



IS Essentials for LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

*Sustainability Rating Tool for Infrastructure
Projects with \$5 - 100m Capital Value*

IS Essentials for Local Governments

The Infrastructure Sustainability Council (ISC) has certified sustainability performance across Australia and New Zealand since 2012. We assess infrastructure assets across the full spectrum of the asset lifecycle and we measure impact across the quadruple bottom line of economic, environmental, social and governance. The ISC's sustainability framework, the IS Rating Scheme, is applicable to all asset types for example road, rail, water, energy, and social infrastructure.

Sustainable Infrastructure for Thriving Communities

As custodians of the local built and natural environment, Australian Local Governments play a pivotal role in shaping the wellbeing of their communities; they have the power to shape a future where our towns and cities not only survive but thrive.

Embracing sustainable infrastructure is not merely an option; it is a strategic imperative that will redefine the prosperity of our neighbourhoods. Sustainable infrastructure stands as a significant investment in the resilience, thriving, and overall wellbeing of Australian communities, now and far into the future.



IS Ratings

- IS Ratings provide a third party assured framework for achieving sustainability outcomes across the whole lifecycle of an infrastructure asset – from planning, design and construction to operations.
- IS Ratings are aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and enable positive social, environmental, economic and governance outcomes.
- IS Ratings are suitable to all infrastructure types including road, water, rail, energy, airport, port and social infrastructure such as parks and public facilities.

IS Ratings Help Achieve Sustainability Targets – on a Project Level

Local governments' organisational targets can only be achieved if infrastructure design, construction and management are aligned with these targets – IS Ratings can help bridge that gap.

The process helps identify, measure and improve key sustainability metrics, such as carbon emissions, water use, community health and wellbeing, and stakeholder engagement.

The impact of pursuing an IS Rating doesn't stop with the asset – it serves as a catalyst for building sustainability awareness and capacity across the organisation beyond the scope and duration of the project. It helps upskill the workforce, encourages innovation and drives process improvements. The rating rewards teams that are transforming their organisations step by step, whether that's by building capability in the leadership team or rolling out new procurement policies and thus embedding sustainability into the organisation's way of working.



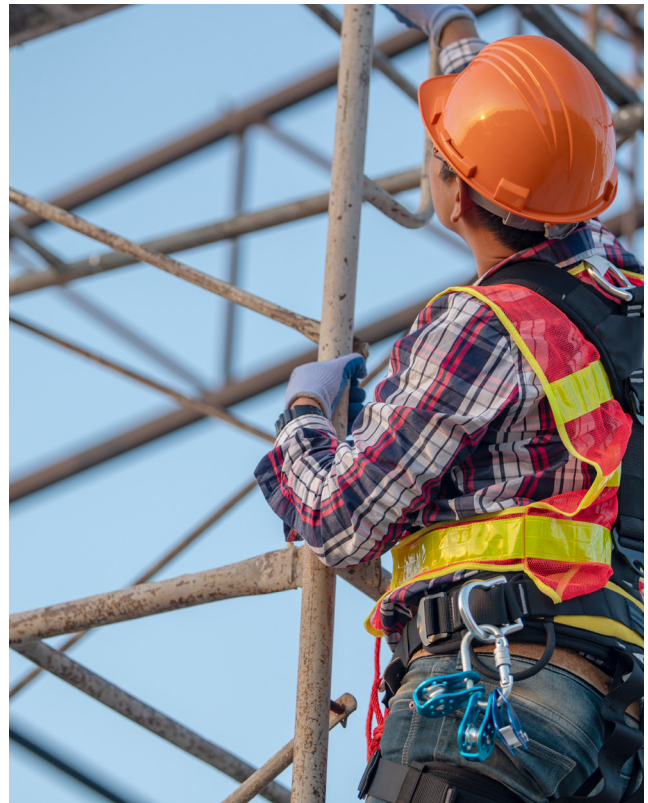
IS Essentials

An Infrastructure Ratings Tool Designed with Local Governments in Mind

IS Essentials is a sustainability rating tool for infrastructure assets with a capital value of \$5-100m and covers the Design and As Built phases. It is tailored to suit all types of infrastructure and is already being used for boardwalks, roundabouts, a local swimming pool, waste to energy treatment, and council's water facilities.

Measure What Matters

We know measurement leads to better management. But sustainability is so broad – covering everything from carbon emissions to recycling rates, ethical labour practices to diversity and inclusion – that it's impractical for any council to measure and manage everything all at once. The key is to start with the issues that are most material to your community and focus on these.

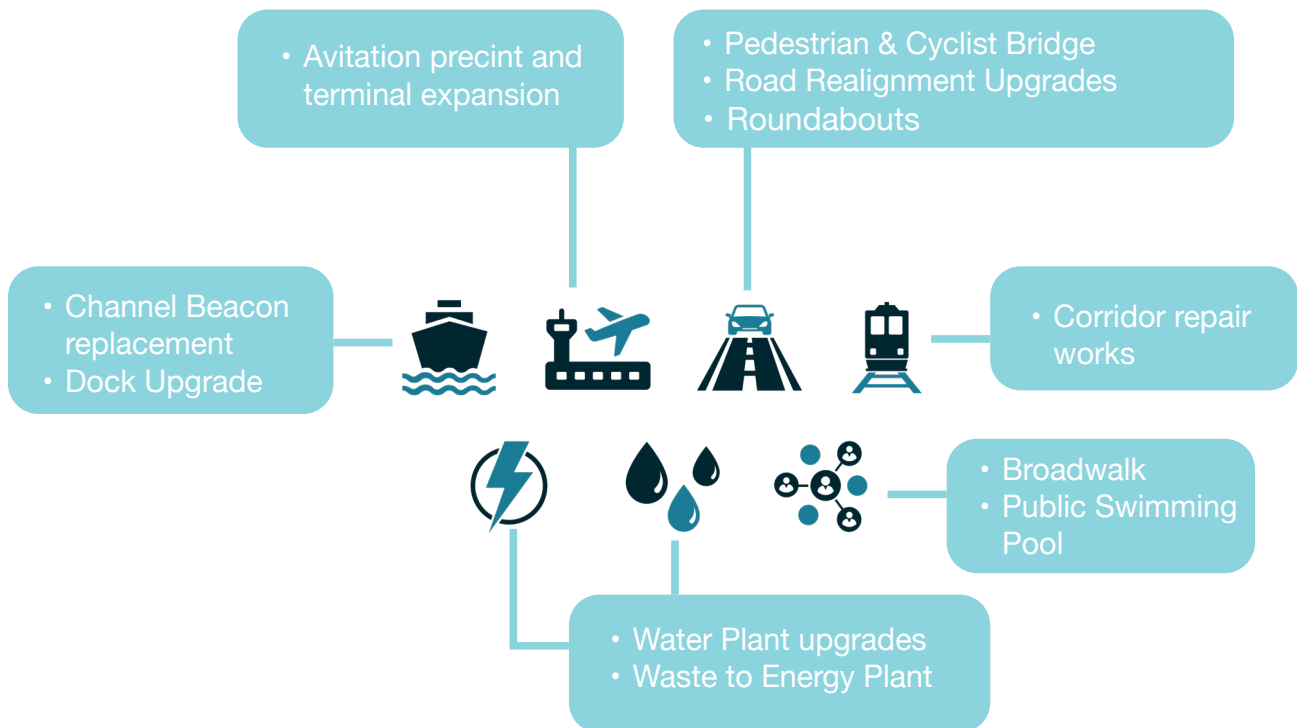


Benefits of IS Rating

- Support the delivery of corporate sustainability goals
- Ensure social, environmental, economic and governance outcomes – across the asset lifecycle.
- Build and improve sustainability capabilities, policies and tools
- Focus on the issues that are most material for your community.
- Support ESG reporting
- Foster innovation for sustainability
- Increase asset and community resilience
- Help attract sustainable finance

IS Essentials can be used for all types of Infrastructure

The IS Essentials tool is being used for a large variety of asset types across Australia and New Zealand. For example:



How to get started

- Get in touch with the ISC to discuss the project and options at info@iscouncil.org
- Optional: Consider the benefits of joining the ISC's membership community of sustainability practice
- Register your project or program of works
- Build up your team with IS Training as required
- An ISC Project Manager will help you kick off and guide you through the process.

When to get started

- The best time to get in touch is prior to procurement stage

Case Studies

- [Parkes Shire Council: Thinking differently about blue and green infrastructure](#)
- [Maritime Safety Queensland: A new beacon of sustainability.](#)

Testimonials

“We didn’t see an IS accreditation as a prize or end goal. Instead, we used as a framework to drive new thinking and behaviours, to build our internal capacity and to start a process of continuous improvement.”

“Achieving our first IS Rating was a considerable commitment. But it helped us to build our internal capacity, capability, frameworks and policies that have lasted beyond the life of the project and lifted the sustainability skills of our entire council.”



Andrew Francis

Director Infrastructure, Parkes
Shire Council

“By working with IS Essentials, we challenged many of our business-as-usual decisions to deliver safer, more sustainable infrastructure.”



Amanda Scarpato

Director Maritime Program Management
Office, Maritime Safety Queensland

