

Ipswich CITY PLAN 2025



Ipswich City Council

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Re: First year of the New Planning Scheme commencement

The Ipswich City Plan 2025 commenced on 1 July 2025 and provides a 20-year plan to guide the city as it prepares for its population to double by 2046. This ensures that the growth occurs in a way that protects and enhances the qualities most valued by our community.

We acknowledge and thank the Ipswich community for its strong participation through the preparation of the plan. The consultation program included written correspondence to all ratepayers, a series of community webinars, pop-up stalls, information sessions and Talk to a Planner events, as well as responses to direct enquiries. Public notice of the Ipswich City Plan 2025 was published in the Queensland Government Gazette No. 40 on 20 June 2025 and is available for viewing at Publications.qld.gov.au

Key benefits of the Ipswich City Plan 2025 include:

- more zoned land to improve housing affordability
- streamlined development and reduced regulations to ease living costs
- greater housing choice, including secondary dwellings and dual occupancies with no planning approval required if certain criteria are met
- protection for character areas and the environment
- stronger resilience to floods, bushfires and climate change
- clearer planning rules and opportunities for community input on major developments.

The Ipswich City Plan 2025 adopts a risk-based approach to the management of natural hazards, including flood and bushfire. This approach ensures that new development only occurs where risks to people and property can be appropriately managed. Council has prepared a Feasible Alternatives Assessment Report (FAAR), which outlines the steps taken to reduce exposure to natural hazards and improve community safety. The FAAR is available at Shapeyouripswich.com.au/FAAR

In developing the Ipswich City Plan 2025, council made a number of difficult but necessary decisions, including changes to the zoning of land in areas identified as higher risk. These changes may affect future development potential on certain properties. Property owners are encouraged to visit ipswich.qld.gov.au/cityplan to determine how the new planning scheme may apply to their land. The website provides an interactive map and property search function to assist in identifying zoning and overlay information.

Where a lawful existing use was established prior to 1 July 2025, it continues to be protected under the *Planning Act 2016*, and no new development approvals are required. Property owners seeking further clarification are encouraged to contact council for advice.

The Ipswich City Plan 2025 will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis to ensure it remains current, effective and aligned with the city's long-term strategic directions.

Enclosed is an information brochure containing frequently asked questions and further details on how the Ipswich City Plan 2025 manages natural hazards.

Together, we can build a safer, more resilient Ipswich for future generations.

Yours sincerely,

Sonia Cooper
Chief Executive Officer

For enquiries, please contact the Planning and Regulatory Services Department via:

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✉ plandev@ipswich.qld.gov.au

👤 Ground Floor, 1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich (Monday – Friday, 8.00 am – 4.30 pm).

