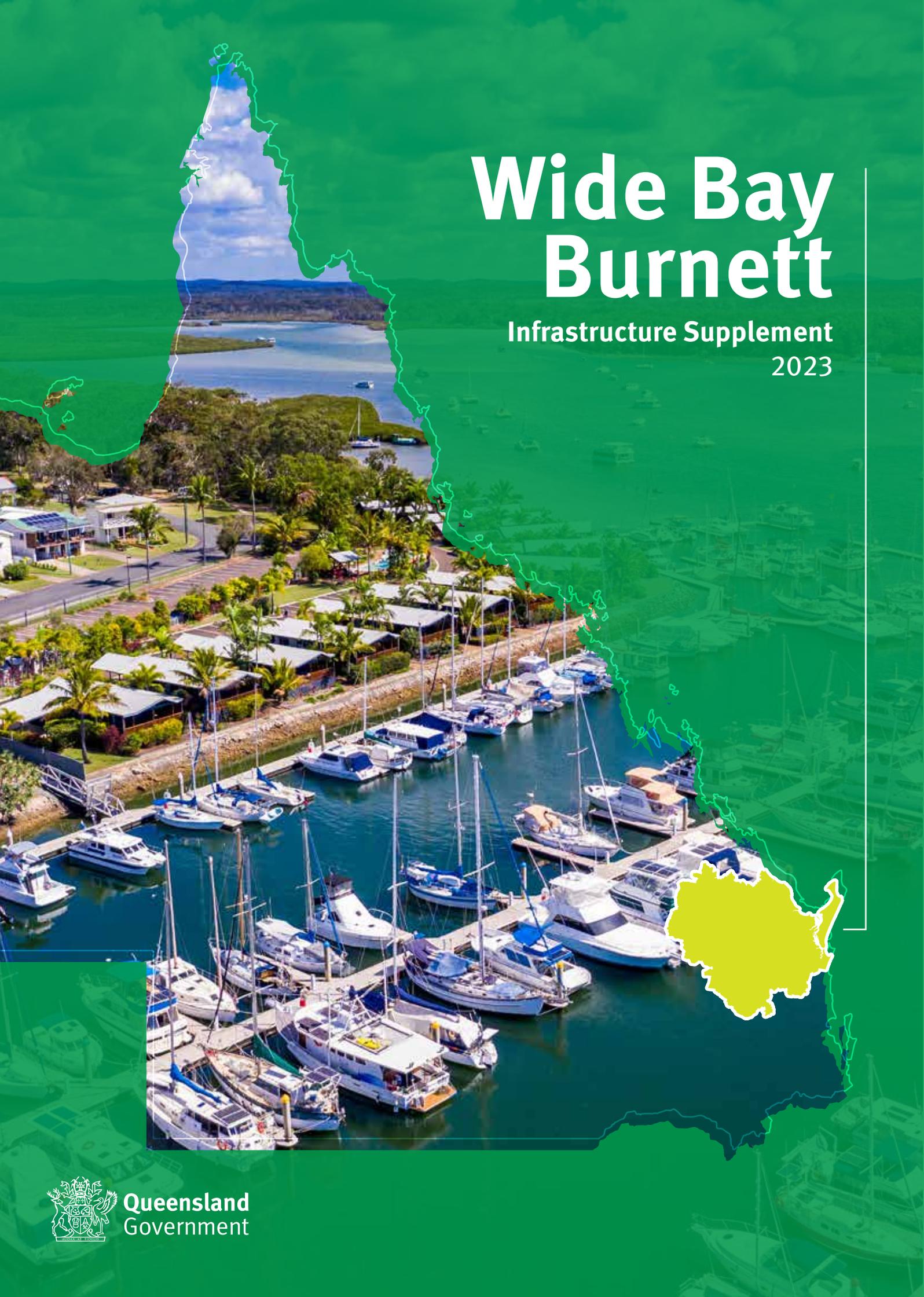


Wide Bay Burnett

Infrastructure Supplement
2023



Queensland
Government



Contents

- Acknowledgement of Country4
- Foreword6
- Introduction.....7
- Wide Bay Burnett Infrastructure Map8
- Wide Bay Burnett Priorities 10
 - » Strategic Priority 1: Growing our people and places..... 12
 - » Strategic Priority 2: Taking charge of our economic future.....23
 - » Strategic Priority 3: Sustaining our environment and lifestyle36
- Implementation and review39
- Acronyms42

The Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning connects industries, businesses, communities and government (at all levels) to leverage regions' strengths to generate sustainable and enduring economic growth that supports well-planned, inclusive and resilient communities.

Copyright

This publication is protected by the *Copyright Act 1968*.

Creative Commons licence



This work, except as identified below, is licensed by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning under a

Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial (CC BY-NC) 4.0 Australia licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit creativecommons.org.au

You are free to copy, communicate and adapt this publication as long as you attribute it as follows:

© State of Queensland, the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning.

Third party material that is not licensed under a Creative Commons licence is referenced within this document. All content not licensed under a Creative Commons licence is all rights reserved. Please contact the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning the copyright owner if you wish to use this material.

Translating and interpreting service

If you have difficulty understanding a document and need an interpreter, we provide access to a translating and interpreting service. You will not be charged for this service. To contact the Translating and Interpreting Service, telephone 131 450 and ask them to telephone the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning on +61 7 3328 4811.

Disclaimer

While every care has been taken in preparing this publication, to the extent permitted by law, the State of Queensland accepts no responsibility and disclaims all liability (including without limitation, liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses (including direct and indirect loss), damages and costs incurred as a result of decisions or actions taken as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained within. To the best of our knowledge, the content was correct at the time of publishing.

Any references to legislation are not an interpretation of the law. They are to be used as a guide only. The information in this publication is general and does not take into account individual circumstances or situations. Where appropriate, independent legal advice should be sought.

Copies of this publication are available on our website at www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au and further copies are available upon request.

Contact us

T +61 7 3328 4811 or 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
 E info@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au
 W www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au
 P PO Box 15009, City East, Queensland 4002
 A 1 William Street, Brisbane 4000

*Cover image:
Tin Can Bay Marina*

(Source: DSDILGP)

*Inside cover image:
Munjoorum Aboriginal
Centre, Eidsvold*

(Source: DSDILGP)

Acknowledgement of Country

The Queensland Government acknowledges the First Nations peoples in Queensland: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their connections to the lands, winds and waters we now all share.

We pay our respect to Elders, past and present. We also acknowledge the deep relationship, connection and responsibility to land, sea and Country as an integral element of First Nations identity and culture.

The Country is sacred. Everything on the land has meaning and all people are one with it. We acknowledge First Nations peoples' sacred connection as central to culture and being. We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of First Nations peoples and commit to shaping our state's future together. The Queensland Government recognises the contribution of First Nations peoples and communities to the State of Queensland and how this continues to enrich our society more broadly.

» THE YHURRI GURRI FRAMEWORK 2021-2024

The Yhurri Gurri Framework 2021-24 (the Framework) outlines the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP)'s ongoing commitment to growing First Nations participation in its everyday business with initiatives that support First Nations communities, businesses and peoples across Queensland. It is part of DSDILGP's commitment to supporting the reframed relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through the Statement of Commitment.

Regional infrastructure plans support the Framework's 'Structural Reform' initiative which recognises the need to draw on perspectives and knowledge of First Nation peoples in legislation, policy and program design. Regional infrastructure plans are developed in consultation with First Nations peoples, embedding their perspectives, priorities and knowledge into each plan's strategic economic and social priorities, and infrastructure priorities to guide place-based State infrastructure planning and investments.

The Yhurri Gurri design conveys the different pathways to growth and building which speaks to the department's approach to bringing community together, both physically and philosophically (Source: DSDILGP)



REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS

Regional infrastructure plans are a new Queensland Government initiative supporting the State's intent for a greater focus on placed-based infrastructure planning to deliver upon the key strategic priorities of a region, identified by the region.

Regional infrastructure plans have a long-term 20-year outlook identifying strategic economic and social priorities, and infrastructure priorities for the region to guide State infrastructure planning and investments, in partnership with other levels of government and industry where possible.

A regional infrastructure supplement is a more narrowly scoped and accelerated version of a regional infrastructure plan in cases when a Statutory Regional Plan (SRP) review is already underway.

The regional infrastructure plans align with the *State Infrastructure Strategy 2022* which sets policy objectives for infrastructure planning by agencies to ensure that infrastructure delivery meets the changing needs of Queensland's population and economy.

Regional infrastructure plans are progressively integrated with the SRPs and respond to broader regional economic development strategies such as the Queensland new industry development strategy to drive regional growth and support timely regional responses to economic, social and environmental changes.

Regional infrastructure plans inform the strategic planning of all levels of government, business and industry, and along with the Queensland Government Infrastructure Pipeline, will provide greater visibility and a more coordinated approach to sequencing and prioritising infrastructure planning and investment.

Borumba Dam, Gympie Regional Council (Source: DSDILGP)

Foreword

DEPUTY PREMIER AND MINISTER'S FOREWORD

Wide Bay Burnett is a region renowned for premium agricultural products along with a diverse manufacturing industry that supports this sector.

From the leading primary industries sector to one of Australia's largest concentrations of nesting marine turtles, it's the industries that support these sectors that help drive the economic success in the Wide Bay Burnett region.

We're building big to deliver the infrastructure our growing state needs. Over the next two decades, the Wide Bay Burnett Infrastructure Supplement (WBBIS) will help strengthen regional value chains and industry advantages in rail and rollingstock, while driving investment and enabling emerging sectors including renewable energy and bioindustries.

This demand for renewable energy will help create more jobs and industries in this region attracting skilled workers and their families keen to enjoy the lifestyle opportunities that the region offers.

Creating a thriving green economy by decarbonising the region's supply chains for key industries will enhance growth, sustainability, and resilience. In achieving this we want to partner and work with the region's First Nations communities to share in the benefits of these emerging industries and opportunities.

We can't do this work alone – the WBBIS, informed by local government, industry and local stakeholders' input into the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan (WBBRP), can only be delivered in partnership.

We are committed to seeing this plan deliver outcomes for the people in the Wide Bay Burnett region. This means more jobs in more industries, diversifying the economy in emerging and growth industries to enhance our thriving, liveable Wide Bay Burnett communities where Queenslanders love to live, work and play.



The Honourable Steven Miles MP
Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure



The Honourable Glenn Butcher MP
Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water

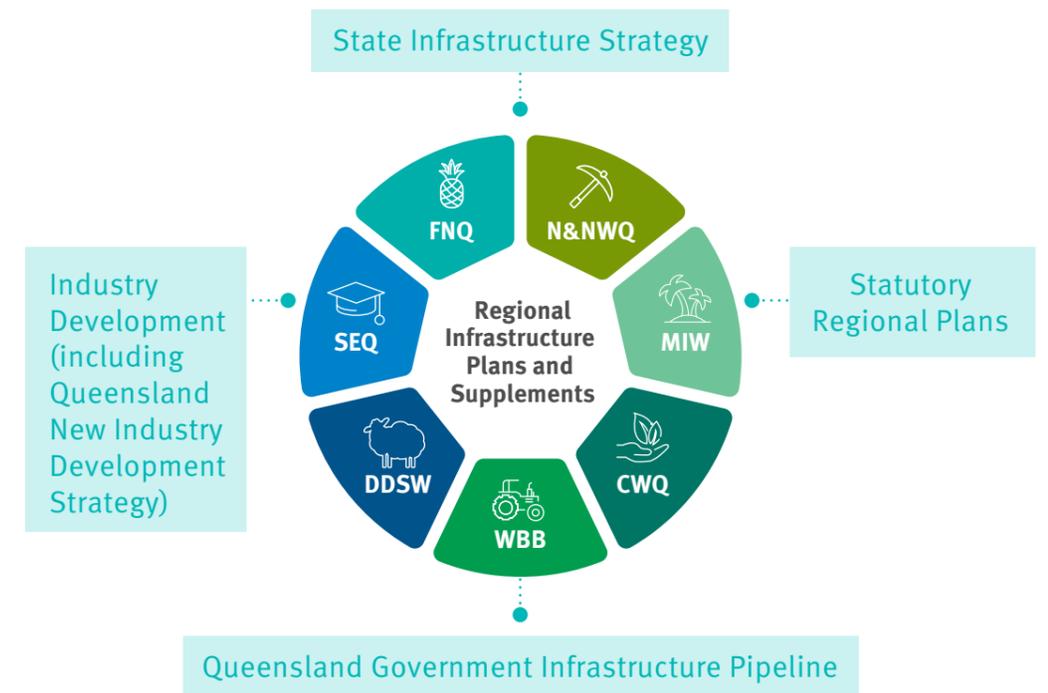
Introduction

This WBBIS supports the WBBRP and the two should be read in conjunction. WBBIS identifies State infrastructure initiatives that support the vision, strategic priorities, objectives and infrastructure priorities within the WBBRP. These initiatives support the region's identified economic opportunities in key sectors and along regional value chains, as well as regional liveability to support population attraction and retention.

The WBBRP is a 25-year statutory plan for the local government areas of Bundaberg, Cherbourg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, North Burnett and South Burnett. It was prepared by DSDILGP through a collaborative stakeholder engagement program and strong evidence base informed by expert advice and best practice research. The WBBRP seeks to create a common understanding about what is most important for the future of the region and how regional priorities should be achieved.

The WBBIS is a precursor to the *Wide Bay Burnett Infrastructure Plan* (WBBIP),

which will align to the region's vision, priorities and objectives as articulated in the WBBIS and identify long-term infrastructure strategies in consultation with regional and State agency stakeholders. These strategies will inform the strategic planning of all levels of government, business and industry to support a more coordinated approach to sequencing and prioritising infrastructure planning and investment. State infrastructure initiatives that support the region's priorities and objectives will also be reviewed and updated as appropriate. It is anticipated the development of the WBBIP will commence in 2025.

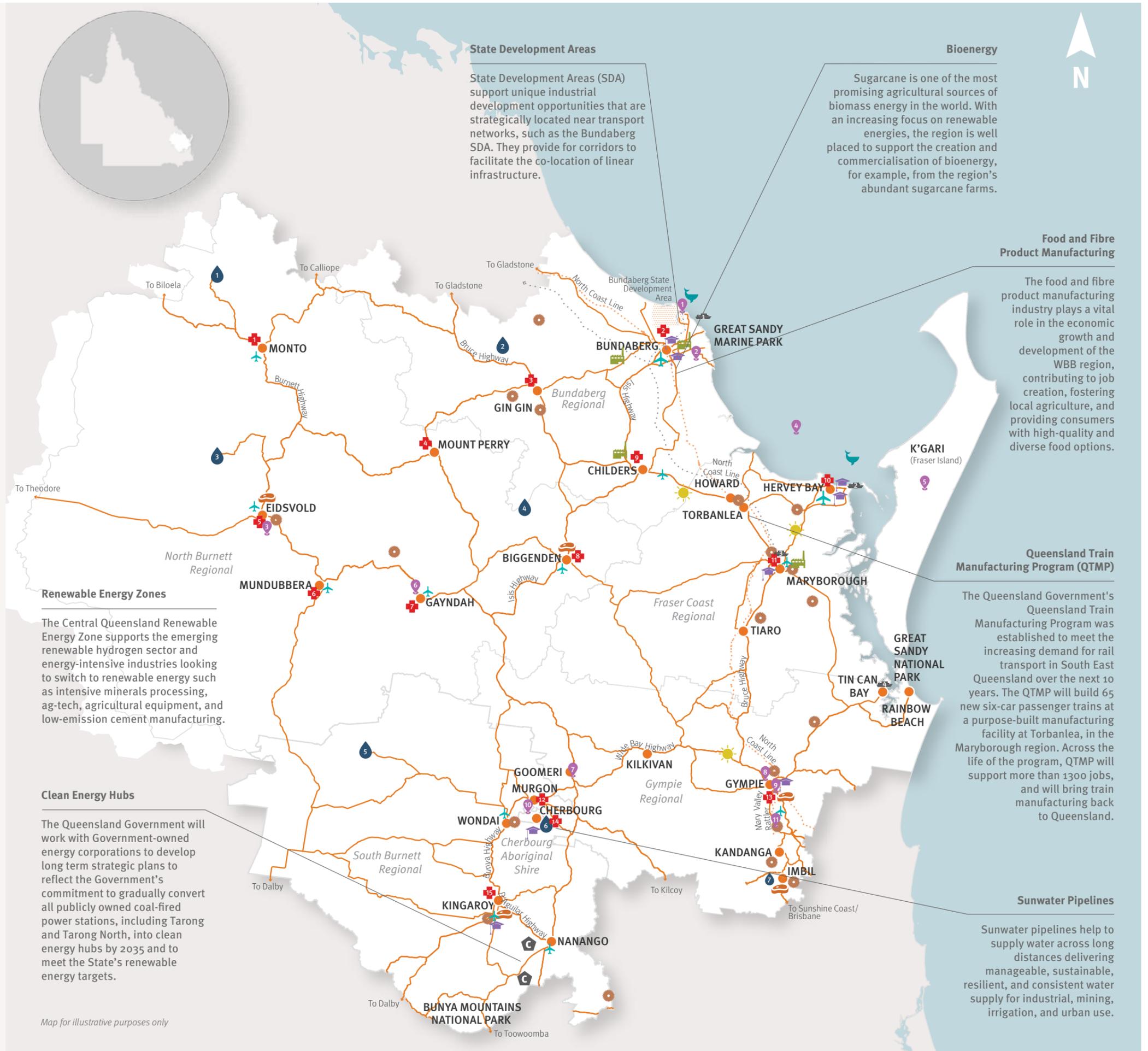


Wide Bay Burnett Infrastructure Map

THE REGION'S KEY INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS THAT UNDERPIN THE ECONOMY

LEGEND

	Arterial roads		Hospital and health centres
	Rail network	1. Monto Hospital	
	Airport	2. Bundaberg Hospital	
	Solar farm	3. Gin Gin Hospital	
	Gas pipelines	4. Mt Perry Health Centre	
	Coal fired power station	5. Eidsvold Multipurpose Health Service	
	Sugar mill	6. Mundubbera Multipurpose Health Service	
	Meat processing plant	7. Gayndah Hospital	
	Higher education	8. Biggenden Multipurpose Health Service	
	Whale watching	9. Childers Multipurpose Health Service	
	Sawmill	10. Hervey Bay Hospital	
	Ports, harbours and marinas	11. Maryborough Hospital	
		12. Murgon Hospital	
		13. Gympie Hospital	
		14. Cherbourg Health Centre	
		15. Kingaroy Hospital	
			Tourist attraction
		1. Mon Repos Turtle Centre	
		2. Bundaberg Rum Distillery	
		3. RM Williams Australian Bush Learning Centre	
		4. Ex-HMAS Tobruk	
		5. K'gari	
		6. Gayndah's Big Orange	
		7. South Burnett Wine Region, Goomeri	
		8. Woodworks Museum	
		9. Gympie Gold Mining and Historical Museum	
		10. Cherbourg Ration Shed Museum	
		11. Mary Valley Rattler	
	Dams		
	1. Cania Dam		
	2. Lake Monduran (Fred Haigh Dam)		
	3. Wuruma Dam		
	4. Paradise Dam		
	5. Boondooma Dam		
	6. Bjelke-Petersen Dam (Lake Barambah)		
	7. Borumba Dam		



Map for illustrative purposes only

Wide Bay Burnett Priorities

Wide Bay Burnett's (WBB) 25-year vision articulated in the WBBRP is:

“ A child born today will have clear pathways to a lifetime of real opportunities within Wide Bay Burnett, with access to an industrious and connected regional economy, built on clean, green and productive industries. ”

To achieve the vision, the WBBRP identifies a suite of strategic priorities and supporting regional objectives and infrastructure priorities articulated by regional stakeholders.

Responses to these priorities in the form of infrastructure development or policy initiatives may come from federal, state or local government or by the private sector, or a combination of these.

REGIONAL COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSALS

In developing this Infrastructure Supplement, WBB regional Councils were invited to identify any other critical local infrastructure needs or proposals, building on what was submitted through the Regional Plan consultation process. These include proposals that have already been through a strategic assessment and investment prioritisation process, form part or are likely to form part of a Council's longer term infrastructure plans or other key strategy, and for which a Council will likely seek funding or partnerships from other levels of government.

The locally important infrastructure priorities identified by the Councils in WBB cover several infrastructure classes including social infrastructure and community facilities, digital connectivity, energy, housing, health and aged

care, roads and transport, port and harbours, tourism experience, water supply and security, wastewater treatment, waste and resource recovery and industrial land.

A high-level indicative summary of these local infrastructure priorities is included under Strategic Priorities 1 to 3 within the following sections of this Infrastructure Supplement. Their inclusion in the WBBIS does not indicate Queensland Government support or funding commitment and is intended to provide an overview of local infrastructure priorities against the WBBRP strategic priorities. Local infrastructure priorities identified by the regional Councils will inform the development of the full Regional Infrastructure Plan.

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVES

The following sections of this WBBIS also identify key initiatives and infrastructure responses from the Queensland Government that support the realisation of the WBBRP strategic priorities and regional objectives.





Strategic Priority 1 Growing our people and places

This strategic priority proposes how the region can prepare for new opportunities through education and skills development. It recognises the need for better and more affordable housing and the importance of liveable and enriching communities that attract and retain people.



Regional Objective 1.1 Grow our people and our talent

This objective highlights the need to ensure the workforce is equipped to meet the future needs of the economy. This requires the retention and skilling of young people and increasing the participation, skills and capabilities of the existing working age population.

It notes the structural changes associated with the transition to service, knowledge and low-carbon economies and the increasing importance of mechanisation, automation and digital technologies.



Regional Objective 1.2 Plan for our future

The focus of this objective is to cater for future workforce and population growth and the existing population, particularly those who are ageing or vulnerable, through diverse and affordable housing choice and more compact and consolidated urban form. It recognises the challenge of competing land uses particularly in those areas experiencing high levels of growth.



Regional Objective 1.3 Make places we're proud of

This objective seeks to provide diverse and enriching places and experiences that attract, capture and retain skilled workers and families from outside the region. This includes access to transport choices other than cars, and excellence in urban design. Promoting development in existing centres will maximise the use of existing infrastructure and services. Looking to the future, the provision of services through digital technology will cut across the tyranny of distance.



Big4 Breeze Cania Gorge (Source: Courtesy of Tourism and Events Queensland)

Infrastructure priorities

The table below shows the regional objectives and infrastructure priorities of **Strategic Priority 1** and a high-level indicative summary of local infrastructure priorities identified by regional Councils.

Strategic Priority 1

Growing our people and places



REGIONAL OBJECTIVES	INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES	COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES (HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY)
1.1 Grow our people and our talent	Digital connectivity Transport connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » NBN connectivity and blackspot areas » Cycle path expansions
1.2 Plan for our future	Trunk infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Active transport pathways, coastal cycleway » Trunk infrastructure to support liveability (roadworks, pathways, drainage, sewer and water)
1.3 Make places we're proud of	Locational signage Responding to natural values Designing for water management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Promotion of key tourism destinations (e.g., K'gari) » Investigate Urangan Harbour expansion of the wet harbour area (tenure) » Water supply and security » Flood mitigation
OTHER LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY REGIONAL COUNCILS		
	Social infrastructure, health and community facilities Housing diversity, supply and affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Civic and cultural arts infrastructure » Regional sporting facilities » Multi-purpose health and aged care facilities » Community facilities to support emergency responses » Modern, diverse and affordable housing and short-term accommodation

State infrastructure initiatives supporting the priority

All levels of government and the private sector have a role in planning and delivering the infrastructure to support growing our people and places across the region. A selection of State Government-led infrastructure planning and programs aligned to this priority across WBB are provided below.

Urban Corridor Capacity and Safety Upgrades

Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) is planning for key urban areas in WBB to support growth and address transport challenges. This includes developing a Bundaberg Integrated Transport Strategy and planning studies for Fraser Coast. Investment planning is underway to improve busy intersections in Bundaberg, Maryborough, and Hervey Bay.

DTMR is investigating infrastructure and safety needs for urban corridors such as Bundaberg-Bargara Road and Pialba-Burrum Heads Road. The focus is on future capacity improvements, improved connectivity, and safe transport connections. DTMR is also developing active transport projects and working with local governments to improve connectivity in the region.

Delivery agency: DTMR

Improving Safety, Flood Immunity and Network Resilience

DTMR aims to improve safety, capacity, and flood protection of the transport network that connects communities and supports diverse economies. This includes identification of areas in need of upgrades, including bridges and culverts, narrow roads, and intersections. DTMR are planning priority projects and upgrading floodways at O'Regan Creek and Bunya Creek, as well as working on bridge and culvert replacements to improve connectivity and resilience. DTMR are investigating innovative solutions, such as Intelligent Transport Systems, to respond to increasing traffic demands and improve road safety. The Bruce Highway (Cooroy to Curra) Section D construction is ongoing and planning for the Tiaro Bypass is underway.

Delivery agency: DTMR

Bundaberg Residential Rehabilitation and Withdrawal Service

The project is in the detailed design development phase leading to the finalisation of tender documentation. Construction of the facility is planned to commence following the tender process with the forecast for the head contract to be awarded late 2023. It is expected the facility will be complete in late 2024.

Delivery agency: Queensland Health

Bundaberg Alcohol and Other Drug Residential Rehabilitation Centre Schematic Layout (Source Queensland Health)



Fraser Coast Mental Health Project

The \$39.61 million Fraser Coast Mental Health Project is being delivered in two stages:

- » **Stage 1:** major construction of a new 22-bed acute inpatient unit at Hervey Bay Hospital
- » **Stage 2:** refurbishment of the current mental health inpatient unit at Maryborough Hospital into a refurbished 10-bed specialist sub-acute unit, which will focus on older people's mental health care.

Once Stage 1 is complete, Maryborough staff and acute patients will relocate to the new acute inpatient unit at Hervey Bay to allow commencement of Stage 2 - refurbishment of the current mental health inpatient unit at Maryborough Hospital.

The project will more than double current bed capacity as demand grows for services into the future, which reflects the needs of the Fraser Coast's growing and ageing population.

Delivery agency: Queensland Health



The new 22-bed mental health acute inpatient unit takes shape at Hervey Bay Hospital (Source Queensland Health)

Hervey Bay Hospital Expansion

The \$40 million Hervey Bay Hospital expansion project forms part of the Queensland Health Capacity Expansion Program, which will accommodate 35 beds and be delivered by the second half of 2024. The project involves fitting out the vacant shell space on the second level of the emergency department building. On top of this, a new rooftop helipad will be constructed to enable patients to be transferred directly from the roof to the emergency department or intensive care unit. Detailed design is underway and expected to be completed in 2023. Strategies to procure a construction contractor are being considered.

Delivery agency: Queensland Health



Vacant shell space on the second level of Hervey Bay Hospital's emergency department building will be fitted out to accommodate the intensive care unit and a new medical inpatient unit (Source Queensland Health)

New Bundaberg Hospital

The Queensland Government has committed \$1.2 billion to build a new Bundaberg Hospital on a new site in Thabeban, with growth of 121 overnight beds and delivery by the second half of 2027, as part of the Queensland Health Capacity Expansion Program. The new hospital will provide:

- » more beds and treatment spaces
- » an expanded emergency department
- » enhanced acute, medical, surgical and mental health services
- » enhanced clinical support services.

By increasing capacity and capability, waiting times will be reduced and more people will be able to receive care closer to home. Modern and culturally appropriate facilities, amenities and equipment will also support the delivery of enhanced care and patient and staff wellbeing.

Delivery agency: Queensland Health

Australian Teletrial Program

The Australian Teletrial Program improves access to, and participation in, clinical trials for rural, regional and remote Australians by establishing clinical trial satellite sites. The vision for Queensland under the Program is to have satellite sites in rural, regional and remote Queensland connected to primary sites via telehealth as part of trial clusters, allowing patients to take part in clinical trials closer to home. Bundaberg and Hervey Bay are currently satellite clinical trial sites.

Delivery agency: Queensland Health

QuickStarts Qld

QuickStarts Qld (QSQ) will see 210 social homes commenced in Wide Bay Burnett by 30 June 2025, through an investment of \$104.8 million, supporting more than 297 full-time equivalent jobs. In addition, \$398.3 million has been provided by the Australian Government under the Social Housing Accelerator to expand social housing supply and support up to 600 additional social homes commencements by 30 June 2025. This will see an additional 43 homes commenced in the Wide Bay Burnett region by 30 June 2025. As at 31 October 2023, under QSQ, contracts have been awarded for the commencement of 162 homes in the Wide Bay Burnett Region. Of these 43 have been delivered.

Delivery agency: Department of Housing (DoH)

Gympie Recovery Accommodation Park

After major floods in Gympie, the Gympie Recovery Accommodation Park (GRAP) was established in partnership with the Gympie Regional Council and QBuild. The GRAP was quickly transformed to include a range of family and pet-friendly temporary accommodation options to provide temporary housing for those affected. More than 40 households have been accommodated at the site and provided with essential services, with some finding permanent housing.

As at August 2023, the department had established 26 units of accommodation on site with additional 18 power, water and seweraged caravan sites for future emergencies, including homelessness. The GRAP is complemented by the *Gympie Region Local Housing Action Plan 2022* which focuses on both immediate and long-term housing needs, aiming to respond to urgent needs while developing strategies for the future.

Delivery agency: DoH

Bundaberg East Levee

Bundaberg experienced severe flooding in January 2013 due to ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald and was affected again in 2022 from rainfall that occurred from February to April 2022. The Queensland Government announced the *Bundaberg 10-year Action Plan* commitment, which included four projects, one of which is the Bundaberg East Levee (BEL) project. The BEL project aims to reduce the flooding impact of the Burnett River on Bundaberg East and Bundaberg South, with a concept design that includes a 1.7km of levee, with pump station and floodgates.

Delivery agency: Department of Energy and Public Works (DEPW)

Government Employee Housing

The Queensland Government approved an employee housing package of \$519.2 million towards the delivery of 439 additional residences for approximately 550 frontline staff located in regional and remote communities across the state. The provision of safe and secure housing helps to attract essential frontline government workers including doctors, nurses, paramedics, police personnel, and teachers to these areas. The program aims to deliver 21 residences in WBB.

Delivery agency: DEPW

Remote Indigenous Housing Program

Through the Remote Indigenous Housing Program, \$105 million is funded by the Australian Government and \$40 million by the Queensland Government to provide financial assistance to 17 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils, including Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council.

The funding enables Councils to develop housing solutions that are tailored to their unique local needs and priorities, while also being suitable for the local climate and meeting requirements for security, sustainability, and cultural needs.

Delivery agency: DoH

Mary and Burnett Regional Resilience Strategies and Local Resilience Action Plans

Regional Resilience Strategies have been developed using a locally-led and regionally-coordinated approach for every region across Queensland to strengthen disaster resilience. The Regional Resilience Strategies are centred around a co-design process and place-based approach to address unique community needs and risks. Local Resilience Action Plans provide a forward plan for lasting change and investment in resilience and mitigation activities. Actions in the resilience strategies will be identified and delivered in consultation with local government.

Delivery agency: Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA)

Community and Recreational Assets Recovery and Resilience Program

The Community and Recreational Assets Recovery and Resilience Program will use \$75 million from the Australian and Queensland Governments to restore community and recreational assets affected by the 2021-22 disasters. The program allocated \$13.97 million to the WBB area allowing locals to resume sport and recreation activities.

Delivery agency: DTIS

Upgrade of Sports Facilities

- » The Bundaberg Amateur Cycling Club will receive \$100,000 to upgrade the Kevin Brogden Memorial Velodrome track and make improvements to facilities to support cycling in Bundaberg.
- » The Bingera Football Club has received \$200,000 to upgrade field lighting and irrigation systems in Bundaberg North, supporting football activities in the area.

Delivery agency: Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport (DTIS)

New administration building at Gin Gin State High School

Gin Gin State High School will receive a new administration building to the value of \$7.1 million. The building will feature facilities such as staff offices, specialist visiting offices, a reception area with waiting spaces for both students and visitors, a conference room, a casualty area, a staffroom with a kitchenette, resource areas, store rooms, as well as amenities for both staff and students. Additionally, the new building will provide more car parking spaces. Construction is expected to be completed in mid-2023.

Delivery agency: Department of Education (DoE)

New multi-purpose hall at Urangan State High School

Urangan State High School will receive a new multi-purpose hall which will include a double court area, performance stage, covered entry and foyer, gym and kinesiology theory spaces, staff offices, storage areas, amenities, and a kiosk. Construction is expected for Term 2, 2024.

Delivery agency: DoE

New multi-purpose hall at Urangan Point State School

Urangan Point State School will receive a new multi-purpose hall to the value of \$11.3 million, which will include a single sports court, performance stage, entry and foyer, storage, amenities, multi-purpose room and office, equipment and chair storage, and a kitchen/kiosk. The new multi-purpose hall will also provide additional car parking. Construction is expected to be completed in Term 1, 2024.

Delivery agency: DoE

New Industrial Technology and Design building at Kepnock State High School

Kepnock State High School will receive a new Industrial Technology and Design building to the value of \$21.8 million, which will include multiple workshop spaces, specialist spaces, and amenities to improve the learning environment for students. Construction is expected to be completed in Term 3, 2024.

Delivery agency: DoE

Special Schools Renewal Program – Maryborough Special School

Starting from 2022–23, the Special Schools Renewal Program has allocated \$109 million over four years to renew the infrastructure of six priority special schools in Queensland, including Maryborough Special School. These funds will be utilised to improve accessibility, classrooms, staff spaces, car parks, playgrounds, and other outdoor areas, to meet the diverse needs of the students.

Delivery agency: DoE

Regional water supply security assessments and planning

The *Queensland Bulk Water Opportunities Statement* describes how water resources will grow with the economy, create jobs and improve the liveability of our communities. Planning has now commenced for a refreshed and broadened Queensland water strategy before the end of 2023. The Queensland Government continues to work with councils and service providers within WBB and undertakes water security assessments to better understand the ability of current water supply systems to supply water for future growth in regional urban areas.

Delivery agency: Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW)

Discrete Communities Renewal Program

\$43.2 million has been allocated over four years from 2022–23 for educational infrastructure projects in Queensland schools that service 18 discrete Indigenous communities, including Cherbourg.

Planning is underway for a project to create a student wellbeing hub, for primary school-aged female students, at Cherbourg State School. The project is in the preliminary planning stage, with cost estimates and the delivery timeframe to be confirmed following further co-design with stakeholders.

Delivery agency: DoE

Fire and Emergency Services Uplift

The 2023–24 Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) capital works program supports the provision of fire and rescue and emergency management services throughout Queensland, including:

- » development of Maryborough Area Brigade Headquarters, which will accommodate four rural fire brigades from the surrounding areas to ensure reliable and contemporary, front-line rural fire services can be provided to the communities of Maryborough and surrounding areas
- » continued delivery of a replacement permanent Gympie South Fire and Rescue Station
- » upgrade and refurbish the auxiliary fire and rescue station at Imbil.

Delivery agency: QFES

Police facility upgrades

Planning is underway for the replacement and upgrades of Police facilities across the region, including:

- » replacement of the Hervey Bay Police Facility and Water Police Facility
- » upgrade of the Maryborough Police Facility
- » replacement of the Rainbow Beach Police Facility.

Delivery agency: Queensland Police Service

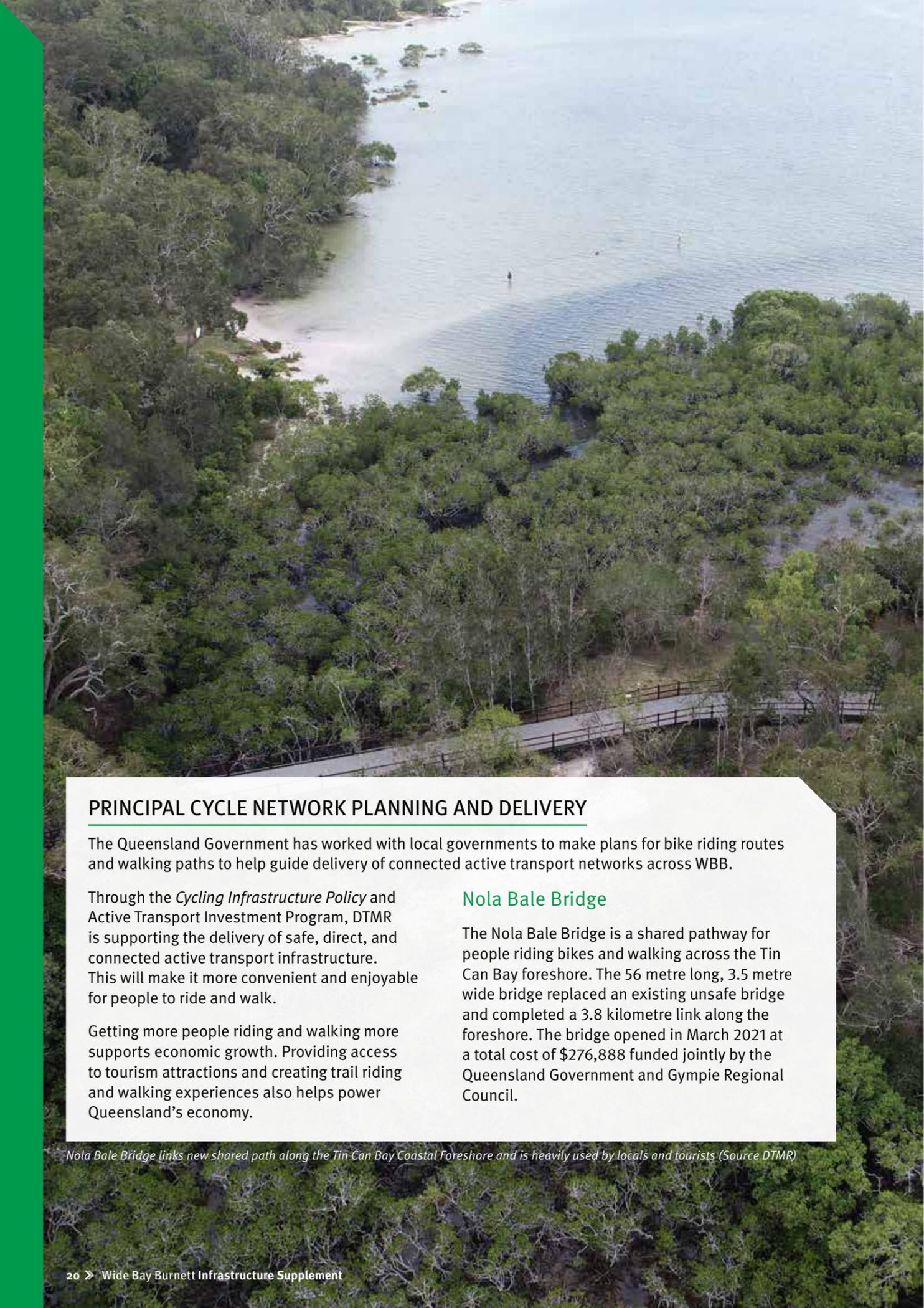
GROWING OUR PEOPLE AND PLACES

Through the *Advance Queensland Deadly Innovation Strategy*, the Queensland Government has collaborated with the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, TAFE Queensland and Fujitsu Australia to establish a community owned and operated digital service centre. With more than 30 jobs created in its first year of operation, the Cherbourg Digital Service Centre aims to enable First Nations people to develop digital skills and create sustainable career paths on Country and remain with their communities. The success of the Cherbourg pilot has seen the model considered to roll out in other communities including Palm Island.

This is an example of a partnership between the public and private sectors where government and corporates collaborate to support First Nations people to participate in the economy and generate wealth.



First Nations people learning new digital skills at the Cherbourg Digital Service Centre (Source DTIS)



PRINCIPAL CYCLE NETWORK PLANNING AND DELIVERY

The Queensland Government has worked with local governments to make plans for bike riding routes and walking paths to help guide delivery of connected active transport networks across WBB.

Through the *Cycling Infrastructure Policy* and Active Transport Investment Program, DTMR is supporting the delivery of safe, direct, and connected active transport infrastructure. This will make it more convenient and enjoyable for people to ride and walk.

Getting more people riding and walking more supports economic growth. Providing access to tourism attractions and creating trail riding and walking experiences also helps power Queensland's economy.

Nola Bale Bridge

The Nola Bale Bridge is a shared pathway for people riding bikes and walking across the Tin Can Bay foreshore. The 56 metre long, 3.5 metre wide bridge replaced an existing unsafe bridge and completed a 3.8 kilometre link along the foreshore. The bridge opened in March 2021 at a total cost of \$276,888 funded jointly by the Queensland Government and Gympie Regional Council.

Nola Bale Bridge links new shared path along the Tin Can Bay Coastal Foreshore and is heavily used by locals and tourists (Source DTMR)

SUPPORTING THE DELIVERY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

The Queensland Government provides financial support to councils through several different grant funding programs including the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program, Works for Queensland, the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) and COVID Works for Queensland programs. These programs provide funding to deliver infrastructure to support economic development, essential services, disaster mitigation and build resilience and community well-being. The projects support job creation, economic stimulus and encourage recreational activities across the state.

Through the 2022-24 Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program, the Queensland Government has committed over \$14.4 million to support six WBB councils' infrastructure and planning projects.

Works for Queensland is now a \$1 billion funding program supporting local governments outside South-East Queensland to undertake job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure projects. In the current funding round 2021-24, Works for Queensland will provide over \$45.4 million to deliver 45 projects in the WBB Region.

TIDS will provide a \$76 million targeted investment in local government transport infrastructure in 2023-24. Most of the funding is available on a matched funding basis to local governments who have formed one of the 17 Regional Roads and Transport Groups (RRTG) in Queensland. The WBB RRTG receives an annual TIDS allocation of just over \$6 million, which they can program to the highest transport infrastructure priorities in their region. As part of the State Budget outcome, the WBB RRTG's allocation has increased from \$6.1 million to \$6.2 million in 2023-24.



Carbon Filter System upgrade, Cherbourg (Source DSDILGP)



Fraser Coast Ululah (ANZAC park) car park upgrades (Source DSDILGP)



Maryborough pump track, Fraser Coast (Source DSDILGP)

CREATING BETTER CONNECTIONS FOR QUEENSLANDERS

Creating Better Connections for Queenslanders (CBCQ) is a 10-year plan for enhancing the Queensland passenger transport system. The next ten years will see major infrastructure investments that will transform Queensland's cities and regions. CBCQ will harness these opportunities and ensure Queenslanders benefit from having access to reliable and contemporary passenger transport. CBCQ will focus on five key priorities to integrate services, customer information and ticketing solutions.

These priorities are:

- » To make services reliable and safe.
- » Ensure that services are responsive to changing community needs.
- » Make passenger transport trips with seamless end to end journeys through personalised and integrated trip options.
- » Make services and infrastructure easy and accessible to all by removing barriers to access.
- » Ensure public transport operations are environmentally sustainable.

On Demand Transport: Hervey Bay

On demand transport is a new way to think about public transport. It's a flexible, shared, and pre-booked service that connects you to the wider public transport network as well as shopping, education, healthcare and employment.

On 20 February 2023, a new on demand service replaced the existing route 714 Kan-go service in Hervey Bay. On Demand offers an improved level of service for customers in Point Vernon and parts of Pialba who want to travel to key locations in their local area.



Hervey Bay On Demand Transport (Source DTMR)

Takalvan Street bus facility: Bundaberg

Bus services commenced operation at the new Takalvan Street bus facility in July 2022. The \$3.665 million facility is located near Sugarland Plaza and features modern seating and sheltered waiting areas that deliver improved accessibility, comfort, and safety for all users.

The project has also improved safety for motorists, pedestrians and bike riders with the construction of a new dedicated bike lane and installation of traffic signals at the Takalvan Street and Sugarland Plaza access intersection.



Takalvan Street bus facility (Source DTMR)



Strategic Priority 2 Taking charge of our economic future

This strategic priority outlines the focus for investment to support existing economic strengths and sets the formative conditions for new economic development. It identifies the region's economic strengths in advanced manufacturing, agriculture, health, education, tourism, waste, renewable energy and technology, and mineral resources.



Regional Objective 2.1 Transition into Queensland's powerhouse for advanced manufacturing

WBB's manufacturing sector is diverse, with strong specialisations in agricultural processing, food and beverage production, rail and rollingstock, transport equipment, primary metal and metal manufacturing and timber industries.

This objective seeks to improve the region's supply and value chains, provide correct-fit and well-serviced industrial land, enable efficient freight and logistics, support research and development and grow and attract a skilled workforce.



Regional Objective 2.2 Lead primary production into the mid-21st Century

The region is an agricultural powerhouse, supplying high quality raw and manufactured agricultural products to local, national and international markets. Located on the doorstep of Queensland's largest domestic market and with an underutilised port and freight capacity, the region is primed to build on its agricultural productivity. Global demand for food is also expected to increase in coming years, driving demand for the region's agricultural commodities.

To capitalise on forecast demand, the region will need to safeguard its agricultural industries and promote opportunities for intensification and diversification, support value-adding opportunities, plan for water and environmental factors, and encourage the take up of advanced agricultural technologies.



Swickers Kingaroy Bacon Factory (Source DSDILGP)



Regional Objective 2.3
Create employment pathways for all

WBB's employment profile is dominated by the knowledge and services sector which accounts for over one third of the region's workforce. Economic and employment opportunities in this sector are chiefly concentrated in health and aged care, education, and tourism (accommodation and food services). As the population grows, the demand for high quality health and education services and lifestyle/recreation functions will also increase, requiring proactive service delivery, infrastructure and workforce responses.

This objective seeks to increase specialisations and training, identify key areas to support clusters of employment and promote the region as a tourist destination, as well as a place to work and live.



Regional Objective 2.4
Emerge as a leader in the energy transformation and circular economy

To support the move of global economies away from fossil fuel-based systems of energy production and consumption, this objective seeks to increase the region's renewable energy generation and storage capacity, expand the region's sustainable waste industries, and promote sustainable critical mineral exploration, extraction and use in value-add manufacturing.



Boondooma Dam, South Burnett (Source Courtesy of Tourism and Events Queensland)

Infrastructure priorities

The table below shows the regional objectives and infrastructure priorities of **Strategic Priority 2** and a high-level indicative summary of local infrastructure priorities identified by regional councils.

Strategic Priority 2

Taking charge of our economic future



REGIONAL OBJECTIVES	INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES	COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES (HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY)
2.1 Transition into Queensland's powerhouse for advanced manufacturing	Upgrades to regional freight networks & regional freight infrastructure Digital connectivity	» Upgrades to regional freight networks and supporting infrastructure » NBN connectivity and blackspot areas
2.2 Lead primary production into the mid-21st Century	Regional infrastructure (serviced industrial land) Water infrastructure	» Industrial land development and investigation » Wastewater Treatment Plants and inlet works upgrades » Groundwater Treatment Plant upgrades
2.3 Create employment pathways for all	Transport connectivity	» Road infrastructure including flood resilience » Flood free bridge connections and immunity upgrades
2.4 Emerge as a leader in the energy transformation and circular economy	Road infrastructure Scalable public transport Regional aviation infrastructure	» CBD intersection upgrades » Road infrastructure to support heavy transport vehicles » None identified » Airport infrastructure to attract commercial or regulated routes to the region » Bundaberg Airport Terminal Expansion and Runway Overlay » Bundaberg Airport commercial and industrial land development
	Allied tourism infrastructure	» Improved access to K'gari (Fraser Island) including road network and River Heads barge landing (residents and tourists) » Parks renewal and Zoo expansion » Tourism Experience Centre (e.g., Monduran Lake) » Rail trail infrastructure (e.g., historical past, agricultural tourism)
	Energy infrastructure	» Smart grids / micro grids, renewable energy
	Waste infrastructure	» Recycling Precincts and Materials Recovery Facilities
OTHER LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY REGIONAL COUNCILS		
	Port and Harbours	» Ports and harbour development
	Education and training	» Learning Centre
	Hospitals	» Infrastructure surrounding hospitals (roadworks, pathways, drainage, sewer and water)

State infrastructure initiatives supporting the priority

All levels of government and the private sector have a role in planning and delivering the infrastructure to take charge of the region's economic future. A selection of State Government-led infrastructure planning and programs aligned to this priority across WBB are provided below.

Improved accessibility and connectivity

DTMR is prioritising transport infrastructure upgrades to enhance accessibility and connectivity for freight and the region's supply chain efficiency. Projects include:

- » Bundaberg-Port Road Upgrade Planning project for future capacity improvements, safety, and heavy vehicle access
- » District wide heavy vehicle de-coupling strategy for Bundaberg, Gympie, Maryborough, and Hervey Bay regions
- » Progressive upgrade of narrow and unsealed road sections for safety for Monto to Mount Perry
- » Investment planning for new overtaking lanes on Tin Can Bay Road for better service and safety.

Delivery agency: DTMR

Southern Queensland Regional Freight Plan

The Southern Queensland Regional Freight Plan (SQRFP) will be an integrated multi-modal regional freight plan for Southern Queensland which includes the WBB District. The SQRFP will be developed by identifying and prioritising freight network improvements to support supply chain efficiency. The SQRFP will consider strategic locations for heavy vehicle rest and breakdown facilities; access and movement requirements for oversize over mass and high productivity vehicles; first and last mile links; supply chain coordination models, and the role of the region's ports, airports, rail terminals and key freight routes.

Delivery agency: DTMR

Wide Bay Burnett Regional Transport Plan implementation

Continue to work with stakeholders to implement the actions of the *Wide Bay Burnett Regional Transport Plan*, which identifies the following transport priorities:

- » An affordable and integrated transport network that improves accessibility and mobility for all residents
- » A transport system that supports economic growth, productivity and diversification by facilitating the efficient movement of people and freight

- » A transport network that enables people to travel safely and feel secure
- » A sustainable transport system that is resilient to major incidents or weather events and is compatible with the environmental and lifestyle values of the region.

Delivery agency: DTMR

Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project

The 2GW Borumba Pumped Hydro Project is part of the *Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan* to meet renewable energy targets of 70% by 2032 and 80% by 2035 through long-duration Pumped Hydro Energy Storage (PHES). It will ensure reliable electricity supply for Queensland's industries, businesses, and households. The Queensland Government has committed up to \$6 billion in equity funding over the project's construction phase in the 2023-24 budget to build the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project subject to environmental approvals.

Delivery agency: DEPW

Strategic Development and Delivery of Industrial Land

Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) acquires and markets land for future industrial use, making it available for businesses to expand or relocate and generating private sector investment. EDQ combines property development with planning functions to create sustainable places for economic growth in the region. EDQ provides land solutions to help retain existing industry and attract new investment and development in manufacturing, transport, logistics, resource processing, mining equipment, technology and services, energy and renewables, food production, resource recovery, aerospace and defence, and supporting activities.

Delivery agency: DSDILGP (EDQ)

Queensland Renewable Energy Zones

The Queensland Renewable Energy Zone (QREZ) framework will support the coordinated development of an additional 22 gigawatts of large-scale wind and solar by 2035 across northern, central and southern Queensland, and this will leverage Queensland's natural advantages.

Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) are locations with excellent characteristics for renewable energy that are developed in a coordinated way to lower costs and improve local community, environmental, and cultural heritage outcomes.

By strategically building new energy infrastructure within REZs, Queensland can unlock the full jobs and economic growth potential of its renewable energy resources.

Recent investments in the region include \$200 million (in 2023-24) for the 500 MW Tarong West Wind Farm, to be Australia's largest publicly owned wind farm, and \$269.1 million for Stanwell to build, own, and operate a 150 MW battery near Tarong Power Station to provide energy storage capacity.

Delivery agency: DEPW

Borumba PHES Connections (Stage 1)

A new high voltage transmission line to connect the proposed Borumba PHES project into southern Queensland. This high voltage connection (i.e., up to 500kV) will allow Queensland's reliance on coal-fired generation to reduce. The connection involves two transmission lines that are around 140km in total. Concept stage expected beyond 2026-27.

Delivery agency: DEPW

Queensland SuperGrid: Backbone Transmission

Queensland's transmission network delivers electricity from the southern border to Cairns and beyond. A new backbone transmission is being built to provide renewable energy and energy storage to consumers, businesses, and industries statewide. The SuperGrid backbone transmission comprises four priority projects, including the Borumba PHES connection and the expansion of regional connections.

Delivery agency: DEPW

Equipping TAFE for our Future

The Equipping TAFE for our Future program is a \$100 million investment in TAFE infrastructure to support skills development in key industries. The program will run from 2021 to 2024 and will be delivered across 19 projects. It will create nearly 300 jobs and provide thousands of apprenticeship hours. Once completed, the facilities will offer modern training spaces for students and staff for many years. In the WBB region, the program will invest \$5.67 million in training infrastructure for future workers in emerging industries.

Bundaberg TAFE's new Agriculture and Horticulture Centre will enable high-quality training to the

state's future rural industry workforce to learn the latest practices in innovation, sustainable agriculture and horticulture. Refurbishments at Bundaberg TAFE will deliver an Advanced Manufacturing Skills Centre to support high-end manufacturing training activities and enable student and industry collaboration in one space. The Hervey Bay TAFE received \$1.32 million specialised upgrades of its nursing and allied health facilities which is now in use for training.

Delivery agency: Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training (DYJESBT)



Hervey Bay TAFE upgrades to nursing and allied health facilities (Source DYJESBT)

Paradise Dam Improvement Project

The Paradise Dam Improvement Project (PDIP), located on the Burnett River, 80 km south-west of Bundaberg, aims to enhance safety measures and ensure long-term water security for the region. The Queensland Government has confirmed it will rebuild Paradise Dam to its original full supply height. Both the Queensland and Australian Governments have committed matching contributions of \$600 million (a total of \$1.2 billion) to the project. The PDIP is a multi-year, major infrastructure project and current planning activities will enable the development of construction methodologies, construction schedules and detailed cost estimates before a final investment decision is made by the Queensland Government.

Delivery agency: DRDMW

Bundaberg and Burnett Regional Water Assessment

The Queensland Government has invested \$9 million to deliver regional water assessments in Queensland's most significant 'food bowls' with the aim of identifying water supply solutions to drive future economic growth. The Bundaberg and Burnett Regional Water Assessment is being developed in consultation with local stakeholders and is anticipated to be finalised in early 2024. Once complete the assessment will set out how existing infrastructure, new infrastructure and non-infrastructure solutions can be used to maximise water supply and drive economic growth. This may include progressing bulk water infrastructure proposals towards a detailed business case.

Delivery agency: DRDMW

Upgrade skills development and training facilities

The Queensland Government is investing \$45 million to upgrade and build new industry linked school training facilities and trade training centres at 26 state secondary schools across Queensland. This initiative has a focus on the regions and supports the Local Schools, Local Jobs Government Election Commitment, being delivered under the Future Skills Pathways program. As part of this program, Kingaroy State High School will receive an upgrade to agricultural and animal husbandry facilities, including new sheds and fencing for the stock yard, to the value of \$2.5 million. Construction is expected to be completed by March 2024.

Delivery agency: DoE

Queensland Natural Capital Fund

The Queensland Government is investing \$45 million to establish the Queensland Natural Capital Fund, which will facilitate private sector co-investment to generate both commercial and environmental market returns while also producing positive environmental, social and economic co-benefits.

Delivery agency: Department of Environment and Science (DES)

Port of Bundaberg Multi-Use Conveyor Project

The Multi-Use Conveyor Project will provide a new cargo handling capability for the import/export of additional dry bulk commodities through the existing sugar ship loading facility at the wharf.

The Civil Works and Brownfield Works for the conveyor are now completed, with the Greenfield Works well progressed.

Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) is working with its project partner, Sugar Terminals Limited (STL), and a customer to trial a bulk mineral shipment using the new conveyor when the new facility is available.

The Australian Government has committed \$17.7 million to the Multi-Use Conveyor project under the Hinkler Regional Deal, with GPC and STL contributing the balance of project funding.

Delivery agency: DTMR (GPC)

Childers - Gayndah - aged line rebuild

Replacement of the aged M028 Childers – Degilbo – Gayndah 7/104 HDBC conductor 66kV feeder to improve reliability and safety.

Delivery agency: DEPW (Energy Queensland)

Port of Bundaberg Bulk liquids wharf redevelopment

The first stage of the John T Fisher Wharf redevelopment was completed in 2022 with the refurbishment of the mooring dolphins and the replacement of the fender piles. GPC is considering options for the replacement of the old wooden jetty approach to the John T Fisher berth.

Delivery agency: DTMR (GPC)

Port of Bundaberg Port workshop facilities

The upgrade of these facilities is on-going. Upgrades completed to date include new storage facilities for emergency oil spill response plant and equipment and commercial-size solar electricity system and electric car re-charger sufficient to power GPC Bundaberg's electricity requirements.

Delivery agency: DTMR (GPC)

Port of Bundaberg multi user storage facility

GPC commenced development of the land adjacent to the new conveyor system to provide the essential storage and handling area.

GPC is seeking development approvals for this project and working through next steps regarding the construction and operational phases of the project.

Delivery agency: DTMR (GPC)

Port of Bundaberg Wharf Drive entrance redevelopment

The road works, which also included upgrades in drainage and potable water infrastructure, was completed in 2022. Further upgrades along Wharf Drive to complete the upgrade of the potable water system are being planned.

Delivery agency: DTMR (GPC)

Queensland Digital Infrastructure Plan

The Queensland Government is developing a Digital Infrastructure Plan to focus the collaborative efforts and investments required across sectors to bridge the digital divide. The Digital Infrastructure Plan aims to establish a statewide view of gaps and opportunities for future investment. While the Queensland Government does not have a direct role in the delivery of the required infrastructure as this is provided by NBN Co and commercial carriers controlled by Australian Government legislation and regulations, the Digital Infrastructure Plan will enable government to more proactively work with carriers and stakeholders to address mobile blackspots and poor broadband connectivity.

Delivery agency: DTMR

WBB Regional Waste Management Plan

Developed under the auspices of the *Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* the WBB Regional Waste Management Plan (RWMP) identifies the priorities and opportunities for the region in relation to waste management and resource recovery infrastructure and non-infrastructure investment needs.

DES has provided the Local Government Association of Queensland with \$1.2 million for the development (including project management services) of four regional waste management plans, including the WBB RWMP.

Delivery agency: DES

First Nations Regional Waste Management Plan

To support implementation of *Respecting Country: A sustainable waste strategy for First Nation communities* a local waste management plan for Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council is in development. This plan links into the work undertaken for the WBB RWMP and will identify and prioritise local actions, with reference through to the broader RWMP.

Delivery agency: DES



Mount Rawdon Gold Mine, Mount Perry (Source DSDILGP)

Queensland Train Manufacturing Program

The Queensland Government's Queensland Train Manufacturing Program (QTMP) was established to meet the increasing demand for rail transport in South East Queensland over the next 10 years. The Queensland Government's *Rail Manufacturing Strategy for Queensland* has a strong focus on the revitalisation of the rail manufacturing sector, with the QTMP supporting the growth of the regional manufacturing businesses. The QTMP will manufacture 65 new six-car passenger trains at a purpose-built manufacturing facility at Torbanlea, in the Maryborough region.

The QTMP will support Queensland's population and economic growth, as well as Cross River Rail and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Construction of the facilities, trains, and maintenance of the fleet will support Queensland jobs now and into the future. The program brings with it a pipeline of training and development opportunities to bolster Queensland's train manufacturing industry.

A strong focus of the QTMP is to build the capability and capacity of regional manufacturers to not only supply into this program, but to be ready for the estimated \$155 billion pipeline of rail projects across Australia in the next 15 years.

Torbanlea manufacturing facility

A new government-owned facility will be constructed near Torbanlea in the Maryborough region, to manufacture the QTMP fleet. Site investigations, including ground survey, traffic counts, and ecological and geotechnical assessments, are underway to inform the design of the facility. Construction of the facility is scheduled to commence later in 2023. The Torbanlea manufacturing facility will contribute to Queensland's economy and the WBB regional economy.

Delivery agency: DTMR and DRDMW

Pacific Marine Base Bundaberg

The Stage 1 Development of GPC owned land at Port of Bundaberg by Pacific Tug Group includes a 97 metre long wharf that can accommodate barges and small cargo vessels and crane and ramp roll-on roll-off shore access. This will allow for cargo barges and other smaller ships to support Pacific Island trade. GPC continues to work with proponents and customers to grow trade through the Port of Bundaberg.

Precincts and Places

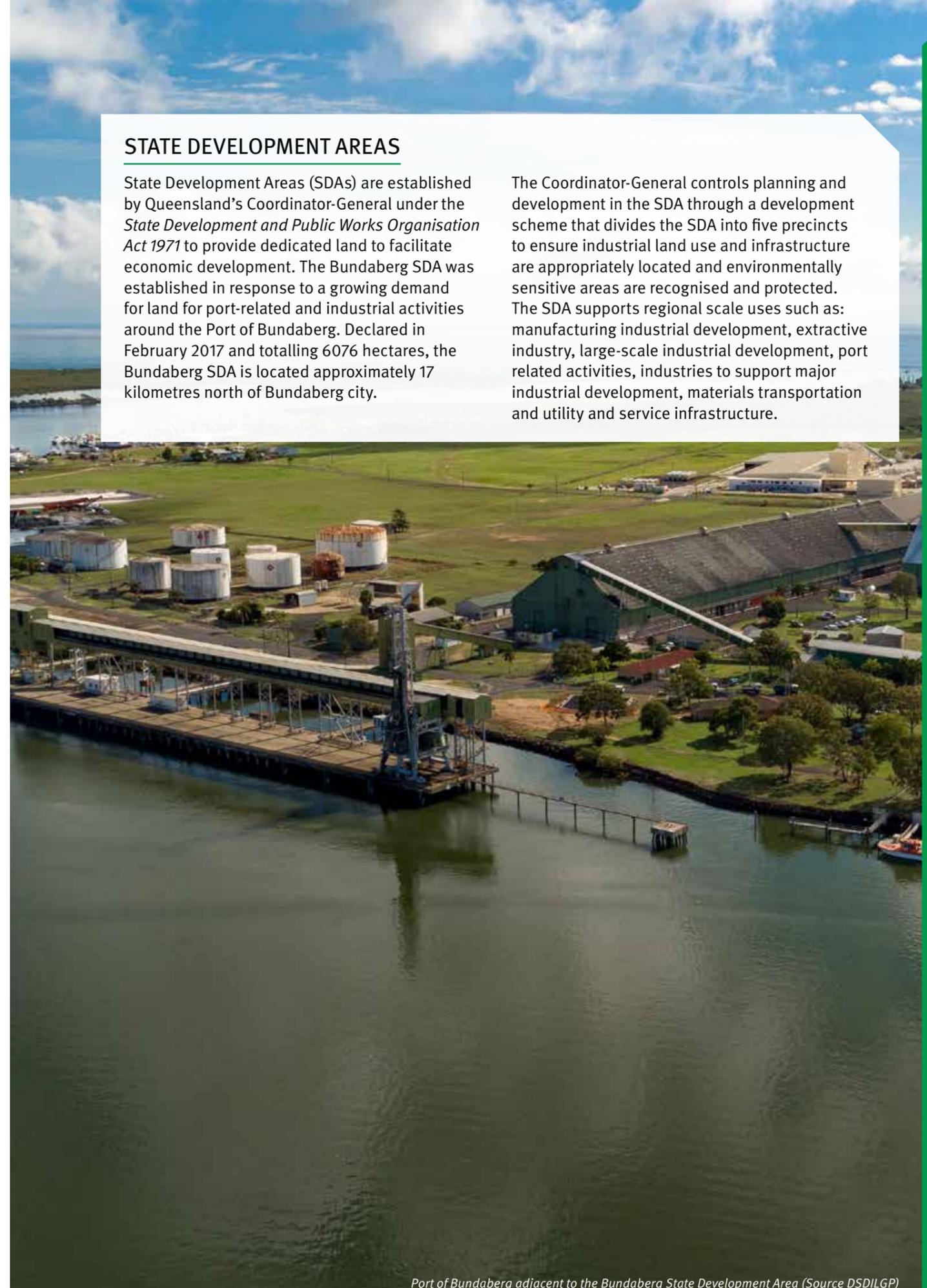
The Queensland Government released *A Place to Innovate – Queensland Innovation Precincts and Places Strategy* in July 2022. The strategy will prioritise an inclusive and well-connected innovation ecosystem across the state and directly support regional innovators, hubs and precincts such as the Bundaberg Agtech Hub.

One of the key actions identified in the strategy is to invest \$15 million through a competitive Queensland Innovation Precincts and Places Fund to assist innovation place leaders and stakeholders achieve their goals.

STATE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

State Development Areas (SDAs) are established by Queensland's Coordinator-General under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* to provide dedicated land to facilitate economic development. The Bundaberg SDA was established in response to a growing demand for land for port-related and industrial activities around the Port of Bundaberg. Declared in February 2017 and totalling 6076 hectares, the Bundaberg SDA is located approximately 17 kilometres north of Bundaberg city.

The Coordinator-General controls planning and development in the SDA through a development scheme that divides the SDA into five precincts to ensure industrial land use and infrastructure are appropriately located and environmentally sensitive areas are recognised and protected. The SDA supports regional scale uses such as: manufacturing industrial development, extractive industry, large-scale industrial development, port related activities, industries to support major industrial development, materials transportation and utility and service infrastructure.



Port of Bundaberg adjacent to the Bundaberg State Development Area (Source DSDILGP)

REGIONAL MEDICAL PATHWAY

The Regional Medical Pathway (RMP) is an evidence-based workforce strategy pivotal to addressing and improving health access for the WBB region and represents a major step in addressing long-standing issues of medical workforce shortage and maldistribution within regional Queensland.

The RMP is a powerful collaboration between two of Queensland's finest universities (CQUniversity and The University of Queensland) and two major hospital and health services (Wide Bay and Central Queensland) to provide a longitudinal solution to these shortages.

The RMP provides an "end to end" medical education and training pathway, which will produce homegrown doctors in the two regions. Through this pathway, students can now study and live in the region for their entire undergraduate and postgraduate medical education journey (seven years).

Evidence demonstrates that students undertaking more than one year of study immersed in a region are significantly more likely to live and work in that region or similar regions.

Based on current Commonwealth Supported Places, up to 180 students will be studying full time in the WBB under the RMP per year from

2026. This represents a substantial increase from the previous 56 medical students studying their final two years of postgraduate education in the region.

In their undergraduate years (three years) students will live in Bundaberg. This will continue for the first two years of the postgraduate medical program, then up to 50% of the cohort will be placed in Hervey Bay for their final two years of the Doctor of Medicine. Many of these students will also undertake longitudinal immersions in the smaller rural towns of the WBB. The inaugural RMP intake into the CQUniversity Bachelor of Medical Science (Pathway to Medicine) program commenced in 2022 and will see the first graduates from The University of Queensland Doctor of Medicine in 2026.

The RMP provides a strategic economic opportunity to address General Practice (GP) and non-GP medical workforce shortages, with a flow on effect to the wider health sector, including increase in allied health and nursing also required to support future population growth.

Through increased investment, employment, and health tourism, the RMP will deliver a billion-dollar economic benefit over the next decade.

Significant capital investment is required to support the delivery of immersive training for students in regional and rural communities across WBB, and to further support our medical professionals as they complete their vocational training within the region. Community, business, industry and Government support will be integral to the "grow our own" strategy.

The delivery of expanded clinical services will support further workforce increases in other academic and health careers, further increasing demand for real estate, schooling, higher education and other essential resources.

Reliable and affordable student accommodation in Bundaberg is a key economic enabler to support the accessibility, attraction and growth of both the CQUniversity Bundaberg Campus and The University of Queensland Rural Clinical School, and the delivery of educational programs within the WBB.

Accommodation for the medical, allied health and nursing workforces is critical to the future of the sector in WBB and fundamental to solutions around community and social housing shortages.

State-of-the-art collaborative teaching, learning and research facilities are being planned to support the future of this innovative partnership.

In addition to the RMP, the Queensland Government has committed to paying an allowance to final year nursing and midwifery students who complete placement in regional, rural and remote areas to both assist with cost of living expenses and to encourage students to consider working in these areas long term.



2023 Bundaberg intake for the CQUniversity Bachelor of Medical Science (Pathway to Medicine), with Chief Executive and Board Chair (Source Queensland Health)

BORUMBA PUMPED HYDRO PROJECT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Borumba Pumped Hydro Project Community Engagement Consultation (Source DEPW)

The Queensland Government has committed up to \$6 billion in equity funding over the project's construction phase in the 2023-24 budget to build the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project subject to environmental approvals.

Borumba Dam was selected as an ideal site for pumped hydro development following a statewide assessment of potential pumped hydro locations. The site was considered highly favourable for pumped hydro due to its proximity to the high-voltage transmission network, existing dam infrastructure and location in the Southern QREZ.

Queensland Hydro is a publicly owned entity established by the Queensland Government in September 2022 to develop and deliver the large scale pumped hydro assets that will be the cornerstone of the state's energy system.

Queensland Hydro has completed detailed analytical studies for the Borumba project in 2022-23, which have confirmed the site's suitability for pumped hydro development.

Studies evaluating environmental, cultural, community and technical considerations, have given Queensland Government confidence the project can proceed to development. Approvals, including relevant environmental and water approvals, are key for PHES projects.

Extensive community and stakeholder engagement has been undertaken since December 2021 facilitating information sharing between the community and the project team.

Prioritising engagement has helped to:

- » grow relationships and gain buy-in from key stakeholders representing diverse views
- » scope the detailed analytical studies using local knowledge to better understand potential impacts
- » increase community participation and representation in the project process.



Strategic Priority 3 Sustaining our environment and lifestyle

This Strategic Priority focuses on the importance of a sustainable environment and landscape that retains the very features that help attract people to the region and underpin economic and social growth.

Regional Objective 3.1 Conserve and celebrate the culture and environmental features that draw and keep people in the region

This objective under the WBBRP highlights the rich biodiversity, landscape and cultural values of the region and the need to manage and protect these to ensure they continue to be significant drawcards and contribute to the region's reputation as a lifestyle destination. The objective highlights the threat from climate change and the need to respond appropriately.

Infrastructure priorities

The table below shows the regional objectives and infrastructure priorities of **Strategic Priority 3** and a high-level indicative summary of local infrastructure priorities identified by regional Councils.

Strategic Priority 3 Sustaining our environment and lifestyle	REGIONAL OBJECTIVES	INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES	COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES (HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY)
	3.1 Conserve and celebrate the culture and environmental features that draw and keep people in the region	Not applicable	» Summarised below.
	OTHER LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY REGIONAL COUNCILS		
		Environmental protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Regional environmental regeneration program » Coastal Sewer Strategy » Lagoon and Creek Restoration (e.g., Moneys Creek)

State infrastructure initiatives supporting the priority

Land Restoration Fund

The Land Restoration Fund is expanding carbon farming in Queensland by supporting projects that deliver additional environmental, socio-economic, and First Nations co-benefits. This program assists landholders, farmers, and First Nations peoples to generate new income sources through carbon farming while also providing valuable co-benefits such as healthier waterways, more resilient landscapes, and increased habitat for threatened species.

The program started in 2020 and is ongoing. Until June 2023, the Land Restoration Fund has invested over \$99 million in 23 carbon farming projects throughout Queensland, with five in the WBB area.

Two of the carbon farming projects in the region include:

- » The ZP Land Restoration Fund project in Gungahlin which is implementing the avoided clearing method to sequester carbon in existing native forests. In addition to carbon sequestration, the project will prevent sediment from flowing to the reef, increase threatened species habitat and improve the condition of soil and vegetation around creek banks.

- » Goondicum Station is a 7,000 hectare prime agricultural property in Yarrol used to graze beef cattle. The land restoration funded carbon farming project uses the avoided clearing and human induced regeneration methods to protect native vegetation and improve water quality runoff to the Great Barrier Reef. The project does this by managing grazing practices and installing new fences to reduce grazing pressure around creeks. The project will also employ local tradespeople to help increase local income and employment opportunities over the life of the project.

The number and variety of projects under the Land Restoration Fund located in the WBB area demonstrate the suitability of the region for high quality carbon and natural capital projects. Further details of all Land Restoration Fund projects in the region can be found on the Land Restoration Fund Website.

Delivery agency: DES

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Performance Framework

Conserving Nature – a *Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Queensland* was released in 2022 to address the ongoing loss of biodiversity and associated economic risks. The strategy outlines the government's vision for the future of biodiversity in the state and sets goals and objectives for implementation. Monitoring and evaluation approaches are being developed, including whole-of-government targets and indicators, to track progress and inform future revisions.

The strategy applies to infrastructure plans and projects across all regions, including WBB. Effectively conserving biodiversity will safeguard the region's agricultural industries, ensuring the ecosystems services that are critical to support the current and growing agriculture industry.

Delivery agency: DES

National Park visitor facilities upgrade

Upgrade of visitor infrastructure at Bunya Mountains National Park, Mon Repos Turtle Centre and Central Station Day Use Area redevelopment on K'gari. DES, through the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), is working with the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation to cooperatively develop and deliver a four-year, \$4.8 million program to revitalise the Central Station Day Use Area on K'gari, improving cultural and environmental outcomes to provide an enhanced visitor experience.

Funding of \$4.8 million has been allocated by the Queensland Government through the QPWS capital works program (\$3.6 million) and an election commitment (\$1.25 million).

Commencing in 2023-24, the Queensland Government has allocated an additional \$5 million over three years to further support site redevelopment to ensure a modern and well-planned visitor experience, while supporting the start-up of K'gari cultural tours by the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation.

DES is also investing \$865,000 in 2023-24 to expand the Mon Repos Turtle Centre's carpark. This investment builds on the \$135,000 spent in 2022-23 for a total investment of \$1 million for carparking at the centre. DES is undertaking a multi-year investment at Bunya Mountains National Park totalling \$5.4 million to improve visitor experiences.

Delivery agency: DES

Great Sandy Marine Park

The Queensland Government has committed funding to support economic activity and enhance the WBB region's reputation as a lifestyle destination.

Boating and recreational fishing infrastructure

\$6 million for public boating infrastructure in the Great Sandy Marine Park. Public boat ramps, jetties and pontoons provide key access points for the public to use and enjoy the Great Sandy Marine Park. DTMR has identified the need for upgraded or additional public boating infrastructure in the region to meet predicted demand and improve safety. The ease of launching and retrieval of vessels can have a significant impact for recreational boaters and vessel-based anglers on the quality of their experience in the marine park. In addition to the provision of sufficient launching lanes to meet demand, there is scope to make boat ramps safer, more efficient and more user friendly.

Delivery agency: DTMR

Artificial reefs

\$2.5 million to support the development of artificial reefs for recreational fishing in the Great Sandy Marine Park. The provision of alternative fishing locations through the installation of artificial reefs is expected to provide new recreational fishing opportunities across the park. Artificial reefs are structures placed in the marine environment to promote an increase in the abundance and diversity of marine species and can be used for diving and to provide alternative locations to natural reefs for fishing. These artificial reefs will attract and sustain a wide diversity of marine life by providing protection from predators, shelter from currents, breeding opportunities and a supply of rich food sources. They are popular sites for activities such as fishing and scuba diving. By providing additional fishing opportunities, artificial reefs are expected to reduce crowding at other fishing locations, thereby improving fishing experiences and reducing fishing pressure on natural reefs in the Marine Park.

Delivery agency: DES

Implementation and review

This WBBIS is a precursor to the development of the WBBIP in two years' time.

The WBBIP will align to the region's vision, priorities and objectives as articulated in the WBBRP and identify long-term infrastructure strategies in consultation with regional and State agency stakeholders.

These strategies will inform the strategic planning of all levels of government, business and industry to support a more coordinated approach to sequencing and prioritising infrastructure planning and investment.

State infrastructure initiatives that support the region's priorities and objectives will also be

reviewed and updated as appropriate.

The WBBIP will be reviewed every two years to ensure it remains current and aligned with government and regional stakeholder priorities. Reviews will be undertaken in consultation with regional stakeholders, including local government, industry, peak bodies, community groups and First Nations peoples.

The WBBRP outlines implementation actions against each strategic priority. Actions that relate to the WBBIP and identifying regional infrastructure needs are outlined below.

Strategic Priority

Regional Objective

Action and purpose

Approach



Growing our people and places

Plan for our future

Identify long-term infrastructure strategies to support the implementation of regional priorities.

State agencies and local governments to work with key stakeholders to deliver the WBB Regional Infrastructure Plan.



Taking charge of our economic future

Emerge as a leader in the energy transformation and circular economy

Identify and prioritise regional infrastructure projects that will support the establishment of a new economy minerals sector.

Advise on future regional infrastructure needs, including potential common user infrastructure projects that would facilitate clusters of resource activity for new economy minerals.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

The Local Government Sustainability Framework also complements the WBBIS by acknowledging the diversity of the sector and providing greater insights into the challenges faced by many local governments. The Framework supports the development of more tailored solutions to councils - today and into the future - enabling growth and prosperity by focusing on three principles; foundations such as finances, governance and service delivery, infrastructure that the community needs, wants and can afford, and outlook, investing in ideas that are right for future communities. A more holistic approach to considering the sustainability of councils will help ensure Queensland's growth happens in the right way - to enhance our already great communities and support our incredible lifestyles.



Silo Tanks, Kingaroy (Source DSDILGP)

Future opportunities

Several economic development opportunities have been raised with DSDILGP during the WBBIS consultation process. These will be further investigated by DSDILGP over the next two years and include:

» development of a medical precinct adjacent to Bundaberg Hospital to be further investigated in partnership with EDQ and Bundaberg Regional Council



» potential for a regional inter-modal logistics facility to build supply chain resilience particularly for the food and agricultural sector.



QUEENSLAND NEW INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The Queensland New-Industry Development Strategy (QNIDS) released on 19 May 2023 has been developed in line with global shifts for the demand for cleaner, greener and more responsibly sourced products and services.

A driver of the QNIDS is global decarbonisation, and the Queensland Government is committed to developing industries that expand Queensland's footprint in high-value supply chains that take advantage of this shift.

The QNIDS identifies six new decarbonisation industry priorities to enable industry development and economic growth across all regions:

1. Renewable energy manufacturing and infrastructure development
2. Critical mineral mining and processing

3. Battery industry development
4. Green hydrogen
5. Circular economy, including resource recovery and recycling
6. Bioeconomy, including biofuels and sustainable aviation fuel.

The WBB region is well placed to benefit from global decarbonisation and capture new economic growth opportunities, particularly in industries where the region has significant economic strengths such as critical minerals.

LOCAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES NETWORK AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC FUTURES FUND

The local economic opportunities network (LEO network) assists regional communities with economic transition. The LEO network is part of the QNIDS and was established to support investment in clean energy technology and help communities take advantage of the economic opportunities available in Queensland. The network of regionally based staff from the department are a government contact point for renewable energy, decarbonisation and economic diversification opportunities.

The Regional Economic Futures Fund (REFF) is a new \$200 million program to support specific communities in seizing industry development opportunities presented by global decarbonisation. The four regions being funded are those that have coal fired power stations and associated mines that are a significant source

of economic activity and jobs or have unique opportunities to support new industries like critical minerals, renewable energy, hydrogen and biofuels.

REFF funding will be made available to specific projects identified through regional consultation as those that will best support the region's economy over the long term.

This includes the South Burnett area given Stanwell's Tarong Power stations and the adjacent Meandu Mine are located south-east of Kingaroy.

DSDILGP is delivering the REFF program via its regional office network. It is anticipated that regional transformation strategies and implementation plans will be drafted and ready for implementation in early 2024.

Acronyms

Acronym	Definition	Acronym	Definition
BEL	Bundaberg East Levee	QFES	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
CBCQ	Creating Better Connections for Queenslanders	QNIDS	Queensland New Industry Development Strategy
DEPW	Department of Energy and Public Works	QPWS	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
DES	Department of Environment and Science	QRA	Queensland Reconstruction Authority
DoE	Department of Education	QREZ	Queensland Renewable Energy Zone
DoH	Department of Housing	QTMP	Queensland Train Manufacturing Program
DRDMW	Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water	REFF	Regional Economies Future Fund
DSDILGP	Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning	REZ	Renewable Energy Zone
DTIS	Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport	RMP	Regional Medical Pathway
DTMR	Department of Transport and Main Roads	RRTG	Regional Roads and Transport Groups
DYJESBT	Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training	RWMP	Regional Waste Management Plan
EDQ	Economic Development Queensland	SDA	State Development Area
GP	General Practice	SQRFP	Southern Queensland Regional Freight Plan
GPC	Gladstone Ports Corporation	SRPs	Statutory Regional Plans
GRAP	Gympie Recovery Accommodation Park	STL	Sugar Terminals Limited
LEO	Local Economic Opportunities	TAFE	Training and Further Education
NBN	National Broadband Network	TIDS	Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme
PDIP	Paradise Dam Improvement Project	WBB	Wide Bay Burnett
PHES	Pumped Hydro Energy Storage	WBBRP	Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan
		WBBIP	Wide Bay Burnett Infrastructure Plan
		WBBIS	Wide Bay Burnett Infrastructure Supplement



Wide Bay Burnett

Infrastructure Supplement 2023

Department of State Development, Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning

1 William Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

13 QGOV (13 74 68)

www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au