



# Waste and Circular Economy Transformation



## Invest to transform Queensland's waste industry into an innovative, efficient and sustainable circular economy

Ipswich, Queensland's oldest provincial city, is one of the fastest-growing local government areas. By 2041, Ipswich is projected to have a population of 456,000, with an annual growth rate of 3.4 per cent between 2021 and 2041. This rate is more than twice the state average of 1.4 per cent and the national average of 1.2 per cent.

A city of half a million people requires significant investment to support economic prosperity and self-sufficiency. Now is the time to invest to prevent future crises and avoid deepening social and economic inequality. The waste industry in Ipswich has expanded significantly through landfill developments, often without considering the impacts on residents or the future outlook of South East Queensland and Queensland's waste policy and strategy.





In 2019–2020, Ipswich accounted for 39 per cent of Queensland's total 4.76 million tonnes of waste. This share increased to 52 per cent in 2020–2021, 46 per cent in 2021–2022 and 47 per cent in 2022–2023. While the volume of waste received within the local government area is predominately influenced by factors beyond council's control, Ipswich City Council is actively enhancing its advocacy and engagement with the State Government through the Waste and Circular Economy Transformation to drive meaningful change.

Since 2020, the efforts of Ipswich City Council and its dedicated residents have led to a nearly 5 per cent annual decrease in household waste sent to landfill. With the implementation of the Resource Recovery Strategy and the continued commitment of Ipswich residents, recycling and organic waste recovery are steadily improving.

### Council has adopted the Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Policy Directive to:

- ✓ Establish a Waste Code of Practice
- ✓ Drive industry best practice
- ✓ A strong compliance culture
- ✓ Strategic and sequenced remediation
- ✓ Protect our residential amenity
- ✓ Partner and collaborate
- ✓ Leading by example
- ✓ Leverage waste industry opportunities
- ✓ Create a better return for Ipswich
- ✓ Plan for the future.

PROJECT BENEFITS SO FAR	
 ECONOMIC INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITIES	 IMPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES
 NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES	 IMPROVED RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

IF WE DO NOTHING	
 IPSWICH CONTINUES TO RECEIVE DISPROPORTIONATE AMOUNTS OF WASTE	 LIVEABILITY AND AMENITY INCREASINGLY IMPACTED
 REDUCED HEALTH AND WELLBEING OUTCOMES	 NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES