



North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy

A new chapter for Straddie

Background

The Queensland Government is committed to phasing out sand mining on North Stradbroke Island—also known as Minjerribah to the Traditional Owners the Quandamooka people—and expanding the island's industries to ensure a strong, diverse and sustainable economy for all who live and work there.

In May 2016, the Queensland Parliament passed legislation that will substantially cease sand mining on the island by 2019.

The end of sand mining brings an opportunity to reinvigorate North Stradbroke Island's economy, aligning it with community aspirations, and capitalising on its unique cultural, historical and environmental values.

Strategy for economic transition

The North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy sets out the Queensland Government's plan for transitioning the island to become an eco-tourism hub. The strategy was released on 1 September 2016 following extensive stakeholder and community consultation.

It is supported by a \$28 million commitment from the Queensland Government aimed at stimulating investment, increasing economic activity and creating sustainable employment for the island and its community. This economic growth will also be balanced with protecting its environmental and cultural heritage.

This investment includes:

- \$20 million to undertake 23 initiatives supporting sustainable tourism, education and training and local businesses. These sectors were prioritised as they capitalise on NSI's existing competitive advantages.
- \$3.87 million in-kind support from state agencies to implement identified initiatives.
- \$5 million through the North Stradbroke Island Workers Assistance Scheme to help affected mine workers pursue new employment opportunities.

Initiatives

While the strategy is not designed to create direct jobs for retrenched workers, the series of initiatives contained within it have been carefully considered to ensure long-term benefits and opportunities for North Stradbroke Island's future generations.

Each will be planned out in detail and are subject to relevant development approvals, as required. The community will also have an opportunity to provide their input about some projects.

Initiatives include:

- partnering with Straddie Camping to improve camping amenities, cabins and road access
- helping Redland City Council improve interpretive and locational signage
- supporting the Quandamooka Festival (building on the momentum of the inaugural 2015 festival)
- establishing an Indigenous Business Development Fund to foster Indigenous tourism, education and business



- master planning for Dunwich and a visitor precinct, eco-tourism and resort accommodation
- investigating public transport improvements and integration
- capturing new markets (e.g. for school camps, field studies and tertiary research) by improving education and training facilities.

Other government initiatives being delivered for North Stradbroke Island include:

- implementation of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement
- joint management arrangements for Naree Budjong Djara National Park
- infrastructure planning for the One Mile settlement.

Next steps

The Queensland Government's \$28 million commitment aims to kick-start this long-term strategy. Further opportunities are expected to arise as the strategy is implemented, including co-investment opportunities for private sector investors to partner with local businesses and organisations.

Delivery of initiatives

A committee, chaired by the Department of State Development (DSD), working in collaboration with key stakeholders including Redland City Council, the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation, the University of Queensland and the Straddie Chamber of Commerce will guide implementation of the strategy.

Each project will have a project lead appointed who will be responsible for implementing and reporting on the status of individual projects. DSD is currently working with individual project leads to confirm project details and funding arrangements.

Support services on the island

Senior government officers are coordinating implementation of the strategy, working from an office established in Dunwich. These officers are island residents and will work closely with key stakeholders and the community.

The Dunwich office is also able to provide information to retrenched Sibelco workers about support and assistance services available from state and federal government agencies.

More information

Visit: the NSI team at 7 Stradbroke Place, Dunwich
(open Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 2.00 pm) and other times by appointment

Call: 07 3415 2349 (Dunwich Office) or 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
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