



# 2021

## AWARDS FOR excellence



The LGMA Awards for Excellence  
recognising outstanding achievement  
in Queensland local government

## FOOD TRUCK FRIENDLY COUNCIL

As food trucks become increasingly popular across urban communities, Ipswich City Council has responded, cutting red tape that Food Truck operators must meet. Feedback from vendors identified that Council's existing Mobile Food Permit and separate situational licence process was a barrier to operation and took over 4 weeks to complete. Today, the approval process can be accomplished in 48-hour.

"Council supports local food and beverage providers of all types", Mayor Teresa Harding said. In a process improvement that brought 20 people from 5 departments together, the working group identified and implemented changes to streamline food truck licensing and approvals and remove barriers.

The new Food Truck Friendly Council process features an online application platform that saves weeks in processing time. By combining multiple processes into one, vendors can bring creative food experiences to residents sooner.

The policy includes pre-approved food truck sites that allow safe operation and don't compete with existing businesses. Council views food trucks as a critical nursery for future 'bricks and mortar' establishments, allowing vendors to craft their offering while activating public spaces, promoting community engagement and providing employment and skilling opportunities to residents.

Over recent years, there has been an 11% increase in active food trucks and a 65% increase in food establishment enquiries recorded by Council.

This project is a contender for the teamwork category in the Local Government Awards for Excellence.