



**STATE  
DEVELOPMENT**

*supporting business  
growth in Queensland*

# **Darling Downs and South West Queensland**

An economic powerhouse

November 2006

# Queensland's regions – Centres of Enterprise on the world stage

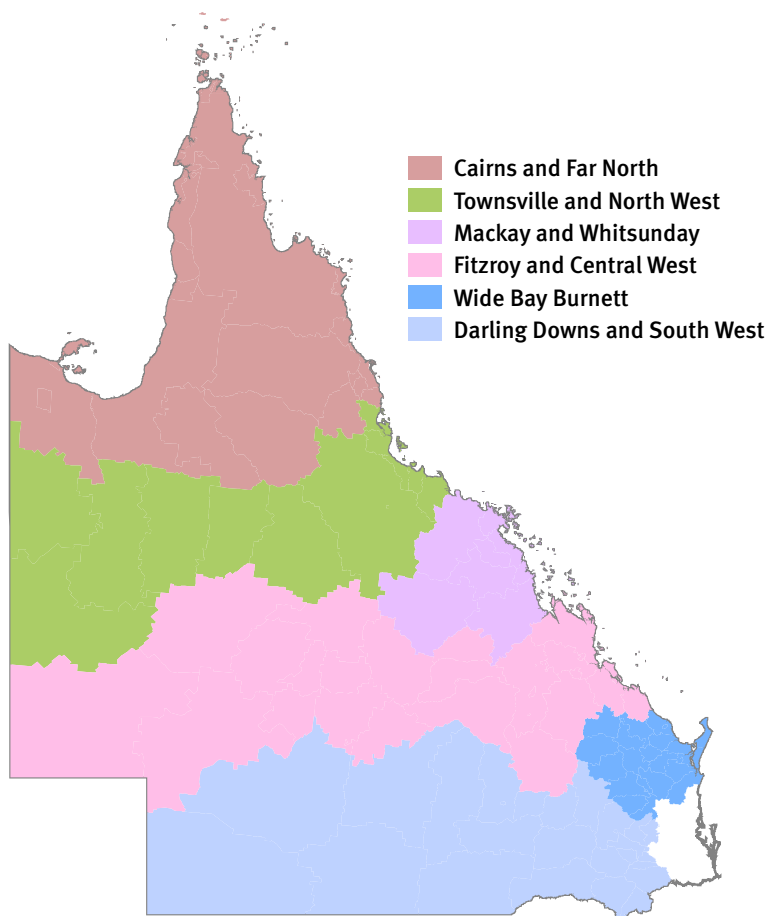
For business and investment, regional Queensland offers a multitude of opportunities to organisations looking at expansion or for firms on the threshold of success. Queensland's supportive Government and dynamic, low cost business environment provide a great climate for growth.

With an economic growth rate consistently higher than the national average, robust investment, strong population increases and solid export growth, the Smart State is now one of the best places in Australia to live, work and play. Queensland leads the way for Australia in the Asia-Pacific region in both existing and emerging industries, with more and more businesses of all sizes choosing to locate here.

In its regional development policy blueprint *Regional Queensland: an Economic Powerhouse*, the Queensland Government promised to establish six regions as Centres of Enterprise in key areas of industry strength. Each Centre of Enterprise has its own industry strengths and its own unique opportunities to attract specific new investment and expand business.

The Centres of Enterprise will be:

- Cairns and Far North
- Townsville and North West
- Mackay and Whitsunday
- Fitzroy and Central West
- Wide Bay Burnett
- Darling Downs and South West



# Darling Downs and South West Queensland Centre of Enterprise

The establishment of the Darling Downs and South West Queensland Centre of Enterprise delivers a key election commitment. This is the opportunity to take the economic development of the Darling Downs and South West to the next level, building on the work already done in the region by local leaders. The area will become a regional economic powerhouse for business and investment, consolidating its position on the world stage.

As a recognised Centre of Enterprise the Darling Downs and South West Queensland has the opportunity to develop significantly from its current economic position.

What will we see?

- Industries grow to be recognised by national and international industry leaders
- Government resources and services targeted at the region's most significant opportunities
- New business attraction, helping industries reach critical mass
- A mechanism to identify key opportunities and challenges and review strategies

## What do we need to do to make this happen?

The Centres of Enterprise initiative is a strong partnership between the region's business, community and government stakeholders. Regional leadership ensures that the key needs of the region and its rapidly developing dynamics are understood and taken into account in determining regional priorities.

We need to target the region's most significant opportunities and prioritise the actions needed to bring them to reality.

