



City of
Ipswich

**IPSWICH
CITY
COUNCIL**

AGENDA

of the

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

**Held in the Council Chambers
2nd floor – Council Administration Building
45 Roderick Street
IPSWICH QLD 4305**

On Tuesday, 12 November 2019
At 10.30 am or within any period of time up to a maximum of 10 minutes after the
conclusion of the Growth and Infrastructure Committee.

<u>MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE</u>	
Interim Administrator Greg Chemello (Chairperson)	

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE AGENDA

*10.30 am or within any period of time up to a maximum of
10 minutes after the conclusion of the Growth and Infrastructure
Committee, on **Tuesday**, 12 November 2019*
Council Chambers

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** Item includes confidential papers

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE NO. 11

12 NOVEMBER 2019

AGENDA

1. **COMMUNITY DONATIONS REPORT**

This is a report providing detail about the year to date allocation of community donations, as at 30 September 2019 (Attachment 1), and providing a summary of these community donations by recipient type, (Attachment 2).

RECOMMENDATION

That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolve:

That the report be received and the contents noted.

2. **COMMUNITY DONATIONS PROGRAM - UPDATE**

This is a report concerning an update on the Community Donations Program since the Community Donations Policy was adopted by Council on 18 September 2018, following the dismissal of Councillors on 22 August 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolve:

That the report be received and the contents noted.

3. **IPSWICH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL IYAC AND THE IYAC AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

This is a report concerning the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council (IYAC) and the IYAC Ambassador Program.

Ipswich City Council has been coordinating a youth council initiative for many years. In 2017 (as per the Council Ordinary Meeting of 27 June 2017) (Attachment 1) Council made four recommendations relating to the structure of IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program.

This report recommends that the 2017 council recommendations be repealed as IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program have evolved since that time and those recommendations are no longer suitable.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolve:

That the previous decision of Council, as per Item No. 7 of the Library, Youth and Seniors Committee No. 2017(06) of 19 June 2017 and adopted at the Council Ordinary Meeting of 27 June 2017, be repealed.

** Item includes confidential papers

and any other items as considered necessary.

Doc ID No: A5838625

ITEM: 1
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY DONATIONS REPORT
AUTHOR: COMMUNITY GRANTS COORDINATOR
DATE: 11 OCTOBER 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report providing detail about the year to date allocation of community donations, as at 30 September 2019 (Attachment 1), and providing a summary of these community donations by recipient type, (Attachment 2).

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolve:

That the report be received and the contents noted.

RELATED PARTIES

There are no known related party matters associated with this report.

ADVANCE IPSWICH THEME

Caring for the Community and Listening, Leading and Financial Management

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

Through the provision of community donations, Ipswich City Council seeks to support the role of community organisations and recognise the significant role they play in developing and delivering initiatives that encourage participation in community life, foster social cohesion, celebrate diversity, and contribute to a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city.

The Community Donations Program allows for funds to be allocated to not-for-profit community organisations for community purposes and supports community organisations to deliver initiatives that address identified local community needs.

Management and Coordination of the Community Donations Program

The Community Development Branch manages the receipt, assessment and allocation of funding applications received through the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy and associated Administrative Guidelines.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions: *Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Specifically, section 109 of the *Local Government Act 2009* provides local governments with the ability to utilise discretionary funds in accordance with the requirements prescribed under the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Section 202 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* prescribes a number of requirements for –

- a) a local government for making discretionary funds available; and
- b) a councillor for using discretionary funds.

Discretionary funds allocated are required to be publically reported under section 202 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Within the Community Development Branch, the Community Grants Team is responsible for the management and coordination of Council's Community Donations Program and Community Grants and In-Kind Assistance Program. The Community Grants Team is a team of two (2) full-time staff.

Funding for the provision of community donations is contained within the Community Engagement Branch 2019-2020 financial year budget.

There are no additional resourcing or budget implications associated with this report.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION



The contents of this report did not require any community consultation.

CONCLUSION

Applications for funding through the Community Donations Program are assessed in accordance with the eligibility criteria and assessment process outlined in the Community Donations Policy and associated Administrative Guidelines.

This report provides detail about the allocation of community donations for the 2019-2020 financial year up to 30 September 2019 (Attachment 1), and provides a summary of these community donations by recipient type (Attachment 2).

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Community Donations - September 2019 - Report ↓ 
2.	Community Donations - September 2019 - Recipient Type ↓ 

Josie Berry

COMMUNITY GRANTS COORDINATOR

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Abbey Richards

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Ben Pole

GENERAL MANAGER - COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

“Together, we proudly enhance the quality of life for our community”

Community Donations Register

Year	Approval Date	Recipient	Purpose of Funding	Total Paid
2019	26/06/2019	Ipswich & District Rifle Club Inc	Ipswich and District Rifle Club 160th Anniversary Open Prize Meeting	\$2,211.55
2019	26/06/2019	Ipswich Cycling Club`	State Junior Road Cycling Championships	\$2,181.00
2019	26/06/2019	Dinmore Bushrats Soccer and Sports Club Inc	R2R Return to Riverview	\$2,650.99
2019	26/06/2019	Tivoli Social Enterprises Limited	Tivoli STEM show	\$1,000.00
2019	26/06/2019	Leichhardt State School	NAIDOC Day celebrations	\$1,545.00
2019	11/07/2019	LiveCity Church Ltd	Redbank Plains Christmas Carols 2019	\$15,000.00
2019	11/07/2019	Ipswich Softball Umpires Inc	Ipswich Softball Umpires Inc Start Up Project	\$3,545.63
2019	25/07/2019	Friends of Lakes Cultural Association Inc. (FOLCA)	PONNONAM 2019	\$2,000.00
2019	6/08/2019	Staines Memorial College	IMPACT celebration (Instrumental Music, Performing Arts, Culture & Talent)	\$3,750.00
2019	6/08/2019	Springfield Lakes Nature Care Inc.	Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Recovery workshop	\$558.75
2019	6/08/2019	Marburg and District Residents Association Inc	Black Snake Creek Festival	\$1,050.00
2019	14/08/2019	Fusion Arts Inc	Performing in local Nursing Homes	\$9,707.48
2019	14/08/2019	Lions Club of Rosewood Inc	Lions Club of Rosewood Christmas Street Carnival	\$1,303.40
2019	14/08/2019	Raceview State School P & C Assn.	2019 Spring Fair	\$471.00
2019	14/08/2019	Tivoli Social Enterprises Ltd	Christmas in Ipswich for Kids	\$13,500.00
2019	4/09/2019	Ipswich Musical Theatre Company Inc	MAMMA MIA	\$15,000.00
2019	4/09/2019	Batswana in Queensland Association(BIQA)	Adressing our community welfare and needs	\$6,120.68
2019	4/09/2019	SENIORNET ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED	END OF YEAR BREAK UP	\$510.00
2019	4/09/2019	Festival of Learning	Festival of Learning Event	\$33,187.87
2019	11/09/2019	St Mary's College Ipswich	St Mary's College 2019 Gala Dinner	\$2,550.00
2019	11/09/2019	Queensland Pathways State College	QPSC Holiday Program	\$1,179.82
				\$119,023.17

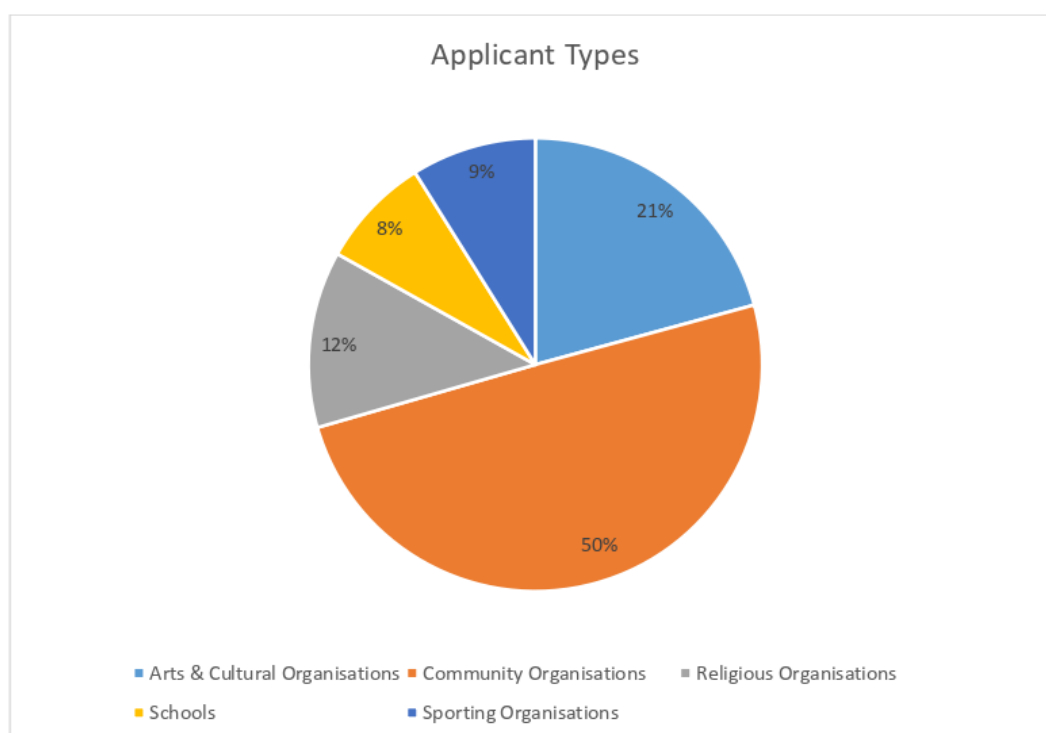
Categorised Recipient Types

Council approved community donations totalling \$119,023 to various community groups during the period 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Community donations are reported on within the month that the payment was processed. Accordingly, as the payment for some approved community donations in June 2019 did not occur until July 2019, they are included in this report.

Recipients of Council community donations have been categorised into applicant types as outlined below:

- Arts & Cultural Organisations \$24,707
- Community Organisations \$59,231
- Religious Organisations \$15,000
- Schools \$ 9,496
- Sporting Organisations \$10,589



Doc ID No: A5829238

ITEM: 2
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY DONATIONS PROGRAM - UPDATE
AUTHOR: COMMUNITY GRANTS COORDINATOR
DATE: 4 OCTOBER 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning an update on the Community Donations Program since the Community Donations Policy was adopted by Council on 18 September 2018, following the dismissal of Councillors on 22 August 2018.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolve:

That the report be received and the contents noted.

RELATED PARTIES

There are no known related party matters associated with this report.

ADVANCE IPSWICH THEME

Caring for the Community and Listening, Leading and Financial Management.

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

Through the provision of community donations, Ipswich City Council seeks to support the role of community organisations and recognise the significant role they play in developing and delivering initiatives that encourage participation in community life, foster social cohesion, celebrate diversity, and contribute to a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city.

The Community Donations Program allows for funds to be allocated to not-for-profit community organisations for community purposes and supports community organisations to deliver initiatives that address identified local community needs.

Background

The first policy in relation to community donations was adopted by Council on 27 October 2008. This policy was titled 'Community Donations Policy'. This policy was amended a number of times between 2009 and 2016, however, no substantial changes occurred throughout these various amendments.

The Community Donations Program was reviewed in May 2018 to align the program with legislative requirements.

In May 2018, the Mayoral and Councillor Discretionary Funds Policy was adopted, with the new program coming into effect on 1 July 2018. This new program achieved the following:

1. Alignment to the requirements of the Act and the Regulation relating to Councillors' discretionary funding (i.e. publication of Availability Notice and Funding Register);
2. Public advertisement of the program;
3. Publication of Administrative Guidelines for potential applicants;
4. Introduction of comprehensive online application process via SmartyGrants;
5. Gateway (centralised) assessment of applications against eligibility criteria; and
6. Robust acquittal process.

Responsibility for assessment and approval of discretionary funding lay with the Mayor and/or Councillors until their formal dismissal on Wednesday 22 August 2018.

Following the dismissal of Councillors, the Mayoral and Councillor Discretionary Funds Program was re-titled the Community Donations Program and the Community Donations Policy was adopted by Council on 18 September 2018. Administrative changes to the Community Donations Policy also occurred on 29 January 2019. Attachment 1 is the current Community Donations Policy.

For further detail about the eligibility criteria and assessment process, see the Administrative Guidelines at Attachment 2.

Update

The changes which have occurred to the Community Donations Program over the last 12-18 months have been significant. Accordingly, the Community Grants Team has supported community organisations through this transition period in the following ways:

- Where requested, one-on-one meetings/telephone conversations with community organisation representatives to talk them through the program and the application process; and
- Public grant writing workshops in Ipswich (5 over the last 12 months, with more scheduled for February 2020). These workshops are designed to take community organisations through Council's funding programs (including the Community Donations Program) and also outline other potential available funding (i.e. State Government funding).

The following information outlines the community donation applications received and processed between September 2018 and September 2019.

During this time, 110 eligible community donation applications have been processed and total funding of \$406,750 has been allocated. The following information categorises the applicant type and percentage of overall funding allocated by project type.

Figure 1: Community Donations Program – Applicant Types:

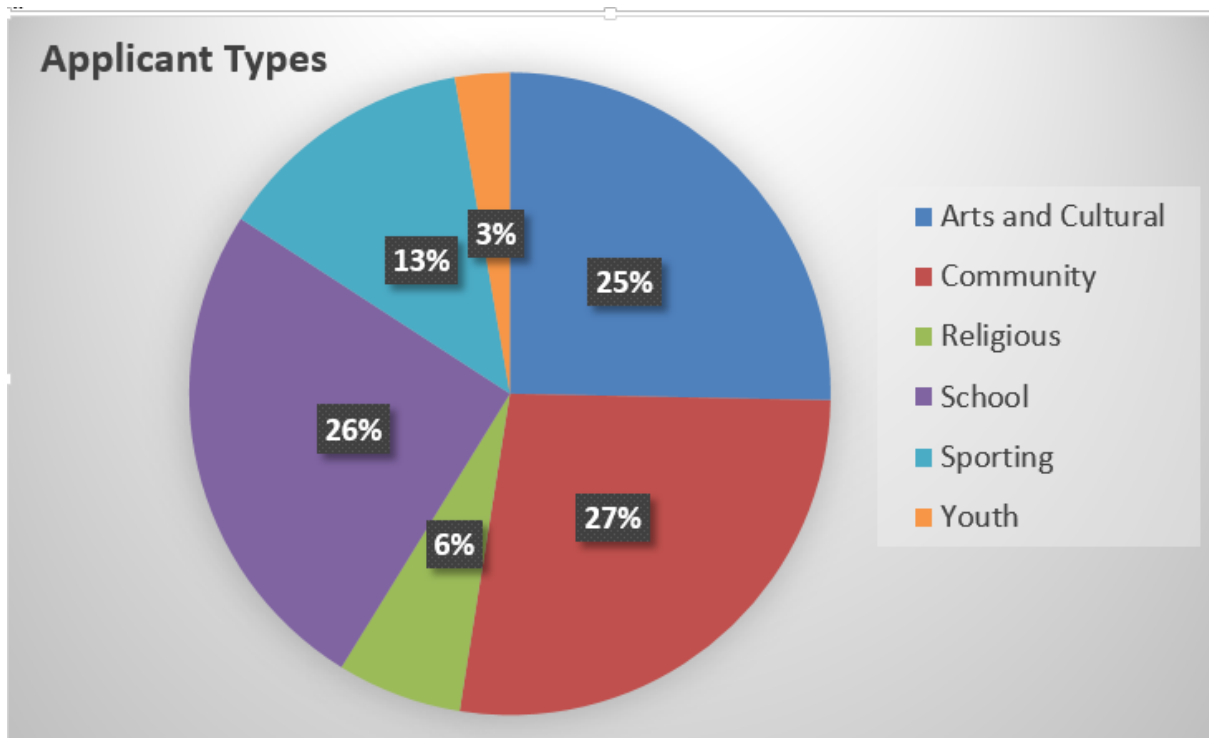
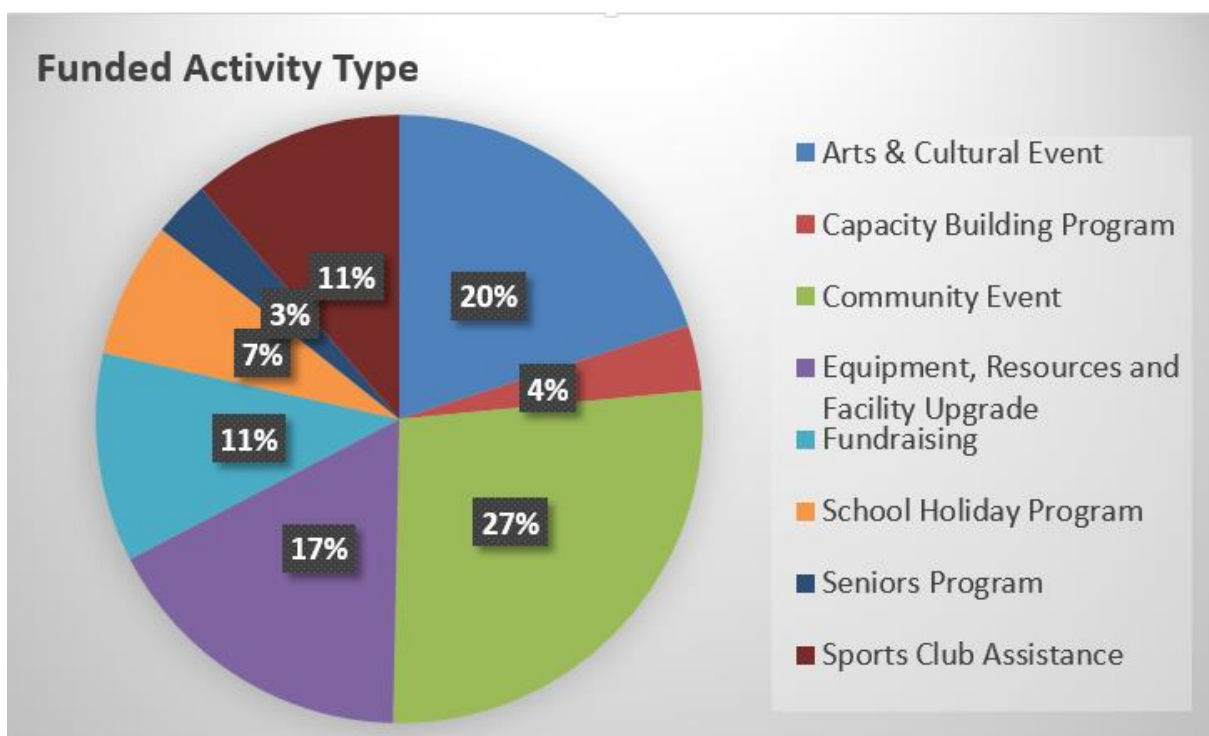


Figure 2: Community Donations Program – Funded Activity Types:



While no formal complaints have been received about the Community Donations Program or the new processes, the Community Grants Team has received feedback from community organisations that the process is more detailed and time-consuming than was previously the case. Having said this, commentary has also been received from some community members (specifically, some members of the Resilient Communities Community Reference Group) that the new process is now more transparent and equitable.

The Community Grants Team recognises that there are always opportunities for policy and process improvements. Of particular note is the weighting which is applied to applications and the outcomes of this weighting methodology.

Currently, applications for community donations are assessed against the following weighted criteria:

1. Alignment to Council's Corporate Plan	10%
2. Demonstrated need for the project	30%
3. Expected outcomes of the proposed project	35%
4. Sustainability of the project beyond Council funding	25%

Of the 110 eligible community donation applications received between September 2018 and September 2019:

- 34 applications received 100% of the requested funding;
- 57 applications received 75% of the requested funding; and
- 19 applications received 50% of the requested funding.

It is noted that the sustainability weighting of 25% (criteria 4 above) impacts on the overall amount that an organisation may receive. That is, only 15% of applications have achieved the full weighting for the sustainability criteria, indicating that many applicant organisations are unlikely to be able to implement or achieve sustainability for the initiative which the application relates to.

Next steps

Following a decision by the Executive Leadership Team in June 2019 to centralise the management and administration of all Council grants and funding (outgoing grants and funding), Ipswich City Council has engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) to assist with this process.

PWC will undertake the following work over the course of the next couple of months:

- Review of all of Council's current grant and funding categories, including policies, procedures and processes;

- Undertake stakeholder engagement across Council with Council staff responsible for the various funding categories;
- Undertake a benchmarking exercise against comparable local governments to assess the necessity of current grant categories offered by Ipswich City Council and identify any funding gaps;
- Consider current funding amounts, e.g. too high or insufficient, and whether further investment is required in relation to particular areas/topics;
- Address monitoring and reporting of multiple funding activity;
- Draft a whole of Council policy, procedure and guidelines document;
- Make recommendations regarding staff resourcing requirements for ongoing management of Council grants under a centralised model; and
- Review Council's funding approval processes and consider the appropriateness of the funding approval processes.

The expected timeframe for completion of the above work is December 2019, with a report scheduled to be submitted to Council in early 2020. A draft policy is being prepared for consideration at the December 2019 Council meeting.

As part of the above-mentioned process, the Community Donations Program will be reviewed with an emphasis on the weighted criteria and consideration being given, in particular, to the weighting for the sustainability criteria.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions: *Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation 2012*

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional resourcing or budget implications associated with this report.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

The contents of this report did not require any community consultation.



CONCLUSION

Applications for funding through the Community Donations Program are assessed in accordance with the eligibility criteria and assessment process outlined in the Community Donations Policy and associated Administrative Guidelines.

This report provides detail about the allocation of community donations between September 2018 and September 2019 and provides a summary of the community donations by recipient type and funded activity type.

Upon completion of the funding review currently being undertaken by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), a report will be submitted to Council early in 2020, outlining the findings and recommendations of the funding review and incorporating a whole of Council policy for review and adoption.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1	Community Donations Policy ↓ 
2	Community Donations Program - Administrative Guidelines ↓ 

Josie Berry

COMMUNITY GRANTS COORDINATOR

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Abbey Richards

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Ben Pole

GENERAL MANAGER - COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

“Together, we proudly enhance the quality of life for our community”



POLICY

COMMUNITY DONATIONS POLICY	Document No: A5086352
<p>Objectives:</p> <p>The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework which guides the administration of Council's Community Donations Program in a manner consistent with council's Community Grants Policy and corporate priorities; and complies with the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> and the Local Government Regulation 2012.</p> <p>This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Community Donations Administrative Guidelines.</p> <p>1.1 Regulatory Authority:</p> <p><i>Local Government Act 2009</i> <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i> Citywide and Divisional Funds Allocations Policy Corporate Plan 2017-2022 Advance Ipswich Community Plan</p> <p>1.2 Outcomes</p> <p>The outcomes of this policy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• an ability for community donations to be budgeted for community purposes and allocated by Council at its discretion, including community donations for capital works that are for a community purpose• achieving the objectives of council's Corporate Plan, long-term asset management plan and annual budget;• providing community organisations with financial support to meet identified community need and provide benefit to the broader Ipswich community; and• distributing funds in an equitable, transparent and sustainable manner. <p>1.3 Scope:</p> <p>This policy applies to the community donations made available from Council to community organisations.</p> <p>This policy does not apply to Council's grants, sponsorships, scholarships or bursaries made by</p>	

resolution of the Council or the allocation of under citywide or divisional works and normal operational programs.

This Policy takes effect from **29 January 2019**

1.4 Policy Statement:

This funding program provides Council with an annual amount (subject to annual budget allocations) for the allocation of community donations to spend for community purposes to benefit Ipswich residents. With an emphasis on community development and social infrastructure this policy aims to build community capacity, encourage participation, and develop vibrant, engaged and more resilient local communities.

This policy ensures an equitable, open and transparent process which complies with relevant legislation for community organisations to seek financial assistance. The policy and associated Administrative Guidelines act as tools to ensure that decision-making around the provision of community donations is transparent, accountable and contributes to the Council's corporate objectives.

Council's funding for community donations cannot be:

- carried over for more than one financial year;
- utilised for administration support service for Councillors;
- used for land acquisitions without a supporting council resolution;
- used for any purposes contrary to the Corporate Plan, strategy, policy or adopted resolution; or
- used for purposes not consistent with the adopted eligibility criteria

1.5 Guiding Principles

The following principles provide a consistent approach to the administering of this policy and the delivery of Council's Community Donations Program:

- Community organisations are provided with funding support to provide community benefit to the Ipswich community, in line with council's corporate priorities.
- Funds may be provided in the form of monetary donations to support a community organisation's initiatives during the funding year or toward an approved capital project.
- Funds are distributed in an equitable and transparent manner that ensures good governance and adherence to the Local Government Act 2009 and the Local Government Regulation 2012.

1.6 Assessment Criteria:

This policy's guiding principles, in addition to the assessment process discussed within the Administrative Guidelines, inform decision-making around the allocation of Council's Community Donations Program.

1.7 Roles and responsibilities:

Assessment

The Council's Arts, Social Development and Community Engagement Department is the primary assessor of eligibility under Council's Community Donations Program, working in collaboration with various council departments to develop, promote, manage and regularly review the program. The department plays a lead role in the provision of support and advice to potential applicants, and, where applicable, participates in assessment panels to review applications and determine outcomes.

Financial Probity

Council's Community Engagement Branch is responsible for the administration of Council's Community Donation Program and for the recording and follow-up of acquittal of funds distributed under the Community Donations Program.

Council's Finance Branch is responsible for the payment of funds allocated under the Community Donations Program.

Executive Direction

The Office of the Chief Executive Officer provides direction and, where required, approval for community donation applications where a potential councillor conflict of interest exists to ensure organisational transparency.

1.8 Definitions:

Acquittal

The process by which a recipient demonstrates in writing to the funding body that it has expended the funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of the funding agreement on completion of the activity or project.

Business

A person, partnership or organisation which is not a community organisation, and is engaged in a profit-seeking enterprise or activity.

Community Organisation

"An entity that carries on activities for a public purpose; or another entity whose primary object is not directed at making a profit", i.e. not-for-profit organisation. "Any profit made by the organisation goes back into the operation of the organisation to carry out its purposes and is not distributed to any of its members". A community organisation operates with a primary purpose of providing services to the community.

Community Purpose

A purpose that is in the public interest to residents of the City of Ipswich.

Discretionary Funds

“Discretionary funds are funds in the local government’s operating fund that are budgeted for use by a Councillor at the Councillor’s discretion” for the benefit of the community, in accordance with Section 202 of the Local Government Regulation.

Community Donation

A Community Donation is the gifting of funds to an eligible organisation to be spent for a community purpose. A Community Donation is provided to an eligible organisation without expectation of reciprocated benefits.

Individual

A person which is not a community organisation.

In-Kind Support

In-kind support includes paid and volunteer labour, administrative support, rent-free accommodation or donations of materials, equipment or services.

1.9 Policy Author:

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for maintaining the policy.

Policy Amended

Date of Council Resolution: 29 January 2019

Committee Reference and Date: Communities Committee No. 2019(01) of 22 January 2019

No. of Resolution: 03

Date to be Reviewed: 29 January 2021

Date of Council Resolution: 18 September 2018

Committee Reference and Date: City Management, Finance and Community Engagement Committee No. 2018(10) of 11 September 2018

No. of Resolution: 12

Date to be Reviewed: 18 September 2020

Administrative Guidelines

Community Donations Program

Guidelines

These guidelines are to be read in conjunction with Ipswich City Council's Community Donations Policy.

Community Donations Program Overview

Through the provision of community donations, Ipswich City Council seeks to support the role of community organisations and recognise the significant role they play in developing and delivering initiatives that encourage participation in community life, foster social cohesion, celebrate diversity, and contribute to a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city.

The Community Donations Program allows for funds to be allocated to not-for-profit community organisations for community purposes.

Community Donations support community organisations to deliver initiatives that address identified local community needs.

Timeframe

Applications for Community Donations can be submitted at any time during the year. Council encourages applicants to apply at least 6 weeks before their project commences.

Applications received after commencement or completion of an event or activity are ineligible and will not be considered.

Funding Range

The maximum amount of funding available to an applicant community organisation in any one financial year (whether single or cumulative, and including all categories of available community donations) is \$15,000.00, unless otherwise approved by resolution of Council.

Funding Availability

The total funding available for Community Donations is subject to variation, depending on Council's annual budget allocation. Further, while an application for a Community Donation may be made at any time during the year, funding will only be available while such funds set aside in Council's annual budget for this purpose remain unexpended.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a Community Donation community organisations must:

- be committed to providing direct benefits to the residents of the City of Ipswich;
- be a not-for-profit community organisation and/or be an incorporated body under the Associations Incorporation Act;
- have a committee of Management that accepts responsibility for the administration of the funding;
- hold adequate public liability insurance to cover the staff, members and the general public as appropriate and adhere to sound workplace health and safety practices;
- have satisfactorily accounted to Council for the expenditure of any previous funding (for example community grants or other community donations);
- comply with all other relevant Australian and Queensland legislation, including accounting and auditing requirements, antidiscrimination laws, privacy, confidentiality and freedom of information laws, registration or accreditation of professional employees and preparation and dissemination of annual reports;
- have an adequate risk management plan in place (where considered relevant by Council); and
- operate within the Ipswich region or be able to demonstrate that the project or program will benefit residents of Ipswich.

Exclusions

The following will not be considered eligible for a Community Donation:

- Government agencies or departments of local, state or federal government; with the exception of schools
- Individuals and private profit-making organisations; and
- Organisations who have outstanding, incomplete or unsatisfactory acquittals for funding provided by Council or outstanding debts with Council.

Eligible Projects/Programs

To be eligible to be assessed for a Community Donation a project or program must:

- be submitted on the required application form;
- demonstrate a purpose that is in the public interest and for a purpose that benefits the community of Ipswich;
- aligns with the priorities of Council's Corporate Plan; and
- adheres to the specific terms and conditions as set out in the Community Donations Administrative Guidelines.

The following will not be eligible for a Community Donation:

- Funding requests that are considered by Council to be solely the funding responsibility of other levels of government;
- Applications from primary or secondary schools where the funding request relates to initiatives that are considered to be core curriculum projects. The Council does however encourage partnerships between schools and community organisations (P&C Associations);
- Applications for funding of the direct payment of cash, competition prizes, gifts or sponsorships to individuals or for the payment of personal expenses including those associated with travel and accommodation;
- Initiatives or activities that have already commenced or have been completed prior to Council approvals;
- Normal operational expenses of community organisations, such as insurances or rental subsidies;
- Initiatives or activities whose funding is already sufficient to cover expected outlays;
- Initiatives or activities by which the requested funding will be expended outside of the Ipswich region or will not be for the benefit of Ipswich residents;
- Funding requests made retrospectively (i.e. for a project or program that has already occurred);
- Projects or programs which have already received funding from Council; and
- Applications which request funding for a project or program scheduled to occur later than 12 months beyond the time of the submission of the application.

Funding Principles

Ipswich City Council applies the following principles when providing support through its Community Donations Program:

- Building on the strengths that exist within the local community
- Evidence based approach that acknowledges and responds to the needs and aspirations of our community
- Access and equity to ensure a socially inclusive community
- Maintaining and providing basic community infrastructure
- Valuing local collaborations and partnerships
- Valuing the social, economic and environmental sustainability of our City.

In addition, Council is committed to the efficient and effective delivery of the Community Donations Program and transparency and accountability in decision making.

Assessment Process

All applications will initially be assessed against the eligibility and exclusion criteria as detailed above and this assessment will include consideration of the Ethics Framework discussed below.

Eligible applications will also be assessed against weighted criteria including:

- How the project/program aligns with Council's Corporate Plan – 10% weighting
- How the applicant determined the need for the project – 30% weighting
- The expected outcomes of the proposed project – 35%
- The sustainability of the project beyond Council funding – 25% weighting

Scoring is outlined below:

Score	Explanation
1	Application is non-responsive to the question
2	Limited response to the question
3	Satisfactory response to the question
4	Strong response to the question
5	Outstanding response to the question

The score which an application receives out of 100 determines the amount of funding recommended as follows:

Score	Explanation
80–100	Recommended funding is 100% of the requested amount
60–79	Recommended funding is 75% of the requested amount
40–59	Recommended funding is 50% of the requested amount
Less than 40	Application is declined

Ethics Framework

Ipswich City Council will not support any activities, entities, or individuals associated with entities, that are considered to:

- Discriminate, or encourage discriminatory behaviour, including discrimination on the basis of age, disability, race, religion, sex and/or sexual orientation
- Contribute to, or advocate for, the infringement of human rights
- Demonstrate behaviour that does not align to Council's strategic intent for the City and community of Ipswich
- Pollute land, air or water, or otherwise damage the natural environment
- Market, promote or advertise products or services in a misleading or deceitful manner
- Produce, promote or distribute products or services likely to be harmful to the community
- Entice people into financial over-commitment
- Exploit people through the payment of below-award wages or poor working conditions
- Represent a reputational risk for Ipswich City Council to partner with or support, or be seen to partner with or support

Importantly, successful applicants should note that any donation received is provided without expectation of reciprocated benefits. That is, no benefit is to be received in return for the provision of any donation (financial or otherwise) by Ipswich City Council.

Approval Process

Unless otherwise provided for in the related policy, final decisions on approval of applications are made by the Interim Administrator or his delegate.

Assessment Process

Terms and Conditions

All successful applicants will receive the approved funding from Council subject to the following terms and conditions:

- All community donation funding must be acquitted within eight (8) weeks of project or expenditure completion;
- To ensure appropriate accountability by funding recipients with regard to the use of funding, all funding provided by Council will require a financial acquittal, outlining the use of the funds (including proof of expenditure, i.e. invoices or receipts) within eight (8) weeks of the expenditure of the funds;
- Applicants must use funds for the purpose for which funding was awarded;
- If expenditure of the funds has not commenced within three months of the date of approval, or such later time as authorised in the approval, Council may ask the applicant to show cause why the approval and funding should not be withdrawn. If reasonable cause is not shown the applicant may be requested to refund any monies advanced;
- If the funds are not fully spent, all remaining funds must be returned to Council; and
- Again, as noted in the Ethics Framework, successful applicants should note that any donation received is provided without expectation of reciprocated benefits. That is, no benefit is to be received in return for the provision of any donation (financial or otherwise) by Ipswich City Council.

Making an Application

Applications for funding through the Community Donations Program must be made using the online Community Donations Application Form. Community Officers and Grants Officers can assist community organisations in lodging their online application. Council staff however may not act on behalf of

applicants in verifying or certifying application information or by submitting the application on behalf of the applicant.

Additional information supporting applications can be attached as required throughout the online application process, for example:

- Research to demonstrate identified needs/emerging community issues
- Letters of support which demonstrate community support for the initiative proposed

Applicants are responsible for obtaining all appropriate permits, approvals, insurance etc. relating to the project.

Please note: applications which propose to purchase goods or services must include copies of quotes received and/or appropriate permits, approvals, insurances etc. Further, wherever possible, goods and services should be purchased from Ipswich-based providers.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. This includes applications which have failed to provide relevant documentation.

Applications must be submitted using the [online application form](#).

Once submitted applicants will receive a confirmation notice.

Notification of Funding Approval

Once an application has been decided the applicant will be provided with written advice of the outcome.

Where an application is approved the applicant will be provided with details of any conditions of the approval and any specific requirements which are prerequisite to the payment of the funding.

In accordance with section 202 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* notice of the approval will be published on Council's website and displayed in a conspicuous place within Council's public office.

Request for Review

Applicants who believe there has been an administrative error in the assessment of the application may request a review of the decision.

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Doc ID No: A5723749

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: IPSWICH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL IYAC AND THE IYAC AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

AUTHOR: CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

DATE: 15 AUGUST 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council (IYAC) and the IYAC Ambassador Program.

Ipswich City Council has been coordinating a youth council initiative for many years. In 2017 (as per the Council Ordinary Meeting of 27 June 2017) (Attachment 1) Council made four recommendations relating to the structure of IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program.

This report recommends that the 2017 council recommendations be repealed as IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program have evolved since that time and those recommendations are no longer suitable.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolve:

That the previous decision of Council, as per Item No. 7 of the Library, Youth and Seniors Committee No. 2017(06) of 19 June 2017 and adopted at the Council Ordinary Meeting of 27 June 2017, be repealed.

RELATED PARTIES

There are no known related party matters associated with this report.

ADVANCE IPSWICH THEME LINKAGE

Caring for the community.

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

Ipswich City Council has been coordinating a youth council initiative for a number of years. In 2017 (as per the Council Ordinary Meeting of 27 June 2017) (Attachment 1) council made four recommendations relating to the structure of IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program:

- a. Expanding the structure to allow for a wider representation of youth in Ipswich (up to 25 years old).
- b. Implementing a two-tiered approach to split the age demographic into Ipswich Youth Advisory Council Ambassadors (12 – 15 years of age) and Ipswich Youth Advisory Council (16 to 25 years of age).
- c. Targeting youth aged between 12 and 15 years of age for the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council Ambassador program, allowing these youth to benefit from team building, skills development and networking.
- d. Forming an active Ipswich Youth Advisory Council of youth aged between 16 and 25 years, empowering members to advocate for the needs of young people and to deliver outcomes in a supportive and structured environment.

Over the past two and a half years since the 2017 council recommendations, the IYAC Program has developed into an important part of council's Community Development portfolio. A 12 month report detailing the outcomes achieved to date has been compiled (Ipswich Youth Advisory Council - 12 Month Report, see Attachment 2).

However, the recommendations of the 2017 report are no longer suitable and are restrictive to IYAC's continued progress. Specifically, recommendations B and C concerning a two-tiered structure with Ipswich Youth Advisory Council Ambassadors is deemed unnecessary.

IYAC Ambassadors was intended to operate as a pathway program to IYAC for young people aged between 12-15 years of age. A public Expression of Interest process was undertaken between 1 April and 1 May 2019. During this process Council arranged for the printing and distribution of 100 posters across the Ipswich CBD and surrounding suburbs, in addition to a digital billboard and an email distribution campaign specifically targeting Ipswich secondary schools, vocational schools, youth services and other community services. Additionally, the launch of the Expression of Interest process was raised at the monthly Ipswich & West Moreton Youth Interagency Meeting held at the Ipswich Youth Justice Service Centre on Tuesday, 16 April 2019. However, there was limited interest in the program and zero (0) applications were received.

Due to the limited interest in the IYAC Ambassadors Program, this highlighted to the Community Development Team that the proposed model is not necessarily compatible with the needs of young people aged 12-15 years in the Ipswich community. Duplication is another concern with young people already eligible to access and participate in other Ipswich City Council programs, such as the Discover Ipswich Ambassador Program (which allows young people aged 14 years and above to volunteer at the Ipswich Visitor Information Centre and/or activations at key events). Accordingly, it is proposed that Council does not seek to implement the IYAC Ambassador Program and, instead, consolidates its focus on the IYAC Program.

Furthermore, the current development of the Children, Youth and Families Policy and the current community engagement being undertaken as part of the development of this policy, may result in information for Council concerning community needs and aspirations about, among other things, the 12-15 year cohort in the Ipswich community. Accordingly, activities

related to this age cohort may occur as result of the development and implementation of the Children, Youth and Families Policy.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial or resource implications with this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is a risk in the recommended approach that there is no longer a specific program for Ipswich's 12-15 year old cohort. Having said this, as the public Expression of Interest process undertaken between 1 April and 1 May 2019, received limited interest and zero (0) applications being received, it is considered that the risk associated with Council no longer seeking to implement the program is minimal.

Further, as young people are already eligible to access other Ipswich City Council programs, such as the Discover Ipswich Ambassador Program, there are alternative avenues available to young people to participant in Council programming. Also, with the current development of the Children, Youth and Families Policy and the current community engagement being undertaken as part of the development of this policy, specific activities related to the 12-15 year old cohort may occur as result of the development and implementation of the Children, Youth and Families Policy.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:
Not Applicable.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

A public Expression of Interest process was undertaken for the IYAC Ambassador Program between 1 April and 1 May 2019. However, there was limited interest in the program and zero (0) applications were received.

CONCLUSION

Ipswich City Council has been coordinating a youth council initiative for many years. In 2017 (as per the Council Ordinary Meeting of 27 June 2017) (Attachment 1) Council made four recommendations relating to the structure of IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program.

This report recommends that the 2017 council recommendations be repealed as IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program have evolved since that time and those recommendations are no longer suitable.

IYAC has since developed into an important part of council's Community Development portfolio and has proven to be a successful program (as evidenced in the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council - 12 Month Report, see Attachment 2).

The IYAC Ambassador Program, however, has received limited interest and zero (0) applications were received in response to a public Expression of Interest process.



Accordingly, the proposed model is not necessarily compatible with the needs of young people aged 12-15 years in the Ipswich community.

Due to the limited interest in the IYAC Ambassadors Program, this highlighted to the Community Development Team that the proposed model is not necessarily compatible with the needs of young people aged 12-15 years in the Ipswich community.

This report recommends that the 2017 council recommendations be repealed as IYAC and the IYAC Ambassador Program have evolved since that time and those recommendation are no longer suitable.

The IYAC Program will continue to be managed by the Community Development Team on an operational basis and the program will continued to be monitored and evaluated to ensure the program continues to deliver upon its objectives.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Previous Committee Report adopted at Council 27 June 2017 ↓ 
2.	Ipswich Youth Advisory Council - 12 Month Report ↓ 

Cameron Nicholls

CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Tanya Appleton

ACTING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Abbey Richards

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Ben Pole

GENERAL MANAGER - COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

"Together, we proudly enhance the quality of life for our community"

Library, Youth and Seniors Committee	
Mtg Date: 19.06.17	OAR: YES
Authorisation: Caroline McMahon	

9 June 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

FROM: CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

RE: PROPOSED CHANGES TO IPSWICH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION:

This is a report by the Children and Youth Development Officer dated 9 June 2017 proposing changes to the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council (IYAC).

BACKGROUND:

Ipswich City Council has been coordinating the IYAC for ten (10) years by assisting with skills development of local young people, providing opportunities for members to share their opinions on the issues that impact their lives and the lives of their peers, and to engage within the group in a range of capacity building initiatives.

As specified in the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council – Terms of Reference (2007), the original purpose of IYAC was to give Ipswich youth a real voice, assist in the identification of emerging needs of young people, provide opportunities to encourage consideration of such issues at a local, state and federal level, to assist Council with the provision of services and facilities for young people, and to provide opportunities for IYAC members to effectively communicate and network with the local community. While certain aspects of this strategy have been applied over the past decade, the community benefit has been somewhat limited to the group's participants. Therefore, it has been determined that a new strategy is required to re-align the IYAC with its original purpose and core values.

In its current form IYAC is designed for youth aged 12 – 17 years. This model generates some challenges pertaining to the issues discussed and activities that can take place (with the presences of younger youth), while excluding the valuable contribution of older youth. To be meaningful and effective, this structure must allow for a wider representation of Ipswich youth (12-25), while ensuring age appropriate discussion, learning and contribution.

Currently we have seven (7) existing members who are entering their second year of IYAC and two (2) members waiting to join aged between 12 and 25.

PROPOSAL:

The youth demographic (15–25 age groups) accounts for 14.4% of the Ipswich population (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011). An assessment of other Youth Councils nationwide has shown that with a more varied age range of participants better outcomes are achieved for young people and the local community. Therefore, to capture a wider representation of young people in Ipswich, it is proposed that Council introduce a new two-tiered approach; IYAC and IYAC Ambassadors. While the roles and functions of these two groups will unquestionably vary, both groups will operate with the same shared values of developing Ipswich pride, building the next generation of community leadership, and youth working for youth.

IYAC AMBASSADORS:

IYAC Ambassadors will target youth aged between 12 and 15 who are passionate about being involved with their community. These young people will benefit from team building, skills development and networking through supporting an array of Council events such as Welcoming Babies, Citizenship Ceremonies, and Ipswich Festival Parade etc. In addition to an increased presence at community events, IYAC Ambassadors will be encouraged to attend a Committee and Council meeting to interact with the democratic process. The IYAC Ambassadors program will serve as a pathway for young people to become a member of IYAC the year they turn 16 years of age.

The IYAC Ambassadors program will be developed in accordance with the “Appointment of Youth Ambassadors for the City of Ipswich” Policy (refer Attachment A).

IPSWICH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (IYAC):

IYAC will target youth aged between 16 and 25. Under the proposed changes, Youth Council members will form an active working group, providing a voice for the youth community and linking in with other youth advisories and local service providers (where appropriate). Using a strong evidence base, the group will identify a small number of key priorities for the youth community in Ipswich. Allocated a small budget and working under the mentorship of the Children and Youth Development Officer, IYAC will then plan and deliver a project to deliver their targeted outcomes. This new proposal aims to empower Youth Council members to advocate for the needs of young people: youth working for youth – in a supportive and structured environment.

NEXT STEPS:

- Launch IYAC Ambassadors program in late July / early August (subject to Councillors’ availability) – to include current IYAC members
- In collaboration with other local Youth Councils, design operating model for best community outcomes
- Develop detailed scope / governance and identify legal requirements for the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council

- Issue request for Expressions of Interest for IYAC from September/ October 2017
- Launch IYAC December 2017
- Update the Ipswich City Council Youth Advisory Action Plan

BENEFITS TO COMMUNITY AND CUSTOMERS:

The ongoing support of IYAC is consistent with the six main areas of the Ipswich City Council Youth Policy and also complements Advance Ipswich:

- Promoting community reconciliation, understanding, recognition, protection and preservation of Indigenous history and culture.
- Ensuring visitors and new residents of Ipswich are informed of and share in the unique 'Ipswich' sense of community, Indigenous Australian heritage and other distinct qualities that are harboured in the individual neighbourhoods and suburbs throughout the City.
- Promoting a diverse range of opportunities for residents to participate in local community activities and foster common citizenship.
- Creating an environment that provides opportunities to foster social interaction, community and civic activities that enable residents to participate, celebrate and share at a variety of venues, places and events.


CONSULTATION:

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Library and Youth and Seniors Committee have been consulted regarding the proposed changes to IYAC.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Funding of \$16,000.00 has been allowed within the proposed 2017-2018 Community Engagement branch budget allocation to support the delivery of IYAC and the IYAC Ambassadors programs.

ATTACHMENT:

Name of Attachment	Attachment
Appointment of Youth Ambassadors for the City of Ipswich" Policy	 Attachment A

RECOMMENDATION:

Amended LYS Ctee No. 2017(06) of 19 June 2017

~~That the report be received and the contents noted.~~

That the format of the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council be amended by:

- Expanding the structure to allow for a wider representation of youth in Ipswich (up to 25 years old).

- b. Implementing a two-tiered approach to split the age demographic into Ipswich Youth Advisory Council Ambassadors (12 – 15 years of age) and Ipswich Youth Advisory Council (16 to 25 years of age).
- c. Targeting youth aged between 12 and 15 years of age for the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council Ambassador program, allowing these youth to benefit from team building, skills development and networking.
- d. Forming an active Ipswich Youth Advisory Council of youth aged between 16 and 25 years, empowering members to advocate for the needs of young people and to deliver outcomes in a supportive and structured environment.

Cameron Nicholls
CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

I concur with the recommendation contained in this report.

Angi Harms
COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

I concur with the recommendation contained in this report.

Caroline McMahon
**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
(ARTS, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT)**

Ipswich Youth Advisory Council **Intake One Twelve-Month Report**

October 2019

Community Engagement and Development Section
Community, Cultural and Economic Development Department



ipswich.qld.gov.au



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ipswich City Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners as custodians of the land, winds and water we share. We pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging, as the keepers of the traditions, cultures and stories of a proud people.

INTRODUCTION

The Ipswich Youth Advisory Council (IYAC) is a youth engagement initiative for young people in the City of Ipswich, aged between 16 and 25 years of age. The goal of IYAC is to ensure Ipswich's young people are heard on issues they care about and are empowered to undertake change-making initiatives across the City – designed by young people, for young people.

The program has three key objectives:

1. Ipswich's young people are empowered to voice the issues they care about
2. Ipswich's young people are empowered to develop, advocate for, and implement initiatives which affect and matter to them
3. To build and enhance the capacity for civic leadership in the young people of the City of Ipswich.

The group works to identify a small number of key priorities for the youth community in Ipswich. IYAC plan and deliver a series of projects and initiatives to address targeted outcomes. This model aims to empower IYAC members to advocate for the needs of young people in a supportive and structured environment.

While Ipswich City Council (ICC) has run a youth council initiative for a number of years, the program was re-vitalised in 2018. The first intake of participants (Intake 1) were selected through a public Expression of Interest process. Intake 1 met in July 2018. From 46 applications, 20 young people were selected, based on:

- Demonstration of existing engagement in their communities
- Initiative and willingness to learn and contribute
- Demographic representation (ie age, gender, cultural background and geography across Ipswich).

Intake 1 participants met in July 2018 and continue to meet monthly, these meetings are facilitated by Council's Community Engagement and Development Section. IYAC works to identify and key priorities for the youth community in Ipswich and plan and deliver projects and initiatives to address targeted outcomes. This model aims to empower IYAC members to advocate for the needs of young people in a supportive and structured environment.

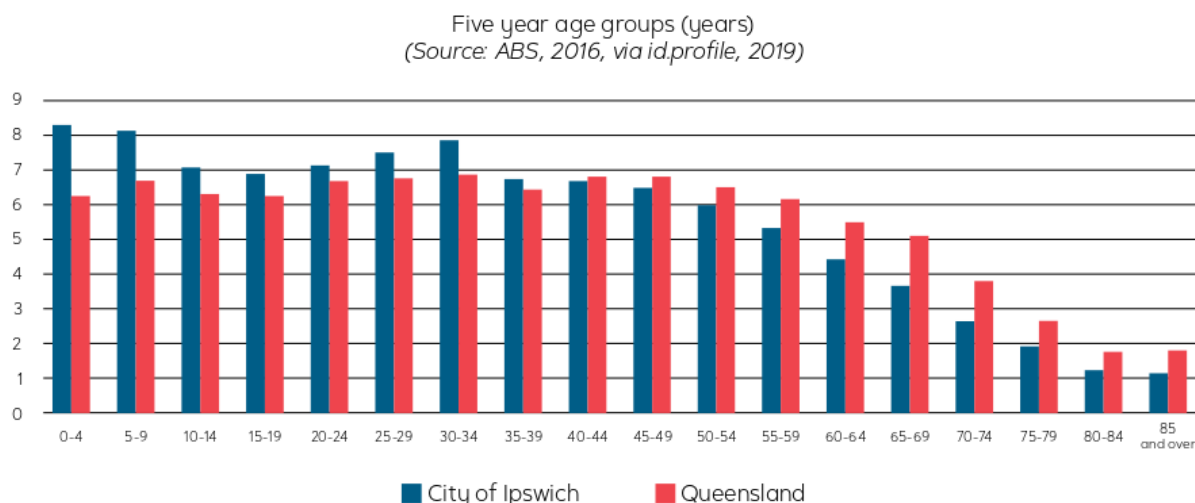
In order to track the impact and outcomes of IYAC, Ipswich City Council have been engaged in a multi-stage monitoring and evaluation project. This report integrates data collected during the first twelve months, including the outcomes of a baseline survey, a twelve month survey and interviews with a sample of IYAC members at six and twelve months. A second intake (Intake 2) were engaged in July 2019. While this report reports only on Intake 1, we acknowledge the valuable ongoing contribution of those young people involved in Intake 2.

This report includes:

- An overview of youth in Ipswich
- Monitoring and evaluation methodology and research tools
- Survey and interview results
- Profiles of key projects that IYAC have initiated and been involved with

YOUTH IN IPSWICH

Ipswich is home to a large and vibrant youth community. Ipswich has a younger population in comparison to the Queensland State medium age – 37.8 per cent of Ipswich residents are aged 24 and younger, compared to 31.5 per cent of the broader Queensland population (ABS, 2016, from id.profile, 2019).



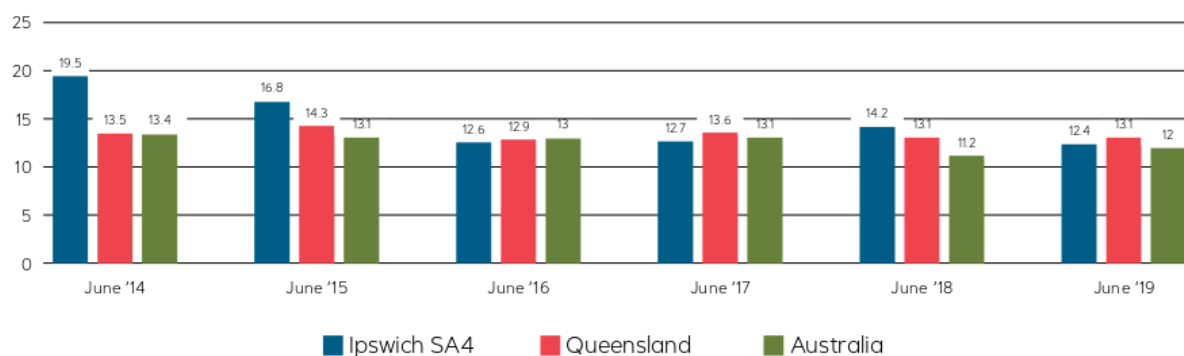
The youth population is also diverse. Over 7% of people aged 15 to 25 in Ipswich identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. 7.4% were born in New Zealand, while 0.8% were born in the Philippines, 0.7% in Samoa, 0.6% in India and 0.4% in Sudan (ABS, 2016).

There are rich opportunities for young people to access all levels of education within Ipswich, including primary schools, secondary schools, TAFEs, Universities and other educational/training pathways all within Ipswich. Ipswich also has in excess of 80 schools including primary schools, secondary schools, and independent schools. A larger proportion of

Ipswich young people access vocational education pathways, and a smaller proportion access University education (in comparison to Brisbane) (ABS, 2016).

While most youth in Ipswich are either studying or working, youth unemployment in Ipswich is currently at around 12.4% (QGSO, 2019). Key industries employing youth include retail, accommodation and food services, healthcare and social assistance, and construction (ABS, 2016, from id.profile, 2019). Ipswich is also home to a strong youth sector with a long-standing legacy of collaboration, with many youth services and organisations.

Youth Unemployment (15 to 24 years) Ipswich SA4, 2014-2019
(Source: QGSO, 2019)



PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

In order to track the work of IYAC, literature on the impact of other youth councils was examined. The following literature review looked at the impact of youth councils in Australia and internationally. Academic literature discusses the value and importance of youth civic engagement, arguing that civic identity is developed during adolescence, with ongoing benefits for society, psychological well-being and life outcomes (Godfrey & Cherng, 2016).

In responding to findings that youth are “not engaged in electoral politics” and have little interest in politics, Keeter et al. (2003, p. 3) argue that “youth who are active in their community may become more likely to...recognize political solutions to problems...It is not unreasonable to expect that civic behaviour in early adulthood will lead to political engagement in later years”. As such, Keeter et al. (2003) outline three indicators for measuring youth civic engagement:

- Community problem solving, measured by involvement with groups to solve problems in the community
- Regular volunteering for a non-electoral organization
- Active membership in groups or associations

Keeter et al. (2003, p. 18) argue that these activities “contribute to the development of well-rounded citizens who are able to contribute to the health of our democracy”.

Godfrey and Cherng (2016) measure the association between socio-economic status and youth civic engagement, using the following indicators:

- Values around the importance of helping others, using the question “How important is it to you in your life to help other people in your community?”
- Values around inequality and a reflection of critical consciousness (as discussed by Watt et al. 2011), using the question “How important is it to you in your life to work to correct social and economic inequalities?” Critical consciousness captures structural understandings of social problems, critical social analysis, the perceived ability to effect socio-political change, and participation in civic or political action
- Frequency of volunteering and community service.

Augsberger et al. (2018) examine the capacity for youth councils to reduce or reinforce social inequality. They find that youth councils have the capacity to:

- Build social connections for young people, particularly with representatives
- Build knowledge and engagement with governance systems
- Involve and empower youth to take part in decision making
- Create opportunities for broader community engagement

Augsberger et al. (2018) noted a lack of diversity in terms of “educational privilege” in the youth councils they examined, signalling the risk of excluding youth who may be engaged in alternative educational institutions.

Checkoway and Aldana (2013) also identified four forms of youth civic engagement, including ‘citizen participation’. Citizen participation involves young people participating in political and governmental institutions, with young people seen as “citizens in the making”.

KEY INDICATORS

From the above review, and drawing on the key objectives of IYAC, the following indicators have been developed:

Impact	Questions/Indicators	Targets
Give youth a voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perception on having a say on key issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members report an increase in their ability to have a say on key issues
Build values around civic engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perception on responsibility to engage with community Perception on the need to address inequality Tracking formal participation in democratic processes Tracking knowledge of council roles and responsibilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members report an increase in their civic engagement and knowledge
Engage youth in decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication with representatives Perceptions on capacity to influence change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members report an increase in their engagement in decision-making
Build social connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tracking membership of groups, community meetings and volunteering Connection to other youth Communication with representatives Connections to other cultural groups Perceptions on the value of multiculturalism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members report an increase in their social connections
Have representation from council divisions and major cultural backgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathered in registration form: gender; age; location; education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council includes representation from young people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From each council division From the city's major cultural backgrounds
Build Skills to take initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perceptions on capacity to influence change Communication with representatives Perception on skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members report an increase in their skills and capacity
Empower youth to take ownership of initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to organise events and initiatives Perceptions on capacity to influence change Tracking key issues of concern Tracking ownership of key initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of survey respondents believe they have ownership of Program of Work as they have been consulted and involved in its development.

METHODOLOGY

An ongoing monitoring and evaluation project with IYAC aims to track outcomes and impact. Key methods have included:

- A baseline survey with Intake 1 (July 2018) members (see Appendix A for survey)
- One-on-one interviews conducted with a sample of Intake 1 members after six months and 12 months (10 interviews in total) (see Appendix B for interview questions)
- A 12-month survey with Intake 1 members (see Appendix C for survey).

While 20 young people were accepted into Intake 1, five young people exited the program over the first year, for a range of personal reasons. The survey results included in this report track only those 15 young people still engaged in the program after twelve months.



IYAC Members discussing the key issues facing young people in Ipswich

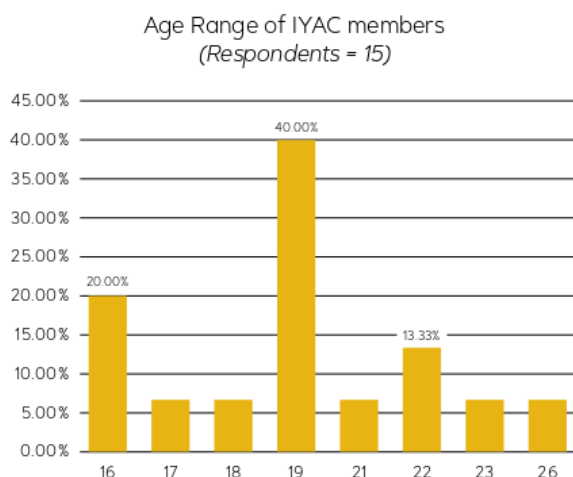
STUDY RESULTS

The following section reports on the results from the baseline and twelve month surveys, and interviews with IYAC members. For percentage data throughout the report, small numbers have been excluded to ensure privacy.

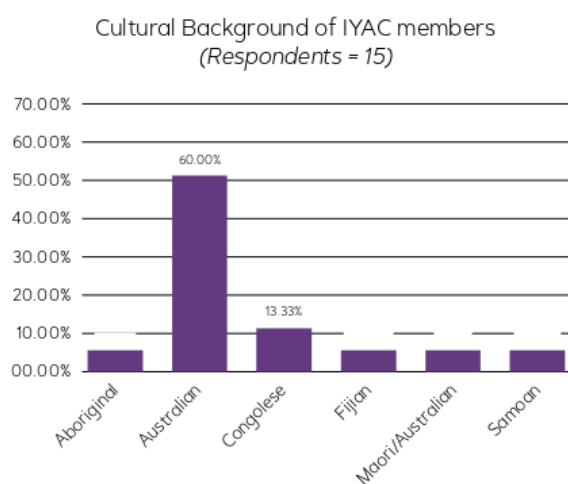
IYAC MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

The following demographics data was gathered from IYAC members at the program inception in June 2018. A key goal of IYAC was to be representative of the Ipswich community, including age, gender, cultural background and geography¹.

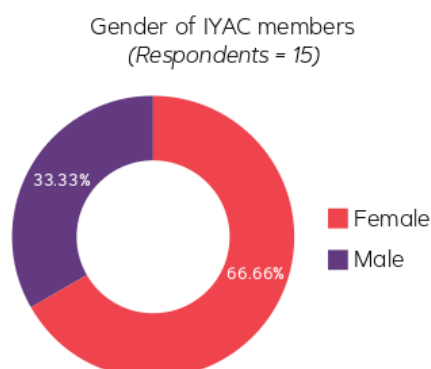
IYAC members are aged between 16 and 26².



While the majority of IYAC members identify as Australian, the group includes members who identify as Congolese, Aboriginal, Fijian, Maori and Samoan.



IYAC members predominantly identify as female.



¹ Note that the initial selection criteria included representation from across the existing 10 divisions of Ipswich. At the time of writing, these divisional boundaries are being re-drawn. As such, data on geographical representation has not been included here.

² Note that age limits (16-25) were applied at the time of application.

IYAC GOALS AND DECISION-MAKING

As part of a process to empower youth, build values around civic engagement, and engage youth in decision-making, IYAC and community development staff worked to develop a collaborative decision-making process, that reflects some of the processes used by council. The group collaboratively developed a set of values and principles, meeting procedures and decision-making procedures, documented in an IYAC Terms of Reference. For decisions to be made, a quorum (50 per cent of membership) need to agree. Proposals are brought to the groups via a formal submission process, involving a written submission, a presentation, Q and A, followed by a vote (see further discussion regarding IYAC decision-making below).

IYAC members identified a number of key issues that IYAC would focus on over their two-year tenure. These were decided upon over a series of facilitated sessions, with brainstorming followed by thematic grouping of key ideas. Through this process, the group identified the following goals:

- Improving youth mental health
- Building diversity and acceptance

GIVE YOUTH A VOICE

One of the key indicators being tracked is around giving youth a voice, including the capacity for young people to identify and articulate key issues facing young people in Ipswich, and advocate for young people.

KEY ISSUES FACING YOUTH IN IPSWICH

In surveys and interviews, members were asked to indicate key issues that are affecting youth in Ipswich. These have been clustered into key themes in the table below, including number of instances for each survey, along with key quotes. The key issues across the baseline and 12-month responses include:

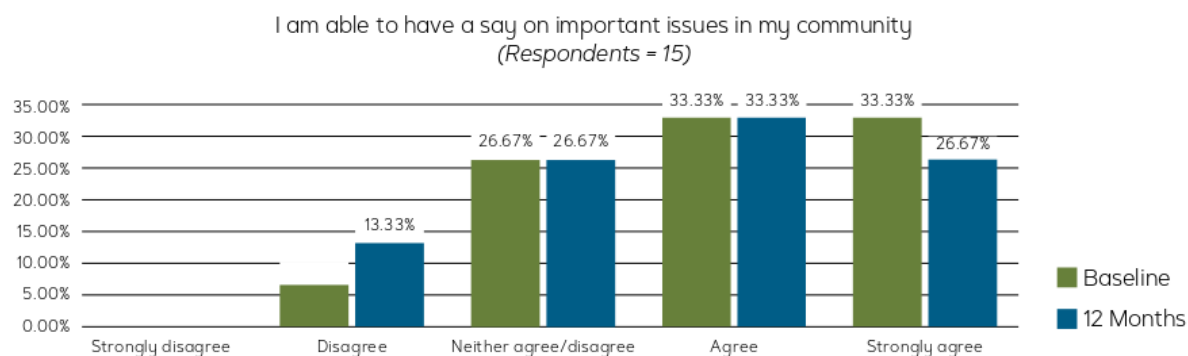
- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| ▪ Youth unemployment | ▪ Lack of youth spaces, activities and entertainment |
| ▪ Education | ▪ Homelessness |
| ▪ Mental Health | |
| ▪ Drug and alcohol use | |
| ▪ Personal development | |

Item 3 / Attachment 2.

	Baseline Responses	12-Month Responses	Quote
Youth Unemployment	8	7	"Employment/employability/job market"
Education	6	4	"Motivation to complete school"
Mental Health	6	5	"There is a lack of...free or affordable mental health [support]"
Homelessness	4	3	"I see a lot of homelessness with our young people"
Community cohesion & engagement	3	0	"Not respecting the community they live in"
Drug & Alcohol Use	3	5	"Unemployment and substance abuse"
Lack of access to services	3	2	"[Lack of] General Support for youth"
Interpersonal Conflict	2	0	"Fighting"
Personal Development	2	5	"Youth do not own their own identity"
Poverty and financial hardship	2	3	"Financial hardship" "Low socio economy"
Support for Multicultural Communities	2	2	"Lack of cultural awareness/support"
Crime	1	2	"Violence/gangs"
Domestic Violence	1	1	"Domestic violence"
Environmental Challenges	1	0	"Sustainability"
Impacts of Social Media	1	0	"Misuse of Social Media"
Indigenous Disadvantage	1	2	"Indigenous disempowerment by colonizing policies"
Lack of business opportunities	1	1	"Economic opportunities specifically in the creative industries (no jobs or strong industry)"
Lack of support for people with disabilities	1	1	"Lack of community support for people with disabilities"
Lack of youth spaces, activities and entertainment	1	4	"Night Life (not enough for people to do within Ipswich especially at night)"
LGBTQIA+ issues	1	0	"LGBTQIA+ issues"
Physical Health	1	0	"Health – physical"
Racism	0	1	"Racism"
Family support	0	1	"Generally poor parenting skills"
Political Engagement	0	1	"Lack of political knowledge"
Limited opportunities for the Arts	0	1	"Lack of structure for Arts and culture (facilities, arts and culture Officer, clear programs and strategy)"
Media representation	0	1	"Media representation"

YOUTH VOICE

In order to gauge and track youth voice, empowerment, decision-making and initiative, members were asked to indicate whether they feel they have a say on important issues in their community. Most members – 60% – felt that they were able to have a say on important issues.



The question of youth voice was further explored in interviews. Some interview participants reflected on the importance of incorporating a youth voice into decision-making, and the challenges of encouraging youth to participate in processes and spaces where they might not feel welcome. In describing the value of youth perspectives, one young person said:

"Young people have a perspective of their own from a generation, for example I think we're generation Y. Yeah. It has different perspectives from the previous generation for example. So our voice also needs to be recognised in some of the more important issues".

Another young person reflected on the failures of representatives to meaningfully engage with young people, saying,

"I've spoken to a lot of different community development people in business and also in the council and things are often made without consultation to you then they're actually irrelevant. For example, park developments...they'll build a park that no one will come to. So you can spend a lot of resource time and energy in the wrong direction. So I like the idea that people would come and actually put it before the youth. I think youth don't want to be necessarily called youth but you know what I mean? Like that you be considered in that respect."

Some members felt that IYAC offered some level of institutional legitimacy, which gave them the confidence to speak up in different contexts. One member said:

"But I feel like...I have more of an informed opinion because I have connections to a government body now. I'm not just like another person who says this. I can go "oh actually", you know, with this this. Like I have something behind me that I can refer to when they go "oh, so how do you know all this?". I can like "oh, I'm just part of IYAC".

While another said:

"If you're from IYAC, you're also a representative of Ipswich, young people and stuff, also representing other people...like multicultural people...yeah, so I can tell them, yeah, I'm from IYAC".

In one case, council staff actively engaged IYAC to gather ideas for the Ipswich Festival. This engagement led to IYAC members being engaged to set up a 'youth space' and a series of activities:

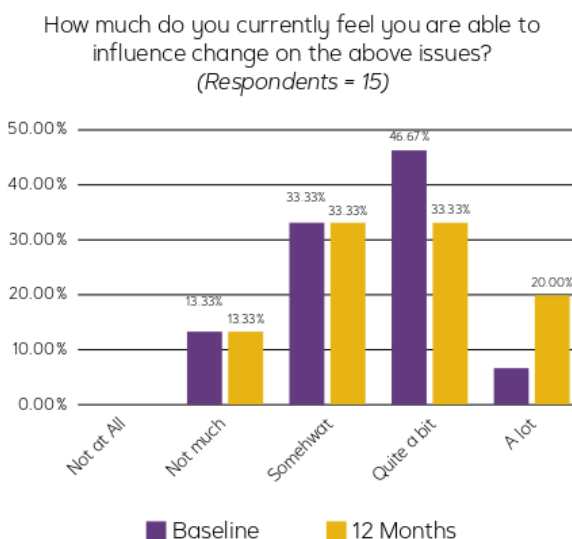
"...we spoke with the people from the Ipswich Festival and [IYAC members] have been asked to be on the volunteer now, which is really exciting. Because I realise that – it was great that they were coming to us for ideas for a youth thing but I feel like if you can't just take youth ideas and put them all together and call it a youth thing, I feel like if you want it to be you know, our generation, then we should run it...I feel like it needs to be youth led. If you want our ideas, I think you need to have some of us on board".

BUILD VALUES AROUND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

A key indicator being tracked is civic engagement among young people, including attitudes and opinions around the capacity to influence change, engagement in broader community activities, opinions around civic engagement, and involvement in political decision-making.

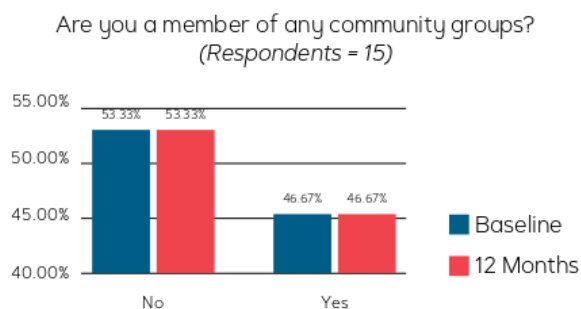
CAPACITY TO INFLUENCE CHANGE

Members were asked to indicate to what extent they felt they were able to influence change on key issues facing youth. At twelve-months, 57.14% of members felt they were able to influence change ('quite a bit' and 'a lot').



ENGAGEMENT IN COMMUNITY GROUPS

In order to gauge levels of civic engagement, social connections and initiative, members were asked if they are the member of any community groups. Outside of IYAC, 46.67% were members of other community groups.



For those IYAC members taking part in community groups, these include:

- Arts Networks
- Church Community Group
- Church groups
- Church Youth Groups
- Community Choir
- Creative Ipswich
- Cultural Organisations
- Dancing groups
- ICYS Ambassador
- Ipswich Musical Theatre Company
- Ipswich Rocks event
- Local community centre
- Political parties
- Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)
- University Pacific Islander Association
- University Student Ambassador

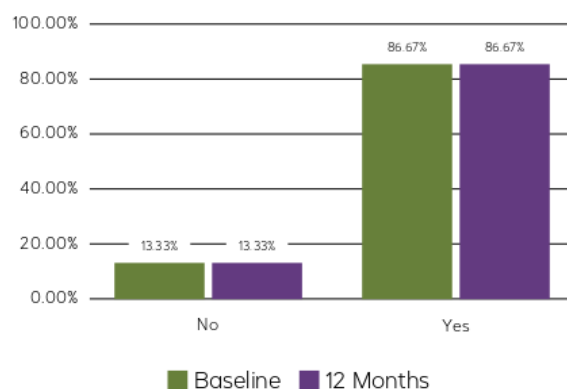
VOLUNTEERING

Members were asked if they had contributed to any organisations as volunteers, noting volunteering as an important factor in building youth civic engagement. Reflecting an engaged and active group, almost all members – 86.67% – had volunteered with community groups or events outside of IYAC.

For those IYAC members who have volunteered, volunteering activities include:

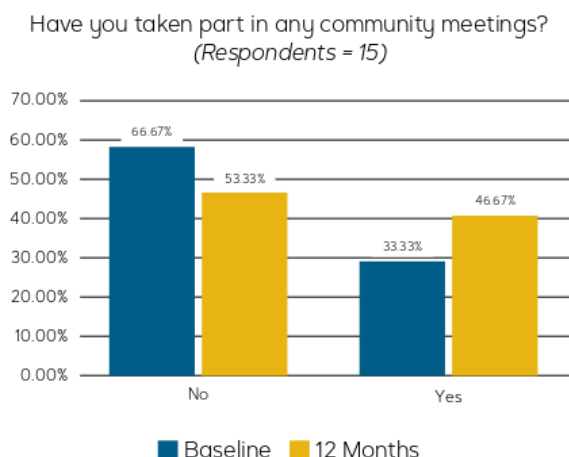
- ANZAC Day March events
- Arts festivals and events
- Christmas for Homeless Youth
- Church Groups
- Creative Ipswich,
- Cultural Community group
- DVAC
- Footprints in the Park
- Gen X Unleashed Brisbane
- Harmony Day
- Headspace
- ICYS
- Ipswich Court
- Ipswich Festival
- Ipswich Homeschool Co-op
- Ipswich Hospital Foundation at the Ipswich Show
- Ipswich Housing & Support Services
- Ipswich Multifest and Polyfest
- Ipswich Musical Theatre Company
- Ipswich Pasifika
- Ipswich Rocks
- Litter control
- Multicultural youth carnival
- Multicultural youth carnival
- Park2Park
- Political parties
- Pyjama Angels
- Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)
- Relay4Life
- Rosewood Festival
- Rosie's
- RPSHS Election Day barbeque
- Smith Family
- Sound Point Goodna
- St Vincent De Pauls
- Staines Memorial College IMPACT night
- Tree planting
- Various Op Shops/ Animal welfare related volunteering

Have you ever volunteered in the community or assisted with community groups/events?
(Respondents = 15)



ENGAGEMENT IN COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Members were also asked if they had taken part in community meetings, a further measure of engagement in the community. At 12-months, 46.67% of IYAC members were involved in community meetings outside of IYAC, up from 33.33% at the baseline.

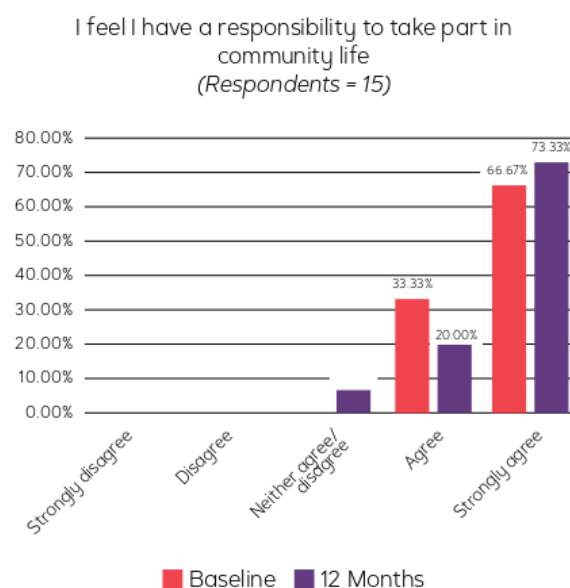


For those IYAC members who have taken part in community meetings, these include:

- Church Community Group meetings
- Creative Ipswich meetings
- Cultural community meetings
- Diversity leaders meetings
- Ipswich Arts meetings
- Ipswich Musical Theatre Company meetings
- Marburg Community Consultation
- Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) board meetings
- Rosewood Cultural Centre Meetings

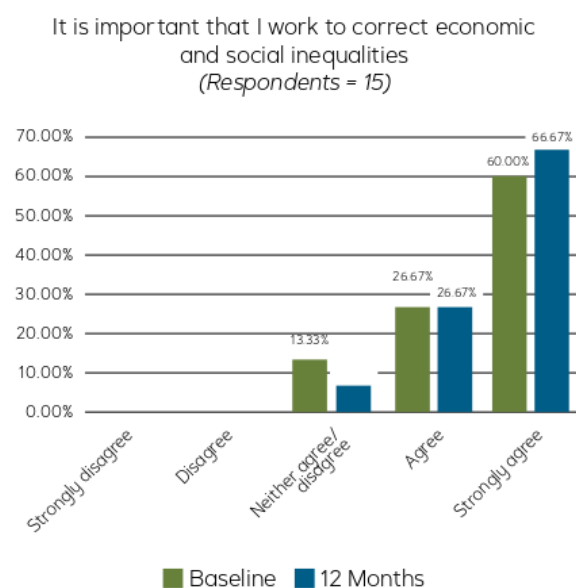
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENGAGEMENT IN COMMUNITY LIFE

Members were asked to indicate to what degree they feel a responsibility to engage in community life, as a key measure of critical consciousness and civic engagement. At twelve months, almost all members indicated that they felt they had a responsibility to take part in community life.



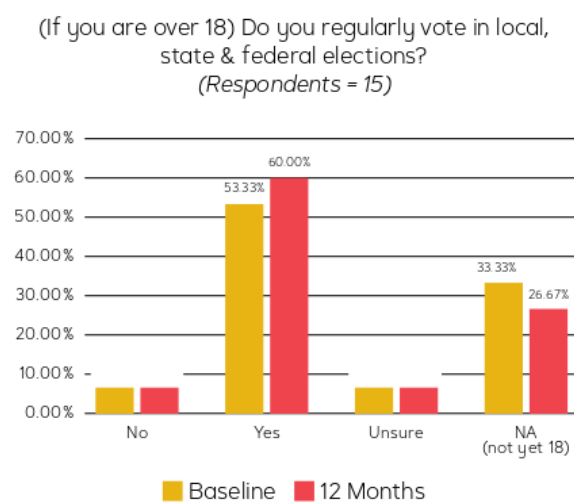
ADDRESSING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INEQUALITIES

In order to further gauge and track critical consciousness, members were asked to indicate whether they feel they should be working to address economic and social inequalities. At twelve months, almost all members – 93.34% – felt strongly that it is important to work to correct economic and social inequalities (compared to 86.67% at the baseline).

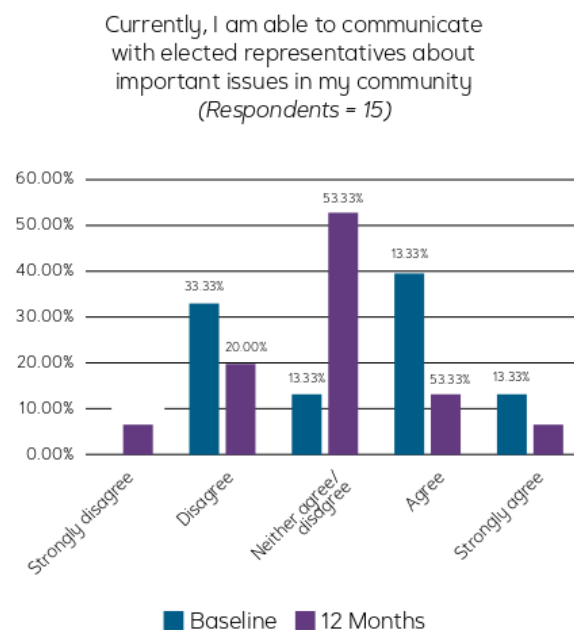


ENGAGE YOUTH IN DECISION-MAKING

Engagement of youth in decision-making is a key indicator being tracked. To gauge engagement in decision making, members were asked to reflect on their formal participation in democratic processes. For those members who are over 18, most were regularly taking part in local, state and federal elections.



However, when asked if they felt able to communicate with elected representatives, many felt less confident. At twelve months, only around 20% of members felt able to communicate with elected representatives.



This question was explored in interviews, where participants expressed mixed opinions on the value of engagement in political decision making. Some expressed the value of engagement, the importance of being involved, and felt positive about this process. Some felt positive about their capacity to effect change via political engagement. One young person said:

"I always vote, so I always feel like just being able to have the option to vote is always, just do it. That's our biggest way of being involved in that kind of thing....Even when you're not 18 and cannot vote, you can still have your say. You can still write into the ministers and tell them what you think. It's completely open to be able to do that, which is why we have ministers that are elected by us, so you can go and talk to them and talk to your state members and federal members and stuff. I think it would be good to encourage younger people to just write in about it....you can write into them and call them and say 'hey I don't like this thing'".

Others reflected with more pessimism on the failures of the political system to respond to community needs, and failures to incorporate and include young people. One young person said:

"I always find that older people are a lot more inclined to have their say on things. I don't know if it's just because young people are just kind of scared to go against what's happening. I think it would be really great if we could just encourage younger people to have their say".

Another said:

"Because I think a lot of the time they go 'oh, you know, they're changing it. I'm just going to have to live with it'. But you can say 'hey, no I don't really like that'. Like it might not always change the decision but if you don't say anything then of course it's not going to change it"

While another said:

"I think they (politicians) need [information on] how do they talk to youth".

One young person reflected on a lack of knowledge and engagement among young people, and the future implications of this, saying:

"When I went to vote, I posted about it on Snapchat, and all my friends were like 'what? What is that?' They had no idea. And all my friends are enrolled, they are eligible to vote, and they don't know anything about it. I think this is a real problem, because as young people, soon we'll be the ones making the decisions, and people aren't taking part. I reckon it's only a small proportion of people who vote – 10 per cent I reckon, yeah".

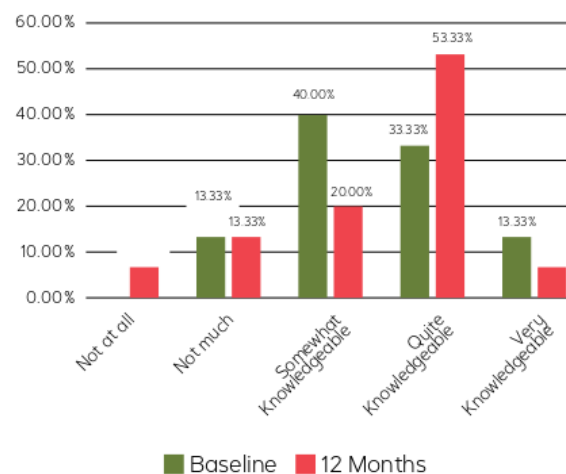
Another said:

"A very small percentage [of young people get involved], I would say less than 10 [percent]...I don't think most young people see the point...because they have a stereotype that is already there, the stigma around Ipswich, being nothing but a no-good place...they'd be like again, no, what's the point...there are some young people that actually care where the development of Ipswich is going.... [but] most of them are like 'well I'm not staying anyway'".

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE WORK IPSWICH CITY COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

As a further measure of engagement in decision-making and civic engagement, members were asked to consider their current level of knowledge regarding the work of council. In the baseline survey, members indicated a moderate level of knowledge of ICC work, and many indicated that they'd like to build knowledge around governance and government, as well as engage in advocacy and policy development. At twelve months, most members – 60% – said that they had some knowledge regarding the work that ICC is responsible for. This is an area for further work.

How knowledgeable do you feel you are about what work Ipswich City Council is responsible for?
(Respondents = 15)



Item 3 / Attachment 2.

Members indicated the following key pieces of work that council engages in (bracketed numbers indicate recurring responses):

	Baseline Responses	12-Month Responses	Quote
Roads, Infrastructure and Maintenance	8	11	"Maintenance of the city (local roads etc.)"
Funding and Supporting Community Initiatives	6	0	"Funding community initiatives and business"
Parks And Public Spaces	4	2	"Maintaining parks and public spaces"
Waste	4	2	"Public health (bins)"
Economic Development	3	2	"Business development and employment"
Local regulations	3	4	"Regulating by-laws"
Events	2	1	"Attending community events as representatives"
Planning and Development	2	3	"Construction & town planning"
Representation	2		"Make sure all people are being heard in the community"
Championing Ipswich and Advocacy	3	3	"Develop Ipswich into a modern city"
Community Development	2	2	"Ensuring a strong community"
Community Engagement	1	4	"To help connect and engage the community"
Environmental Protection	1	2	
Libraries	1	3	"Public facilities (libraries)"
Safety	1	1	"Ensure that Ipswich is a safe community"
Addressing Homelessness	0	1	"Improving homelessness"
Supporting vulnerable community members	0	3	"Improving economy for low income families"
Transport	0	1	"Transport"
Resource Allocation	0	1	"Local governance and resource allocation"
Data Collection and Research	0	1	"Statics and data collection"
Community Awareness on Key Issues	0	2	"Domestic Violence awareness"
Tourism	0	1	"Tourism"

In interviews, some members felt that they had been able to develop a deeper understanding of council processes, or a desire to learn more. One young person said:

"I've definitely been able to build a bit more understanding of council members and community people around through IYAC".

While another said:

"Being in IYAC has opened my eyes to the process of how council are to do things, like, you have to have a lot of supporting information which is good, because you need that accountability to be like, we're not wasting your money".

However, others felt they wanted more information:

"I'd love to know more about how local council works.... I would love to know the ins and outs of how like decisions happen. When you apply for grants what happens? Because I feel like at the moment I feel like you just fill out a piece of paper and it goes somewhere and I don't know what happens. So yeah I'd personally love to know how it works in council".

One young person reflected on the challenges that Ipswich City Council has faced, and the perceptions from young people, saying:

"We've had some insight into what's going on within council, [staff members are] very honest with us, [they don't] beat around the bush, [they are] quite honest about things...it has been [a difficult time in council] for the last two to three years, and it will be for the next two to three years, so, it's going to be difficult...When people do see something funded by Ipswich City Council, people walk away....it is because of what has happened, and that's really sad".

ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN COUNCIL DECISION-MAKING

IYAC members have also been engaged by council staff in a number of community engagement activities, to help inform council decision making. This has included:

- Engagement for the development of a Children, Youth and Family Friendly City policy
- Feedback on ideas for the Ipswich Festival
- Feedback on Shape your Ipswich, Ipswich City Council's online engagement portal

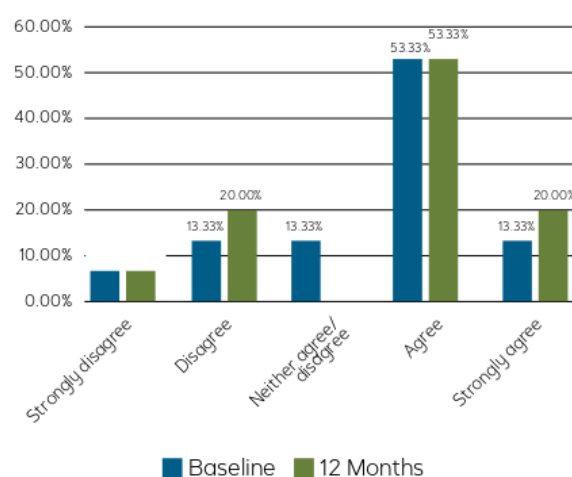
Some members were also positive about the prospect of youth-related council initiatives being brought to IYAC for consideration and feedback. One member said:

"I love the fact that [council staff] wants to start an initiative to have anything for youth to put in front of the IYAC Council, I think that's a really smart thing because I've spoken to a lot of different community development people in business and also in the council and things are often made without consultation to you, then they're actually irrelevant".

BUILD SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

A key indicator being measured is the building of social connections among young people, as a key part of strong communities. In the baseline survey, many young people indicated that they'd like to build collaboration and communication skills. At twelve months, 73.33% of members felt connected to like-minded youth in Ipswich. However, it should be noted that some young people involved still felt limited in their connections to other young people, suggesting scope for more work in order to create a safe space for network-building.

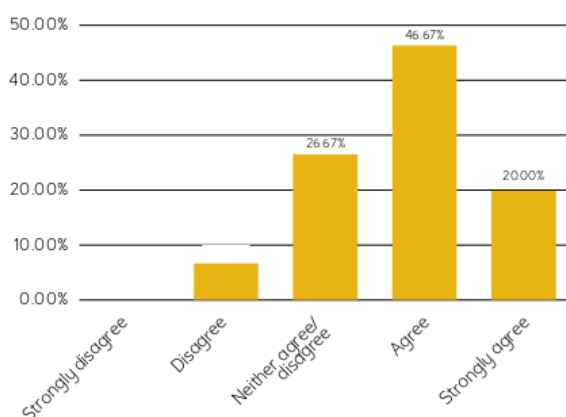
I feel connected to other like-minded young people in Ipswich
(Respondents = 15)



Item 3 / Attachment 2.

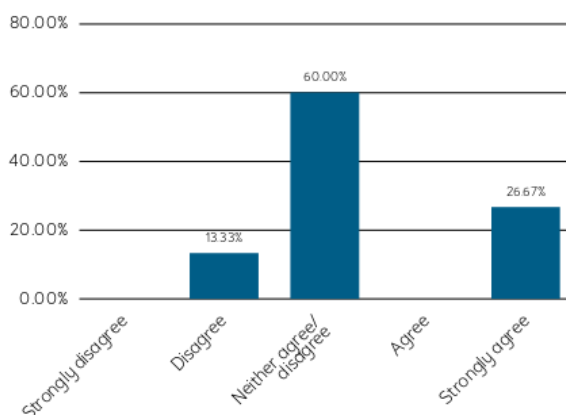
Members were also asked to reflect on whether they felt they had built connections with IYAC members, or new connections in the broader Ipswich community. There was mostly positive feedback regarding connections built with IYAC members, with 66.67% of members at the twelve month mark feeling they had built strong networks.

I have built strong networks with other IYAC members over the past 12 months
(Respondents = 15)



Networks in the broader community, however, were less strong, indicating that there is scope to be finding opportunities for IYAC members to be connected with relevant organisations, institutions and individuals.

I have built strong networks with organisations, institutions and individuals in the broader Ipswich community over the past 12 months
(Respondents = 15)



Participants were asked in interviews to reflect on any relationships they had built with other IYAC members, or with broader networks. Some felt that they had built enduring connections with other IYAC members. One young person said:

"....I think everyone's going to go on to go and do great things so it will be great to, you know, if down the line...you can go to them...and be able, you know, hopefully improve the community even further like after IYAC which will be really great".

To a lesser extent, some also felt that they had had the opportunity to build connections with community members and organisations, however this was an area where more work could be done, and many were looking forward to future opportunities. One young person said:

"When I was working on [an IYAC community project] I was looking for organisations who could help with [cultural performances] and I was put in touch with this group. And now in the future, when I'm working on other stuff, I can say, here is this group, they're good, they're reliable, and I wouldn't have had that connection without IYAC".

While another said:

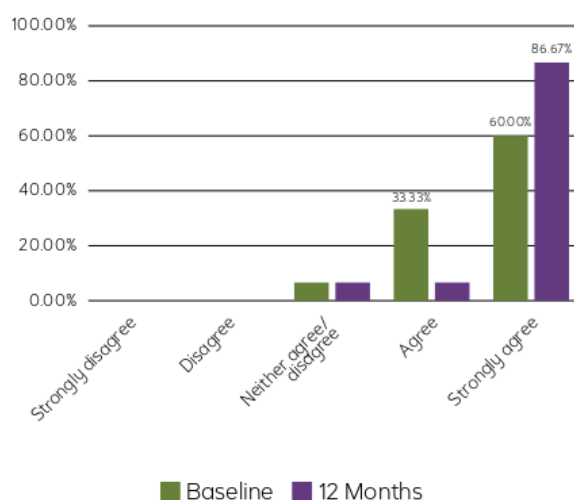
"Researcher: ...do you feel that building these relationships will be beneficial for you going forward? For IYAC and beyond as well?

IYAC Member: I think so yeah. Especially with like organisations, just being able to get your name in with them kind of thing, so that could always open up opportunities in the future. To further work with them even if you're not doing it through IYAC and stuff."

DIVERSITY AND REPRESENTATION

IYAC aims to represent the diversity of young people in Ipswich. The group also identified "Building diversity and acceptance" as a key priority for their work and initiatives. The vast majority of members – 93.34% – felt positive about cultural diversity (combining 'agree' and 'strongly agree').

It is a good thing for our community to be made up of people from different cultures
(Respondents = 15)



In interviews, members were asked to reflect on the value of diversity, including cultural backgrounds, as well as gender and sexuality. All participants felt that IYAC had good representation of ages and geographies, with room for improvement around gender representation and cultural backgrounds. Many members appreciated working in a diverse environment, with one young person saying:

"I think if the rest of the world was like IYAC, that would be my paradise. Because we all work together, and we celebrate difference".

While another said:

"[IYAC] looks more like the way Ipswich looks... you think, yeah, this is Ipswich, cause you have different people in Ipswich, and I feel like the population is growing, so we're getting more people from different backgrounds, different places...which is good, it's good to have different people in the group so we can also talk about different stuff, cause if you were like born in Australia, and someone who is born overseas, I mean you have different, you know, opinions and stuff, and the way you look at life, so it's good when we mix, so we can all share, learn".

Others reflected on the learning that they and the group had gone through, as a result of working with people from diverse groups and diverse experiences:

"Because we're from all different parts of Ipswich. And like some of us are older, some of us younger... But then we've got the ones that are still in high school so it's really good just to be able to hear from everyone's point of view. Especially since like a few of them have worked with like community centres and stuff. They kind of see more of the things from youth that are disadvantaged, so it's a real eye opener for just being able to hear everyone's different experiences and everyone's different ideas".

Others felt that their own cultural background and experience was a valuable contribution to the group:

"My most valuable contribution has been] My opinion I suppose....Being from a different cultural background, I think there's a lot of cultural backgrounds in IYAC but me specifically, I'm [from two cultural backgrounds] at the same time. So my contribution from both those perspectives I believe".

Some participants reflected on the challenges around diversity and multiculturalism in Ipswich. One young person reflected on dated attitudes held by some people in positions of power, but felt excited about the new generation that would be eventually replacing them:

"I think a lot of [people in power] tend to be a bit older so it's like, you know, especially in the higher up positions they've come from that time where maybe it was a bit ok to be a bit racist, so there's that little bit of a gap but I also look around at the current generations that are coming up and they're all like, some of them are motivated and so they're wanting to go into parliament".

Another young person also felt that young people had the capacity to influence change, saying:

"IYAC Member:... there's so many different people from different areas, different backgrounds, and... we just decide you know, we're not going to accept them. So it's a big issue and since we're younger and we can have influence over younger people..."

Researcher: So do you mean there's these views out in the broader Ipswich community and you guys have an opportunity to be influencing that?

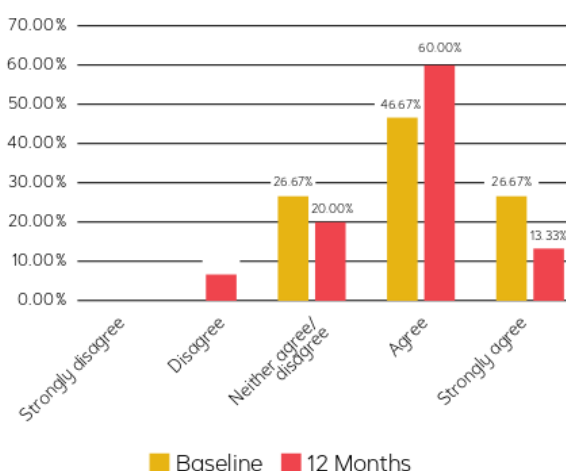
IYAC Member: Yeah, I think we really do have the opportunity to influence that".



SKILLS, EMPOWERMENT AND OWNERSHIP

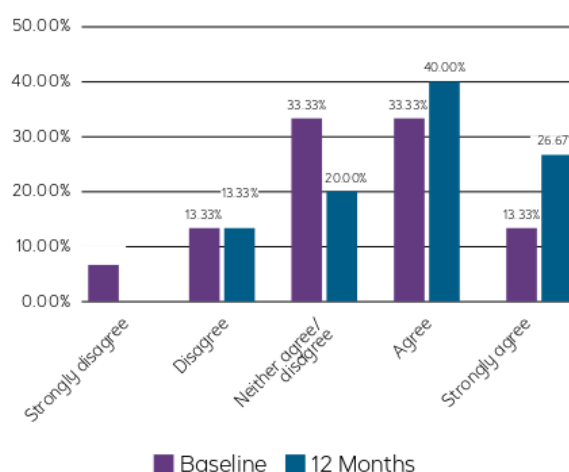
Two key indicators being tracked are to 'empower youth to take ownership of initiatives' and 'build skills to take initiative'. In order to gauge and track empowerment, skills and initiative, members were asked to indicate whether they had the skills to influence change on key issues affecting young people. The majority of members – 73.33% – felt that they have the skills to influence change.

I have the skills to influence change on issues impacting youth in Ipswich
(Respondents = 15)



At 12 months, 66.67% of IYAC members also felt confident that they could organise events and initiatives to address issues in their community. Around 33%, however, indicated that there was still scope for growth in these capabilities.

Currently, I am able to organise events and initiatives to address important issues in my community
(Respondents = 15)



Many participants reflected on the value of active initiatives. One young person said:

"...being able to help people is always something that's a big passion of mine. So IYAC gave me the means to do something that I wanted to for a very long time, which was definitely – it was memorable for me".

Another said:

"To date my most valuable experience would have been, the first time I actually physically got involved into a IYAC event. Yep. So that was an experience definitely. A shock at first, but I've come to realise I need to push myself outside my comfort zone just to evolve as a person".

Others reflected on the ways in which structures within IYAC helped members to take ownership of ideas and initiatives. This included the institutional support offered to the group, as well as internal processes that have helped to empower young people. One young person reflected on IYAC processes as enabling them to take ownership of initiatives, saying:

"...it was from that point in the first meeting that I was like "I'm going to start fleshing out my idea" so that I could not just say "hey Cam I got an idea". I

can say "I've got a project. This is what I want to do", and have it all planned out...I think the project plan that we do, that we have to fill out, it gives you everything you need to think about which was very helpful".

Others felt that they had been able to gain valuable skills and ideas from other IYAC members, with one young person saying:

"I do think I have, I would say, enhanced my current skills, so I have a passion for young people, children and young people, so being within IYAC I've been able to see other people that are in similar, I would say, passion as well, and just kind of taking some of their skills, and sharing with each other, I do think I have benefitted with my skills...listening to other people I've been like, OK, these things are really cool, like, ideas, I've been able to take those, and implement them into [other work outside of IYAC]".

Many had further suggestions about skills and experiences they'd like to build over their IYAC term, including:

- **Confidence:** "Confidence (coming out of my shell)" and "Become more confident about my place in my community, and how I can offer assistance"
- **Public Speaking:** "Public speaking and debating practice"
- **Networks and Connections:** "[Building] Network (inside and outside of council)"
- **Involvement in Decision-Making:** "Experiencing council decision making" and "Understanding of council"
- **Project planning:** "Real world experience organising and contributing to events"
- **Support for vulnerable community members:** "How to approach sensitive issues such as mental health"
- **Empathy and understanding:** "Understanding various points of view"

Key goals and activities that IYAC members hoped to achieve included:

- **Promoting IYAC as a central source of support for youth:** "Build a name for IYAC in the local community", "Getting IYAC known in the community", "A bigger social media presence", and "Access point for youth (for others to meet with us for help on their projects)"

- **Supporting council initiatives,** including Ipswich Festival
- **Acting as a key pathway for communication between council and youth:** "giving youth a place to let council know about issues" and "Educating young people as to council"
- **Mental health first aid training:** "I think the other initiatives like the first aid mental youth, mental health check training will be really good and sort of help everyone get on the same page with how we should be working in that area"
- **Active support for vulnerable people in Ipswich:** "...being able to help people is always something that's a big passion of mine. So IYAC gave me the means to do something that I wanted to for a very long time, which was definitely – it was memorable for me"
- **Further experience in the community:** "I think it would be great for us to get out in the community, which I think we're kind of aiming to do, especially if like this festival comes up. Like just being able us as IYAC members go out and actually talk to people. So I think that would be really helpful to do that"
- **Visits to council meetings and a visit to State Parliament**
- **Guest speakers from youth services**
- **Mentoring from council staff:** "I would like one-on-one...training with our sub-committees...I think to sit down with employees of Ipswich City Council who are already in sort of similar roles, would be good to just get some insight...even just having meetings with these people, formal and informal, would be beneficial...on the job experience"
- **Clarity on the responsibilities of different levels of government**
- **Cultural heritage training.**



IYAC members at Mental Health First Aid Training

IYAC DECISION-MAKING

Participants were asked to reflect on their engagement in IYAC decision-making processes, as a measure of ownership and empowerment. The response was resoundingly positive, with most members feeling included and engaged. One young person said:

"Researcher: So how involved do you feel you've been so far with the decision making that's gone on within IYAC?

IYAC Member: Very involved. Definitely...Yeah, it's working really well. I like the template and everything and the voting process and everything that we have to go through. It seems, like there's a level of professionalism there, so it's not just like "Hey I'm going to do this". Like we have to make sure it's been approved and use buzzwords and do a little spiel. Yeah it's really good".

While another said:

"Especially like the feedback, the way we give feedback. So before we raise our votes we give feedback. Each person has a time window to give feedback on the project or idea that's been put forward".

One young person reflected on the parallels with council processes:

"Well I like the idea of, you know, you vote and it's like, it's not anonymous but I like the idea in how it's kind of structured similarly to how council would work. I think, you know, that's helping a bit understand how council's ideas are put through ... and I feel like I have a massive say".

CONFLICT AND COOPERATION

In parallel to decision-making and building social connections, some young people commented on the ways in which IYAC processes had given them skills to deal with conflict and cooperation. This is positive given that in the opening survey, a key goal for a number of members was to build their collaboration skills. In building skills around collaboration and cooperation, one young person said:

"I feel like I have, sort of, with our IYAC meetings, so like different sort of opinions or different issues, you know...Like you learn to listen to people, you learn to give constructive feedback. Just opening the space for dialogue. Like in IYAC there's so much – like we emphasise hearing other people, hearing voices and I feel like that's something that IYAC has really taught me is when I go into situations, is just stepping back a bit, you know, a third party perspective, bird's eye view of the situation, breaking it down to its core and that's something I've learned through IYAC is ...taking in other opinions and perspectives".

At least two participants commented that the structures put in place to manage discussion and decision-making had helped them work with people they might have previously clashed with:

"...if the values of IYAC weren't there and you just threw all of us in a room, I feel like I would have clashed a lot with a lot of other IYAC members, but because we established the values, the mission, the purpose and all that stuff of IYAC at the beginning and it was all really well planned out, if all of that wasn't done we wouldn't have been able to work effectively as a team".

One member also talked about the ways in which diverse personality types are accommodated:

"[The co-ordinator] makes sure everyone is included, so like we have some people who are very quiet sometimes, so he always likes sort of stops the discussion and goes hey, what do you think about this, you know, we value everyone's opinion, he does that really well".



IYAC PROJECTS

IYAC members have been involved in a number of council and community events, and have also driven a number of new IYAC-led initiatives. IYAC members have assisted as volunteers and youth representatives at events including:

- Ipswich Multifest 2019
- Educators Link
- Ipswich Harmony Day 2019
- Ipswich Festival 2019
- Ipswich Film Festival for Youth (IFFY) 2019

IYAC members have taken part in training, including:

- Mental Health First Aid

IYAC members have also developed new initiatives, including:

- The Youth Arena at Ipswich Festival (further details below)
- Christmas Hampers for women's service Hannah's House (further details below)
- Youth activities at Ipswich Harmony Day 2019 (further details below)
- Youth activities at the Ipswich Film Festival for Youth (IFFY)

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS FOR HANNAH'S HOUSE

Hannah's House is a not-for-profit organisation that provide young women with crisis accommodation. Hannah's House teach basic living skills, assists in finding long term living arrangements, and they carry out supportive follow-ups with the women. Hannah's House is one of the only organisations in Ipswich that provide their services to young single women aged 13 to 17.

I have wanted to do something to support this organisation for many years. When I got the call to say that I had been accepted onto IYAC, I started to put some ideas together. As one of the key objectives on IYAC is to promote better mental health for young people, and I felt this could be a good opportunity for IYAC to show these young people that someone is looking out for them, and to help ensure that these young women do not feel like they are tackling these broader societal issues alone.

We decided to together...deliver Christmas Hampers for the young women staying at Hannah's House. I put together a project plan and made a presentation to IYAC, and got feedback and approval from members. I also engaged with staff at Hannah's House, to find out exactly what resources would be most useful for the young women.

Me and a team of IYAC volunteers spent a day at Studio 188 putting the hampers together. We included toiletries, stationary, notebooks, gift vouchers, movie vouchers, packed into personal backpacks. We delivered the hampers to Hannah's House shortly before Christmas. We got some lovely feedback from the Hannah's House staff, who said, "you will be making a huge difference to the young women staying with us, your thoughtful gifts will bring a big smile on Christmas morning!". It was great to be able to organise peer-to-peer support, and do something practical for other young women in Ipswich. I'm hoping this is a project IYAC can continue to support in the coming years.

IYAC Member



YOUTH ARENA AT IPSWICH FESTIVAL

We were really excited to set up a dedicated Youth Arena at the Ipswich Festival. The idea started when some of the Ipswich Festival organising team came to speak with IYAC, to gather some ideas for youth activities at the Festival. Rather than just giving our ideas, a group of us suggested that we be actively involved in setting up a youth space at the Festival – rather than just being consulted, we thought, we could run activities for youth, by youth. So we went through the council volunteer induction, and we got to actively be part of the team organising Ipswich Festival. We spent two months as part of the team, helping plan the event.

With the Youth Arena, we wanted to create an inclusive space to celebrate young people of all backgrounds and their diversity. We wanted to create a culture that approves creative expression, embraces different cultural practices, promotes local youth business and builds a bridge between local creatives and the community. We wanted to create a space where people could come together and commemorate the youth, our talents and our shared history of this city.

With a 'tropical block party' theme, the Youth Arena included activities, music, arts and crafts, local youth services and cultural workshops. We hosted didgeridoo and clapstick carving workshops, flower crown and bracelet-making workshops, a tropical themed escape room, a silent disco, ukulele workshops, outdoor games, and photo booth. A number of local youth services also hosted stalls, including headspace and ICYS. The event ran over two days, and the feedback was incredible.

This is an example of what young people can achieve when we are given the opportunity to design and deliver our own activities and spaces, for youth, by youth.

IYAC Member



IYAC members at the Ipswich Festival Youth Arena

HARMONY DAY

IYAC members organised children's activities at the 2019 Ipswich Harmony Day. Harmony Day is a annual event that celebrates multiculturalism and cultural diversity. IYAC members, organised a large, interactive banner painting activity. Young people could come and stamp their hand, paint a flag, or write a message on a huge canvas. Over 100 kids and adults took part in the banner painting, alongside activities such as cooking demonstrations, ukulele and drumming workshops and face painting. An IYAC member also volunteered as the MC at the stage section of Harmony Day, demonstrating his growing talent in public speaking.



IYAC members at Ipswich Harmony Day 2019

CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The last twelve months has seen IYAC develop into an important part of the council's Community Development portfolio. IYAC members have taken part in a number of ICC events, such as Harmony Day and Ipswich Multifest 2019, and have launched their own initiatives, including a Youth Arena at Ipswich Festival, and Christmas Hampers for a local women's service. Many members have developed confidence and connections. However, there is ongoing space for growth in key indicators around skills, broader networks and connections, and engagement in decision-making.

KEY ISSUES FACING YOUTH IN IPSWICH

In survey responses, IYAC members identified the following as key issues facing young people in Ipswich:

- Youth unemployment
- Education
- Mental Health
- Drug and alcohol use
- Personal development
- Lack of youth spaces, activities and entertainment
- Homelessness

As a group, IYAC have decided to focus on two key priorities:

- Improving youth mental health
- Building diversity and acceptance

GIVE YOUTH A VOICE

At twelve months, most members – 60% – felt that they are able to have a say on important issues. In interviews, members reflected on the importance of incorporating youth voice into decision-making, and the challenges of encouraging youth to participate in processes and spaces where they might not feel welcome. For some members, IYAC had given them a sense of support and institutional legitimacy to make their voice heard.

BUILD VALUES AROUND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

There have been some small improvements in member's skills and confidence to take part in change-making initiatives. Some members have reported increased social connections and networks. They have also reported a strengthening of values around civic engagement – at twelve months, almost

all members indicated that they feel they had a responsibility to take part in community life, and 93.34% felt strongly that it is important to work to correct economic and social inequalities (up from 86.67% at the baseline). For many, IYAC has provided a platform to build their skills, test ideas and make a positive contribution to their communities.

ENGAGE YOUTH IN DECISION-MAKING

Survey and interview questions also sought to gauge how engaged IYAC members felt in broader decision-making processes. For those members who are over 18, most are regularly taking part in local, state and federal elections. Most members – 60% – also indicated that they feel knowledgeable about work that council is responsible for. However, only 20% of members felt able to communicate with elected representatives. Participants also expressed mixed opinions on the value of engagement in political decision making, with some identifying a range of barriers to young people taking part.

IYAC members have been actively engaged in some council engagement and decision-making processes. There is scope to further build this connection between IYAC and council, and other levels of decision-making, with members suggesting activities including visits to council meetings and a visit to State Parliament, mentoring from council staff and clarity on the responsibilities of different levels of government.

BUILD SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

A key goal of IYAC is to build connections and relationships between youth and the broader Ipswich community. In the baseline survey, many young people indicated that they'd like to build collaboration and communication skills. At twelve months, 73.33% of members felt connected to like-minded youth in Ipswich. In interviews, some felt that they had built enduring connections that they would be able to draw on in the future. However, it should be noted that some young people involved still feel limited in their connections to other young people, and their connections to broader organisations and institutions, suggesting scope for more work to create safe and productive spaces for network-building.

DIVERSITY AND REPRESENTATION

A key goal of IYAC is to ensure the group represents the diversity of Ipswich. The group also identified

“building diversity and acceptance” as a key priority for their work and initiatives. All participants felt that IYAC had good representation of ages and geographies, with some room for improvement around gender and cultural backgrounds. Members reflected on the learning that they and the group had gone through, as a result of working with people from diverse groups and diverse experiences. Others felt that their background and experience was a valuable contribution to the group. The vast majority of members – 93.34% – felt positive about cultural diversity. As reflected in both the baseline survey and 12 month survey, given the high level of positive regard for diversity among IYAC members, IYAC and IYAC members are ideally placed to be working to build cohesion and connections among the broader Ipswich community.

SKILLS, EMPOWERMENT AND OWNERSHIP

The majority of members – 73.33% – felt that they have the skills to influence change, while 66.67% of IYAC members felt confident that they could organise events and initiatives to address issues in their community. Many felt that the internal decision-making processes had allowed everyone to be involved and engaged, while some young people commented on the ways in which IYAC processes had given them skills to deal with conflict and cooperation. Many identified further key skills that they would like to gain as part of IYAC, including:

- Confidence
- Public speaking
- Involvement in decision-making
- Project planning
- Networks and connections
- Support for vulnerable community members
- Empathy and understanding.

Members also identified support, training and actions they would like to take part in, including:

- Mentoring and advice from council staff
- Promotion of IYAC
- Guest speakers
- Visits to council and State Parliament
- Supporting council initiatives.

UPCOMING INITIATIVES

Upcoming initiatives that IYAC are involved in, or co-ordinating, include:

- Volunteering at the annual Day for Daniel
- Preparing Christmas hampers for a second year
- Hosting a youth stall at the Ipswich Film Festival for Youth (IFFY) Screening and Awards Night.
- Establishment of four new IYAC subcommittees, including: marketing and media; community engagement, social coordination; education and training.

RESEARCH NEXT STEPS

This twelve month report will form part of ongoing research, monitoring and evaluation with IYAC members. This will include:

- Ongoing interviews with Intake 1 and 2 members
- A survey with members at the two-year mark

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APPENDIX A: BASELINE SURVEY

IPSWICH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: BASELINE SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey. This is for participants in the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council aged 16 to 25. Our purpose in asking these questions is to track outcomes of participants' involvement with the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council and help develop the initiative. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions, and honest responses will help us continue to tailor the program to the needs of young people. You will not be personally identifiable in any reports that come out of this project. Responses will be de-identified. Your name will not appear and your responses are pooled with other participants' responses. Your information will not be given to any other agency and your personal information is handled in accordance with the *Privacy Information Act 2009*. If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact Community Research Officer, Amy MacMahon, at amy.macmahon@ipswich.qld.gov.au.

1. Name: _____
2. How long have you lived in Ipswich? _____ years
3. Are you a member of any community groups?
☐ Yes (please detail) _____ ☐ No
4. Have you ever volunteered in the community or assisted with community groups/events?
☐ Yes (please detail) _____ ☐ No
5. Have you taken part in any community meetings in the past 12 months?
☐ Yes (please detail) _____ ☐ No
6. (If you are over 18) Do you regularly vote in local, state & federal elections?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐ NA (if not yet 18)
7. How knowledgeable do you feel you are about what work Ipswich City Council is responsible for?
 (Please indicate from 1 – Not at all, to 5 – Very Knowledgeable)

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all knowledgeable	Not much	Somewhat knowledgeable	Quite knowledgeable	Very knowledgeable

8. Based on your current knowledge, what are the key responsibilities of Ipswich City Council?
 (Briefly list the top four issues below)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Item 3 / Attachment 2.

9. What important issues are impacting youth in your neighbourhood/Ipswich?
(Briefly list your top four issues below, in order of priority to you, 1 = most important)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

10. How much do you currently feel you are able to influence change on the above issues?
(Please indicate from 1 – Not at all, to 5 – A lot)

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all	Not much	Somewhat	Quite a bit	A lot

On a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), how much do you currently agree or disagree with the following statements:

11. I have the skills to influence change on issues impacting youth in Ipswich

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

12. I am able to have a say on important issues in my community

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

13. Currently, I am able to communicate with elected representatives about important issues in my community

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

14. Currently, I am able to organise events and initiatives to address important issues in my community

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

15. I feel connected to other like-minded young people in Ipswich

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

16. It is a good thing for our community to be made up of people from different cultures

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

17. I feel I have a responsibility to take part in community life

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

18. It is important that I work to correct economic and social inequalities

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

19. What key skills, experiences and outcomes do you hope to achieve while on IYAC?
(Briefly list your top four goals below, in order of priority to you, 1 = most important. These can be individual goals or collective goals)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Thank you for participating in this survey.

APPENDIX B : INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Informed consent was gained from all interview participants. Interviews began with a discussion regarding privacy, the purpose of collecting the data, and approval to digitally record the interviews. Quotes included in the report have been de-identified for anonymity.

Questions	Indicators
<p>1. Part of the goal of IYAC is to give members to skills, confidence and analysis to give voice to issues that are important to you – to be able to articulate issues with each other, and the broader community.</p> <p>a. What are the key issues affecting young people in Ipswich/Australia?</p> <p>b. Has IYAC influenced the way you understand and talk about these issues, and if so, in what ways?</p> <p>c. If no, how could we be better supporting this?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Give youth a voice
<p>2. IYAC aims to give members the skills to influence change on these issues, through advocacy or initiatives.</p> <p>a. Has IYAC helped to develop skills for you, or helped you to identify skills that you'd like to develop?</p> <p>b. If no, how could we better build your skills?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build skills to take initiative
<p>3. IYAC aims to build relationships and connections within IYAC, between members, between members and council staff, and members and the wider community.</p> <p>a. Can you reflect on the relationships that you've built over the past six months?</p> <p>b. Do you feel these relationships will be beneficial to you, and if so, how?</p> <p>c. If no, how could we better foster these relationships?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build social connections
<p>4. IYAC aims to engage young people in decision-making, at the council level and beyond.</p> <p>a. Do you feel you've been able to have a say in the plans and goals of IYAC?</p> <p>b. Has IYAC made you feel more engaged in broader decision-making, in council, or the broader community?</p> <p>c. How knowledgeable about council decision-making processes do you feel?</p> <p>d. How important do you think it is for community members to take part in decision-making?</p> <p>e. If no, how could we better foster engagement in decision-making?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build values around civic engagement ▪ Empower youth to take ownership of initiatives ▪ Engage youth in decision-making
<p>5. IYAC aims to include a diverse group of young people, and fostering inclusion and diversity is something that IYAC members have identified as important for IYAC, and the wider Ipswich community (cultural background, education, sexuality, background & experience, gender, geography).</p> <p>a. Do you feel that IYAC is achieving this goal?</p> <p>b. Why do you feel that diversity is important?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have representation from council divisions and major cultural backgrounds
<p>6. What would you say is your most valuable experience in IYAC to date? What would you say is your most valuable contribution to IYAC to date?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build values around civic engagement ▪ Engage youth in decision-making
<p>7. Is there anything you would change about IYAC processes and procedures?</p> <p>a. Agenda, meeting length, time, location, facilitation style, decision-making processes?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engage youth in decision-making

APPENDIX C: 12-MONTH SURVEY

IPSWICH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: 12-MONTH SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey. This is for participants in the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council aged 16 to 25. Our purpose in asking these questions is to track outcomes of participants' involvement with the Ipswich Youth Advisory Council and help develop the initiative. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions, and honest responses will help us continue to tailor the program to the needs of young people. You will not be personally identifiable in any reports that come out of this project. Responses will be de-identified. Your name will not appear and your responses are pooled with other participants' responses. Your information will not be given to any other agency and your personal information is handled in accordance with the Privacy Information Act 2009. If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact Community Research Officer, Amy MacMahon, at amy.macmahon@ipswich.qld.gov.au.

1. Name: _____
2. How long have you lived in Ipswich? _____ years
3. Excluding IYAC, are you a member of any community groups?
☐ Yes (please detail) _____ ☐ No
4. Have you volunteered in the community or assisted with community groups/events in the past 12 months? (This can include external groups or events that IYAC has assisted with)
☐ Yes (please detail) _____ ☐ No
5. Excluding IYAC, have you taken part in any community meetings in the past 12 months?
☐ Yes (please detail) _____ ☐ No
6. (If you are over 18) Do you regularly vote in local, state & federal elections?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure ☐ NA (if not yet 18)
7. How knowledgeable do you feel you are about what work Ipswich City Council is responsible for? (Please indicate from 1 – Not at all, to 5 – Very Knowledgeable)

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all knowledgeable	Not much	Somewhat knowledgeable	Quite knowledgeable	Very knowledgeable

8. Based on your current knowledge, what are the key responsibilities of Ipswich City Council? (Briefly list the top four issues below)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Item 3 / Attachment 2.

9. What important issues are impacting youth in your neighbourhood/Ipswich?
(Briefly list your top four issues below, in order of priority to you, 1 = most important)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

10. How much do you currently feel you are able to influence change on the above issues?
(Please indicate from 1 – Not at all, to 5 – A lot)

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all	Not much	Somewhat	Quite a bit	A lot

On a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), how much do you currently agree or disagree with the following statements:

11. I have the skills to influence change on issues impacting youth in Ipswich

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

12. I am able to have a say on important issues in my community

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

13. Currently, I am able to communicate with elected representatives about important issues in my community

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

14. Currently, I am able to organise events and initiatives to address important issues in my community

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

15. I feel connected to other like-minded young people in Ipswich

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

16. It is a good thing for our community to be made up of people from different cultures

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

17. I feel I have a responsibility to take part in community life

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

18. It is important that I work to correct economic and social inequalities

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

19. I have built strong networks with other IYAC members over the past 12 months

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

20. I have built strong networks with organisations, institutions and individuals in the broader Ipswich community over the past 12 months

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree/disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

21. What key outcomes do you feel IYAC has achieved collectively over the past year?
(Briefly list your top four outcomes below, in order of priority to you, 1 = most important)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

22. What key skills and experiences do you feel you have achieved over the past year while on IYAC?
(Briefly list your top four skills and experiences below, in order of priority to you, 1 = most important.
These can be individual skills and experiences or collective skills and experiences)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

23. Do you have any other feedback on the IYAC program?

Thank you for participating in this survey.



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