

Doc ID No: A5701186

ITEM: 5  
SUBJECT: URBAN HEAT ISLAND PROJECT PROPOSAL  
AUTHOR: PRINCIPAL OFFICER (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)  
DATE: 5 AUGUST 2019

---

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This is a report concerning an invitation to Ipswich City Council from Griffith University and James Cook University to participate in an Australian Research Council linkage project submission investigating Urban Heat Islands (UHI) effects within the City of Ipswich.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

**That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolves:**

- A. That Council (Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council) endorse the participation of Council in the Urban Heat Island project outlined in Attachment 1, including funding up to the value of \$20,000 per annum over 3 years.**
- B. That the General Manager, Infrastructure and Environment be authorised to negotiate and finalise the terms of participation or to do any other acts necessary to implement Council's decisions in accordance with section 13(3) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.**

### **RELATED PARTIES**

Griffith University, Nathan

James Cook University, Townsville

### **ADVANCE IPSWICH THEME LINKAGE**

Caring for the environment

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

Queensland is characterised by extreme weather events, increasing heat waves, downpours and urban floods that impact on the quality of life and that of the built environment. More specifically, heatwaves are Australia's deadliest natural hazard (Coates et al., 2014).

The Bureau of Meteorology, Department of Environment and Science and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services has identified the City of Ipswich, along with Logan, Toowoomba, Townsville and Cairns as the most at risk to the effects of heatwaves.

Griffith University and James Cook University have approached each local government identified to participate and provide financing to support their application to the highly competitive Australian Research Council grant (Attachment 1).

Council has a number of strategic and operational priorities that are intrinsically linked with this project. This includes disaster mitigation; urban greening; nature conservation; and planning considerations. Having strong research based on local data would provide a solid foundation to decision making within these areas. This information would be made available to all stakeholders in Council, such as Work Health and Safety who could potentially use the data to quantify risks to outdoor workers in an urban setting.

### **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The project is proposed to be run over a three year period and would require additional allocation of \$20,000 per annum for the life of the project. In the first year (2019-2020), funding would be found within the urban greening project budget. In-kind support would be provided from existing staff base.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

In not approving this recommendation Council primarily risks making policy decisions on incomplete information. Secondary risks associated with not addressing heatwave are economic impacts (tourism); individual health impacts; and environmental impacts.

### **LEGAL/POLICY BASIS**

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

### **COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION**

There has been no community consultation undertaken regarding this project. Feasibility consultation has been undertaken with relevant Council officers and representatives from Griffith and James Cook Universities.

### **CONCLUSION**

This project provides a unique opportunity within a local context to measure, visualise and change the effects of urban heat islands within the City of Ipswich. This would allow evidence based policy setting. Funding will only be required for this project if Griffith and James Cook Universities are successful in their Australian Research Council linkage project application.

**ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1.	CONFIDENTIAL Project Overview
----	----------------------------------

Matthew Pinder

**PRINCIPAL OFFICER (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Kaye Cavanagh

**SPORT RECREATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGER**

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Charlie Dill

**GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

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