

Gold Coast Climate Change Planning Study

During 2009, BMT WBM was engaged by the Gold Coast City Council to undertake a consultancy to provide technical assistance to identify the key risks from climate change across the local government area and to test the readiness of the City to sustain or adapt to the impacts of key climate change parameters such as sea level rise, increased flooding and increased storms and hazard events.

In particular, the study sought to consider and suggest outcomes that might be delivered by the local government planning scheme to drive adaptation to climate change in the City.

Working with project partners HASSELL, the study involved:

- A practical review of climate change science at the regional and local level in order to derive quantitative parameters for use in future planning;
- A desktop review of approaches to adaptation planning undertaken by other local governments in Queensland and across Australia; and
- A review of how the current planning scheme and other planning programs administered by the Council address climate change issues and how they were planning to deal with future climate change risks.

A key facet of the study was carrying out a series of interviews with senior Council planning staff across a range of departments and portfolios. The results of these interviews were a substantive input to the review process as well as capturing the diversity of views and approaches to dealing with future climate change.

The findings of the study have been documented in a report which provides a summary of the key findings as well as a 'blueprint' to assist Council in mainstreaming climate change issues into various planning frameworks including the planning scheme in the future.

Client

Gold Coast City Council

Date

2009-2010

Services & Expertise Provided

Strategic planning

Local climate change science review

Development of climate change adaptation actions and strategy

Expert engagement and facilitation



The Gold Coast