A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

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MEMBER FOR KEPPEL AND ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR EDUCATION



MEDIA RELEASE

Forum debates GKI Master Plan

The future of Great Keppel Island will be sliced and diced at the third meeting of Island stakeholders in Yeppoon on Tuesday (5 October), the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

More than 25 delegates from industry and the community will discuss a shared vision for the future of a reinvigorated Great Keppel Island as a tourism destination, generating jobs and business opportunities for Central Queensland.

"A collaborative process is underway to develop a draft Master Plan for Great Keppel Island by engaging all relevant stakeholders and the community to identify future development aspirations for the island," said Ms Lauga.

"This is the third workshop with a key stakeholder group to discuss a shared vision for the future of Great Keppel Island.

"In the coming months there will be broader community engagement on a draft Master Plan, and this will include current land tenure, land constraints, physical constraints and cultural heritage.

"GKI is a fantastic destination and the more accessible it is the more visitors it will attract and that can only be a good thing."

ELECTORATE OFFICE Shop 3, Evia Building Normanby Street Yeppoon QLD 4703 **POSTAL ADDRESS** Post Office Box 1474 Yeppoon QLD 4703 **CONTACT** Phone: (07) 4913 1500 Fax: (07) 4913 1509 Email: keppel@parliament.qld.gov.au WEBSITE www.brittanylauga.com.au Ms Lauga said the Palaszczuk Government remains committed to growing tourism and creating jobs on Great Keppel Island and throughout the Great Barrier Reef.

"This Government understands the unique challenges faced by island resorts and the importance of a strong tourism industry on Great Keppel Island to the future of Central Queensland's economy.

"That is why the Palaszczuk Government is committed to a \$30 million package for common-user infrastructure to stimulate tourism and improve the visitor experience on the island.

"Building these assets will create jobs for a range of tradespeople, from designers and engineers to chippies and sparkies, and that's money going into the Central Queensland economy.

"The need for greater certainty on private sector plans to redevelop the resort leases has delayed expenditure on island infrastructure development.

"However, the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport has progressed investigations into infrastructure options that will support tourism development on Great Keppel Island," said Ms Lauga.

ENDS... Contact John 0400787037