

Review of Innovation at Brisbane Technology Park



The Queensland Government is actively involved in supporting innovation as it seeks to diversify and strengthen its industry base as the central thrust within the Government's Smart State strategy. Through the Science Precincts Branch, the Department of Employment Economic Development & Industry (DEEDI) commenced an assessment of the inputs, outputs and outcomes of the Brisbane Technology Park (BTP) Project. The competitiveness of economic localities is tied closely to the productivity of the businesses that locate there and the tendency for economies of scale, agglomeration and innovation to be generated there.

Pracsys was appointed by DEEDI to prepare a report that presents a review of innovation outcomes at Brisbane Technology Park (BTP). The objectives of this study included:

- Examining the economic performance and innovation outcomes of BTP;
- Exploring the role of institutional and government support measures; and
- Suggesting key lessons for future innovation community and science precinct investments from the BTP experience

The process undertaken by Pracsys involved a desk top review of innovation and economic performance indicators and a targeted survey of a sample of businesses to explore evidence of forward and backward linkages among firms, the nature of knowledge networks and business support and their role in enabling innovation.

Outcomes

The study concluded that there is evidence to suggest that there is a high level of innovative behaviour at BTP, in a number of the areas, including fine organic chemicals, medical engineering, pharmaceuticals, materials processing, instrumentation and biotechnology.

Capturing the lessons from the BTP experience will inform other innovation community projects. It will enhance the Government's efforts to foster innovation, particularly in the context of limited Government resources.

Client: DEEDI

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