



**City of
Ipswich**

AGENDA

ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 14 October 2025

10 minutes after the conclusion of the Community and Sport Committee or
such later time as determined by the preceding committee

Council Chambers, Level 8
1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

<u>MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE</u>	
Councillor Pye Augustine (Chairperson) Councillor Marnie Doyle (Deputy Chairperson)	Mayor Teresa Harding Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic Councillor Jacob Madsen Councillor Andrew Antonioli Councillor David Martin Councillor Jim Madden

ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

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** Item includes confidential papers

ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO. 2025(09)

14 OCTOBER 2025

AGENDA

WELCOME TO COUNTRY OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO. 2025(08) OF 16 SEPTEMBER 2025**

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Economic and Cultural Development Committee held on 16 September 2025 be confirmed.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

2. **MAJOR COMMUNITY EVENT SPONSORSHIP - SPRINGFIELD CAROLS**

This is a report concerning an application for Major Community Event Sponsorship by Springfield Carols Incorporated. The application requests a multi-year agreement from 2025 (for three (3) years) to provide \$15,000 ex GST per event to support the delivery of an annual community Christmas carols event in Springfield Central.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council provide Major Community Event Sponsorship of \$15,000 (excl. GST) to Springfield Carols Incorporated for the 2025 Springfield Christmas Carol event and \$17,500 (excl. GST) for the 2026 and 2027 Springfield Christmas Carol events (total support of \$50,000 excl. GST across the multi-year agreement).

3. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO UNDERTAKE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL -
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MUSEUMS CONFERENCE DUBAI - 11 TO 17
NOVEMBER 2025

This is a report concerning approval to undertake international travel to attend the International Council of Museums Conference (ICOM) in Dubai from 11 to 17 November 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves international travel for the Director Ipswich Art Gallery for participation in the ICOM Conference in Dubai from 11 to 17 November 2025.

4. **NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT - SEPTEMBER 2025 NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT
PROJECT CONTROL GROUP

This is a report concerning the September 2025 Nicholas Street Precinct (NSP) Project Control Group (PCG) meeting focussing on the status of the leasing program and the planning, development, delivery and ongoing management of the NSP.

RECOMMENDATION

That the September 2025 Nicholas Street Precinct Project Control Group Report be received and the contents noted.

NOTICES OF MOTION

MATTERS ARISING

QUESTIONS / GENERAL BUSINESS

ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO. 2025(08)

16 SEPTEMBER 2025

MINUTES

COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Pye Augustine (Chairperson); Councillors Marnie Doyle (Deputy Chairperson), Acting Mayor Nicole Jonic, Jacob Madsen, David Martin and Jim Madden

COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES:

Mayor Teresa Harding

OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), General Manager Community, Cultural and Economic Development (Ben Pole), General Manager Corporate Services (Matt Smith), General Manager Asset and Infrastructure Services (Seren McKenzie), Acting General Manager Environment and Sustainability (Phil A Smith), Precinct Director – Nicholas Street (James Hepburn), Manager, Marketing and Promotions (Carly Gregory), Manager, Media, Communications and Engagement (Mark Strong), Senior Communications and Policy Officer (Jodie Richter), Senior Media Officer (Darrell Giles), Chief of Staff – Office of the Mayor (Melissa Fitzgerald) and Venue Technician (Max Moylan)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Pye Augustine:

Seconded by Councillor Marnie Doyle:

That a leave of absence be granted for Mayor Teresa Harding for the Economic and Cultural Development Committee of 16 September 2025.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Augustine

Doyle

Jonic

Madsen

Martin

Madden

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

WELCOME TO COUNTRY OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Councillor Pye Augustine (Chairperson) delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Nil

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO. 2025(07) OF 19 AUGUST 2025

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Marnie Doyle:
Seconded by Councillor David Martin:

That the minutes of the Economic and Cultural Development Committee held on 19 August 2025 be confirmed.

Councillor Andrew Antonioli arrived at the meeting at 11.01am.

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE
Councillors:	Councillors:
Augustine	Nil
Doyle	
Jonic	
Madsen	
Antonioli	
Martin	
Madden	

The motion was put and carried.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

2. MAJOR COMMUNITY EVENT SPONSORSHIP - REDBANK PLAINS COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

This is a report concerning an application for Major Community Event Sponsorship by Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols. The application is for a multi-year agreement from 2025 (two or three years) to provide \$15,000 ex

GST per event to support the delivery of an annual community Christmas carols in Redbank Plains.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Pye Augustine:

Seconded by Councillor Marnie Doyle:

That Council provide Major Community Event Sponsorship of \$12,000 ex GST per event to Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols events (total support of \$36,000).

Councillor Pye Augustine proposed an amendment to the recommendation.

That Council provide Major Community Event Sponsorship of \$15,000 ex GST per event to Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols events (total support of \$45,000).

The seconder of the original motion agreed to the proposed amendment.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Pye Augustine:

Seconded by Councillor Marnie Doyle:

That Council provide Major Community Event Sponsorship of \$15,000 ex GST per event to Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols events (total support of \$45,000).

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Augustine

Doyle

Jonic

Madsen

Antoniolli

Martin

Madden

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

3. NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT - AUGUST 2025 NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT
PROJECT CONTROL GROUP

This is a report concerning the August 2025 Nicholas Street Precinct (NSP) Project Control Group (PCG) meeting focussing on the status of the leasing program and the planning, development, delivery and ongoing management of the NSP.

“The attachment/s to this report are confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(c)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.”

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Marnie Doyle:
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic:

That the August 2025 Nicholas Street Precinct Project Control Group Report be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Augustine

Doyle

Jonic

Madsen

Antoniolli

Martin

Madden

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Pye Augustine:
Seconded by Councillor David Martin:

That in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the meeting move into closed session to discuss Item 4 titled Nicholas Street Precinct - Approval of an Agreement for Lease for Tenancy K2 Venue (37 Nicholas Street).

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Augustine

Doyle

Jonic

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

Madsen
Antoniolli
Martin
Madden

The motion was put and carried.

The meeting moved into closed session at 11.16 am.

MOVE INTO OPEN SESSION

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Pye Augustine:
Seconded by Councillor Marnie Doyle:

That the meeting move into open session.

The meeting moved into open session at 11.36 am.

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE
Councillors:	Councillors:
Augustine	Nil
Doyle	
Jonic	
Madsen	
Antoniolli	
Martin	
Madden	

The motion was put and carried.

4. NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT - APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT FOR LEASE FOR TENANCY K2 VENUE (37 NICHOLAS STREET)

This is a report concerning an Agreement for Lease for Council's consideration associated with Tenancy K2 on the ground level of the Venue building at 37 Nicholas Street, Nicholas Street Precinct, Ipswich.

"The attachment/s to this report are confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*."

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Pye Augustine:
Seconded by Councillor Marnie Doyle:

- A. That Council enter into an Agreement for Lease and associated documentation of the Agreement for Lease with the proposed lessee for Tenancy K2 of the Venue Building (impacting part of Lot 1 on RP209886) (“Tenancy K2”) within the Nicholas Street Precinct (under the commercial terms detailed in the confidential report and attachments by the Senior Project Manager).**
- B. That conditional upon Council satisfactorily executing the Agreement to Lease with the proposed lessee, (contained in recommendation A of this report), Council enter into a lease for Tenancy K2 with the proposed lessee (as detailed in the confidential report and attachments by the Senior Project Manager).**
- C. That Council note, in relation to Council’s disposal of its leasehold interest in the Tenancy K2 to the proposed lessee, that the Ministerial exemption under s236 1(f) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 applies to the disposal of Council’s interest in Tenancy K2 (Ministerial exemption contained in Attachment 1 of this report).**
- D. That pursuant to Section 257(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2009, Council resolve to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to take “contractual action” pursuant to section 238 of the Regulation, in order to implement Council’s decision at Recommendation A and B.**
- E. That Council be kept informed as to the progress and outcome of the execution and publication of details.**

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Augustine

Doyle

Jonic

Madsen

Antoniolli

Martin

Madden

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

MATTERS ARISING

Nil

QUESTIONS / GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS

The meeting commenced at 10.59 am.

The meeting closed at 11.37 am.

Doc ID No: A12032343

ITEM: 2

SUBJECT: MAJOR COMMUNITY EVENT SPONSORSHIP - SPRINGFIELD CAROLS

AUTHOR: EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

DATE: 19 SEPTEMBER 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning an application for Major Community Event Sponsorship by Springfield Carols Incorporated. The application requests a multi-year agreement from 2025 (for three (3) years) to provide \$15,000 ex GST per event to support the delivery of an annual community Christmas carols event in Springfield Central.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Council provide Major Community Event Sponsorship of \$15,000 (excl. GST) to Springfield Carols Incorporated for the 2025 Springfield Christmas Carol event and \$17,500 (excl. GST) for the 2026 and 2027 Springfield Christmas Carol events (total support of \$50,000 excl. GST across the multi-year agreement).

RELATED PARTIES

Springfield Carols Incorporated

IFUTURE THEME

Vibrant and Growing

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

The Springfield Carols is a well-established annual event held in Council's Robelle Domain, Springfield Central. Established in 1999, it has become an integral part of the city's festive calendar and is widely regarded as a significant and eagerly anticipated community tradition. The event plays an important role in promoting community spirit, inclusivity and seasonal goodwill throughout the region. After a pause in 2024, the event is back in 2025 under a newly formed organising committee.

The program includes live music performances, traditional Christmas carols, a visit from Santa Claus, food trucks, market stalls, and a fireworks display, creating a vibrant and family-friendly atmosphere for residents of all ages.

The primary aim of the Springfield Community Christmas Carols is to bring residents together in a safe, inclusive, and celebratory setting, strengthening social cohesion and fostering a sense of belonging during the festive season.

Springfield Carols Incorporated is seeking annual financial sponsorship over a multi-year agreement from 2025-2027 to support the delivery and growth of this significant community event.

In 2025 Springfield Carols Incorporated are seeking \$15,000 (excl. GST). In addition, the organising committee has requested in-kind assistance valued at \$8,017.49 for the 2025 event, which includes the provision of:

- General waste bins
- General portable toilets with lighting
- Disability access toilets with lighting
- Cable ties
- Plastic bollards
- Traffic cones
- Barrier mesh

As the In-Kind Assistance Program has now concluded, it is proposed that an additional amount of \$2,500 (excl. GST) be provided to Springfield Carols Incorporated in lieu of the in-kind requirements for the 2026 and 2027 events equating to sponsorship of \$17,500 (excl. GST) for each of those years.

This combined support will ensure the continued success, safety, and accessibility of the Springfield Community Christmas Carols, enabling the event to thrive and positively impact the community for years to come.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

Local Government Act 2009

Section 109 of the Local Government Act 2009 provides local governments with the ability to use discretionary funds in accordance with the requirements prescribed under the Local Government Regulation 2012.

Section 202 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 prescribes a number of requirements for a local government making discretionary funds available.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report recommendation meets the principles of the Event Sponsorship Policy.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

While the event may still proceed without council support, it would impact the scale of event able to be produced.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Springfield Carols has secured financial support through naming rights sponsor IGA Springfield Lakes, and Shiloh Church is also a significant sponsor. Springfield Carols continues to work with other local businesses and Local Member of State Parliament to secure further financial and in-kind sponsorships for the event.

The outlined, Major Community Event Sponsorship support will be covered by dedicated Event Sponsorship funding allocated within the 2025-2026 City Events budget.

This multi-year agreement for the duration of three years, would be allocated to the Major Community Event Sponsorship budget for financial years:

- 2025-2026 - \$15,000 (excl. GST)
- 2026-2027 - \$17,500 (excl. GST)
- 2027-2028 - \$17,500 (excl. GST)

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

A pre-lodgement meeting was held with the president of Springfield Carols Incorporated.

- Panel assessment through SmartyGrants
- Marketing and Promotions Branch
- Community and Cultural Services Branch

CONCLUSION

For 25 years, Springfield Carols has been a cornerstone of the city's Christmas celebrations. Council's ongoing support reflects a strong recognition of the vital role major community events play in enriching the local economy and strengthening the cultural fabric of our city.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS	
OTHER DECISION	
(a) What is the Act/Decision being made?	Section 109 of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> provides local governments with the ability to use discretionary funds in accordance with the requirements prescribed under the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i> .
(b) What human rights are affected?	The proposed decision for event sponsorship does not affect the Human Rights pertaining to Council, the sponsor or attendees.
(c) How are the human rights limited?	Not applicable
(d) Is there a good reason for limiting	Not applicable

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

Penny Radford
EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Deannah Vieth
CITY EVENTS MANAGER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Carly Gregory
MANAGER, MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Ben Pole
GENERAL MANAGER (COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

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

Doc ID No: A11979382

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO UNDERTAKE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL -
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MUSEUMS CONFERENCE DUBAI - 11 TO
17 NOVEMBER 2025

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR, IPSWICH ART GALLERY

DATE: 8 SEPTEMBER 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning approval to undertake international travel to attend the International Council of Museums Conference (ICOM) in Dubai from 11 to 17 November 2025.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Council approves international travel for the Director Ipswich Art Gallery for participation in the ICOM Conference in Dubai from 11 to 17 November 2025.

RELATED PARTIES

There are no conflicts of interest – perceived or otherwise.

IFUTURE THEME

Vibrant and Growing

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

This matter does not relate to a matter previously before a committee or Council.

- A travel bursary was offered to the Director Ipswich Art Gallery by The Gordon Darling Foundation, after having been nominated by the Director of QAGOMA.
- It is proposed to use the funds for the Director Ipswich Art Gallery to attend the ICOM (International Council of Museums) Conference from 11-17 November 2025 in Dubai as detailed in Attachment 1.
- The bursary (\$5,500) has been provided to cover travel, conference and accommodation costs. Funds have already been deposited into Ipswich City Council (ICC) bank account.
- ICC Travel will be briefed that all expenditure will fall within bursary amount. Indicative costs are: \$750 for conference registration; approx. \$2,000 for return flights Brisbane to Dubai, approx. \$2,000 for hotel accommodation (\$250/night for 8 nights). All costs will be confirmed by ICC Travel).

- Ipswich Art Gallery (IAG) is an ICOM member and the theme for this biennial conference is The Future of Museums in Rapidly Changing Communities, a theme which is pertinent to IAG and ICC with regards the growth of the region, the development of a cultural precinct with UPPP and the upcoming Olympics.
- The conference spans across 6 days, with an estimated time away from business circa 7 – 8 business days
- Offers a unique and strategic opportunity to position the gallery at the forefront of global museum innovation and leadership.

Information about the conference:

ICOM 2025 is the 27th General Conference of the International Council of Museums, and the first ever held in the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (MEASA) region—a historic and symbolic milestone.

It will bring together over 4,500 museum professionals from around the world, offering unparalleled visibility and networking for Australian institutions like Ipswich Art Gallery.

This theme directly aligns with the challenges and opportunities facing regional galleries like Ipswich especially in areas of:

- Community engagement
- Digital transformation
- Youth empowerment
- Safeguarding intangible heritage

The conference will explore these through interactive panels, workshops, and masterclasses, offering actionable insights for our gallery's strategic planning.

ICOM fosters cross-border collaboration, opening doors to:

- Joint exhibitions
- Research partnerships
- Funding opportunities
- Staff exchanges and training

This is a unique opportunity to build alliances with institutions across Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. In the lead up to the Cultural Olympiad as part of the 2032 Olympics, this is a great opportunity to create new partnerships.

Council attendance will help amplify the voice of regional Australian galleries on the global stage. It's a chance to showcase Ipswich's innovative work, advocate for regional cultural investment, and bring back global best practices to our community.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

- Vibrant and Growing
- Safe, Inclusive and Creative

Related Document:

- City of Ipswich – Arts and Cultural Strategy 2018 – 2023 (Framing our city's future)

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Notwithstanding the associated risks of travel to the officer, this proposal poses minimal risk to council. The risk of not approving the recommendation may result in reputational damage with The Gordon Darling Foundation whereby Ipswich Art Gallery may no longer be considered for funding opportunities and bursaries.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

External funding has been provided by The Gordon Darling Foundation and deposited into Council accounts. The bursary will cover the cost of travel, accommodation and conference registration, with no additional funding required from council.

The conference spans across 6 days, with an estimated time away from business circa 7 – 8 business days.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

External Stakeholders

The Gordon Darling Foundation was consulted regarding the appropriateness of using the bursary for the identified purpose. This proposal was supported.

Internal Stakeholders

Don Stewart – Manager, Community and Cultural Service was consulted and supported this proposal.

Ben Pole General Manager (Community, Cultural and Economic Development) was consulted and provided approval.

CONCLUSION

Approval is sought for the Director Ipswich Art Gallery to attend the ICOM 2025 Conference in Dubai from 11 to 17 November 2025.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS	
OTHER DECISION	
(a) What is the Act/Decision being made?	Recommendation that Council approve travel to the ICOM Conference for the Director Ipswich Art Gallery
(b) What human rights are affected?	No human rights are affected by this decision.
(c) How are the human rights limited?	Not applicable
(d) Is there a good reason for limiting the relevant rights? Is the limitation fair and reasonable?	Not applicable
(e) Conclusion	The decision is consistent with human rights.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Gordon Darling Travel Bursary - 2025 ICOM Dubai ↓ 
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Claire Sourgnès

DIRECTOR, IPSWICH ART GALLERY

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Don Stewart

MANAGER, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Ben Pole

GENERAL MANAGER (COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

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



CHAIR : MARILYN DARLING AC
TRUSTEES : ALISON CROOK AO, PHILIP BACON AO, RON RADFORD AM, FIONA MENZIES, GERARD VAUGHAN AM
ADMINISTRATION : SHERRIE ANTONIO, ALISTER SHEW

PROPOSAL FOR DARLING TRAVEL GRANT / DOMESTIC 2025

ORGANISATION INFORMATION

ORGANISATION: Ipswich Art Gallery
DIRECTOR: Claire Sourgnes
TELEPHONE: 07 3810 7222
ADDRESS: D'Arcy Doyle Place, Ipswich 4305

RECIPIENT INFORMATION DETAILS (staff who will travel)

RECIPIENT: Claire Sourgnes
CURRENT POSITION: Director
TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]
EMAIL: claire.sourgnes@ipswichartgallery.qld.gov.au

TRAVEL PROPOSAL

This should include an outline of the purpose of the travel, places to be visited and amount of grant sought. N.B. Please attach a budget and proposed itinerary with approximate dates.

I would like to propose I use the funds to attend the ICOM (International Council of Museums) Conference from 11-17 November 2025 in Dubai.

IAG is an ICOM member and the theme for this biennial conference is The Future of Museums in Rapidly Changing Communities.

Conference Programme & Sessions | ICOM Dubai 2025 I feel this is pertinent to where IAG and Ipswich is both with our local government are (LGA) growth and recent Federal Govt funding (UPPP) for the creation of a cultural precinct and art gallery expansion in Ipswich.

The event spans across 6 days, with an estimated time away from business circa 7 – 8 business days

BENEFIT TO THE INSTITUTION

ICOM 2025 is the 27th General Conference of the International Council of Museums, and the first ever held in the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (MEASA) region—a historic and symbolic milestone.

It will bring together over 4,500 museum professionals from around the world, offering unparalleled visibility and networking for Australian institutions like Ipswich Art Gallery.

This theme directly aligns with the challenges and opportunities facing regional galleries like Ipswich—especially in areas of:

- Community engagement
- Digital transformation
- Youth empowerment
- Safeguarding intangible heritage

The conference will explore these through interactive panels, workshops, and masterclasses, offering actionable insights for our gallery's strategic planning.

ICOM fosters cross-border collaboration, opening doors to:

- Joint exhibitions
- Research partnerships
- Funding opportunities
- Staff exchanges and training

My attendance will help amplify the voice of regional Australian galleries on the global stage. It's a chance to showcase Ipswich's innovative work, advocate for regional cultural investment, and bring back global best practices to our community.

BENEFIT TO THE INDIVIDUAL

As a director, this is a chance to build alliances with institutions across Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. In the lead up to the Cultural Olympiad as part of the 2032 Olympics, this is a great opportunity to create new partnerships. I have been contacted by the Queensland Government Art Minister to form part of a working group for the upcoming Cultural Olympiad so starting this work at ICOM 2025 will stand me in good stead.

BUDGET and ITINERARY

Indicative budget:

- Conference Registration: \$750AUD
- Flights: \$2,000 (Brisbane to Dubai direct flights)
- Accommodation @ \$250/night for 8 nights: \$2,000

ICOM 2025 <https://dubai2025.icom.museum/registration>

I

- Programme of the conference in Dubai World Trade Centre from 12 to the 14 November 2025
- **Day 1: Preserve**
Considers the critical decisions museums make about which stories, assets, and cultural elements to prioritise, while maintaining their crucial role as stewards of historical truth, authenticity, and accuracy. In an era of technological change, misinformation, and climate challenges, how are preservation practices and the integrity of narratives affected?
- **Day 2: Adapt**
Looks at how museums reflect and adapt in response to global shifts in societal values, cultural norms, and demographic changes within communities.

This day offers actionable insight into how museums can cultivate representative and responsive institutions that serve the changing needs of the public.

- **Day 3: Catalyse**
Explores the vital role museums play in helping communities navigate and access opportunities amongst social, economic, and environmental challenges.
- Venue Facilities and Services including: lunch and refreshment breaks, event giveaways, and publications, as well as a complimentary public transport ticket for all the duration of the 27th ICOM General Conference
- Opening Event on 12 November 2025
- Closing Event on 14 November 2025
- Museum Fair during the conference
- **International Committees Day** on 15 November 2025
- **Excursion** on 16 November 2025
- Access to the digital content of the Platforms, during and after the conclusion of the 27th ICOM General Conference

Completed proposals with attached budget must be emailed to the Gordon Darling Foundation at gdarling@bigpond.net.au by Friday 17 January 2025.

Phone: 03 9820 3168
Contact: Alister Shew

Doc ID No: A12045741

ITEM: 4

SUBJECT: NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT - SEPTEMBER 2025 NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT
PROJECT CONTROL GROUP

AUTHOR: PRECINCT DIRECTOR

DATE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the September 2025 Nicholas Street Precinct (NSP) Project Control Group (PCG) meeting focussing on the status of the leasing program and the planning, development, delivery and ongoing management of the NSP.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the September 2025 Nicholas Street Precinct Project Control Group Report be received and the contents noted.

RELATED PARTIES

Savills Australia – Program Management
Ranbury Management Group – Program Management
Colliers – Retail Leasing
Setting up Shop – Tenancy Delivery
Alkot Studio – Retail Design Manager
Studio Spillane – Retail Design Manager

IFUTURE THEME

Vibrant and Growing

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

The NSP PCG supports the Economic and Cultural Development Committee in providing governance and strategic direction for the planning, development, delivery and ongoing management of the NSP. The PCG generally reports monthly to the Economic and Cultural Development Committee on the planning, development, delivery and operations of the NSP assets.

The PCG met on 17 September 2025 and the draft PCG 17 September 2025 meeting minutes are contained in Attachment 1.

The table below identifies the status of retail and commercial leasing as at 29 September 2025. Colliers appointment as retail leasing agents has concluded. A new leasing agency will be appointed as part of the precinct management transition to a third-party operator. The changes to the table below relate to a proposed tenancy for K2 in Venue.

Deal Status	As at 29 September	Change from 01 September
Lease Documents Being Prepared	0	1
Lease Documents Issued for Execution	1	0
Leases Executed by Lessee	29	0
Leases Pending Approval by Lessor (Council)	0	0
Leases Executed by Lessor (Council)	29	0

Vapiano commenced trade on 18 September 2025. Hello Harry's commenced trade on 24 September 2025. In September Council agreed to enter into a lease with a tenant for K2 at Venue and lease documents have been issued for execution.

The Nicholas Street Venue building defects liability periods for separable portion 4.1 relating to the Works under Contract Venue was extended to 5 November 2025 in respect to Escalator 1 and Escalator 2 at Venue Building. All other works under the separable portion were closed out.

Savills project management have issued the certificate of Final Completion for that portion. The remaining separable portions 3.2 and 6.1 will conclude in October and November respectively.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

Brand promotion campaigns continued to drive a high level of engagement, visitation and tenant support. Social media campaigns generated over 1.34 million views from primary and secondary target markets and wider regions of Gold Coast and Toowoomba. Families responded positively to September activations with the Dinosaur Discovery school holiday activation being the highlight of the month, supported by various tenant activations that helped leverage the theme. Visitations were also supported by Father's Day special offers by tenant businesses as well as monthly Handmade Markets. Spring subscriber acquisition and brand promotion campaign concluded gaining over 210 subscribers, extending our existing database of direct marketing contacts past 3,920. During September the precinct received an estimated 326,836 visitations which is up 9% from August 2025 (298,868) and a 161% increase when compared to September 2024 (124,914).

Support provided to Vapiano and Hello Harry's opening campaigns including soft and official openings. Hoarding signage for the Metro site was completed, and assistance provided to Headspace awareness event to support upcoming Mental Health Week.

Content promotion continued across social media, LinkedIn, NSP website, and e-newsletters, spotlighting events and tenant offers alongside two e-newsletters dispatched to relevant stakeholders.

Tulmur Place and the Nicholas Street Precinct has won the Best Public Building or Social Infrastructure Development Award at the 2025 Property Council of Australia (PCA) Innovation and Excellence Awards. Considered one of highest industry accolades, the city and precinct have achieved notable national awareness for its transformation into a thriving, safe, and inclusive hub for the community and visitors alike.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

A copy of the consolidated Nicholas Street Precinct project risk register is included as confidential Attachment 2.

Challenges continue with retail leasing in the current market conditions. These conditions include the increased cost of goods, consumer caution in relation to spend and the ability for the retail and hospitality industry to absorb this over time.

Achieving legally binding agreements for lease and sub-leases with prospective precinct tenants remains a critical outcome given completion of the refurbishment works.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The table below summarises the current capital project budget and forecast to finish. The final project cost is forecasted to be within budget.

	Project	Current Budget	Committed Contracts and Variations	Forecast Contracts and Variations	Forecast Final Cost
1	Civic Project	\$188,020,704	\$183,847,150	\$50,000	\$183,897,150
2	Commonwealth Hotel	\$16,652,052	\$16,546,042	\$106,010	\$16,652,052
3	Retail Project	\$34,407,196	\$35,719,131	\$2,811,620	\$38,530,751
4	Venue Project	\$71,935,639	\$67,209,372	\$4,726,267	\$71,935,639
	TOTAL	\$311,015,591	\$303,321,694	\$7,693,897	\$311,015,591

The civic and retail cashflow for recent months is captured in the table below. Please note September is forecasted numbers only due to month end dates being post Committee report timings:

Month	Monthly Expenditure		Project Cumulative Total
June 2025	Retail:	\$83,440	\$178,547
	Civic:	\$61,378	
	Commonwealth Hotel:	\$2,362	
	Venue:	\$31,367	
July 2025	Retail:	\$142,930	\$154,665
	Civic:	\$105	
	Commonwealth Hotel:	(\$385)	
	Venue:	\$12,015	
August 2025	Retail:	\$197,839	\$220,747
	Civic:	\$20,585	
	Commonwealth Hotel:	\$700	
	Venue:	\$1,623	
*September 2025	Retail:	\$35,621	\$35,746
	Civic:	\$0	
	Commonwealth Hotel:	\$0	
	Venue:	\$125	

The retail precinct's short-term commercial success remains dependent on identifying, attracting, and securing a commercially viable tenancy mix through executed leases. Medium to longer term success will require a comprehensive and ongoing activation and operational focused management strategy to support tenants and deliver a revitalised and fully activated precinct.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

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

CONCLUSION

Recent leasing executions and approvals reinforce market confidence in the Nicholas Street Precinct product and continue to strengthen the leasing campaign to secure tenants for the precinct. The completion of major works across the precinct and opening of anchor tenants positively reinforces Ipswich Central's future and Council's commitment to its success. The progressive opening of additional tenancies in the precinct and the focus of the NSP management branch will continue to increase positive leasing and property management activities and outcomes.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

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

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Draft Minutes - 17 September 2025 ↓ 
2.	CONFIDENTIAL Risk Register

James Hepburn
PRECINCT DIRECTOR

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Sonia Cooper
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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

Nicholas Street Precinct Project Control Group

MINUTES - 17 September 2025

Members:	Chief Executive Officer – Sonia Cooper (Project Sponsor and Chair, voting); General Manager, Community, Cultural and Economic Development – Ben Pole (voting); General Manager, Corporate Services – Matt Smith (voting); General Manager, Planning and Regulatory Services – Brett Davey (voting); Precinct Director – James Hepburn (voting).	
Observers:	Acting Manager, Strategy, Governance and Performance – Haiden Taylor	
Apologies:	Business Support Officer – Nicole Costanzo	
Attachments:	Draft Meeting Minutes 21 August 2025 NSP Project Registers Risk, Issues, Decisions, Actions	
No.	OFFICER	DESCRIPTION
1.	SC	Attendance and Apologies
2.	SC	Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting
3.	SC	Review of open Action Items
4.	SC	Review of Decision Register
5.	SC	Review of Risk and issues register PCG discussed risk register update ACTION for JH, NC and HT to review and update.
6.	All	Items for decision Aus Hotel tenant correspondence plan agreed.
7.	All	Items for discussion - Hotel Commonwealth - Refer to discussion in decisions. - Precinct works update (clock tower, scramble & lighting) - JH Scramble crossing progressing well thanks to Place Manager – looking at November to commence construction. - Clock tower advertising discussion and ACTION for JH to work with CCED to create an operation procedure for this asset. - JH discussed precinct lighting options in relation to safety and likely costs to upgrade. ACTION overview, update and draft DRF to be prepared and shared out of session or at the next PCG whichever the sooner. - Precinct management transition - JH briefed PCG on stakeholder meetings to date, focusing primarily on finance functioning and CBRE's role in app, including health and hygiene, mall designation, tenure, dining licences, etc. BD added that the gazettal that forms part of the tenure and mall designation requires further discussion ACTION for BD and MS to meet and discuss tenure project next steps. - JH updated on departmental stakeholder transition meetings.
8.	All	Forward agenda items for the Economic and Cultural Development Committee - Nicholas Street Precinct - NSP Project Control Group Report - Leasing Report

Nicholas Street Precinct Project Control Group

9.	All	Monthly status updates - Development Update - September 2025 - Leasing Update - September 2025 - Financial Update - September 2025 - Operations Update - September 2025 - Marketing Update - September 2025 - Property Management Update - September 2025 - Ipswich Central Update - September 2025
10.	All	General Business - NA
11.	SC	Next Meeting – 29 October 2025