The Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning is responsible for driving the economic development of Queensland.

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Map 1 – Southport PDA boundary and precincts

1. Precinct 1
   Central Business District (CBD)

2. Precinct 2
   PDA Residential Neighbourhood

3. Precinct 3
   PDA Garden Residential Neighbourhood

4. Precinct 4
   PDA Open Space
1.0 Introduction

1.1 Economic Development Act

The Economic Development Act 2012 (the Act) establishes the Minister for Economic Development Queensland (MEDQ), who operates as a corporation sole to exercise the functions and delegations of the MEDQ.

The main purpose of the Act is to facilitate economic development and development for community purposes in the State. The Act seeks to achieve this by establishing the MEDQ and providing for a streamlined planning and development framework for particular parts of the State declared as Priority Development Areas (PDAs).

MEDQ may delegate certain functions and powers under s.169 of the Act to a local government. On 4 October 2013, MEDQ delegated functions and powers for plan making and development assessment in the Southport PDA to the Council of the City of Gold Coast.

1.2 Priority Development Area

The Southport Priority Development Area (PDA) was declared by regulation on 4 October 2013.

1.3 Application of the development scheme

The Southport PDA Development Scheme (the scheme) is applicable to all development on land within the boundary of the PDA (refer to Map 1).

From the date of approval under a regulation, the scheme replaces the Southport PDA Interim Land Use Plan which commenced upon declaration.

1.4 Elements of the scheme

The scheme consists of:

(i) a land use plan
(ii) an infrastructure plan
(iii) an implementation strategy.

The land use plan regulates development within the PDA, and includes a precinct map (refer to Map 1). The vision for the PDA and the future of Southport as the Gold Coast CBD is expressed through the vision statement.

The infrastructure plan details the infrastructure needed to support the land use plan for the PDA.

The implementation strategy describes strategies and mechanisms that will complement the land use plan and infrastructure plan to meet the vision for the PDA.

1.5 State interests

Relevant matters of state interest have been considered in the preparation of this development scheme.

1.6 Acknowledgements

The scheme was prepared under delegation by the Council of the City of Gold Coast in collaboration with Economic Development Queensland, state agencies and industry representatives.

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1 For the purposes of addressing state interests in development assessment, the DA mapping system provides guidance in identifying if a state interest is relevant to the assessment of a PDA development application (refer to: http://www.dsdip.qld.gov.au/about-planning/da-mapping-system.html). Where the MEDQ delegates development assessment functions and powers, applicants and the delegate should also refer to http://www.dsdip.qld.gov.au/resources/guideline/pdas/practice-note-14-state-interests.pdf (note: the functions and powers of the MEDQ under the definition of state interest are not delegated).