

# Great Keppel Island Rejuvenation Pilot



Project Update

Edition 1, May 2018

Credit: Capricorn Enterprise

## About the project

The Queensland Government has committed up to \$25 million for the Great Keppel Island (GKI) Rejuvenation Pilot. The project aims to grow tourism on GKI, and the surrounding region, by providing common-user water and electricity infrastructure to support existing tourism operators, residents, and future tourism development projects.

This commitment was made acknowledging the increased costs associated with operating an island-based tourism operation and the strong desire of the State Government, local Government and local community to see GKI returned to its former glory.

The GKI Rejuvenation Pilot is being delivered by the Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games (DITID) in partnership with Livingstone Shire Council and in consultation with a broad range of key stakeholders.

The GKI Rejuvenation Pilot is part of a strategic approach to maximising economic opportunities for the Great Barrier Reef.

## Project update

A dedicated GKI Project Team has been established within DITID to deliver this project. The GKI Project Team is working closely with a Project Control Group comprising of relevant Queensland Government agencies and Livingstone Shire Council.

The GKI Project Team is currently undertaking feasibility assessments to identify the most effective solutions for power and water infrastructure delivery for GKI. To date, key activities have included:

- Undertaking technical studies to refine the scope and feasibility options for the Project
- Commencing engagement with a broad range of stakeholders including local businesses, residents, tourism bodies and Traditional Owners
- Engaging with approval agencies around relevant conditions and requirements for delivering the project
- Working with the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and the developer of the Great Keppel Island Resort including supporting commencement of demolition works on the old resort site and a domestic and international marketing campaign to attract investment for the resort development.



Credit: Tourism and Events Queensland

## Project benefits

The outcome of the GKI Rejuvenation Pilot will support the development and operation of tourism on GKI, including new and existing tourism experiences and re-development of the GKI Resort. The GKI Resort will be a significant driver of economic growth in the Capricorn Coast region and greater Southern Great Barrier Reef Destination. It will create jobs and provide a catalyst for tourism and economic development across the region.

The provision of affordable and reliable power and water will support existing businesses to grow and become more sustainable, while creating an environment which can support the establishment of new and expanded tourism ventures on the Island.

Business and residents can benefit from access to reliable, affordable and sustainable power and water, where they chose to connect into the utilities services.

## Stakeholder engagement

The GKI Rejuvenation Pilot will be informed with direction by the Project Control Group and input by a Stakeholder Advisory Group, which is being established to ensure the project is informed by a broad range of stakeholder interests.

An information session was held for island residents and business in May 2018 and the GKI Project Team will continue to meet with residents and businesses on a regular basis.

Additionally, a public information briefing will be held on the mainland in the coming months following completion of the feasibility phase.

The GKI Project team has met with numerous stakeholders individually to discuss the project and will continue to engage with a broad range of stakeholders following the completion of the feasibility phase.

If you missed out having a conversation through the above forums and would like the opportunity, please contact the team as per the below contact details.

## Where to from here

DITID is developing a Report which will document the outcomes of the feasibility work and stakeholder inputs to provide potential delivery solutions. This Report will be presented for Government consideration in mid 2018.

The outcome of the feasibility work will inform delivery time frames.

## Did you know....

The Queensland Government has also committed \$25 million through a contestable Great Barrier Reef Island Resorts Rejuvenation Fund which focusses on growing, greening and cleaning and will see further investment in common-user infrastructure and public facilities.





Credit: Capricorn Enterprise

## Stay informed

If you would like to receive future project updates, please subscribe to [tourism@ditid.qld.gov.au](mailto:tourism@ditid.qld.gov.au)

## Further information

For further information on the GKI Rejuvenation Pilot please contact:

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For information relating to demolition works or lease arrangements relating to the existing resort please contact:

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