1. In April 2016, the Commonwealth Government released its Smart Cities Plan, which established its intent to implement City Deals for key cities across Australia.
2. Following the Commonwealth Government’s confirmation of its 2016 federal election commitment to enter into City Deals, the Queensland Government negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding, which was executed by the Prime Minister and the Premier and Minister for the Arts in November 2016.
3. The Memorandum of Understanding is a high-level commitment from the State and Commonwealth to collaboratively investigate how City Deals can be developed with local governments for Queensland’s capital and key regional cities that demonstrate the greatest potential for reform and growth, starting with Townsville.
4. Representatives of the Townsville community and key stakeholders were engaged through four advisory group workshops hosted by Townsville City Council in October 2016. Representatives were drawn from Townsville’s business and industry sector, not-for-profit sector, research and education sector, and the Indigenous community.
5. The Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation, the Deputy Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade and Investment, and the Mayor of Townsville met with community and stakeholder advisory group representatives in November 2016 to obtain their direct feedback on Townsville City Deal priorities at the local level.
6. The final Townsville City Deal was finalised by the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments and Townsville City Council in December 2016.
7. Cabinet noted the final Townsville City Deal was signed by the Prime Minister, the Premier and Minister for the Arts, and the Mayor of Townsville.
8. *Attachments*
* [Townsville City Deal](Attachments/CityDeal.PDF)