

Plan for infrastructure

Blueprint for action on vital community services as population blows out

By **KIERAN MORAN**

DUE to industrial projects the population of Gladstone is expected to double by 2030 to more than 100,000.

Based on current projections, the social prosperity of Gladstone is in question.

Gladstone will need up-to-date health services, children's and family services, aged care services, disability services, and housing, employment and training services.

The Gladstone Social Infrastructure Strategic Plan (SISP) is due to be released in late May with a draft action plan released at the end of April.

The initial consultation included more than 200 community members and representatives from 25 local organisations, agencies and service providers - reflecting government agencies, welfare agencies, health and recreation sectors, community organisations, business and industry including young people and people experiencing homelessness.

Garry Scanlon, CEO of the Glad-

stone Economic Industry Development Board (GEIDB) and facilitator of the SISP, said the draft action plan focuses on industry, agency and social infrastructure.

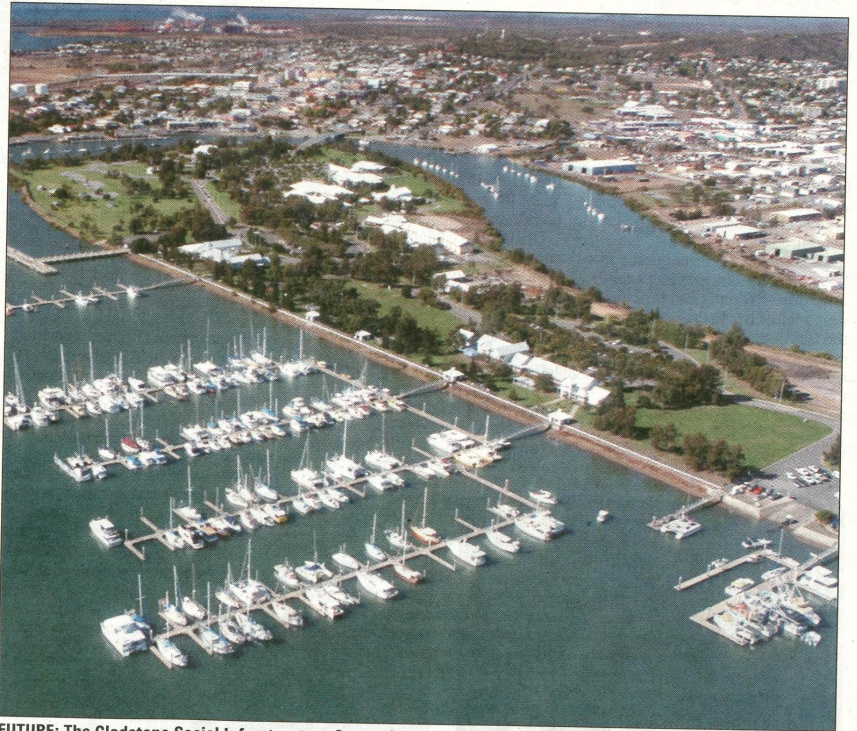
"We are currently looking at the draft action plan where some of

“We are focusing on infrastructure.”

the top priorities are health and wellbeing, children and families, housing, aged persons, youth facilities and health services,” Mr Scanlon said.

Mr Scanlon said he was looking at the cost of priority infrastructure schedules that look at the big-ticket items.

“We are focusing on infrastructure like multicultural centres, community and family centres and expansion of current facilities and the community centres and facilities.”



FUTURE: The Gladstone Social Infrastructure Strategic Plan looks into the future of Gladstone.