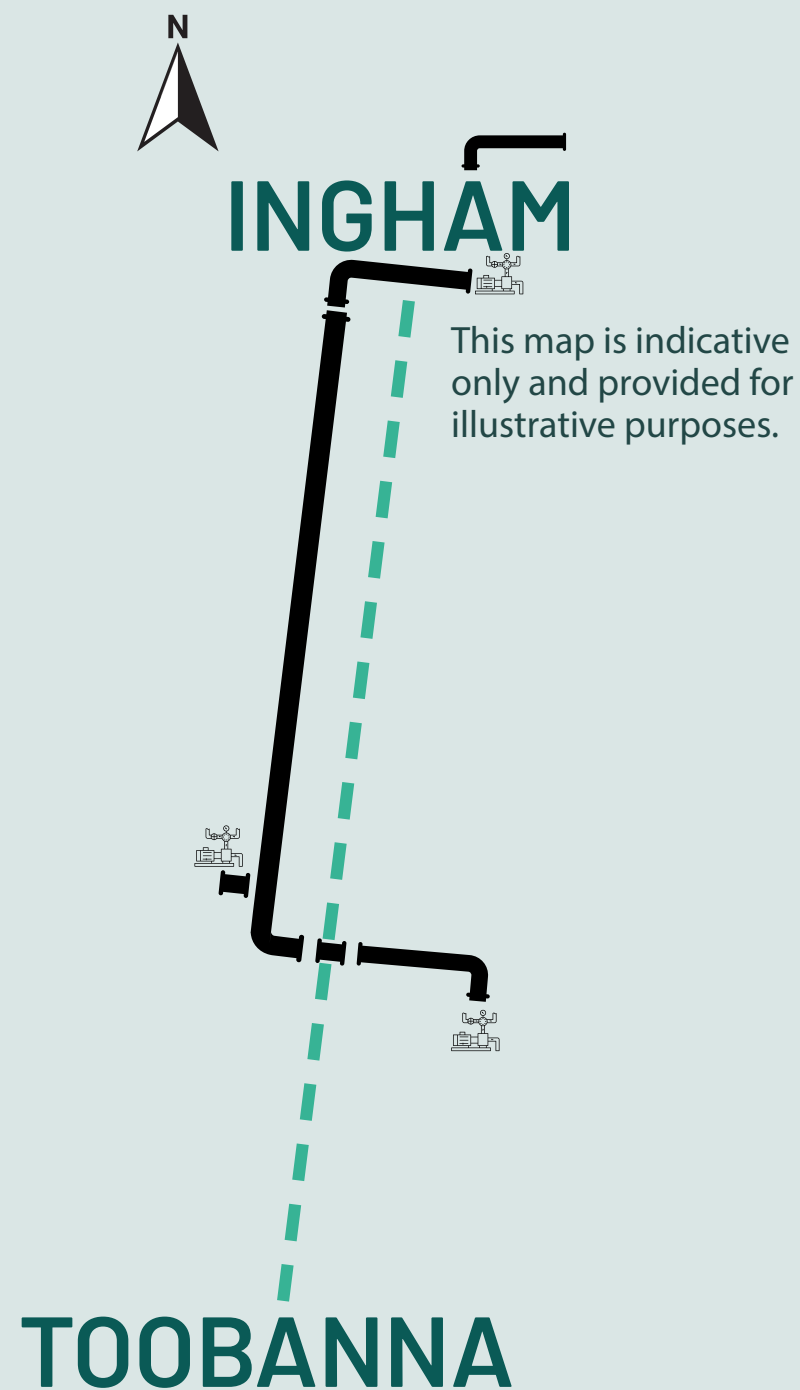


CRITICAL TRUNK SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING TO UNLOCK NEW HOUSING



LEGEND



Sewerage pump station which is housed underground with only a cabinet visible and is small in size.



Construction of new sewerage infrastructure, including the extension of the reticulated sewer network along Townsville Road in Toobanna and Sir Arthur Fadden Drive in Ingham, connecting to the existing sewer network.



Townsville Road - Bruce Highway

These projects are proudly funded by the Queensland Government delivered by Hinchinbrook Shire Council.



Queensland Government



25 Lannercost Street, INGHAM QLD 4850
PO Box 366 INGHAM QLD 4850
4776 4600
council@hinchinbrook.qld.gov.au
HinchinbrookShireCouncil



Critical trunk sewer infrastructure is progressing to support residential growth in the Hinchinbrook region, addressing housing demand and strengthening the Shire's long-term resilience.

Proudly funded by the Queensland Government, the projects focus on the construction of major sewer infrastructure across priority growth areas in Ingham and Toobanna.

This infrastructure will form the essential backbone required for future residential developments to connect to Council's existing sewer network. Importantly, the project does not involve constructing sewerage infrastructure on private land and does not require existing homes to connect.

Instead, it will support more than 300 future residential lots on flood-resilient land, creating capacity for new housing while ensuring growth is well planned and sustainable.

Mayor Ramon Jayo said the project is about laying the right foundations.

"This is the unglamorous but essential work that makes housing possible," Mayor Jayo said.

"If we want new homes built in the right places, we need the right infrastructure in place first."

Council's role is to deliver trunk sewer infrastructure – large-scale pipes and pump station capacity that service new development areas and provide connection points for future

growth. It is not about extending sewerage into existing neighbourhoods.

"This project is about enabling the future, not changing what already exists," Mayor Jayo said. "It does not mean sewerage is being pushed onto existing properties, and it does not mandate connections for residents in Toobanna or elsewhere."

Developers who choose to build new residential lots will be responsible for their own internal subdivision sewer works, approvals, and connections to Council's trunk infrastructure.

Council provides the backbone infrastructure, while developers build and manage the smaller internal systems within their estates.

Mayor Jayo said the project aligns with Council's Local Housing Action Plan and supports recovery efforts following the 2025 North Queensland floods.

"This investment allows Council to plan ahead rather than react," Mayor Jayo said.

"It supports recovery now and growth into the future, without placing new burdens on existing communities."

Council will continue to provide updates as the project progresses through to delivery. These projects are proudly funded by the Queensland Government and delivered by Hinchinbrook Shire Council.

What does this mean to you and your neighbourhood?

Hinchinbrook Shire Council has secured \$7.3 million in funding to construct major trunk sewer infrastructure, including large underground sewer pipes and a pump station.

This infrastructure creates a connection point for future residential development to link into Council's existing sewer network.

Council's role is limited to delivering this main connection infrastructure only. Any future development will be required to:

- build its own internal sewer system
- obtain all necessary planning and regulatory approvals, and
- connect to Council's trunk network at the designated point.

Importantly, no sewage treatment plant (STP) is being built as part of these works.

Existing homes are not required or mandated to connect as part of this project.

As part of the overall program, Council is planning an extension of the reticulated sewer main along Townsville Road to Toobanna and Sir Arthur Fadden Drive in Ingham.

This extension will link into the existing sewer network, and this aligns with Council's Works for Queensland 2024–2027 program, which contributes \$545,500 toward the project.

Q1. Is Council building a sewage treatment plant (STP) in our neighbourhood?

A. No. This project does not include a sewage treatment plant.

The funding is for trunk sewer pipes and a pump station that

connect into the existing sewer network only.

Q2. Will sewerage be "pushed" onto my property or block?

A. No. The infrastructure simply provides a future connection point.

It does not force connections and does not route sewerage onto private land.

Q3. Will existing homes be forced to connect to sewer?

A. No. Council does not intend to mandate sewer connections for existing homes in Toobanna or along Sir Arthur Fadden Drive.

This project is about planning ahead, not changing existing properties.

Q4. Why is Council doing this now?

A. To ensure essential infrastructure is in place before new homes are built.

The project helps unlock more than 300 future residential lots on flood-resilient land and supports long-term housing needs in a planned and responsible way.

Q5. How does the sewer system actually work?

A. For future developments only:

Wastewater flows through estate sewer pipes built by developers

It then enters a new pump station which is being built by Council which is common practice across local governments in Australia

From there, it is transferred via new trunk pipelines into Council's existing sewer network, including the Townsville Road extension

There is no new treatment facility involved.

Q6. Will this cause a sudden increase in population?

A. No. This infrastructure enables gradual growth over time, not rapid change.

Any future development will be staged and dependent on planning approvals, market demand, and developer interest.

Q7. Will there be odour or noise impacts?

A. Trunk sewer pipes are underground. Pump stations are designed to meet strict environmental, odour and noise standards. Any construction impacts will be temporary and managed through a Project Management Plan.

Q8. Will this affect property values?

A. Access to reliable essential services generally supports long-term liveability and future investment. The project does not require any changes for existing property owners.

Q9. Who pays for what?

A. Council delivers the main infrastructure: trunk pipes, pump station, and connection to the existing network (including Townsville Road). Developers pay for internal sewer pipes within new estates and connect to Council's network at the approved point.

Q10. How is this project funded?

A. The project is funded by the Queensland Government's Residential Activation Fund (RAF), providing approximately \$7.3 million for two Council-led infrastructure projects in partnership with Hinchinbrook Shire Council.

The Townsville Road extension and Sir Arthur Fadden Drive also aligns with the Works for Queensland 2024–2027 program, costing \$545,500.

Q11. Who is actually building this trunk sewer infrastructure?

A. Hinchinbrook Shire Council is responsible for delivering the project.

Council will manage the project using qualified contractors in line with Council standards, safety requirements and environmental regulations.

This ensures the infrastructure is built to serve the community long-term and integrates properly with Council's existing sewer network.

Q12. Who is responsible for delivering any future housing development?

A. Council is not responsible for constructing housing. Council's role is limited to providing the trunk sewer infrastructure necessary to enable serviced land in the future.

Any new residential development will be undertaken by private landowners or developers.

These parties are required to:

- lodge a formal development application
- comply with all planning, engineering, and environmental standards
- construct internal subdivision infrastructure (roads, drainage, sewer, water, etc.)
- obtain Council approval before connecting to Council's trunk network

Council's responsibility is to assess proposals against the Hinchinbrook Planning Scheme and ensure any development is safe, appropriate, and aligns with the long-term strategic vision for the Shire.

Q13. How can I ask questions or provide feedback?

A. Email council@hinchinbrook.qld.gov.au or call (07) 4776 4600.