



City of  
**Ipswich**

## **AGENDA**

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### **ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, 9 March 2023

10 minutes after the conclusion of the Economic and Industry Development Committee or such later time as determined by the preceding committee

Council Chambers, Level 8  
1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

**MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Russell Milligan (**Chairperson**)

Councillor Andrew Fechner (**Deputy Chairperson**)

Mayor Teresa Harding

Deputy Mayor Jacob Madsen

Councillor Kate Kunzelmann

## ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE AGENDA

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\*\* Item includes confidential papers

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**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2**

**9 MARCH 2023**

AGENDA

**WELCOME TO COUNTRY OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

**BUSINESS OUTSTANDING**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2023(01) OF 9 FEBRUARY 2023**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 February 2023 be confirmed.

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**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

2. **TI TREE BIOENERGY FUNDING - ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT 2023**

This is a report concerning Ipswich City Council's role in managing and delivering on revenue collected from the Ti Tree Bioenergy facility. Ipswich City Council looks to manage and expend these funds in such a way as to offset social and environmental impacts from the facility and improve amenity and environmental values for the local community through the provision of community proposed projects.

This report highlights progress to date for current and ongoing projects and proposes the list of projects to be developed upon and delivered in the 2023-2024 financial year and beyond.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That in accordance with the Ti Tree Bioenergy Funding governance arrangements, Council endorse the proposed program of projects for development and delivery in the 2023-2024 financial year.

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3. ENVIROPLAN - ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2021-2022

This is a report concerning the Enviroplan Program and Levy Progress Report for the 2021-2022 financial year (Attachment 1). Contained within the report is an overview of project delivery, a financial summary including expenditure and revenue and a number of highlights from the past year which include:

- Completion and opening of the new Denmark Hill upgrades and associated activation campaign
- Completion and opening of the Kup Murri and new horse trail heads at Harding paddock in Flinders-Goolman Conservation Estate
- Heavy rainfall and flooding had major impacts throughout the financial year with many tracks washed out and in need of repair. Restricted access made pest plant and animal control across the Enviroplan estates difficult and limited.
- Investment into the existing and new Enviroplan reserves specifically a focus on compliance and enforcement through “for the love of nature campaign”.

This annual report follows on from the last report for the 2020-2021 fiscal period.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report concerning the Enviroplan Annual Progress Report 2021-2022, be received and noted.

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4. STORMWATER QUALITY OFFSET PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

This is a report concerning the Stormwater Quality Offset Program status from commencement until June 2022. The Annual Report provides of an overview of the program, an assessment of the financial contributions received, project expenditures and the water quality improvement projects delivered. The report includes proposed future changes to the program to improve delivery and conformity to State guidance. A Stormwater Quality Offset Program web page has also been prepared to improve transparency and ensure the annual report is readily accessible to the community.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Ipswich City Council Stormwater Quality Offset Program Annual Report be received and the contents noted.

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**MATTERS ARISING**

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**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2023(01)**

**9 FEBRUARY 2023**

MINUTES

**COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Russell Milligan (Chairperson); Mayor Teresa Harding, Councillors Andrew Fechner (Deputy Chairperson), Jacob Madsen (Deputy Mayor) and Kate Kunzelmann

**COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES:** Nil

**OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Environment (Graeme Martin), General Manager Community, Cultural and Economic Development (Ben Pole), Emergency Management and Sustainability Manager (Matthew Pinder), Natural Environment and Land Manager (Phil A Smith), Senior Media Officer (Darrell Giles) and Theatre Technician (Harrison Cate)

**WELCOME TO COUNTRY/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Councillor Russell Milligan (Chairperson) delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

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**ADJOURN MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Russell Milligan

That the meeting be adjourned at 12.20 pm to reconvene at 1.00 pm.

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| <b>AFFIRMATIVE</b> | <b>NEGATIVE</b>  |
| Councillors:       | Councillors:     |
| Milligan           | Madsen (Abstain) |
| Fechner            |                  |
| Kunzelmann         |                  |

The motion was put and carried.

The meeting reconvened at 1.00 pm.

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Mayor Teresa Harding arrived at the meeting at 1.01pm.

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**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

Nil

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**BUSINESS OUTSTANDING**

1. **UPDATE - NOTICE OF MOTION TO REQUEST WHITE ROCK SPRING MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION ESTATE TO BE DEDICATED AS A NATIONAL PARK**

This is a report updating Committee on the actions following the Council Ordinary Meeting Thursday 18 November 2021, where Councillor Tully tabled a Notice of Motion seeking dedication of White Rock - Spring Mountain Conservation Estate (WRSMCE) as a National Park.

After actioning the recommendation in discussion with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services (QPWS), a number of considerations and limitations were identified.

In the same discussions the proposal to look at alternative areas to investigate for a possible National Park within the Ipswich LGA was raised. Whilst this is at a very early stage, it is felt that the benefits to the local and wider community and local environment are worth further investigation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:

Seconded by Mayor Teresa Harding:

That Council support continued discussion with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services, Department of Environment and Science around alternative locations, rather than pursue the dedication of White Rock – Spring Mountain Conservation Estate as a National Park.

Councillor Andrew Fechner proposed the following as Recommendation B.

- B. That an update be brought to the May 2023 Environment and Sustainability committee.

The seconder of the original motion agreed to the proposed additional recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jacob Madsen:

- A. That Council support continued discussion with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services, Department of Environment and Science around alternative locations,**



**rather than pursue the dedication of White Rock – Spring Mountain  
Conservation Estate as a National Park.**

- B. That an update be brought to the May 2023 Environment and Sustainability  
committee.**

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| AFFIRMATIVE  | NEGATIVE     |
| Councillors: | Councillors: |
| Milligan     | Nil          |
| Fechner      |              |
| Harding      |              |
| Madsen       |              |
| Kunzelmann   |              |

The motion was put and carried.

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2. UPDATE - ENGAGEMENT PLANNING - ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER  
ENGAGEMENT GUIDE

At the Council Ordinary Meeting of 16 September 2021 Council considered recommendations to endorse the formation of a Traditional Owner Reference Group (Indigenous Accord Action item 2.1.1) under the proposed terms and structure. The matter was referred back to the Environment and Sustainability Committee for further consideration.

Through further internal and external discussions regarding the recommendation, a preferred approach was presented for Council to develop an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Guide (Guide) initially. The Guide aims to include guidelines around the engagement of the Ipswich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, including the appropriate membership structure and topics of consultation for each of the endorsed representative 'Groups' in accordance with the Indigenous Accord 2020-2025.

In doing so Ipswich City Council is acting under the agreed outcomes and action items of the adopted Indigenous Accord, thereby acknowledging the rights, interests and aspirations of the Ipswich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and, more specifically, the Traditional Owners to improve and formalise the process of engagement and consultation in this space.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:  
Seconded by Councillor Kate Kunzelmann:

- A. **That a draft Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Guide be developed and presented at a future Environment and Sustainability Committee for endorsement, following relevant stakeholder engagement.**
- B. **That the matter of establishing a Traditional Owners Reference Group, referred to the Environment and Sustainability Committee for further consideration by Council on the 16 September 2021, be considered following the adoption of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Guide.**

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Milligan

Fechner

Harding

Madsen

Kunzelmann

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

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**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2022(11) OF 29 NOVEMBER 2022**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:

Seconded by Mayor Teresa Harding:

**That the Minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee held on 29 November 2022 be confirmed.**

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Milligan

Fechner

Harding

Madsen

Kunzelmann

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

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**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

4. **REVIEW OF THE LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

This is a report concerning the annual review of the City of Ipswich Local Disaster Management Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by Councillor Kate Kunzelmann:  
Seconded by Mayor Teresa Harding:

- A. That the updated City of Ipswich Local Disaster Management Plan provided as Attachment 2 be approved.**
- B. That the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, be authorised to make amendments based on feedback from members of the Local Disaster Management Group, who form part of the governance arrangements for adopting this plan.**

AFFIRMATIVE  
Councillors:  
Milligan  
Fechner  
Harding  
Madsen  
Kunzelmann

NEGATIVE  
Councillors:  
Nil

The motion was put and carried.

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**NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

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**MATTERS ARISING**

Nil

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**PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS**

The meeting commenced at 12.19 pm.

The meeting closed at 1.08 pm.

Doc ID No: A8622639

ITEM: 2

SUBJECT: TI TREE BIOENERGY FUNDING - ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT 2023

AUTHOR: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER

DATE: 31 JANUARY 2023

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning Ipswich City Council's role in managing and delivering on revenue collected from the Ti Tree Bioenergy facility. Ipswich City Council looks to manage and expend these funds in such a way as to offset social and environmental impacts from the facility and improve amenity and environmental values for the local community through the provision of community proposed projects.

This report highlights progress to date for current and ongoing projects and proposes the list of projects to be developed upon and delivered in the 2023-2024 financial year and beyond.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

**That in accordance with the Ti Tree Bioenergy Funding governance arrangements, Council endorse the proposed program of projects for development and delivery in the 2023-2024 financial year.**

### **RELATED PARTIES**

Ti Tree Bioenergy

Willowbank Action Group

### **IFUTURE THEME**

Natural and Sustainable

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND**

As with previous years the development of the proposed Ti Tree Bioenergy project/program list and ongoing projects has been managed entirely under the governance arrangements approved by Council in February 2021 (Attachment 1). This included public consultation to source proposals for suitable community and environmental projects for delivery via 'Shape your Ipswich' throughout August 2022.

Council received 23 correctly submitted proposals from across the Ipswich Local Government Area including a number from members of Willowbank Area Group (WAG) members. Of these 11 were deemed eligible.

The internal Ti Tree working group then considered the submissions for eligibility against the agreed criteria rated in terms of their priority and the final list was then discussed with the Divisional Councillors and community representatives from WAG in line with the recommended governance process.

Through this process the projects listed in Table 2 have been selected to progress and added to the delivery schedule for either feasibility, design, or delivery over the next 2 financial years (2023-2024 and 2024-2025) alongside a number of longer running on going project and programs from previously years.

| <b>Table 1. Progress update on recommended projects for 2022-2023 financial year</b>                  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Projects</b>   | <b>Progress</b>  |
| Revegetation in Willowbank area (multiple revegetation projects submitted)                            | Large scale weed removal undertaken and revegetation of native species commenced and under maintenance at George Hatchman and Mack Park. Plantings to enhance/create natural areas and create koala habitat will continue in Mack Family Park, George Hatchman, and the New Payne's Road Koala Reserve.  |
| Establishment of new parks and conservation areas and or vegetation buffers in line with proposals.   | A Council owned reserve previously purchased for water infrastructure on Payne's Road was identified and selected to create and form a new Community and Koala nature Reserve. This site has been confirmed (via Queensland Government Survey) to be home to an existing Koala Population and will be a buffer from future industry. A works Plan and Budget for the next 3 years has been developed. Works have begun on securing the site. |
| Continuation of wildlife signage and fauna movement project   | Koala/Wildlife warning signs; were located at the approach to the intersection of Wigmore Street & Willowbank Drive & the other at the southern intersection of Willowbank drive & McHales Way. Identification of sites will continue with Transport Planning and the Department of Main Roads to look at fauna crossing infrastructure options.   |
| Footpath Construction for McHale's Way to Warrens Court.<br>Investigation into other local footpaths. | McHales Way to Warrens Court Footpath completed. Other local options under investigation including those detailed in the upcoming years project listings.  |
| Wetland and waterway restoration on Bremer River and Warrill Creek.                                   | Works held back due to flood repair, ongoing option analysis of council owned land.  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Partnership with Ipswich Koala Protection Society (IKPS) for potential purchase of property for a Koala Reserve and Koala fodder and investigate the use of local tracking collars.</p> | <p>Support to the value of \$5k provided to IKPS for Koala monitoring apparatus and technology including tracking Cameras.</p> <p>Continued dialog and exploration of options to support the ongoing work of the Ipswich Koala Protection Society in their conservation efforts in and around Collingwood Park and potentially linking in with land in the Ebenezer Willowbank and Purga Koala habitat areas.</p>   |
| <p>Informational Signage</p>   | <p>(DEFERED until 2023)<br/>Directional and historical interpretation signage at the summit and possible inclusion of indigenous story related to the immediate area around Mack Family Park.</p>   |
| <p>Outdoor Learning</p>  | <p>Continuing investigations and feasibility study into the establishment of a local environmental education facility or hub in existing or new reserve within the areas initially suggesting that the current buildings and facilities are not an appropriate for upgrade and that a new purpose built, and designed facility or building would be better suited and value.</p> <p>Proposed sites include Purga Nature Reserve, Grandchester Conservation Estate _ Awaiting Estate Master planning and options/asset review.</p> |

| <p><b>Table 2. Proposed projects for the 2023-2024 financial year and beyond</b></p> |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Projects</b></p>   | <p><b>Comments</b></p>   |
| <p>Informational Signage (cont.)</p>   | <p>Directional and historical interpretation signage at the summit and possible inclusion of indigenous story related to the immediate area around Mack Family Park.</p> |
| <p>New Community/Koala Nature Reserve at Payne’s road (cont.)</p>                    | <p>Working through program of works including fences tracks and trails weed control and planting opportunities.</p>  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Wildlife signage and fauna movement project (cont.)  | Specific request to look at additional Kangaroo sign on O'Neil's road.<br>Officers continuing to work with TMR on Fauna movement solutions in this area.  |
| Climate & energy efficiency Amberley Girl Guide and Community Hall   | Climate & energy efficiency project - Installation of solar panels and solar battery and Air conditioning.<br>Assessment of most efficient options to commence ASAP and installation next year.   |
| Ebenezer Creek Warrill view Lawn Cemetery wildlife corridor and land rehabilitation  | Investigate feasibility and land ownership in and around the area and potential mechanisms noting that there is significant area outside of Council tenure.   |
| Koala Conservation – Plantings Fodder Trees Monitoring and Partnership with IKPS   | Exploration of options to support the ongoing work of the Ipswich Koala Protection  |
| Natural trail area with walking and cycling track between O'Neill's road Willowbank along Mount Elliot Mine Road to Ipswich-Rosewood Road Amberley | Potentially a complex project to implement due to the variety of tenures. Action is to investigate feasibility and land ownership in and around the area and potential mechanisms noting that there is significant area outside of Council ownership. |

### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Decisions made in alignment with adopted Ti Tree governance documentation.

### RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The annual nature of the community engagement leads to an influx of one-off project ideas which require careful consideration, planning design and implementation. This often takes more than one year resulting in a back log of projects. There is a potential risk that through this existing method Council is collecting potential projects at a faster rate than they can be implemented (given the below mentioned resource constraints). As such consideration will be given to the suspension of Community consultation for a period whilst the present list of project and programs is delivered.

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Given the assessment criteria and intent of the funding doesn't necessarily align with Councils strategic priorities (specifically on the terms of the eligibility criteria for projects is that it must be 'over and above' or outside any existing planned program) resourcing project delivery is problematic.

In the case of several of the transport projects there was not available resources to support the required investigation, design as strategic priorities are already planned and require immediate resourcing. To this point again consideration should be given to specific Ti Tree project resourcing.

## COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

The community are consulted through the "Shape your Ipswich" website through August 2022 and asked to provide suggestions for relevant projects. The community were also provided with the objectives and intent of the program to guide their submissions.

Many proposed projects were not in line with the intent of the program or fell outside Council's remit, control, or ability.

Those that were eligible, and deliverable were assessed and scored based on the criteria approved in the governance documentation by a cross functional Ti Tree working group committee with representatives from across relevant sections of Council.

Further to the 'Shape your Ipswich' engagement and assessment officers are in contact with the Willowbank community through meetings and correspondence with the Willowbank Area Group (WAG) and the divisional councillors for their feedback on the final list.

The projects and expenditure are published on a half yearly bases on the Ipswich City Council Transparency and Integrity Hub.

## CONCLUSION

The annual works program for the Ti Tree Bioenergy fund has been assessed and prioritised and is presented in the above tables for consideration by the committee and Council along with a summary of works to date.


## HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

| HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS                     |   |
|--|---|
| OTHER DECISION                           |   |
| (a) What is the Act/Decision being made? | That in accordance with the Ti Tree Bioenergy Funding governance arrangements, Council endorse the proposed program of projects for development and deliver in the 2023-2024 financial year |



|  |   |
|--|---|
| (b) What human rights are affected?  | No human rights are affected by this decision |
| (c) How are the human rights limited?  | Not applicable                                |
| (d) Is there a good reason for limiting the relevant rights?<br>Is the limitation fair and reasonable? | Not applicable                                |
| (e) Conclusion   | The decision is consistent with human rights. |

### ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1. | Council Report 25 Feb 2021 - Ti Tree Bioenergy Payments - Project Development Process and Governance Framework <a href="#">↓</a>  |
|----|--|

Phil A. Smith

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Kaye Cavanagh

**MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Graeme Martin

**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

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

COUNCIL  
MEETING AGENDA

25 FEBRUARY  
2021

Doc ID No: A6753030

ITEM: 15.3  
SUBJECT: TI TREE BIOENERGY PAYMENTS - PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK  
AUTHOR: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER  
DATE: 28 JANUARY 2021

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the management and expenditure of the payments received from Ti Tree Bioenergy. Council receives annual payments as per a condition of the development approval. The funds are to be utilised by Council in line with the terms of that condition expressly for the purposes of community and environmental benefit and to offset any impacts from the facility.

This report lists the proposed projects for delivery in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. That Council endorse the list of prioritised projects for delivery in 2020-2021, using the existing budget of \$120,000 that has been allocated in 2020-2021.
- B. That Council endorse the list of prioritised projects for delivery in 2021-2022, and that a budget allocation of \$320,000 be considered in the operational budget for 2021-2022 to be drawn from the accrued funds of \$1,506,614.

### RELATED PARTIES

There was no declared conflicts of interest related to this report

### ADVANCE IPSWICH THEME

Caring for the community

### PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

On 25 February 2020, Council resolved to repeal a number of previous decisions concerning the allocation and distribution of the Ti Tree Bioenergy Payments in preparation for the development of a new relevant governance and management framework focussing on improved reporting processes and transparency

Council further resolved that a governance framework for the management of the Ti Tree Bioenergy Payments be developed to comprise of an Administrative Directive (Attachment 1), a procedure (Attachment 2), and an assessment criteria for proposed community projects (Attachment 3).

An Internal Working Group was established, under an agreed Terms of Reference (Attachment 4), to develop the governance framework in accordance with the intent and specifics of the planning conditions under which the funds are collected. The group has also assessed and prioritised project proposals received from the community or identified internally in terms of the above intent of the funding.

The governance documents were presented to the Executive Leadership Team and subsequently adopted under the appropriate delegations in November 2020.

This report provides a list of projects that have been identified and proposed by the Willowbank Area (Residents) Group Inc. (WAG) or internally based on the criteria. These projects include but are not limited to the following:

- Amberley Girl Guides grounds landscaped / security camera
- Establishment of a new Koala Bush Reserve in the locale
- Asphalt/Bitumen surface and widening of O'Neills Road and installation of barriers
- Wildlife signs on roadways and facilitated movements around the area
- Continuation of footpath from Warren Court to McHales Way
- Ipswich Safe City Camera at O'Neills Road / Amberley Rosewood Road intersection
- Wildlife corridor from Ebenezer Creek to Bremer River to west of Willowbank
- Partnership with Ipswich Koala Foundation purchase of property for a Koala Reserve and Koala fodder and investigate the use of local tracking collars
- Fencing around Mack Family Park and George Hatchman Bush Reserves
- Koala habitat and corridor restoration and enhancement around the Willowbank area - private grants/public plantings
- Wetland and waterway restoration including waterway barrier removal on Bremer River and Warrill Creek
- Community amenity infrastructure eg: park benches within the local reserves and parks
- Buffer treatment (e.g. vegetation) around the Ti Tree Waste Facility and associated roads
- Local land acquisition for the establishment of new parks and conservation areas and or vegetation buffers
- Establishment of vegetated corridor or bush care reserve(s) in strategic koala locations
- Community walking and cycling area around O'Neill's Road, Ipswich-Amberley Road and Mt Elliot Mine Road.

The following projects have been prioritised for delivery in 2020-2021, to be funded through the existing allocated budget of \$120,000 (table 1). This is a nominal annual budget drawn from the overall funding pool (detailed below).

| <b>Table 1. Recommended projects 2020-2021</b>                             |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Projects</b>  | <b>Discussion</b>  |
| Revegetation in Willowbank area (multiple revegetation projects submitted) | Planting in Mack Park and investigation of other suitable planting sites. Plantings to enhance/create natural areas and create koala habitat.  |
| Wildlife signs on roadways and facilitated movements around the area       | Undertake monitoring of koalas and planning in the area and investigate and install appropriate wildlife signage and more broader wildlife movement solutions around the Willowbank/Amberley/Ebenezer Area |
| Fencing around Mack Family Park & George Hatchman Bush Reserve             | Undertake site survey of reserves and installation of appropriate fencing for protection of the reserve and wildlife.  |

The following projects have been prioritised and proposed for delivery in the 2021-2022 financial year (table 2).

| <b>Table 2. Recommended Projects 2021-2022</b>  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Projects</b>   | <b>Discussion</b>  |
| Local land acquisition for the establishment of new parks and conservation areas and or vegetation buffers in line with proposals.  | Multiple similar projects have been suggested and revegetation and creation of bush reserve would be a good outcome – multiple benefits scored high on environmental locality criteria   |
| Continuation of wildlife signage and fauna movement project   | Investigate feasibility and options working with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) around fauna passage solutions e.g. crossing points, fencing. Develop a delivery plan. |
| Community amenity infrastructure e.g. park benches picnic tables within the local reserves and parks.   | Develop a local plan of sites and potential furniture or options for infrastructure embellishment and delivery   |
| Feasibility study of community walking and cycling trails around O'Neill's Road, Ipswich-Amberley Road and Mt Elliot Mine Road, including continuation of the footpath from Warren Court to McHales Way | Community walking and cycling trails around O'Neill's Road, Ipswich-Amberley Road and Mt Elliot Mine Road.   |
| Wetland and waterway restoration on Bremer River and Warrill Creek.   | Site identification, rehabilitation planning and planting of suitable sites  |

COUNCIL  
MEETING AGENDA

25 FEBRUARY  
2021

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Partnership with Ipswich Koala Protection Society (IKPS) for potential purchase of property for a Koala Reserve and Koala fodder and investigate the use of local tracking collars | Discuss options with IKPS around sites in the locality and data sharing/partnership around local monitoring |
|--|---|

**LEGAL/POLICY BASIS**

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:  
*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Planning and Environment Court Act 2016*

**RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

In collecting the funds from Ti Tree, under the terms of the aforementioned conditions, Council enters into an agreement to manage and expend those funds in line with their intended purpose. In not spending these funds or spending them in a manner not aligned with its intent Council is at risk of not meeting the legal requirements of the court order. Furthermore and more broadly the community for which the funding was intended to support are at risk of missing out on an opportunity to offset any potential social or environmental impacts as a result of the Ti Tree Bioenergy facility.

There is potential risk to Council from a probity perspective in issuing payments to a community group, in this instance WAG, outside adopted procurement and community funding policy and legislative guidelines without clear and concise terms and conditions. To mitigate this going forwards Council will seek to enter into a contractual or partnership arrangement with WAG under which they will be asked to provide representative community feedback and input on the proposed projects. Council will work with WAG to ensure this feedback is representative of the broader local community and deals with the impacts of the local facility.

**FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Currently, there are accrued funds to the value of \$1,506,614, not including the current pending annual payment. A nominal amount of \$120,000 has been allocated from the accrued funds within the 2020-2021 budget for the delivery of projects as listed in Table 1 above. A budget of \$320,000 is proposed to be allocated from the remaining accrued funds for the delivery of prioritised projects in 2021-2022. This amount may need to be increased depending on future opportunities, such as the acquisition of bushland reserves or koala habitat within the Willowbank / Ebenezer locality.

The administrative process including project management, assessment and reporting will be funded and managed with current staff and existing operational budgets.

The annual payment to WAG (up to \$5,000) will be sourced from consolidated revenue, as it cannot be drawn from the Ti Tree payments under the adopted Administrative Directive and assessment criteria.





Doc ID No: A8665369

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: ENVIROPLAN - ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2021-2022

AUTHOR: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER

DATE: 13 FEBRUARY 2023

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning the Enviroplan Program and Levy Progress Report for the 2021-2022 financial year (Attachment 1). Contained within the report is an overview of project delivery, a financial summary including expenditure and revenue and a number of highlights from the past year which include:

- Completion and opening of the new Denmark Hill upgrades and associated activation campaign
- Completion and opening of the Kup Murri and new horse trail heads at Harding paddock in Flinders-Goolman Conservation Estate
- Heavy rainfall and flooding had major impacts throughout the financial year with many tracks washed out and in need of repair. Restricted access made pest plant and animal control across the Enviroplan estates difficult and limited.
- Investment into the existing and new Enviroplan reserves specifically a focus on compliance and enforcement through “for the love of nature campaign”.

This annual report follows on from the last report for the 2020-2021 fiscal period.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

**That the report concerning the Enviroplan Annual Progress Report 2021-2022, be received and noted.**

### **RELATED PARTIES**

Nil

### **IFUTURE THEME**

Natural and Sustainable

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND**

The Enviroplan levy continues to be a much supported and vital tool for council and the city of Ipswich in preserving and enhancing the environmental values of the city.



At its inception, Ipswich was one of only a handful of local governments to introduce a levy focused on protecting and enhancing the environment. Since then the community and council have worked together implementing the Enviroplan Program and the many initiatives within it.

In line with best practice and council's commitment to transparency and integrity, as of 2019 Council committed to the annual publication of the Enviroplan Annual Report. As well as this the financial data is provided for publication on the Transparency and Integrity Hub.

Given the importance of understanding the needs, costs, and investment direction of the Enviroplan Levy into the future, this report allows the community to better understand what their Levy is used for. Building this understanding should aid in better dialogue and engagement when it comes to City wide directional decisions around the Environment including working hand in hand with the implementation of the new Natural Environment Strategy endorsed by council earlier this financial year.

As council has grown and matured over the last 25+ years, the strategic focus, priority and needs of the city have changed and the Enviroplan spending has changed with that. Like many other Southeast Queensland Local Governments who followed in the footsteps of the Enviroplan Levy; initial investment focussed on acquisitions of strategically important, high value conservation land parcels. As the portfolio grew it was identified that the need to manage and maintain this land grew with it as did the resourcing required. As such spending shifted to consolidation and connectivity. Following the recent adoption of the new Natural Environment Strategy, expenditure is balanced between opportunistic expansion of the protected areas (council and private) and the embellishment and management of the land Council has responsibility for.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The report and the Enviroplan Levy is managed in line with recently adopted Natural Environment Policy, the Ipswich Enviroplan Policy, and associated Procedures.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Publication of the Enviroplan report presents little or no risk to council. Publication of the financial and annual report aligns with the council's position on transparency and openness and allows for public visibility.

#### **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no forward financial or budget implications from receiving or noting this report or the attached document.

## COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

It is proposed that the annual report be published on the Council website and the Transparency and Integrity hub in order to inform the community of where and how the money is invested. This in turn will help guide future engagement regarding future strategy and direction in Ipswich's natural environment.

The direction of the Enviroplan moving forwards is largely set by the Natural Environment Strategy developed and endorsed late last year and complied with extensive community engagement.



## CONCLUSION

This report presents the annual Enviroplan Program and Levy Progress Report 2021-2022 to council to be received and noted. As well as a summary of the financial details it includes summaries of key programs and projects for the 2021/2022 financial year.

## HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

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| HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS   |
| <b>RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORT</b>   |
| The recommendation states that the report be received, and the contents noted. The decision to receive and note the report does not limit human rights. Therefore, the decision is compatible with human rights. |

## ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 1. | City of Ipswich Enviroplan Annual Report 2021-2022   |
|----|---|

Phil A. Smith

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Kaye Cavanagh

**MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Graeme Martin

**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

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



















































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ITEM: 4  
SUBJECT: STORMWATER QUALITY OFFSET PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT  
AUTHOR: WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT OFFICER  
DATE: 14 FEBRUARY 2023

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning the Stormwater Quality Offset Program status from commencement until June 2022. The Annual Report provides of an overview of the program, an assessment of the financial contributions received, project expenditures and the water quality improvement projects delivered. The report includes proposed future changes to the program to improve delivery and conformity to State guidance. A Stormwater Quality Offset Program web page has also been prepared to improve transparency and ensure the annual report is readily accessible to the community.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

**That the Ipswich City Council Stormwater Quality Offset Program Annual Report be received and the contents noted.**

### **RELATED PARTIES**

There are no related party matters nor conflicts of interest associated with this report.

### **IFUTURE THEME**

Natural and Sustainable

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND**

New urban development in Queensland is required to manage stormwater to meet the water quality requirements of the *State Planning Policy (SPP)*. Ipswich is guided by the *Ipswich Planning Scheme Implementation Guideline No 24: Stormwater Management* to minimise impacts of development on water quality and subsequently regional waterway health. Furthermore, the *ICC Stormwater Quality Offset Program Implementation Plan* (completed in 2015 and reviewed in 2020) provides guidance to ensure the delivery of coordinated water quality improvement projects since 2015.

Over the life of the Stormwater Quality Offset Program, Council has received approximately \$22.6M in voluntary contributions accruing obligations to achieve an equivalent pollutant load reduction (i.e. Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended solids) and prevent pollutants from entering Ipswich's waterways. Approximately \$2.7M of voluntary stormwater quality contributions from developers were received within 2021-2022 financial year.

Sixteen major projects have been completed since the Stormwater Quality Offset Program commenced. Projects were selected based on several criteria to ensure best water quality improvement outcomes as well as other environmental and social benefits such as increased biodiversity, flood mitigation and community amenity. Types of projects completed include creek stabilisation, channel naturalisation, constructed wetlands, floodplain re-engagement, bioretention basins, and rural revegetation and cattle exclusion. To date, the constructed water quality projects have reduced sediment loads by approximately 400 tonnes per year and Total Nitrogen loads by about 1 tonne per year.

Council has expensed 44% of the offset revenue received and delivered between 61% and 131% of its water quality improvement obligation. For example, council has delivered 105% of its sediment load and 61% of Total Nitrogen obligations utilising only 44% of the funds received. These results highlight the net water quality benefit of the offset program.

While no new projects were constructed in 2021-2022, several new projects are currently progressing into design and construction phases including bioretention basins, constructed wetlands, Water Smart Street Trees and creek stabilisation works.

The Annual Report identifies several proposed future changes to the Stormwater Quality Offset Program to improve outcomes and conformity to State offset guidance. Future changes to the program relate to adapting to declining supply of offset opportunities, improving maintenance of the projects to ensure water quality improvements are retained, and updating eligibility to offset within Planning Scheme Policies.

A Stormwater Quality Offset Program web page has also been prepared to improve transparency and ensure the annual report is readily accessible to the community.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:

*Local Government Act 2009*

*Ipswich Planning Scheme Implementation Guideline No24 (IG24)*

*ICC Stormwater Quality Offset Program Implementation Plan*

*Ipswich Planning Scheme Table 2.3.1, Planning Scheme Policy 3, Division 3, Part 2—*

*Stormwater Drainage*

*State Planning Policy (SPP)*

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

No related council policies

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The projects delivered to date are selected from the investment strategies developed as part of the program's implementation plan completed in 2015 and later reviewed in 2020. A multi criteria assessment was undertaken to help prioritise stormwater offset projects in terms of multiple benefits they provide.

In addition, environment and safety risks are assessed for each project during the design phase (e.g. environmental approvals required).

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Total stormwater water quality offset revenue and expenditure is identified in the annual report. The report shows that 44% of revenue received has been expensed on completed projects.

## COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

No community and other consultation were conducted for this report. However, it is valid to mention that community consultation is undertaken for all offset projects.



## CONCLUSION

An update of the Stormwater Quality Offset Program Annual Report has been completed incorporating the financial year 2021-2022 revenue and delivery outcomes.

## HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

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|---|
| HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS  |
| <b>RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORT</b>  |
| The Recommendation states that the report be received and the contents noted. The decision to receive and note the report does not limit human rights. Therefore, the decision is compatible with human rights. |

## ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1. | Voluntary Stormwater Quality Offset Program: 2021-2022 Annual Report   |
|----|--|

Ben Longstaff

**WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT OFFICER**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Phil A. Smith

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Graeme Martin

**ACTING GENERAL MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

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













































































