



City of Ipswich

**IPSWICH
CITY
COUNCIL**

AGENDA

of the

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

**Held in the Council Chambers,
8th floor – 1 Nicholas Street
IPSWICH QLD 4305**

On Thursday, 10 February 2022
At 10 minutes after the conclusion of the Economic and Industry Development
Committee

MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Russell Milligan (**Chairperson**)
Councillor Andrew Fechner (**Deputy Chairperson**)

Mayor Teresa Harding
Councillor Jacob Madsen
Councillor Kate Kunzelmann

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE AGENDA
*10 minutes after the conclusion of the Economic and Industry
Development Committee on **Thursday, 10 February 2022***
in the Council Chambers, 8th Floor, 1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

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** Item includes confidential papers

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 1

10 FEBRUARY 2022

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. 2021(11) OF 1 DECEMBER 2021**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 December 2021 be confirmed.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

2. **AGGRESSIVE NATIVE BIRD PROGRAM UPDATE**

This is a report providing an update on Council's Aggressive Native Bird Program. The program experienced high volumes of requests in 2021 and the successful delivery of the program resulted in positive community safety outcomes by means of education and awareness communications, and the relocation of aggressive birds in sensitive and vulnerable locations.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and the contents noted.

3. **UPDATES TO THE IPSWICH ENVIROPLAN PROGRAM AND LEVY POLICY**

This is a report concerning recommendation 4 from the Environment Conservation Strategies and Compliance Audit (A2021-10) that 'Enviroplan policy be amended to the extent that it is clear that the Enviroplan funds are accounted within Council's general ledger through accounts that are specifically identified for the Enviroplan'.

In order to action this recommendation, alternative wording is presented below which more accurately reflects the practice whilst trying to maintain the intent of the statements purpose. In this regard the following change is proposed.

‘All revenue raised through the levy is accounted for separately from Council’s general revenue and is not at any time available for expenditure as general revenue.’

is updated to:

‘All revenue raised through the levy is placed into Council’s general revenue and is accounted for in a clear and transparent way to ensure it is used for Enviroplan project and program spending only.’

And

- All revenue collected including any revenue raised through approved levy business activities is held and accounted for separately from Council’s general revenue.
- Levy revenue should not be available at any time for expenditure as general revenue.

is updated to;

- All revenue collected including any revenue raised through approved environment levy business activities is held in Councils general revenue but accounted for separately.
- **Levy revenue should not be available at any time for expenditure on items which fall outside the purpose, principles and intent of this policy.**

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That the current policy titled “Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy” as outlined in Attachment 1 be repealed.
- B. That the draft policy titled “Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy” as outlined in Attachment 3, be adopted.

4. IPSWICH INTEGRATED CATCHMENT PLAN

This is a report concerning the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan (IICP). The IICP is the culmination of over 2.5 years of work across multiple departments and is the most detailed and comprehensive flood study ever undertaken by council. The Plan is intended to ensure the Ipswich community is ready, informed, and resilient ahead of the next flood event.

The IICP attempts to look at flooding and flood risk through the lens of Council's roles within catchment management and community impacts. The outcome of the plan is in depth and detailed technical evidence report supporting six chapters of work across: land use and planning; physical mitigation; community awareness and resilience; emergency management; property specific actions; current and future flood risk. Each chapter is connected and yet each is focused on addressing a different aspect of floodplain management.

It is presently a national exemplar for integrated planning and generating interest from other regional state and industry.

The IICP includes an actions list/investment strategy with 72 recommendations.

The IICP was scoped and began prior to the appointment of the new Council however Councillor and community engagement has been significant and ongoing. Most recently the IICP was presented to Councillors as a Briefing on the 7th September. Subsequently further supplementary information was supplied in response to that session.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Council adopt the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan and associated technical report and studies, as the primary strategic local floodplain management plan as recommended by the Queensland Flood Commission of Inquiry and the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan.
- B. That Council develop an implementation and investment plan that identifies current and future funding requirements for the implementation of the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan actions and seek to identify funding sources in future operational and capital budgets and/or external grants.

5. FRANKLIN VALE CREEK CATCHMENT RESTORATION PLAN 2021-2026

This is a report concerning the development of the *Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Restoration Plan 2021-2026* (refer to Attachment 1). The plan was developed by the Australian River Institute/Griffith University in collaboration with Council staff and landholders within the catchment. The purpose of the plan is to guide delivery of future projects as part of the *Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Initiative*. Projects are funded through the Council's Stormwater Quality Offsets Program.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That the Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Restoration Plan 2021-2026 be received and noted.
- B. That Council's partnership with the Australian Rivers Institute/Griffith University be perpetuated through the participation and collaboration of student internships and

research programs (when required) in association with the Franklin Vale Creek Initiative.

NOTICES OF MOTION

MATTERS ARISING

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2021(11)

1 DECEMBER 2021

MINUTES

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

COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES: Nil

OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), General Manager Community, Cultural and Economic Development (Ben Pole), Acting General Manager Corporate Services (Sylvia Swalling), Manager Environment and Sustainability (Kaye Cavanagh), Natural Environment and Land Manager (Phil A Smith), Procurement Operations Manager (Stephen Bailey), Senior Policy and Communications Officer (David Shaw), Senior Sustainability Officer (Samantha Smith), Manager Economic and Community Development (Cat Matson), Environmental Events and Partnerships Officer (Jennifer Mouritz), Senior Digital Media and Content Officer (Jodie Richter) and Theatre Technician (Trent Gray)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Nil

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2021(10) OF 4 NOVEMBER 2021**

RECOMMENDATION

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

That the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee No. 2021(10) on 4 November 2021 be confirmed.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Milligan

Fechner

Harding

Madsen

Kunzelmann

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

2. SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

This is a report concerning the submission of the final draft of Ipswich's Sustainability Strategy (Attachment 1) to Council for adoption. A final round of community consultation has been undertaken, as has internal consultation with key stakeholders. Minor amendments that do not materially change the strategy have been made in response to the internal and community consultation feedback to produce the final draft of the Sustainability Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:

Seconded by Councillor Jacob Madsen:

That the Sustainability Strategy be received and adopted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Milligan

Fechner

Harding

Madsen

Kunzelmann

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

3. OUTCOMES - YOUTH SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

This is a report concerning the Ipswich Youth Sustainability Summit. The Summit was held at the Ipswich Civic Centre on Wednesday 3 November and was a full day forum for Primary School students in grades 4 & 5. The day was designed to

educate and inform students on sustainability and to develop and be involved with sustainability projects, innovations or ideas identified as important within their community.

Students from Springfield Central State School will be attending the meeting to provide an overview of their experience at the Youth Sustainability Summit.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:
Seconded by Mayor Teresa Harding:

That Council receive and note the outcomes of the Youth Sustainability Summit.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Milligan

Fechner

Harding

Madsen

Kunzelmann

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

MATTERS ARISING

UPDATE ON TRADITIONAL OWNER REFERENCE GROUP

The Manager Environment and Sustainability outlined the progress of the Traditional Owner Reference Group which was discussed at the 16 September 2021 Council meeting where it was referred to the November Environment and Sustainability Committee for further consideration. The committee noted that a report is scheduled to be submitted to the February 2022 Environment and Sustainability Committee.

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS

The meeting commenced at 11.23 am.

The meeting closed at 12.01 pm.

Doc ID No: A7809006

ITEM: 2
SUBJECT: AGGRESSIVE NATIVE BIRD PROGRAM UPDATE
AUTHOR: PROGRAM OFFICER (NATURAL ENVIRONMENT)
DATE: 15 DECEMBER 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report providing an update on Council's Aggressive Native Bird Program. The program experienced high volumes of requests in 2021 and the successful delivery of the program resulted in positive community safety outcomes by means of education and awareness communications, and the relocation of aggressive birds in sensitive and vulnerable locations.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and the contents noted.

RELATED PARTIES

- Queensland Fauna Consultancy
- Any business or resident in Ipswich that is directly impacted by aggressive native bird behaviour

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

History of Council's Aggressive Native Bird Management Program

Between July and December, several species of bird such as magpies, pied currawongs, torresian crows, masked lapwings, and butcherbirds display aggressive behaviour to protect their young. On Council land, it is important that Council manages these human-wildlife interactions in an appropriate manner to minimise harm to the community and to the birds.

Prior to the 2020-2021 Financial Year, Council did not have a formal Aggressive Native Bird Management program. Before the development of the Aggressive Native Bird administrative directive (attachment A) and Aggressive Native Bird procedure (attachment B) in 2020, basic scripting was used by Council's Customer Call Centre to guide Council's response to aggressive native bird complaints on Council land. This scripting was reactive to complaints, with most complaints resulting in the engagement of a consultant for assessment and

potential relocation. In the absence of a formal program, minimal community awareness-building and education communications were delivered to the community.

This resulted in almost every request leading to a relocation of the bird, whereas the community could have been protected from the aggressive behaviour through signage and education programs, without relocation.

Aggressive Native Bird Review 2019-2020

In 2019, a review of Council's approach to aggressive native bird management was undertaken, whereby similar programs in other Councils in SEQ were assessed as a benchmarking exercise. Furthermore, an analysis of the current program was undertaken and opportunities to strengthen the program were identified.

The key findings from the review were:

- Many Councils did not have a swooping bird program
- Most Councils did not engage consultants to undertake assessments and bird relocations
- Of the councils that did engage consultants, all installed temporary signs in response to aggressive native birds, and only engaged consultants for assessment and potential removal of the aggressive birds in exceptional (e.g. high risk) circumstances. The signs were found to be a successful method of mitigating the human-wildlife conflicts in these Council areas.
- There was limited direction and governance for the Ipswich swooping bird program at the time of the review.

It was concluded that an administrative directive and procedure should be created for the program, and that the program should incorporate proactive measures such as education, marketing, and signage. It was also identified that proactive measures should be implemented, where possible, prior to the engagement of a consultant.

The Aggressive Native Bird Procedure incorporates five criteria that determine the management of aggressive native bird service requests:

1. Is the bird nesting on council land?
2. Has the bird's swooping caused injury?
3. Have other complaints been made this swooping season about the bird?
4. Is the bird within/or into a highly sensitive area?
5. Is it possible to avoid the bird for a duration of 6-8 weeks?

The criteria form a decision-making matrix which helps the staff at the Customer Call Centre determine the most suitable action for the service request.

Success of the program since the review

The new Aggressive Native Bird program commenced in the 2020-2021 financial year. A summary of the program's progress over the past 5 years (the three years pre-review, and 2 years post-review) is detailed below.

It is evident from figure 1 that post-review, there have been significant advancement in management outcomes, and cost savings. These funds have been re-invested into education, awareness, and safety-related communications such as signs and marketing materials.



Figure 1 average cost per service request for aggressive native birds

These cost savings are due to a reduction in the number of fauna assessments (figure 2).

Percent of service requests that resulted in fauna assessments

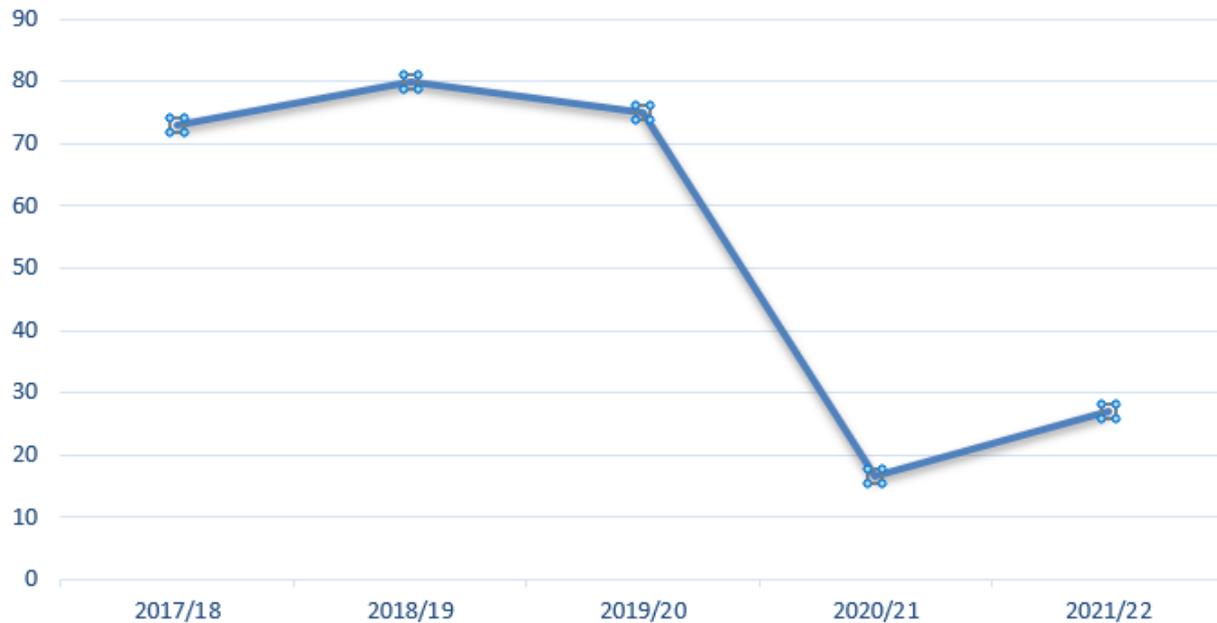


Figure 2 Proportion of service requests for aggressive native birds that result in fauna assessments

Program Engagement

An anomaly for this year was the number of service requests that were received by Council. There was a 360% increase in service requests raised this year, in comparison to the mean number of job requests from the previous 4 years (figure 3). This is most likely due to two factors; environmental conditions and heightened awareness. The preferential conditions after significant rainfall and an associated heavy abundance of bird food and habitat this year may have potentially increased the fertility rates of birds. Secondly, there was heightened swooping bird awareness this year due to a fatal incident involving a swooping magpie and a baby in Brisbane in August 2021.

Service request numbers

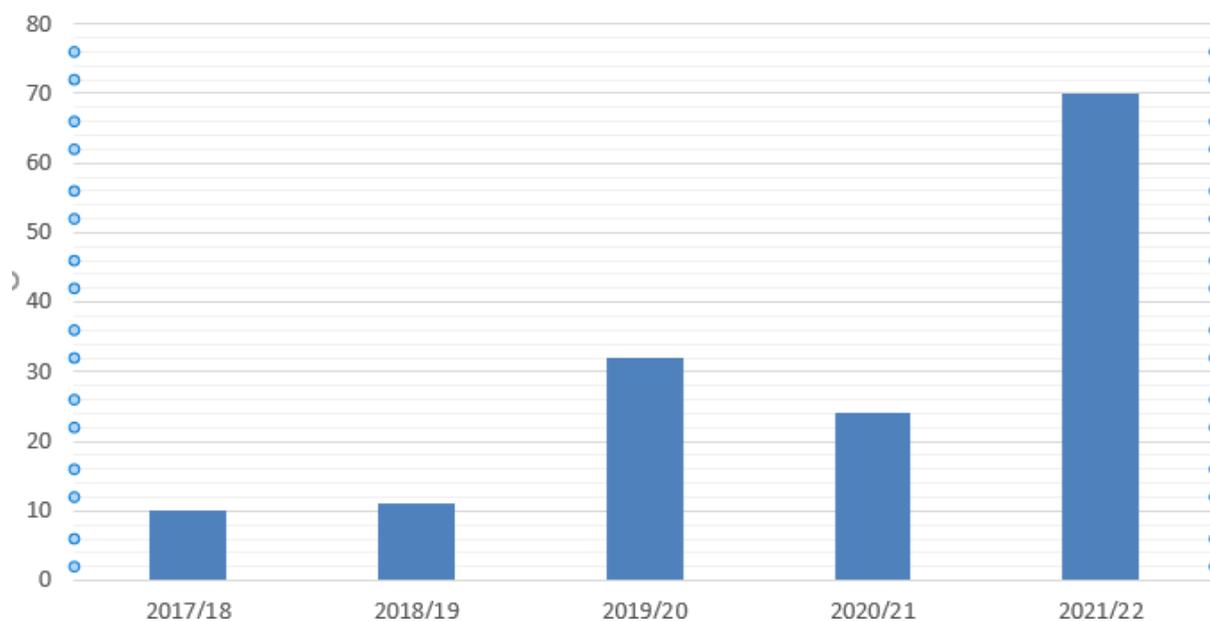


Figure 3 Service request numbers per financial year

The program was sensitively managed this year with the public's health at the forefront. Despite the increase in service request numbers this year, Council's Aggressive Native Bird program successfully protected the community's safety whilst managing the allocated budget.

Positive collaborations

The Aggressive Native Bird program is a demonstration of positive cross-Council collaboration, engaging stakeholders from across Council such as the Customer Services and Support Branch, the Works and Field Services branch and the Environment and Sustainability Branch. This was particularly evident with the increased number of requests this year, which required refinement of scripting and extensive engagement with the Customer Call Centre. Two orders of swooping bird signs were printed as urgent requests, with the assistance of Council's sign shop. Lastly, the field services team installed >100 signs in response to service requests. Furthermore, the community are greatly appreciated for raising requests regarding aggressive native birds, as this provides Council with the opportunity to keep the community safe, and effectively manage these human-wildlife conflicts.

Delivery of the program next financial year

The most important mechanism in maintaining community safety with native birds is the delivery of community awareness of aggressive bird behaviour and ways to maintain safety around aggressive birds. A media release will be distributed to the public in June/July this year to provide the community with information and advice on maintaining safety and how to report aggressive birds to Council.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Nature Conservation Act 1992

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

As aggressive native birds can cause severe injury or death directly through impact or indirectly via reactions to the swooping behaviour, there is an element of risk associated with the management of this program.

The decision-making matrix in the Aggressive Native Bird Procedure has been designed to reduce these risks and to maximise community safety.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS
RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORT
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.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial or resource implications from this report.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Ongoing consultation will occur between the various Council stakeholders, and the community to ensure that the program can be delivered most effectively now and into the future. The Program Officer (Natural Environment) led the review, in consultation with the following Council stakeholders: Biodiversity Officer, Senior Planning Officer, Principal Officer (Parks and Sports) and Supervisor (Natural Areas).

CONCLUSION

A review on Council’s management of aggressive native birds was undertaken in 2019. Out of this review, the Aggressive Native Bird Administration Directive and Procedure were developed in 2020 and management was implemented in the 2020/21 financial year. This report looks at the success of this new program, particularly during the 2021 where 360% more requests were raised in comparison to the previous 4 years.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Management of Native Birds that Show Aggression to People  
2.	Management of Native Birds that Show Aggression to People Procedure  

Dani Andlemac
PROGRAM OFFICER (NATURAL ENVIRONMENT)

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Stephani Macarthur

TEAM LEADER (ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION AND AWARENESS)

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.

Kaye Cavanagh

MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Sean Madigan

GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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



Management of Native Birds that Show Aggression to People

Administrative Directive

Our Values: Collaboration Communication Integrity Efficiency Leadership

TOGETHER WE PROUDLY ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Version Control and Objective ID	Version No: 1	Objective ID: A5921775
Administrative Directive Owner	The General Manager (Infrastructure and Environment) is the directive owner and the Environment and Sustainability Manager is responsible for authoring and reviewing this directive.	
Approved by CEO on	5 January 2021	
Date of Review	5 January 2025	

1. Statement

With respect to the management of risk associated with native birds that show aggression towards people, Council has the ability to undertake a small range of actions. These are limited and take into consideration safety of the community, conservation impacts and ecology of native birds, animal welfare, community attitudes and legislative requirements.

2. Purpose and Principles

This directive outlines the scope and delivery of Council’s actions around the management of risk associated with aggressive birds. The objective is to provide responding Council officers with a guideline for a consistent approach to managing interactions between native birds showing aggression and people.

The program manages the risks to human welfare associated with aggressive bird behaviour through a range of proactive and reactive mechanisms.

Council is committed to:

- Proactively mitigating the real risks to community members during swooping season through education and awareness activities.
- Understanding that relocating birds is a last resort; for birds that are extremely dangerous, and are in unavoidable, high-traffic locations and other actions to reduce risk have been exhausted
- Ensuring management actions are guided by an understanding of current best practice, science and the *Department of Environment and Science Guideline on Wildlife Management: relocating problem magpies* and comply with the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

3. Strategic Plan Links

This administrative directive aligns with the following iFuture 2021-2026 Corporate Plan themes:

- Safe, Inclusive and Creative
- Natural and Sustainable

Doc ID No: A7759254

ITEM: 3
SUBJECT: UPDATES TO THE IPSWICH ENVIROPLAN PROGRAM AND LEVY POLICY
AUTHOR: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER
DATE: 29 NOVEMBER 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning recommendation 4 from the Environment Conservation Strategies and Compliance Audit (A2021-10) that 'Enviroplan policy be amended to the extent that it is clear that the Enviroplan funds are accounted within Council's general ledger through accounts that are specifically identified for the Enviroplan'.

In order to action this recommendation, alternative wording is presented below which more accurately reflects the practice whilst trying to maintain the intent of the statements purpose. In this regard the following change is proposed.

'All revenue raised through the levy is accounted for separately from Council's general revenue and is not at any time available for expenditure as general revenue.'

is updated to:

'All revenue raised through the levy is placed into Council's general revenue and is accounted for in a clear and transparent way to ensure it is used for Enviroplan project and program spending only.'

And

- All revenue collected including any revenue raised through approved levy business activities is held and accounted for separately from Council's general revenue.
- Levy revenue should not be available at any time for expenditure as general revenue.

is updated to;

- All revenue collected including any revenue raised through approved environment levy business activities is held in Councils general revenue but accounted for separately.
- Levy revenue should not be available at any time for expenditure on items which fall outside the purpose, principles and intent of this policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. That the current policy titled “Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy” as outlined in Attachment 1 be repealed.**
- B. That the draft policy titled “Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy” as outlined in Attachment 3, be adopted.**

RELATED PARTIES

There was no declaration of conflict of interest in relation to matters in this report.

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

In 2021, Council conducted an internal audit of environment and conservation strategies and compliance. As part of the audit, it was identified that the Enviroplan levy, collected alongside the quarterly rates, was being included into the general revenue of Council rather than being separately collected and accounted for as per the terms of Council’s adopted Enviroplan policy (Attachment 1). The audit recommendation is that: *The Enviroplan policy be amended to the extent that it is clear that the Enviroplan funds are accounted within Council’s general ledger through accounts that are specifically identified for the Enviroplan.* The relevant part of the policy that is in contradiction of this is Section 2 and Section 5 (as noted below) where it stipulates that the Enviroplan revenue is held and accounted for separately in order to achieve the outcomes and principles of the Policy specifically in relation to Transparent, systematic and practical delivery.

2. Purpose and Principles

- All revenue collected including any revenue raised through approved levy business activities is held and accounted for separately from Council’s general revenue.
- Levy revenue should not be available at any time for expenditure as general revenue.

5. Scope

This policy supports the allocation of funds and management of the levy through Enviroplan’s projects and initiatives that complement council’s core environmental activities; and applies to all Council endorsed Enviroplan projects and initiatives that are funded and supported, wholly or partly with revenue from the levy.

Ipswich supports a highly diverse range of vegetation communities that provide home for a wide number of native flora and fauna - all of which help support the lifestyle, liveability, and livelihoods of the region.

Council’s seminal document for citywide natural environment management, its Nature Conservation Strategy, is used to inform investment and resource focus.

The environment levy (charge) is a key revenue source to assist in the implementation of Council’s terrestrial nature conservation – the Ipswich Enviroplan Program. Council can only use funds raised via a separate charge for the specific purpose identified in the revenue statement adopted each year as part of Council’s annual budget process.

All revenue raised through the levy is accounted for separately from Council’s general revenue and is not at any time available for expenditure as general revenue.

To ensure Council is acting in line with its own policies it is proposed that the Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy in its present form be repealed and the new Policy be updated to clarify that the funding is not ‘held’ separately to general revenue but is accounted as such. The bullet points in Section 2 regarding general revenue is to be replaced with similar wording clarifying that funding is collected in general revenue though reported and accounted for to show where it is expended.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

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

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The recommendation of the audit and subsequent draft policy (attachment 2) acts to manage the risk to Council which presently exists due to misalignment between the present policy wording and the current accounting practice.

The accounting and management of the funds will still be carried out to support environmental programs and projects through clear and transparent accounting. The revenue and expenditure of the Enviroplan Levy funds is reported annually in the Enviroplan report published on Council’s website. Furthermore, there is action underway to publish the Enviroplan annual program expenditure on the Transparency and Integrity Hub.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS	
OTHER DECISION	
(a) What is the Act/Decision being made?	<p>A. That the current policy titled “Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy” as outlined in Attachment 1 be repealed.</p> <p>B. That the draft policy titled “Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy” as outlined in Attachment 3, be adopted.</p>

(b) What human rights are affected?	Council’s decision will not be unlawful under the <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i>
(c) How are the human rights limited?	Not Applicable
(d) Is there a good reason for limiting the relevant rights? Is the limitation fair and reasonable?	Not Applicable
(e) Conclusion	The decision is consistent with human rights.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The policy change will reflect present practice. There will be no tangible changes to operations, finances, or resource implications.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

As a minor amendment to an existing policy no public or internal stakeholder consultation was done in preparation of this report outside of that carried to complete the audit.

The original audit was carried out in conjunction with Stakeholders from Natural Environment and Land Management, the Broader Environment and Sustainability Team as well as the relevant areas of Planning and Regulatory service, Treasury and Finance.

CONCLUSION

Discrepancies between the Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy and present accounting practice was acknowledged and highlighted within a recent audit. The recommendation of the audit is to change the policy to more accurately represent the present practice and make it clear that the Enviroplan Levy fund is collected into general revenue and is then recorded and reported on discreetly by running a report across the allocated programs and project rather than being held and accounted for within a separate fund or account.

As such it is a recommendation of this report that the wording of the present policy be amended to more accurately reflect this.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy current policy ↓ 
2.	Draft Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy tracked changes ↓ 
3.	Draft Ipswich Enviorplan Program and Levy Policy clean ↓ 

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.

Sean Madigan
GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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

Doc ID No: A7737766

ITEM: 4
SUBJECT: IPSWICH INTEGRATED CATCHMENT PLAN
AUTHOR: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LAND MANAGER
DATE: 22 NOVEMBER 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan (IICP). The IICP is the culmination of over 2.5 years of work across multiple departments and is the most detailed and comprehensive flood study ever undertaken by council. The Plan is intended to ensure the Ipswich community is ready, informed, and resilient ahead of the next flood event.

The IICP attempts to look at flooding and flood risk through the lens of Council's roles within catchment management and community impacts. The outcome of the plan is in depth and detailed technical evidence report supporting six chapters of work across: land use and planning; physical mitigation; community awareness and resilience; emergency management; property specific actions; current and future flood risk. Each chapter is connected and yet each is focused on addressing a different aspect of floodplain management.

It is presently a national exemplar for integrated planning and generating interest from other regional state and industry.

The IICP includes an actions list/investment strategy with 72 recommendations.

The IICP was scoped and began prior to the appointment of the new Council however Councillor and community engagement has been significant and ongoing. Most recently the IICP was presented to Councillors as a Briefing on the 7th September. Subsequently further supplementary information was supplied in response to that session.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. That Council adopt the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan and associated technical report and studies, as the primary strategic local floodplain management plan as recommended by the Queensland Flood Commission of Inquiry and the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan.**
- B. That Council develop an implementation and investment plan that identifies current and future funding requirements for the implementation of the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan actions and seek to identify funding sources in future operational and capital budgets and/or external grants.**

RELATED PARTIES

There are no declared conflicts of interest.

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

Safe, Inclusive and Creative

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

Flooding by simplistic definition is when land is not normally covered in water becomes covered in water. This does not necessarily mean anything is wrong or not working. The reality is that this is a normal function of river and a river basin and is the reason flood plains exist. As such the risk of a flood occurring will always exist, this is important to acknowledge, however its impacts and risk can be managed or reduced through good planning decisions, good development and building resilience and building understanding in our communities.

Ipswich is a 'river city' and as such has a long and intrinsic history of flooding. The most notable recent events occurred in 1974 and 2011. Both events saw multiple properties, major roads and large areas of land under water from both the Brisbane and Bremer Rivers as well as in local creeks. Both events are embedded indelibly in memory and social fabric and understandably but not always appropriately act as a yard stick of comparison for future events and risk.

In Queensland local governments have remit and responsibility in regard to managing present and future flood risk within and across our communities. These include but are not limited to local drainage; management, construction and improvement, strategic and town planning, emergency and disaster management, warning and informing and building community resilience.

The impacts and scale of flooding across South East Queensland in 2011 triggered the Queensland Flood Commissions of Inquiry (QFCoI) and a number of other local reviews into how agencies and communities responded to that event and to ensure we are as prepared and resilient to any future floods as possible.

The Brisbane River Catchment Flood Studies (BRCFS) responds to recommendations from the QFCoI, including undertaking a comprehensive flood study or studies of the Brisbane River Catchment in its entirety and delved into other (floodplain management) matters.

The BRCFS was delivered in a partnership between the Queensland Government, Seqwater and the four local governments of Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council, Somerset Regional Council and Lockyer Valley Regional Council. The flood studies were a major program of work, which encompassed a new approach to integrated management of the Brisbane River its catchment and floodplains in which many people live work and play. The studies and the corresponding planning work represent a firm commitment between the Queensland Government and local governments to deliver on a long-term plan that will

further manage the impact of future floods and enhance community safety and resilience in the Brisbane River floodplain. The full program of works comprises of four phases.

Phase 1	Data Collection (2013)
Phase 2	Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study (2017)
Phase 3	Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan and Technical Evidence Report (2018)
Phase 4	Local Floodplain Management Plans (2018-2021).

OUTPUTS

For Ipswich City Council the Local Floodplain Management Plan (LFMP) forms part of the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan (IICP). The IICP is the largest flood-related project undertaken in Ipswich. It builds upon the work of the Brisbane Strategic Flood Management Plan, completed last year, and incorporates the latest flood studies, modelling and data for the whole of Ipswich Local Government area. The Plan has six (6) interdependent work packages that each aim to increase the city's readiness for future floods and improve catchment management. These work packages are:

- **Current and Future Flood Risk:** analyses the available flood models to provide an understanding of the hydraulic risk profile across the city now and into the future.
- **Community Awareness and Resilience** identifies areas of highest vulnerability and strategies for improving flood awareness and resilience.
- **Physical Mitigation:** analyses and identifies options for structural and other physical flood mitigation measures (such as revegetation and natural floodplain management) to reduce flood risk.
- **Emergency Management:** investigates options for emergency planning and response in high flood risk areas.
- **Property Specific Actions:** identifies measures to improve resilience at the individual property level and reduce property damages.
- **Land Use Planning:** identifies considerations for planning, locating, and designing future land uses to ensure development appropriately responds to the level of flood risk.

From each of these chapters there are many associated actions which have been compiled into a single action plan with over 70 recommendations or proposed areas of investment for Council across all areas of the business.

Flooding and its effect remain a sensitive and emotive topic with the potential for both physical and social damage in the short and long term. As such there has long been a will to 'fix' or 'stop' the occurrences. Contemporary understanding is that the causes and effects of flooding are unique and complex in every event and as such the management of the risks

from multiple impacts presented from a river, the creeks and the water off the land including any subsequent flooding, needs an equally well considered and integrated approach.

The approach and intent of the IICP is to take a holistic view of both catchment function and flood risk for Ipswich and the community and understand the inter dependencies and cross functional processes within Council which deal with, contribute to or are impacted by Flood Risk.

As such wherever possible the IICP looks at overlap and synergies to offer efficient and effective flood risk mitigation outcomes and also looks reciprocally at the actions of Council more broadly and how they can consider flood risk as part of decision-making processes.

As well as the document report ICC received a number of spatial or GIS tools and data sets which we have not had access to previously which are useful tools in making risk-based planning and decisions. This data includes:

- digital mapping products and layers which identify flood risk based on depth velocity and vulnerability,
- flood damage data estimates for all at risk properties,
- road inundation data,
- time to inundation and
- identified 'flood islands'

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

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

Local Government Act 2009

Planning Act 2016

Disaster Management Act 2003

Building Act 1975

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The primary intent of the IICP is to examine, understand and provide guidance and direction in regards to the impacts of flood and flood risk to the Ipswich Local Government Area, its community and to the Council in a considered and holistic fashion. Acknowledging that there are significant interdependencies across areas of the organisation and there is potential to shift this risk from one area to another if the catchments and the risk is not considered in its whole. The philosophy of the IICP is to consider through the Source Pathway Receptor models the implications and risks of all actions and choose mitigation options in an informed and considered manner.

The risk of not adopting the plan lies in the exposure of Council not having an up-to-date Local Floodplain Management plan in the event of another flood. This is a recommendation of both the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan and the Queensland Flood Commission of Enquiry.

Presently there is risk in not having a formalised or adopted contemporary Local Flood Management Plan.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS	
OTHER DECISION	
(a) What is the Act/Decision being made?	The recommendations of this report are regarding a strategy and plan. As such they have no impacts, detrimental or otherwise in relation to human rights.
(b) What human rights are affected?	Whilst there are Queensland Government legislative responsibilities to carry out flood risk management functions and recommendation from the Queensland Flood Commission of Inquiry around the development of a number of planning instruments, the content and style by which Council choose to exercise its conditions and responsibilities is flexible as such Ipswich City Council has a semblance of discretion in this instance.
(c) How are the human rights limited?	Not applicable
(d) Is there a good reason for limiting the relevant rights? Is the limitation fair and reasonable?	Not applicable
(e) Conclusion	The decision is consistent with human rights.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Whilst there are some clear actions which have already begun, there are a number of roles and responsibilities regarding the implementation of the recommendations within the IICP and Floodplain Management in general which are yet to be clearly determined. It is proposed that the working group responsible for developing the plan continue as the basis for the implementation steering group.

At this stage financial and resource implications are not yet known and these will be developed through the implementation action plan. Of note most of the recommendations fit under the provision of existing programs or subprograms though they may require additional resourcing and investment. It is worthy of note that the previous 2 flood risk management capital sub programs have included minimal funding whilst the IICP was developed to provide strategic direction.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Community engagement has been important to the Plan decision-making process. Early community input was provided in late 2019 through the Managing Future Floods survey. The results are summarised in Attachment 3. At the time the level of interaction was one of the largest sample sizes regarding comments and community members taking part.

The objective was to gather community input to several IICP work packages, particularly testing resilience and awareness, tolerability, and mitigation options.

A 30-question survey was devised and shared with the community via Shape Your Ipswich, paper forms and Survey Monkey. It took on average 15 minutes to complete.

Where possible the questions aligned with BRSFMP market research to allow comparisons

The survey was open from November 8 to December 8 with 190 respondents (target 200). Shape Your Ipswich had 48 contributors. Survey Monkey had 142 respondents (77 paper and 65 via web link)

Comments/submissions and questions during this phase of engagement were considered in the development of the Draft Plan.

Each of the six (6) discussion papers were released and two (2) discussion panels carried out; one face to face and one online live streamed.

Discussion papers for each Chapter were circulated to Councillors before the public release, as were the final plans.

COMMUNICATIONS/MEDIA

- 8 Nov 2019: [Residents needed to shape Ipswich's plan for next big flood](#) (Ipswich First and media release)
- 13 Jan 2020: [Survey reveals level of flood concern in Ipswich](#) (Ipswich First and media release)
- Draft media release prepared to promote opportunity for community participation
- Community engagement on Shape Your Ipswich nearly 200 responses (24 August 2020)
- Close community engagement on Shape Your Ipswich (w/c 12 October 2020)
- Live streamed and face to face community public presentation and discussion of the plan progress to date (November 2010)
- Councillor briefings on IICP documents and work packages delivered (from November 2020 to March 2021)
- Publication of the Flood Wen site May 2021
- Internal Council Officer Briefings April/May 2021
- Councillor Briefing September 2021

CONCLUSION

The Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan has been completed and is being presented for adoption as a corporate document. The adoption of the plan will meet Ipswich City Council's commitments and requirements under the Queensland Flood Commission of Inquiry and the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan (led by QRA). Council has a commitment to delivering actions.

Further the plan will lay down a direction and guide investment and resourcing in the areas of flood risk mitigation for the next 5-10 years.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan Final Report (<i>under separate cover</i>) 
2.	Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan - Technical Evidence Report (<i>under separate cover</i>) 

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.

Sean Madigan

GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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

Doc ID No: A7693816

ITEM: 5
SUBJECT: FRANKLIN VALE CREEK CATCHMENT RESTORATION PLAN 2021-2026
AUTHOR: WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT OFFICER
DATE: 8 NOVEMBER 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the development of the *Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Restoration Plan 2021-2026* (refer to Attachment 1). The plan was developed by the Australian River Institute/Griffith University in collaboration with Council staff and landholders within the catchment. The purpose of the plan is to guide delivery of future projects as part of the *Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Initiative*. Projects are funded through the Council's Stormwater Quality Offsets Program. Recommendation/s

- A. That the Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Restoration Plan 2021-2026 be received and noted.**
- B. That Council's partnership with the Australian Rivers Institute/Griffith University be perpetuated through the participation and collaboration of student internships and research programs (when required) in association with the Franklin Vale Creek Initiative.**

RELATED PARTIES

Several external stakeholders were involved in the development of the plan including:

- Griffith University
- Australian Rivers Institute
- Landholders within the Franklin Vale Creek Catchment

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the plan and its development.

The Australian Rivers Institute/Griffith University has worked in partnership with Council and catchment landholders to deliver the *Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Restoration Plan 2021-2026* (as per Committee Report in September 2020).

The plan focuses on five themes (Land, Water, Plants, Animals and People) and includes actions and goals for each. The plan is a guide for effective targeted rehabilitation strategies for the catchment to improve on water quality and waterway health. This also includes the opportunity for Franklin Vale Creek to be a case study in broader research projects in the future.

Development of the plan involved liaison with key council staff, landholder engagement activities and on-ground condition assessments. A *Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Condition Assessment Report* (refer Attachment 2) and a *Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Monitoring & Evaluation Plan* (refer Attachment 3) to assess the effectiveness of the proposed interventions have also been included as part of the plan.

Ongoing collaboration from Australian Rivers Institute/Griffith University is beneficial for Council and landholders as they provide specialised expertise in water management. The collaboration also provides insight into the effectiveness of best practice applications in catchment improvement such as water quality for the *Franklin Vale Creek Initiative*.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

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

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS
RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORT
Recommendation A and B state 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.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Funding for the plan's implementation will be considered as part of the Stormwater Quality Offsets Program and other relevant internal programs.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

The development of the plan involved:

- Conversations and liaison with relevant internal stakeholders such as the Partnerships Team, Waterway Health Officer and Waterway Improvement Officer
- Landholder engagement including delivery of three workshops to gain input

- External stakeholders such as Healthy Land and Water, Green Fleet, Ipswich Rivers Improvement Trust and Resilient Rivers Catchment Officer (Bremer).

CONCLUSION

The development of a plan for the Franklin Vale Catchment using a collaborative approach has shown to be very positive and constructive, especially when building relationships with the landholders.

The final product represents input from Council officers, community, relevant external stakeholders and university partnerships. A collaborative approach is essential in the successful delivery and implementation of this plan and will be an informing document for the delivery of the Stormwater Quality Offsets Program.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Restoration Plan 2021-2026 ↓ 
2.	Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Condition Assessment ↓ 
3.	Franklin Vale Creek Catchment Monitoring and Evaluation Plan ↓ 

Jennifer Mackay-Ortiz

WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT OFFICER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Darryl Porche

ACTING TEAM LEADER (STRATEGIC CATCHMENT AND CONSERVATION PLANNING)

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.

Kaye Cavanagh

MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Sean Madigan

GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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

