

5. Smarter Communities

Build on the Smart Cities and Suburbs Program approach by providing a **Smart Communities Program of \$100 million per annum** to support communities on their digital transformation journey.*

Establish a **Digital Local Government & Rural/Regional Telecommunications Program of**

\$100 million

Over 4 years



to increase the community benefits of improved technology, connectedness and innovation.*



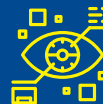
Many councils and their communities need support on their digital transformation journey.



Whole-of-government business transformation strategies that result in interconnected government and collaborative citizen-centred approaches will underpin tomorrow's smart cities.



Rural and regional Australia and its telecommunications connectivity capabilities will underpin business transformation and interconnectedness to support communities, business and tourism.



In decentralised and large states like Queensland, government investment is imperative to support communities during this digital evolution.



The LGAQ supports the adoption of recommendations from the December 2018 Regional Telecommunications Review to ensure that rural, regional and remote councils are not being left behind in the digital economy in terms of infrastructure, digital literacy, awareness and access to services.



The LGAQ also supports funding assistance for councils to develop digital strategies that will transform regional areas through the benefits of technology, and to develop dedicated cyber security strategies and associated skills awareness to ensure councils use best practice in data management.

* Priority aligned to the Australian Local Government Association's 2019 Federal Election Plan