



City of
Ipswich

AGENDA

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 17 March 2026

10 minutes after the conclusion of the Economic and Cultural Development Committee or such later time as determined by the preceding committee

Council Chambers, Level 8
1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Jim Madden (**Chairperson**)
Councillor Andrew Antonioli (**Deputy Chairperson**)

Mayor Teresa Harding
Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic
Councillor Jacob Madsen
Councillor Pye Augustine
Councillor Marnie Doyle

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE AGENDA

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** Item includes confidential papers

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY 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 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2026(01) OF 17 FEBRUARY 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee held on 17 February 2026 be confirmed.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

2. **IPSWICH CANE TOAD CHALLENGE - HIGHLIGHTS REPORT**

This is a report concerning the Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge and highlights of the campaign.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge – Highlights Report be received and noted.

3. **GARAGE SALE TRAIL IMPACT REPORT 2025**

This is a report concerning the Garage Sale Trail Impact Report 2025 and the positive community outcomes of participating in this initiative. The 2025 Garage

Sale Trail was another outstanding success for Ipswich, delivering strong environmental, economic and community outcomes while engaging thousands of residents across the city.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Garage Sale Trail Impact Report 2025 be received and its content noted.

4. WASTE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRANSFORMATION DIRECTIVE - UPDATE REPORT

This is an update report on the continuing implementation of the Ipswich City Council Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Policy Directive (the Directive) following the review of the Directive at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 3 September 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That the update report on the Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Policy Directive be received and the contents noted.

5. CLIMATE EMERGENCY PETITION - RESPONSE OUTCOME

This report is regarding a response to a petition received in August 2025 from the Ipswich Climate Action Group (ICAG). At Council Ordinary meeting on 2 December 2025, Council resolved that the officer report presented to the Environment and Sustainability Committee No. 2025(11) of 2 December 2025 be referred to a future councillor workshop for discussion.

The petition called upon Ipswich City Council to:

1. Declare a Climate Emergency.
2. Achieve net zero emissions across all Council operations by 2030.
3. Establish a community-council partnership to support a sustainable and liveable future.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Council receives and notes the petition from the Ipswich Climate Action Group.
- B. That Council continue to implement actions under its adopted Sustainability Strategy 2021 – 2026 and actively promotes, communicates and raises awareness of council's sustainability and climate resilience initiatives.
- C. That Council continue to engage with environment and sustainability groups, and the broader community to support a sustainable and liveable future, and to seek

community input in the review and update of the Sustainability Strategy in 2026-2027.

6. SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY PROGRESS REPORT - MARCH 2026

This is a report concerning the progress in implementing Ipswich City Council's Sustainability Strategy 2021-2026. The strategy and its associated implementation plan are in their fifth year of implementation. These set out several actions over the five-year period and as of March 2026, **81%** are marked completed. Some of the actions are substantial projects within themselves and are implemented over multiple years and/or ongoing in nature.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled "Sustainability Strategy Implementation – March 2026" be received and noted.

NOTICES OF MOTION

MATTERS ARISING

QUESTIONS / GENERAL BUSINESS

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2026(01)

17 FEBRUARY 2026

MINUTES

COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE:

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

COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES:

Nil

OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), General Manager Environment and Sustainability (Kaye Cavanagh), General Manager Asset and Infrastructure Services (Seren McKenzie), General Manager Community, Cultural and Economic Development (Ben Pole), General Manager Planning and Regulatory Services (Brett Davey), General Manager Corporate Services (Matt Smith), Manager Natural Environment (Phil A Smith), Environmental Events and Partnerships Officer (Jennifer Bonnett), Acting Team Leader – Environment and Sustainability Education and Awareness (Jacque King), Environmental Education and Operations Manager (Grant Sorensen), Waterway Improvement Officer (Benny Penhallurick), Manager Media, Communications and Engagement (Mark Strong), Senior Media Officer (Darrell Giles) and Venue Technician (Thomas Haag)

WELCOME TO COUNTRY OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Councillor Jim Madden (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 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE NO. 2025(11) OF 2 DECEMBER 2025**

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Jacob Madsen:

Seconded by Councillor Andrew Antonioli:

That the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee held on 2 December 2025 be confirmed.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Madden

Antonioli

Harding

Jonic

Madsen

Augustine

Doyle

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

2. **2025 ENVIRONMENTAL EVENT HIGHLIGHTS REPORT**

This is a report outlining a summary of Environmental Events held during 2025, highlighting key events and campaigns delivered across the year and an overview of planned dates for 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Pye Augustine:

Seconded by Councillor Andrew Antonioli:

That the report on the 2025 Environmental Events Highlights be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Madden

Antonioli

Harding

Jonic

Madsen

Augustine

Doyle

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

3. 2025 SUSTAINABLE IPSWICH - OVERVIEW REPORT

This is a report concerning the Sustainable Ipswich Overview Report.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Marnie Doyle:

Seconded by Councillor Pye Augustine:

That the report on the Sustainable Ipswich Overview be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Madden

Antoniolli

Harding

Jonic

Madsen

Augustine

Doyle

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

4. OFF-SITE STORMWATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORTS
2023-2024 AND 2024-2025

This is a report concerning the Off-site Stormwater Quality Improvement Program (the Program, formerly known as Stormwater Quality Offsets program) and its annual report (Attachment 1.).

Council publishes a report summarising important information about the Program for each of the financial years it operates. This includes details of the fees collected from participating developers, how they've been spent, and the stormwater pollution reductions and other benefits achieved. The attached annual report (the Annual Report) covers the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 financial years. It also describes changes made to the Program over this time and proposed next steps, including the preparation of a plan to deliver new off-site solutions over the next 5 – 10 years.

The Annual Report has been prepared in council's marketing template but will be turned into a graphic document suitable for public release after this committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Mayor Teresa Harding:

Seconded by Councillor Andrew Antonioli:

That the Off-site Stormwater Quality Improvement Program Annual Reports 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 as outlined in Attachment 1, be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Madden

Antonioli

Harding

Jonic

Madsen

Augustine

Doyle

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

5. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT CAPITAL DELIVERY REPORT
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2025

This is a report concerning the performance of the capital delivery program by the Environment and Sustainability Department for October-December 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Mayor Teresa Harding:

Seconded by Councillor Marnie Doyle:

That the report on capital delivery by the Environment and Sustainability Department for October-December 2025 be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Madden

Antonioli

Harding

Jonic

Madsen

Augustine

Doyle

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 1.55 pm.

The meeting closed at 2.10 pm.

Doc ID No: A12544796

ITEM: 2

SUBJECT: IPSWICH CANE TOAD CHALLENGE - HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

AUTHOR: ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS OFFICER

DATE: 10 FEBRUARY 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge and highlights of the campaign.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report titled Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge – Highlights Report be received and noted.

RELATED PARTIES

- Watergum Community Inc.
- There were no declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

This is a report that details the outcomes of a partnership between Ipswich City Council and Watergum Community (Watergum) that included the delivery of the first Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge.

Watergum is a not-for-profit organisation specialising in environmental education and is recognised as an industry leader in humane and effective cane toad control, including the development of scientifically approved tadpole baits.

Ipswich City Council and Watergum partnered to deliver a range of community-based invasive species management initiatives from December 2025 to February 2026. This included:

- Bushcare volunteer cane toad busting workshop (6 November)
- Habitat Gardens and Landholder Conservation Partnerships Program cane toad busting workshop (13 January)
- Establishment of a community cane toad drop-off point in Ipswich

- Ipswich-specific data from Watergum’s annual Great Cane Toad Bust (17-25 January)
- An Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge (30 January – 8 February)
- Community cane toad busting event to launch the Challenge (30 January)

The partnership aimed to reduce cane toad populations, increase community awareness of invasive species impacts, and build long-term community capacity for humane cane toad management.

Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge

The main feature of the partnership was the Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge (30 January – 8 February) which encouraged residents to collect cane toads and tadpoles and submit their data via Watergum’s online portal and follow RSPCA-approved humane euthanasia methods.

This was the first time this event had been run in Ipswich. Prizes were offered as an incentive including Bunnings vouchers and tadpole traps.

A launch event was held on Friday 30 January 2026, with a community cane toad bust at Haig Street Quarry Bushland Reserve.

Watergum also set up a local collection point where frozen toads were able to be gathered for use in producing cane toad tadpole lures.

Promotion occurred through Watergum’s website, the Challenge Facebook page (managed by Watergum), and Council’s communication channels.

Outcomes and Participation

The partnership between council and Watergum generated strong community engagement and measurable environmental outcomes.

Great Cane Toad Bust (17-25 January) – Ipswich local statistics

- Toads collected: 2,459
- Participants: 70

Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge (30 January – 8 February) – key statistics

- Total groups participating: 44
- Total volunteer hours: 378 hours
- Adult cane toads caught: 5,091
 - As each female can produce up to 35,000 eggs each time she breeds, if 50% of these adult cane toads caught were female, up to 89,075,000 future cane toad eggs could have been prevented from entering the Ipswich ecosystem, just from one breeding cycle.
- Tadpoles caught: 36,565

- Total toads removed from the environment: 41,656

In-person events

- 10 Bushcare volunteers at Jim Donald Wetlands caught 176 toads (December 2025)
- 18 Landholder Conservation Partnerships Program and Habitat Gardens members at Kholo Botanic Gardens caught 905 toads (January 2025)
- 30 community members at Haig Street Quarry Bushland Reserve caught 849 toads (Challenge launch event – January 2026)

Campaign promotion – Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge

- 2,000 DL flyers distributed across Ipswich
- Digital billboards at key locations
- Social media promotion on both council and Watergum channels (organic and paid)
- Facebook event received 479 responses
- Media release and Ipswich First article

Environmental Significance

Cane toads are one of Australia's most damaging invasive species. Each female cane toad can produce up to 35,000 eggs per breeding cycle, making early-stage intervention critical.

Removing more than 41,000 toads and tadpoles represents a significant reduction in potential future breeding and environmental harm.

Cane toads are toxic at every life stage. During the Challenge significant numbers of adult toads, tadpoles and metamorphs (baby toads) were caught.

The event and level of engagement provided opportunity to reach a new audience with education and messaging not only focused on toads but wider biosecurity and value and obligations around pest management in general.

Partnership with Watergum

Watergum brought specialised expertise, scientific permitting, and established community engagement frameworks to the program.

Watergum has partnerships with multiple councils across Queensland and New South Wales which demonstrates their capacity to deliver invasive species programs.

The partnership with Ipswich City Council aims to build long-term community capability, including among landholders and Bushcare volunteers, to undertake ongoing humane cane toad management across the Ipswich LGA.

The establishment of an Ipswich cane toad drop-off point (at a private residence) increases capacity for humane euthanasia via stepped hypothermia (fridge-freezer method). These toads are also able to be used by Watergum in the manufacture of tadpole lures.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The program aligns with:

- **Natural Environment Strategy** – supporting community-led environmental protection and restoration.
- **Enviroplan Policy** – increasing resident awareness and engagement in nature conservation.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications related to this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed with Watergum to clearly define the key deliverables, roles and responsibilities of Watergum and Ipswich City Council in relation to the delivery of the program.

The Terms and Conditions of the Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge competition were reviewed by council's Legal Branch.

The program followed RSPCA-approved humane euthanasia guidelines (stepped hypothermia) to ensure animal welfare compliance.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The partnership and campaign was funded through approved budgets including Bushcare and Enviroplan.

The Challenge generated an estimated **\$17,010** in volunteer in-kind contributions. This estimate was generated by Watergum based on the number of volunteer hours contributed in the challenge.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

- Legal and Governance Branch
- Natural Environment Branch
- Watergum Community Inc.

Beyond this the event and campaign was picked up and promoted and engaged a number of local media outlets and organisations, including several pieces on River 94.9.

CONCLUSION

The Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge successfully engaged the community, delivered measurable environmental outcomes, and strengthened local capacity for ongoing invasive species management.

The partnership with Watergum proved effective and aligns strongly with council's environmental strategies.

The program demonstrates the value of community-driven conservation initiatives and provides a strong foundation for future collaborative environmental programs, with a broader reach and level of engagement than has been seen previously for other event or subject focused campaigns

This year's campaign can be adjudged to have been a toad-al success!

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

1.	Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge ↓ 
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Jennifer Bonnett

ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS OFFICER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Jacque King

ACTING TEAM LEADER (ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION AND AWARENESS)

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Phil A. Smith

MANAGER, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

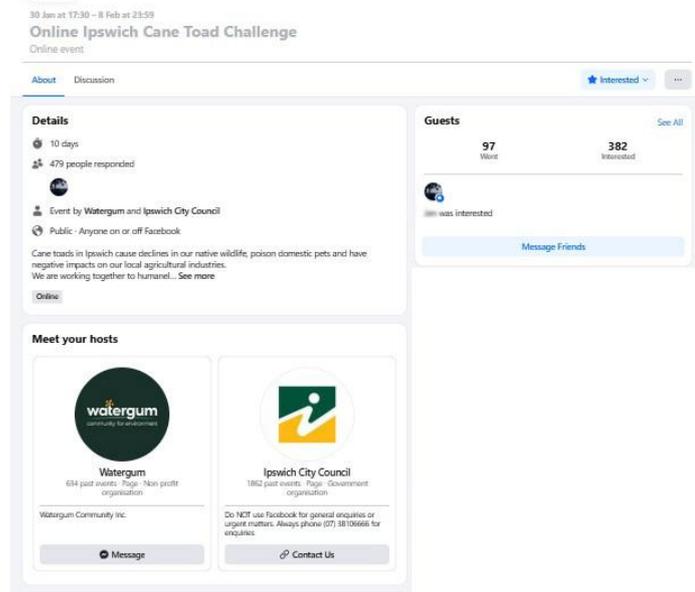
Kaye Cavanagh

GENERAL MANAGER (ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY)

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

Online Ipswich Cane Toad Challenge

Campaign / promotion examples



Event photos



Doc ID No: A12517226

ITEM: 3
SUBJECT: GARAGE SALE TRAIL IMPACT REPORT 2025
AUTHOR: STRATEGY AND BUSINESS PLANNING MANAGER
DATE: 3 FEBRUARY 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the Garage Sale Trail Impact Report 2025 and the positive community outcomes of participating in this initiative. The 2025 Garage Sale Trail was another outstanding success for Ipswich, delivering strong environmental, economic and community outcomes while engaging thousands of residents across the city.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Garage Sale Trail Impact Report 2025 be received and its content noted.

RELATED PARTIES

Garage Sale Trail

Partnering organisations – Queensland Government, NSW EPA, Australian Men’s Shed Association, Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association, Grow it Local and Dirt Girl World

There are nil known conflicts of interest in relation to this report.

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

Garage Sale Trail is a community-powered waste education and behaviour change program that brings people together to buy and sell second hand over two weekends in November. In 2025 Ipswich saw record participation in this event resulting in growing positive impacts associated with participation. Further detail is available in the report provided by Garage Sale Trail (Attachment 1).

A Record Year of Community Participation

- 6,243 Ipswich residents took part as sellers or shoppers — a strong, city-wide effort.
- 245 local garage sales and stalls were registered, up significantly on the previous year.

- Engagement spanned households, schools, churches, sporting clubs, community groups and local businesses.

Major Waste Reduction and Reuse Outcomes

- 20,043 second hand items were reused locally over the two event weekends.
- 36% of items would otherwise have gone to landfill, showing strong diversion benefits.
- Ipswich residents report Garage Sale Trail helped them declutter responsibly and avoid disposal through kerbside or council services.

Supporting Cost-of-Living Relief

- Residents generated \$176,216 in resale value, putting meaningful money back into local households, charities and community groups.
- Shoppers saved an estimated \$257,000 by buying second hand rather than new.
- Financial motivations were stronger this year, with many residents using earnings to support everyday expenses.

Driving Behaviour Change

- 63% of sellers would not have hosted a garage sale without this program — demonstrating the Trail's role in enabling reuse behaviours.
- 27% of shoppers would not otherwise have bought second hand.
- Participants invested significant time and effort, showing deep engagement in responsible resource use.

Strengthening Community Connection

- Participants reported meeting new neighbours, forming new local connections and feeling more connected to the community afterwards.
- The event helped bring together diverse groups across Ipswich through accessible, low-pressure, community-led activities.

Value for Council

- Ipswich reached residents who do not typically participate in council-led programs, strengthening reach and influence.
- For every \$1 invested, the program generated an estimated \$12 in economic benefit for the community.
- The program demonstrates how council-supported, community-led initiatives can deliver practical circular economy outcomes at scale.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

Local Government Act 2009

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Implications identified in receiving and noting the report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial/resource implications identified in receiving and noting the report. Participation in the Garage Sale Trail is funded through Resource Recovery Branch operational budget.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Garage Sale Trail engages with participants to generate the impact report, providing Council with insights to community sentiment and engagement.

CONCLUSION

The Garage Sale Trail continues to deliver excellent returns for Ipswich — reducing waste, supporting households financially, strengthening community ties and embedding long-term reuse behaviours. It stands as a clear example of high-impact, low-cost circular economy action that residents genuinely value.

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

1.	Garage Sale Trail Impact Report 2025 
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Emma Thomson
STRATEGY AND BUSINESS PLANNING MANAGER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

David McAlister
MANAGER, RESOURCE RECOVERY

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Kaye Cavanagh
GENERAL MANAGER (ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY)

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

Introduction



ABOUT THIS REPORT

OVERVIEW

Garage Sale Trail is a community-powered waste education and behaviour change program that brings people together to buy and sell secondhand over two weekends every November.

By enabling local residents, businesses and community groups to organise garage sales and thrift markets, the program supports the reuse of textiles and household items, helps reduce reliance on landfill and strengthens local community connections.

The 2025 Garage Sale Trail campaign ran from 1 September to 30 November, with garage sales and thrift markets taking place nationally on 8–9 and 15–16 November.

The program is an initiative of the not-for-profit Garage Sale Trail Foundation and was delivered with support from 91 local governments and regional groups, as well as the NSW Environment Protection Authority (NSW EPA) and the Queensland Government.

DATA SOURCES

This report was prepared by Taverner Research Group. The report has been compiled in good faith, with due care and attention taken to ensure the information provided on local impacts is reasonably reliable and accurate.

The findings contained in this report are based on:

- **Registrations:** data collected through the Garage Sale Trail website between 1 September and 16 November 2025.
- **Participant survey:** online survey of Garage Sale Trail sellers conducted between 8 November and 30 November 2025.
- **Campaign performance:** website, media and marketing data (Google Analytics, Meta and CoverageBook) covering 1 September to 30 November 2025.

HOW TO READ YOUR REPORT

This report combines local registration data with insights from a national participant survey to estimate outcomes at a local level.

Figures shown at the top of each page (such as participation, reuse and economic outcomes) are local estimates, based on the number and type of sales that took place within your local government area.

These local estimates are modelled using national survey data, which provides information on participant behaviour, motivations and outcomes (for example, the average number of items sold, time invested or what would have happened to items if the event had not taken place). Modelling is informed by regional or metropolitan averages, to better reflect differences in participation patterns and outcomes across council areas.

Where reuse, diversion and emissions outcomes are reported, estimates are calculated using established methodologies, including the Charitable Reuse Australia Reuse Calculator [1] and the National Reuse Measurement Guidelines [2].

This approach allows Garage Sale Trail to report outcomes consistently and transparently across all participating councils.

SURVEY RESPONSE RATE

The participant survey was completed by 1,019 garage sale organisers, representing 19% of registered sales. This is a strong sample for a community survey and provides a reliable picture of participant motivations and outcomes.

In your local government area 15 registered garage sale organisers completed the survey.



[1] Charitable Reuse Australia 2024: [Measuring Reuse Activity & Impacts in NSW](#)

[2] Behaviour Works Australia 2022: [National Reuse Measurement Guidelines](#)

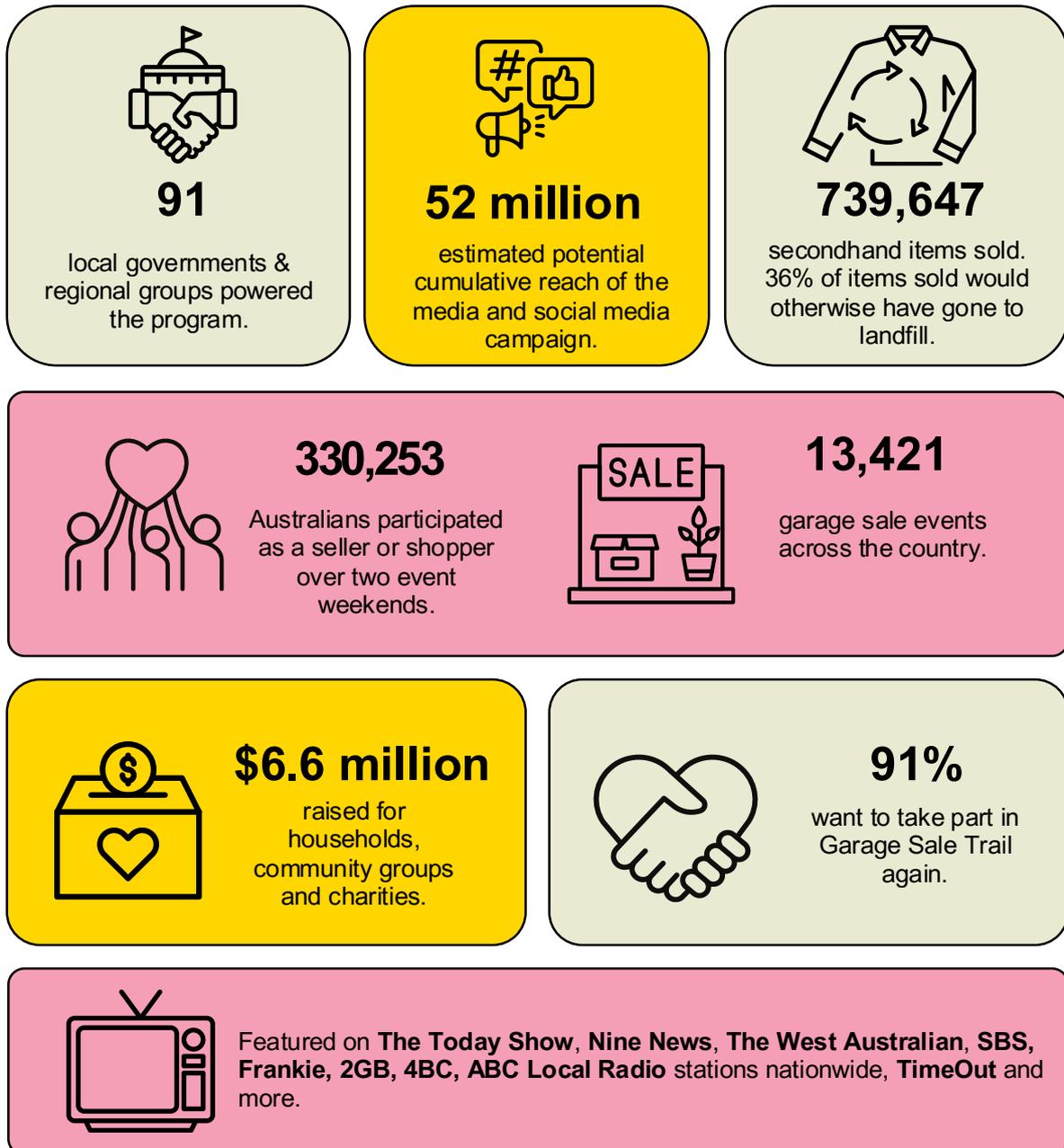
Summary of national outcomes



BUILDING A CULTURE OF REUSE, AUSTRALIA-WIDE

To engage communities at scale, Garage Sale Trail delivered a national and state-wide campaign, supported by local promotions from council partners and regional waste groups. The campaign ran across television, newspaper, radio and online channels, and was supported by ambassadors including dirtgirl and Costa Georgiadis.

The figures below reflect national outcomes from the 2025 Garage Sale Trail campaign.



Key trends



WHAT CHANGED IN 2025

PARTICIPATION INCREASED & BROADENED

Participation increased nationally in 2025, with the number of registered events up 10%, and the number of people taking part as sellers or shoppers also increasing by 10%.

Growth was seen across a range of event types, with the strongest increases in car boot sales, markets and school-based sales.

COST OF LIVING DROVE INTEREST

Survey data shows that making money was the number one reason sellers chose to take part in 2025, overtaking decluttering and avoiding landfill as the primary motivators. 82% of shoppers reported they participated in order to save money.

This shift was also reflected in changes to how people participated. Sellers reported higher average item prices (\$8.93 per item, up from \$5.13 in 2024) and invested more time promoting their sales. Together, these findings suggest sellers were more focused on maximising financial returns in 2025.

SELLERS INVESTED MORE TIME & EFFORT

Survey data shows sellers that hosted at home invested an average of 24 hours, reflecting a high level of engagement with the program and meaningful behaviour change.

Sellers also promoted their sales more actively, telling an average of 197 people about their involvement, up from 106 in 2024. This suggests increased effort in reaching local audiences and building awareness within neighbourhoods, helping to reinforce social norms around reuse and secondhand.

Seller efforts paid off, with household sellers making an average of \$761 per sale (up from \$499).

THE PROGRAM ENGAGED NEW RESIDENTS

Garage Sale Trail continued to engage residents who do not typically take part in council programs. Nationally, 68% of survey respondents reported they had not knowingly attended a council-led event before.

What's more, 60% of sellers reported they would not have hosted a garage sale without Garage Sale Trail. This highlights the program's role as a gateway into reuse, with many sellers reporting they are more likely to buy or sell secondhand in the future.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION WAS A MEANINGFUL OUTCOME FOR RESIDENTS

While relatively few participants (10%) signed up to Garage Sale Trail with the intention of meeting neighbours, many reported forming new connections as a result of taking part. Survey data shows that household sellers met an average of 49 people at their sale, the majority of whom they had not previously met.

Participants also reported feeling more connected to their local community after the event. Qualitative feedback suggests the informal, low-pressure nature of garage sales created opportunities for interaction between people of different ages and cultural backgrounds.

DIRTGIRL VISITS A SCHOOL SALE



WHOLE STREETS & LOCAL BUSINESSES GOT INVOLVED

Local snapshot



REUSE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Local registration data, combined with participant survey responses, is used to estimate the reuse, community and economic impacts generated in your local government area in 2025. Refer to pages 6-10 for more information on the calculations and a deeper explanation of these results.

Impacts in your area are influenced by the level of local community engagement and promotional activities undertaken over the campaign period.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION



6,243
local residents participated as a seller or a shopper.



245
local sales & stalls.
(2024: 100).

ITEMS REUSED

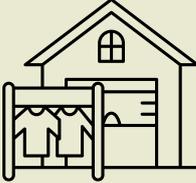


20,043
items sold / reused over two weekends.

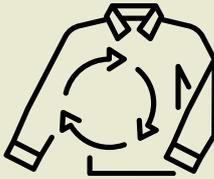


36%
would otherwise have gone to landfill.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE



63%
participants who would not otherwise have hosted a garage sale.



27%
participants who would not otherwise have shopped at a garage sale.

ECONOMIC



\$176,216
made for local households, community groups and charities.



\$257,000
saved by shoppers through buying secondhand instead of new.

What participants said



QUALITATIVE FEEDBACK FROM RESIDENTS

Throughout the campaign, Garage Sale Trail manages enquiries from residents via an email helpdesk, telephone registration line and direct messaging on social media channels. Feedback provided through these channels, together with open-ended responses in the participant survey, helps us better understand resident experiences as well as some of the harder-to-measure impacts of the program.

WHAT WE LEARNT

Many residents commented on the usefulness of the support provided, including online listings, promotional materials and practical guidance. Several noted this support helped them understand what was involved and feel more comfortable taking part.

Residents often described Garage Sale Trail as giving them a reason to finally declutter, with having a set event date commonly mentioned as motivating action.

Many felt that participating in the event made it easier to host a sale and helped them reach more people.

For the first time, some residents spoke about using the money they earned to help pay bills or manage everyday expenses. Others highlighted the importance of providing affordable goods to people in their local area.

The social side of the event was frequently mentioned, including meeting neighbours, chatting with passers-by and feeling part of a shared local and national event.

Residents also commented on how many people visited their sale. Experiences varied, with some noting strong foot traffic and others highlighting the importance of signage, promotion and visibility.

OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE

Resident feedback highlighted several opportunities to further improve the experience:

- Better access to large-format signs and printed resources.
- Stronger local promotion to boost awareness and turnout.
- Improvements to online maps and listings to help buyers find nearby sales.



Ipswich resident



Ipswich resident



Ipswich resident

Photographs taken at Garage Sale Trail 2025. Indicative only.

Participation



WHO & HOW MANY PEOPLE TOOK PART

6,243

Estimated number of residents who participated as a seller or shopper

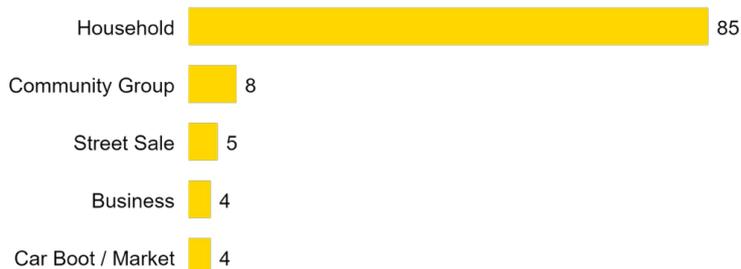
245

Registered local garage sales, including stalls at group sales

44%

Local sales that happened over two or more days

INDIVIDUAL	98
GROUP	8
STALLS	139



SALE REGISTRATIONS

Local sales data is sourced from seller registrations collected through the Garage Sale Trail website between 1 September and 16 November 2025.

Registration data includes all registered sellers in your local area and may differ from dashboard data where sales were deleted after the event.

To help ensure accuracy, local participants were contacted by email and text to confirm their sale went ahead. This included contacting group sale organisers to confirm accurate stall numbers.

Registration data shows engagement across a wide cross-section of the community, including households, whole streets, churches, sporting clubs, schools, community groups and local businesses. In 2025, there were notable national increases in car boot sales and markets (up 42%) as well as school-based sales (up 32%).

Participants could choose to take part over one, two, three or four days. Nationally, almost half (49%) of all sales took place over two or more days.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

To estimate how many sellers and shoppers took part in your community, data from the survey is applied to local sale registrations.

The survey tells us the average number of people selling and shopping at different sale types (household sales, car boot sales, markets and so on). These averages are then applied to the number of registered sales of each type in your local government area to estimate participation.

On average, a household sale attracted 49 shoppers, with 2.9 sellers involved in running the sale.

Nationally, participating councils saw an average of 5% of their community take part over the two event weekends. This represents an average cost per participant of \$2.30, based on council investment.

Reuse & diversion



WHAT WAS SOLD & REUSED

20,043

Estimated number of items sold locally

12,000

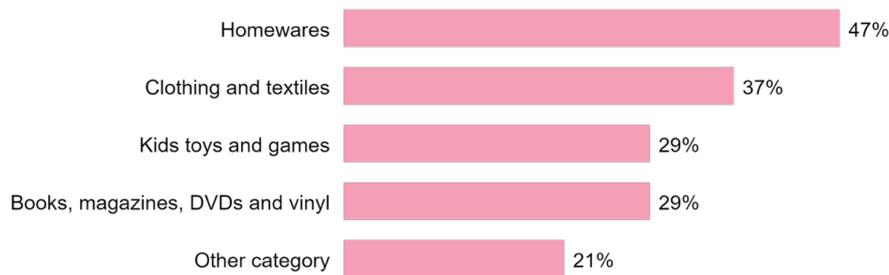
Estimated kilograms sold locally

36%

Stated these items would have otherwise gone to landfill

68

Estimated tonnes of CO2-e saved



Category of items sold

Participant survey data provides insight into the number and types of items sold at garage sales and markets across the two event weekends. This national data is used to estimate local reuse outcomes, based on the number and type of sales that took place in your local government area.

Nationally, household sellers reported selling an average of 82 items. The items sold covered a wide range of everyday household goods, including clothing, homewares, toys, books and tools.

The survey also asked sellers what would have happened to these items if they had not taken part in Garage Sale Trail. 89% of sellers reported that participating helped them avoid sending items to landfill.

36% of sellers indicated that the items they sold would otherwise have been disposed of via a household bin, a council service or left on the kerbside. This suggests the program may help reduce pressure on council waste services and lower the risk of inappropriate disposal.

National survey data is also used to estimate the tonnes of material reused and the greenhouse gas emissions avoided through reuse, using the Charitable Reuse Australia Reuse Calculator³. This calculator applies standard item weights for textiles and household goods and is based on the National Reuse Measurement Guidelines developed by Monash University⁴.

These reuse and emissions figures are conservative estimates. In future years, Garage Sale Trail will seek to collect more detailed information on product categories sold, to allow standard item weights to be applied with greater accuracy.

[3] Charitable Reuse Australia 2025: Reuse calculator.

[4] Charitable Reuse Australia 2024: Measuring Reuse Activity & Impacts 2022 - 2023.

Education & behaviour change



HOW THE CAMPAIGN REACHED & INFLUENCED RESIDENTS

387

Average number of people each seller told about Garage Sale Trail

102,749

Estimated number of people reached locally by seller promotions

29,586

Number of local residents who visited the Garage Sale Trail website

5,917

Estimated hours invested by local sellers

63%

Sellers who would **not** otherwise have hosted a garage sale

27%

Shoppers who would **not** otherwise have shopped at a garage sale

CAMPAIGN REACH

Google Analytics is used to track visits to local pages of the Garage Sale Trail website, including garage sale listings in your local government area and your council landing page.

Visits to local pages provide an indication of the reach of local community engagement activity. This data reflects visits to the Garage Sale Trail website only and does not capture residents reached through other channels.

In addition to council-led promotions, Garage Sale Trail engaged residents through social media, community partnerships, email, radio advertising and other traditional media. Campaign content focused on helping residents understand practical ways to extend the life of textiles and household items.

Local participants also play an important role in spreading awareness and building social norms around reuse and secondhand. National survey data shows that each household sale told an average of 197 people about their involvement in the program. This is an increase from 106 in 2024, suggesting sellers promoted their sales more extensively in 2025.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

Garage Sale Trail is designed to influence behaviour in both the short term (encouraging residents to take part in the two event weekends) and the longer term (supporting ongoing reuse behaviours after the event).

The following page explores potential longer-term outcomes in more detail. In the short term, national survey data indicates that a significant proportion of participants would not otherwise have hosted a garage sale or shopped secondhand.

Nationally, 60% of sellers reported that they would not otherwise have hosted a garage sale, while 27% of shoppers reported they would not otherwise have shopped at a garage sale.

Survey data also captures the time sellers invested in planning, promoting and running their garage sale, providing an indication of community effort and engagement. In 2025, each household sale invested an average of 24 hours.

Economy



MONEY MADE & SAVED BY RESIDENTS

\$683

Average takings at a household sale

\$176,216

Estimated amount generated for local sellers

\$257,000

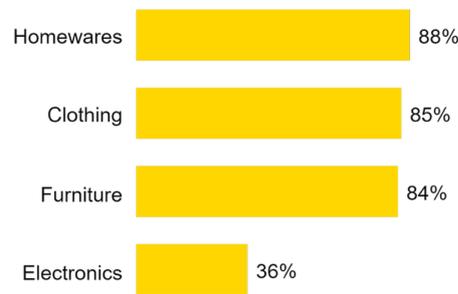
Estimated community savings buying secondhand rather than new

83%

Now more likely to sell or reuse items they no longer need

72%

Now more likely to buy secondhand over new



"Somewhat" or "very likely" to now buy these items secondhand

COST OF LIVING RELIEF

Participant survey data provides information on the average amount made at garage sales nationally by participating sellers. This is used to estimate the economic impact of the program at a local level.

Overall, the average amount made per sale increased year on year. Each household sale made an average of \$761 (up from \$499). Survey data indicates that making money was a key reason sellers chose to participate in 2025, more so than in previous years. This is consistent with a rise in the average price of items sold, which increased to \$8.93 per item.

On average, each \$1 invested by a local government partner generated an estimated \$12 in resale value for the local community.

Using the Reuse Calculator developed by Charitable Reuse Australia, estimated savings made by shoppers from switching to buying secondhand items instead of new have also been calculated for your local community.

GROWING THE SECONDHAND ECONOMY

Looking longer term, national survey data indicates how participation in Garage Sale Trail influences ongoing secondhand buying and selling behaviours.

Nationally, 85% of sellers reported that taking part in Garage Sale Trail made them more likely to sell or reuse items they no longer needed in the future. 81% of shoppers reported that participation made them more likely to buy secondhand in the future, with clothing and homewares the most common categories.

Among sellers participating for the first time, support to promote their event and being part of a national campaign were key factors influencing their decision to take part.

Community

NEW COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS & ENGAGEMENT



6,243

Estimated number of residents who participated as a seller or shopper

51

Average number of people sellers met at their sale

91%

People met were **not** previously known to them

77%

Felt more connected to the local community after participating

89%

Sellers who may participate again

99%

Shoppers who may participate again

CONNECTING COMMUNITY

National survey data provides insight into the social connections formed through participation in Garage Sale Trail, including how many people sellers met and whether these connections were previously known to them.

Nationally, household sellers met an average of 49 people at their sale. The majority (90%) of these interactions were with people they had not previously met, indicating that participation helped residents make new local connections. In addition, 79% of survey respondents reported that taking part helped them feel more connected to their local community.

RESIDENT EXPERIENCE

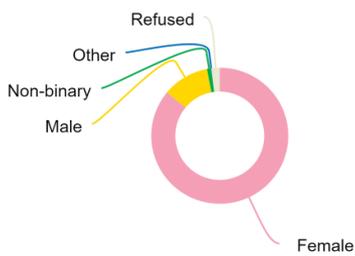
Participation spanned a wide range of community members, including households, whole streets, schools, local businesses and community groups, helping to support connections across different parts of the community.

Overall feedback was positive, with 91% of sellers and 99% of shoppers indicating that they would consider taking part again.

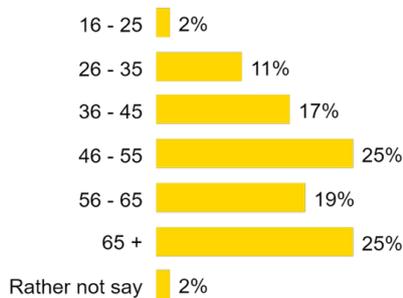
While only 10% of participants reported signing up to meet their neighbours, qualitative feedback indicates that the social and community-building aspects of the program were a key driver of positive experiences. The informal, low-pressure nature of garage sales made it easier for residents to connect with others in their neighbourhood, bringing together people of different ages and cultural backgrounds who might not otherwise interact.

Demographics

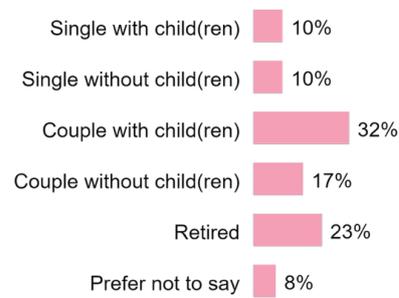
WHO GOT INVOLVED ACROSS THE COUNTRY



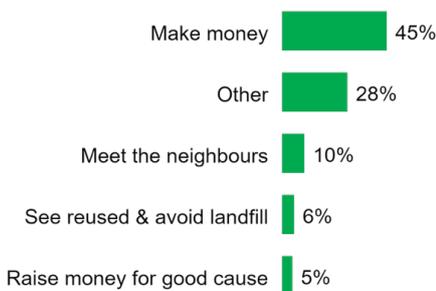
Gender of registered sellers



Age of registered sellers



Household stage of registered sellers



Sellers - reason for participating



Shoppers - reason for participating



Have previously attended a council event

In 2025, sellers participating in Garage Sale Trail were primarily female, with many either retired or part of a couple with children.

While shoppers skewed younger nationally, 72% of sellers were aged 46 or over. Research by the Commonwealth Bank⁵ indicates that people in this age group are less likely to resell items online, suggesting Garage Sale Trail may support reuse among residents who do not participate in digital secondhand marketplaces.

Survey data shows a shift in seller motivation in 2025. Making money was the primary reason sellers chose to participate, marking a shift from 2024 when decluttering and avoiding landfill were more prominent motivators. Shoppers were motivated by cost savings, with 82% stating they took part to save money.

27% of sellers reported having taken part in the program previously, indicating a mix of new and returning participants.

Survey data also provides insight into how participants heard about Garage Sale Trail. Among sellers, the most common source was social media (29%). Shoppers were most likely to hear about the program through email marketing (44%).

Importantly, 68% of respondents reported that they had not knowingly attended a council event previously, indicating that Garage Sale Trail reaches residents who may not typically take part in local government-led programs.

[5] Commonwealth Bank Consumer Insights 2022: Circular economy: the impact of business-led actions on future consumers.

Key learnings



OUTAKES FOR FUTURE CAMPAIGNS

PRACTICAL SUPPORT REMOVES BARRIERS

Survey data shows a high proportion of sellers would not otherwise have hosted a garage sale, with open-ended feedback highlighting the value of the guidance, tools and promotion provided to sellers.

Together they show how practical support can reduce uncertainty and remove common barriers, helping residents feel confident to take part and try selling secondhand.

A FIXED EVENT CREATES MOMENTUM

Registration data and seller feedback show that Garage Sale Trail acted as a catalyst for action. Many participants described the event weekends as the push they needed to finally declutter, with a clear and shared deadline helping turn good intentions into action.

COST OF LIVING SHAPES PARTICIPATION

Survey data shows financial motivations played a stronger role in 2025, with shoppers focused on saving money and sellers more focused on income generation than in previous years. Open-ended responses reinforce this, with many sellers describing how earnings helped with everyday expenses or enabled them to provide affordable goods to people in their community.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION ADDS VALUE

Seller feedback shows that meeting neighbours and forming new local connections was one of the most meaningful outcomes of taking part. Sellers spoke about conversations, chance encounters and a renewed sense of connection in their neighbourhoods that went far beyond financial outcomes.

This is supported by the data, with many participants reporting that taking part helped them feel more connected to their local community.

PARTICIPATION BUILDS CONFIDENCE

Taking part in Garage Sale Trail helped build residents' confidence to continue buying and selling secondhand. Open-ended feedback helps explain why.

Many sellers described how participating made reuse feel easier, more normal and less intimidating, giving them confidence to do it again beyond the event. These attitudes may support longer-term diversion from landfill, as residents rethink disposal and see reuse as a not just viable but enjoyable first option.

ENABLING COMMUNITY-LED ACTION

Survey data shows Garage Sale Trail reaches residents who do not typically engage in council-led programs, while seller feedback highlights the value of the program being shared with communities rather than delivered directly by councils.

Together, this points to the role councils can play as enablers - supporting reuse, shared responsibility and practical circular economy outcomes, without needing to run activities themselves.

SELLERS PROMOTED THEIR EVENTS LOCALLY



YOUNG SHOPPER FINDS GOLD!



Garage Sale Trail acknowledges and thanks every individual and organisation that participated in the program in 2025, including the 91 local government partners and regional groups and the following organisations:

STATE GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



**Queensland
Government**

This project is a NSW EPA Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy initiative, funded from the waste levy

This initiative is supported by the Queensland Government's Recycling and Jobs Fund

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Doc ID No: A11917200

ITEM: 4

SUBJECT: WASTE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRANSFORMATION DIRECTIVE - UPDATE REPORT

AUTHOR: SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATOR

DATE: 2 MARCH 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is an update report on the continuing implementation of the Ipswich City Council Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Policy Directive (the Directive) following the review of the Directive at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 3 September 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That the update report on the Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Policy Directive be received and the contents noted.

RELATED PARTIES

There are many related parties associated with this report including other levels of government, business and industry associated with the waste and circular economy industry.

As this is an update report regarding the progress of actions and is recommending that the report be received and noted, there are not considered to be any conflicts.

IFUTURE THEME

A Trusted and Leading Organisation

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

As outlined in the attachment to this report, a significant body of work continues to be undertaken to implement actions against the ten (10) principles of the Directive. The WACETD Dashboard Report (Attachment 1.) shows that 84% of actions have now been completed, or are on-going as part of normal council business.

Further, at Council Ordinary Meeting of 11 December 2025 a Mayoral Motion was passed with the following recommendations:

- A. That Council consider a new Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Policy Directive, noting the significant progress made in the past five years including recent legislation change and the recommendations of the Swanbank Public Health Inquiry.

- B. That Councillor Briefings/Workshops be held as part of the consideration of a new policy/strategy.

The Councillor briefings / workshops are currently being planned to commence in May 2026.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There is no policy implications associated with this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no resource and financial implications associated with this report.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Not applicable for this report.

CONCLUSION

A significant body of work continues the implementation of the Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Policy Directive and periodic updates will continue to be provided to Council.

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

1.	WACETD Dashboard Report - March 2026  
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Brodie Smith
SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATOR

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Kaye Cavanagh

GENERAL MANAGER (ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY)

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

WACETD DASHBOARD REPORT

17 March 2026

Directive Actions
84% Complete

PRINCIPLE	DESCRIPTION	ACTION	STATUS	%	UPDATE
1 - Establish a Waste Code of Practice	To achieve better outcomes for our community, we will guide best practice among waste producers and operators by creating and implementing an Ipswich Waste Code of Practice in partnership with key stakeholders.	1.1 - Execute a Code of Practice for the waste industry to adopt for working in Ipswich.	In Progress	80%	The revised draft of the Ipswich Waste Code of Practice has been shared with the Waste Recycling Industry Association QLD (WRIQ). Further engagement with the CEO and board is planned for mid-April. A workshop was conducted jointly with WRIQ to develop content with the industry.
2 - Drive Industry Best Practice	We will create and adopt a diverse range of policies and measures which we will use to advocate for other levels of Government to deliver legislative reform, drive industry transformation, and guide Ipswich City Council to deliver best practice waste management services on behalf of our community.	2.1 - Ensure through the Directive that instruments can be prepared and implemented to lobby for change and reform in State Government on the industry.	Complete – on going	100%	This is a continued effort occurring across the resource recovery and sustainability areas of Council with intent to influence future policy improvements.
		2.2 - Adopt and deliver on a new Resource Recovery Plan for municipal waste for Ipswich.	In Progress	87%	Resource Recovery Strategy 2021 - 2031 was developed and adopted by Council. The Three-year review has now been completed and document approved. This is an ongoing matter.
		2.3 - Establish a program for best practice recognition for the industry.	Not Started	0%	Following the establishment of the MoU (action 1.1) Council will be in a better position to celebrate best practice examples within the industry.
3 - Strong Compliance Culture	We will use the full power of Council's policy and legal instruments to drive performance improvements of waste management operations within our communities. We will monitor and enforce approval conditions with greater diligence, and we will hold the State Government to account to take greater action on matters for which it is responsible.	3.1 - Educate the community on their ability to report environmental issues and enforce outcomes.	In Progress	65%	Council has completed recruitment of a compliance officer in a temporary position which will assist with the delivery of enhanced education and compliance action.
		3.2 - Drive better compliance within the industry through improved programs and enforcement actions.	In Progress	75%	
4 - Strategic and Sequenced Remediation	We will advocate for and seek to ensure the orderly sequencing and proper remediation of mining voids and end-of-life sites across the Ipswich local government area and seek for a range of alternate remediation options to be considered. Strategic sequencing will be based on infrastructure, topographical, environmental and social opportunities and constraints. We will proactively seek appropriate investment and funding to ensure community benefits are realised from site remediation.	4.1 - Establish a relationship with the State Government to ensure former mining site remediation is addressed as required with acceptable and manageable outcomes.	In Progress	54%	Council has identified extent of existing voids and obtained mine void mapping data to help understand extent. Council's planning team has recently met with state government to discuss better outcomes and sustainability practices for mining rehabilitation.
5 - Protect Our Residential Amenity	We will actively discourage new waste industry developments in close proximity to residential areas where it is clear the development impacts will not be manageable onsite and will negatively detract from amenity. At the same time, we will discourage residential encroachment in close proximity to areas designated for future industrial development.	5.1 - Maintain informed oversight of Development Applications on former mining and contaminated land.	Complete – On going	100%	Council is maintaining informed oversight of Development Applications on former mining and contaminated land as they are submitted. This is an on going matter.
		5.2 - Adopt Temporary Local Planning Instrument (TLPI) to address future planning constraints and land uses for mining voids and proposed waste sites.	Completed	100%	Council adopted a temporary local planning instrument to address future planning constraints and land uses for proposed waste sites.
		5.3 - Adopt new City of Ipswich Planning Scheme with increased and more prescriptive requirements for	Completed	100%	Council at its meeting on 29 May 2025 adopted the new planning scheme and local government infrastructure plan.

WACETD DASHBOARD REPORT

PRINCIPLE	DESCRIPTION	ACTION	STATUS	%	UPDATE
6 - Partnering and Collaboration	We will lead and work collaboratively with all levels of government and SEQ Councils to transform the region's management of waste streams from linear to a circular 'recycle reuse-remake' solution to achieve an overall reduction of waste going to landfill in Ipswich.	6.1 - Development and release of Council of Mayors South East Queensland - South East Queensland Waste Management Plan.	In Progress	70%	The SEQ Waste Management plan forms core of CoMSEQ engagement and Council activity drive collaboration between Councils. Ongoing workshops to engage CoMSEQ around potential waste solutions for the SEQ region are ongoing.
		6.2 - Establish a better working relationship with State Government on compliance related matters and overall coordination between all areas.	Complete – on going	100%	Council and DETSI compliance teams collaborate actively on matters. Council has requested the reinstatement of the Taskforce meetings by the new state government. This is an ongoing matter.
7 - Lead by Example	We will investigate and progressively adopt relevant best practice waste collection and management solutions; and we will provide clear market signals and explicit benchmarks so best practice commercial operators will invest in Ipswich with confidence.	7.1 - Ensure council's Procurement objectives consider and adopt sustainable practices and consider best practice waste management through all aspects of council business.	In Progress	60%	Council has established a focus group and developed a draft sustainable procurement project plan for implementation. The goal of the project is to integrate sustainable procurement practices into the Council's existing procurement framework, prioritising local and ethical suppliers, assessing environmental and social impacts, and employing lifecycle analysis, to support Ipswich City Council's emissions reduction and environment goals, enhance community resilience, and ensure compliance with future mandatory reporting requirements.
		7.2 - Adopt and deliver a new Sustainability Strategy for council with outcomes supported by the directive.	In Progress	93%	Council has made significant progress in sustainability through initiatives such as establishing a renewable energy power purchase agreement, retrofitting facilities with energy-efficient lighting, recruiting a Coordinator to lead the SEQ Climate Resilient Alliance, launching various solar PV projects, and advancing sustainability efforts through a green energy precinct design, sustainable procurement project, and climate risk management, while also promoting these efforts in the community and developing tools for carbon emission reporting. Approximately 67% of the strategy implementation plan has now been completed with 28 actions in progress and 12 to be commenced in the coming years.
8 - Leverage Waste Industry Opportunity	We will seek to influence State and Commonwealth waste management policies and strategies, and we will align our current and future waste management activities and attract funding so we can leverage industry development opportunities.	8.1 - Establish, implement and maintain a Joint Task Force between council and the State Government to inform, cover and influence changes to land use, environment, compliance, policy, industry and waste levy to better Ipswich.	Complete – on going	100%	The taskforce was established with an agreed ToR. Council attended several meetings which provided valuable collaboration opportunities as part of a work program. The last meeting was held in 2023. Council has requested the reinstatement of the Taskforce meetings by the new state government. This is an ongoing matter.

WACETD DASHBOARD REPORT

PRINCIPLE	DESCRIPTION	ACTION	STATUS	%	UPDATE
9 - Create a Better Return for Ipswich	We will advocate for fair and equitable compensation, investment and benefits proportionate to the waste volumes processed in Ipswich from both industry and other levels of government.	9.1 - Seek to reduce the Waste Levy payable by council and increase the return for Council.	In Progress	83%	Council is taking actions to reduce its own waste production as part of the Sustainability Strategy and resource recovery strategy. The rollout of the GO bins across the entire local government area have now been completed. More than 90% of all homes now have a service in place.
		9.2 - Determine opportunities to gain better returns for Ipswich through legislative avenues and levies charged by Council.	Complete - Ongoing	100%	This is an ongoing matter and for budget consideration annually. This is an ongoing matter.
		9.3 - Maintain awareness for state and national funding and grant opportunities for both Council and the industry.	Complete - Ongoing	100%	Regular meetings are occurring between Council and CoMSEQ PMO / DESI / DSDID to review initiatives and funding opportunities that may be applicable. This is an ongoing matter.
10 - Plan for the Future	Through policy intervention and industry collaboration we will ensure that all landfill and waste processing sites, once they are closed, do not leave a negative legacy impact on the city or our residents.	10.1 - Council to assess and respond to all application enquiries in line with the directive and which supports new and continued industry in Ipswich.	Complete - ongoing	100%	Council continues to assess and respond to all application enquiries in line with the directive and which supports new and continued industry in Ipswich. This is an ongoing matter.
		10.2 - Ensure consideration of future planning and legislation in the instance of major disaster events.	Complete – on going	100%	Council will participate in on-going discussions that ensure, legislative (QLD level), policies and strategies are practical and achievable at Council controlled facilities. Council is taking direct action at controlled facilities to ensure they have appropriate means and planning to manage natural disasters. This is an ongoing matter.
		10.3 - Undertake meaningful engagement with both the community and the industry to advise, educate and seek feedback on industry and development waste matters.	Complete – On going	100%	Council will ensure current and future community requirements, at Council controlled facilities, are built into the Council strategy and policies to provide opportunities to design for future changes and development in waste and resource recovery. This may involve improvements to specific waste related communication and community engagement planning and development to better explain decisions made by Council to the community. This is an ongoing matter.

Doc ID No: A12543231

ITEM: 5
SUBJECT: CLIMATE EMERGENCY PETITION - RESPONSE OUTCOME
AUTHOR: ACTING SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATOR
DATE: 10 FEBRUARY 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is regarding a response to a petition received in August 2025 from the Ipswich Climate Action Group (ICAG). At Council Ordinary meeting on 2 December 2025, Council resolved that the officer report presented to the Environment and Sustainability Committee No. 2025(11) of 2 December 2025 be referred to a future councillor workshop for discussion.

The petition called upon Ipswich City Council to:

1. Declare a Climate Emergency.
2. Achieve net zero emissions across all Council operations by 2030.
3. Establish a community-council partnership to support a sustainable and liveable future.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. That Council receives and notes the petition from the Ipswich Climate Action Group.**
- B. That Council continue to implement actions under its adopted Sustainability Strategy 2021 – 2026 and actively promotes, communicates and raises awareness of council’s sustainability and climate resilience initiatives.**
- C. That Council continue to engage with environment and sustainability groups, and the broader community to support a sustainable and liveable future, and to seek community input in the review and update of the Sustainability Strategy in 2026-2027.**

RELATED PARTIES

There was no declaration of a conflict of interest.

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

A petition was submitted to Council in August 2025 by the Ipswich Climate Action Group (ICAG). The petition was then referred to a Councillor workshop for further discussion by resolution at the Council Ordinary Meeting on 2 December 2025. An outline of the discussion for each of the 3 petition points is provided below.

Petition Point	Discussion
1. Declare a Climate Emergency	Council recognises that climate change is an important environmental, societal and economic matter and continues to engage with the community in the development and implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives, and the delivery of the Sustainability Strategy.
2. Achieve net zero emissions across all council operations by 2030	Council has commenced development of an organisational Decarbonisation Plan and continues to implement actions to reduce the organisation emissions, such as the commenced transition of some of its small fleet to EV's and the establishment of a Power Purchase Agreement for 85% of its electricity consumption to come from renewable energy.
3. Establish a community–council partnership to support a sustainable and liveable future	<p>Council continues to deliver community events and sustainability initiatives that strengthen environmental awareness and participation.</p> <p>Council will increase visibility and awareness of its sustainability and climate change initiatives and communicate the importance, progress and achievements of the Sustainability Strategy implementation and other climate change initiatives.</p> <p>Council continues to engage with the community, stakeholders, residents, and dedicated groups such as the Ipswich Climate Action Group through established stakeholder engagement channels and the relationships developed through this process.</p>

COUNCIL CURRENT CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY ACTIONS:

Ipswich City Council is delivering a broad suite of sustainability initiatives that align with the level of action seen in many other councils, including those that have formally declared a climate emergency. Through strategic planning, on-ground implementation, and regional collaboration, council demonstrates a strong and proactive commitment to climate resilience and emissions reduction. Some of council's key achievements and ongoing

activities under the Sustainability Strategy are outlined in the regular Sustainability Strategy update reports to Council, and outlined below:

- Progress on roof top solar projects and energy efficiency projects.
- Sustainable Procurement Project (ongoing)
- Streetlighting efficiency.
- Host of the SEQ Climate Resilient Alliance (SEQCRA).
- Power Purchase Agreement for 85% of Council's electricity requirement.
- Fleet Transition of small fleet to EVs.
- Climate risk assessment and governance project.
- Improving emissions reporting.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

No specific policy implications noted.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no identified risks associated with approving the recommendations of this report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no identified financial or resource implications associated with approving the recommendations of this report.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Internal engagement within the Environment and Sustainability Department was undertaken in relation to the petition and petition points provided by the Ipswich Climate Action Group. Further consultation through a workshop (mentioned above) with Councillors was undertaken on 10 February in response to the petition points.

Representatives from Noosa Council and Sunshine Coast Council were consulted about their experiences with climate emergency declarations or acknowledgements. Since the December committee, Council officers have met with the Ipswich Climate Action Group and will continue to engage with the group on a periodic basis and through Council's existing engagement channels.

CONCLUSION

The petition presented by the Ipswich Climate Action Group to Council in August 2025 outlines the group's growing concern and position for declaring a climate emergency.

Council has considered the three (3) position points and is committed to continuing delivery of the adopted Sustainability Strategy and implementation of practical and responsible emissions reduction and climate resilience actions. Council will continue to prioritise initiatives that deliver long term value, and look to strengthen communication and visibility of Council's sustainability efforts.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS	
OTHER DECISION	
(a) What is the Act/Decision being made?	<i>The recommendations of the report are as follows.</i> A. That Council receives and notes the petition from the Ipswich Climate Action Group. B. That Council continue to implement actions under its adopted Sustainability Strategy 2021 – 2026 and actively promotes, communicates and raises awareness of council's sustainability and climate resilience initiatives. C. That Council continue to engage with environment and sustainability groups, and the broader community to support a sustainable and liveable future, and to seek community input in the review and update of the Sustainability Strategy in 2026-2027.
(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.

Brodie Smith

ACTING SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATOR

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Kaye Cavanagh

GENERAL MANAGER (ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY)

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

Doc ID No: A12576842

ITEM: 6
SUBJECT: SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY PROGRESS REPORT - MARCH 2026
AUTHOR: SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATOR
DATE: 19 FEBRUARY 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the progress in implementing Ipswich City Council's Sustainability Strategy 2021-2026. The strategy and its associated implementation plan are in their fifth year of implementation. These set out several actions over the five-year period and as of March 2026, **81%** are marked completed. Some of the actions are substantial projects within themselves and are implemented over multiple years and/or ongoing in nature.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report titled "Sustainability Strategy Implementation – March 2026" be received and noted.

RELATED PARTIES

There is no declaration of conflict of interest.

IFUTURE THEME

Natural and Sustainable

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

In 2021, Ipswich City Council (council) launched its Sustainability Strategy 2021-2026 (strategy). The strategy and its accompanying Sustainability Strategy Implementation Plan 2021-2026 (the implementation plan) details council's commitment to increase existing sustainability efforts and implement new actions towards making Ipswich a more sustainable place to live.

Council aims to achieve this by improving its organisational sustainability efforts and supporting the sustainability transition of community, residents and businesses.

FUTURE STRATEGY AND PLANNING

The current Sustainability Strategy 2021-2026 is in the final year of implementation. It is expected the next strategy iteration would be from 2027-2032 and build on Council's successes to date.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY UPDATE

A total of 52 actions were committed to in the implementation plan across five focus areas: Sustainable Council, Climate Adaptation, Transport and Mobility, Natural Environment and Healthy Waterways, and Circular Economy/Waste and Resource Recovery. At the time of reporting, two action areas have not started, while several are in progress or have been completed. See dashboard report (Attachment 1).

Notable achievements to date since the last report presented to the Environment and Sustainability Council Committee include the following:

- **Draft Decarbonisation Plan** Stakeholder engagement is ongoing and the roadmap is to be completed by end of FY26. The purpose of the decarbonisation plan is to map out a pathway for reducing council's emissions by targeting key areas of impact, including waste, energy, supply chain & procurement, transport, and buildings and infrastructure.
- **Progress on rooftop solar projects** The Nicholas Street library (200kW) project completed in August 2025 has been operating for over six months and is using approximately 15% of its previous electricity requirements, while the cost of electricity has halved. In addition, the project at Robelle Domain (Lagoon Café) (60kW) is underway and due for completion in FY26. The Yamanto project has been discontinued because of site electrical complexities that need to be resolved before a project can be considered.
- **Green Energy Precinct (GEP)** Following completion of the feasibility study, a suite of design documents for roof top solar at several of the council facilities in the precinct are being developed to complement the completed library solar.
- **Improvements to Organisational Emissions Profile** has been completed and forms part of the decarbonisation plan. It involved preparing council's FY25 organisation emissions profile as well as identifying opportunities to improve data management, improve emissions accuracy and enhance future reporting processes.
- **Southeast Queensland Climate Resilience Alliance (SEQCRA)** Having successfully received \$196,000 in QCRC project funding, the Alliance is in the process of delivering the regional capacity building project to build organisational resilience for SEQ councils. So far 790 employees from across the 9 participating councils have attended the webinar series. The Alliance is also in the process of seek renewal from all participating councils for a further 3-year term from FY27-FY29.
- **The Solar Farm Feasibility** assessment is currently in progress. The purpose of this project is to determine the economic viability of developing a solar farm (and batteries) within Ipswich, including an analysis of expected costs, benefits, and long-term financial performance. This work also involves identifying suitable parcels of both Council-owned

and non-Council land that could accommodate the infrastructure requirements of a solar farm and support its operational feasibility.

- **Step change in waste diversion** with significant progress on the Resource Recovery Strategy continuing. Following the successful GO bin rollout across the Ipswich Local Government Area (LGA), early results show a measurable reduction in waste to landfill, supported by residents using the service correctly and maintaining low contamination levels. Additionally, the *Let's Get it Sorted* initiatives within participating Multi Unit Dwellings provided positive results. A clear majority of trial buildings demonstrated improved recycling performance, highlighting the value of targeted education and tailored service models.
- **Local flood guides** Following extensive community engagement in late 2025, draft Flood Guides for the high-flood risk suburbs of Goodna, Brassall, North Booval, Bundamba, Grandchester and Karalee (including Barellan Point and Chuwar) are in final drafting phases. Once ready, these draft guides to local flood impacts will be available for public consultation via [Shape Your Ipswich](#).
- **Community resilience** Council will soon onboard two Community Recovery and Resilience staff to support the Ipswich community's recovery following Tropical Cyclone Alfred, with thanks to the Queensland and Australian Governments for funding this important work. Over the coming twelve months, these staff will be on the ground working on disaster resilience and capacity-building initiatives across the Ipswich community.
- **Fleet transition to electric vehicles increased** with a total of six electric vehicles and two hybrid vehicles added to the fleet. Continuing to transition to a low emissions fleet will assist council in further reducing its emissions and operational costs.
- **Sustainable procurement project continues to progress** with next stage focussing on developing policy that will introduce standard 'sustainability' evaluation criteria for all purchases, along with a monitoring framework approach. These changes are proposed to be implemented and take place from 2026 following internal stakeholder feedback.
- **Climate risk analysis** Following completion of the climate risk workbook, council is in the process of engaging with departments to integrate climate risk into the risk framework to ensure mitigation and resilience actions occur in response to climate risk.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The implementation of the Sustainability Strategy and the implementation plan supports Council's Sustainability Policy.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Council adopted the Sustainability Strategy in December 2021. Risks associated with the strategy implementation include:

- Budget not allocated to projects.
- Resourcing not being allocated to projects.
- Not delivering all strategy action items in timeframe.

Reputational risk in not delivering the Strategy as planned and within the timeframe.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Budgets for the delivery of the strategy will be planned on an annual basis and submitted for consideration and annual budget allocations.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Implementation of the Strategy involves continuous consultation and collaboration across council.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of the Sustainability Strategy is in progress and in its fifth year of delivery. To continue the implementation of the Strategy, consideration will be given to appropriate resourcing and budgets allocated to sustainability projects each year. There will be ongoing collaboration and consultation with internal and external stakeholders and with community members throughout the Strategy delivery. In the lead-up to the Strategy's expiration in 2026, a thorough review will be conducted to assess progress and inform future directions.

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

1.	Sustainability Dashboard Report - March 2026 ↓ 
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Brodie Smith
SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATOR

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Kaye Cavanagh
GENERAL MANAGER (ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY)

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SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

Strategy Actions
81% Complete

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
Energy & Carbon Reduction	Report annually on council's emissions reduction activities.	IN PROGRESS 88%	Develop a sustainability strategy implementation plan report & sustainability dashboard.	IN PROGRESS	80%	Ongoing work with existing provider to establish user friendly sustainability reporting dashboard. Developed an internal only template to highlight internal sustainability achievements. This will coincide with the strategy updates and or on a quarterly basis.
			Establish an internal Sustainability Committee/Working Group to help deliver on the Sustainability Strategy and promote sustainability awareness and practices across Council's workforce.	COMPLETED	100%	No further updates.
			Develop a decarbonisation plan proposal.	IN PROGRESS	70%	Stakeholder engagement has progressed. Decarbonisation opportunities developed.
			Review Sustainability Policy (due for review Nov 2024)	COMPLETED	100%	The sustainability policy was reviewed and approved by ELT & Council in Q2 FY25. It has now been published internally and externally. No further updates. Policy review approved by ELT & Council in Q2 FY25.
	Reduce energy consumption through efficiency measures	IN PROGRESS 79%	Streetlighting Project - LED Retrofit Scoping & Planning with Energy Queensland to understand costs, streetlights to change	COMPLETED	100%	No further updates.
			Art Gallery Lighting – Energy Efficient Improvements. Energy efficient upgrades to the Art Gallery Lighting System, Ipswich	COMPLETED	100%	No further updates. Replaced 600+ LED lights resulting in savings over 10,000 kWh per month and contributed to best practice lighting for care and presentation of artworks.
			Streetlighting Project Replace 66 lights Brassal Bikeway Project	COMPLETED	100%	No further updates. Achieved annual savings of 70,000 kWh equivalent to 50 tonnes CO2 per year.
			George Alder Energy Efficiency - Retrofit George Alder Tennis Centre carpark with LED	COMPLETED	100%	No further updates. Twelve lights went from 400 watt to 60 watt LED Benefits include great cost savings, electricity and emission reduction & safety practice improvements.
			Goodna Aquatic Centre – Heat Pumps electrification	ON HOLD	0%	The project is on hold permanently. Council was unsuccessful with it's grant application.
			Develop Nicholas Street Green Energy Precinct Project Design & Feasibility	IN PROGRESS	75%	Study completed, suite of design documents to be sourced to construct additional systems in the precinct to assist with reducing operational costs. Further planning is required to progress.
Develop environmental markets forward plan/proposal or similar for Council that explores potential revenue opportunities including potential solar farms.	SUPERSEDED	N/A	Integrated into 1.1.1.3 (Further investigation into decarbonisation opportunities).			

Status Definition: In Progress – A task or project that has commenced. Not Started - A task or project that is committed to but has not been started yet. Completed – A task or project that has been delivered. Superseded – A task or project that has been amalgamated into another action.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
Energy & Carbon Reduction	Targeted implementation of Rooftop Solar PV systems and battery storage (where fit for purpose)	IN PROGRESS 94%	Complete structural assessment for 4 rooftop solar locations	COMPLETE	100%	This was completed and informed which PV solar system projects where feasible and able to be delivered.
			Install 60kW solar PV system at Robelle Domain stage 1	IN PROGRESS	60%	Contract awarded & progress on design is underway. Project is due for construction by end of FY.
			Install 100kW+ solar PV System at Nicholas St Library	COMPLETE	100%	No further updates. Electricity costs halved & significant electricity reduction.
			Install 10kW solar PV system at Leichhardt Swim Centre	ON HOLD	0%	Further site suitability investigation required.
			Install 60kW+ solar PV System at North Ipswich Reserve	ON HOLD	0%	Planned for future year delivery following facilities redesign.
			Install 60kW+ solar PV System at Yamanto Depot	ON HOLD	0%	Project discontinued due to site suitability & electrical constraints further investigations & suitability assessment are required.
			Install 60kW+ solar PV System at Redbank Plains Sports Centre	ON HOLD	0%	Further site suitability investigation required.
Reduce emissions associated with council's fleet	SUPERSEDED 100%	Establish an action plan and potential working group for council's fleet transition with Fleet manager	SUPERSEDED	100%	Further work is to be carried out via the decarbonisation plan proposal.	
Power council's electricity requirements with renewable energy via a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)	COMPLETE 100%	Power Purchase Agreement in place and operable	COMPLETE	100%	No further updates. Council utilises renewable energy via CleanCo contract.	
Enhance measurement and monitoring of organisational energy and carbon emissions including Scope 3 emissions.	IN PROGRESS 90%	Engage consultants to determine and quantify Scope 3 emissions for Council's operations	IN PROGRESS	90%	Council is delivering an updated emissions profile for FY25. SEQCRA is delivering a scope 3 improvement project across the region with individual council's working with a consultant to improve data capture and monitoring. In future, Council will undertake the analysis.	

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
Water Efficiency	For existing assets, investigate and identify opportunities for water efficiency measures to be implemented through maintenance upgrades and/ or for specific targeted water reduction/alternative water projects.	In progress 10%	Scope opportunities for water efficiency.	Not Started	0%	Planning for budget for future strategy.
	For new projects, develop design specifications for improved water efficiency and water quality outcomes for Council-delivered projects.		TBC	Not started	0%	Planning for budget for future strategy.
	Monitor water use and demand cycles using Council's sustainability data platform and smart metering and apply adaptive management principles through reporting.		Develop an ESD sustainability snapshot report for water consumption.	In progress	50%	Developed an internal only template to highlight internal sustainability achievements. This will coincide with the strategy updates and or on a quarterly basis.
	Work and partner with Urban Utilities to build climate resilience in Council's water usage wherever feasible e.g. purified recycled water and networks.		TBC	Not started	0%	Planning for budget for future strategy.
	Work with user groups and sporting clubs to build water-wise awareness and incentivise water efficient behaviour.		TBC	Not started	0%	Planning for budget for future strategy.
Sustainable Procurement	Identify immediate opportunities to procure more sustainable goods and services.	In progress 29%	Confirm funding and develop high level sustainable procurement scope.	In progress	25%	Several planned policy/procedure changes having taken effect. These include updates to the response annexure template, policy, directive & procedure.
	Develop a sustainable procurement policy and implementation framework.		As above	In progress	50%	The next stage includes developing 'sustainability' evaluation criteria is in development and due for completion by end of FY.
	Embed sustainable procurement procedures and requirements into purchasing category specifications and proposal evaluation criteria via the update of procurement templates.		As above	In progress	25%	
	Educate staff in sustainable procurement practices.		As above	In progress	25%	
	Engage with suppliers to communicate and build capacity around sustainable procurement to assist them in becoming preferred supplies with council.		As above	In progress	25%	
	Establish a method to measure and monitor the 'triple bottom line' benefits of implementing sustainable procurement practices.		As above	In progress	25%	

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
Resource recovery & waste minimisation	Source separate waste streams wherever possible and feasible for recycling and recovery in Council's operations.	IN PROGRESS 60%	Waste streams identified that can be recovered and recycled and systems in place to do so	COMPLETE	100%	This is ongoing BAU work as part of resource recovery strategy.
	Seek products that have minimal or no packaging.		Packaging requirements are included in procurement specifications	SUPERSEDED	N/A	This action is duplicated and relates to sustainable procurement work happening under action item 1.3. This is very specific to just packaging whereas sustainable procurement will look at broader requirements.
	Reuse and recycle materials such as asphalt and concrete in Council's construction activities.		Processes and procedures in place to enable the recycling of asphalt and concrete in Council's construction activities	NOT STARTED	0%	Individual efforts have already been undertaken across the organisation however efforts are not coordinated. Part of the sustainable procurement project focus will focus on this.
	Implement a Council wide internal food recovery program.		Food waste is being diverted from general waste bins into the green FOGO bins	COMPLETE	100%	Was implemented but withdrawn due to state government new policy regarding pfas contamination/odour standards. Future may allow us to revisit this work.
	Develop waste management plans for all Council construction activities and contractor delivered projects.		Waste Management Plans developed and being utilised for council-delivered projects	NOT STARTED	0%	To be delivered in a future year.
Green workplace travel	Engage with major employment generators in Ipswich to develop and implement Sustainable (Green) Workplace Travel Plans.	IN PROGRESS 90%	Adoption of New Ipswich Planning Scheme which includes travel demand management plan preparation incentives	IN PROGRESS – ON GOING	80%	New Ipswich planning scheme adopted, & EOT facilities delivered by West Moreton Health.
	Implement the Green Workplace Travel Plan for 1 Nicholas Street.		Annual workplace travel survey indicates continual shift toward sustainable travel alternatives (including working from home)	COMPLETE – ON GOING	100%	No further updates.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
City emissions	Investigate, understand and calculate the City of Ipswich's emissions to establish a baseline inventory.	IN PROGRESS 75%	Baseline community carbon inventory created.	COMPLETE	100%	Decision made to postpone this action until it becomes mandatory. Not currently a priority. Good proxy measure available online for free if ever needed - see snapshotclimate.com.au
	Support business and industry to reduce energy and emissions via education programs.		Include sustainability mentioning's in existing ICC business newsletters, update ICC website for sustainable business information, and sustainability team to attend existing annual ICC business meeting to promote ecobiz, other sustainability opportunities & sustainability strategy work.	COMPLETE – ON GOING.	100%	Continuing to promote and advocate for sustainability through various channels. Progress is on going.
	Educate the community regarding the implications of climate change and ways to adapt to a changing climate.		Establishment of a SEQ alliance of councils called SEQ Climate Risk Alliance (SECRA) that will work on delivering a range of climate priority programs including engagement activities as required. An coordinator has also been funded to support the alliance and the delivery of it's priority projects.	COMPLETE	100%	No further updates. SEQCRA is rolling out the Climate Resilience Capacity building project with member councils. The alliance is intending to extend from FY27-FY29.
	Attract new business and industries to Ipswich with a focus on low emissions technology.		TBC	NOT STARTED	0%	
Urban heat & urban greening	Undertake a baseline analysis to map Ipswich's urban heat island.	IN PROGRESS 63%	Urban heat map of the LGA completed and university project recommendations delivered	COMPLETE	100%	No further updates.
	Develop an Urban Greening Plan.		Develop an Urban Greening Plan.	COMPLETE	100%	No further updates. Urban Greening plan is being implemented.
	Ensure the planning scheme includes provision for natural asset protection and green spaces.		Urban Greening Plan recommendations embedded in planning scheme	IN PROGRESS	50%	Ipswich Urban Greening Plan is referenced in Ipswich Planning Scheme 2025. Schedule 6 Planning Scheme Policies SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy, 6.7.3 Related Material, Item k. Ipswich Urban Greening Plan
	Analyse the economic impact of urban heat island effect via climate scenario analysis.		Economic impacts quantified/qualified via climate scenario analysis	NOT STARTED	0%	The climate risk workbook & report were finalised. Progress is being made to implement the workbook within each department.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
Disaster management	Partner with local community leaders and groups to increase community resilience (Community Champions).	COMPLETE 100%	Delivery of a Resilient Leadership and Mentoring capacity building program. Small business community workshops.	COMPLETE	100%	Community Early Response Team (CERT) program has developed community champions who help increase community resilience to disasters. Completed June 2024. Future considerations will also be made around climate change related disaster management, water resilience, drought and future funding opportunities.
	Continue to develop community engagement and awareness about identifying and responding to risks, including but not limited to floods, fires, severe storms and heatwaves.	COMPLETE 100%	Education and awareness resources developed in multiple formats that are accessible to all the diverse communities in Ipswich	COMPLETE	100%	Education and awareness resources have been developed in multiple formats to community. Recently material was also translated into 11 different languages to increase accessibility. This work is a core service of the Emergency Management Section and will continue ongoing. Future considerations will also be made around climate change related disaster management, water resilience, drought and future funding opportunities.
	Continue building the capability of the City of Ipswich Local Disaster Management Group and Local Recovery and Resilience Group to ensure a coordinated and effective preparation for, response to and recovery from disaster events.	COMPLETE 100%	Regular and effective engagement and capacity building activities undertaken with all agencies responsible for disaster management in Ipswich	COMPLETE	100%	Regular and effective engagement and capacity building activities are being facilitated by council. Both City of Ipswich Local Disaster Management Group and Local Recovery and Resilience Group are now well established and governed groups that bolster disaster management resilience. Additionally, four recovery taskforces have been established, including an environment recovery taskforce to ensure adequate consideration of environmental matters during disaster recovery work. This work is a core service of the Emergency Management Section and will continue ongoing. Future considerations will also be made around climate change related disaster management, water resilience, drought and future funding opportunities.
	Identify and support community-led disaster risk awareness, preparedness and recovery initiatives.	COMPLETE 100%	Effective community-led disaster risk awareness, reduction, response and recovery activities	COMPLETE	100%	Several effective community-led disaster risk awareness, reduction, response and recovery activities have been delivered by council, predominantly through grant-funded projects. This includes ad hoc engagement with community groups and schools, and regular engagement with the community through the state-funded Get Ready Queensland program. This work is a core service of the Emergency Management Section and will continue ongoing. Future considerations will also be made around climate change related disaster management, water resilience, drought and future funding opportunities.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
Climate risk management	Develop a climate change policy	IN PROGRESS 67%	Climate Change Policy adopted	COMPLETE - SUPERSEDED	100%	The workbook is being delivered with the Corporate Services team as a trail process.
	Undertake climate scenario analyses for physical and transitional risks for Councils operations and community assets to quantify climate risk for Council.		Climate risks across council's operations are identified	IN PROGRESS	50%	Through Delivery of the climate risk management project, will remove the need to develop separate policy and procedures as the team will integrate climate risk into the risk framework across each department whilst working with the risk and insurance team. Taking this approach will ensure that risk management processes are creating while minimising workload. It is expected the climate risk project with roll into the next FY.
	Develop a climate risk management strategy		Climate Risk Management Strategy adopted	IN PROGRESS	50%	
	Investigate opportunities to design for climate resilience, including support for sustainable buildings and green infrastructure, sustainable built environment elements in the planning scheme and advocating for more sustainable elements in building codes.		Council adopts sustainable building/ESD principles for Council-delivered buildings and building codes	IN PROGRESS	50%	
	Incorporate and embed consideration of climate change within governance of our organisation demonstrated through key documents.		All of Council's corporate documents are updated to include references to climate change	IN PROGRESS	50%	
	Educate, communicate and report on the risks and opportunities associated with climate change to stakeholders, staff and community.		Report on climate change for the organisation at least annually via council's corporate annual reporting	IN PROGRESS	50%	
Sustainable Transport	Support and/or undertake public education and information campaigns and events that promote the benefits of sustainable transport modes.	COMPLETE – ON GOING 100%	Number of events and participants in sustainable transport campaigns. Measure uptake of sustainable transport by community.	COMPLETED – ON GOING	100%	The IGO strategy 2025 has been adopted. Consideration for education & awareness is captured at a high level.
Active Transport	Plan, advocate and deliver end of trip facilities at all train stations, key bus stops and public transport hubs. Ensure that an appropriate number of different facility types are provided (i.e. secure bicycle cages for all day commuter parking, bicycle racks for shorter term parking).	COMPLETE 100%	Council to deliver a public End of Trip Facility within the Ipswich City Centre	COMPLETE	100%	No further updates. End of trip facility in city centre completed. Delivery of EOT at train stations via external stakeholders (TMR). Bundamba completed & East Ipswich completed Jan 2022.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Dashboard Report – March 2026

AREA	ACTION	STATUS	TASK	STATUS	%	UPDATE
Natural environment & cultural landscapes	Adapt planning and delivery of environmental offsets, ensuring a long-term approach is implemented that addresses climate change impacts.	IN PROGRESS 40%	Implement actions to improve the condition of urban biodiversity corridors. Work closely with the community through collaboration, partnerships and support programs that empowers and builds capacity as environmental stewards. Undertake planning, management and maintenance activities for Council's Natural Area Network that addresses implications of changing climatic conditions	IN PROGRESS	65%	The ecological corridors mapping update project is almost completed, with several rounds of internal input from environmental and planning teams. When completed subject to final review, the mapping will be included in the planning scheme and form a part of strategic environmental planning moving forwards.
	Increase knowledge and model the impacts of climate change on threatened species and their distribution within Ipswich LGA.		Threatened species are modelled for climate risk scenarios	IN PROGRESS	15%	A pilot project is being prepared to trial roof gardens and green wall to compare native ground cover in environmental conditions.
Waterways & wetlands	Investigate and/or promote Cultural Water and its significance to maintain Cultural values.	IN PROGRESS 45%	Identify the key components of waterways and wetlands that are culturally and seasonally significant in Ipswich	IN PROGRESS	40%	High level mapping has been completed of cultural landscape values. Assessments in 3 locations are complete; White Rock, Flinders View & Grand Chester). Actions are now being developed in relation to this.
	Investigate the potential changes to our catchments' flow regimes under a changing climate to inform strategic management priorities.		1.Increase the water quality, habitat condition and streambank resilience of the City's waterways and wetlands through native riparian revegetation in degraded areas. 2.Encourage and support community stewardship of waterways and wetlands through increased interaction opportunities and promoting these areas as engaging and accessible public spaces 3.Support urban and rural landholders in undertaking waterway management works on private property	IN PROGRESS	50%	Continuous implementation of projects relating to water quality rehabilitation including delivery of community events as part of the urban river's catchment program.
Ipswich waste services operations	Implement the actions from Council's Resource Recovery Strategy.	COMPLETE - ONGOING 100%	Delivery of Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2031	COMPLETE - ONGOING	100%	Delivery of Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2031. This action is ongoing.
Circular economy industry collaboration	Facilitate the uptake of the State sponsored ecoBiz sustainability program with small-to-medium businesses in Ipswich	COMPLETE 100%	Hold an ecoBiz workshop with Ipswich business owners at least once per year	COMPLETE	100%	Duplicated action, closed. See action 2.1.2.1
Circular economy for the community	Deliver targeted community engagement and awareness programs to improve waste avoidance, recovery and reuse behaviours.	COMPLETE 100%	Quantified waste stream volumes indicating landfill diversion and higher recycling volumes.	COMPLETE	100%	100% Completed – This action is ongoing BAU work as part of broader resource recover strategy.
	Deliver a Food Organic and Garden Organics (FOGO) program in the City.	COMPLETE 100%	Increase FOGO volumes recycled.	COMPLETE	100%	No further updates. This action is ongoing.