

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### BACKGROUND

Situated 30 minutes off the coast of Yeppoon in the Southern Great Barrier Reef, Great Keppel Island (GKI) is the jewel in the crown of the Capricorn Coast (Livingstone Shire) and broader Central Queensland region's tourism industries. Following the collapse of the Great Keppel Island Resort in 2008, public interest of the island significantly decreased with incorrect perceptions of the closure of the entire island despite continual operations of smaller accommodation providers. GKI has been the subject of multiple various development visions over the years, which have all struggled to materialise due to a complex range of regulatory and commercial constraints.

Following a period of extended consultation with the local community in 2023, the Queensland Government released a draft masterplan for the future development of GKI which poses the best chance to overcome the island's long-held development constraints and rally investors and the community around an agreed vision for the future.

Realising the economic potential of GKI can't stop at the master plan with success of future development requiring all three levels of governments to commit to action on a range of policy, infrastructure and investment attraction initiatives. Inspiring government to act on the actions and opportunities presented in the masterplan requires a quantified demonstration of the importance of GKI to the regional economy.

AEC Group Pty Ltd (AEC) was engaged by Capricorn Enterprise to undertake an Economic Impact Assessment (EIA) of both current activity and proposed future activity of GKI following full development of the GKI masterplan.

The purpose of the EIA is to quantify the economic significance of GKI to the regional economy and demonstrate the importance of realising the GKI masterplan vision.

### KEY FINDINGS

#### Economic Impact Assessment – Outcomes

Visitation to GKI is estimated to generate significant economic impacts within the Capricorn Coast economy, with considerable potential increases in economic activity expected in the realisation of the GKI masterplan vision. The range of current and potential future impacts outlined in Table ES.1 below.

**Table E.S.1 Current and Potential Future GKI Economic Impacts**

Impact	Current Contribution	Potential Future Contribution	Net Additional Contribution
<b>Output (\$M)</b>			
Initial Stimulus in Local Economy	\$37.1	\$108.2	\$71.1
Direct Requirements Impacts*	\$5.6	\$16.5	\$10.9
Industry Support Impacts*	\$1.1	\$3.2	\$2.1
Household Consumption Impacts	\$6.1	\$17.8	\$11.7
<b>Total Impacts in Local Economy</b>	<b>\$49.9</b>	<b>\$145.8</b>	<b>\$95.9</b>
<b>GRP (\$M)</b>			
Initial Stimulus in Local Economy	\$17.9	\$52.3	\$34.4
Direct Requirements Impacts*	\$2.5	\$7.4	\$4.9
Industry Support Impacts*	\$0.5	\$1.5	\$1.0
Household Consumption Impacts	\$3.5	\$10.2	\$6.7
<b>Total Impacts in Local Economy</b>	<b>\$24.5</b>	<b>\$71.4</b>	<b>\$46.9</b>
<b>Incomes (\$M)</b>			
Initial Stimulus in Local Economy	\$13.2	\$38.4	\$25.2
Direct Requirements Impacts*	\$1.8	\$5.4	\$3.5
Industry Support Impacts*	\$0.4	\$1.1	\$0.7
Household Consumption Impacts	\$1.9	\$5.5	\$3.6

Impact	Current Contribution	Potential Future Contribution	Net Additional Contribution
<b>Total Impacts in Local Economy</b>	<b>\$17.3</b>	<b>\$50.3</b>	<b>\$33.1</b>
<b>Employment (FTEs)</b>			
Initial Stimulus in Local Economy	211	612	401
Direct Requirements Impacts*	19	56	37
Industry Support Impacts*	4	11	7
Household Consumption Impacts	25	73	48
<b>Total Impacts in Local Economy</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>494</b>

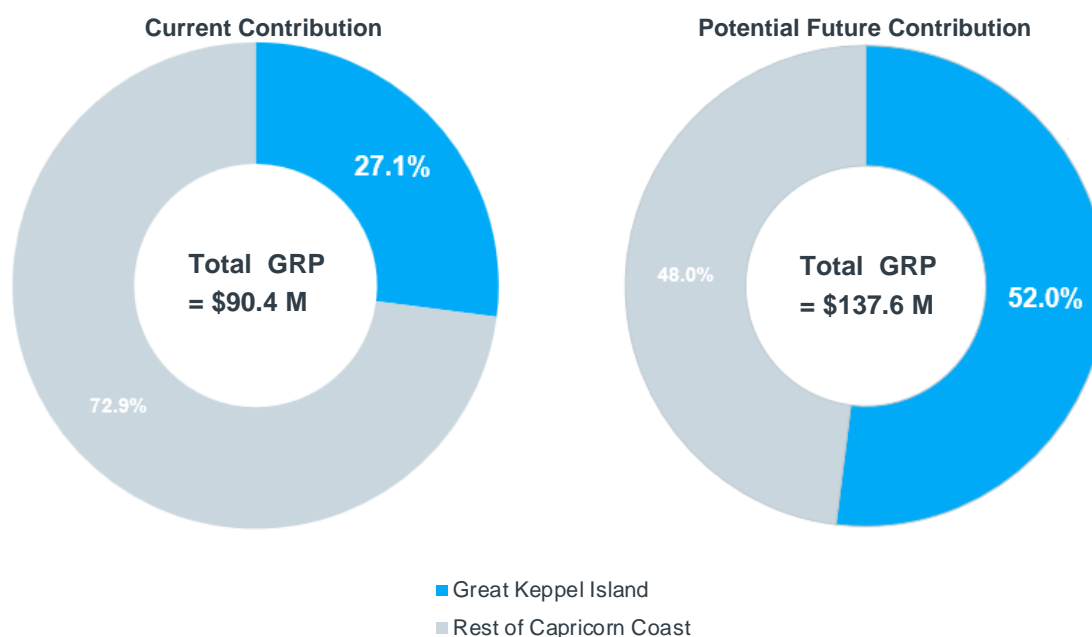
Source: AEC.

**GKI Contribution to Capricorn Coast Tourism Economy**

The Capricorn Coast Tourism region generates approximately \$90.4 million in GRP, of which 27.1% (\$24.5 million) is attributable to activities occurring on and associated with Great Keppel Island.

Should GKI's potential future economic contribution be realised through the realisation of the GKI masterplan vision, the value of the tourism industry's contribution to the Capricorn Coast economy is expected to increase by 151.9% to \$137.4 million, ceteris paribus. The increase in activity on GKI will also double the island's share of the broader Capricorn Coast tourism economy's contribution to GRP from 27.1% to 52.0%, as presented in Figure ES.1 below.

**Table E.S. 1 Current and Potential Future GKI Contribution to Capricorn Coast Tourism Economy**



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