

Ipswich Smart City case study:

CONNECTED LIGHTING



OPPORTUNITY

To use connected street lighting to create a citywide Ipswich City Council-owned smart network which can be used to trial and run smart technologies.

SOLUTION

Change the Ipswich Planning Scheme to allow council to own street lights installed in new developments.

RESULTS

- First council in Queensland to take ownership of all new street lights installed in its city.
- Paved the way for creation of the backbone of a smart city network.
- 650 street lights owned and controlled by council, with thousands more to come.
- Opportunity to better understand and manage energy usage.

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**Smart
City**



CONNECTED LIGHTING



BRIGHT IDEA FOR CONNECTED LIGHTING

In progressing its transformation to Australia's leading smart city, Ipswich recognised the significant opportunity connected lighting presented to form the backbone of a smart city network. However, to create a network Ipswich City Council needed full ownership of street lights in the city.

This would allow for the installation of poles capable of carrying not just environmentally sustainable LED lights but also smart technologies such as Wi-Fi, climate sensors and cameras, among others.

In Queensland, there are three types of street lighting ownership. Rate 1 lights are fully owned and maintained by network operator Energex, rate 2 lights are Energex owned and maintained but originally provided by council, rate 3 lights are council owned and maintained.

In November 2016 in a Queensland first, council amended its planning scheme to mandate any new street lights installed in the city as rate 3. As of April 2018 council owns about 650 street lights, with the city's remaining 24,000 still owned by Energex.

Ipswich is Queensland's fastest growing city, with major master planned communities under way at greenfield sites at Springfield and in the Ripley Valley. These developments will mean thousands of new street lights being added to the network in coming years, substantially increasing the number of council owned and maintained poles in the city.

In the meantime, council is carrying out two pilot projects using 26 lights each at two new housing estates to gain a better understanding of energy usage and opportunities for smart city application. The findings will be shared with the Australian Electricity Market Operator.

Future plans are also being made to trial the rollout of various smart technologies following the initial pilot project.



Two pilot programs to understand energy usage and smart applications



650 street lights owned and controlled by Council



Queensland first: planning scheme amended to allow for smart street lighting