



## Priority 5: Overcome barriers and realise opportunities to completion

“ *We need to overcome barriers that prohibit economic participation, and support individuals to ensure they gain the maximum benefit from available opportunities* ”

Creating additional opportunities for individuals, families, businesses and communities will not, in itself, improve economic participation outcomes. Instead, available opportunities must be well targeted and individuals and businesses need to be supported to overcome relevant barriers that may otherwise prohibit them from fully participating in the economy. For example, removing barriers that impede access to housing, obtaining a driver license and accessing education and training resources, can assist individuals to gain meaningful employment and fully leverage current and future economic opportunities.

### Actions

- 1. Increase the economic opportunities available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through the resolution of land administration matters and strengthened coordination of capital works projects** to increase local skill development, improve local economic opportunities and resolve land legacy issues (Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships).
- 2. Support Indigenous communities to deliver learning to drive programs** through the ongoing delivery of the [Indigenous Driver Licensing Program](#) (Department of Transport and Main Roads).
- 3. Support Queensland’s public libraries and [Indigenous Knowledge Centres](#)** to implement initiatives to enhance the digital skills of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people to better connect to economic opportunities such as training, jobs and markets (State Library of Queensland).
- 4. Continue to manage the [Employment and Education Housing Program](#)** to remove housing as a barrier to employment (Department of Housing and Public Works).

### Case study

#### Government Champions

The Queensland Government is committed to increasing their capability to deliver innovative, efficient, effective and integrated services for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people across Queensland, including those who live in remote and discrete Indigenous communities.

The Queensland Government Champion program enables Chief Executives of the Queensland Public Service to partner with individual discrete and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and use their

influence across government to address barriers to social and economic participation and to increase the effectiveness and integration of service delivery. The [Government Champions](#) work together across government and in partnership with community leaders.

The Terms of Reference for the Government Champion program ensures that Government Champions work with their assigned communities to address barriers to effective service delivery and to strengthen the capability of the Queensland Government to deliver innovative, efficient, and integrated services by:

- collaborating with local leaders to effectively identify and efficiently implement solutions to critical issues
- establishing feedback loops between government and communities regarding the progress of initiatives
- creating opportunities for local leaders to advocate their community's needs among higher levels of government
- building cross-cultural awareness within government
- improving whole-of-government coordination and service delivery through information sharing.

Government Champions engage with all community stakeholders, not just elected leaders. It is essential that key stakeholders are identified – for example, Traditional Owners and local Elders, Prescribed Bodies Corporate, local service deliverers such as schools and kindergartens, hospitals and/or health centres, and men's and women's groups.

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