



City of  
**Ipswich**

## **AGENDA**

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### **REGULATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, 28 May 2026  
2.00 pm

Claremont Room, Level 8  
1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

**MEMBERS OF THE REGULATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Paul Tully (**Chairperson**)

Councillor Jim Madden (**Deputy Chairperson**)

Councillor Marnie Doyle

Councillor Andrew Antonioli

## REGULATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

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\*\* Item includes confidential papers

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**REGULATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE NO. 2026(02)**

**28 MAY 2026**

AGENDA

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

**BUSINESS OUTSTANDING**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE REGULATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE NO. 2026(01) OF 29 JANUARY 2026**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Regulation Advisory Committee held on 29 January 2026 be confirmed.

**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

2. **LOCAL LAW REVIEW - OVERGROWN PROPERTIES**

This is a report concerning an action from a previous Regulation Advisory Committee meeting regarding overgrown properties and the enforcement approach available through our current local laws. Our current local laws require a compliance notice to be issued first, and if not complied with, it is only then that a PIN can be issued. This drafting is not enabling Council to take more direct action where there are repeat offenders who are waiting for a notice to be issued before taking any action. The ability to issue a Penalty Infringement Notice (PIN) directly when there are repeat offences may assist in changing behaviours and reducing offences in the future. With a local law review underway this issue has been identified as one to address in the drafting stage of the review.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the report be received and contents noted.

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3. **LOCAL LAW REVIEW - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES 16 MARCH - 6 APRIL 2026**

This is a report concerning the final step of the Strategic Regulation Project, a comprehensive local law review. Outcomes of recent community consultation for

the local law review is provided with recommendations on what should progress to the next stage of the review, the drafting of laws.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That the 16 topics identified in Table 1 of this report be approved to proceed to the next phase of the review.
- B. That the 1 topic identified in Table 1 of this report not proceed to the next phase of the review and be considered in a future subsequent review of local laws.
- C. That the Community Engagement Report in Attachment 1 of the report be received and noted.

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4. LOCAL LAW REVIEW - DRAFT LOCAL LAW FRAMEWORK

This is a report concerning the final step of the Strategic Regulation Project, a comprehensive local law review. This report outlines the draft local law framework and key drafting instructions that will be used to commence drafting of laws. Throughout the drafting phase, further internal consultation will occur. At the conclusion of this phase, draft laws will be presented to Council for consideration so the formal local law making process can commence which includes State Government interest checks and community consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and contents noted.

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5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be advised.

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6. GENERAL DISCUSSION (within the purpose and scope of the committee)

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**REGULATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE NO. 2026(01)**

**29 JANUARY 2026**

MINUTES

**COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Paul Tully (Chairperson); Councillors Jim Madden, Marnie Doyle, Andrew Antonioli and Mayor Teresa Harding (Observer), Councillor Jacob Madsen (Observer), Councillor David Martin (Observer) and Councillor Pye Augustine (Observer)

Mayor Teresa Harding arrived at 2.05 pm.

**COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES:**

Nil

**OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), General Manager, Corporate Services (Matt Smith), Manager, Strategy Governance and Performance (Haiden Taylor), Principal Officer, Governance (Barbara Dart), Manager, General Counsel (Allison Ferres-MacDonald), General Manager, Planning and Regulatory Services (Brett Davey), Manager, Compliance (Alisha Connaughton) – via audio-link

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

Nil

**BUSINESS OUTSTANDING**

Nil

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE REGULATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE NO. 2025(03) OF 30 OCTOBER 2025**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Regulation Advisory Committee held on 30 October 2025 be confirmed.

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## OFFICERS' REPORTS

### 2. STRATEGIC REGULATION PROJECT: STEP 1 POLICY

This is a report concerning Step 1 of the Strategic Regulation Project and updating Council's current Compliance and Enforcement Policy to be more holistic about regulation. Following targeted community consultation that supported a risk-based approach to regulation, amendments to the policy were drafted. Feedback was sought from Councillors and key staff during October/November 2025. The policy has been amended and includes a name change from Compliance and Enforcement Policy to Regulation Policy which supports the intent of making the policy more holistic. The amended policy is now presented to Council for adoption.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the amended Compliance and Enforcement Policy, now named the Regulation Policy, as outlined in Attachment 3, be adopted.

#### DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed the Regulation Policy and proposed the following amendments:

- Under 7. Roles and Responsibilities – Role of Officers – the words 'abreast of' be replaced with the words 'familiar with'.
- Under 10. Definitions – a definition for Investigation to be included.

#### Attachments

1. Regulation Policy - updated with amendments

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### 3. LOCAL LAW REVIEW - PROPOSED COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

This is a report concerning the comprehensive local law review that forms part of the Strategic Regulation Project. The report provides information about the topics that initial community consultation will be undertaken on so that Council can consider that feedback before any drafting of new laws commences. All of the topics have a focus of making it easier for the community to understand if they need to apply, how to apply and/or how to comply with eight of the seventeen topics providing a reduction in red tape for the community. This initial community consultation will occur over 3-4 weeks commencing mid-late March.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled 'Local Law Review – Proposed Community Consultation', be received and the contents noted.

## DISCUSSION

The committee discussed the Key Topics for Initial Feedback and proposed the following amendment:

Under Declared Traffic Areas and Off-Street Regulated Parking, under the sub heading Addition of New Off-Street Regulated Parking areas (11), the addition of the following:

- Richardson Park, Goodna (incl Goodna Aquatic Centre and Noel Kelly Drive).

Attachments

1. Topics for survey - updated

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## 4. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be determined.

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## 5. GENERAL DISCUSSION (within the purpose and scope of the committee)

### 5.1. GENERAL BUSINESS

The committee discussed the following matters:

- Beekeeping
- Temporary home proposal
- Overgrown properties
- Footpath mowing
- Abandoned Properties

Councillor Marnie Doyle left the meeting at 2.47 pm.

### ACTION

The Principal Officer (Governance) to prepare an options paper on overgrown properties for the next meeting of the Regulation Advisory Committee.

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## PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS

The meeting commenced at 2.04 pm.

The meeting closed at 2.59 pm.

Doc ID No: A12882148

ITEM: 2  
SUBJECT: LOCAL LAW REVIEW - OVERGROWN PROPERTIES  
AUTHOR: PRINCIPAL OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)  
DATE: 13 MAY 2026

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning an action from a previous Regulation Advisory Committee meeting regarding overgrown properties and the enforcement approach available through our current local laws. Our current local laws require a compliance notice to be issued first, and if not complied with, it is only then that a PIN can be issued. This drafting is not enabling Council to take more direct action where there are repeat offenders who are waiting for a notice to be issued before taking any action. The ability to issue a Penalty Infringement Notice (PIN) directly when there are repeat offences may assist in changing behaviours and reducing offences in the future. With a local law review underway this issue has been identified as one to address in the drafting stage of the review.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

### **RELATED PARTIES**

There are no known conflicts of interest at the time of writing.

### **IFUTURE THEME**

A Trusted and Leading Organisation

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

At the Regulation Advisory Committee on 29 January 2026, the following action was recorded:

*“The Principal Officer (Governance) to prepare an options paper on overgrown properties for the next meeting of the Regulation Advisory Committee.”*

This action was a result of discussion held as part of general business and concerns raised by committee members about the enforcement of overgrown properties, and the perception where repeat offenders are using the enforcement process, namely the issuing of a compliance notice, as a reminder service before taking any action to remedy their overgrown yards within the specified time on the compliance notice. The solution lies with a review of our current local laws.

The current enforcement approach is directed by Council's current local laws.

The existence of overgrown vegetation on a premises is deemed the 'Commission of a Nuisance' under *Local Law 8 (Nuisances and Community Health and Safety) 2013* Section 7 (18):

*vegetation on a premises is overgrown to the extent that -*

- a) in the reasonable opinion of an authorised person it has seriously affected the visual amenity of a premises or surrounding area; or*
- b) in the reasonable opinion of an authorised person it is likely to harbour reptiles or vermin;*

Section 6 of the same local law says

- (1) A person must not do any act or omit to do any act which causes a nuisance.*

*Maximum penalty for subsection (1)—*

*(a) for first offence —10 penalty units.*

*(b) for second offence within a 2 year period —30 penalty units.*

*(c) for third or further offences within a 2 year period —50 penalty units.*

- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where the assessment of whether a nuisance exists is dependent on the opinion of an authorised person, the local government must issue a compliance notice before taking any other action.*

The intent of the tiered penalty offences is to allow a compliance notice for the first offence and should there be further offences within a two year period, authorised officers would have the option of issuing a Penalty Infringement Notice (PIN) straight up. However, due to Section 6(2), authorised officers have no option but to issue a compliance notice and wait until the compliance notice period has expired, and if the breach has not been remedied, they are then only able to issue a PIN for the non-compliance with the compliance notice.

Council's legal services confirms that a compliance notice must be issued first before a PIN can be issued should the compliance notice not be complied with. If a compliance notice is not issued first, the PIN would not hold up in court if challenged as a mandatory step has not been followed.

Most repeat offenders do comply with the compliance notice however it would appear some may be relying on receiving that notice before taking any action which can exacerbate issues within the neighbourhood (continual amenity and public health issues) and is not what a compliance notice should be treated as where there is a pattern of non-compliance. It would assist if our local laws could allow the option of a compliance notice or a PIN to be issued.

Council is currently undertaking a review of its local laws and this issue has been identified as part of the review and a solution with drafting will be explored. The ability to issue a PIN directly when there are repeat offences may assist in changing behaviours and reducing offences in the future.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:  
*Local Law 8 (Nuisances and Community Health and Safety)*

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The policy implications relate to changes to the maximum penalties and the enforcement tools available to authorised officers in situations where the assessment of an offence relates to the opinion of an authorised officer. The policy intent of regulating overgrown properties does not change, the tools on how it is enforced will be reviewed to enable penalty infringement notices to be issued for repeat offences.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

If the drafting of the laws (as part of the local law review) is not changed then repeat offenders will still receive a compliance notice first for each and every overgrown property offence.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Authorised officers will be able to consider the situation and apply the most appropriate enforcement tool, and in the case of repeat offenders, the ability to issue a PIN without the need to issue a compliance notice first could result in changed behaviours and ongoing compliance (and a reduction in follow up work).

## **COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION**

Discussions have been held with the Compliance Branch and review of legal services information has been undertaken in developing this report. Community consultation and State Government interest checks will be undertaken as part of the formal local law making process in the current local law review.

## **CONCLUSION**

Our current local laws require a compliance notice to be issued first, and if not complied with, it is only then that a PIN can be issued for offences related to overgrown properties. The current drafting is not enabling Council to take more direct action where there are repeat offenders who are waiting for a notice to be issued before taking any action. The ability to issue a PIN directly when there are repeat offences may assist in changing behaviours and reducing offences in the future. With a local law review underway this issue has been identified as one to address in the drafting stage of the review.

**HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

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.

Barbara Dart  
**PRINCIPAL OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Allison Ferres-MacDonald  
**MANAGER, GENERAL COUNSEL**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Matt Smith  
**GENERAL MANAGER (CORPORATE SERVICES)**

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

Doc ID No: A12887162

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: LOCAL LAW REVIEW - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES 16 MARCH - 6 APRIL 2026

AUTHOR: PRINCIPAL OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)

DATE: 14 MAY 2026

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning the final step of the Strategic Regulation Project, a comprehensive local law review. Outcomes of recent community consultation for the local law review is provided with recommendations on what should progress to the next stage of the review, the drafting of laws.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. That the 16 topics identified in Table 1 of this report be approved to proceed to the next phase of the review.**
- B. That the 1 topic identified in Table 1 of this report not proceed to the next phase of the review and be considered in a future subsequent review of local laws.**
- C. That the Community Engagement Report in Attachment 1 of the report be received and noted.**

### **RELATED PARTIES**

There are no known conflicts of interest at the time of writing.

### **IFUTURE THEME**

A Trusted and Leading Organisation

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

Council conducted community consultation between 16 March and 6 April 2026 to seek feedback on key changes relating to 17 topics that are being considered in new local laws. A total of 231 respondents completed a survey online at Shape Your Ipswich. A comprehensive community engagement report is provided (**Attachment 1**) that includes information on why we engaged, how we engaged, who we engaged, what the community told us and what the overall community insights are.

In reviewing the community insights, recommendations are now being put forward on what topics should progress to the next stage of the review which is the actual drafting of new laws.

A summary table is provided below of what is recommended to progress/not progress.

**Table 1: Summary of recommendations**

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Recommendation to progress to the drafting phase of the review</b>
Busking & Touting/Spruiking	Yes
Council Cemeteries	Yes
Declared Traffic Areas and Off Street Regulated Parking	Yes
Entertainment Venues	Yes
Events	Yes
Food Trucks and Roadside Vending	Yes
Footpath (Outdoor) Dining on Council Land	Yes
Heavy Vehicle Parking in Residential Areas	Yes
Heavy Vehicle Parking on Roads	Yes
Kennels and Catteries	Yes
Landscaping on Nature Strips	Yes
Not-For-Profit Mobile Servies in Public Places	Yes
Public Swimming Pools – Wellness Pools	Yes
Residential Building Sites (individual) – Containment Systems	Yes
Roosters	No
Special Entertainment Precinct – Ipswich Central	Yes
Temporary Homes	Yes

Further detail is provided below on each topic. Where it says *“What is it that Council may consider in the new laws?”* this comes straight from the information that was provided as part of the survey on Shape Your Ipswich. The *“Addressing Key Insights from Consultation”* is understanding and analysis of the information provided in the Community Engagement Report (Attachment 1) with the recommendation of what could proceed to the drafting stage.

## Busking & Touting/Spruiking

### Busking

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	Preapproved busking sites will be established by Council and available for buskers. Buskers will apply for an annual licence with standard conditions for performance and locations where they can perform. There will be a small fee for an annual licence that provides access to all preapproved locations. Preapproved busking sites will need to be booked online. Public Liability Insurance from buskers performing low risk activities won't be required for these preapproved sites, these sites will be covered by Council's insurance. A mandatory Busking Guideline will be developed to assist buskers understand what they need to do.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was very strong support (81%) for what is being considered. Concerns raised about noise and nuisance issues will be addressed in the mandatory guideline.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

### Touting/Spruiking

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	A licence for Commercial Touting/Spruiking will no longer be required but standard conditions will be included in the local law that must be abided by. Enforcement by Council can still occur if these conditions are not complied with. The laws will make it clearer about non-commercial touting/spruiking with explicit conditions on what is/isn't allowed on Council land and that public gatherings/protests/public marches are not captured by a local law but by the <i>Peaceful Assemblies Act</i>
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was more support for what is being considered (47%) compared to those who did not support (32%) and those who were neutral (21%). The concerns raised about being approached or harassed are addressed by the current conditions of a licence (ie as the licensee you cannot approach or disturb passers-by – they must approach you) and will remain as a standard condition in the new laws. Enforcement under the current laws is complaint based and this won't change with the removal of a licence. What is being considered allows for red tape reduction while ensuring appropriate enforcement can occur if and when it is needed.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Council Cemeteries

<b>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</b>	Create a new local law specifically for council Cemeteries so all provisions and standards are in the one document to make it easier to find out and understand what is/isn't allowed
<b>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</b>	There was very strong support (88%) for what is being considered. Council's current local laws state that you need a permit (council approval) to bring an animal into a council cemetery. There was overwhelming support for dogs to be allowed in a council cemetery for various reasons (eg pet dog being able to visit graves with family, attend a service). The removal of the current permit requirement for dogs will be considered in the drafting phase. This would mean dogs in council cemeteries would need to be managed the same as any other public place they are allowed.
<b>Additional Actions</b>	In addition to what is being considered by Council above, following community feedback, also consider the removal of needing a permit to bring a dog into a council cemetery. The bringing of other animals in would remain as needing a permit (council approval).
<b>Recommendation</b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Declared Traffic Areas and Off-Street Regulated Parking

<b>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Proposed Declared Traffic Areas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No new areas; changes to boundaries for Ipswich CBD and Springfield Traffic Areas to align with iGO Ipswich Transport Strategy 2025. Willowbank remains the same.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>From the existing list of off-street regulated parking areas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Removal of Maps A, B and G, as these areas relate to previous council premises.</li> <li>○ Addition of 16 new off-street regulated parking areas (noting that some may exist already but have boundary changes proposed)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</b>	<p>Almost half the respondents (48%) support the changes to the declared traffic areas, with 41% neutral and 11% not supportive. Almost half the respondents (45%) support the changes to the off-street regulated parking area, with 40% neutral and 15% not supportive.</p> <p>Comments provided by respondents largely focussed on parking issues not associated with what is being considered by Council here. For example concerns were raised about parking around the Ipswich General Hospital, parking on footpaths and commuter parking. This feedback will be provided to the relevant area of council responsible for strategic planning for parking so it can be considered in the future.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Entertainment Venues

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	No licence would be required for entertainment venues, but venues must comply with standard conditions (essentially those conditions that were attached to the licence) set out in a local law. Enforcement by Council can still occur if local law conditions and/or land use approval conditions aren't complied with (enforcement can be undertaken by Liquor Licensing for matters relating to their liquor licence).
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (75%) with no negative sentiment/comments recorded.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Events

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	An Event Assessment Framework could be established to classify proposed events as low or high risk based on factors such as (to name just a couple) expected attendance and on-site activities (e.g. food service, entertainment). This framework helps organisers understand requirements upfront, supports compliance, and applies to all event types, from small community activations to large-scale festivals. For low-risk events, organisers may apply and, if they agree to the required conditions and the site is available, approval will be granted. For high-risk events, an application will trigger a formal assessment process to determine whether the event can be approved. For low and high-risk events, the conditions of approval must be complied with otherwise enforcement action will be taken.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (85%) with the solid value of having clearly defined limits and conditions to guide event organisers and activation of events across Ipswich while maintaining safeguards.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Food Trucks and Roadside Vending

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	The Food Truck Site Licence (and fee) will cease to exist, but food truck operators will still need to abide by standard conditions in the local laws. The food truck operator can book a preapproved site with Council, with a maximum number of hours per booking and a limit on booking sites ahead of time to ensure adequate and fair access to all preapproved sites occurs. No changes are being considered at this time for licence applications for sites that aren't preapproved (for any location that hasn't been preapproved by Council, operators will need to apply for a licence and have their application and requested sites assessed to determine if a licence and location can be approved for their use only).
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (83%). Concerns from respondents including location of food trucks to bricks and mortar businesses (cafes, restaurants), health standards and demand of preapproved sites. Preapproved sites and other roadside vending sites take into consideration the existence of established businesses to ensure bricks and mortar businesses will not be impacted. The removal of the Food Truck Site Licence will not impact health standards and monitoring. If a Food Truck is selling food that is not prepackaged (including coffee vans etc) then those vans require a Mobile Food Licence under State legislation. Additional preapproved food truck sites will be identified by council and added from time to time.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Footpath (Outdoor) Dining on Council Land

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	No licence would be required for footpath (outdoor) dining on Council land, but businesses must comply with standard conditions set out in a local law which would include a mandatory guideline for footpath (outdoor) dining. Clear conditions will ensure accessible pathways are maintained, supporting inclusivity for all community members. Businesses may also be given flexibility to extend outdoor dining in front of neighbouring premises where written consent is provided, creating more vibrant and connected precincts. Council will continue to play a role in maintaining standards to ensure these conditions are upheld and public spaces remain safe and welcoming.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (84%). The concerns raised related to clear access on the footpath and ensuring health standards are adhered to. Access conditions will be applied to ensure safety is protected. There is no change to how council monitors health standards as these are captured under a separate Food Licence with related inspections undertaken.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Heavy Vehicle Parking in Residential Areas

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	A Heavy Vehicle Parking in Residential Areas permit (and fee) would no longer be needed, and the current enforceable Heavy Vehicle Parking Implementation Guideline would become standard conditions enforceable under the local law. There are no changes to the number of heavy vehicles that can be parked, that is, currently only one can be parked on a residential property.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	Of the respondents, 48% do not support what is being considered while 45% do support and 7% remained neutral. Of the comments provided, a lot of concerns raised are not related to what is being considered by Council. It would appear there could be a misunderstanding of what is being considered and rather than one heavy vehicle being parked within a private property, it appears people thought it was about parking a heavy vehicle on the street in a residential area as some quotes are: "Street parking/nature strip parking is already an issue on my residential street" and "this does not support the small streets in new developed areas". Noting also that heavy vehicles cannot park on a street/road for longer than an hour unless a parking sign indicates they can. Council currently has 29 Heavy Vehicle Parking in Residential Areas Permits. Active permits are reviewed each year. At present, should Council receive a complaint about a heavy vehicle parking within a private property, and it doesn't have a permit, then Council work with the owner to determine what action needs to be taken (eg permit application process/alternative parking arrangements). The number of current permits indicates that there is most likely a lot of heavy vehicles parking within private property across the city that don't have a permit and are not causing a nuisance. At present, should a complaint be received, then Council investigates and takes the appropriate action. The low number of current permits also suggests that the permit and permit fee are not a deterrent to what would be considered illegal parking or adding value for the community and council. The removal of the permit will not affect Council taking enforcement action should the conditions of the guideline be breached.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Heavy Vehicle Parking on Roads

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	Inclusion of some streets in industrial areas where heavy vehicles could park longer than one hour. Exact times and locations have not been established at this point in time.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (78%). Concerns raised were about ensuring that parking is only allowed in industrial areas and not on residential streets.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Kennels and Catteries

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	No licence (or fee) would be required for Kennels and Catteries, but operators must comply with standard conditions set out in a local law. The standard conditions would be the conditions that currently apply to a licence. Clarification will be provided that Kennels and Catteries need to comply with the Planning Scheme and that they are not permitted in residential/built up areas. Enforcement by Council can still occur if conditions of the local law or planning scheme aren't complied with.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	42% of respondents support what is being considered while 38% don't support and 20% are neutral. Concerns raised relate to wondering how these operations will be monitored without a licence, new operations popping up in residential areas and animal welfare. With a licence, council undertakes one yearly inspection. The removal of this yearly inspection does not mean Council won't have oversight of operations. Should patrons of these businesses have concerns they can raise them with Council to investigate. In addition to minimum standards in the new local law, kennels and catteries need to also comply with the Planning Scheme and they are not permitted to operate in residential areas. Any animal welfare concerns need to be raised with the RSPCA. Council does not regulate or enforce animal welfare matters and refers them to the RSPCA.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Landscaping on Nature Strips

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	A permit would no longer be needed but there would be standard conditions to comply with that are enforceable under the local law. The standard conditions that currently appear on permits may be reviewed.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	While there was strong support for what is being considered (89%), many stressed the importance of maintaining safety, visibility and pedestrian access. A significant number of comments also focussed on the need for clear rules, consistent enforcement and clarity around maintenance responsibilities and liability. These will all be considered in the drafting of minimum standards in the new laws.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Not-For-Profit Mobile Services in Public Places

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	Create some standard conditions for this type of activity to ensure there is a coordinated approach to the mobile service delivery on public land (no permit would be required). A mandatory guideline would be developed to provide clear guidance for not-for profit groups/individuals on how, where and when they can access public spaces to deliver their services.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	Of the respondents, 65% support what is being considered while 24% do not support and 11% remained neutral. The comments reflected strong recognition and importance of outreach and support services and concerns about red tape. The proposal is to provide an enforceable guideline to assist mobile services achieve a coordinated approach on public land. There will be no red tape in terms of requiring a permit or licence.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Public Swimming Pools – Wellness Pools

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	Make it clearer that hydrotherapy pools, float tanks, plunge pools etc are included in public swimming pool regulation by Council but it is proposed that these types of wellness pools will need to abide by enforceable standard conditions rather than require a licence. Should Council receive a complaint about water quality at a wellness pool then Council can inspect to understand if the standard conditions have been complied with and take enforcement action if needed. For other public swimming pools that require a licence, the current licence conditions will be reviewed and updated as, for example, they currently reference outdated water quality guidelines.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (85%) with many respondents emphasising the importance of protecting public health but for regulation to be practical and balanced.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Residential Building Sites (individual) – Containment Systems

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	To assist in making it clear about what is required on an individual residential building site, and where it is not in conflict with any State legislation, provisions would be included in the new laws to say that a person must have the following containment systems in place on the site: sediment and erosion; waste management; and drainage e.g. temporary downpipes.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (78%). Concerns raised were about the impacts of adding more costs to an already expensive exercise of building a house. The containment systems are already required on building sites however it will assist to have simple yet clear requirements about them in the local laws so compliance is easier to achieve.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Roosters

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	Create a new category for Roosters (and exclude them from the poultry category). Include robust conditions on keeping roosters in residential/built up areas where if non-compliance with noise controls/provisions occurs the rooster will need to be removed from the property. No changes needed for poultry as roosters will be separate.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	This topic received the most feedback with 154 of the 231 contributions addressing this matter. 49% of respondents do not support what is being considered with 40% supporting and 12% neutral. A significant portion of feedback emphasised Ipswich’s rural identity, with residents noting long-standing agricultural practices, the importance of self-sufficiency, and concerns about urban encroachment. Others stressed the need for fairness and consistency across animal noise regulations arguing roosters are comparable to dogs, wildlife and general neighbourhood noise. The feedback demonstrates a divide between residents in rural or acreage areas, who largely support continued rooster keeping, and those in denser suburbs who experience noise as a nuisance. Overall there was strong interest in ensuring any future approach is practical, proportionate and reflective of Ipswich’s diverse residential and semi-rural character. Given the issues raised by respondents it is important for Council to do further research and stakeholder engagement in this area before determining if current laws should change. Due to timeframes for this review and the detailed work that would be required on this topic alone, it is proposed that this issue not progress now and be considered in a future review of animal management related local laws.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic <b>does not progress</b> to the drafting phase of the review.

## Special Entertainment Precinct – Ipswich Central

<b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b>	Establishing a Special Entertainment Precinct (SEP) for Ipswich Central to support live music and increased activity in the city centre. Enabling Council, through a local law, to manage entertainment-related sound within the precinct and provide clearer expectations for venues and the community. Supporting future changes to the Planning Scheme so new developments in Ipswich Central are designed with the understanding that the city centre is a vibrant, active environment, including appropriate noise mitigation. Retaining Liquor Licensing as the regulator for liquor approvals, trading conditions and venue safety, with no change to these responsibilities.
<b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b>	There was strong support for what is being considered (79%).The comments reflected a mix of strong enthusiasm for cultural growth and concerns about noise and residential amenity. Support expressed was for the revitalising the city centre with the potential for safer night time activity, greater opportunity for local artists, musicians and hospitality businesses – overall a more active night time economy and attracting people back into the CBD. Concerns raised revolved on the potential impacts on existing residents, frequency of events and questioning how “appropriate “ noise levels would be defined and enforced. Overall the feedback demonstrated strong interest in a more vibrant Ipswich Central balanced with the expectation that any SEP must carefully manage noise, support existing residents, and be part of a wider strategy to activate the city in a sustainable and inclusive way.
<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.

## Temporary Homes

<p><b><i>What is it that Council may consider in new laws?</i></b></p>	<p>Individuals or families could occupy a temporary home on another person’s property for a short period of time without the need for approval (e.g. if they are visiting family on holidays or otherwise in need of a short-term, affordable housing option) if they meet the minimum requirements set by Council, as well as providing longer term options but only for a maximum of 18 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Temporary home means a tent or vehicle</b>, which is fit to be used as a place of temporary residence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vehicle means a car, campervan, caravan, motorhome, bus or trailer on wheels, that is or was solely or principally used, designed or adapted for use on roads or for transport purposes, regardless of its registration status.</li> <li>- Tent means a temporary structure clad in canvas, plastic or similar material, with or without walls, supported by poles or similar supports and fastened to the ground using ropes, pegs or ballast.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• For a <b>Vehicle</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stays of 30 days or less have to abide by min standards (maximum of 90 days in a 12 month period, with no single period extending more than a 30 day duration).</li> <li>- Stays of 31 days up to 6 months have to abide by min standards and send Council a notice (maximum of 1 x 6months in a 12 month period).</li> <li>- 6 months or longer need to apply for a permit and a permit is only given for a maximum of 18mths. (no renewals) – (A provision will be provided where Council could approve for those who are building and where they can show their building approvals have been extended, we could extend by a max of 6 months).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• For a <b>Tent</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Occupation only allowed for continuous period of max 4 days and have to abide by min standards.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Addressing Key Insights from Consultation</i></b></p>	<p>56% of respondents support what is being considered with 30% not supporting and 14% neutral. The comments highlighted a strong tension between the need for flexible housing options and the importance of maintaining neighbourhood amenity. Many respondents emphasised the ongoing housing and cost of living pressures, expressing strong support for more permissive rules that allowed families, friends and vulnerable people to stay safely on private property. Alongside this, a substantial number of respondents raised concerns about amenity, health and safety with a focus on wastewater disposal, drainage, odour, overcrowding, unsafe structures, and vehicle congestion. The ability to enforce appropriately without a permit system was questioned as compliance issues will only surface after impacts are already felt by neighbours. Some also sought clarity around the terms, the distinction between storing a caravan and occupying it and whether the rules should be extending beyond the circumstance of needing a temporary dwelling due to construction occurring. Overall, the feedback reflects a community that is highly aware of the current housing pressures but also concern about ensuring any increased flexibility is balanced with clear standards, enforceable safeguards and protections for neighbourhood amenity. The drafting of what is being considered needs to address the concerns raised by the community for it to be successful.</p>
<p><b><i>Recommendation</i></b></p>	<p>That this topic progress to the drafting phase of the review.</p>

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

*Local Government Act 2009*

*Local Government Regulation 2012*

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The local law review will have policy implications however the specific implications will not be known until a later time. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Risks will be managed and mitigated within the project's governance arrangements

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Most of the Strategic Regulation Project will be undertaken 'in house' with two dedicated full-time equivalents (FTE). Anticipated whole of life costs for the Strategic Regulation Project are \$350k plus two FTEs. The \$350k is for Step 3 (Local Law Review) and involves costs for external legal services, along with some advertising and promotion costs for consultation. The costs will be incurred during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 years.

## COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

This report documents the outcomes of community consultation that was undertaken between 16 March and 6 April 2026.

## CONCLUSION



Outcomes of a recent community consultation for the local law review is provided with recommendations on what should progress to the next stage of the review, the drafting of laws.

## HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS	
OTHER DECISION	
(a) What is the Act/Decision being made?	The recommendation is about what topics should proceed to the drafting phase of the review and takes into consideration the community engagement insights captured during the 16 March to 6 April consultation period.
(b) What human rights are affected?	There are no potential human rights affected as a result of this recommendation.
(c) How are the human rights limited?	N/A
(d) Is there a good reason for limiting	N/A

the relevant rights? Is the limitation fair and reasonable?	
(e) Conclusion	The decision is consistent with human rights.

## ATTACHMENTS

1.	Community Engagement Report May 2026  
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Barbara Dart  
**PRINCIPAL OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Allison Ferres-MacDonald  
**MANAGER, GENERAL COUNSEL**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Matt Smith  
**GENERAL MANAGER (CORPORATE SERVICES)**

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

City of Ipswich

# Community Engagement Report

Local Law Review

May 2026





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ipswich City Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners, the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People of the Yugara/Yagara Language Group, as custodians of the land and waters we share. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, as the keepers of the traditions, customs, cultures and stories of proud peoples.



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Local Law Review is the final stage of a three-stage Strategic Regulation Project designed to modernise how Ipswich City Council manages regulation, ensuring contemporary, flexible and risk-based approaches that support effective service delivery. It establishes a new, future-focused suite of local laws that better reflect community expectations, council needs and reduce unnecessary regulatory burden within a risk-based context.

Community engagement on key changes that could be considered in the Local Law Review was undertaken through council's Shape Your Ipswich engagement platform from 16 March to 6 April 2026. Engagement activities sought to understand community insights on what could be included in the drafting of new and updated local laws. The engagement approach included online information and a survey with opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback on the regulatory key changes under consideration.

Community insights from the engagement included:

- Strong support for simplifying regulation through enforceable standard conditions
- Strong community focus on safety amenity and environmental protection
- Clear divide between urban and rural expectations
- Desire for clearer rules and better understanding of enforcement approaches
- Strong interest in local vibrancy, activation and community wellbeing

This report outlines what we heard from the community through the engagement process (community insights). A separate covering report to Council will recommend how these insights will inform the next steps for the local law review. Both of these reports will be made available on Shape Your Ipswich.

Further community engagement will be undertaken later in the project when the draft laws are presented for more formal feedback from the community and State Government.

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## WHY WE ENGAGED

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Engagement with the community aimed to gather insights that:

- Council can consider on proposed key changes before any drafting of new laws commences.
- Support the development of contemporary, easy-to-understand local laws.
- Ensure the renewed suite of local laws reflects the needs of a growing and changing Ipswich community.
- Support the broader Strategic Regulation Project by grounding reforms in evidence and community feedback for a risk-based approach to regulation.

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## HOW WE ENGAGED

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The engagement was undertaken between 16 March 2026 and 6 April 2026.

On the spectrum of public participation<sup>1</sup>, the engagement was at the **Consult** level. The public participation goal at the Consult level is to obtain community (public) feedback on the key changes to local laws that are being considered by Council. The promise to the community at the Consult level is that Council will keep the community informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and close the loop on how community feedback has been considered in the decision making for the next steps in the local law review.

### ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK CHANNELS

The community was able to contribute their feedback through the channels detailed below.

#### Shape Your Ipswich

Engagement was captured via a survey on the project page, [Local Law Review](#), hosted on Shape Your Ipswich. Survey questions can be seen in [Appendix 1](#).

#### Hard copy survey

Community members were able to download a hard copy survey to share their feedback if they were unable to complete the online survey and post/deliver them to Council, including at the drop-in sessions listed below. None were received.

#### Drop-in Sessions

Eleven drop-in sessions were held to provide the broader community with access to project staff to assist with any questions about the local law review and help with completing the online survey if required. The dates and locations of the sessions are provided in the below table. At the sessions, staff took the opportunity share information about the survey with patrons of the libraries/passers-by. One community member sought out the drop-in session following the receipt of a letter informing them of the project.

DATE	LOCATION
18 March 2026	Ipswich Central Library
20 March 2026	Rosewood Library
23 March 2026	Redbank Plains Library
24 March 2026	Ipswich Central Library
25 March 2026	Karalee Library Pod
26 March 2026	Springfield Central Library
27 March 2026	Rosewood Library
30 March 2026	Redbank Plains Library
31 March 2026	Springfield Central Library
1 April 2026	Karalee Library Pod

<sup>1</sup> International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum of Public Participation



DATE	LOCATION
2 April 2026	Ipswich Central Library

**Email**

The community was able to directly reach out to council via [communityengagement@ipswich.qld.gov.au](mailto:communityengagement@ipswich.qld.gov.au) with feedback on this project. Six emails were received and they were encouraged to provide their feedback via the survey online or attend a drop-in session.

**Phone**

The community was able to directly reach out to council via 07 3810 6666 with feedback on this project. No calls were received by the project team.

**PROMOTIONAL CHANNELS**

To maximise engagement for the survey, the following communication channels were used to reach the community and trigger awareness.

**Ipswich City Council social media**

Two posts were shared on Ipswich City Council’s Social Media accounts for raising awareness of the project and encouraging the community to share their feedback. A screenshot of the posts can be seen in [Appendix 2](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNEL	DATE OF POSTING	REACH <sup>2</sup>	CLICKS <sup>3</sup>
Facebook	20 March 2026	6,405	98
Instagram	20 March 2026	431	12

**Paid social media**

Paid advertisements were arranged for the engagement period on Meta (Facebook and Instagram) and GPM (Google). Key results were:

- 4,027 Clicks (through to the Shape Your Ipswich page with the survey)
- 1.73% Click through rate (exceeded benchmark of 0.53%)
- 36,095 Reach (unique users it reached)
- 287,520 Impressions (number of times the advertisement was displayed)
- GPM (Google) outperformed Meta (Facebook/Instagram) in all metrics except CTR (Click through rate).
- Males were more engaged with the Meta ads, while females were more engaged with Google ads.

**Shape Your Ipswich**

One email campaign was sent out via Shape Your Ipswich. This was sent on 16 March 2026 and was sent out to Shape Your Ipswich members who had selected any of the following categories of interest as well as all location-based subscription lists:

- Animals
- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Business and Economy
- City Design and Planning
- Community
- Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change
- Governance
- Health and Wellbeing
- Indigenous
- Parks and Recreation
- Sport
- Transport and Movement
- Waste/Resource Recovery
- Tourism
- Ipswich

This campaign was sent to a total of 1,495 members, of which 628 (42%) opened the email.

<sup>2</sup> Total number of times a social media post was viewed.

<sup>3</sup> Total number of times a URL in a social media post was clicked.



### Direct Mail

A letter was mailed to every person who has a current licence or permit with Council. The letter provided an overview of the local law review, the consultation period and directed recipients to Shape Your Ipswich for the survey and further details. The letter was distributed on 3 March 2026 and was sent to 1733 current licence/permit holders.

### Ipswich First

An Ipswich First article, [Have your say - help shape Ipswich Local Laws](#), was distributed on 17 March 2026. The article shared details of the project and received 239 views.

### Signage

Signage was placed at the following locations from 16 March 2026 to 6 April 2026. The sign included a QR code to Shape Your Ipswich and encouraged community to share their feedback.

- Customer Concierge lobby 1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich. (Digital Display inside entry door)
- At locations during the drop-in sessions. (Pull up banner)

### Internal Staff Promotion

A Wire article was distributed on 17 March 2026. The article provided an overview of the project, access to a consultation support kit, and direct links to Shape Your Ipswich. Staff were encouraged to participate as community members and to help promote awareness of the engagement across their stakeholder networks. The article received 323 views.

### External Media Publications

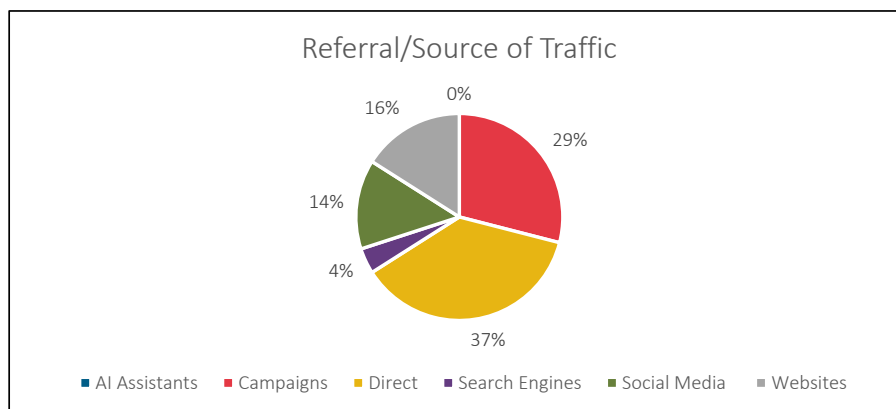
A media release was issued on 16 March 2026. The following article was identified when searching for external promotion of the engagement by other media outlets. A copy of the article can be seen in [Appendix 3](#).

- [Residents invited to help shape Ipswich local laws - Ipswich Tribune Today](#)



### Referral/Source of Traffic

The referral data shows that most visitors accessed the page directly (37%) or through targeted campaigns (29%), with additional traffic coming from websites (16%), social media (14%), and search engines (4%). Notably, AI assistants contributed no traffic (0%), indicating that this channel is not currently being used by the community to discover or access this content.



### SURVEY CONTRIBUTIONS

Overall, these activities led to a total of 231 completed surveys and 4,391 views of the Local Law Review Shape Your Ipswich page throughout the engagement period.



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## WHO ENGAGED

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Demographic data was captured as part of the survey. To understand how likely the insights in this report reflect the sentiment of the affected community, sample size and demographic representation have been considered.

### SAMPLE SIZE

The key changes being considered in the local law review has the potential to affect all who live, work and visit the City of Ipswich. This project was considered most likely to affect, or potentially affect:

- 1733 individuals and businesses who currently have a licence or permit with Council.
- 367,126 Ipswich residents, according to the 2021 Ipswich Census data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics
- 24,601 businesses operating in Ipswich, according to the 2024 Ipswich Region Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- Visitors to the City of Ipswich (in 2024: 2.1 million visitors; 1.7 million visitor nights)

Some individuals may belong to more than one of the identified affected groups. To avoid underestimating the affected population, a conservative combined estimate of 370,000 individuals was adopted for sample size calculations.

Based on a 95% confidence level, it was recommended that anywhere between 196-384 contributors participate to ensure an acceptable margin of error of 5-7%. This range aligns with industry standards for exploratory research, helping identify broad community trends and general sentiment.

A sample size of 231 was achieved, therefore fitting within the recommended sample size range to achieve a 95% confidence level and a 6% margin of error.

<sup>4</sup> \*Source: Tourism Research Australia, National and International Visitor Surveys September 2024

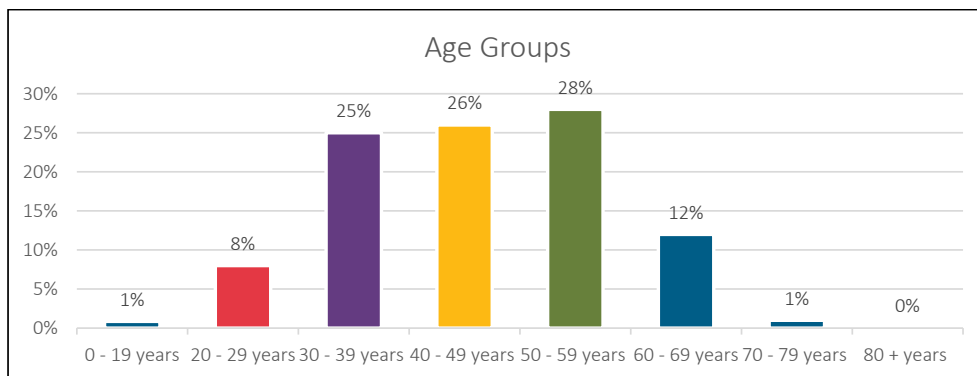


**DEMOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION**

Demographic information was collected as part of the Shape Your Ipswich survey. A minority of participants opted out of providing some or all demographic details. This included 3% who preferred not to share their gender, 2% who did not provide their year of birth, 1% who did not indicate their connection to Ipswich, 14% who did not provide their suburb, 3% who did not share their country of birth, and 3% who did not indicate whether they identified as part of a minority group. The respondent profile has been compared with the broader Ipswich population and continues to provide useful reference points despite these small non-response rates.

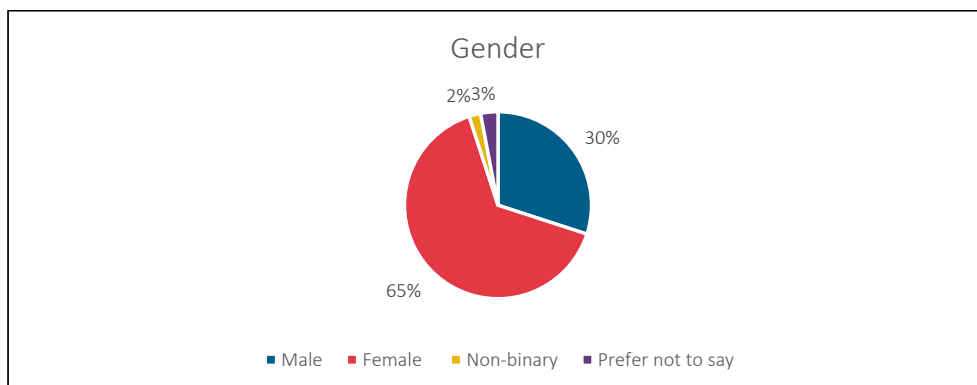
**Age**

The survey achieved relatively even representation across the 30–39 (25%), 40–49 (26%) and 50–59 (28%) age groups, reflecting the typical respondent profile for Shape Your Ipswich engagements. Responses were received across all age brackets except those aged 9 years and under, and minimal for the 10-19 age bracket. This absence and limited response is appropriate, as participation from this youngest cohort is not expected for this type of consultation.<sup>5</sup>



**Gender**

The majority of respondents (65%) identified as female, with 30% identifying as male and 2% as non-binary. Representation was received across all gender identities. The higher proportion of female participants is atypical for Shape Your Ipswich surveys, which generally receive a more gender-balanced response profile.<sup>6</sup>



<sup>5</sup> Please note that due to statistical rounding, these figures add up to 101%.

<sup>6</sup> Please note that due to statistical rounding, these figures add up to 101%.

Item 3 / Attachment 1.



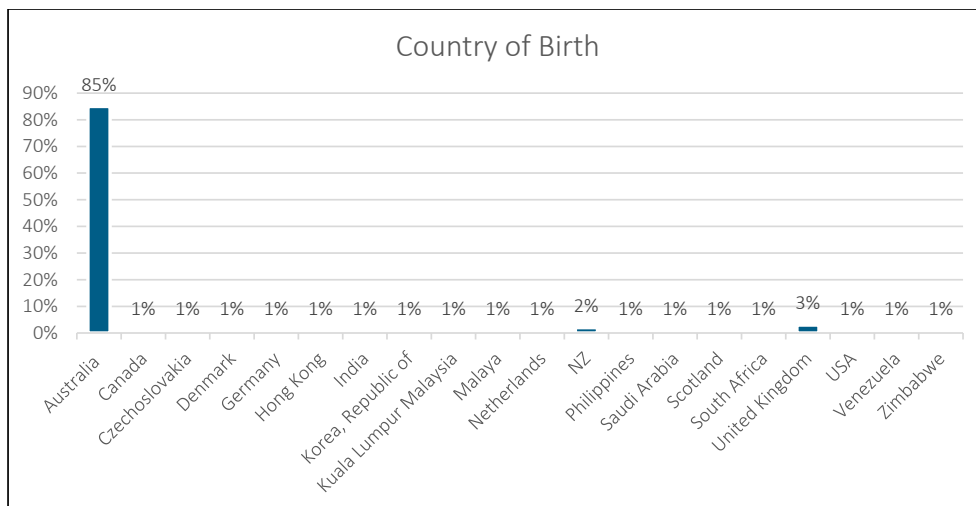
**Locality**

Most respondents (37%) reported residing in Division 4, followed closely by Division 3 with 31%. Division 1 accounted for 17% of responses and Division 2 for 14%. A small proportion of participants (1%) indicated they were located outside the Ipswich Local Government Area.

Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4
17%	14%	31%	37%
25% Ipswich population (2021 Census)	29% Ipswich population (2021 Census)	25% Ipswich population (2021 Census)	21% Ipswich population (2021 Census)
1% of respondents reside outside the Ipswich LGA			

**Country of birth**

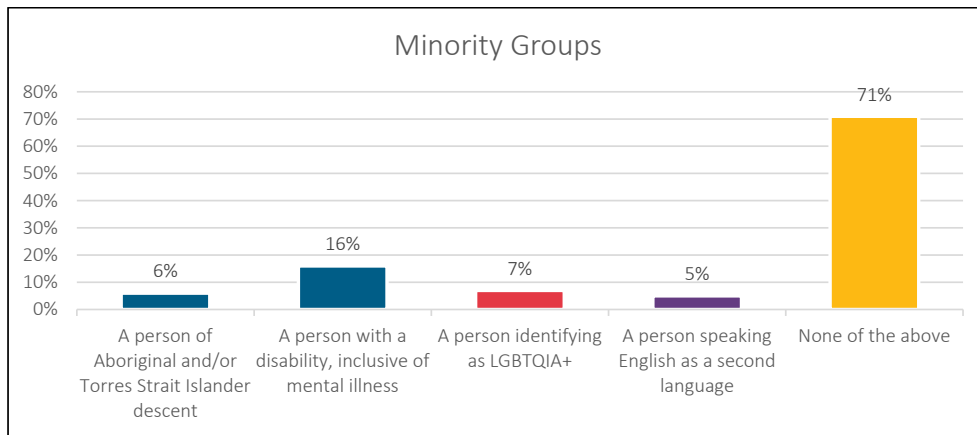
The majority of respondents (85%) identified Australia as their country of birth. A further 15% reported being born overseas, including 3% born in the United Kingdom and 2% in New Zealand. The remaining countries each accounted for between less than 1% and 1% of responses.





**Minority groups**

34% of the total respondents identified as belonging to a minority group. 16% of respondents identified as a person with a disability, including those living with mental illness. A further 7% identified as LGBTQIA+, 6% identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, and 5% reported speaking English as a second language.<sup>7</sup>



**OVERALL REPRESENTATIVENESS**

Given the representation from community, including receiving more than the recommended number of responses, findings outlined in this report are considered statistically representative of the community.

It is noted that these findings may be less representative of males, persons speaking English as a second language and persons under the age of 29 due to the limited number of contributions from these demographics.

<sup>7</sup> Respondents were able to select multiple options within this question. As such, the totals add up to 105%.

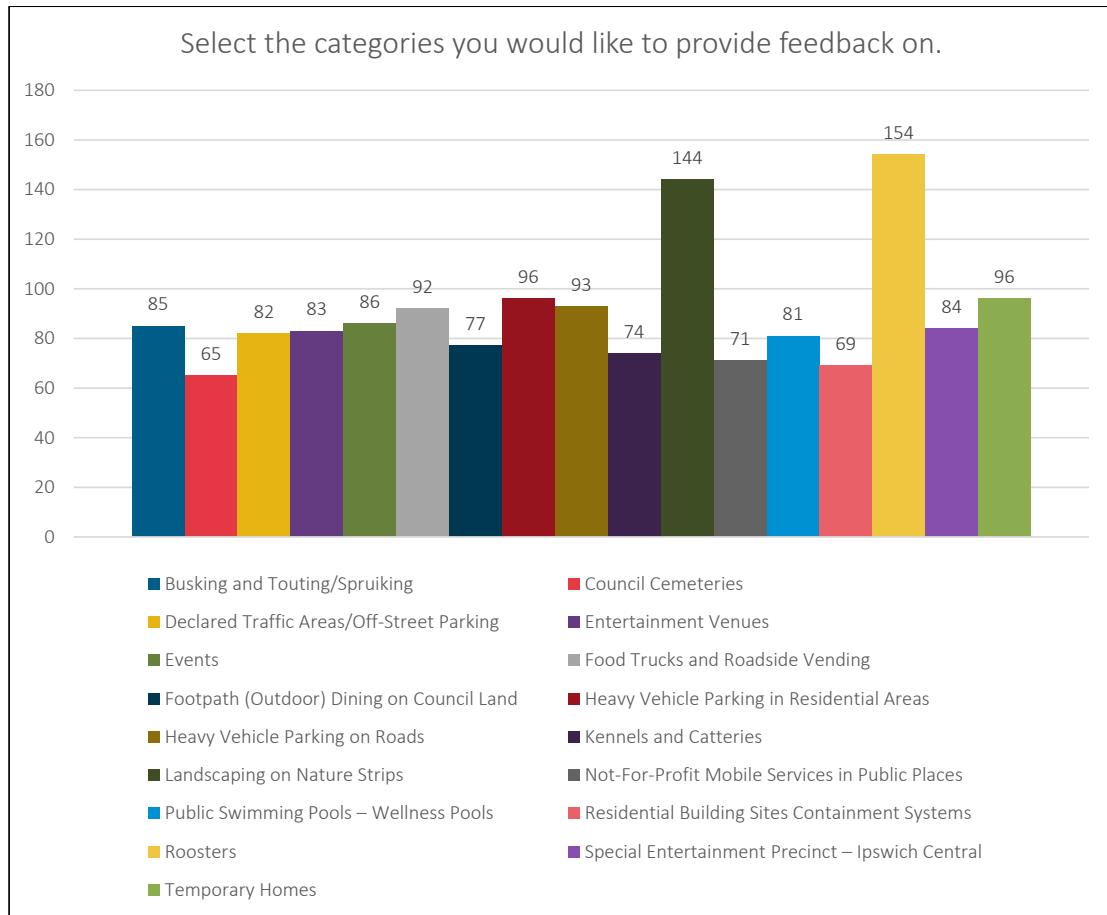


## WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US

### Q: Select the categories you would like to provide feedback on.

A total of 231 respondents provided an answer to this question. The majority of feedback (154 responses) related to Roosters, followed by 144 responses for Landscaping on Nature Strips. Most remaining categories received feedback from between 80 and 90 respondents. Council Cemeteries received the fewest responses (65), followed by Residential Building Sites - Containment Systems with 69 responses.

Respondents could select more than one response to this question.



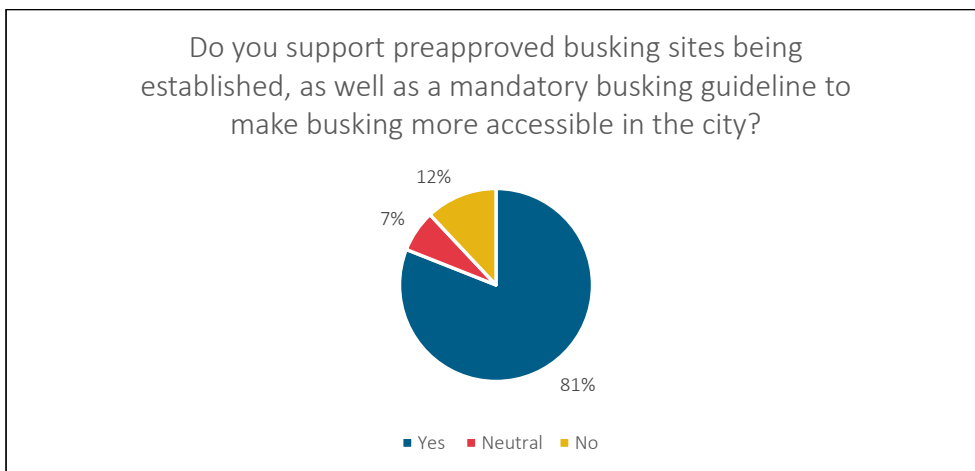


### BUSKING AND TOUTING/SPRUIKING

**Q: Do you support preapproved busking sites being established, as well as a mandatory busking guideline to make busking more accessible in the city?**

A total of 85 respondents provided an answer to this question. The majority (81%) support preapproved busking sites being established, as well as a mandatory busking guideline to make busking more accessible in the city, whereas 12% did not and 7% remained neutral.

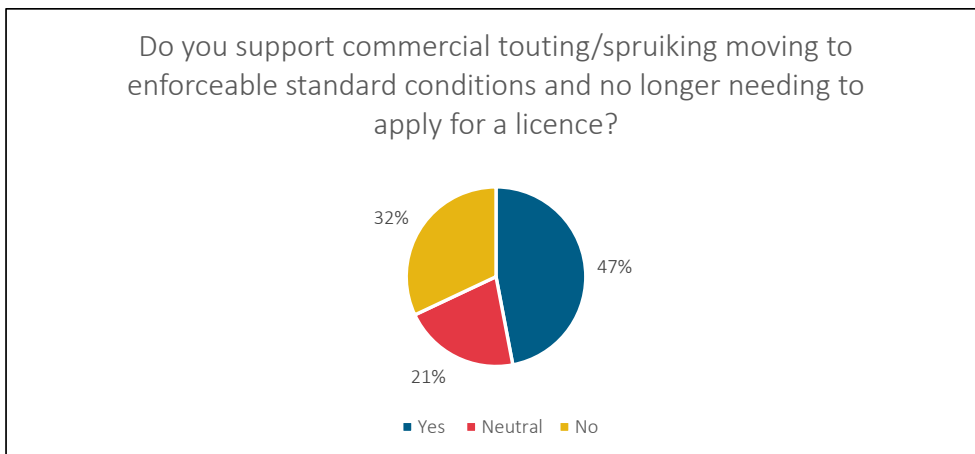
Respondents could only select one response to this question.



**Q: Do you support commercial touting/spruiking moving to enforceable standard conditions and no longer needing to apply for a licence?**

A total of 85 respondents provided an answer to this question. Most respondents (47%) support commercial touting/spruiking moving to enforceable standard conditions and no longer needing to apply for a licence, whereas 32% did not and 21% remained neutral.

Respondents could only select one response to this question.



**Q: Please share with us any further information you have on this issue.**

The qualitative feedback highlighted a wide range of ideas, expectations and concerns relating to the introduction of preapproved busking sites and a mandatory busking guideline to improve accessibility for performers in the city. While many respondents supported clearer guidelines and felt they would help artists participate more confidently in busking, others questioned how these changes would be managed in practice.

Several comments also raised concerns about potential shifts in the general atmosphere of the area, including increased noise, changes to ambience and personal space, and the possibility of more individuals seeking funds in non-performative ways.

There were 24 responses to this question. The table below summarises the key themes that emerged, the number of mentions for each, and quotes from respondents shared.

THEME	COMMENTS	QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS INCLUDED
<b>Positive</b>	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "A deliberate program to encourage buskers could be beneficial to the precinct"</li> <li>- "Busking should be simple and straightforward, doesn't cost the creative as some are trying to become something or do it for fun"</li> <li>- "Honestly the arts culture in this city would thrive if it became free and everywhere. look at the way that Europe has it. if a busker is causing a nuisance, then the patrons or business owners can ask them to leave if they don't then they involve police"</li> </ul>
<b>Neutral</b>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Clarifying that peaceful assembly is not a council matter is essential"</li> </ul>
<b>Negative</b>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Busking and touting is very annoying and disruptive."</li> <li>- "Do not like people approaching unnecessarily, can be confronting for elderly, disabled or anxious people"</li> <li>- "They're air pollution"</li> </ul>
<b>Creative Industries   Artist Support</b>	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "As to busking hopefully the licence if any is required in the future would be free for most. The nature of busking is such, that it is often a spontaneous thing done by young and old people that are sometimes not made of money."</li> <li>- "I think independent buskers should not be confined to preplanned "containment" areas. I like the idea of someone being able to set up in a place where they feel they will attract an audience. Less regulation of independent artists!"</li> <li>- "So much more accessible. Hope to see more buskers out on Ipswich streets."</li> </ul>
<b>Noise, Atmosphere and Safety Concerns</b>	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Commercial spruiking should not be aggressive, belittle those who do not wish to participate, or obstruct entry/exits of buildings or stores."</li> <li>- "I don't like commercial touting/sprucing, they harass you just walking down the street, I would rather this limited at least by putting in some paperwork."</li> <li>- "Definitely no commercial spruiking, destroys ambience of public spaces, dodgy retailers of dodgy products would love this change. Definitely not."</li> </ul>
<b>Limitations, Restrictions and Compliance</b>	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Busking for artists should be free &amp; no insurance needed, with no pre-determined area. Spruiking should be paid permits only to prevent nuisance. Protests should have local law in addition to PAA, should have fee &amp; permit to cover resources &amp; insurance."</li> <li>- "Guidelines as to public noise or nuisance"</li> <li>- "There needs to be a clear definition "</li> </ul>

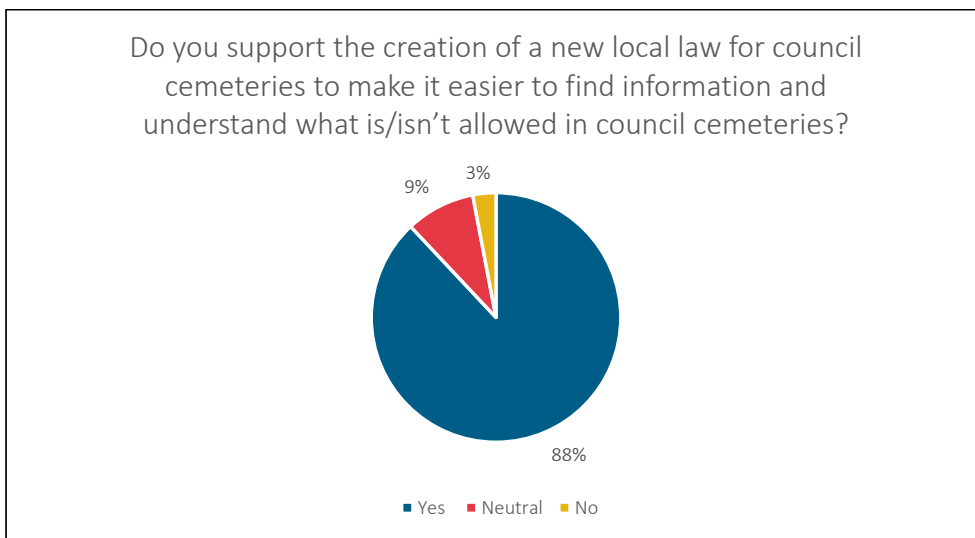


### COUNCIL CEMETERIES

**Q: Do you support the creation of a new local law for council cemeteries to make it easier to find information and understand what is/isn't allowed in council cemeteries?**

A total of 65 respondents provided an answer to this question. Most respondents (88%) support the creation of a new local law for council cemeteries to make it easier to find information and understand what is/isn't allowed in council cemeteries, whereas 3% did not and 9% remained neutral.

Respondents could only select one response to this question.



**Q: Please share with us any further information you have on this issue.**

The qualitative feedback on the proposed creation of a new local law for council-managed cemeteries reflected a mix of ideas, expectations and concerns. Many respondents supported the intent to make information easier to find and to clarify what is and isn't permitted within council cemeteries. Comments frequently referenced current permit provisions and restrictions, with several respondents' seeking clearer guidance on how these would operate under a new local law.

A notable theme related to the admittance of pets and service animals within cemetery boundaries, with respondents expressing a range of views on whether and how animals should be allowed. Several comments also acknowledged recent improvements to the maintenance of Ipswich cemetery locations, including Warrill Park Lawn Cemetery. These respondents reflected positively on the enhanced upkeep, recognition of protected species and the forward-thinking approach being taken in this space.

There were 20 responses to this question. The table below summarises the key themes that emerged, the number of mentions for each, and quotes from respondents shared.

THEME	COMMENTS	QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS INCLUDED
<b>Positive</b>	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Consistency is good. Permits should not be restrictive"</li> <li>- "Much easier for community to understand"</li> <li>- "should also cover what cemeteries can and cannot do"</li> </ul>
<b>Neutral</b>	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Would be nice to have a database of the graves especially older ones with a little information about the person especially people of note in Ipswich's past"</li> </ul>
<b>Negative</b>	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "People who bring animals to cemeteries may do so for religious &amp; other beliefs surrounding death etc. Normal restraining &amp; cleanup laws should suffice without need for a permit."</li> <li>- "I believe service animals for the deceased should be permitted to go to the cemeteries. They too have lost a loved one whether it be through service or medical support."</li> <li>- "Clean up the Ipswich cemetery and make it not an eyesore make it something lovely and beautiful for families to visit. It's sad the way it's been left to deteriorate."</li> </ul>
<b>Animals permitted</b>	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Animals should be allowed, e.g. where a deceased person had a pet or a support animal it would be meaningful for that animal to be taken to the memorial at times."</li> <li>- "Bringing a dog into a cemetery should not be illegal as long as they are following local dog laws."</li> <li>- "Pets are family and should be allowed to come to visit family, it is also important to consider other cultures and their traditions around death."</li> </ul>
<b>Limitations, Restrictions and Compliance</b>	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Permits should not be restrictive i.e., families should be allowed upkeep of gravesites within parameters without a permit e.g. replacing damaged tiling."</li> <li>- "Ensure ongoing maintenance and respect"</li> <li>- "Clean up the Ipswich cemetery."</li> </ul>
<b>Information Access</b>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Would be nice to have a database of the graves especially older ones with a little information about the person especially people of note in Ipswich's past"</li> <li>- "It would be great for there to be waterproofed easily accessible index for when the caretaker isn't about and for the caretaker to always make sure its up to date out of respect for the ones who have to travel such times of grieving ought to be made easier"</li> </ul>

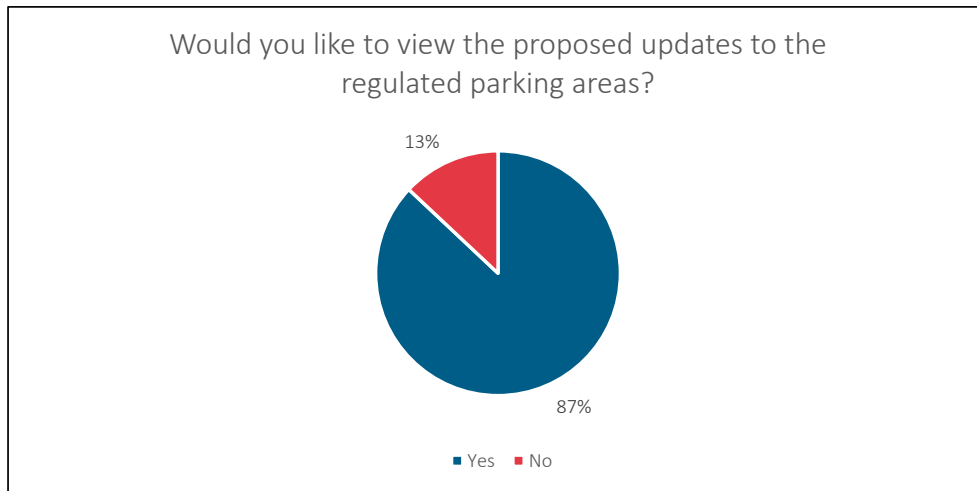


### DECLARED TRAFFIC AREAS/OFF-STREET REGULATED PARKING

**Q: Would you like to view the proposed updates to the regulated parking areas?**

Of the 67 respondents who provided an answer to this question, most respondents (87%) chose to view the proposed updates (maps) to the regulated parking areas, whereas 13% did not.

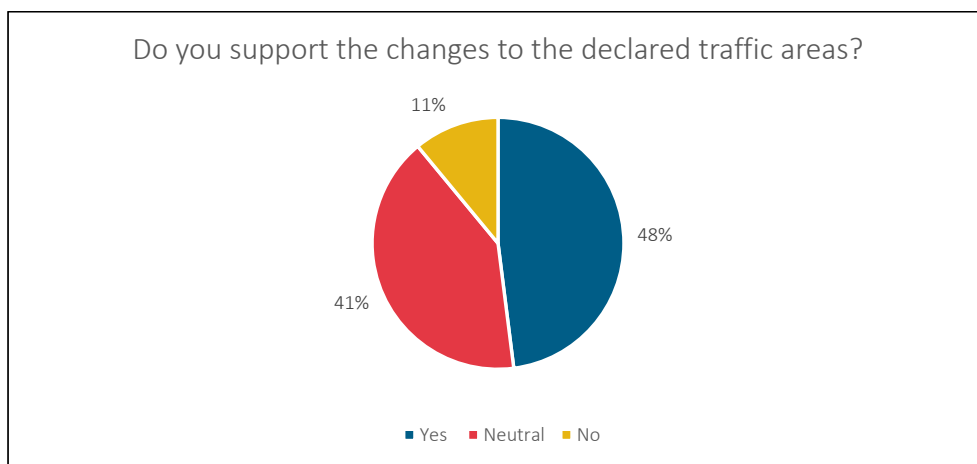
Respondents could only select one response to this question.



**Q: Do you support the changes to the declared traffic areas?**

A total of 82 respondents provided an answer to this question. Almost half of respondents (48%) support the changes to the declared traffic areas, whereas 11% did not and 41% remained neutral.

Respondents could only select one response to this question.

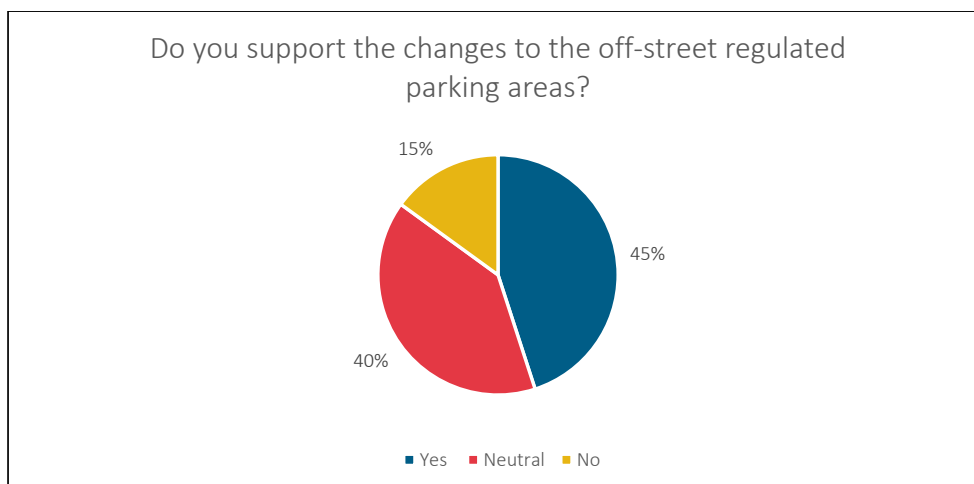




**Q: Do you support the changes to the off-street regulated parking areas?**

A total of 82 respondents provided an answer to this question. Almost half of respondents (45%) support the changes to the off-street regulated parking areas, whereas 15% did not and 40% remained neutral.<sup>8</sup>

Respondents could only select one response to this question.



<sup>88</sup> Please note that due to statistical rounding, these figures add up to 101%.

**Q: Please share with us any further information you have on this issue.**

The qualitative feedback on the proposed creation of a new local law for Declared Traffic Areas and Off-Street Regulated Parking reflected a mix of concerns, frustrations and ideas. Most respondents commented on current limitations and the perception that existing restrictions are not being consistently adhered to or enforced.

Other respondents focused on the need to increase available parking around both the Ipswich CBD and Springfield CBD, noting that clearer definitions, improved signage and event-based time limitations would better support users and reduce confusion. These comments generally indicated support for the proposed updates, particularly where they aim to improve clarity and expand parking options.

There were 25 responses to this question. The table below summarises the key themes that emerged, the number of mentions for each, and quotes from respondents shared.

THEME	COMMENTS	QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS INCLUDED
<b>Positive</b>	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "The beauty of parking in Ipswich CBD is the availability and affordability of it."</li> <li>- "Some of the locations seem to be fine with the exception of event days"</li> <li>- "Anywhere where it makes sense to"</li> </ul>
<b>Neutral</b>	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Not sure"</li> <li>- "The problem is there are too many cars per household"</li> </ul>
<b>Negative</b>	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "There is no requirement for any new regulated parking areas in Rosewood."</li> <li>- "there should be a requirement to provide off street parking for residents and building users."</li> <li>- "I believe that current free unregulated all-day parking around the hospital (Denmark Hill area) is having severe detrimental impact on local residents. Issues with noise, gaining access to driveways, wholesale illegal parking, etc are of concern."</li> </ul>
<b>Increase CBD parking (including Springfield)</b>	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "There needs to be further parking available through the CBD for longer stays especially for people who commute to the CBD from other cities."</li> <li>- "The parking around Springfield train station is extremely dangerous but if they're not parking on the road obstructing traffic they are fined."</li> <li>- "need more around central Ipswich."</li> </ul>
<b>Traffic and Transport</b>	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "all active bus stops/zones be clearly marked on road."</li> <li>- "Please review business hours parking at Queens Park and Riverheart/Bob Gamble. The majority of cars are not visiting our parks"</li> <li>- "I am conscious of the fact that if declared traffic areas are extended out further, parking becomes more burdensome for people who want to pop into the CBD to get things done without having to pay to park."</li> <li>- "We require more safe bike paths and having street parking affects the safety of bicycle/scooter users. convert street parking into bike paths"</li> </ul>
<b>Limitations, Restrictions and Compliance</b>	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Council should vigorously enforce existing laws regarding parking on footpaths. Offenders with large vehicles e.g. 4wd should receive a surcharge on top of the normal fine. Motorists are ignorant and disrespectful of the rights and safety of pedestrians."</li> <li>- "That all active bus stops/zones be clearly marked on road, in accordance with council regulations, 20m before 10m after."</li> </ul>

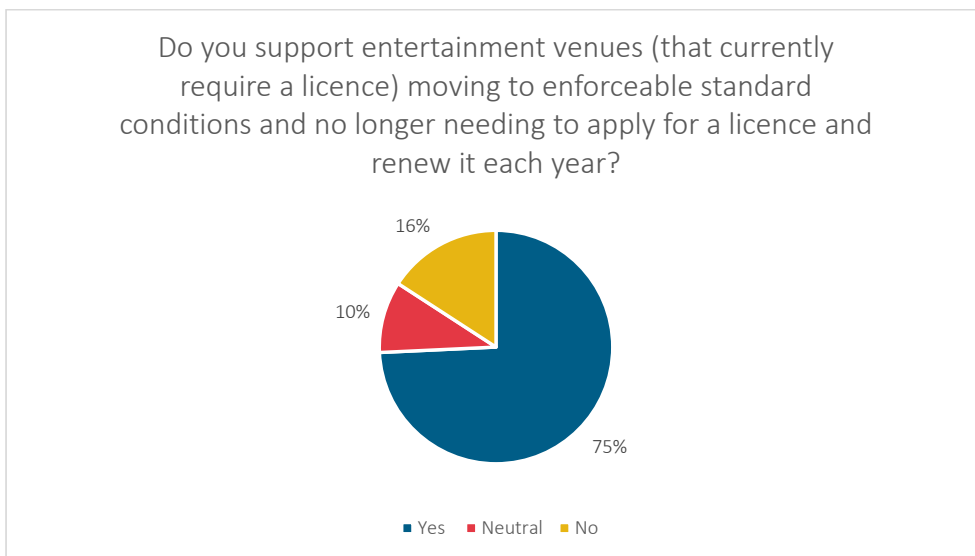


### ENTERTAINMENT VENUES

**Q: Do you support entertainment venues (that currently require a licence) moving to enforceable standard conditions and no longer needing to apply for a licence and renew it each year?**

A total of 83 respondents provided an answer to this question. The majority of respondents (75%) support moving to enforceable standard conditions and no longer needing to apply for a license, whereas 16% did not and 10% remained neutral.<sup>9</sup>

Respondents could only select one response to this question.



<sup>9</sup> Please note that due to statistical rounding, these figures add up to 101%.

**Q: Please share with us any further information you have on this issue.**

The qualitative feedback on the proposed creation of a new local law for entertainment venues, shifting to enforceable standard conditions and removing the need for annual licence applications revealed strong support among respondents. Comments consistently reflected the view that these updates would increase business capacity to operate, attract patrons and encourage more entertainment and events across the region.

Alongside this support, respondents also raised a mix of concerns, frustrations and ideas. Many comments referenced current limitations and the perception that existing restrictions are not being consistently adhered to or enforced. A notable theme related to the need for clear definitions within the law, with respondents emphasising that removing ambiguity is important for both operators and the community.

There were 14 responses to this question. The table below summarises the key themes that emerged, the number of mentions for each, and quotes from respondents shared.

THEME	COMMENTS	QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS INCLUDED
<b>Positive</b>	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"Any reduction in restrictive red tape is welcome."</i></li> <li>- <i>"This will allow more events to be held at these venues- thus helping the entertainment industry"</i></li> <li>- <i>"Anything to support venues in providing live music is great for all involved."</i></li> </ul>
<b>Neutral</b>	0	- <i>No comments</i>
<b>Negative</b>	0	- <i>No comments</i>
<b>Small Business, Venues and Local Atmosphere</b>	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"Anything that promotes a little bit of atmosphere in Ipswich would be a good thing I think."</i></li> <li>- <i>"If it's Privately owned Land Council should mind their own business."</i></li> <li>- <i>"Other ways to encourage smaller, grassroots venues to emerge would be more important, in my opinion."</i></li> </ul>
<b>Events, Access and Activity</b>	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"This is a great idea to encourage more entertainment"</i></li> <li>- <i>"A late night precinct with minimal noise restrictions should be considered and publicised to breathe life back into the cbd after 10pm on Friday/weekend's"</i></li> <li>- <i>"It is ridiculous that motorsport venues need an entertainment licence."</i></li> </ul>
<b>Limitations, Restrictions and Compliance</b>	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"Standard conditions rather than licensing should be considered in all aspects of businesses."</i></li> <li>- <i>"It depends on the implications. If there is no risk to safety or amenity, then I support it. If not having a license means venues are less accountable to patrons and public, then I am not supportive."</i></li> <li>- <i>"Needs to be strict rules written and enforced"</i></li> </ul>

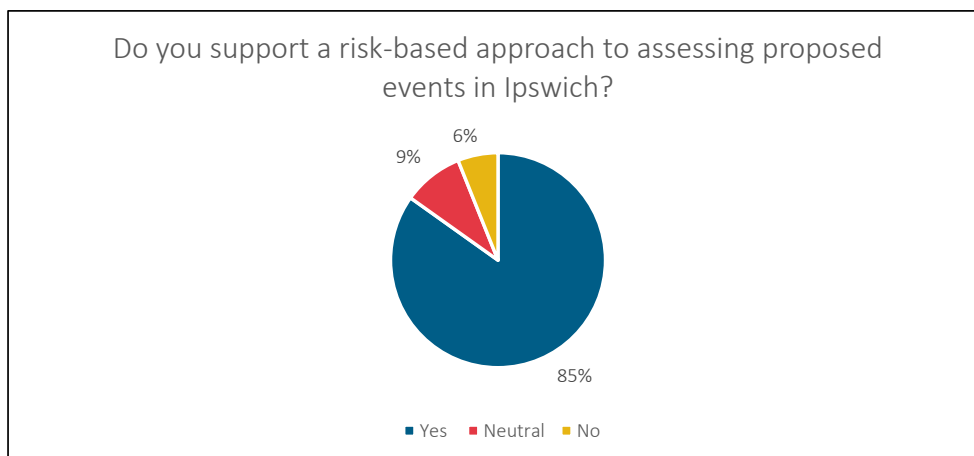


## EVENTS

### Q: Do you support a risk-based approach to assessing proposed events in Ipswich?

A total of 86 respondents provided an answer to this question. The majority of respondents (85%) support moving to a risk-based approach to assessing proposed events in Ipswich, whereas 6% did not and 9% remained neutral.

Respondents could only select one response to this question.



**Q: Please share with us any further information you have on this issue.**

The qualitative feedback on the proposed creation of a new local law for events shifting to a risk-based approach for assessing proposed events in Ipswich was positively received across all respondents. Comments consistently supported the reduction in regulatory burden and welcomed a more flexible, proportionate assessment process.

Respondents also highlighted the value of having clearly defined limits and conditions to guide event organisers, noting that this clarity would help increase the activation of local events across Ipswich. Overall, the feedback reflected strong support for a streamlined approach that enables more events while maintaining appropriate safeguards.

There were 11 responses to this question. The table below summarises the key themes that emerged, the number of mentions for each, and quotes from respondents shared.

THEME	COMMENTS	QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS INCLUDED
<b>Positive</b>	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"Anything that encourages events especially low risk enjoyable things should be tried."</i></li> <li>- <i>"More farmers markets either in top of town (like Kelvin grove markets) or in Nicholas square."</i></li> <li>- <i>"Make it all available online"</i></li> </ul>
<b>Neutral</b>	0	- <i>No comments</i>
<b>Negative</b>	0	- <i>No comments</i>
<b>Small Business, Venues and Local Atmosphere</b>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"Council shouldn't control events unless they cause problems."</i></li> <li>- <i>"Make it easier for these events to occur and to minimise people taking advantage of others (overcharging rent for space)"</i></li> <li>- <i>"Small Business needs to survive too and should thrive at these Events."</i></li> </ul>
<b>Limitations, Restrictions and Compliance</b>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"Depends on how you assess the risk."</i></li> <li>- <i>"Monitor applications with random check ins as many don't comply with laws and at times go past hours"</i></li> <li>- <i>"Events that contain sexually explicit activities and of explicit nature, including verbal sexual nature. Cannot be held in proximity to residence, regardless of urban or rural zones. Specifically, more so when minors reside in neighbouring properties."</i></li> </ul>

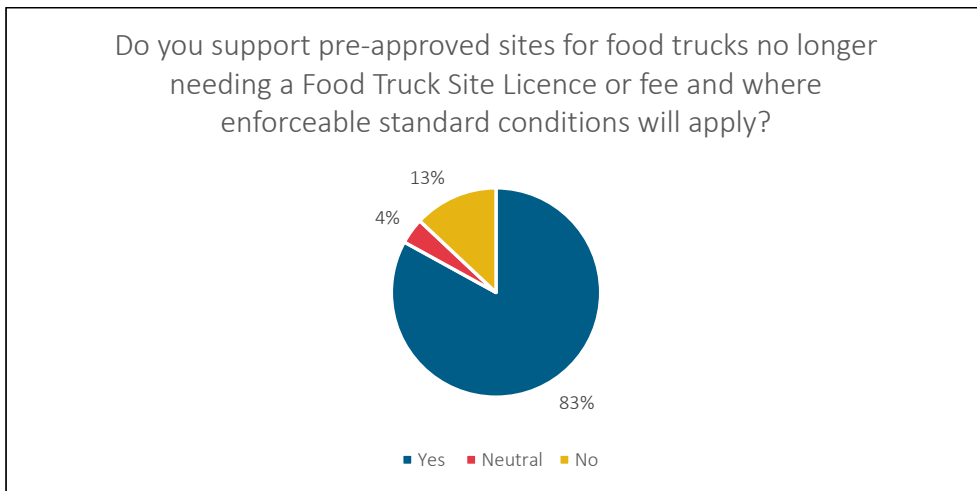


### FOOD TRUCKS AND ROADSIDE VENDING

**Q: Do you support pre-approved sites for food trucks no longer needing a Food Truck Site Licence or fee and where enforceable standard conditions will apply?**

A total of 86 respondents provided an answer to this question. The majority of respondents (83%) support moving to a pre-approved sites for food trucks no longer needing a Food Truck Site License or fee with standard enforceable conditions, whereas 4% did not and 13% remained neutral.

Respondents could only select one response to this question.



**Q: Please share with us any further information you have on this issue.**

The qualitative feedback on the proposed creation of a new local law introducing pre-approved sites for food trucks, removing the need for a Food Truck Site Licence or associated fees and applying standard enforceable conditions, was positively received by the majority of respondents. Comments strongly supported the reduction in regulatory burden and welcomed a more structured, simplified process that could enhance opportunities for small businesses in Ipswich.

Respondents also shared ideas and concerns relating to site availability. Several comments expressed interest in additional pre-approved sites or the ability to nominate preferred locations, while others raised concerns about not being able to propose alternative spaces under the new model. A notable theme related to the potential impacts on existing bricks-and-mortar small businesses. Some respondents felt that fixed-premises operators, who carry ongoing overheads and licensing costs, may be disadvantaged compared with mobile vendors, highlighting a perceived inequity between the two.

Additional clarity on requirements and operating conditions was also requested. Suggestions included extending trading hours in industrial areas that operate 24 hours, considering opportunities along state-controlled roads, and ensuring a more flexible, proportionate assessment process.

There were 16 responses to this question. The table below summarises the key themes that emerged, the number of mentions for each, and quotes from respondents shared.

THEME	COMMENTS	QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS INCLUDED
<b>Positive</b>	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Yes we lack food truck options."</li> <li>- "This is a good compromise between reduced red tape and being over run by food trucks."</li> <li>- "Need pre-approved site, unquestionably."</li> </ul>
<b>Neutral</b>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "OK if positioned where they do NOT compete with fixed address outlets say 1km away"</li> </ul>
<b>Negative</b>	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Fees need to be charged just as small business owners pay rent who will cover the costs?"</li> <li>- "I would be concerned that this area would then become overcrowded and cause traffic issues"</li> <li>- "Licenses should stay in place. Annual fee."</li> </ul>
<b>Small Business, Venues and Local Atmosphere</b>	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "I think roadside vendors are a wonderful part of our city that should be promoted and encouraged. Love them!"</li> <li>- "I fully support any Small Business having a go."</li> <li>- "our local parks e.g. limestone park are very popular in encouraging community to attend for exercise relaxation or just companionship meeting ."</li> </ul>
<b>Events, Access and Activity</b>	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Provided relevant checks and balances are done to ensure they are compliant with health standards."</li> <li>- "This does not a d should not apply to state land"</li> <li>- "Litter collection points nearby should be a condition."</li> </ul>
<b>Limitations, Restrictions and Compliance</b>	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "We'd love some more sites added to the program with an option of extending hours."</li> <li>- "Perhaps industrial areas without food vendors should be zones for food trucks at any time given several sites, such as the parcels centre at Redbank run 24 hours and have high numbers of staff"</li> <li>- "This is a good compromise."</li> </ul>























































































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ITEM: 4  
SUBJECT: LOCAL LAW REVIEW - DRAFT LOCAL LAW FRAMEWORK  
AUTHOR: PRINCIPAL OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)  
DATE: 14 MAY 2026

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning the final step of the Strategic Regulation Project, a comprehensive local law review. This report outlines the draft local law framework and key drafting instructions that will be used to commence drafting of laws. Throughout the drafting phase, further internal consultation will occur. At the conclusion of this phase, draft laws will be presented to Council for consideration so the formal local law making process can commence which includes State Government interest checks and community consultation.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

### **RELATED PARTIES**

There are no known conflicts of interest at the time of writing.

### **IFUTURE THEME**

A Trusted and Leading Organisation

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

This is a report concerning the final step of the Strategic Regulation Project, a comprehensive local law review.

A draft local law framework and key drafting instructions (**Attachment 1**) has been developed to progress the next stage of the local law review which is the drafting of new laws and where appropriate, the amending of some existing laws.

In the current local law framework Council has 8 Local Laws and 6 Subordinate Local Laws.

The draft local law framework proposes 12 Local Laws and 24 Subordinate Local Laws. These numbers may change *slightly* as the drafting progresses and it is understood better about what may need to be standalone versus combined with other content.

The below table highlights the current local law framework and the draft local law framework.

**Table 1:** Summary of current and draft local law frameworks (alphabetical order)

<u>Current Local Law Framework</u> Local Law	<u>Draft Local Law Framework</u> Local Law
• Subordinate Local Law	• Subordinate Local Law
Administration • N/A	Animal Management (#A) • Animal Management (#A)
Animal Management • Animal Management	Advertising Devices (#N) • Permitted Advertising Devices (#N) • Advertising Devices Design and Assessment (#N)
Commercial Licensing • Commercial Licensing	Commercial Activities (Licensing and Standards) (#N) • Footpath Dining on Council Land (#N) • Busking, Spruiking & Touting on Council Land (#N) • Operation of Public Swimming Pools (#N) • Operation of Tourist Parks (#N) • Operation of Entertainment Venues (#N) • Roadside Trading and Display of Goods on Council Land and Roads (#N) • Commercial Animal Activities (#N) • Film Production (#N) • Commercial Nature Based Activities (#N)
Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads • Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads	Events (#N) • Events (#N) • Event Temporary Camping Grounds (offsite to event) (#N)
Nuisances and Community Health and Safety • Nuisances and Community Health and Safety	Interim Protection of Local Character Places (#N) • Interim Protection of Local Character Places (#N)
Parking • Parking	Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads (#A) • Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads (#A)
Permits • N/A	Nuisances and Community Health and Safety (#A) • Nuisances and Community Health and Safety (#A) • Residential Building Site Management (#N)
Protection of Important Vegetation • Protection of Important Vegetation	Operation of Council Cemeteries (#N) • Operation of Council Cemeteries (#N)
	Operation of Temporary Homes (#N) • Operation of Temporary Homes (#N)
	Parking (#A) • Parking (#A) • Heavy Vehicle Parking (#N)
	Protection of Important Vegetation (#A) • Protection of Important Vegetation (#A)
	Special Entertainment Precincts (Amplified Music Venues) (#N) • Special Entertainment Precinct (Ipswich Central) (#N)

**In the Draft Local Law Framework:**

**#A** = current law to be amended as there aren't significant changes to the policy content

**#N** = new law to be drafted

Some key points about the draft local law framework:

**A key principle of the review is to make any new laws easier to understand and navigate.**

In the current framework, for some activities, the community and staff need to potentially be reading 4 laws to understand what is required for some permitted activities. This approach is **not easy to navigate or understand**. The draft local law framework will see the removal of two key local laws – Administration and Permits. These two laws will be removed and their information will be contained within each relevant local law in the draft framework, so that at most, you may only need to refer to the applicable local law and relevant subordinate local law.

**Why only amend some of the current local laws and not create new ones?**

There are a number of local laws and subordinate local laws in the current framework that only require **amending**, that is, they aren't being superseded by 'new' local laws in the draft framework. This is due to there not being any significant changes to policy content and/or from a common sense perspective it makes sense that they exist as currently named. Those current laws that will be amended are:

<b>Local Laws</b>	<b>Subordinate Local Laws</b>
Animal Management	Animal Management
Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads	Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads
Nuisances and Community Health and Safety	Nuisances and Community Health and Safety
Parking	Parking
Protections of Important Vegetation	Protection of Important Vegetation

**Why is there a vast increase in the number of subordinate local laws in the draft local law framework?**

There is an increase of 18 subordinate local laws in the draft local law framework to assist with information being easy to find and understand. The majority of new subordinate local laws relate to new standalone local laws and make it easier to pinpoint information particularly in the commercial activity space. The structure of the subordinate local laws will all be similar so while there will be some effort in drafting, there will be some repetitiveness that will assist. The benefit is a similar look and feel across all of the local laws (even those being amended) and will aid in helping the community and staff to easily find information.

**What is the purpose of the guidelines and registers mentioned in the attached document?**

There are a number of enforceable documents (guidelines and registers) being proposed in the draft local law framework that will assist the community and council. The laws will mention these documents as they will need to be complied with and must be available on Council's website for transparency and assistance. The documents will need to be approved by Council resolution initially and should they require amending in the future, again they need to be approved by Council resolution. This means that as community or council needs change, these documents can be updated in a more responsive and timely manner. The aim is to have these documents drafted so they can go out with the draft laws for community consultation and State Government interest checks as they will provide the full picture of how regulation will occur. In summary those enforceable documents are:

- Enforceable Guideline for Footpath Dining on Council land
- Enforceable Guideline for Busking on Council Land
- Enforceable Guideline for Abseiling/Rock Climbing in Conservation Areas<sup>1</sup>
- Event Assessment Framework
- Enforceable Guideline for NFP/Community Org activities on Public Land
- Enforceable Guideline for Landscaping on Nature Strips
- Register of Designated Off Street Regulated Parking Areas
- Register of Declared Traffic Areas
- Register of Designated Heavy Vehicle Parking on Roads Areas
- Enforceable Guideline for Heavy Vehicle Parking in Residential Areas

### **Key Drafting Instructions**

**Table 2 of Attachment 1** provides the draft local law framework and the key drafting instructions for each local law and subordinate local law. In addition to these specifics the overarching drafting instructions<sup>2</sup> are:

- Current Administration Local Law and Permit Local Law functions will be relocated to each individual local law. Functions from these laws include: Preliminary information (Short Title, Commencement, Object, Definitions etc) Applications and Approvals, Offences and Enforcement, Legal Proceedings, Powers of Council Officers, Reviews, Subordinate Local Laws)
- Review first, second and third/further offences (tiered penalty units) on offences that are likely to be re-offended. Where the existence/occurrence of an offence is dependent upon the opinion of an authorised person, have wording that enables Council to issue a PIN on second and subsequent offences (rather than having to issue a compliance notice every time first). Legal advice and current wording in law does not allow us to issue a PIN without having issued a compliance notice on the basis of an authorised persons opinion regarding the existence/occurrence of an offence.
- Update wording where it says Ipswich City Mall to align with declared mall naming of Nicholas Street Mall (from current Planning Scheme).
- Ensure local laws, particularly animal keeping requirements, align with Rural Activities Code in the planning scheme.
- Some penalty infringement units may change to ensure they are relevant to the offence, cost to council and compared to other SEQ Councils. (These will be highlighted to Council for discussion at a later date).
- One licence/permit will capture all approvals to avoid multiple pieces of paper/permits - eg an event licence will contain any approval conditions relating to council land/facilities being booked so all conditions are on the one (1) licence.

### **Explanatory Notes**

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<sup>1</sup> Reliant on the conclusion of a separate Council project relating to these activities.

<sup>2</sup> Additionally, s29(5) of the *Local Government Act 2009* provides that a local law must be drafted in accordance with the Guidelines For Drafting Local Laws issued by the Parliamentary Counsel under s9 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*

Each Local Law in the draft local law framework will have Explanatory Notes developed to highlight, for amended laws the key changes, and for new laws the purpose and key information. It will also include information relating to the subordinate laws. The Explanatory Notes will be drafted and included in the package of draft laws that go to Council and then go out for State Government interest checks and further community consultation late this year/early next year.

### **NEXT STEPS**

- The appointment of a legal firm to undertake the drafting required will be completed in the coming month so that drafting can commence in early July.
- Throughout the drafting phase the Project Manager will be working with the external legal firm, Council's Legal Branch, and liaising with key staff on technical matters relating to the drafting. Additionally, on key matters, verbal updates/briefings will be arranged with Councillors as required throughout the phase.
- It is hoped to have the draft laws and associated documents to a future Regulation Advisory Committee in early November 2026 (and subsequent Finance & Governance Committee and Council meetings in Nov/early Dec) so adoption of the draft laws with required resolutions occurs for the formal local law-making process to begin, including:
  - State Government Interest Check (mid-late December for 4 weeks)
  - Community Consultation commencing late Jan/early Feb for 4 weeks)
  - Following the above, feedback will be analysed to determine if any amendments should be made to the draft laws before presenting the laws to a future meeting of committees/Council.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The local law review will have policy implications however the specific implications will not be known until a later time when the draft laws are being finalised.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Risks will be managed and mitigated within the project's governance arrangements.

### **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Most of the Strategic Regulation Project will be undertaken 'in house' with two dedicated full-time equivalents (FTE). Anticipated whole of life costs for the Strategic Regulation Project are \$350k plus two FTEs. The \$350k is for Step 3 (Local Law Review) and involves

costs for external legal services, along with some advertising and promotion costs for consultation. The costs will be incurred during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 years

### COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Internal and community consultation has occurred throughout the local law review to date, most recently with community consultation on key topics to be considered. (See separate report on Regulation Advisory Committee meeting agenda for 28 May 2026).



### CONCLUSION

This report outlines the draft local law framework and key drafting instructions that will be used to commence the drafting phase of the local law review. At the conclusion of this phase, draft laws and associated documents will be presented to Council for consideration so the formal local law making process can commence which includes State Government interest checks and community consultation.

### HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

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

1.	Draft Local Law Framework - May 2026  
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Barbara Dart  
**PRINCIPAL OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Allison Ferres-MacDonald  
**MANAGER, GENERAL COUNSEL**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Matt Smith  
**GENERAL MANAGER (CORPORATE SERVICES)**

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















