# A Place to Innovate Queensland Innovation Precincts and Places Strategy

2022-2032







## **Foreword**

Innovation precincts and places are engines of growth and job creation, where business and research work together to discover and develop innovative solutions to economic, environmental and social challenges.

They're especially important now that it's our time to shine in the decade up to Brisbane 2032 as we further accelerate the transformation of our economy to create more jobs in more industries.

With our best days ahead of us, including the Olympic and Paralympic Games, we want innovation to build on Queensland's economic strengths.

Our 10-year *Queensland Innovation Precincts and Places Strategy: A Place to Innovate* sets out the pathway for a highly connected, inclusive and collaborative system of innovation places.

Innovation places are dynamic places.

They produce new technologies, commercialise research, launch new business ventures, seed new industries and revitalise traditional industries.

And their products are more likely to have real-life applications and strong market prospects.

They are places where small-to-medium enterprises, start-ups and entrepreneurs access training, mentoring, networking opportunities, workspaces, specialist equipment and technical expertise.

A Place to Innovate is a key feature of a framework for advancing the Queensland economy, including the Innovation for a Future Economy 2022-2032 Roadmap to create the new businesses, jobs and export opportunities Queensland will need for the new economy.

A Place to Innovate delivers a plan for those precincts and places to power world-leading innovation and growth in Queensland jobs for current and future generations.

**The Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk MP**Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Olympics



The Honourable Stirling Hinchliffe MP
Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport and
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics and
Paralympics Sport and Engagement

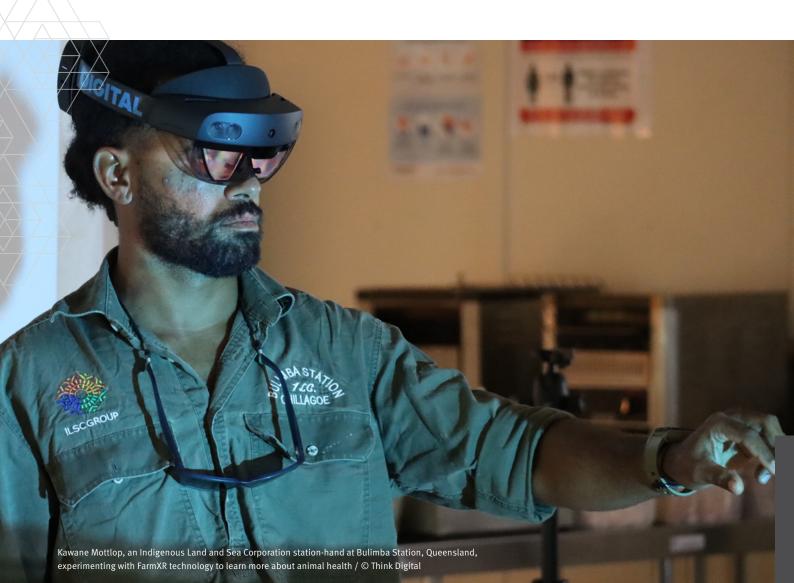


# Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Traditional Owners and Elders of the lands and seas on which we meet, live, learn, research, work and collaborate and who were the original innovators in the places that have been identified in this Strategy.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people inherit a rich history of innovation, solving challenges and adapting to changes in the environment. They have much to offer and contribute to Queensland's innovation economy.

We recognise it is our collective efforts, and responsibility as individuals, communities, place leaders and governments, to ensure equality, recognition and inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders across all aspects of society and everyday life.



# Table of contents

1	Executive summary	5
2	Innovation precincts and places	6
3	Positioning Queensland for the future	7
4	Vision and pillars	9
	► People	11
	► Place	13
	► Purpose	17
5	Connect with us	19

## **Executive summary**

A Place to Innovate is Queensland's ten-year strategy to release the potential from the state's innovation precincts and places (innovation places)—where knowledge, investment and talent come together to achieve great things. The strategy sets out the government's vision and path for developing the state's innovation places over the coming decade and beyond. It builds on decades of investment in Queensland's innovation ecosystem.

The Queensland Government's vision for innovation places is:

Innovation precincts and places where new world-leading products and solutions are concentrated for long-term economic growth and jobs for Queensland.

The Precinct, one of Queensland's largest innovation hubs, in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley / © Queensland Government

**A Place to Innovate** sets out how Queensland will achieve this vision, based on three key pillars: People, Place and Purpose.

- ► **People**: empowering innovation place leaders and stakeholders to collaborate and thrive
- Place: maximising the innovation potential from infrastructure
- ► **Purpose:** harnessing the opportunities and achievements of innovation places.

Together, these pillars support the coordination and growth of innovation places across Queensland. They were developed with comprehensive stakeholder input and analysis, and inform the specific programs and initiatives outlined in the strategy.

#### **VISION** Innovation precincts and places where new world-leading products and solutions are concentrated for long-term economic growth and jobs for Queensland. People **Place Purpose** Culture and collaboration Physical assets and Capability and critical mass Inclusive places and infrastructure Growth pathways Access and connectivity communities Leadership and vision Talent and skills Place-making and amenity Organisation and Smart places governance Virtual places and digital Engagement and promotion infrastructure

# 1 Innovation precincts and places

Around the world, innovation places are bringing government, research and industry together, to harness talent and investment, and deliver new business, jobs and export opportunities.

Innovation places provide the spaces and platforms that connect knowledge-based activity. They are a focal point for research organisations, innovative businesses, expertise and capital. They create a collaboration-rich environment where research is commercialised, and products and services connect to markets.

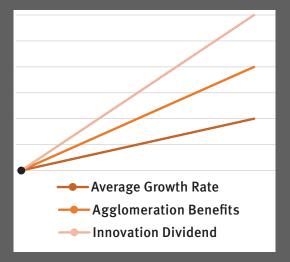
By increasing collaboration, innovation places deliver an **innovation dividend** that is greater than the individual impact of its participants. Increasing the density and intensity of innovation activity brings greater knowledge creation, transfer and diffusion. It also leads to the development of specialised capabilities and critical mass required for new markets and investment. These aspects result in real economic benefits, including:

- new jobs in emerging and existing industries
- greater productivity in traditional sectors
- more diverse and resilient regional economies
- new export opportunities for the state.

Place-based innovation can also provide positive social and environmental outcomes, including:

- new solutions to social and environmental problems
- opportunities to engage and support diverse communities and stakeholders
- revitalisation of urban environments and creation of active, safe and sustainable communities.

#### The Innovation Dividend



The future of precinct developments, NGAA Congress, Deloitte, 2018



# **2** Positioning Queensland for the future

Queensland is uniquely positioned to grow innovation places that harness its existing strengths and capitalise on emerging opportunities. Innovation places are critical to driving technology innovation and economic prosperity, especially new jobs and economic opportunities to recover from recent challenges.

In particular, the COVID-19 global health pandemic and recent natural disasters created, disrupted and accelerated a range of economic and social trends, including:

- increased focus on health and wellbeing
- global economic instability and supply chain disruptions
- labour shortages, especially in service industries and regional/remote communities
- adoption of platform technologies and the digital economy
- flexible working arrangements, including working from home and remote learning
- sharper focus on environmental and social imperatives, including climate change and resilience, natural resource management, social justice, equity and inclusion.

Innovation places can play an important role in responding to these challenges and driving long-term resilience, prosperity, productivity and competitiveness. *A Place to Innovate* encourages innovation places that explore and embrace challenges and new opportunities by:

- empowering and connecting place leaders
- encouraging collaboration
- leveraging and promoting exceptional research capabilities
- enhancing translation, commercialisation and diffusion capabilities
- building on past investments and the strengths of traditional sectors
- capitalising on investment demand and local investment opportunities
- facilitating a more coordinated approach to building specialisation and critical mass
- providing guidance for future investment to build scale and capability
- reinforcing Queensland's reputation for safety, stability and sustainability
- promoting Queensland's robust regulatory environment.



#### Context

A Place to Innovate is a priority of the Advance Queensland – Innovation for a Future Economy 2022-2032 Roadmap, directly supporting the objective that 'Queensland has world-class innovation infrastructure to drive ideas through to commercialisation, adoption and diffusion'.

Developing regions, precincts and places is an objective of the State Infrastructure Strategy. To underpin this objective, the State Infrastructure Strategy will support the establishment of a Precinct Governance Framework. This framework will ensure interactions between institutions, private sector and government deliver desired outcomes through shared agendas and collaborative approaches.

The implementation of place-based regional economic strategies, as highlighted in the State Infrastructure Strategy, will further support the objectives of *A Place to Innovate* by leveraging regional competitive strengths and encouraging collaboration to improve competitiveness, productivity, innovation and capacity.

A Place to Innovate is part of a broader economic roadmap for advancing the Queensland innovation economy. It focuses on planning, co-location and clustering as part of the broader innovation strategy of the State, and also supports the delivery of many Queensland Government strategies and programs including the Queensland Jobs Fund, Queensland's Industry Roadmaps, the proposed Workforce Strategy and the Queensland Climate Action Plan 2020-2030.

## Advance Queensland - Innovation for a Future Economy

#### **Priority Outcomes**

- Greater investment attraction and more innovative businesses starting, growing and staying in Queensland.
  - Queensland's big challenges and events are supported through innovative and sustainable solutions.
- Queensland's world-class research and collaborations translated into creating commercial opportunities.
- Queensland has world-class innovation infrastructure to drive ideas through to commercialisation, adoption and diffusion.
- Queensland's existing and emerging priority industries and talent are globally competitive.
- Queensland has a well-connected, inclusive and thriving innovation ecosystem.

#### **Objectives:**

- Position Queensland places and hubs to reach their full potential for attracting investment and creating jobs
- Co-locate innovation places with research, education and training institutes
- Improve digital infrastructure accessibility.
- Increase the participation of priority cohorts (including regional, female and First Nations innovators) in the Queensland innovation ecosystem
- Improve business digital readiness
- Increase regional economic diversification.

#### State Infrastructure Strategy

Industry roadmaps

Hydrogen Strategy

Queensland Jobs Fund

Queensland Climate Action Plan 2020–2030

> Proposed Workforce Strategy

> > Science

Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy 2022-2032

Planning framework and legislation

# **Innovation Precincts and Places Strategy**

#### People

Empowering people to collaborate and thrive



#### Place

Maximising innovation from infrastructure



#### Purpose

Harnessing opportunities and achievements



#### Innovation Precincts and Places Fund

#### Collaboration

- Culture and collaboration
- Inclusive places and communities
- Talent and skills

#### Development and action

- Physical assets and infrastructure
- Access and connectivity
- Place-making and amenity
   Smart places
- Virtual places and digital infrastructure

#### Leadership, growth and capability

- Capability and critical mass
- Growth pathways
- Leadership and vision
- Organisation and governance
- Engagement and promotion

# **3** Vision and pillars

## **VISION**

Innovation precincts and places where new world-leading products and solutions are concentrated for long-term economic growth and jobs for Queensland.

## **PILLARS**

People	Place	Purpose
Empowering people to collaborate and thrive	Maximising innovation from infrastructure	Harnessing opportunities and achievements
<ul> <li>Culture and collaboration</li> <li>Inclusive places and communities</li> <li>Talent and skills</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Physical assets and infrastructure</li> <li>Access and connectivity</li> <li>Place-making and amenity</li> <li>Smart places</li> <li>Virtual places and digital infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Capability and critical mass</li> <li>Growth pathways</li> <li>Leadership and vision</li> <li>Organisation and governance</li> <li>Engagement and promotion</li> </ul>



## \$15m Innovation Precincts and Places Fund (DTIS)

The Queensland Government will invest \$15 million to deliver a new competitive Innovation Precincts and Places Fund to help innovation places achieve their goals across three key areas that are essential to success:

- ► Collaboration support the *People* pillar by developing and strengthening networks and collaborations within and between innovation places and the innovation ecosystem. It will also help connect and engage communities and other cohorts in innovation place activities.
- ► **Development and Activation** support the *Place* pillar by strengthening planning and project pathways, including support for project business cases.
- ► Leadership, Growth and Capability support the Purpose pillar through innovation place strategic and operational planning, fit-for-purpose governance arrangements, organisational resourcing, and investment attraction activities.

STREAM	COLLABORATION	DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVATION	LEADERSHIP, GROWTH AND CAPABILITY
ELEMENTS	<ul> <li>Culture and collaboration</li> <li>Inclusive places and communities</li> <li>Talent and skills</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Physical assets and infrastructure</li> <li>Access and connectivity</li> <li>Place-making and amenity</li> <li>Smart places</li> <li>Virtual places and digital infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Capability and critical mass</li> <li>Growth pathways</li> <li>Leadership and vision</li> <li>Organisation and governance</li> <li>Engagement and promotion</li> </ul>
AIMS	The fund will strengthen networks within and between innovation precincts and places. It will identify and grow talent and skills that support innovation. It will also help engage and connect local communities in innovation precinct and place activities.	The fund will support innovation precinct and place planning, especially smart infrastructure that enables innovators and communities to collaborate. It will also strengthen project pathways, including support for project business cases.	The fund will grow deep capabilities and build a critical mass across priority sectors and technologies. It will support development of innovation precinct and place strategic and operational plans, investment pathways, fit-for-purpose governance arrangements, organisational resourcing, and investment attraction activities.
OBJECTIVES	<ul> <li>Facilitate more partnerships and contracts between corporates, SMEs and startups</li> <li>Co-locate innovation precincts and places with research, education and training institutes</li> <li>Increase the participation of priority cohorts (including regional, female and First Nations innovators and other cohorts) in innovation precincts and places</li> <li>Improve research – business collaboration</li> <li>Improve business collaboration on innovation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Position Queensland places and hubs to reach their full potential for attracting investment and creating jobs</li> <li>Improve digital infrastructure and accessibility</li> <li>Increase high-value knowledge economy jobs</li> <li>Increase knowledge-intensive productivity growth</li> <li>Increase regional economic diversification</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Enhance the contribution of priority industries to the Queensland economy</li> <li>Increase investment to support the development and implementation of solutions for key challenges and events</li> <li>Increase investment in Intellectual Property</li> <li>Attract and retain more innovative businesses in Queensland</li> <li>Improve business digital readiness</li> <li>Increase the value of capital invested in Queensland startups and businesses</li> </ul>

## People

#### Empowering people to collaborate and thrive

A Place to Innovate builds on Queensland's strong research and development capabilities, which are already providing solutions to real world problems. The strategy will encourage a strong entrepreneurial culture, strengthening commercialisation abilities and grow new products and services.

Innovation places will foster mass collaboration—connecting people internally and externally with markets, stakeholders, suppliers and communities. They will support open and inclusive interactions, where people can engage with diverse stakeholders and communities.

Innovation places will reflect and represent a broad community of interests and talents. Innovation leaders and partners will connect to regional, female and First Nations innovators, to provide access to innovation places, educational opportunities, networks, investment and more equitable job, career and business prospects.

A Place to Innovate recognises that innovation places produce and consume highly specialised skills. Talent development, career pathways and commercialisation skills in priority sectors are important to real world impact in innovation places. There will be opportunities to strengthen STEM vocational training and skills development in digital platforms and other new technologies that support innovation places.

#### The strategy will:

#### **Culture and collaboration**

Develop a culture of innovation that harnesses individual and collective curiosity, creativity and expertise, within and between innovation places.

## Inclusive and accessible places and communities

Ensure all communities have the ability to engage, contribute and participate in the establishment, development and operation of innovation places. The Strategy will support connectivity to places and participation in place led innovation by women, First Nations people, refugees, culturally and linguistically diverse people, seniors, and people with a lived experience of disability.

#### Talent and skills

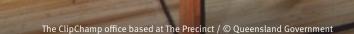
Identify and grow talent, skills and career pathways that support innovation that is embedded within places.

#### **Key Actions**

Establish place-based networks of innovation leaders and practitioners to support collaboration and engagement within and between innovation precincts and places. (Place Leaders)

Partner with hospitals, universities and research organisations to grow our health and knowledge precincts. (QH, DTIS and DSDILGP)

Optimise Brisbane 2032 infrastructure and legacy through partnerships with industry and other government agencies, facilitating investment in infrastructure, and planning for accessible and inclusive precincts and places. (DPC, DSDILGP and DTIS)



#### Case study

# Gold Coast precinct focuses on next-generation talent attraction and retention

The Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct is ramping up efforts to connect their companies with future talent through undergraduate internships and post-graduate industry research projects.

As the market for talent becomes increasingly competitive, the Precinct is on the front foot in securing a future recruitment pool. It would not be in a position to do so, but for the scale of past investments or investments planned for the future. For example, a recent workshop focused on responding to the needs of Precinct companies for student talent. It linked industry-focused researchers and Griffith University student placement staff with early-stage companies, to streamline the matching process. The initiative, and follow-up engagement, has seen 23 Griffith University students placed with Precinct SMEs in trimester one 2022, many in the areas of cybersecurity and data science.

The benefits for both scale-up companies and graduating students are significant, according to the former Precinct Director, Professor Mario Pinto. "Early-stage companies need students who are quickly able to fit into a small team to add value on projects, in a fast-paced entrepreneurial environment," Professor Pinto said. "For students, the dynamic nature of start-ups and scale-ups provides the opportunity to learn about all aspects of getting a business off the ground and make a real difference through their research or placement project to the growth of an emerging business, which differs from corporate placements which may offer more narrow experiences."

datarwe

Dr Meghan McConnell / © Griffith University

Clinical data-as-a-service provider Datarwe — a key tenant within the Precinct's Cohort Innovation Space and recipient of \$1.5 million of Advance Queensland funding is a great example of an emerging Precinct company that has maximised the value of student talent and used placement projects as a recruitment tool.

Griffith University data scientist Dr Meg McConnell worked with Datarwe's Chief Technical Officer Dr Kelvin Ross and was guided by Advisory Board Member and Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service Medical Director of Innovation Dr Brent Richards, throughout her PhD on the analysis of intensive care data.

"The exposure to industry during my PhD was paramount to my career – it is the reason I was able to step straight into a job on the completion of my PhD, and it has certainly helped the transition from pure academic research to targeted industry R&D," Meg said.

Meg commenced in her full-time role with Datarwe in March 2021, where she evaluates and improves the quality of healthcare data and develops predictive health analytics, such as predicting atrial fibrillation in post-cardiac surgery patients.

The inclusion of the Cohort innovation space withing the Gold Coast precinct has meant that companies can tap into an extensive network of world-renowned researchers, scientists and health and technology experts. It has also made the precinct a magnet for investors and those willing to contribute knowledge and experience as well as finance.



Professor Mario Pinto / © Griffith University

## Place

#### Maximising existing and emerging infrastructure

A Place to Innovate builds on Queensland's existing, high quality innovation infrastructure by supporting the creation of new investment opportunities and partnerships. Support for precincts and places is a key objective of the State Infrastructure Strategy. Better utilisation of existing assets and developing new infrastructure that enhances the capacity and capabilities of innovation places is an ongoing challenge.

While some past place developments have depended on anchoring investments in research and development through infrastructure provided by Government and new models of financing and collaborating are arising. Place participants will be encouraged to adopt new approaches to project development, curation and funding to attract new investment and participation in innovation places.

Successful innovation places are well-connected, internally and externally. Innovation Places enable access, engagement and collaboration of:

- internal precinct and place stakeholders
- other innovation places and the broader economy
- consumers, markets, supply chains and service providers
- homes, communities and green/open spaces.

Queensland's innovation places demonstrate a diverse mix of built environments. Some are planned, with high quality infrastructure and amenities, while others are emerging, unplanned or legacies of past use. Continuing to promote planning and investment will improve amenity, adoption of smart technologies, and increase the sustainability of innovation places.

#### The strategy will:

#### Physical assets and infrastructure

Support coordinated and collaborative planning, development and operation of the physical and technical assets needed for innovation places to work.

#### **Access and connectivity**

Ensure that innovation places are connected and accessible, internally and externally, including to services, industry, suppliers, customers, peers, collaborators and the community.

#### Place-making and amenity

Create functional, healthy and safe spaces that encourage people to live, create and collaborate, work and play.

#### Smart places and infrastructure

Support the uptake of new development and finance approaches and smart infrastructure within innovation places, to enhance performance and provide environmental and social benefits.

## Virtual places and digital infrastructure

Support the use of digital platforms and virtual tools that enable innovators and communities to connect and collaborate.



#### **Key Actions**

Open Innovation and Collaboration Space – The Precinct / © Queensland Government

Collaborate on delivery of the \$150 million SEQ Innovation Economy Fund to invest in capital projects that grow South-East Queensland's innovation economy and ignite the region's nationally significant innovation precincts and places with high value, knowledge intensive jobs.

(Delivered in partnership with DSDILGP and other SEQ City Deal Partners, including the Australian Government and COMSEQ.)

Invest \$35.5 million through the Queensland Jobs Fund towards the \$80 million Translational Manufacturing facility at the world-leading Translational Research Institute (TM@TRI), to support the development of a locally-based vaccine manufacturing industry in Queensland. (DSDILGP)

Establish a Future Industries Delivery Hub in Mackay as part of an expanded Resources Centre of Excellence. (Dept of Resources)

Complete a business case examining future operational structure, location and objectives of the Precinct to inform long term plans. (DTIS)

Continue to deliver the Research Infrastructure Co-investment Fund (RICF) to co-invest with the Australian Government and Industry funding under the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy. (DES)

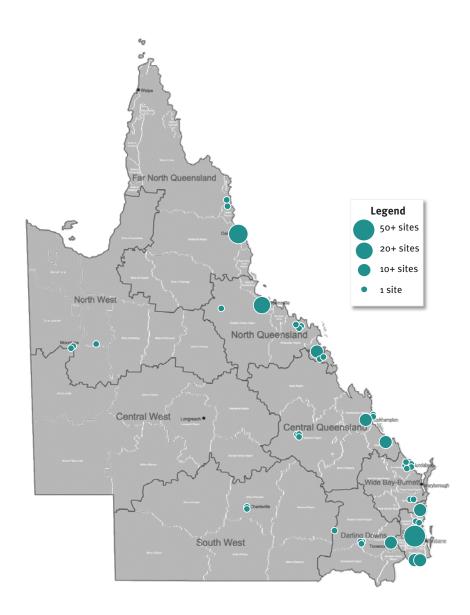
## Mapping Queensland's innovation places

In Queensland, high potential innovation places are often situated close to important economic anchors or other specialised infrastructure, such as universities, research institutes, hospitals, airports, ports and industrial centres.

Over 320 innovation places of varying size, scale, specialisation, maturity, complexity and impact have been identified in Queensland. They range from small-scale, early-stage sites serving a local need, to mature, complex, globally recognised precincts.

There is significant potential to start and grow innovation places in regional Queensland. Regions provide a wealth of innovation opportunity, based on existing natural assets, use of hi-tech applications and capabilities in production and manufacturing.

Many innovation places could be enhanced by connecting and collaborating with other innovation places in the state. There are real opportunities to leverage existing supply and value chains to connect research, commercialisation and production activities across regions.



#### **Case study**

#### Thermo Fisher Scientific – When innovation saves lives

Queensland is justifiably proud of its world-class medical research capabilities, but until a few years ago, researchers and biotech firms had to manufacture clinical trial drugs overseas. Thermo Fisher Scientific – the world's largest life science tools, diagnostics and pharma services company – is shifting the paradigm with its Woolloongabbabased biologics manufacturing facility.

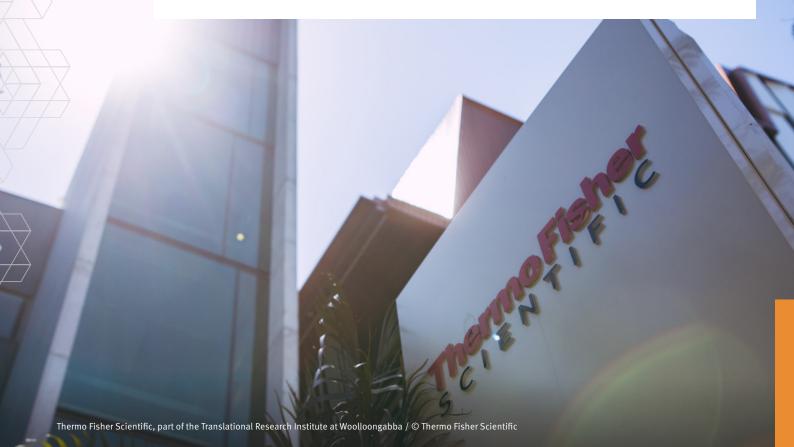
Thermo Fisher Scientific, together with its pharma services brand, Patheon, provides clinical and commercial biopharmaceutical products, as well as analytical services, process validation, technical transfer and commercialisation strategies. It is one of only two bio-manufacturing companies in Australia that meet regulatory standards and have Therapeutic Goods Administration approval. It is the first company in Australia to contract manufacture drugs on a commercial scale using mammalian cell lines.

In a further sign of success, Thermo Fisher Scientific is collaborating with Brisbane-based NuNerve to develop a new drug to treat motor neuron disease, based on research by the Queensland Brain Institute and the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute. Thermo Fisher Scientific will continue to help clinical trials move to commercial manufacturing. It is expected to gain international

regulatory approval by early 2023 and currently has eight late-phase programs that should be commercialised over the next three years.

Our ability to undertake sovereign manufacturing of medicinal products locally is important within Australia as it allows Queensland biomedical researchers and engineers to conduct safe, high quality clinic trials. It provides greater control of the production process and reduces costs. It also heralds the return of Australian life-scientists and bioengineers who were previously part of an overseas 'brain drain'. Thermo Fisher Scientific's biologics manufacturing facility now employs more than 200 people (expected to approach 300 staff by the end of 2023) and continues its close collaboration with universities to ensure science and engineering graduates are highly trained and job-ready.

The Queensland Government provided \$7 million of co-funding towards the construction of the manufacturing facility – which is co-located alongside the Translational Research Institute (TRI) – at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. Global biopharmaceutical markets are expected to grow significantly and Queensland is uniquely positioned to establish itself as the leading supplier in the region.



## Purpose

#### Harnessing opportunities and achievements

Innovation places need a clear purpose, around which people can connect and engage.

Building critical mass of innovation capabilities to scale and grow products, services and outcomes is critical.

The activities within innovation places create new industries and jobs.

While a number of identified places have scale and potential world impact in the health sector, other economic and industry support programs and support for emerging innovation places will assist to drive benefits in other priority sectors.

The strategy recognises that emerging challenges and opportunities can benefit from a place-based approach. Supporting strategic initiatives will attract catalytic investments that create places and precincts of the future. The place-based approach can build on other policies and industry support in areas such as renewable clean energy, artificial intelligence, immersive technologies, agtech, robotics, advanced manufacturing and digital economy capabilities. For example, leveraging the Queensland Government's Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy 2022-2032 (ZEV Strategy) and Action Plan 2022-2024 to support innovation in renewable technologies and the pathway to a climate-positive Brisbane 2032. Collocation and connection as well as building capability and critical mass in new sectors will be key to maximising their economic contribution.

Participants in innovation places should celebrate and promote success via a range of platforms and opportunities to attract talent and investment and highlight achievements.

#### The strategy will:

#### Capability and critical mass

Harness existing strengths and competitive advantages to grow deep capabilities and build a critical mass of innovation.

#### **Growth pathways**

Focus innovation potential by providing place-based research, translation, commercialisation and investment pathways across sectors and technologies.

#### Leadership and vision

Support local leaders and champions to drive the planning, development and operations of innovation places.

#### Organisation and governance

Support innovation places with fit-for-purpose governance, including regulated place development and operation.

#### **Engagement and promotion**

Increase awareness and understanding of the benefits from innovation.

#### **Key Actions**

Promote individual innovation place areas of specialisation, strengths and opportunities in local and international markets. (DTIS, TIQ and Place Leaders)

Deliver an innovation precincts and places portal and toolkit with new data layers on the Queensland Globe mapping application, to promote awareness of our innovation precincts and places and the opportunities they offer. (DTIS and Dept of Resources)

Develop a stronger state-wide digital presence and continued support of high-growth tech businesses to scale, including through activation activities of The Precinct and Queensland's emerging technology hubs. (DTIS)

#### **Case study**

#### AgTech and Logistics Hub

The Advance Queensland Agtech and Logistics Hub is transforming agriculture by using innovation and technology to grow and diversify the agricultural value chain.

Located at Wellcamp near Toowoomba, the hub facilitates connections, collaboration, partnerships and opportunities to solve the agricultural industry's biggest challenges.

The hub works across the food and agriculture supply chain, creating more sustainable growing practices, more efficient logistics services and new consumer products. It connects start-up companies, small-to-medium enterprises, industry representatives and researchers on industry-led projects. It is trialling new techniques and

specialised equipment (such as virtual reality, robotics and drones) and providing access to commercial networks.

The hub is opening up opportunities for agtech start-ups to develop solutions directly with industry and researchers, creating real value for the agriculture sector and exporting new products to the world.

The hub has been supported by a \$3 million investment from the Queensland Government's Advance Queensland initiative, in association with the FKG Group, Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise, University of Southern Queensland, and the University of Queensland.



*A Place to Innovate* is a long-term commitment to innovation places. The strategy will be implemented in partnership with key stakeholders across the Queensland innovation ecosystem.

# 4 Connect with us

- Advance Queensland (LinkedIn)
- Advance Queensland (Twitter)
- Advance Queensland (Facebook)
- ► advance.qld.gov.au
- qihub.com.au
- ► chiefentrepreneur.qld.gov.au



