

JOINT STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

Maximising Local Content Opportunities in Regional Queensland

BACKGROUND

Maximising regional opportunities from major private and public projects is paramount to driving investment and delivering jobs and economic prosperity in regional Queensland.

The Queensland Local Content Leaders Network (QLCLN) grew out of the acknowledgment that there is strength in partnership to achieve strong local content outcomes. We now see an opportunity to apply these local content principles to the wave of investment in projects in the regions.

QLCLN provides the opportunity for economic development organisations, local government and industry groups to share best practice initiatives on local content, industry participation, procurement and purchasing, and regional development.

Membership of QLCLN is voluntary and new participants from regional Queensland that can add value to the network are encouraged to join.

The network formed in 2014, is guided by the Joint Statement of Commitment: Maximising Industry Local Content in Regional Queensland which was further updated in July 2016. This document outlines the guiding principles and objectives of the network and communicates the positive outcomes that major projects can deliver to the community through local content opportunities.

SUPPORTERS

The supporters of this Joint Statement of Commitment: *Maximising Local Content Opportunities in Regional Queensland*, recognise that economic development in our regions is heavily contingent upon maximising local content supply opportunities. Done well, these local content opportunities also help new projects to build their social licence to operate within their host regions.

The supporters:

- Intend to play a pivotal role in delivering tailored responses to local content issues within our specific area of operation.
- Are committed to working together to address key regional issues such as business sustainability, local industry participation and regional development.
- Endeavour to identify realistic, sustainable, consistent, and collaborative solutions that will deliver lasting benefits to our local economies.

- Will work collaboratively with industry to promote the potential social and commercial dividends to be gained through better engagement with the business community.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this Statement are to:

- Provide a convenient access point that enables new projects to better engage and communicate with the local business community in each region.
- Channel opportunities to enhance local business and industry capability and capacity.
- Collaborate and partner with industry to deliver full, fair and reasonable opportunities for capable local businesses to participate in all aspects of the local supply chain.
- Provide local businesses the opportunity to participate in the future growth and maintenance of their region.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The activities of the QLCLN are underpinned by the following guiding principles:

1. **RESPECT** - while respecting regional boundaries, we will work together to develop a consistent and collaborative approach to industry's requests for assistance in delivering its local content obligations (eg. the Queensland Resources and Energy Sector Code of Practice for Local Content (2013) or similar industry local content codes).
2. **DEVELOP** - we will develop and deliver local content programs and services to drive local industry participation, workforce development and social investment outcomes that make it simpler for local business to competitively bid for supply opportunities in our local area.
3. **ENGAGE** - We will engage with key stakeholders to tailor our activities to respond to the unique requirements of our community.
4. **LEAD** - we will lead local responses and deliver innovative solutions to improve local content participation in our community.
5. **SEEK** - we will seek collaboration and partnership opportunities to maximise local procurement leverage, reduce duplication of effort and share information, where this leads to economies of scale, efficiency and improved outcomes for our regions.
6. **GOVERNANCE** - we will apply openness, fairness, accountability, and transparency to all activities.

SUMMARY

In summary, within our regions, the supporters are committed to working closely with key stakeholders at all levels of the community, industry and government to ensure the delivery of strong local content outcomes to support increasing local participation in industry procurement activity in our regions.

Supporters involvement in the QLCLN is voluntary, however supporters are encouraged to take the research and initiatives developed through the network and apply them at a local level.

Based on the principles of the Joint Statement of Commitment, the supporters may choose to develop a Regional Action Plan that meets their specific regional requirements.