transport Services Contract
- offered regional cattle producers up to 325 rail services annually under the Livestock Transport Services Contract
- opened more than 14,000 self-employment opportunities through Personalised Transport Reforms
- implemented the Queensland biofuels mandate from 1 January 2017, providing certainty to the biofuels industry, and supporting investment and jobs across our regions

- funded 37 screen productions, administered by Screen Queensland, generating approximately 2340 jobs and an estimated \$214 million in Queensland Production Expenditure—significantly boosting domestic and international production in Queensland
- incentivised private sector support by matching eligible cash sponsorship and philanthropy dollar for dollar through the Arts Leverage Fund , investing \$1.027 million in 18 arts companies and together raising in excess of \$1.9 million cash in private sector support
- released, as part of the Advance Queensland initiative, the discussion paper on the agriculture and food research, development and extension (RD&E) 10-year roadmap to better inform agricultural RD&E priorities to achieve industry growth
- continued to support the Queensland Agriculture Workforce Network, AgForce-managed Schools to Industry Partnership Program, and Gateway Schools program, promoting agribusiness training and careers
- released the Queensland Aquaculture Policy Statement, providing a framework for future development and growth of a sustainable, diverse and innovative aquaculture industry in Queensland
- pursued Queensland’s interests under the Federal Government’s White Paper on Developing Northern Australia, by
 - working with industry to develop eight proposals for the first funding round of the Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia, for collaborative research into challenges for agricultural and broader development in the north
 - engaged with development proponents in the Gilbert River and Laura to enable trial sites to support the development of sustainable agriculture systems for a variety of crops
 - commenced development of a framework to assess plant biosecurity risks and evaluate plant pest and disease pathways in northern Australia
 - engaged with Indigenous proponents in northern Cape York, and other parties, on establishing successful native forest timber harvesting and processing businesses in the region, to generate positive regional employment and training opportunities
- partnered with industry to secure employment and training opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander jobseekers, facilitating a total of 1074 jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders—exceeding the target of 500 jobs
- implemented *Moving Ahead*, the new whole-of-government strategy to improve economic participation outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders, and ensure they can participate fully in Queensland’s economy
- supported 351 civil and construction jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and over \$960,000 in procurement from 19 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses from 67 construction and civil projects undertaken outside of discrete Indigenous communities
- negotiated employment and business supply outcomes for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people in building and civil construction projects outside of discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- developed 92 Indigenous Employment Opportunity Plans for projects across discrete and remote Indigenous communities promoting employment and economic opportunities for Indigenous businesses
- increased the value of procurement from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned business to a value of around \$271 million through 385 suppliers
- hosted the *Queensland Industry Summit – building the new low carbon economy*, bringing together industry and innovation leaders to identify ways industry and the Queensland Government can work together to transition Queensland to a low — and ultimately zero — carbon economy
- established the \$8.4 million CarbonPlus fund to support and expand the carbon farming industry, particularly by Indigenous communities, and support jobs.

Delivering quality frontline services

- expanded the Mentoring for Growth program under the *Advancing Small Business Queensland Strategy 2016–20*, conducting 297 panels and chats and bringing small business operators into contact with more than 300 active and experienced business mentors

- delivered three grant programs under the *Advancing Small Business Queensland Strategy 2016–20* including the *Small Business Digital Grants Program*, *Small Business Entrepreneur Grants Program*, and *Accelerate Small Business Program*, building capability for 604 successful Queensland small businesses from a pool of 2749 applicants
- established Advancing Women in Business, to support, connect and empower women by encouraging more women to start and grow their business
- developed Advancing Indigenous Business, delivering targeted support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to increase access to mentoring and grant services and connect Indigenous small businesses to more opportunities
- hosted Queensland Small Business Week — a total of 125 registered events and activities giving business owners and operators opportunities to network, gain valuable knowledge and learn new skills — more than 6000 people registered for the 2017 *Queensland Small Business Week*
- delivered an expanded and more interactive service through the Business Queensland website, catering for 4.7 million users, providing 1580 services and facilitating 160,516 online transactions through the platform
- commenced delivery of business advisory services, including a grants program, counselling support and mentoring services to the taxi and limousine industries to help owners and operators adapt to, and make the most of, new industry opportunities
- deployed staff to affected Queensland regions following Tropical Cyclone Debbie to survey the impact on small businesses and connect local businesses to Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements support
- supported development of the \$12.3 million Tourism and Small Business Recovery Package, including an allocation of \$4.05 million to support small businesses impacted by Tropical Cyclone Debbie
- delivered the Be Games Ready program, assisting small businesses to identify and prepare opportunities leading up to, during and after GC2018
- launched the *Be My Guest* program for tourism operators—workshops will be held in GC2018 event cities of Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville, supported by online content development
- implemented new whole-of-government governance procurement arrangements, including establishing the Queensland Government Procurement Committee to oversee strategic whole-of-government procurement activities, and the Procurement Industry Advisory Group to provide regular engagement and facilitated access to industry advice about how government can be a better customer
- continued the Arts Business Innovation Fund to strengthen the financial capacity of small to medium arts businesses through a grant and zero interest loan facility, supporting Metro Arts, Anywhere Theatre Festival and Vulcana Women’s Circus to implement business development initiatives for new markets and revenue streams
- invested in opportunities for Queensland Indigenous artists to showcase work at Monaco’s Oceanographic Museum, the Melbourne Fashion Festival and the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair
- continued the one-stop service, specifically designed for proponents of small to medium sized agricultural developments, to facilitate private sector initiatives in developing appropriate water and land resources in North Queensland on a sustainable basis
- delivered the Digital Scorecard online assessment tool to help businesses improve their digital capability and become more competitive in the global economy
- expanded the State Library of Queensland’s Business Studio to further support business, social enterprise and creative industries.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- led recovery efforts in response to a number of severe weather events including Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie, ensuring state-owned assets and infrastructure were back up and running as soon as possible
- strengthened the Queensland Government’s approach to open data, boosting the availability and increasing the quality of high-value data sets.

[Read more about the Plan’s goals, targets and measures for economy.](#)

Health and wellbeing

Queenslanders' vision for health and wellbeing includes maintaining a health system among the best in the world that supports our quality of life and individual and community wellbeing, as well as taking personal responsibility for our health and wellbeing. The demand for health services is increasing as Queensland's population continues to grow and age.

Queenslanders also highly value a natural environment that inspires an active lifestyle and supports healthy communities.

The Queensland Government is focused on providing a comprehensive whole-of-government and whole-of-community approach to ensure that services are patient centred, readily accessible and affordable for all sectors of society. In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Delivering quality frontline services

Promoting wellbeing

- performed 33,923 13 QUIT smoking cessation interactions with clients, including responding to 9184 referrals from health professionals via Quitline
- launched the \$55 million *Queensland Health Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Strategy 2016–2021*, to improve the responsiveness of services to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with severe mental illness
- implemented the statewide B.Strong Indigenous Brief Intervention Training Program, building the capacity of Indigenous Health Workers, Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) staff and other health and community service providers to deliver nutrition, physical activity and quit smoking advice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients
- continued implementing the *Making Tracks Investment Strategy 2015–2018*, with a combined investment of more than \$90 million allocated to Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health services helping close the gap in health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders
- invested \$15.8 million over three years to implement the *North Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sexually Transmissible Infections Action Plan 2016–2021*—aligned with the *Queensland Sexual Health Strategy 2016–2021*, the action plan aims to reduce the burden of STIs on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in North Queensland.

Delivering healthcare

- commenced implementation of the \$361.2 million *Specialist Outpatient Strategy: Improving the patient journey*, tackling specialist outpatient waiting lists and improving access to specialist services
- committed \$5.27 million over four years to implement the *Queensland Sexual Health Strategy 2016–2021*, developed in collaboration and consultation with stakeholders including health consumers and community organisations
- invested \$12 million to develop three new purpose built, 10 bed adult Step Up Step Down facilities in Gladstone, Bundaberg and Mackay, expanding the range of services across the care continuum and promoting integration, partnerships and collaboration between HHSs and NGOs for mental health care delivered in the community
- developed the *Action on Ice* whole-of-government action plan, including a regional community engagement process, to address the harms associated with ice use
- awarded Advance Queensland PhD Scholarships to accelerate research and development of solutions to improve health outcomes
- implemented minimum nurse-to-patient ratio legislation from 1 July 2016 across 27 facilities and 155 wards throughout the state—there are now 154 in-scope wards across 27 facilities
- continued to focus on road safety initiatives, part of a continuing commitment to eliminate death and debilitating injury on our road network
- employed 121 nurse navigators and 16 nursing and midwifery educators and an additional 110 ambulance operatives.

Connecting healthcare

- delivered the \$350 million *Connecting Care to Recovery 2016–2021: A plan for Queensland’s State-funded mental health, alcohol and other drug services*
- invested \$27.5 million to commission 170 new and replacement ambulance vehicles as part of a rolling vehicle replacement program, critical to ensuring quality frontline ambulance services
- strengthened links between primary and acute care by providing a way for General Practitioners to have access to The Viewer—a read-only web-based application that displays clinical information — through the *Health and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2016*
- released and commenced implementation of the government response to the six recommendations of the Barrett Adolescent Centre Commission of Inquiry report.

Pursuing innovation

- provided \$35 million over two financial years for the Integrated Care Innovation Fund to implement innovative projects that deliver better integration of care, address fragmentation in services and provide high-value healthcare
- announced the first nine projects funded under the \$25 million Queensland Genomic Health Alliance, helping to pioneer the integration of genomic based ‘personalised medicine’ into everyday healthcare in Queensland
- provided access to enhanced telehealth services and peer support and education for health professionals allowing rural, regional and remote patients to access specialist care closer to home—General Practitioners can refer patients electronically to local hospitals, and patient appointment bookings can be made online, providing greater flexibility and choice
- developed the Enterprise Discharge Summary—a computerised discharge summary to improve the way Queensland Health generates, manages and distributes discharge summaries
- implemented ieMR digital hospital solution in the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Mackay Base Hospital, the Townsville Hospital and Cairns Hospital, delivering a shared medical record across Queensland Health facilities—one patient, one record.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- continued implementing a formal agreement with Health Consumers Queensland, valid through to June 2018 to support the active engagement of the community in how health services are designed and delivered
- established a Suicide Prevention Health Taskforce, a partnership between the Department of Health, HHSs, Primary Health Networks and people with lived experience
- established the Queensland Health Export and Investment Advisory Council, bringing together the private sector, research community, finance sector and health services to help facilitate the export of our health service expertise and attract investment to Queensland
- declared One William Street as Queensland’s first smoke-free government precinct on 1 September 2016, followed by a further six central business district precincts—41, 63 and 111 George Street, 30 and 61 Mary Street, and 33 Charlotte Street
- implemented a Meningococcal ACWY Vaccination Program, providing free meningococcal ACWY vaccines to all Year 10 students
- commenced the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Paramedic Cadet Program, promoting employment in Queensland’s communities, and enhancing ambulance service delivery
- released *The burden of disease and injury in Queensland’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 2017 (reference year 2011)* report
- produced the *Health and Wellbeing Strategic Framework 2017–2026*, and associated *Overweight and Obesity Prevention Strategy* *Smoking Prevention Strategy*, and *Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy and Performance Measurement Strategy*, to guide the delivery of chronic disease risk factor prevention initiatives
- developed the *Sun Safety Mass Gathering Guideline* that the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC) will use to design sun safe uniforms, shade creation and sunscreen provision for GC2018 staff, volunteers, participants and spectators

- commenced implementation of the \$27 million *My health for life* diabetes and chronic disease prevention program in three HHS regions across Queensland
- funded Heart Foundation Walking and the 10,000 Steps programs, resulting in increased participation—Heart Foundation Walking recruited 1357 new Queensland participants, 41 new walking groups and 12 new host organisations
- introduced the Healthy Futures Commission Queensland Bill 2017 to establish the Healthy Futures Commission Queensland, supporting the capacity of children and families to adopt a healthy lifestyle, and contribute to reducing health inequity for children and families
- activated the State Health Emergency Coordination Centre for 19 days during Tropical Cyclone Debbie
- developed a statewide approach to paid hospital car parking by increasing concessions for disadvantaged patients
- convened a cross-sector Domestic and Family Violence Expert Advisory Group to develop a toolkit of resources for health professionals in response to recommendations made in the *Not Now, Not Ever* report
- continued implementation of trauma-informed practice across all youth justice operations
- supported engagement with nature, active lifestyles and wellbeing by hosting 1.35 million overnight camper stays on Queensland's parks and forests
- completed consultation with industry, stakeholders and consumers on a wide range of reforms for inclusion in the Queensland Building Plan
- launched the *Queensland Violence against Women Prevention Plan 2016–22*, which includes actions to help prevent and respond to all forms of violence against women, including sexual violence and harassment, stalking, honour crimes, human trafficking, forced and/or early marriage and technology-facilitated abuse
- provided funding support for structured sport and active recreation programs across 38 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Queensland
- delivered the Get Going Clubs program, supporting sport and active recreation participation and building organisational capacity
- supported 77 state-level sport and recreation organisations in the delivery and development of sport and active recreation across Queensland
- continued the successful Join the Movement campaign, including the Start Playing, Stay Playing Excellence Awards
- launched the Embracing 2018 Healthy and Active Program, leveraging GC2018 to get more Queensland children and adults participating in sport and active lifestyles, including the:
 - 10,000 Steps Games Venues Challenge
 - \$700,000 Get Out, Get Active grants program which funded 25 successful initiatives
 - \$500,000 Embracing 2018 Sports Grants Program, targeting state sporting organisations.

[Read more about the Plan's goals, targets and measures for health and wellbeing.](#)

Environment

Preserving our environment is essential and Queenslanders recognise their role as stewards of our unique natural assets, particularly the Great Barrier Reef. Queenslanders' vision for the environment includes being world leaders in renewable energy and sustainable business practices. To do this, we need to ensure new urban developments are eco-oriented and sustainable, harness our natural power, preserve our unique heritage and have the infrastructure to support growing industries.

Protecting the environment is one of the Queensland Government's objectives for the community. In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- granted prescribed project and critical infrastructure status to the Kidston project, repurposing a disused gold mine site to accommodate a hydro-electric power plant and two solar farms and support job growth in the renewables sector
- supported Indigenous community participation in the growing domestic and international carbon markets through the Carbon Plus initiative — investing \$3 million over two years for capacity building and developing a method for valuing social co-benefits of carbon farming projects
- commissioned an Expert Panel to investigate credible pathways to achieving a 50 per cent renewable energy target in Queensland by 2030
- The Coordinator-General declared six major projects (together, potentially supporting up to 7045 construction jobs and 2060 operational jobs) as coordinated projects requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be prepared:
 - KUR-World Integrated Eco-Resort project at Mareeba in North Queensland
 - South Burnett Coal project near Kingaroy
 - Olive Downs project in the Bowen Basin
 - three sections of the Inland Rail Project in South East Queensland: from Gowrie to Helidon; Helidon to Calvert; and Calvert to Kagaru
- continued to support *High Value Horticulture Value Chains*, as part of the Queensland Murray–Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification Program, maximising economic return from available irrigation water, with producers in communities like Inglewood and St George growing and exporting new crops including sweet corn, broccoli, blueberries and garlic.

Delivering quality frontline services

- enhanced the online booking service for camping and vehicle access permits to improve customer experience and access to our unique environments
- implemented customer surveys to measure customer satisfaction with the online booking system and on park experiences provided high-resolution climate change projections for Queensland, regional workshops on climate change risks, and created the first Climate Change in Queensland map application, allowing Queenslanders to access projections about how climate change could impact on our regional communities and industries
- delivered the Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study in partnership with four local governments, the most comprehensive study of its kind in Australia, and Queensland's first catchment approach to floodplain management
- used innovative digital soil-mapping approaches to produce a consistent set of spatial soil data for the entire Fitzroy Basin to inform better land management practices—information is now being delivered to land holders through web-based reporting mechanisms.

Protecting the environment

- commenced implementation of the Great Barrier Reef Water Science Taskforce recommendations through the \$100 million Queensland Reef Water Quality Program, with over \$27 million already committed, including on innovative projects to improve Reef water quality
- developed, in consultation with stakeholders, new regulations across all Great Barrier Reef catchments to reduce water pollution

- worked with industry to implement industry led landholder best management practice programs to ensure improved Great Barrier Reef water quality outcomes
- provided information to the community on the progress towards our Great Barrier Reef water quality targets through the *Great Barrier Reef Report Card* and partnering with local communities to develop local report cards to inform catchment management initiatives
- conducted an Advance Queensland SBIR challenge to develop and supply fine scale water quality monitoring sensors to deploy in the catchments of the Great Barrier Reef
- delivered a comprehensive response, undertaking shoreline clean-up activities associated with an oil spill off Fraser Island in October 2016
- established the Queensland Climate Resilient Council program in partnership with the LGAQ, supporting local governments to develop their own climate change responses
- released the Maintenance Dredging Strategy for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area Ports, providing a framework for sustainable, leading practice management of maintenance dredging at ports in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
- passed the new *Planning Act 2016* and associated legislation which establishes ecological sustainability as a core principle and reinstates coastal land surrender provisions under the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995* to ensure areas at high risk of coastal erosion are maintained development free
- supported several Arts Queensland funded Indigenous Art Centres to create environmentally and culturally significant ghost net sculptures which were later showcased at two international exhibitions hosted by the Asian Civilisations Museum in Singapore and the Aquarium de Paris
- delivered changes to the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* and *Water Act 2000* to strengthen effectiveness of environmental assessment and management of underground water extraction by resource projects
- repealed specific uncommenced provisions of the *Water Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2014* to explicitly reinstate the principles of ecologically sustainable development to the *Water Act 2000* and remove water development option provisions in their entirety
- released the final guideline under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* which, together with chain of responsibility provisions, expands and clarifies the ability to ensure companies and their related parties bear the costs of managing and rehabilitating environmental sites, rather than the taxpayer
- signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Government and other states and territories, adopting a common assessment method and a single list for threatened species
- released the *Better Mine Rehabilitation for Queensland* discussion paper, proposing reforms to achieve higher rates of progressive environmental rehabilitation and good rehabilitation outcomes
- released the *Financial assurance framework reform* discussion paper, proposing significant reforms to the financial assurance scheme, improving Queensland's environmental and financial protections
- made the *Liquid Fuel Supply Regulation 2016*, finalising the regulatory framework supporting the production and sale of sustainable low carbon fuels under the Queensland biofuels mandate
- continued the protection of Queensland's heritage, adding 16 places to the Queensland Heritage Register
- conducted a market sounding process as part of the Advancing Clean Energy Schools program, seeking ideas from the energy industry to reduce state school energy costs using solar and energy efficiency measures
- mitigated key threats to the Great Barrier Reef and national park islands, delivering \$12.8 million in conservation and compliance actions as part of the \$17.2 million jointly funded State-Federal Great Barrier Reef Joint Field Management Program, including responses to coral bleaching and Tropical Cyclone Debbie
- enhanced the fire management system (FLAME), supporting burn planning and wildfire response and incorporating pest management in parks and forests, committing nearly \$9 million to deliver fire management, and upgrading and maintaining high priority urban interface fire lines across South East Queensland
- spent an estimated \$8.4 million on pest management, including just over \$900,000 for the Strategic Pest Management Program, supporting statewide and regionally significant projects on parks and forests

- invested over \$400,000 to deliver the first stage of a spatially enabled, web based IT system to support pest management, planning and reporting on parks and forests
- observed significant improvements to turtle hatching success in program sites as a result of \$2.5 million Queensland and Federal funding for the Nest to Ocean Turtle Protection Program—16 projects reducing predation of marine turtle nests at priority rookeries along the Queensland coastline, including Cape York, Torres Strait and South East Queensland
- released the draft Protected Area Strategy for public consultation to guide ongoing expansion and effective management of Queensland’s protected areas
- released the *Queensland Ecotourism Plan 2016-2020*, setting a path for sustainable development of Queensland’s ecotourism industry and making it an internationally celebrated ecotourism destination
- released the *Daisy Hill Koala Bushland Directions Paper and the Daisy Hill Koala Bushland Action Plan* to guide management and use over the next ten-year period, and deliver important improvements in the lead up to GC2018
- declared two new Fish Habitat Areas, the Balban Dara Guya (Leekes Creek) Fish Habitat Area at Great Keppel Island and the De-ra-li (Calliope River) Fish Habitat Area near Gladstone, to protect Queensland’s fisheries resources from the impacts of coastal development
- extended the Fitzroy River declared Fish Habitat Area, a state government commitment of the *Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan* (Reef 2050 Plan)
- ensured delivery of the Reef Vessel Traffic Services continues to enhance navigational safety within the Great Barrier Reef, minimising maritime accident risks and consequential ship-sourced pollution and damage to the marine environment
- completed the *Conservation Management Plan* for the heritage listed Queensland Cultural Centre
- undertook reef science projects to inform land management practices and understand water quality impacts on the Great Barrier Reef, monitoring the quality of water entering the Great Barrier Reef, modelling improvements in land management practice at the paddock and catchment scales, and using remote sensing imagery to assess key catchment indicators to evaluate progress against Reef 2050 Plan goals and targets
- invested more than \$7.9 million on regionally-delivered natural resource management projects, including soil conservation, wetland and riparian restoration, improving water quality, reducing the impact of pests and weeds, improving land management practices and landscape resilience, and monitoring and reporting through the Queensland Regional Natural Resource Management Investment Program 2013–2018
- worked with irrigation industries to improve on-farm irrigation practices, the productivity and sustainability of rural industries, and deliver natural resource management outcomes through the Rural Water Use Efficiency – Irrigation Futures Program
- delivered on-ground practice change, improved agribusiness profitability and improved the health of the Great Barrier Reef through industry-led voluntary Best Management Practice programs operating in Reef catchments.

[Read more about the Plan’s goals, targets and measures for the environment.](#)

People

People are Queensland's greatest asset. Queenslanders envision a society where everyone has access to everything needed to make the most of educational, health and job opportunities, and where the brightest minds thrive in an environment which values innovation and excellence. They also value a society where those from disadvantaged and marginalised backgrounds find dignity and respect through education and work, and the cycle of disadvantage is broken.

In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- finalised the Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow Home Based Business program, supporting stay-at-home parents to establish a new, or develop an existing, home-based business
- launched the Advance Queensland STEM.I.AM program—a coordinated program of engagement activities to increase the number of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students pursuing STEM at university
- supported the work of 80 female Queensland-based researchers, through the Advance Queensland Women's Academic Fund, by providing assistance during periods of maternity leave and carer funding to support their attendance at conferences
- established the Advance Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander PhD Scholarship program, to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholars in gaining a research PhD degree to lay the foundation for a future research career
- provided supported training and job opportunities to a broad range of groups that generally face barriers or challenges to their participation in skills development and the labour market through Skilling Queenslanders for Work:
 - supported up to 32,000 Queenslanders into work over four years through a suite of targeted skills and training programs
 - funded 367 projects in the first funding round for 2016–17 worth \$67.2 million
 - assisted Queenslanders that need it most: 58.3 per cent are young people aged 15–24 years old, 17.2 per cent are migrant and refugees from a culturally and linguistically diverse background, 16.9 per cent are Indigenous, 51 per cent are long-term unemployed, 10.6 per cent people with a disability, 13.5 per cent are underemployed or low-skilled workers, and 15.1 per cent are mature aged 45 years and over
- continued implementing the *Queensland Public Sector 10 year human capital outlook a 3 year strategic roadmap* to 'future proof' the public sector workforce and human resources decisions
- supported 261 civil and construction jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including 80 apprenticeships and traineeships from 65 construction and civil projects undertaken in discrete Indigenous communities.

Delivering quality frontline services

- implemented a new, specialised women's re-entry service, supporting women leaving prison in South East Queensland
- implemented a new regional based re-entry service, supporting men and women leaving prison
- implemented a new, whole-of-centre integrated education and employment model with dedicated re-entry services at Borallon Training and Correctional Centre to support men leaving prison
- established the Youth Justice Cultural Unit
 - providing expert advice to support all youth justice staff
 - establishing evidence-based, culturally responsive interventions to achieve the best possible outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people
 - supporting inclusion of 17 year-olds in the youth justice system and implementing the 83 recommendations of the Independent Review of Youth Detention in Queensland
 - ensuring culturally appropriate services are embedded across Youth Justice service delivery
- supported Queensland elite athletes to prepare for GC2018 and 2018 Winter Olympics (February 2018) and 2018 Paralympics (March 2018) in Pyeongchang, South Korea
- delivered Get Started Vouchers, providing financial support to children and young people who can least

- afford, or may otherwise benefit from, joining a sport or recreation club
- supported children under the Young Athletes Travel Subsidy to compete in, or officiate at specific state, national or international events
- funded the Get Out, Get Active program and the Women and Girls Special Initiatives to encourage women and girls to increase participation in sport and active recreation
- increased the supply of 562 new social housing dwellings for disadvantaged people, including 108 new social housing dwellings in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- provided 31 new government employee residences in Thursday Island, Cooktown, Mornington Island and Weipa, enabling provision of essential services in these communities
- delivered five multi-agency personalised and proactive pilots, connecting services around customer needs
- implemented reforms to the motorcycle licencing system to improve road safety outcomes for this high risk group
- continued to provide support and assistance for seniors, carers and volunteers
- continued implementation of the recommendations from the *Not Now, Not Ever* report including commencing three integrated service response trials in Logan, Beenleigh, Mount Isa and Cherbourg to develop a consistent and collaborative service system and strengthen responses to victims and perpetrators of domestic and family violence
- continued work to prevent and address the impacts of domestic and family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, including active involvement in the development and implementation of Integrated Service Response trials.

Protecting the environment

- supported Nature Play Queensland, encouraging young children and their families to engage with nature and the environment as well as learn practical life skills
- supported volunteers to participate in Landcare activities, through support for Queensland Water and Land Carers
- operated more than 150 volunteer programs and community partnerships in more than 110 national parks and forests.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- established the Director of Child Protection Litigation role to conduct child protection legal matters
- continued to institute diversionary processes and restorative justice, including Drug Court
- continued programs to reduce the likelihood of offending and reoffending
- re-established the independent Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council, providing independent research and advice and promoting community understanding of sentencing matters
- continued the Youth Justice First Nations Action Board to guide the government's priority focus on reducing over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in the youth justice system
- implemented the *Queensland Public Sector Gender Equity Strategy*, the *Queensland Public Sector LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Strategy*, and supported the Queensland Public Sector Inclusion Champions of Change to lead new thinking and action on inclusion and diversity in the public sector
- implemented the government's *Five-point plan to reduce youth crime in Townsville* through the Minister's chairing of a Directors-General group and support for the Townsville Stronger Communities Executive Committee and Action Group
- commenced implementing the \$7.3 million Community Youth Response, providing a range of innovative services that target young people at risk of offending, including:
 - intensive case managers working with high risk repeat offenders and their families on a 24-hour basis, ensuring the young offenders adhere to a tough and rigorous program
 - after-hours diversion service, to keep young people off the streets at night
 - cultural programs to connect young people with their culture
- provided support to 80 high-risk families through the Townsville Stronger Communities Action Group, coordinating services for young people at risk of offending, and their families.

[Read more about the Plan's goals, targets and measures for people.](#)

Infrastructure

Queensland's infrastructure includes our energy, transport, communications and water assets, as well as our schools, hospitals and healthcare facilities. Queenslanders' vision for infrastructure is that all Queenslanders will have access to the services they need through world-class infrastructure. Our infrastructure will drive economic growth and be a key enabler in the digital economy.

Infrastructure and services need to encompass the significant distances that separate our regional communities. Our seasonal weather sees flooding isolate entire communities, causes extreme heat damage to our roads and increases demand on our power generators. Population growth and lifestyle changes will continue to increase demand for infrastructure and services.

In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- delivered the Building our Regions Program, committing \$225 million to support 174 projects, and attracting a further \$353.5 million in investment from local governments and other organisations
- completed the construction of GC2018 competition venues, including the development of three new venues—Carrara Precinct, Coomera Indoor Sports Stadium and the Queensland State Velodrome at Chandler—and major upgrades to a further seven venues
- progressed the Stage 2, Market-Led Proposal to build a \$100m Brisbane International Cruise terminal facility at Luggage Point, potentially adding as much as \$1 billion to Queensland's economy over the next two decades
- reached contract close on Transurban Queensland's \$512 million Market-Led Proposal for the Logan Motorway Enhancement Project, supporting an estimated 1300 jobs during the construction period
- engaged Australian Unity as the master developer for the \$1.1 billion Herston Quarter project, which will support over 700 full-time equivalent jobs annually during construction
- committed \$140 million and secured \$100 million in federal funding for the \$250 million North Queensland Stadium, and commenced work on design and delivery of the stadium
- invested \$1.417 billion on essential upgrades to health facilities and supporting infrastructure across Queensland, providing up to 1500 jobs across the state—significant projects under delivery include: Aurukun Primary Health Care Centre redevelopment, Caboolture ED, Cairns Base Hospital redevelopment, Rockhampton Hospital Expansion, and Townsville General Hospital expansion
- delivered more than \$56 million for replacement of health technology equipment as part of the Health Technology Equipment Replacement program and facilitated the sale of more than 900 items of health technology equipment raising more than \$645,000
- replaced the Collinsville Ambulance Station, and constructed the new Rainbow Beach and Yandina ambulance stations
- acquired and redeveloped the Emergency and Fleet Management Precinct, including the Geebung Ambulance Station
- approved funding through Get Playing Places and Spaces, to support development or improvement of sport and active recreation infrastructure projects across Queensland
- continued the development of the Parkland site at Southport which will be home to GC2018 Athlete's village
- released *Building Information Modelling – draft policy and principles for Queensland* for public consultation, to advance digital management processes for infrastructure assets to drive efficiency and deliver value for money, productivity, innovation and safety
- commenced the review for the 2017 State Infrastructure Plan Part B Program update, to continue managing Queensland's growth
- established the Community Infrastructure Reference Group in May 2017, with an initial focus on understanding community attitudes to infrastructure, and research into social return on investment
- established the Infrastructure Innovation Taskforce in June 2017, to examine and report back to government on matters associated infrastructure planning, delivery and utilisation
- established monthly whole-of-government capital reporting to increase transparency and track program delivery

- progressed projects across regional Queensland under the Priority Economic Works Projects Program and Significant Regional Infrastructure Projects Program
- progressively implemented the Maturing the Infrastructure Pipeline Program, identifying projects through the consultation phase of the *State Infrastructure Plan* and local government infrastructure priorities
- made infrastructure decisions informed by the advice of government's independent infrastructure advisory body Building Queensland, including funding commitments for procurement or delivery of six projects identified on Building Queensland's December 2016 and June 2017 Infrastructure Pipeline
- received a preliminary business case for Nullinga Dam and detailed business cases for the Beerburrum to Nambour Rail Upgrade and the Smithfield Transport Corridor Upgrade, led by Building Queensland
- approved 21 borrowing applications for local governments in 2016–17, totalling \$786 million, to support local government investment in capital needs
- delivered the \$20 million Betterment Fund, supporting local governments impacted by Tropical Cyclone Marcia, to design and build back to a more disaster-resilient standard
- approved \$70.1 million in funding under the Catalyst Infrastructure Programs for six projects which will deliver a range of infrastructure projects to catalyse development in Townsville, the Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba and Bromelton
- launched the Density and Diversity Done Well open ideas competition—a joint initiative of the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and the Urban Development Institute of Australia Queensland, with support from the Australian Institute of Architects, Planning Institute of Australia, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects and Urban Design Alliance Queensland, which seeks to demonstrate that housing choice and higher densities does not always mean high rise development
- submitted high priority transport and road infrastructure initiatives to the Federal Government and Infrastructure Australia for assessment and funding consideration
- established the Cross River Rail Delivery Authority to lead the development, procurement and delivery of a project which will remove a bottleneck at the core of our rail network and enable a 'turn-up-and-go' transport system that benefits the whole of South East Queensland
- continued a collaborative partnership with the Council of Mayors South East Queensland and the Property Council of Australia to investigate how a City Deal model approach to prioritising, programming and funding infrastructure can be applied to the South East Queensland region
- worked with the Federal Government under the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund to:
 - establish agreements and project planning processes for 14 water supply feasibility studies
 - implement an upfront funding mechanism for feasibility studies, allowing the Queensland Government to advance funding to enable studies to commence
 - manage the reporting of progress of feasibility studies to the Federal Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and claiming of funding due for those studies
 - make three applications for funding of water supply infrastructure projects
- completed a business case to consider a new Lyric-style performing arts venue for Brisbane
- commenced the \$2.25 million Cremorne Theatre refurbishment including redesign of stage and seating.

Delivering quality frontline services

- recommissioned the third stage of the Borallon Training and Correctional Centre, which has a strong focus on education, training and employment skills as part of the rehabilitation process
- relocated the Southport Probation and Parole District Office to support the significant growth in offender numbers in the region
- commenced planning for the expansion of Capricornia Correctional Centre
- released *Connecting Brisbane*, in conjunction with the Brisbane City Council, on 6 June 2017 — a roadmap for the future of Brisbane's public transport system and Brisbane's transformation into a vibrant world city with a modern, high-frequency mass transit system
- implemented personalised transport reforms with the taxi industry to provide greater choice for passengers, while ensuring safety, accessibility, affordability and accountability for everyone in the industry

- mitigated the impacts to public transport from serious weather events
- delivered a \$180 million capital program to fund the upgrade or replacement of properties, facilities, vehicles, vessels, aircraft and information and communications systems and equipment to improve public safety service delivery
- completed the rollout of the Government Wireless Network across South East Queensland to maximise emergency response capabilities and improve radio communications for police, fire and ambulance services
- commenced development of QldSmartFreight, a journey planner and congestion management application for the freight industry and business for South East Queensland during GC2018
- opened four new primary schools at Cairns, Redbank Plains, Caboolture and Bellbird Park, and delivered four major school stages for the commencement of the 2017 school year at Burpengary, Pimpama and Highfields
- established the new Inala Early Years Service in 2016–17 to provide support to families with young children including a long day care, family and parenting support programs and a visiting child health nurse
- committed \$13.67 million to Round 2 of the Federal Government’s Mobile Black Spot Program, leveraging funding for a further 76 new or upgraded mobile towers by the end of 2018 to improve mobile coverage for businesses and communities
- 280,000 Queenslanders now have a re-usable Queensland digital ID that lets them easily access a range of services online—avoiding repeat trips to government counters with their proof of ID documents
- delivered the first personalised dashboard for Queenslanders that brings together the information, services and services they need—personalised to them and linked to their digital ID
- completed and registered all 19 roads in mainland Indigenous communities, and 12 of 15 Torres Strait Island communities
- negotiated 17 Social Housing Indigenous Land Use Agreements in 2016–17 in the Torres Strait, securing 140 lots since the start of the program
- made 1022 serviced lots available for housing in Indigenous communities.

Protecting the environment

- continued implementing the *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2015*, delivering key Reef 2050 Plan actions (master plans for the priority ports of Gladstone, Abbot Point, Townsville and Hay Point/Mackay).

Building safe, caring, and connected communities

- continued to provide 13 free public Wi-Fi hotspots in national parks and forests
- continued to strengthen engagement with national park customers through Facebook, Instagram and YouTube
- established the Non-Conforming Building Products Taskforce to identify, investigate and coordinate risk mitigation strategies for owners and occupiers of buildings identified with products such as combustible façade cladding
- enabled infrastructure development through the delivery of 14 planning schemes and two Township Indigenous Land Use Agreements for Pormpuraaw and Mapoon
- reconstructed the Mornington Island Runway, restoring a vital lifeline for the remote community after the airstrip was damaged during the Christmas 2015-16 wet season—the 1.6 km airstrip was reconstructed in 38 days, enabling flights to resume before Christmas 2016
- worked with the Maranoa Regional Council, delivering a number of infrastructure projects and developing the project management and supervisory capability of the local government workforce.

[Read more about the Plan’s goals, targets and measures for infrastructure.](#)

Governance

A robust governance system provides the mechanisms by which Queenslanders can shape and nurture their communities. Robust governance means that Queensland's diverse population is engaged and empowered to be involved in decision-making, unnecessary barriers to productivity are removed, and governments function in an environment of transparency and accountability.

The Queensland Government is committed to consultation, integrity and accountability. In 2016–17, the Queensland Government:

Creating jobs and a diverse economy

- continued work, through the Community Hubs and Partnerships Program (ChaPs) Board and Cross Agency Advisory Panel, to support cross-government collaboration and planning to streamline services, particularly in designated Priority Development Areas
- facilitated operation of the Queensland Small Business Advisory Council, providing advice, recommendations and practical solutions to identified small business issues
- established the Better Regulation Taskforce as a sub-committee of the Queensland Small Business Advisory Council, providing advice to the government to ensure a fair and balanced regulatory environment
- delivered the first edition of the *State of Small Business Queensland 2016–2017* report, a key *Advancing Small Business Queensland Strategy 2016–20* initiative—the report noted strong economic growth and confidence for Queensland small business
- continued engagement with the Advance Queensland Expert Panel, providing recommendations on future directions, opportunities and challenges in regard to science, innovation, economic development and the growth of the knowledge economy and jobs in Queensland
- engaged with the Federal Government and local governments through the National Business Simplification Initiative to streamline and improve regulatory compliance for Queensland small businesses
- required the Queensland Competition Authority to commence a South East Queensland bulk water price investigation to ensure prices for South East Queensland residents and businesses reflect prudent and efficient costs
- coordinated submissions of Total Asset Management Plans across all departments to assist asset management and utilisation
- commenced work to introduce Strategic Asset Management Plans in Queensland Government departments.

Delivering quality frontline services

- completed procurement and implementation of a commercial-off-the-shelf ICT solution to collect and validate data on the public sector workforce to improve transparency and accountability in government.

Protecting the environment

- completed a review of how Queensland's interests in planning and development are protected and managed through the planning system, with new planning instruments commencing in July 2017
- identified recommendations of the Expert Koala Panel through the consultation on the draft South East Queensland Regional Plan to ensure a network of interconnected koala habitat is maintained to sustain South East Queensland's koala population over the long-term.

Building safe, caring and connected communities

- commenced implementation of recommendations from the Queensland Parole System Review to strengthen Queensland's parole system
- continued the roll out of an integrated geographical information system to assist with evidence-based planning and development of sport and active recreation places and spaces
- used the Partners in Government Agreement to work collaboratively with the LGAQ and local governments, strengthening relationships and ensuring effective and timely engagement

- introduced 'real-time' disclosure for election donations to candidates in local government elections
- delivered 67 face-to-face workshops to 935 councillors and staff to improve governance practices including councillor conduct, ethical behaviour, complaints management, roles and responsibilities
- completed the Fraud Management workshop series—the LGAQ delivered seven workshops to 71 councillors, assisting local governments to develop anti-fraud strategies, fraud policies and risk registers
- established the Housing Partnerships Office, bringing together expertise to support the Housing Construction Jobs Program, Queensland Housing Strategy and objectives of the Advancing Our Cities and Regions Strategy to renew ageing social housing, create better quality social housing, and increase housing choice and affordability
- negotiated a retrospective policy exemption on behalf of local governments, to claim the cost of using their own staff and equipment to deliver reconstruction works under the Federal Government's National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA)
- facilitated 24 sessions on the NDRRA and State Disaster Relief Arrangements for state and local government staff, non-profit organisations and other stakeholders across Queensland, providing participants with knowledge and skills on disaster relief and recovery submission and payments, to help Queensland communities recover from the effect of natural disasters
- signed a Memorandum of Understanding between Transport and Main Roads (Fitzroy District), Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council and Central Highlands Regional Council to develop a sustainable works program for the Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council
- commenced a co-design process with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, leaders, policy experts, academia, organisations and communities to reinvigorate Queensland's Closing the Gap agenda by developing a Closing the Gap framework.

[Read more about the Plan's goals, targets and measures for governance.](#)

Looking ahead 2017–18

Priority activities for the Queensland Government for 2017–18 include:

Education

- Jobs Queensland will:
 - continue to progress a substantive body of work on anticipating skill needs to inform vocational education and training investment planning
 - develop a Skills, Training and Workforce Development Strategy for the Advanced Manufacturing industry and support the Department of State Development's *Advanced Manufacturing 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan*
- implementing the *Youth Engagement Plan* to improve responses and lift outcomes for at-risk and disengaged children and young people
- establishing new integrated Early Years Services in Redlands and Tara
- continuing to deliver *Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Action Plan 2016–2019* initiatives, supporting continued growth of a professional, qualified and valued early childhood education and care workforce
- developing an online one-stop shop for early childhood health and development training and resources
- continuing to deliver *Advancing education: An action plan for education in Queensland* and an embedded suite of Advancing education supporting plans
- expanding the number of schools embedding age-appropriate pedagogies in teaching and learning practices in the early years of school
- implementing recommendations from the *Disability Review Report*, and actions detailed in the *Every student with disability succeeding plan*
- launching a new online behaviour support tool for teachers to address low-level classroom behaviours
- continuing to deliver the Advance Queensland Engaging Science Grants, addressing the goals outlined in the *Engaging Queenslanders in Science* strategy
- conducting a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) challenge, through the Advance Queensland initiative, to identify a technological solution to improve interactive visual educational services to students with disability in rural and remote locations
- releasing the *2017–18 Annual VET Investment Plan*, including contributions to implement GC2018 – Security Provider Training Strategy, the National Disability Insurance Scheme Training and Skills Support Strategy, and supporting regional communities through targeted strategies
- appointing Positive Behaviour for Learning Coordinators in each region, strengthening capacity in schools to positively support students to meet the school's behaviour expectations
- improving access and participation by Refugee and Asylum Seeker families to early childhood education programs, and supporting the early childhood education and care sector to provide more inclusive and supportive services
- implement the Advance Queensland TAFE Queensland Pathways Scholarship Program to support Queenslanders to complete vocational education and transition into university studies in science, technology, engineering and maths industries
- installing flashing school zone signs at 100 risk-assessed school zones as part of Queensland's Road Safety Action Plan (2017–19).

Community

- continuing to implement the recommendations from the *Not Now, Not Ever* report through the *Queensland Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016–2026*
- transitioning to the NDIS through the second year of implementation, which will continue until 30 June 2019
- releasing *All Abilities Queensland: opportunities for all, new state disability plan 2017–2020* to build an inclusive Queensland where everyone can thrive and reach their full potential as equal citizens, including the 'Everybody has a role to play' website
- continuing to implement the three-year Women on Boards Initiative, in partnership with Deloitte, to increase women's representation in leadership

- continuing to implement the *Queensland Women's Strategy 2016–21* and report on delivery of initiatives included in the Community Implementation Plan
- continuing to provide Women's Infolink, a free statewide information, referral and support service to women about issues affecting their wellbeing
- continuing to implement the *Queensland Violence against Women Prevention Plan 2016–22*
- continuing to implement the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry recommendations through the Supporting Families, Changing Futures reforms, including new and enhanced intensive and secondary family support services
- implementing *Queensland: an age-friendly community*—actions arising from recommendations of the Parliamentary inquiry into the adequacy of existing financial protections for Queensland's seniors
- implementing responses to recommendations made by the *Final report of the Advisory Taskforce on Residential Transition for Ageing Queenslanders*
- continuing to fund the Elder Abuse Prevention Unit and Seniors Legal and Support Services, including expansion of seniors legal and support services to five regional locations and further investment to improve access for seniors to financial advice
- delivering the Elder Abuse Prevention campaign to raise community awareness
- continuing to implement the *Queensland Youth Strategy—Building young Queenslanders for a global future* and its Action Schedule, to support young Queenslanders to actively contribute to Queensland's economic, civic and cultural life
- implementing the *Multicultural Recognition Act 2016*, including promoting the Multicultural Queensland Charter and its principles of equity, fairness, welcome and belonging, and continuing support for the Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council
- celebrating Queensland Multicultural Month—Queensland's largest celebration of multiculturalism
- continuing funding for 19 organisations to deliver activities under the Community Action for a Multicultural Society program to strengthen social connectedness
- continuing funding for diverse cultural and multicultural events, and funding \$1 million in community projects promoting inclusive and welcoming community every year
- continuing to support water safety initiatives through an annual funding commitment of \$100,000
- continuing to deliver reforms to support non-government organisations, including partnering with stakeholders to implement a community services industry strategy and supporting social innovations
- providing additional funding to support the sustainability of non-government community service providers, in recognition of increases to award rates for social and community service employees under the Fair Work Australia's (now the Fair Work Commission) 2012 Equal Remuneration Order
- continuing to support place-based responses such as Logan Together, a long term, whole of community effort to create the best life opportunities for every child in Logan
- leading the design and supporting delivery of community resilience elements of the *Strategic Blueprint for Queensland's North West Minerals Province*
- continuing to fund and support human and social recovery in disaster-impacted communities, contributing to building the disaster resilience of individuals, communities and service providers
- developing a new *Transport and Main Roads Disability Action Plan 2018–2022*, continuing Queensland's commitment to making public transport more accessible for people with disabilities and limited mobility
- developing the Queensland Transport Policy, a 30-year transport strategy to prepare and position Queensland's transport systems for the future
- investigating and implementing the outcomes of the Queensland Government's Bus Driver Safety Review to improve safety for bus drivers, service delivery partners and passengers
- delivering enhanced prisoner re-entry services to expand and specialise the delivery of offender reintegration to reduce reoffending
- strengthening Queensland's parole system by expanding electronic monitoring to parolees to improve the quality of case management
- developing an implementation plan for agreed recommendations of the Queensland Family and Child Commission review of the blue card and foster care systems
- extending strategies to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in the blue card system to additional identified remote communities
- implementing recommendations under the *Queensland Parole System Review report*

- finalising the statutory reviews of the *Right to Information Act 2009*, *Information Privacy Act 2009* and *Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009*
- commencing service delivery under the Social Benefit Bond model targeting youth reoffending, youth homelessness and Indigenous disadvantage by early 2018, which aims to achieve positive social outcomes, savings to government and a return to investors
- developing the government's response to the Queensland Productivity Commission's inquiry into service delivery in Queensland's remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- implementing recommendations of the Youth Detention Centre Review, released in December 2016
- developing a transgender and intersex policy for young people in youth detention
- developing contemporary interventions including the use of digital toolkits and online programs to address the underlying causes of offending for young people in the youth justice system
- continuing to build cultural capability in Youth Justice and improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people involved in Youth Justice through the Youth Justice First Nations Action Board
- continuing to implement *Transition 2 Success* to a further six sites and evaluating effectiveness across a range of measures, including cost-effectiveness, recidivism, successful transition to employment or further training and self-confidence
- delivering Festival 2018 as part of GC2018, including WOW Festival 2018, the One Million Stars installation and a special edition of the quarterly publication *Griffith Review* titled *New Commonwealth Now*
- continuing to deliver the *Embracing 2018 Legacy Program*, leveraging GC2018 to build an active, engaged and inclusive community, including the *GC2018 Reconciliation Action Plan* and celebrations in communities along the Queen's Baton Relay route
- progressing construction of a \$46.7 million contemporary counter-terrorism and community safety centre at the Westgate Police Academy to ensure our police have the skills and capabilities to respond to complex and evolving public safety issues now and into the future
- continuing to improve the customer experience of digital government services delivered through qld.gov.au
- rolling out the *Queensland Housing Strategy 2017–2027*, a 10-year plan to build a better future for all Queenslanders, including developing the Queensland Indigenous Housing Action Plan to improve housing and related outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders
- conducting an Advance Queensland SBIR challenge to identify safe, reliable and cost-effective ways to manage entry to residential public housing properties that also meet the diverse needs of tenants
- supporting recipients of the Advance Queensland Ignite Ideas Fund to commercialise market-ready innovative ideas that will help them to grow and compete in a global market
- investing \$12.8 million in Queensland's arts sector through contestable funding programs, including the Organisations Fund, Queensland Arts Showcase Program and Playing Queensland Fund
- supporting development of Queensland's arts sector through key programs such as the black&write! Indigenous writing and editing program, and the Queensland Literary Awards
- Implementing recommendations of the *Independent Investigation into the Towing Industry: Removal of Vehicles from Private Property* to promote fair, reasonable and professional towing services and improve Queenslanders' awareness of their rights and obligations in relation to private property parking and towing
- implementing the second cohort of a departmental Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander internship program to support university students with 12 weeks' paid work experience.

Regions

- continuing to deliver economic and employment outcomes from the \$200 million Jobs and Regional Growth Package
- continuing to deliver the expanded \$150 million Back to Work Regional Employment Package, including Employer Support Payments and Youth Boost Payments for eligible regional businesses who employ unemployed jobseekers in regional Queensland

- hosting the final Local Jobs First Roundtable in Cairns to generate ideas and actions with industry and employers on generating better employment opportunities for local young people
- commencing the Sticking Together Pilot project in Logan, Cairns and Townsville, to reduce youth unemployment by providing intensive coaching and mentoring to help young people 'stick' to work
- continuing to partner with the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Office to identify infrastructure opportunities and ensure regional Queensland receives the full benefit of the program
- hosting GC2018, the first regional Australian city to host a Commonwealth Games, with events also held in Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville
- continuing implementation of the Townsville City Deal and development of the South East Queensland City Deal
- investigating suitability of an area south of Cairns for establishment of a State Development Area
- finalising the high level feasibility investigation into raising the Burdekin Falls Dam by two metres, to assist SunWater and Stanwell Corporation in preparing a business case for a hydro-electric power station at Burdekin Falls Dam
- continuing to identify and capture new opportunities that will support the *Advancing Our Cities and Regions Strategy*, ensuring it is responsive to changing property markets and economic conditions
- releasing and implementing the *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2017*
- progressing the draft North Queensland Regional Plan for consultation in late 2017
- releasing and implementing the *Strategic Blueprint for Queensland's North West Minerals Province*
- progressing the North Queensland Stadium project, estimated to generate 750 jobs during the design and construction phase
- implementing the Drought Wellbeing Service, a primary mental health outreach service by the Royal Flying Doctors Service to all drought affected regions in Queensland
- delivering a new domestic and family violence shelter in Coen
- providing \$6 million for the Country Racing Support Program, supporting racing across regional Queensland, and funding the Training Track Subsidy Scheme, which assists thoroughbred race clubs to offset the costs of maintaining training facilities
- delivering water, wastewater and solid waste upgrades and repairs for all 16 Indigenous local governments under the \$120 million Indigenous Councils Critical Infrastructure Program, working with local governments to identify new projects under the *Advancing Our Cities and Regions Strategy*
- appointing a proponent for the Aldoga renewable energy project to transform a 1200 hectare underutilised state-owned site in Gladstone into a major renewable energy project
- launching a TIQ presence in Ipswich and a dedicated TIQ North Queensland Office in Townsville, under the *Advancing Trade and Investment Queensland Strategy 2017–2022*
- hosting the 2017 Queensland International Business Series, incorporating a regional program for the Queensland Trade and Investment Commissioners to engage with Queensland companies interested in exporting and/or attracting foreign investment
- investing in replacement police stations for Gordonvale and Bowen in addition to a new facility in Cairns to support road safety and provide enhanced public safety capabilities
- continuing investment in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture through the \$12.6 million four-year (2015–16 to 2018–19) Backing Indigenous Arts initiative, building sustainable and ethical Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts industries
- committing \$6.5 million over four years to support Indigenous and regional arts initiatives, enabling increased community arts activities across Queensland and employing regionally-based arts officers
- investing \$2.1 million to implement a dedicated arts incubator space for startup Indigenous performance companies and to invest in new dance commissions performed at the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts and within Indigenous communities
- continuing a \$2.08 million investment in the Regional Arts Development Fund partnership with 59 local governments, supporting and growing Queenslanders' access to regional arts and cultural activities

- progressing to finalise the Coordinator-General's assessments of the EIS for the Townsville Port Expansion project, Cairns Shipping Development, China Stone Coal and Lindeman Great Barrier Reef Resort projects (together, potentially supporting up to 4569 construction jobs and 5415 operational jobs)
- continue to work with stakeholders on North Stradbroke Island (including the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation, Straddie Chamber of Commerce, Redland City Council and the University of Queensland) to deliver initiatives under the *North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy*, which are focussed on increasing economic, cultural, tourism and residential opportunities
- Jobs Queensland will continue to support a skill-driven economy through its place-based activities to:
 - work collaboratively with TAFE Queensland and the CSIRO on the Regional Workforce Development Plan for the Fraser Coast; and
 - progress a workforce development plan for Townsville, as part of the Townsville City Deal.

Economy

- continuing to support the Working Queensland Jobs Plan including:
 - continuation of the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative;
 - providing additional funding to TAFE; and
 - promoting Jobs Queensland as an independent statutory authority
- implementing the \$27.5 million Back to Work South East Queensland Employment Package, including Employer Support Payments and Youth Boost Payments for eligible South East Queensland businesses who employ eligible long-term unemployed or young unemployed jobseekers
- continuing implementation of the whole-of-government *Advancing Trade and Investment: Queensland Trade and Investment Strategy 2017–2022*
- further expanding Queensland's international footprint by opening a new TIQ office in North America and bolstering the existing TIQ offices in Singapore and Indonesia to maximise opportunities for Queensland companies
- continuing to promote Queensland's Tourism, Food and Agribusiness, Mining and Resources sectors and emerging industries and its innovative technologies in key markets such as China, Japan and India, by leading trade and investment missions, and facilitating business meetings with visiting international delegations and investors
- implementing the Queensland Indigenous (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Procurement Policy to increase the value of Queensland Government procurement contracts awarded to Indigenous businesses
- launching the *Queensland Drones Strategy consultation paper*, the first of its kind in Australia, at the World of Drones congress
- implementing actions under the *Powering Queensland Plan*, the government's \$1.16 billion strategy to stabilise electricity costs, deliver jobs and investment and lead the transition to a clean energy sector
- continuing to deliver the *International Education and Training Strategy to Advance Queensland 2016–2026*, positioning Queensland as a leader in international education
- continuing to leverage the Trade 2018 program as part of GC2018, to strengthen Queensland's trade and investment ties across the Commonwealth and boost Gold Coast City's and Queensland's international business profile
- facilitating 22 major projects, through the Coordinator-General, with a combined capital expenditure of approximately \$34 billion (potentially supporting 16,000 construction jobs and 15,000 operational jobs)
- continuing to implement the Advance Queensland 10-year Roadmaps and Action Plans for the following priority sectors: Advanced Manufacturing, Biofutures, Biomedical and Mining Equipment Technology and Services and launching the Defence and Aerospace 10-year Roadmaps and Action Plans
- developing business capabilities and opportunities for defence and aerospace businesses in regional Queensland through the efforts of groups such as Townsville Defence Working Group under the Townsville City Deal initiative
- supporting Queensland's defence and aerospace companies to participate in international trade events to develop export markets for Queensland capabilities

- undertaking industry development and attraction efforts in high value and high technology defence and aerospace capability areas such as cyber security, surveillance and warfare, communication systems integration, and remotely piloted aircraft/unmanned aerial vehicles autonomous systems
- continuing to implement the \$20 million Made in Queensland grants program, supporting the manufacturing sector to become more competitive and adopt innovative processes and technologies
- continuing progress on master planning for Queensland's priority ports under the *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2015*, optimising infrastructure and addressing operational, economic, environmental and social relationships, as well as supply chains and surrounding land uses
- undertaking a new Strategic Resources Exploration Program, over 2017–18 – 2020–21, valued at \$27.125 million, to provide direct response to challenges facing the resources sector, and enhance Queensland's position as a preferred destination for resources sector investment
- supporting the creation of new businesses, helping existing businesses to work smarter and be more resilient, and assisting businesses with high growth aspirations to grow and employ through the delivery of three targeted grants programs, mentoring and promoting linkages to other Queensland programs
- delivering Queensland Small Business Week events, supporting small business by providing networking and knowledge exchange opportunities
- assisting women, Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people, and people with a disability to start and grow their own business
- continuing to provide customer-focused programs and services to support small business through the Business Queensland website
- continuing to deliver the Tourism and Small Business Recovery Package to assist business recovery following Tropical Cyclone Debbie, and help small businesses build resilient and sustainable business plans
- delivering the expanded Go Local campaign, including tailored mentoring support services and workshops to support Queensland dairy farmers and local milk processors, and dedicated workshops and mentoring services for small businesses impacted by Tropical Cyclone Debbie
- completing the business advisory services, providing support to the taxi and limousine industries through the provision of counselling services, grants and mentoring during the transition to the new personalised transport framework
- continuing to implement actions in relation to the Advancing Indigenous Business initiative, including the Accelerate Indigenous Small Business Grants program, and showcasing successful Indigenous businesses
- implementing Trade 2018, leveraging GC2018 to create diverse and enduring growth in international trade and investment, including showcasing the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct and Queensland's key priority trade sectors on the world stage
- implementing the *GC2018 Reconciliation Action Plan*, working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tourism operators to lift their profile, improve their skills and the quality of experiences
- partnering with Tourism and Events Queensland and the tourism industry to capitalise on Queensland's GC2018 exposure to attract visitors, events and investment in tourism infrastructure and business opportunities
- holding the regional DestinationQ series in Toowoomba, Gladstone and Bundaberg, and the annual DestinationQ tourism forum
- updating the Next Generation Tourism Planning guide to reflect new policy and legislation such as the *Planning Act 2016*
- appointing additional Young Tourism Leaders across Queensland
- continuing to explore new opportunities to grow aviation capacity into Queensland and secure new services from priority markets through our Attracting Aviation Investment Fund
- further strengthening our relationships with travel trade and airline carriers throughout Asia and grow visitation from key Asian markets through the Connecting with Asia Fund
- fully funding Cross River Rail, supporting more than 1500 jobs per year over the five-year construction period and helping to keep our economy growing by activating urban development, reducing road congestion and providing better access to more places of work, study and recreation
- growing the Carbon Farming Industry—starting by bringing together representatives along the carbon credit supply chain at the Carbon Farming Industry Summit to develop a roadmap for growing the

industry in Queensland and nationally, to supply high quality, premium carbon offsets to domestic and international markets

- reconstructing state roads damaged by severe weather events including Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie
- continuing implementation of *Queensland's Personalised Transport Horizon: Five year strategic plan for personalised transport services 2016–21*, providing access to safe, reliable and affordable personalised transport services, and a sustainable and competitive industry to deliver them
- implementing the new *Queensland Government Procurement Strategy* and revised *Queensland Procurement Policy*, to use the government's procurement spend to support jobs, regional growth and innovation, and achieve the economic, environmental and social objectives of the government
- as part of the *Queensland Housing Strategy*, commence delivery of the Housing Construction Jobs Program, to increase supply of social and affordable housing, drive local job creation and economic growth
- implementing the *Regional Skills Investment Strategy*, partnering with selected regions to identify current and emerging jobs, and design tailored solutions to be delivered under the Annual VET Investment Plan, in support of the supply of skilled local people to meet skill demand
- implementing the *Regional Skills Adjustment Strategy*, investing in regions facing economic uncertainty, and supporting individuals to gain the foundation, employability and technical skills needed to transition to jobs in demand
- supporting Queensland's small to medium arts sector through outcomes of the Organisations Fund 2017–20 and tailored governance funding assistance
- delivering Digital Business Workshops to Digital Scorecard participants to help improve their digital capability and become more competitive in the global economy
- developing a scalable model of the State Library of Queensland Business Studio, suitable for duplication by public libraries across Queensland, to support innovation and entrepreneurialism in their regions
- progressing work to establish Queensland's first official digital archive in partnership with innovative industry partners
- continuing to deliver the Advance Queensland Platform Technology Program to support large scale co-funding projects that accelerate the development and deployment of significant and highly collaborative industry-based platform technology projects
- building Queensland's research and development capacity, and attracting and keeping the best and brightest research minds in Queensland through new rounds of the Advance Queensland Research Fellowships and PhD Scholarships
- continuing to support science engagement and communication projects, events and activities that increase the reach and impact of science in Queensland through the Advance Queensland Engaging Science Grants
- continuing to support the development of new technology that will increase Queenslanders' performance or level of participation in sport through the Sport Science Challenge
- providing Founders' Fellowships to researchers and clinicians to enable them to develop their innovations into commercial outcomes
- supporting Queensland researchers and innovators to collaborate with global expertise to achieve research and commercial outcomes through the Queensland-Chinese Academy of Sciences Collaborative Science Fund and the Commercialisation Partnerships Program
- continuing to deliver to the North Stradbroke Island Workers Assistance Scheme to support workers affected by the cessation of sand mining on North Stradbroke Island
- implementing the Queensland Climate Change Response to transition to a low carbon, clean growth economy and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate, and do so in a way that delivers the best outcomes for Queensland—by securing new jobs and opportunities for Queenslanders, supporting and strengthening our communities and protecting our precious natural environment
- working on a Tourism Sector Adaptation Plan, focusing on adapting the Queensland tourism industry to deal with risks and opportunities associated with climate change and the transition to a low carbon economy.

Health and wellbeing

- finalising the whole-of-government *Action on Ice* plan to address the harms associated with ice use

- continuing to embed *My health, Queensland's future: Advancing health 2026* in Queensland's health system
- investing \$126.5 million to continue initiatives under the *Specialist Outpatient Strategy* to reduce the number of patients waiting longer than clinically recommended for initial specialist outpatient appointments
- delivering an additional 12,000 gastrointestinal endoscopies in 2017–18 as part of the four-year *Endoscopy Action Plan*, to meet demand, increase access and improve outcomes
- extending the current Neurodevelopment Exposure Disorder Clinic at the Gold Coast to provide a statewide service aimed at providing support, knowledge and training for clinicians, children and families
- delivering the \$15 million *Winter Bed Management Strategy*, driving improved emergency access performance across the state during the winter period
- developing education programs aimed at providing interns and other health professionals with resilience and coping skills
- continuing the rollout of the Digital Hospital project to deliver an integrated electronic medical record with full digital capability in 24 Queensland hospitals
- recruiting an additional 115 ambulance officers to provide enhanced roster coverage to manage increasing demand for ambulance services
- delivering services and infrastructure to implement the \$350 million *Connecting care to recovery 2016–2021 mental health, alcohol and other drugs* plan
- continuing to improve Indigenous health outcomes across the state through the *Making Tracks Investment Strategy 2015–18*, including:
 - continuing the highly successful Brisbane Broncos Deadly Choices Partnership
 - establishing a new primary health care clinic run by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane at Loganlea
 - establishing Indigenous mental health liaison services at six public hospitals
 - expanding provision of Indigenous-specific forensic mental health services at correctional facilities
- implementing a range of initiatives under *Deadly Kids Deadly Futures: Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child and Ear Hearing Health Framework 2016–2026* to reduce the rates and impacts of middle ear disease and associated hearing loss for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- establishing the Healthy Futures Commission Queensland to focus on reducing obesity and chronic disease rates in Queensland, focusing on children, young people and families
- continuing the rollout of the My health for life program, tackling growing rates of preventable chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and stroke
- continuing to implement the *Health and Wellbeing Strategic Framework 2017–2026*, and associated *Overweight and Obesity Prevention Strategy*, *Smoke Prevention Strategy*, *Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy* and *Performance Measurement Strategy*, guiding delivery of chronic disease risk factor prevention initiatives
- implementing the *Logan Community health action plan 2017*, a \$10 million strategy to address key health challenges for specific population groups in Logan
- implementing initiatives identified under the *Queensland Sexual Health Strategy 2016–2021* and *North Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sexually Transmissible Infections Action Plan 2016–2021*, to help improve the sexual and reproductive health of all Queenslanders
- delivering \$1.5 million in targeted health services to support the transition of 17 year-olds from Queensland's adult justice system to the youth system
- extending the School Immunisation Program to include the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine for Year 10 students
- employing 119 additional nurse navigators, bringing the total number of nurse navigators expected to be employed since the start of the program to 240
- continuing to work towards recruitment of up to 4000 new suitably qualified nursing and midwifery graduates by 2018-19, above the baseline in 2013–14
- investing in the Queensland Health and Medical Research Funding Program to support innovative, collaborative research with a strong translatable potential to frontline research

- investing \$2.7 million to deliver Action 26 of the *Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2015–17* through the Improve men’s access to care: a national ambulance approach project, to reduce suicide and improve the mental health of men and boys
- continuing the Partners in Prevention project, to improve information sharing when responding to patients with mental health conditions
- working with Griffith University to research the incidence, profile, outcomes and episode costs for adult acute mental health patient presentations to emergency departments in Queensland
- finalising the *Strengthening Mental Health Intervention Report: A Current State Assessment*, into the mental health intervention strategies currently being delivered by the Queensland Ambulance Service
- working on a Human Health and Wellbeing Sector Adaptation Plan, focusing on adapting the Queensland health sector to deal with risks and opportunities associated with climate change and the transition to low carbon and climate-affected economy
- delivering reforms identified in the *Queensland Building Plan*, including a suite of measures to help address security of payment for subcontractors, and advancing green star ratings for Queensland government-owned buildings
- conducting a Small Business Innovation Research challenge, under the Advance Queensland initiative to identify an affordable personal dust monitoring device that will provide real-time data to workers regarding their exposure levels to respirable dust, consistent with Australian Standards
- working in collaboration with the Federal Government, states and territories, industry and relevant regulators to address issues relating to non-conforming building products
- establishing a new service model to address the longer term needs of victims of domestic and family violence to support their independence.

Environment

- implementing the Queensland Climate Change Response, comprised of the *Queensland Climate Transition Strategy* and the *Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy*, aiming to harness opportunities and address risks of a changing climate and the transition to a zero net emissions economy by 2050
- supporting implementation of Sector Adaptation Plans for the Built Environment and Infrastructure sector and the Agriculture sector to assist these industries respond to the challenges associated with a changing climate
- building on a Carbon Farming Industry Summit for over 140 participants from across Australia and along the carbon offset supply chain, providing key input into an industry-led roadmap to be released in Australia and internationally
- releasing the *Queensland Sustainable Fisheries Strategy 2017–2027*, investing \$20.8 million over three years to support reforms and compliance—including 20 more compliance officers and vessel tracking on all boats, more monitoring and research, better engagement and more responsive decision making
- implementing mine rehabilitation reforms to improve rehabilitation outcomes across Queensland
- redesigning the financial assurance framework for the resource sector to better protect Queensland environmentally and financially, including developing a framework for residual risk under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
- continuing to progress actions under the Reef 2050 Plan, including the Raine Island recovery project
- releasing the draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017–2022, for public consultation. The Plan provides a framework for managing land based impacts on Reef water quality and is nested under the water quality theme of the Reef 2050 Plan
- in developing the draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017–2022, prepare a revised 2017 Scientific Consensus Statement to update the latest science about land use impacts on Great Barrier Reef Water Quality and Ecosystem Condition, and develop 35 catchment level pollution reduction targets to provide a new level of specificity and take into account local situations for areas of the reef affected by each river, and help to prioritise on-ground interventions and investment
- continuing to progress a long-term protected area strategy for the expansion and effective management of the protected area estate
- building stronger relationships and engagement frameworks to cater for traditional owners’ participation in protected areas management
- working with stakeholders to implement the recommendations of the Koala Expert Panel for koala

conservation in Queensland

- working with local governments and tourism industry partners to develop a detailed management plan and visitor management strategy for the Daisy Hill Koala Bushland
- delivering stage 1 actions identified in the *Daisy Hill Koala Bushland Action Plan* to ensure important improvements are ready in time for GC2018
- continuing to progress actions identified in the *Queensland Ecotourism Plan 2016–2020*, including facilitating best practice, low impact ecotourism investment opportunities
- releasing a discussion paper seeking public input on the future directions for the management of Great Sandy Marine Park
- preparing the second Declared Fish Habitat Area Network Assessment report (for release in early 2018)
- continuing to deliver property-based vegetation management related maps—more than 5000 maps are provided free online every month
- allocating \$14.4 million to deliver Natural Resource Management programs, with approximately \$7.9 million allocated to projects delivered by Regional NRM bodies
- continuing to develop and implement new technologies to provide a world class Vessel Traffic Service, contributing to safe and efficient movement of vessels transiting the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait
- informing future investment in Queensland State school energy efficiency measures with ideas from the market sounding into school energy costs as a part of the Advancing Clean Energy Schools program
- commencing Year 1 of *Accelerating Science Delivery Innovation* to modernise and enhance systems, data, services and visualisations to make science more accessible and empower governments, business, education and the community
- releasing new wind datasets, via the SILO (Scientific Information for Landowners) climate database, assisting businesses to select potential sites for wind farms
- supporting the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program by delivering the Catchments Loads Monitoring program, wetland monitoring and delivering updated land use, and land use change mapping, for the reef catchments of Mackay-Whitsunday and Burdekin
- facilitating investment in renewable energy and bioenergy projects by mapping feedstocks through the ABBA (Australian Biomass for Bioenergy Assessment) project
- adding six sites to the Queensland Soil Monitoring program, with 22 sites now covering three key industries (dryland cropping, sugarcane, horticulture and grazing)
- partnering with Griffith University to investigate soil characteristics and erodibility, and develop optimal approaches for treating alluvial gullies to reduce sediment and nutrient loads on the Great Barrier Reef.

People

- exploring options to implement the recommendation of the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry to develop and pilot a Childrens Court Expert Court Assistance model in two locations
- commencing implementation of the government's response to the Queensland Family and Child Commission's review of Queensland's Blue Card system
- implementing the Queensland Law Reform Commission recommendations on expunging historical homosexual convictions
- transferring responsibility for dealing with offences committed by 17 year-olds from the adult criminal justice system to the youth justice system
- introducing specialised clinical services for high harm and complex needs prisoners, including increasing prisoners' access to Opioid Substitution Treatment Programs to provide treatment for opioid dependencies
- delivering joint management arrangements with Traditional Owners in the North Stradbroke Island area, including Naree Budjong Djara National Park, and on Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land national parks
- continuing the Get Started Vouchers program, providing financial support to those children and young people who can least afford, or may otherwise benefit from, joining a sport or recreation club
- supporting children under the Young Athletes Travel Subsidy to compete in, or officiate at, specific state, national or international events
- funding the Get Out, Get Active program and the Women and Girls Special Initiatives to encourage women and girls to increase participation in sport and active recreation
- continuing to support Nature Play Qld to encourage young children and their families to engage in

nature and the environment as well as learn practical life skills

- continuing to enhance volunteer operational capability by ensuring alignment with community needs and development of sustainable policies and programs
- developing the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Volunteerism Strategy, addressing the challenges facing emergency volunteer service delivery now and into the future
- continuing to deliver the government's integrated Townsville Community Youth response strategy to address youth crime
- funding Project Booyah at nine locations across the State to engage at-risk and vulnerable young people to reduce risk factors that may lead to criminal behaviour.

Infrastructure

- completing construction of the Commonwealth Games Village, estimated to support 1500 jobs during design and construction
- continuing work on Cross River Rail to unlock the bottleneck at the core of the South East Queensland transport network to allow more trains more often, enabling a turn-up-and-go transport system for the whole of South East Queensland
- progressing a range of health infrastructure priorities such as:
 - new mental health facilities across Queensland
 - essential upgrades to health facilities and supporting infrastructure in rural and regional areas across the state
 - enhancing public hospital capacity in South East Queensland
 - hospital redevelopments, health precincts and upgrades
 - planning and delivering new and replacement ambulance stations
- expanding the Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre and continued implementation of the \$200 million expansion to the Capricornia Correctional Centre
- completing the safe cell upgrades to the remaining 244 cells at Borallon Training and Correctional Centre
- expanding the public mooring and reef protection program in the Great Barrier Reef, as part of the Significant Regional Infrastructure Program Projects
- revitalising and enhancing critical infrastructure including nature-based tourism opportunities to protect the natural and cultural values of Queensland's national parks, and maintain the breadth and quality of visitor experiences
- releasing the Female Facilities Program to support the construction of female amenities in sport and recreation clubs around the state
- releasing further rounds of the Get Playing Places and Spaces program to support the development of sport and active recreation infrastructure across the state
- releasing the Strategy for Social Infrastructure to promote multi-sector collaboration and innovation in the planning, design and use of social infrastructure
- progressing the Maturing the Infrastructure Pipeline Program with an additional \$10 million allocated in 2017–18 for projects identified through the consultation phase of the *State Infrastructure Plan* and local government infrastructure priorities
- making better infrastructure decisions, informed by Building Queensland's six-monthly Infrastructure Pipeline of priority projects and completed business cases for nine infrastructure proposals
- continuing to monitor and report on delivery of the \$180 million Significant Regional Infrastructure Projects Program, to fund significant infrastructure projects in key regional centres that respond to a community need or provide increased economic opportunities
- releasing the 2017 State Infrastructure Plan Part B Program update to continue managing Queensland's growth
- updating the *State Infrastructure Plan: Part B* for 2018, and delivering infrastructure innovation and best-practice across Queensland Government
- supporting local governments and private sector groups through the Catalyst Infrastructure Program, by continuing to assess and invest in infrastructure that unlocks development and creates construction and long term employment
- completing delivery of the \$163m Coomera to Helensvale Rail Duplication Project, including 8.2km of

track and eight new bridges

- continuing delivery of 75 new six-car passenger trains as part of the New Generation Rollingstock project and deliver four new stabling sites at Robina, Elimbah, Woombye and Banyo to accommodate the increased Rollingstock fleet in South East Queensland
- delivering approximately \$21 billion in investment for transport infrastructure over 2017–18 to 2020–21, as part of QTRIP, supporting an estimated 16,950 direct jobs over the life of the program
- continuing to deliver safe roads through the Targeted Road Safety Program
- supporting implementation of the Townsville Water Security Taskforce Interim Report’s findings, working with Townsville City Council and the Federal Government, as part of the Townsville City Deal
- releasing the Queensland Bulk Water Opportunities Statement, as part of the *State Infrastructure Plan*
- delivering the \$500 million Building Future Schools program:
 - a new secondary school at Fortitude Valley by 2020 in partnership with Queensland University of Technology
 - a new inner-south secondary school by 2021 with The University of Queensland
 - expanding West End State School
- delivering four new schools and three major school stages in 2018 and planning for new school capacity to open in 2019
- investing \$200 million, as a part of the Advancing Queensland State Schools program, in land acquisitions for new schools and new and refurbished school halls at 30 schools
- rolling out the asset life cycle assessment program to more than 500 state school and 40 training sites to provide maintenance planning information over 10 years—supporting future investment in asset renewal and maintenance
- investing \$17.5 million for the Arts Infrastructure Investment Fund—\$4.4 million to reimagine Queensland Museum’s Sciencentre, \$2 million for planning and relocation of Rockhampton Art Gallery, and \$15 million allocated to the 940-seat Cairns Performing Arts Centre
- completing the \$2.25 million Cremorne Theatre refurbishment
- publishing the Queensland Digital Infrastructure Plan to outline Queensland’s strategy for improving digital services.

Governance

- implementing recommendations from the Queensland Audit Office’s report *Criminal justice system – prison sentences*
- progressing protected area management frameworks, including management planning instruments, management effectiveness evaluation, and levels of service
- supporting the activities of the Better Regulation Taskforce, including finalisation of its 2017 review of three priority industry sectors, and ongoing monitoring of implementation of the *Red Tape Reduction Advisory Council 2016 Report*
- working to deliver the Business Impact Statement project to support Queensland Government agencies in better assessing the impacts of proposed policies and regulations on small business
- finalising the Pre-Games evaluation report and continuing to monitor and evaluate the Embracing 2018 Legacy Program for GC2018, reporting on the delivery of legacy benefits and achievements and evaluating the return on government and other stakeholder investment
- coordinating submissions of Total Asset Management Plans across all Queensland Government departments to assist asset management and utilisation
- finalising the framework for Strategic Asset Management Plans and commence piloting of Strategic Asset Management Plans within selected departments
- finalise a direction to Seqwater on bulk water pricing for South East Queensland by mid-2018 which will continue to transition customers to cost-reflective bulk water prices over a sustainable period
- working with local governments to continue building their capacity and assist in monitoring and managing their performance and sustainability
- implementing the Queensland Government’s response to the review of the councillor conduct complaints system to improve transparency and accountability in local government
- partnering with federal and local governments, non-government organisations and the private sector to

provide digital, personalised and proactive services making it simpler, faster and easier for Queenslanders to locate and access government services

- progressing work to establish a digital archive to safeguard Queensland's critical digital public records now and into the future.

Local government activities

Local governments play a vital role in bringing *The Queensland Plan* to life as councils constantly work to create connected and liveable communities for all Queenslanders.

As well as delivering a vast range of services directly to communities, councils continue to look to the future and work towards new models of sustainable growth.

The role of local government continues to evolve as communities' needs and demands change, with councils finding innovative ways to solve problems old and new. From digital connectivity and literacy, to protecting natural assets and supporting economic and social well-being, there are not many areas of Queenslanders' lives that councils do not touch.

Over the past 12 months there have been many case studies that highlight the diverse ways local governments are contributing to *The Queensland Plan's* nine foundation areas: education; community; regions; economy; health and wellbeing; environment; people; infrastructure; and governance.

The examples below show the strength of councils in helping to deliver the Plan's vision for Queensland. This is only a sample of the positive outcomes this year the local government sector continues to work with the Queensland Government on this plan to see a healthier, more connected and prosperous future for everyone in this great state.

MAYOR MARK JAMIESON

PRESIDENT

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND

Redland City Council

Designed to spark ideas on how to keep young people in the area after finishing school, Redland City Council hosted a youth innovation forum, RedGen, bringing together a line-up of successful young innovators to share their personal journey of how they turned their dream into reality.

Open to 18- to 30-year-olds who have lived in the Redlands, the Redland City Economic Development Advisory Board spawned the idea as part of Council's commitment to supporting a vibrant and innovative local economy.

It represented the first in a series of Council forums to explore how innovative businesses can grow the local economy, recognising that one of the city's best exports is its youth.

Within 24 hours of the forum's survey going live, Council received more than 100 responses to participate.

For more information visit: <https://news.redland.qld.gov.au/2017/04/redlands-youth-innovation-forum-generates-fresh-ideas/>

The Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD)

The Remote Area Planning and Development Board continues to lead the way in engaging its community on the importance of digital communications to qualities such as community liveability, and attracting and retaining residents.

RAPAD—comprising the councils of Barcaldine, Longreach, Winton, Boulia, Blackall-Tambo, Diamantina and Barcoo shires in the state's central west—this year produced a 'digitally-enabled' community strategic plan.

The Smart Central West Digital Strategy contains more than 40 recommendations to achieve a more digitally-enabled community to take advantage of opportunities to grow the regional economy.

RAPAD also hosted Startup Weekend Outback Edition, a first for remote Australia which saw 35 participants deliver 19 pitches covering a variety of issues.

For more information visit: <http://www.rapad.com.au/>

South West Regional Economic Development

Regional cross-promotion, enhancing business skills and building tourism products are the focus areas for the South West Regional Economic Development (SWRED) in boosting tourism numbers in the region.

A partnership with the then Department of Education and Training, University of Southern Queensland (USQ) and Tourism Events Queensland (TEQ), the tourism project saw students from five regions – Murweh, Quilpie, Bulloo, Balonne and Maranoa – embark on shire familiarisations to better prepare them to promote the whole region.

USQ also worked with local businesses and community to identify priority projects and their tourism potential.

Douglas Shire Council

Douglas Shire became the first council in Queensland to complete the first two phases of a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS) under the QCoast₂₁₀₀ program.

Funded by the State Government and facilitated by the Local Government Association of Queensland, the \$12 million program is helping local governments impacted by coastal hazards as a result of climate change to get on the front foot in adaptation planning.

Council also teamed up with the Douglas Local Marine Advisory Committee to send a sustainability officer to a coastal management short course to help Council strengthen its long-term disaster management planning.

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council

2017 was a big year for Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, with projects like the seawall upgrade and revamp of the waste facility clear wins for the community. The Shire is also well into planning its 2018 centenary, with a focus on tourism this year through a series of workshops.

Council finished 2017 with a clean bill of financial health for the 12th year running, after a range of projects, upgrades and initiatives:

- upgrading the water treatment plant to ensure the shire's water remains highest possible quality
- upgrading the seawall to protect the community from storm surges
- building netball courts and a clubhouse for the community
- working to completely redevelop the beautiful foreshore to make visiting and enjoying Palm Island even easier, and
- resurfacing and maintaining roads and bridges on the island and fencing at the aerodrome.

South Burnett Regional Council

Harnessing technology not yet used in Australia saw South Burnett Regional Council take out a Queensland Water Award for its Kingaroy Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade.

In partnership with Aquatec Maxcon the project delivered Australia's first aerobic granular sludge, Nereda, with the plant achieving exceptional effluent quality and a significant reduction in both capital and operating expenses.

The project has received recognition by the Dutch Government, which issued a postage stamp celebrating the relationship between Australia and The Netherlands.

For more information visit:

https://www.awa.asn.au/documents/MR_2017_QLD_Water_Awards_winners_announced.pdf

Maranoa Regional Council

Libraries across Maranoa offered free Tech Savvy Seniors Queensland training sessions designed to teach older people to use a variety of technologies to help them navigate the evolving digital world.

Local seniors participated in 19 different training modules covering a range of essential topics from introducing people to the internet and email through to about online shopping and banking, cyber safety and social media.

Funded by Telstra and the State Library of Queensland, the program will provide Queensland's growing senior population with the skills needed to securely access essential services online.

<http://www.maranoa.qld.gov.au/>

Ipswich City Council

Ipswich City Council is using drone technology to further its status as a smart city, using high definition photos and thermal imagery where it's difficult for a human to access.

The data and images obtained from a variety of cameras will help monitor the condition of council assets, such as identifying cracks or movement in bridges or rust spots in building roofs and gutters which can be quickly fixed.

Some of the key benefit areas include asset management, disaster management, surveying of landfill and quarries, marketing and tourism, vegetation and pest management, and in the future, compliance. The areas for drone use have been identified where operational savings and efficiencies could be achieved.

In the instance of a disaster, drones could fly over flooded areas which are dangerous for State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers to enter. This would help determine where there are safe passageways. At quarry sites, drones could help with volumetric surveys to provide more accurate information of volumes of material being excavated.

Flyovers of conservation estates and other tourist spots would help further promote the attractiveness of the Ipswich region to a growing tourism market. Drones would be able to monitor over time the success of weed management programs and map the growth of revegetation areas.

For more information visit: <https://www.ipswichfirst.com.au/drones-help-smart-city-push/>

QUEENSLANDERS WORKING TOGETHER

The Works for Queensland funding program supported regional councils across the state to undertake hundreds of infrastructure and maintenance projects in 2017, creating jobs as well as improved facilities for communities.

The program allows councils to manage the projects, determining priorities for their own region.

For more information visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pry058TL7uA>



Queenslanders working together

Queensland industries, small businesses, universities, community groups and not-for-profit organisations continued to work together in 2016–17.

Queenslanders led by example in achieving outcomes for their local communities. Selected examples of community collaboration that aligned to the goals of the Plan include:

Working with traditional owners:

- NRL Cowboys House in Townsville, established to accommodate Indigenous students from remote areas of North Queensland while they attend high school in Townsville, has now been opened. The first intake of students from January 2017 are pursuing their high school education opportunities.
- Queensland Government is working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait People to resolve native title claims by agreement rather than litigation. Since *The Queensland Plan* commenced, there have been 37 native title determinations finalised, 34 of them by agreement. For the 2016–17 financial year, all eight native title determinations were arrived at by agreement.

Collaborating in the regions

- Toowoomba Together Incorporated launched with the aim of tackling domestic violence in Toowoomba through co-ordinating awareness and education activities as well as helping to find solutions on domestic violence issues.
- The Creative Tracks program partners with community members and organisations in Cherbourg, Woorabinda, Logan and HopeVale to develop young people's skills in performing arts, video production and leadership. The program aims to develop their confidence and provide career pathways. It is coordinated by not-for-profit organisation, Human, which receives funding through Arts Queensland's Organisations Fund and is supported by the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation.

Community

- The Stride personal project, a personal development weekend to empower recently arrived young migrant women aged 17-24, was piloted by Youth Without Borders and Multicultural Development Australia. This community initiative forms part of the Community implementation plan for the Queensland Government's Women's Strategy.
- The Community Hubs and Partnerships (CHaPs) program, which aims to maximise the social and community benefits of infrastructure projects in locations across regional and South East Queensland engaged key government, business and community stakeholders in Caloundra South (Aura) to facilitate the bringing forward of a \$31 million investment in infrastructure to support the rapidly growing community.
- The Queensland Government's Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) trials in Logan were developed in collaboration with the Queensland Community Alliance (QCA). QCA worked closely with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to plan and deliver an extensive community consultation program to understand how DRT could help support the transport needs of the Logan community.
- The Emergency Services Cadets Program is delivered in partnership with the Queensland Police-Citizens Youth Welfare Association (commonly known as PCYC). The program is offered to young Queenslanders from 12 to 17 years of age and aims to develop character, leadership and resilience. Participating emergency services include Queensland Fire and Emergency Service (QFES), Queensland Police Service, Queensland Ambulance Service, Red Cross, Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association, Surf Life Saving Queensland and Volunteer Marine Rescue Association Queensland.

Monitoring and reporting

The Plan includes a suite of measures by which progress towards the Plan's goals and targets can be monitored.

The implementation of the Plan is to be achieved over a 30-year period with incremental progress expected.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet is developing a revised reporting framework to report on progress towards the vision and goals of the Plan. This work will be completed as part of the five year review of the Plan.

The Queensland Plan Ambassadors Council meet at least two times a year to inform advice to the Premier on Queensland's progress.

These meetings provide an opportunity for the Ambassadors to hear from community and business representatives on key issues and trends influencing Queensland and the broader global community.