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MEDIA RELEASE

9 January 2019

Marine survey a 'game changer' for Great Keppel Island

The game-changing connection of power and water to Great Keppel Island from the mainland is getting closer with the start of marine survey works, the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

Mrs Lauga, who pledged \$25 million for the connection leading up to the last election, said Vision Surveys Qld Pty Ltd would begin undertaking survey works on Monday January 14 on behalf of the Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games.

"The low-impact works will be carried out between Great Keppel Island and Emu Park (between the Water Reservoir, Hawke Street and Haven Beach), and should be completed in three weeks."

She said this pipeline is vitally important in the future development of Great Keppel Island and to the economy of the Capricorn Coast.

"Tourism operators, residents and future tourism development projects will benefit from improved access to job-creating infrastructure on Great Keppel Island thanks to this \$25 million from the Palaszczuk Government.

"This is another positive step forward in the revitalisation of Great Keppel Island and a huge boost of confidence to the entire Central Queensland region."

Mrs Lauga said providing affordable and reliable power and water will support existing tourist operators to become more sustainable and grow, while also supporting new and expanded tourism ventures on the Island.

"The future is looking brighter and brighter for Great Keppel Island."

She said the first stage of the project will be to develop key infrastructure, including a marina, airstrip and services infrastructure together with a beachfront resort.

She said the marine survey would also involve survey work on Great Keppel Island working 5m either side of the proposed water main alignment.

"The survey will record all features including signs, fencing, road furniture, major vegetation, topography and changes in grade along the alignment.

"This is another positive step forward in the revitalisation of Great Keppel Island and a huge boost of confidence for the region."

"The future is looking brighter and brighter for Great Keppel Island," said Mrs Lauga.

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