



Thriving Communities Thriving Queensland

COMMITMENT STATEMENT

The Queensland Government has declared its priorities for safe and healthy communities that give all children a great start, and are responsive to community priorities and needs – communities that thrive and not just survive. Thriving communities are dynamic, exciting places in which to set up a business, get a job, raise a family and live a healthy and productive life. Thriving communities are inclusive, diverse, Age-Friendly and All Abilities.

As Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors, my vision is for thriving Queensland communities, where people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities, can participate, are included and resilient, and enjoy high levels of social and economic wellbeing. Research shows that thriving communities are not just great for people but they are also great for the economy.

As a proud regional Queenslander, thriving communities are my passion.

Thriving communities are built by caring, motivated and passionate residents, volunteers, service providers, businesses, educators and others taking actions, both individually and together, to improve their local communities.

In my Ministerial role, I hear from Queenslanders every day about the important role Government can play in supporting these vital community building efforts. Advice provided by thousands of Queenslanders in consultation activities to inform key government strategies such as Queensland: an age-friendly community, All Abilities Queensland: opportunities for all and Partnering for the future: Advancing Queensland's community services industry 2017-25 has provided important insights into the types of actions that Queenslanders want my Department to take to support them in their efforts.

Communities expect, and should experience, responsive and integrated government support and services focused on improving people's lives. A feature of responsive government and, in turn, thriving communities is collaboration and engagement with community stakeholders to support citizen-centred,

local solutions. As a responsive government, we will remain focused on working locally and collaboratively on identified community priorities.

We commit to...

- Connecting with and understanding community priorities and aspirations.
- Work collaboratively with communities to help deliver the benefits we want to see.
- Target our investment carefully so that every dollar spent makes a difference.
- Focus relentlessly on the biggest priorities to make the best use of resources.
- Partner with communities, the community services industry, government departments and others to achieve the best outcomes for Queenslanders.

Importantly, this commitment statement is just the start of our journey. There is much more that we can and will do in coming years to support Queensland communities to thrive. We will work in partnership with communities and industry to refine and evolve the Framework for Place-Based Approaches to establish a shared understanding of the roles of government, community and industry in developing local responses to community needs. The Framework recognises the important contribution of industry to thriving Queensland communities, and outlines how diverse communities can be supported to actively participate in initiatives that sustain their wellbeing.

I will continue to connect with communities around the state to understand how we can better work together to ensure all people – whether they live in urban, regional or remote areas – feel they are part of a community where they can thrive. This will guide our implementation priorities.

Coralee O'Rourke MP,
Minister for Communities and
Minister for Disability Services and Seniors



**Queensland
Government**