



City of  
**Ipswich**

## **AGENDA**

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# **COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

Tuesday, 1 October 2024  
at 1:30 PM

Council Chambers, Level 8  
1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

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**SONIA COOPER**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

The purpose of the meeting is to consider:

6.1 Keys to the City - Ipswich State High School

**BUSINESS**

1. OPENING OF MEETING:
2. WELCOME TO COUNTRY OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:
3. OPENING PRAYER:
4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE:
5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA:
6. MAYORAL MINUTE:
  - 6.1 Keys to the City - Ipswich State High School ..... 5

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Doc ID No: A10717204

ITEM: 6.1

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - KEYS TO THE CITY - IPSWICH STATE HIGH SCHOOL

AUTHOR: MAYOR TERESA HARDING

## **SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning honouring Ipswich State High School (ISHS) with Keys to the City to acknowledge the school's sporting success after they added to their impressive legacy in winning the 2024 NRL National Schoolgirls Cup title as well as the NRL Schoolgirls QLD Trophy and the Titans Schoolgirl Cup.

ISHS is the only school in Australia that has claimed both a boys and girls NRL National title with the girls open team this year and the boys open team in 2022.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- A. That Council honour Ipswich State High School with the Keys to the City to acknowledge and celebrate the school's achievements in winning the Titans Schoolgirl Cup, NRL Schoolgirls QLD Trophy and NRL National Schoolgirls Cup.
- B. That Council's Events Team consult with the Mayor and Councillors to plan and deliver a suitable community function in which to present the Keys to the City to Ipswich State High School.

## **BACKGROUND**

Ipswich State High School (ISHS) has a long and proud history as a nursery for future rugby league stars, such as past student and league legend Allan "Alfie" Langer.

This year, ISHS has taken its sporting achievements to another level by winning the Titans Schoolgirl Cup, NRL Schoolgirls QLD Trophy and NRL National Schoolgirls Cup in the same year.

ISHS started their historic run with the Kinetic Titans Schools League, Australia's largest regional school rugby league competition, creating pathways for future NRLW talent. The Open Advanced Titans Schoolgirl Cup was won by ISHS who played against Marsden State High School on 21 August 2024.

Going back to basics proved to be a winning strategy for the state final showdown against Central Queensland hopefuls The Cathedral College. The state finals were played on 29 August at the Sunshine Coast Stadium and while The Cathedral College's defence was fierce,

ISHS lifted in the second half to take the win away from Rockhampton with an impressive final score of 22-10.

This was the first time ISHS has made the national final, capping off what had been a fairytale season.

On 11 September at Cbus Super Stadium, ISHS crushed 2023 national finalists Hills Sports Hight 28-6.

In the opening moments of the match, lock Shalom Sauaso powered her way to the tryline stating the team's intentions early. The Broncos NRLW signing was awarded the player of the match and player of the tournament and received the game ball.

Winger Kaiah Hansell found herself in the right place at the right time over and over again scoring a hat-trick, with her third try wrapping up the win for Ipswich.

Fullback Emily Jackwitz played a big part in getting Ipswich into good positions to attack often putting the team on the front foot with some strong returns from the back.

Coach Alex Nicholson and Co-Captains Sky-Yvette Faimalie and Shalom Sauaso also deserve a special acknowledgement for leading this outstanding team of young Ipswich women to the title of national champions.

This Mayoral Minute proposes that Ipswich State High School is awarded the Keys to the City of Ipswich for their sporting triple title achievement, and that Council hosts an appropriate celebration to honour and celebrate ISHS's place in Ipswich's sporting history.

The granting and presentation of the Keys to the City is a symbolic presentation, which represents the highest honour a city can confer on an individual or an organisation.

The Keys to the City can be awarded to an individual or organisation for furthering the ideals of the City of Ipswich or to recognise outstanding achievement in public life.

It should be noted that the only other time Mayor Harding has presented the Keys to the City, was in 2022 to Ipswich State High School for the school's historic achievement of winning the Allan Langer Trophy, Phil Hall Cup and the National Schoolboys Cup.

It would be fitting for the community function to present the Keys to the City, to be in line with the community function the schoolboy national team were afforded in 2022.

To that end, a ceremony following a similar format at the Ipswich Civic Centre would be ideal.

The future is bright for rugby league in our city and as the girls make their mark standing shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts, Ipswich will continue to be a rugby league powerhouse.