



Preparations in Townsville ahead of Tropical Cyclone Debbie.

Delivering for the community

Queensland Government's objectives for the community

Our department is focused on delivering the following Queensland Government objectives for the community:

- creating jobs and a diverse economy
- building safe, caring and connected communities
- protecting the environment.

We collaborate with local, state and federal government agencies, industry and private sector stakeholders to deliver quality frontline services, and to:

- support and increase job opportunities through major project development and the growth of new and existing industry sectors
- encourage partnerships with regional stakeholders and grow regional economies through investment, exports and job creation
- protect the Great Barrier Reef through actioning Reef 2050 as well as advancing master planning for the priority ports of Gladstone, Townsville, Abbot Point and Hay Point/Mackay in accordance with the *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2015* (Ports Act)
- ensure the department's policies, programs and services align with the Queensland Government Interim Response to *The Queensland Plan*. (*the Interim Response*)

The Interim Response supports the government's objectives for the community and identifies the priorities and key initiatives

that will contribute towards implementing Queensland's vision.

More information on how our policies, programs and services contribute to the government's objectives for the community can be found in the 'Our performance' sections of this annual report.

Whole-of-government plans and initiatives

National Partnership Agreements and Project Agreements

The department has the lead responsibility for delivering on two National Partnership Agreements (NPAs) with the Australian Government.

The aim of the NPAs is to improve the capacity, resilience and infrastructure in communities, and to implement financial management frameworks that build the capacity and resilience of local governments.

Regional Infrastructure Fund Stream 2—Economic Infrastructure

North Queensland Resources Supply Chain (\$1.66 million) delivered the following initiatives during 2016–17:

- an investigation of options to accelerate the development of the Townsville SDA
- the development, by the Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone, of a multi-criteria decision analysis tool and aerial geographical assessment to identify the most reliable backup to existing storages enhancing water security for Cloncurry and Mount Isa.

This NPA expired on 30 June 2017. A further extension to 30 June 2018 has been sought from the Australian Government for further initiatives to be delivered under this program.



Concept design. North Queensland Stadium, Townsville.

Central Queensland Resources Supply Chain (\$1.5 million):

A range of projects have been completed including assessing the viability of transporting fuel inputs by rail to reduce road safety and congestion, evaluating upgrading the Clermont-Alpha Road and investigating the viability of a common user airport for the Galilee Basin.

North Queensland Stadium

The North Queensland Stadium is a joint project of the Queensland Government, Australian Government and the Townsville City Council and is supported by both the National Rugby League (NRL) and the North Queensland Cowboys. The stadium forms part of the Townsville City Deal signed in December 2016.

The Queensland Government has committed \$140 million, supported by \$100 million from the Australian Government and \$10 million from the North Queensland Cowboys with the support of the National Rugby League (NRL). Townsville City Council is contributing land and enabling infrastructure.

A key objective is to generate jobs and stimulate the region's economy by engaging local industry. The project is expected to support 750 full-time equivalent jobs during design and construction.

It will also act as a catalyst for revitalisation of the Townsville Central Business District and provide ongoing benefits for the tourism, retail, commercial and hospitality industries in North Queensland.

The 25,000-seat stadium will be home to the North Queensland Cowboys and cater for a variety of other events and uses.

The project is on track for completion by the start of the 2020 NRL season.

Community Hubs and Partnerships (CHaPs)

The Community Hubs and Partnerships (CHaPs) program delivers on whole-of-government directions outlined in the *State Infrastructure Plan* by facilitating improved cross-agency planning and ensuring more effective and efficient use of existing assets.

This innovative program brings together state government agencies, local councils, non-government organisations and the private sector to provide service and infrastructure solutions in areas of anticipated high population growth and/or changing community needs.

During 2016–17, CHaPs facilitated the planning and implementation of 12 projects. This included work in regional areas such as Hervey Bay, Mackay, Mount Isa and the Western Downs.

In the Priority Development Area (PDA) of Caloundra South (now known as Aura), CHaPs facilitated a collaborative design, delivery and operational management outcome for the Aura Community Hub by bringing together stakeholders from local and state government and the private sector. Stage one of the Community Hub will open in January 2018, with the project achieving a \$31 million bring forward of investment to the Sunshine Coast community.

The Inala Community Hub represents the first stage of a wider precinct plan servicing the needs of the community.

Through facilitation with state and non-government partners, CHaPs enabled a \$3.5 million investment to be brought forward.