



**Australian Government**



**Queensland Government**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT CITY DEALS**

**between**

**The Commonwealth of Australia**

**and**

**The State of Queensland**

## ***Preamble***

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) provides an undertaking by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments to work together cooperatively on City Deals. City Deals will improve the lives of people through better transport, improved housing supply and affordability and access to jobs.

Australia's growth as a knowledge based economy, and the prosperity this offers, goes hand in hand with the growth of our cities and the regions surrounding them. To succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy our cities, both regional and metropolitan, need to be productive and accessible, but they also need to be liveable with a clear focus on serving citizens.

City Deals will formalise the partnership across the three levels of government and define priorities, actions, timeframes and accountabilities for achieving joint goals. City Deals will improve collaboration, consultation and coordination between all levels of government. The establishment of City Deals will require all levels of government to consider all appropriate levers to support improved outcomes in our cities.

The Commonwealth will provide support for key transformative infrastructure to implement City Deals, in partnership with the Queensland Government. The Commonwealth and Queensland Governments will work with local governments to bring the full strength of appropriate policy levers to give effect to City Deals.

As a first priority, the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments will work with local government to deliver a City Deal for Townsville by the end of 2016. The City Deal will be focused on improving the lives of Townsville residents through more jobs and investment, a renewed urban centre, and a more vibrant and liveable city.

### ***Principles for collaboration***

The goal of City Deals is to provide an ambitious plan to generate economic growth, jobs and housing, reduce travel times and improve environmental outcomes to deliver measurable improvements to people's quality of life and standard of living.

This will be achieved by streamlining governance to enable effective collaboration, coordination within and across governments and strong leadership with clear accountabilities. The Commonwealth and Queensland Governments will continue to develop a robust process of consultation and negotiation to investigate and establish City deals, and commit to the following foundational principles in support of this process:

- **Community engagement:** Involve the community in determining regional priorities and how they can contribute to implementation, and maximise opportunities for local Indigenous communities in delivery of City Deals.
- **Private sector engagement:** including creating better policy and regulatory settings that provide greater certainty for investment.
- **Accountability and transparency:** define measurable goals, priorities, actions and implementation timeframes and support access to open data to enable performance to be measured and all parties held to account, while also providing flexibility to allow for changing needs and emerging priorities.
- **Relevance:** prioritise local needs within the context of a nationally significant reform, and ensure governments are empowered to deliver at the local level.
- **Efficiency:** prioritise actions and reform that drive productivity and competition, including the 'game-changers', catalyst actions and smart technology solutions that will deliver a step-change in growth outcomes and that are additional to governments' usual operations.
- **Collaboration:** Both Commonwealth and Queensland Governments will consult and communicate in good faith to ensure a streamlined and coordinated process to promote community and private sector confidence and participation in the City Deal process, and will take the legitimate concerns and interests of other governments into account in their decision-making to maximise benefits for local communities. Both parties will ensure that prior agreement is reached on the nature and content of any events, announcements, promotional material or publicity relating to City Deals developed under this MOU, and that the roles of the relevant Parties will be acknowledged and recognised appropriately.

### ***Domains for action***

Every City Deal will be different. Each will be tailored to reflect the specific needs and growth opportunities of that region. The focus will be on collaborative actions that will build on the economic, social and environmental strengths for the area.

City Deals will prioritise domains for action that reflect the needs and growth opportunities for each region, including consideration of the following:

**Governance, city planning and regulation** – To facilitate economic growth through the delivery of planning and regulatory reforms that improve metropolitan governance arrangements, and enhanced integration of infrastructure, land use and environmental planning decisions.

**Investment in Infrastructure** – To improve accessibility and transport choice in our cities by supporting innovative private and public sector financing solutions and programmed, co-ordinated and evidence-based infrastructure commitments across all three levels of government.

**Housing** – To improve housing supply and affordability, including by encouraging higher density development, and greater diversity of housing options.

**Jobs and skills** – To improve employment outcomes by supporting skills and industry development and removing barriers to employment.

**Innovation and digital opportunities** – To harness the productive potential of information and communications technologies and the digital economy, including through a conducive and adaptive regulatory environment and a commitment to make data publicly available wherever this is practical.

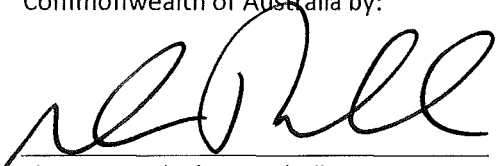
**Liveability and sustainability** – To improve the environment, attractiveness and resilience of our cities, including support for clean air, green spaces, vibrant arts and cultural experiences, community amenity and active transport.

**Agreement**

Through this Memorandum of Understanding the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments agree to work cooperatively and collaboratively to agree priority locations and improve Queensland's cities through the implementation of tailored City Deals.

This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legal relations between the parties.

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



The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP

Prime Minister

10/11/16  
Date

**SIGNED** for and on behalf of the State of  
Queensland by:



The Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP

Premier

9/11/16  
Date