



**The Live theme is focussed on achieving better design and placemaking outcomes in SEQ, creating an urban environment that improves the quality of life for all and is distinctly SEQ.**

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of creating well-designed communities to support health and wellbeing. The Healthy Places, Healthy People Report (2021) provides evidence that well-designed built and natural environments can contribute to healthy lifestyles, reducing health risks and improving physical and mental health outcomes for the community in the longer term. As the region grows and seeks to accommodate more people, the value of well-designed communities tailored to bring people together will reduce the risk of social isolation, support mental wellbeing and help build resilience.

Trees, green spaces and waterways help create a strong sense of place and are essential to the healthy ecology of subtropical places and the wellbeing of communities. Incorporating these features into the design of our communities also supports urban wildlife and flora, helps manage stormwater quantity and quality, and contributes visual privacy between buildings.

SEQ's distinctiveness is also defined by its many places of cultural heritage significance. These include cultural heritage places that are integral to the character of local communities and collectively reinforce the region's image. Incorporating First Nations design principles and designing for Country will acknowledge landscape values important to First Nations peoples and embed First Nations storytelling into urban design.

The Live theme supports the creation of enjoyable, diverse and attractive subtropical places that contribute to SEQ's unique lifestyle and the value of design and placemaking in shaping distinctive and positive communities.

## Outcomes and strategies

The outcomes and strategies under the Live theme are closely aligned with the following regional priorities:

### Key regional priorities



Outcomes	Strategies
<p><b>Outcome 1 Valuing good design</b></p> <p>Great subtropical and temperate design underpins SEQ urban places.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Deliver well-designed development in accordance with QDesign (2018) and QCompanion (2021).</li> <li>1.2 Design communities that acknowledge and appreciate inclusivity and diversity, consider service and support needs for a range of diverse cohorts, and provide interactive public and open spaces to cultivate a sense of place and community belonging.</li> <li>1.3 Integrate community safety considerations into development design and delivery, including Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.</li> <li>1.4 Consider First Nations design principles and embed designing with Country to support culturally appropriate and safe meeting places so SEQ becomes a global leader in integrating First Nations design.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outcome 2 Working with the weather</b></p> <p>SEQ's climate-derived character delivers new models of subtropical, energy-efficient living.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Ensure all design outcomes are adaptive and responsive to SEQ's climate, applying a subtropical design approach.</li> <li>2.2 Orient urban form to optimise user comfort naturally and provide low-energy, low-cost living.</li> <li>2.3 Create indoor and outdoor spaces that provide easy access to comfortable, shaded outdoor living throughout the year.</li> <li>2.4 Create urban places that contribute to activity and life on the street through building layout design and architectural features.</li> <li>2.5 Recognise the contribution of areas with natural features, greenspace and water to mitigating the extremes of weather and incorporate these features into urban design and the preferred growth pattern for the region.</li> </ul>

Noosa Main Beach  
Supplied by @meadsproduction  
Photographer: Luke Mears

Outcomes	Strategies
<p><b>Outcome 3</b> <b>Inspiration from local character</b></p> <p>The communities of SEQ demonstrate a strong respect for their heritage, distinct context and local character.</p>	<p>3.1 Identify and conserve state and local landscape, heritage and cultural assets including Indigenous landscape values (Map 14), and where appropriate, integrate or adaptively re-use them in building, streets and spaces.</p> <p>3.2 Work respectfully with natural topography to create development that contributes positively to the environmental and visual experience of a place.</p> <p>3.3 Explore the appropriate use of building materials to create contemporary design that delivers on First Nations design principles, adds to a local area's character and diversity, and contributes to the cultural heritage significance of its heritage places.</p> <p>3.4 Work with the characteristics, traditions and values of the local community to create development or spaces with a distinctive local character that contribute value to the community.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 4</b> <b>Fairness</b></p> <p>Communities are places where people can access transport, education, jobs, services, green space, family and friends in a way that is fair and equitable to all.</p>	<p>4.1 Engage communities in land use planning processes.</p> <p>4.2 Work to improve the quality of design outcomes including access to services and infrastructure in the built environment for all.</p> <p>4.3 Consider affordable living – which accounts for the cost of housing, transport, and household energy – at all stages of planning and design for dwelling supply.</p> <p>4.4 Embed Traditional Owner representation in the governance of land use planning processes that impact on their land and sea Country.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 5</b> <b>Working with and enhancing natural systems</b></p> <p>The liveability and sustainability of SEQ's urban environments are enhanced by incorporating urban greening networks.</p>	<p>5.1 Respect and add to local landscape character and ecological diversity to create places that demonstrate a strong respect for nature. For example, koala-friendly design protects, manages and helps integrate this threatened species into urban environments.</p> <p>5.2 Conserve and protect significant trees, plants of scale and significant species, as valuable community assets and use these features to enhance local character.</p> <p>5.3 Use extensive native vegetation and large shade trees in public spaces and along streets to encourage active transport, and comfortable use of the outdoors.</p> <p>5.4 Increase tree canopy coverage within centres and residential areas to achieve a minimum of 15% in the capital city centre, 25% in urban residential and light commercial areas and 50% in suburban residential areas.</p> <p>5.5 Work with the region's landscapes and waterways to deal with water management and urban heat island effects sustainably.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 6</b> <b>Creating legible and connected streets and spaces</b></p> <p>A network of streets and spaces creates connectivity and supports vibrant communities.</p>	<p>6.1 Use existing streets and spaces to create places that are part of a well-connected network with simple and direct links.</p> <p>6.2 Deliver a range of street and space scales that easily and comfortably accommodate the needs of people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.</p>

Outcomes	Strategies
<p><b>Outcome 7</b> <b>Embedding opportunities for adaptation and change</b></p> <p>Buildings, streets and spaces have inbuilt flexibility and adaptability for long-term use, including accommodating new uses.</p>	<p>7.1 Provide facilities to enable communities to be more resilient and self-sufficient. For example, by supporting small-scale urban food production by residents and water and energy to be locally sourced.</p> <p>7.2 Create flexible buildings, streets and spaces that are capable of adapting to new uses and user needs over time.</p> <p>7.3 Create places capable of accommodating individual needs at all stages of life, adopting design principles to specifically address the needs of children, older people and people with disabilities.</p> <p>7.4 Design places to be resource efficient, durable and low maintenance to reduce energy demand and costs in construction and maintenance in the long-term.</p> <p>7.5 Leverage Brisbane 2032 to showcase opportunities and build the legacy for adaptation and change.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 8</b> <b>The power of placemaking</b></p> <p>Great placemaking in SEQ creates and improves urban places and rural towns that successfully reinforce local and regional identity and create social and economic dividends for our communities.</p>	<p>8.1 Ensure placemaking efforts enhance SEQ's reputation for liveability, our commitment to great design, and economic vitality, which celebrate First Nations culture, community involvement and leverage the Brisbane 2032 climate positive Games sustainability commitments and placemaking legacy.</p> <p>8.2 Promote an ethos of placemaking that unlocks the creativity and potential of local communities to become part of making these places great. This may involve initiatives such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>quick, inexpensive and temporary experimentation in the nature and use of streets and public spaces (referred to as 'tactical urbanism')</li> <li>shared spaces that encourage collaboration</li> <li>models of inclusive decision-making with representative local community groups that capture the wide range of voices and interests in the community</li> <li>approaches that involve young people in projects to foster a culture of entrepreneurship.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Outcome 9</b> <b>Health and wellbeing through the built environment</b></p> <p>Communities are designed and supported by social infrastructure and natural assets to provide healthy, liveable places that promote mental and physical wellbeing.</p>	<p>9.1 Consider and integrate health outcomes, as identified in the Closing the Gap Implementation Plan and Healthy Places, Healthy People framework, into communities.</p> <p>9.2 Ensure new and existing communities have adequate access to sport and recreation opportunities, such as ovals and fields, as well as opportunities that use the region's natural assets sustainably, such as recreational trails where they do not unduly compromise the region's biodiversity values.</p> <p>9.3 Enhance community connections through investment in arts, recreation, First Nations culture, education, health, and public safety.</p>

## Good design is key

The delivery of good design is important to the creation of liveable places and adds economic value by enhancing living standards. It creates places where people want to live and work, places people feel safe to move around, places resilient to the extremes of weather, places with good access to open space, public transport, services and job opportunities. All of these elements contribute to a healthy and vibrant society.

### Priority Action 11 – Distinctly Queensland Design Series

**Stakeholders:** State government **Timeframe:** 2024–2025

The Queensland Government will develop design guidance and form-based codes for diverse housing products, including gentle density in new “Distinctly Queensland Design Series” aimed at streamlining design, planning and assessment processes.



## Urban tree canopy

ShapingSEQ 2023 seeks to encourage higher standards for greening and cooling in urban environments through increasing tree canopy cover. The benefits of increasing tree canopy coverage include mitigating urban heat through trees reducing the temperatures of the surfaces they shade, as well as improving walkability and how communities look and feel. Increasing urban tree canopy coverage will ensure our communities are more sustainable, resilient and promote an enhanced sense of place and wellbeing.

### Priority Action 12 – Urban tree canopy

**Stakeholders:** State and local governments **Timeframe:** 2024–2025

The Queensland Government will establish a baseline of existing tree canopy coverage in SEQ and will work with local governments to increase tree canopy coverage in centres and residential areas, monitoring progress through future reviews of ShapingSEQ.



## Affordable living

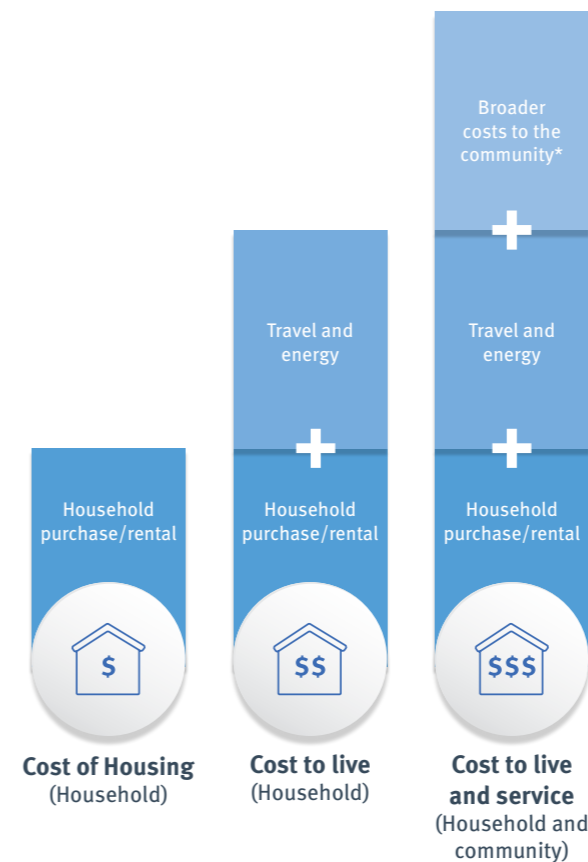
**Affordable living is about more than just the cost of housing. It takes into account a range of factors, including the size, type and cost of housing, proximity to employment, services and facilities and the resources consumed (Figure 8).**

The analysis used to inform ShapingSEQ 2023 showed that while houses on the outer fringe of urban areas can offer more affordable housing options, the journey-to-work costs increase the total cost of living to more than 30 per cent of total household incomes in some areas.

Alternatively, some areas closer to well-established centres offer less affordable housing options but have

significantly lower journey-to-work costs, making the total cost of living as low as 15 per cent of total household incomes.

ShapingSEQ 2023 aims to achieve more affordable living by encouraging jobs close to where people live, promoting more housing close to jobs and supporting the delivery of critical transport infrastructure connecting the two.



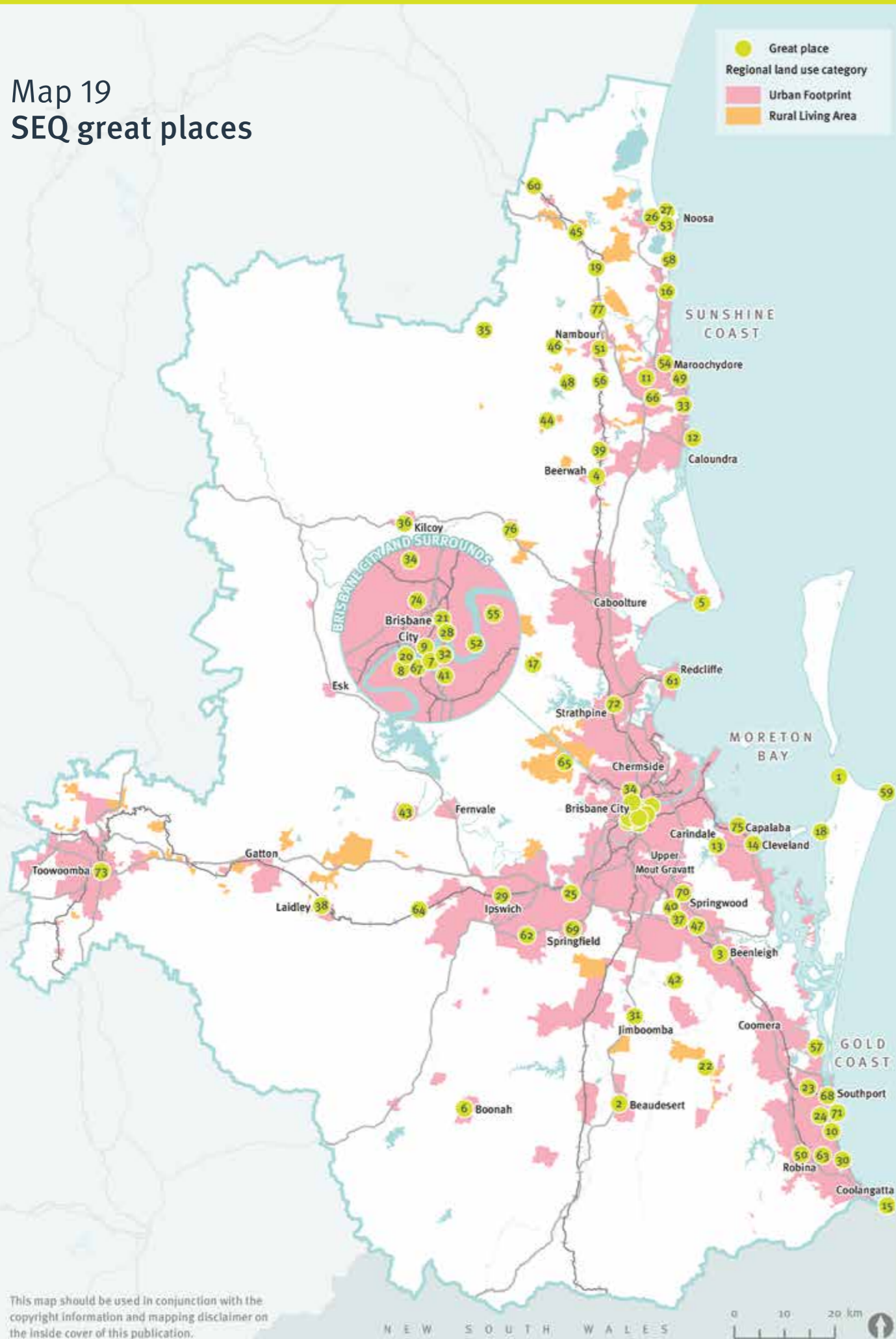
\*Infrastructure funded by government (whether or not it is partially recouped through infrastructure charging arrangements)

**Figure 8 – Affordable living factors**



The Deck House, Buderim. Supplied by Sunshine Coast Council. Photographer: Andrew Maccoll

# Map 19 SEQ great places



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## SEQ Great Places

### ShapingSEQ 2023 supports the creation of great places throughout the region.

While local in scale, collectively these places provide a focus on urban quality of regional importance as they contribute to a more socially cohesive and economically successful region.

Great places are built environments that provide focal points that foster a range of activities – including shopping, socialising, dining and recreation – and contribute to local identity and economies.

The great places identified on Map 19 have been nominated by the region’s local governments based on their placemaking programs and aspirations for future great places. It is intended to be an indicative rather than an exhaustive list.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Amity Point Village                                  | 40 Logan Central/Woodridge                                      |
| 2 Beaudesert Town Centre                               | 41 Logan Road Precinct, Woolloongabba                           |
| 3 Beenleigh Town Square                                | 42 Logan Village  |
| 4 Beerwah Town Centre                                  | 43 Lowood, Somerset   |
| 5 Bongaree, Moreton Bay                                | 44 Maleny Main Street   |
| 6 Boonah Town Centre                                   | 45 Maple Street, Cooroy   |
| 7 Botanic Gardens Brisbane and City                    | 46 Mapleton Main Street   |
| 8 Boundary Street, West End                            | 47 Meadowbrook, Logan   |
| 9 Brisbane CBD   | 48 Montville Main Street  |
| 10 Broadbeach Business Centre                          | 49 Mooloolaba Esplanade and Spit                                |
| 11 Buderim Town Centre                                 | 50 Mudgeeraba Village   |
| 12 Caloundra Headland                                  | 51 Nambour Town Centre  |
| 13 Capalaba Centre                                     | 52 New Farm Park and Powerhouse                                 |
| 14 Cleveland Town Centre                               | 53 Noosa Junction   |
| 15 Coolangatta Coastal Community and Foreshore         | 54 Ocean Street and Cotton Tree Esplanade                       |
| 16 Coolum Esplanade                                    | 55 Oxford Street, Bulimba                                       |
| 17 Dayboro Town Centre                                 | 56 Palmwoods Town Centre  |
| 18 Gumpi (Dunwich)                                     | 57 Paradise Point neighbourhood and village                     |
| 19 Eumundi Village Centre                              | 58 Peregrine Beach Village                                      |
| 20 Fish Lane, South Brisbane                           | 59 Point Lookout  |
| 21 Fortitude Valley Entertainment Precinct             | 60 Pomona Village   |
| 22 Gallery Walk, Tamborine Mountain                    | 61 Redcliffe Peninsula and foreshore                            |
| 23 Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct            | 62 Ripley Town Centre   |
| 24 Gold Coast Home of the Arts                         | 63 Robina and Bond University/Varsity Central                   |
| 25 Goodna Town Centre                                  | 64 Rosewood Town Centre   |
| 26 Gympie Terrace, Noosaville                          | 65 Samford Village  |
| 27 Hastings Street, Noosa                              | 66 Sippy Downs Town Centre and University of the Sunshine Coast |
| 28 Howard Smith Wharves                                | 67 South Bank   |
| 29 Ipswich City Centre                                 | 68 Southport/Broadwater Parklands                               |
| 30 James Street, Burleigh Heads                        | 69 Springfield Town Centre                                      |
| 31 Jimboomba Town Centre                               | 70 Springwood Centre  |
| 32 Kangaroo Point Cliffs                               | 71 Surfers Paradise Business Centre                             |
| 33 Kawana Town Centre and health and stadium precincts | 72 The Mill at Moreton Bay                                      |
| 34 Kedron Brook Road, Wilston                          | 73 Toowoomba City Centre  |
| 35 Kenilworth Town Centre                              | 74 Victoria Park  |
| 36 Kilcoy Town Centre                                  | 75 Wellington Point   |
| 37 Kingston Butter Factory Cultural Precinct, Logan    | 76 Woodford Township  |
| 38 Laidley Town Centre                                 | 77 Yandina Main Street  |