

# South East Queensland City Deal

## Statement of Intent

between

**The Commonwealth of Australia and  
The State of Queensland and  
The Council of Mayors (South East Queensland)**

This Statement of Intent provides an agreement between the three levels of government to work together to design and implement a City Deal for South East Queensland (the “SEQ City Deal”).

As one of the fastest growing regions in Australia, South East Queensland (“SEQ”) is experiencing significant change. In the period to 2041, the region is expected to accommodate an additional 1.9 million residents and almost 800,000 new homes. The region is also expecting to support one million new jobs.

As City Deal partners, we recognise the challenges and opportunities that growth in the region will bring, not just locally, but also for the state and the national economy. We agree that working together to ensure SEQ gets better, not just bigger, will produce shared benefits for the local community, the state and the nation.

We will also work to secure opportunities for future residents.

We acknowledge the traditional owners in South East Queensland and that Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples should be able to participate fully in Queensland’s vibrant economic, social and cultural life through thriving communities. All levels of government will work collaboratively and in partnership with Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples to improve outcomes and opportunities, including through this City Deal.

To this end, we agree to collaborate with industry and the community to realise opportunities to improve the region’s global competitiveness and connectivity, create higher value jobs and enhance the liveability of our communities.

The SEQ City Deal will provide the platform for SEQ to become “one region that is connected locally and competing globally”.

### **Priority areas for action**

Priority areas for the SEQ City Deal include:

#### **1. Connecting Infrastructure**

- We will focus on transforming regional connectivity to support a 45-minute region and 30- minute cities, with better mobility for people, goods and services.
- This connectivity will drive productivity for our businesses, improve the liveability of our communities and lift the global competitiveness of our region.

- This will leverage existing and proposed investments in the region, including the Queensland Government's Cross River Rail, Brisbane City Council's Brisbane Metro and the Commonwealth Government's Inland Rail to identify and prioritise the next wave of region-shaping transport investment, including through opportunities under the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy.
- Opportunities will be explored to improve connectivity to growth centres and realise the SEQ Trade and Enterprise Spine concept.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. Jobs and Skills

- We will focus on developing a more export-competitive and knowledge-intensive region which delivers higher-value jobs, investment and region-wide prosperity, including through supporting Indigenous businesses, growing youth and Indigenous employment.
- Opportunities will be explored to grow the region's five key economic corridors and five key tradeable industries,<sup>2</sup> and to support the development of a more skilled workforce.

## 3. Liveability and Sustainability

- We will focus on enhancing SEQ's lifestyle with sustainable communities through the planning and delivery of great places and spaces.
- Opportunities will be explored to improve SEQ's natural and urban environments, enhance urban design and deliver more sustainable resource use.
- The City Deal will build on *ShapingSEQ* and its focus on biodiversity, liveability and sustainable regional outcomes.

## 4. Housing and Planning

- We will focus on delivering sustainable growth through greater housing choice, more affordable living, better access to jobs, and improved coordination of community-enabling infrastructure and services.
- Opportunities will be explored to leverage government land and facilities, to support more innovative and affordable housing.
- Building on the region's strong planning framework in *ShapingSEQ*, we will work to further enhance the delivery of 'best practice' integrated planning in SEQ, including in infrastructure planning.

## 5. Digital

- We will focus on establishing SEQ as a leading Smart Digital Region.
- Our work to realise this goal will include a shared commitment to the effective use of data and an adaptive and responsive planning and regulatory environment.
- Opportunities will be explored to build on the existing smart city expertise of the region's local governments, leverage the new Sunshine Coast International Submarine Cable and promote regional digital connectivity.

<sup>1</sup> As described in *TransformingSEQ: the SEQ City Deal Proposition* (Council of Mayors SEQ, Queensland Government, 2019)

<sup>2</sup> As identified in the SEQ Economic Foundations Paper (Queensland Treasury, 2018)

## 6. Governance and Leadership

- We will focus on providing governance and leadership that unites our civic, government, industry and community leaders to collaboratively drive the success of SEQ.
- Opportunities will be explored to support an enduring tripartite partnership, greater economic coordination and collaboration, and regional stewardship.

### **South East Queensland City Deal Governance**

The SEQ City Deal will formalise the partnership between the Commonwealth, Queensland State Government and the Council of Mayors (SEQ) representing its member councils.

The SEQ City Deal will define priorities, actions, timeframes and accountabilities for achieving joint outcomes over the 20 year life of the deal. The establishment of an SEQ City Deal will require the three levels of government to consider all appropriate levers to support improved outcomes for SEQ.

In addition to these formal arrangements, the parties commit to engage meaningfully with community, civic leaders and industry in the development of the SEQ City Deal.

### **Agreement**

All parties agree to progress the development of a City Deal for SEQ in accordance with this Statement of Intent.

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**Signed** for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by:



**The Hon Alan Tudge MP**

Minister for Cities, Urban  
Infrastructure and Population

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Queensland Government by:



**The Hon Jackie Trad MP**

Deputy Premier  
Treasurer  
Minister for Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander  
Partnerships

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Council of Mayors (SEQ) by:



**The Right Hon. The Lord Mayor  
of Brisbane, Cr Graham Quirk**

Chair  
Council of Mayors (SEQ)

Dated: 15 March 2019