



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

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### **Ipswich Wins with SEQ Regional Plan**

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Ipswich is the big winner in the South East Queensland Regional Plan released by the Beattie Government today, according to Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan.

“The plan, which sets a blueprint for growth in South East Queensland over the next 20 years, aims to draw people west to Ipswich where the jobs and sense of community are.

“Without serious planning South East Queensland was going to end up as urban sprawl from the Gold to Sunshine Coasts with people living a long way from their jobs, long commutes, poor air quality and little green space.

“This is a plan to preserve existing communities and create new ones with links to transport, jobs and social services.

Ms Nolan said the plan had been an election commitment made by the Beattie Government in the lead up to the February 2004 poll.

It was clear that the State Government had to take greater control of growth in the southeast corner,” Ms Nolan said.

“SEQ is genuinely becoming an inter-connected region and we couldn’t plan for that with Brisbane, Ipswich and each of the other councils just looking after their little bit.”

“Ipswich is the winner from this plan because it recognises the city as the solution to good SEQ growth.

“Ipswich is the only part of South East Queensland which has the capacity for major jobs growth in the next 20 years. That means we must plan the city well and capitalise on our wonderful sense of community and lifestyle to draw people here in the future.

Ms Nolan said that she had been advocating for planned growth in Ipswich for some time and that she was confident that the infrastructure to support this growth would follow.

“Ipswich is unique in South East Queensland in that it’s a city in which people still know and support one another. This culture has built up over more than 140 years of local history and the secret now is to grow the population whilst maintaining that local community feel.

**“Ipswich is a city that is big enough to make a difference and small enough to care. This plan is the foundation which will allow us to maintain that character in the future.”**