

## Major sewage treatment plant capacity increase for Hervey Bay

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

As part of the investigation for Hervey Bay's next major Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade, community consultation in September – October 2019 looked at three possible options for the sewage treatment plant upgrade locations and the release of additional recycled water generated in order to meet the needs of Hervey Bay's growing population.

The consultation also explored new opportunities for recycling water in order to add to the current expansive irrigation program, one of Australia's largest.

## WHAT OUR COMMUNITY SAID

- Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade Options 1 and 3 were most favoured by the wider community. Also favouring Options 1 and 3, by the end of their deliberative process, the majority of the community panel members most favoured Option 3.
- There was an indication of support for relocating the Pulgul outfall irrespective of the final option recommended.
- There was a preference for maximising the use of recycled water on land and minimising the release of recycled water through the Pulgul outfall.

## Community feedback indicated:

- Recognition of water as an increasingly scarce resource.
- Environmental concern for any current or increase in release of nutrients into the Great Sandy Strait.
- Support for a range of additional opportunities for the proposed increase in available effluent.

In mid December 2019 the Major Sewage Treatment Plant Capacity Increase for Hervey Bay Site Selection Project Community Consultation report has been submitted to Council. This Community Consultation report is available on Council's website as part of the agenda papers for Council's meeting on 18 December 2019.

