



City of  
**Ipswich**

## **AGENDA**

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### **COMMUNITY AND SPORT COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, 17 March 2026

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

Council Chambers, Level 8  
1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND SPORT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Jacob Madsen (**Chairperson**)  
Councillor Pye Augustine (**Deputy Chairperson**)

Mayor Teresa Harding  
Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic  
Councillor Marnie Doyle  
Councillor Andrew Antonioli  
Councillor David Martin  
Councillor Jim Madden

## COMMUNITY AND SPORT COMMITTEE AGENDA

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\*\* Item includes confidential papers

**COMMUNITY AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 2026(02)**

**17 MARCH 2026**

AGENDA

**ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**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 COMMUNITY AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 2026(01) OF 17 FEBRUARY 2026**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Community and Sport Committee held on 17 February 2026 be confirmed.

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**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

2. **ACTIVE AND HEALTHY 2025 REPORT**

This is a report concerning the evaluation of the Active and Healthy program based on participant feedback received from the 2025 calendar year.

The Active and Healthy Program supports and encourages the Ipswich community to become more active and develop connections through a range of free and low-cost group sports, recreation and wellness activities.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the report on the Active and Healthy Program for the 2025 calendar year be received and the contents noted.

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**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**MATTERS ARISING**

**QUESTIONS / GENERAL BUSINESS**



**COMMUNITY AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 2026(01)**

**17 FEBRUARY 2026**

MINUTES

**COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Jacob Madsen (Chairperson); Councillors Pye Augustine (Deputy Chairperson), Mayor Teresa Harding, Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic (via audio-link), Marnie Doyle, Andrew Antonioli, David Martin and Jim Madden

**COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES:**

Nil

**OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), General Manager, Community Cultural and Economic Development (Ben Pole), General Manager, Environment and Sustainability (Kaye Cavanagh), General Manager Planning and Regulatory Services (Brett Davey), General Manager Corporate Services (Matt Smith), General Manager Asset and Infrastructure Services (Seren McKenzie), Senior Community Funding Officer (Sarah Sheehy), Community and Sport Manager (Melissa Dower), Manager Media, Communications and Engagement (Mark Strong), Senior Media Advisor (Darrell Giles) and Venue Technician (Thomas Haag)

**WELCOME TO COUNTRY OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Councillor Jacob Madsen (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 COMMUNITY AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 2025(11) OF 2 DECEMBER 2025**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by Councillor Andrew Antonioli:  
Seconded by Councillor David Martin:

**That the minutes of the Community and Sport Committee held on 2 December 2025 be confirmed.**

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Madsen

Augustine

Harding

Jonic

Doyle

Antoniolli

Martin

Madden

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

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**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

2. **COMMUNITY FUNDING AND SUPPORT ALLOCATIONS STATUS REPORT FROM 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2025**

This is a report concerning the allocation of Council's Community Funding and Support Program from 1 October to 31 December 2025.

In the three (3) months from 1 October to 31 December 2025, Council approved 65 applications from 58 unique applicants, allocating a total of \$293,874.36 for a variety of community events and projects.

All successful applicants and projects are detailed in Attachment 1 and are reported on the Transparency and Integrity Hub in accordance with Council's principle of transparency and the Community Funding and Support Policy.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by Councillor Jim Madden:

Seconded by Councillor David Martin:

**That the report concerning the allocation of Council's Community Funding and Support Programs from 1 October to 31 December 2025 be received and the contents noted.**

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Madsen

Augustine

Harding

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

Jonic  
Doyle  
Antonioli  
Martin  
Madden

The motion was put and carried.

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**NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

**MATTERS ARISING**

Nil

**QUESTIONS / GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil

**PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS**

The meeting commenced at 12.56 pm.

The meeting closed at 1.14 pm.

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Doc ID No: A12518695

ITEM: 2  
SUBJECT: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY 2025 REPORT  
AUTHOR: PROGRAM OFFICER (PHYSICAL ACTIVITY)  
DATE: 3 FEBRUARY 2026

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning the evaluation of the Active and Healthy program based on participant feedback received from the 2025 calendar year.

The Active and Healthy Program supports and encourages the Ipswich community to become more active and develop connections through a range of free and low-cost group sports, recreation and wellness activities.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

**That the report on the Active and Healthy Program for the 2025 calendar year be received and the contents noted.**

### **RELATED PARTIES**

There are no discernible related party conflicts of interest associated with this report and its recommendation.

### **IFUTURE THEME**

Vibrant and Growing

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

The Active and Healthy program is a direct outcome and delivery action of the Ipswich Community Development Strategy and the Active Ipswich Strategy 2031.

In 2025 calendar year, the Active and Healthy Program had a total participation of 33,781. The program featured 48 regular weekly activities, 10 nutrition workshops, 12 Learn-2-Ride cycling sessions, and 189 Active Kids school holiday sessions.

The Active and Healthy Participant Survey (2025) is designed to provide insight into:

- Participant demographics
- Perceived benefits of participation
- Perceived barriers to participation

- Satisfaction with programs
- Suggestions for program improvement
- Active and Healthy App features and functionality
- General feedback and commentary

Programs that were identified within the survey under the Active and Healthy Program included:

- Active Ipswich
- Active Low Impact
- Active Mums and Bubs
- Active Kids
- Healthy Eating workshops

Key findings of the Active and Healthy Participants Survey included:

- 81% of participants identified improvements in physical health (79% in 2024).
- 68% of participants identified improvements in mental health (64% in 2024).
- 90% rated their satisfaction as 4 (out of 5) or higher (81% in 2024) with an overall average of 4.52 out of 5 (4.36 in 2024).
- 92% of participants have used the Active and Healthy app to book classes (87% in 2024), with general feedback describing the app as easy to use and navigate.
- The most liked aspects of the program were the instructors, the cost of the program, the social connection and community benefits, the convenience and accessibility of the program and the health and wellbeing benefits.
- Areas identified for improvement include increased number of activities, improved management of the aqua classes, and more classes in Ipswich Central/North and West.

Additionally, many expressed gratitude to Council for the program being available to the community.

For a summary report of the Active and Healthy Participant Survey, please refer to *Attachment 1 (Active and Healthy Participant Survey Summary)*.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:  
*Not Applicable*

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There is no discernible policy implications associated with this report and its recommendations.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no discernible risk management implications associated with the report and its recommendation.

### **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The total budget for the Active and Healthy Program in 2025-2026 is \$239,568.

### **COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION**

The Active and Healthy Participant Survey received 448 completed surveys, an increase of 36% from 2024.

Formal annual consultation is undertaken with the community every December to help inform the programming of the Active and Healthy program. This provides the community with the opportunity to identify their 'likes' and 'dislikes' with the program, along with the opportunity to provide suggestions. This process is helping to continue the success of the Active and Healthy Program.

### **CONCLUSION**

Recommendations from the survey will help shape and inform future programming content.

### **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.	<a href="#">Active and Healthy Participant Survey Summary</a>  
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Dani Andlemac  
**PROGRAM OFFICER (PHYSICAL ACTIVITY)**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Marnie Orr  
**COORDINATOR (COMMUNITY WELLBEING)**

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”*

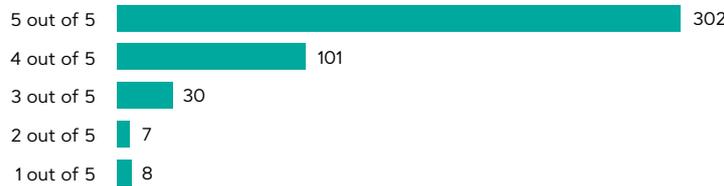


The Active and Healthy Participant Survey ran from November 2025 through to January 2026. The survey received 448 contributions, an increase from the previous survey (328).

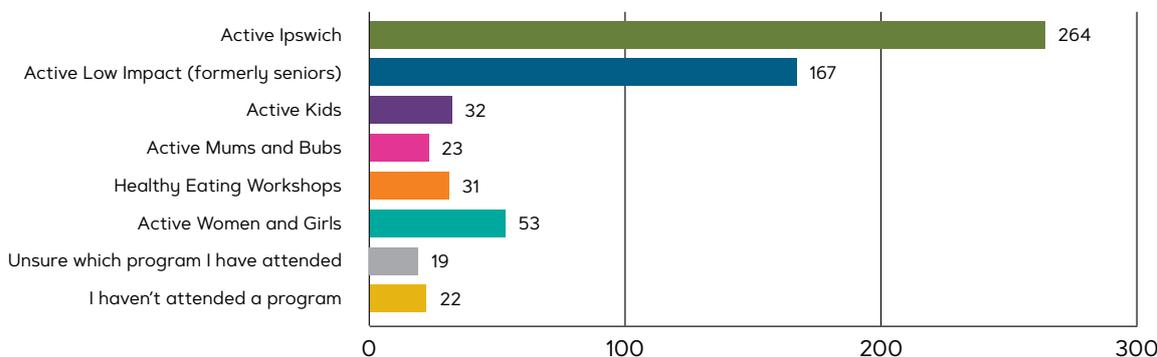
Participants were asked to provide feedback on the suite of Active and Healthy Ipswich programs offered by council, including:

- Active Ipswich
- Active Low Impact
- Active Mums and Bubs
- Active Kids
- Healthy Eating workshops
- The Active and Healthy app.

**PARTICIPANT SATISFACTION WITH PROGRAM**



1. What Active and Healthy Program/s have you attended in the past 12 months?

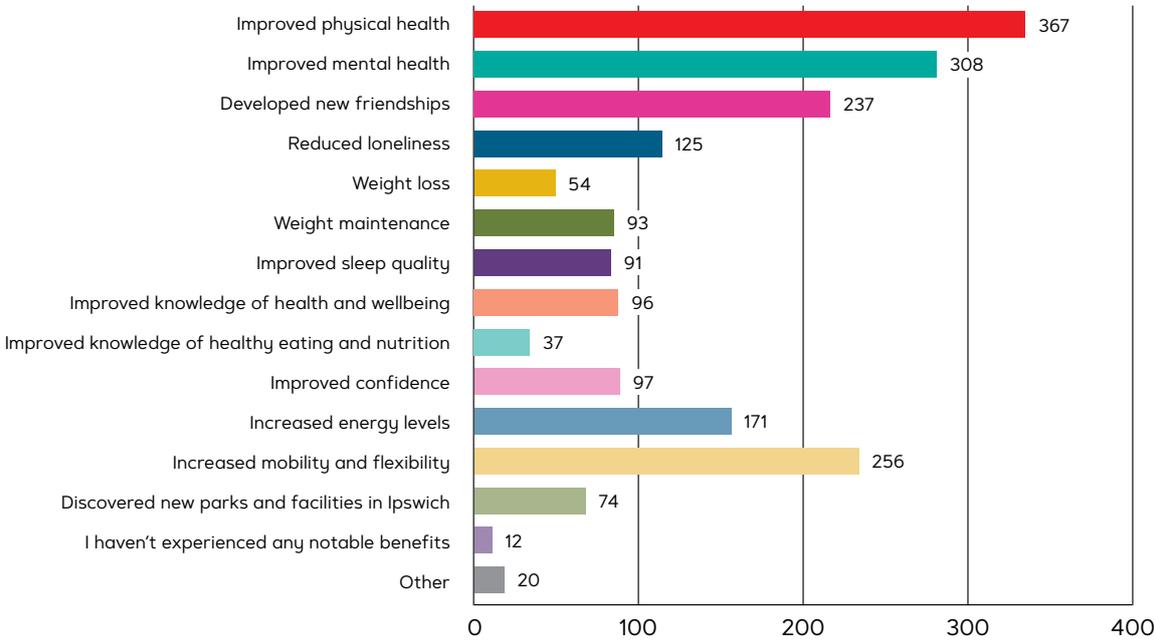


[ipswich.qld.gov.au/activehealthy](https://ipswich.qld.gov.au/activehealthy)



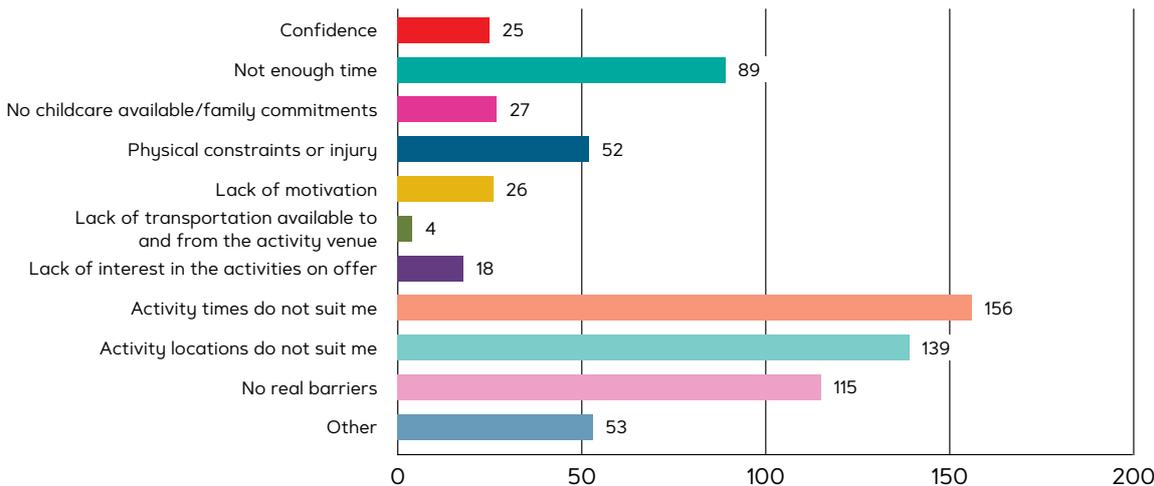
**PERCEIVED BENEFITS FROM PARTICIPATION**

2. What benefits have you experienced from participating in the Active and Healthy program?



**PERCEIVED BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION**

3. What do you perceive as the biggest barriers to you participating more regularly in the Active and Healthy program?



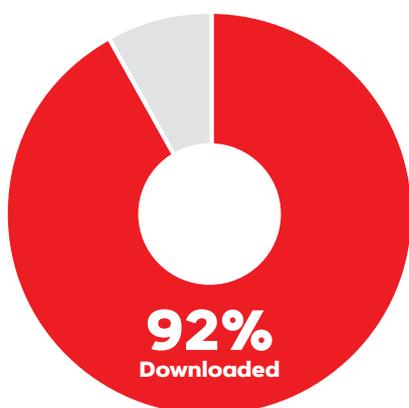
### POSITIVE FEEDBACK

- **Quality of instructors** – friendly, knowledgeable, supportive
- **Free/low cost** – removes financial barriers; “no cost” makes it accessible
- **Social connection/community** – meeting people, feeling less lonely, making friends
- **Convenience and accessibility (locations/times, easy booking/check-in)** – local venues, close to home, simple to book
- **Health and wellbeing benefits** – feeling fitter/stronger, more energy, better sleep, confidence
- **Variety/range of activities** – plenty of options to try
- **Enjoyment of yoga/tai chi/meditation** – especially chair/adaptive yoga and tai chi
- **Enjoyment of aqua/water-based sessions** – Aqua Fitness/Zumba, Orion Lagoon, pool-based
- **Motivation and accountability** – having a set class “gets me out of the house” and keeps routine
- **Outdoors/parks/venues** – Queens Park, Robelle Domain, Orion Lagoon; enjoying nature
- **Dance/Zumba/Bollyfit** – fun, high-energy music-based sessions
- **Inclusivity (all ages/abilities)** – welcoming, non-judgmental, accessible for seniors and beginners.

### FEEDBACK FOR PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

- **More sessions/higher frequency** – add extra classes and repeat popular ones
- **Pool-based focus/Aqua additions or spacing** – more Aqua/Zumba Water, additional lanes, better day spacing across pools
- **More yoga/tai chi/pilates/meditation** – incl. Chair/Adaptive Yoga; address long waitlists
- **More locations in Ipswich Central/North/West**
- **App usability/check-in reliability** – smoother check-in, fewer logouts, clearer calendar/notifications
- **More sessions in the Greater Springfield Area**
- **Broader times (early, evenings, weekends)** – after-work, later-week, more Fri/Sat/Sun, 6.30 am starts
- **Continue adult/seniors programs during school holidays**
- **More dance classes**
- **Child-friendly options/childcare** – more Mums & Bubs, under 5s, and childminding
- **Capacity management/fewer crowds** – smaller numbers in tight venues; reduce over-booking/waitlists
- **Air-conditioning/venue comfort** – ventilation/shade for hot venues
- **More in Rosewood/Walloon/Marburg** – restore/expand West area classes
- **More strength/weights/conditioning/HIIT/Bootcamp** – expand higher-intensity offerings
- **Booking system changes (advance/weekly)** – allow longer pre-booking than 2 weeks; fairer waitlist rules
- **Transport/access support** – distance/transport barriers for some suburbs.

### THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY APP





### FEEDBACK

- Make check in more robust (allow check in sooner and after start time grace)
- Reduce login friction (persist login, allow email-based username, simpler password reset)
- Add a week/month calendar view and clearer timetable layout
- Improve change/cancellation comms (push + optional SMS reminders, faster updates)
- Improve location recognition at pools/parks
- Offer manual/alternative sign in for participants without app capable phones
- Consider longer booking windows (e.g. term booking with self-cancel) for regulars.

### COMMENTARY

*"Keep going, it's a great program."*

*"Love it – thank you for offering these classes."*

*"The Orion Lagoon aqua class is awesome – wish it was every day."*

### NEXT STEPS

All feedback received from the survey will be used to help inform, develop and grow the suite of Active and Healthy Ipswich programs for the new financial year.