



The City of Palmerston

Annual Report

2017/18



Mayor's REPORT

On behalf of City of Palmerston Council,
I am pleased to present the Annual
Report 2017/18.

The second largest and fastest growing city in the Northern Territory, Palmerston is a regional hub with a promising future positioning itself as The Family City of the Northern Territory and 'A Place for People'.

Palmerston boasts a multi-cultural and diverse population of more than 36,000 residents, growing at an average of 5% a year who are supported by lifestyle options including multiple shopping centres, a PGA tournament standard golf course, land conservation areas, connected spaces, swimming and fitness centre, numerous schools and the recently opened Palmerston Regional Hospital, all of which support families who choose to call our city home.

With almost universal NBN coverage and a young, tech savvy population, Palmerston is becoming a hub for digital innovation through e-gaming, the Top End's annual GeekFest and regional collaboration delivering Smart City opportunities.

This rapid growth presents Council with the challenge of growing and renewing essential family friendly infrastructure for Palmerston and surrounding communities. Since being inducted in April this year, Council has been planning for the future by identifying a series of key projects that will deliver significant benefits for our community including:

- More open space and family friendly community facilities;
- Greater lifestyle choices, especially for youth;
- Creating local jobs;
- Fighting crime and managing anti-social behaviour;
- Leveraging Smart City opportunities; lowering energy costs and reducing carbon emissions;
- Increasing our urban forest; and
- Providing alternative energy and income sources.

Council is committed to improving engagement and consulting in a meaningful manner with the community in planning for the future. To provide long term vision for Council and the community over the next 10 years, Council has commenced an innovative engagement process including a People's Forum to prepare a Strategic Plan. Council has also commenced workshops to prepare a Rating Strategy to ensure that the cost of supporting our community is spread equitably across all ratepayers.

I acknowledge the support and hard work of my colleagues including inaugural Deputy Mayor Damian Hale, Alderman Lucy Buhr, Alderman Amber Garden, Alderman Benjamin



Giesecke, Alderman Sarah Henderson, Alderman Dr Tom Lewis OAM, and current Deputy Mayor Mick Spick, and their personal efforts to increase community engagement by:

- Hosting a monthly stall at the Palmerston Markets;
- Introducing a 30-minute Public Forum prior to every Ordinary Council Meeting;
- Rates Strategy Community Reference Group;
- Strategic Plan People's Forum;
- A trial of Community Council Meetings; and
- Reviewing the Public Question Time Policy.

On behalf of the residents of Palmerston, I would like to thank all those involved in restoring our city after Tropical Cyclone Marcus on 17th March this year. Not only did some of our residents suffer personal loss and damage, over 3,500 Council trees have had to be removed due to the cyclone. The support we received from our friends in the Australian Army and US Marines as well as the ongoing hard work of Council staff and contractors ensured that Palmerston recovered rapidly from this significant event.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of Mark Blackburn, Official Manager of City of Palmerston from June

2017 until the appointment of the 9th Council. I thank him for his efforts and wish him well in the future.

Palmerston has a promising future that would not be possible without the hard work of Council staff, all of whom I thank for their dedication in making Palmerston 'A Place for People'. I thank you for reading this report and I look forward to working with all of you in 2018/19.

Athina Pascoe-Bell
Mayor



Chief Executive Officer's REPORT

I am proud to present the 2017/18 Annual Report for the City of Palmerston. Since my arrival in January 2018, I have seen Council continue to deliver on its commitment to making Palmerston 'A Place for People'. This report demonstrates our achievements and accounts for our performance during the year.

This year saw the election of the 9th Council of the City of Palmerston on 24th March 2018. I congratulate our Elected Members, Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell, Alderman Lucy Buhr, Alderman Amber Garden, Alderman Benjamin Giesecke, Alderman Damian Hale, Alderman Sarah Henderson, Alderman Dr Tom Lewis OAM, and Alderman Mick Spick.

The Council strove hard to improve our financial sustainability whilst delivering the 2018/2019 Municipal Plan, which includes improving our performance in service delivery and community satisfaction. Since entering office, Council have built on their commitment to improve engagement and consult with the community as part of planning for the future of our growing city.

One of the most significant challenges our community faced this year was Tropical Cyclone Marcus. This Category 2 event was the most significant cyclone to hit our region in many years, with wind gusts of up to 130km per hour recorded. Council sustained significant loss of tree coverage throughout the city, with 3,500 trees on Council owned land falling, some of which fell across roads. I am proud of how quickly our city recovered, and I thank Council staff, contractors and approximately 120 members of the Australian Army

and U.S Marine Corps who worked tirelessly together to assist the community in its recovery efforts. Their efforts were inspiring and helped our city recover quickly. The total cost of recovery to Council was in the order of \$3 million. Longer term restoration of tree coverage will occur as part of Council's expanded tree planting program.

Council has also heard the community concerns regarding safety. In response, Council committed \$500,000 as part of a Smart Cities Grant application that was developed during the year and is currently being considered by the Federal Government. Outcomes will include improved and increased HD CCTV and information sharing with Northern Territory Police. Council also hosted or supported several diversionary programs that were designed to draw at risk youth away from negative influences. These programs included Youth Drop-In Sports, Sports Night and an Art Program with Palmerston Re-Engagement Centre students.

Council continues to perform strongly in waste management, assets and infrastructure, recreation, arts and culture. Council has increased the level of service at the Archer Waste Management Facility by removing the one tonne restriction and opening Christmas Day morning. The Recreation Centre



continues to grow in popularity with over 72,000 visitors in 2017/18 and recent events include the 2018 Seniors Expo and the growing Top End Geekfest which attracted over 1,500 participants up from 650 last year. The Library continues to be well supported by the community, with over 150,000 visits and 256,000 items borrowed in the last 12 months. Council has increased the all ages Activate Program from an 8-week to a 45-week program and is continuing to collaborate with various sectors of the community through Senior's Fortnight and Children's and Families Weeks.

Council continues to improve ease of engagement and the customer experience as demonstrated by the upgrade to it's website to a new mobile and tablet responsive platform and introduction of Smart PDF's which can be filled out and emailed without the need for printing and postage. Council is increasing its online service presence through the new customer streetlighting interface and online graffiti reporting, as well as increased channels for rate payments to improve customer convenience including Ezybill which sends rates notices and reminders through email.

This year Council adopted the Digital Strategy. The Strategy identifies that enabling social value through technology is critical for the future of Palmerston. It further identifies three key principles which are safe and sound, connected and enabled, and interact and engage.

I greatly value our staff and their dedication to the delivery of high-quality services to the Palmerston community. Attracting and retaining a diverse and capable work force is essential, and as a result we have commenced the development of our organisational culture and leadership

improvements in 2017/18. Council will continue to deliver the projects outlined in this strategy.

The next 12 months will be an exciting period as Council and the community work together to plan for the future of our growing vibrant community, and Council continues to develop collaborative partnerships with other levels of government. These city-shaping projects include:

- Developing a Strategic Plan
- Delivering an accelerated program to replace our aging public lights with smart LEDs
- Delivering Smart Cities Partnership
- Creating a Liveable City
- Renewing the Palmerston Aquatic Facility
- Planning for social infrastructure needs

I would like to thank Mayor Pascoe-Bell and the Elected Members for their leadership and support and express my gratitude to all Council staff, including my predecessor Cathryn Hutton for their work in making a Palmerston 'A Place for People'.

Luccio Cercarelli
Chief Executive Officer

Snapshot

2017/18

\$281,756

IN FINANCIAL AND IN KIND SUPPORT THROUGH GRANTS, DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS TO 27 COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS AND 11 SCHOOLS



\$710m

WORTH OF INFRASTRUCTURE



324

FACEBOOK MESSAGES RESPONDED TO



1,500+

ATTENDEES AT GEEKFEST TOP END, FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS AND AGES.



3,500

TREES REMOVED FROM COUNCIL LAND AS A RESULT OF TROPICAL CYCLONE MARCUS



\$3.4m

CAPITAL SPEND 2017/18



\$75,844

INVESTED IN STAFF DEVELOPMENT



HOURS SPENT ON
PALMERSTON LIBRARY
PUBLIC COMPUTERS



256,283

LIBRARY ITEMS BORROWED



72,219

VISITS TO THE PALMERSTON RECREATION CENTRE



50:1

RETURN ON INVESTMENT FOR NT PGA



1.2+m

BIN COLLECTIONS

Welcome

The second largest city in the Northern Territory, Palmerston is a young, vibrant regional hub with a promising future.

Located south of the Territory's capital Darwin, Palmerston is a diverse community supported by a range of local businesses and industry, with many young families, including defence personnel calling the city "home". Since Palmerston was established 36 years ago, all levels of government, community groups and the private sector have combined to ensure Palmerston is 'A Place for People'.

Palmerston boasts more than 36,000 residents who are supported by lifestyle options including multiple shopping centres, a public golf course, a waterpark, fitness and swimming centre and numerous sporting facilities and the newly opened Palmerston Regional Hospital. Housing estates continue to be developed in Zuccoli, Johnston and Durack Heights.

Palmerston, and the region it supports, provides a variety of employment opportunities including industrial, defence, public service and an emerging allied health district. There are a number of major projects underway or completed including:

Gateway Shopping Centre	\$300 million
Boulevard Plaza Mixed Use Development	\$200 million
Palmerston Regional Hospital	\$170 million
Palmerston Police Station	\$30 million
Sewerage Upgrade	\$10 million

The Northern Territory and Federal Governments have funded the construction of a 116-bed hospital including a

24 hour emergency department which will create 300 new jobs on the outskirts of Palmerston. To enhance community safety, the Northern Territory Government has also commenced construction of a new 24-hour Police Station, with a Community Hall for local engagement which will open in mid-2019. These key public assets will provide jobs and increased services for our community.

As 'A Place for People', Palmerston offers a number of activities for the community. A must-see for families is the waterpark, which is free to use. Take on the six-lane speed slide challenge or enjoy the toddler's wet area with a shallow wading pool and water activities. Teenagers will also love the skate park conveniently located next door. Palmerston is home to an 18-hole golf course which hosts the NT PGA in August each year, and 2 cinema complexes.

Council also provides over 171ha of green retreat, the equivalent of approximately 100 AFL fields, with a wealth of picturesque open spaces providing the ideal location for a quiet BBQ or leisurely morning walk. The 218km pathways are worth a visit for eager explorers and riders looking to explore the region. The city is serviced by the Rydges Palmerston Hotel and Quest Serviced Apartments, and when it comes to cuisine, Palmerston caters for a wide variety of tastes, from boutique restaurants, cafes and hotels to popular chain outlets.

Council is committed to ensuring strong plans are in place for the region's future growth, which will position Palmerston as the Family City and maintain Palmerston as 'A Place for People'.



Acknowledgement OF COUNTRY

Council respectfully acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we meet - the Larrakia People - and pay respect to their elders, past, present and future.



The Aboriginal patterns seen throughout our Annual Report were designed by local Aboriginal artist Anthony Duwun-Lee from local traditional owners, the Larrakia people.

The artist has used different Aboriginal patterns to represent the diverse and different peoples that live in the Palmerston region symbolising Palmerston as 'A Place for People'.

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Cover photo: Geekfest Top End, Goyder Square



About Palmerston

OUR COUNCIL

The Municipality of Palmerston was created in April 1985 by Barry Coulter, the Minister for Local Government with the first Local Government elections held in June of that year. Palmerston had welcomed its first residents in 1982, following the creation of a new community in response to the affordability challenges caused by rapid growth in Darwin. The first Palmerston Town Council took office on June 29 1985 and the first Mayor was Michael Ting.

Palmerston was declared a city on August 2, 2000 and by 2001 the population had grown to 21,000.

The 9th Council of the City of Palmerston, led by Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell was sworn in on April 3, 2018. The current Council consists of the Mayor and seven Aldermen who represent the entire city, as Palmerston does not have divisible wards. Residents elect their Council every four years, with the next election due on the August 28, 2021.

The Council is the second largest local government in the Northern Territory managing almost 14,300 rate accounts and expenditure of \$44.8 million in 2017/18.

MAYORS OF PALMERSTON

Mayor	Term
Michael Ting	1985-1987
Jan Higgins	1987-1991
Kevin Difflo	1991-1998
Annette Burke	1998-2007
Robert Macleod JP	2007-2012
Graeme Chin	2012
Ian Abbott JP	2012-2018
Athina Pascoe-Bell	Current



OUR CITY

The ancient Aboriginal connection of the Larrakia people to this land can be traced back thousands of years. Larrakia is the name for the Aboriginal people of the greater Darwin region which includes Palmerston. The Larrakia people are recognised as innovative people, involved in trade and commerce throughout their history.

Palmerston was the original name chosen in 1864 for the capital of the Northern Territory by the South Australian Colonial Government, which had responsibility for this region. The name was chosen to honour Lord Palmerston, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1855-1858 and 1859-1865 and a former Foreign Secretary. The city now known as Darwin was renamed in 1911 and the name was given to Palmerston in 1980 when the decision to create the Palmerston Development authority was made.

OUR PEOPLE

Palmerston is the youngest city in the Northern Territory, with a median age of 30.2 years, compared to the Australian median age of 37.2 years. 76% of Palmerston's population are aged under 45 years with over 25% aged under 15 years. Our fastest growing areas are newly developed areas such as Zuccoli and Durack Heights.

With a young, tech savvy population, Palmerston residents are embracing digital innovation through e-gaming, the Top End's annual GeekFest and our regional collaboration on delivering

Smart City opportunities for the whole community.

We are a proudly multicultural society with 1 in every 5 people born overseas and 15% of people speaking a language other than English at home. A further 11.3% of our population identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

OUR ENVIRONMENT

Palmerston is a mainly urban area, however there is significant green space to support our community. Council provides 57 playgrounds and 218km of pathways to allow residents to enjoy parks, reserves and open spaces. Council also manages a lake network of 18 lakes to assist in irrigating our public spaces.

This year, Council commenced its energy sustainability program with the tender process for the installation of a solar PV system on the Library as its first project. The program is designed to reduce energy consumption and emissions. Council is also committed to renewable energy and has commenced work on the installation of energy efficient Smart LED lighting in buildings and streetlights. Palmerston has a tropical climate with distinct Wet and Dry Seasons.

The Dry Season runs from May to September, and temperatures can reach below 20 degrees in the cooler months of the Dry. The Wet Season generally brings most of the city's annual rainfall with cyclones a regular occurrence. The most recent cyclone was Tropical Cyclone Marcus which occurred on the March 17 this year.

OUR ELECTED MEMBERS



MAYOR
Athina Pascoe-Bell

Athina moved to Palmerston in November 2004 with her husband who was in the Defence Force at the time and bought their home in Marlow Lagoon just a few months after arriving. They have made Palmerston their home and decided this was the place to raise a family.



DEPUTY MAYOR
Damian Hale

Damian came to the Northern Territory in 1974 and has lived in Maningrida, Katherine, Darwin and Palmerston. He currently lives in the suburb of Gunn with his partner.

Damian was the former Federal Member for Solomon from 2007-2010. Since 2010 he has been the Australian Workers Union NT Organiser working predominantly on the Inpex project.



ALDERMAN
Lucy Buhr

Lucy has lived in the Northern Territory since 2008, after moving to Palmerston from Queensland. She has more than 10 years' experience in the media industry, and started her career as a print journalist working for newspapers both in the NT and QLD.

Lucy then steered her career into communications, public relations and media advising.



ALDERMAN
Amber Garden

Amber moved to the Territory from Queensland in 2003, and with her ever-supportive husband purchased a property in Farrar in 2010. She is familiar with Council meeting processes, financial reporting and requirements under the *Local Government Act* due to her background in local government administration working for the City of Darwin for the last nine years.



ALDERMAN
Benjamin Giesecke

Benjamin was born in Melbourne and grew up in Adelaide and is now centered in Palmerston, buying his first home in Moulden in 2005. He quickly found that most of his valuation work was in and around Palmerston. As a valuer, he has one of those fortunate jobs where he gets to be invited into people's homes and is able to meet a lot of people.



ALDERMAN
Sarah Henderson

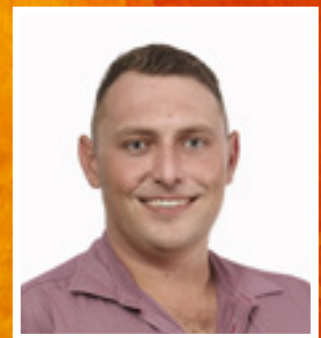
Sarah is a hardworking community advocate and businesswoman who has been an active member of the Palmerston community for three decades. With her husband, she has brought up five children in Palmerston and now her grandchildren are being raised in this community. She has been actively involved in many different Palmerston community groups over the years.



ALDERMAN
Dr Tom Lewis OAM

Tom is a teacher, author and war veteran. An NT resident for 30 years, Tom served with the Australian Defence Force in the Iraq War, and now writes history books and teaches at a local high school.

Tom lives in Durack. He is married with two daughters. In what spare time he has left he enjoys playing tournament chess.



ALDERMAN
Mick Spick

Mick lives with his wife in the suburb of Driver. His interests include all codes of footy having laced up the boots at least once to jump on the field for each code. Personal motivators include veteran's affairs, social issues and improving the local area for everyone.

OUR STAFF

As per the *Local Government Act*, Council employs a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and delegates a number of responsibilities to carry out the day to day functions of Council. The CEO is responsible for the overall administration of council affairs and works closely with the Elected Members to ensure Council goals and objectives are met. 84 staff members (77 FTEs) operate under the CEO's direction, across four Directorates known as the Executive, City Growth and Operations, Corporate Services, and Community Services.



Our Events

JUL

ANIMAL
MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL DESEXING
MONTH
NAIDOC WEEK
TERRITORY DAY

AUG

CITIZENSHIP
CEREMONY
REBOOT YOUR LOOT
SENIOR'S FORUM

SEPT

PRE-CYCLONE
CLEAN UP
THE SAPPHIRES
FLICNICS SPECIAL
EVENT
NATIONAL WATER
SAFETY WEEK
R U OK DAY
YOUTH DROP-IN
SPORTS

OCT

PRE-CYCLONE
CLEAN UP
GARAGE SALE TRAIL
CHILDREN'S WEEK
EVENT
BEATS AND CLIPS
LIBRARY YOUTH
PROGRAM
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

NOV

RECYCLING WEEK
13-19 NOVEMBER
PALMERSTON
CAROLS
WHITE RIBBON DAY

DEC

INTERNATIONAL DAY
OF PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITY (IDPWD)
CHRISTMAS TREE
LIGHTING

2017/18

JAN

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

AUSTRALIA DAY CITIZENSHIP, FLAG RAISING AND AWARDS CEREMONY

FEB

LAUNCH OF ACTIVATE 2018 PROGRAM

WORLD CANCER DAY

MAR

QUEENS BATON RELAY IN PALMERSTON

POLITE PET MONTH PARKS WEEK

NEIGHBOUR DAY

BRICK BY BRICK LEGO DISPLAY

YOUNG PRODUCERS MENTORING PROGRAM

APR

YOUTH WEEK

PALMERSTON POOL PARTY

EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TAI CHI AND YOGA IN GOYDER SQUARE

ROCK YA TEMPER MUSIC FESTIVAL

LAUNCH OF FLICNICS (6 MONTH PROGRAM)

PALMERSTON FRIDAY NIGHT MARKETS COMMENCE

MAY

VOLUNTEERS WEEK

INTERNATIONAL COMPOSTING WEEK

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK

NATIONAL WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

WARISAN BUDAYA INDONESIA FESTIVAL

1ST BREKKIE IN THE PARK (5 MONTH SERIES)

LAUNCH ACTIVATE KIDS PROGRAM

NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK ART EXHIBITION

JUN

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

SANCTUARY SESSIONS (3 EVENT PROGRAM)

PALMERSTON WOMEN'S GATHERING

GEEKFEST TOP END 2018

LAUNCH OF LIVE IN THE SQUARE PROGRAM (4 MONTHS PROGRAM)

REBOOT YOUR LOOT GARAGE SALE

PALMERSTON BEATS



Measuring our Performance

Each year, Council undertakes the Community Satisfaction Survey to determine the overall performance of Council against 14 service areas. Scores of 100 indicate the community is “satisfied” with Council. The most recent Community Satisfaction Survey was undertaken in July/August 2018.

Sections of the survey asked the community about the importance of an activity to the respondent and then what they thought about Council’s performance in that area. In the 2018 Survey 4 of 14 areas were above 100 and Council saw improvement in 11 of 14 areas compared to 2017.

In Chapters 1 though to 4, Council will report against these 14 service areas, outlining what events, projects and services were provided to respond to these priorities over the course of the year just passed as well as the individual survey results for these 14 performance areas. The latest Community Satisfaction Survey results will inform Council on key focus areas in the coming years to improve service levels and Council’s standing in the community.

Performance Table 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

		2015	2016	2017	2018
	Sample size	400	354	601	682
1.1	HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	95.78	92.76	91.09	96.00
1.2	SAFE COMMUNITIES	77.14	74.17	65.38	65.10
1.3	ARTS AND CULTURE	107.45	109.11	105.58	104.47
1.4	RECREATION	111.82	114.02	100.87	105.28
2.1	TOURISM	84.25	85.36	81.28	86.42
2.2	LOCAL BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY	82.92	86.06	77.91	78.09
2.3	CITY PLANNING	80.22	85.03	74.89	83.15
3.1	ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	91.30	93.41	94.62	96.76
3.2	ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE	106.65	109.42	104.48	106.34
3.3	WASTE	129.25	136.45	125.89	127.57
4.1	RESPONSIBILITY	75.27	80.40	66.02	73.73
4.2	SERVICE	73.18	76.80	67.50	67.23
4.3	PEOPLE	88.20	88.48	76.01	82.45
4.4	SYSTEMS	93.54	93.06	76.12	76.95





1

COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL WELLBEING

IN THIS SECTION

Healthy Communities

Safe Communities

Arts and Culture

Recreation

1.1 Healthy Communities

We are committed to providing quality health and family support services to our community.

- Healthy Lifestyle Programs
- Support and Advocacy: Families, Youth and Seniors
- Support and Advocacy: Medical Facilities and Services
- Support and Advocacy: Disability Access



Residents enjoying another fantastic Brekkie in the Park

Council offered a range of service programs and activities throughout the 2017/2018 financial year that provided the Palmerston community with opportunities to participate in active recreation and healthy lifestyle sessions.

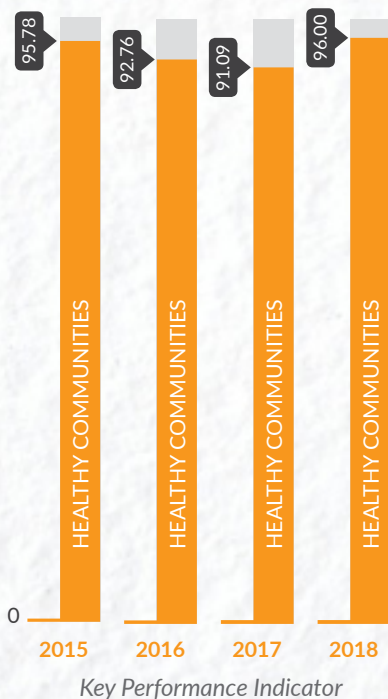
BREKKIE IN THE PARK

Brekkie in the Park aims to encourage a healthy, safe and secure community. It centres on turning strangers into neighbours and streets into neighbourhoods, making neighbourhoods safe, fun and friendly places to live. Brekkie in the Park is held for 5 months over the Dry Season on a Sunday from 8-10am, with an average of 150 people in attendance at each brekkie.

2018 marks the third year that this series has been running and Council hopes to continue bringing neighbourhoods together for many years to come. The parks explored during the 2017/18 brekkie season were; Tiverton Park in Moulden, William Kirkby Jones Memorial Park in Zuccoli, Asbuild Oval in Durack, Sanctuary Lakes in Gunn and Marlow Lagoon.

Partnerships that were created with community groups to lead the brekkies and run activities were; Palmerston and Regional Basketball Association, Palmerston Lions Club, Sand Cards NT, Kiwanis, Hockey NT, Palmerston Magpies Football Club, Fitness Within, Archery Attack, Palmerston and Rural Swimming Club, Clontarf Academy, Chris's Coffee and The Burning Circus.

The attendees were made up of children, young adults, parents, couples, grandparents and seniors. Some of these were neighbours, friends and families. At some of the parks people attended with their dogs and children came with scooters and bikes as active transport was promoted to help our community members get moving.



**OVER 379
+ 325**

ADULTS AND CHILDREN ATTENDED
CHILDREN'S WEEK EVENT



150+

AVERAGE ATTENDEES AT
BREKKIE IN THE PARK



45W

EXPANDED ACTIVATE PROGRAM FROM 8
WEEKS TO 45 WEEK PROGRAM

ACTIVATE

To encourage the community to be active all year round the much loved Activate program was expanded from an eight-week program to a 45-week program consisting of five different blocks of classes. As well as helping to improve the health outcomes within our population, Activate also aims to support and promote local active businesses by connecting them with the local community.

To further encourage our community to be healthy, health checks with a registered dietitian were offered free of charge across two sessions of each block. Participants had the opportunity to ask any diet or health related questions and receive a health assessment, so they could track their improvement over the course of the program.

The Activate Facebook page is used to promote the program as well as other health initiatives within the Council. The page has almost 1800 followers and is a popular space for communication with Activate members and suppliers. Participants can register all year and all 45 weeks of the program are free.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

As part of Mental Health week and R U OK day, Council organised a workshop to engage youth in our community with a local artist to participate in a Mental Health Youth Mural Workshop. The workshop consisted of emphasising the value and benefits of public art and identifying key components of a design process from concept development to final product.

The theme for the mural was centred around positive messages based on questions "What does art mean to you? What does mental health mean to you? What does it mean to live in Palmerston?" The youth brainstormed possible ideas, individually and then as a group, created mood boards to refine ideas and concepts and came up with a design.

On October 14, six youth along with Rian Smit the artist made their ideas a reality and transformed the wall at the rear of the Recreation Centre into a wonderful piece of art for all to appreciate.



Youth painting mural on Recreation Centre wall



Artist - Rian Smit with the Palmerston Recreation Centre mural

OUR SENIOR'S COMMUNITY

Representing 4.6% of our population, the Palmerston senior's community is very active and independent. Our seniors play an integral role in creating a vibrant and strong community through their commitment to local clubs and community groups, delivery of Senior's month events (including the Palmerston Senior's Fortnight which Council is proudly a Platinum Sponsor); and by providing community feedback to Council through avenues such as the Senior's Forum and Palmerston Senior's Advisory Committee.

PALMERSTON SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Palmerston Senior's Advisory Committee (PSAC) is an advisory group to the Council, and an advocacy body for the senior community, on issues relating to seniors in the Palmerston municipality.

Meeting every two months, the group aims to provide feedback and advice, including possible strategies, addressing the issues explored and discussed at the Annual Senior's Forum, and other issues as they are introduced throughout the year. PSAC is comprised of up to 16 Palmerston seniors, Council staff, Alderman and representatives of local members of Parliament. In January 2018, three new senior members joined the 12 existing members.

Council listened and supported the committee's request that holders of accessibility permit holders be able to park in any Council-owned car park for twice the designated duration, at no cost.



Seniors and youth enjoying the Recreation Centre facilities



Disabled parking – Pam and Marg, PSAC members

THE PALMERSTON SENIORS FORUM

This is the main annual event held in Palmerston for seniors to meet and discuss issues of concern, plus share experiences, thoughts and knowledge. It also provides an opportunity for the Palmerston Senior's Advisory Committee and Council to hear directly from our seniors.

The Palmerston Senior's Forum was held Monday 14 August 2017, to form part of Senior's Month activities and events. The special guest, Senior Australian of the Year and community champion, Sister Anne Gardiner AM, enthralled everyone with an inspiring speech. As a 22-year-old member of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Sister Anne Gardiner was asked to move to Bathurst Island to live among the Tiwi people. In the 62 years since, Sr Anne has devoted her life to enriching community, enhancing opportunity and supporting the Tiwi culture.

Attracting more than 100 senior participants, the forum was facilitated by members of Palmerston Senior's Advisory Group (now the committee, PSAC), and was the basis of consultation and community input to the Action Table that PSAC addressed during this year.

PALMERSTON AND RURAL SENIORS MONTH EVENTS

The Palmerston and Rural Seniors Month provides seniors with a range of opportunities to stay active, keep fit, try new things, meet people and stay socially connected. Senior's Month in Palmerston is also a time to celebrate the

positive aspects of ageing and thank our older residents for their commitment to the community. For many years the Palmerston and Rural Senior's Week Planning Committee coordinated special events to celebrate Senior's Month, for residents of Palmerston and surrounding rural areas. The group, now Palmerston and Rural Senior's Committee (PRSC), successfully applied in 2016 for a three-year agreement to fund this program of events. Council's Community Benefit Scheme assists the group to plan and deliver two weeks of activities for Palmerston and rural seniors during August each year.

During 2017, Senior's Month events in Palmerston took place over two weeks, between Sunday 6 and Sunday 20 August, and included a great range of events such as a RAAF Base tour, Motorcycle Rides and BBQ at Marlow Lagoon, Jumping Crocs and Corroboree Park Tavern excursion and much more.

“Our seniors play an integral role in creating a vibrant and strong community through their commitment to local clubs and community groups.”



NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK ART EXHIBITION

The Council celebrated National Families Week by the coordinating a children's art exhibition and art workshops during the April school holiday period. Over 110 entries were displayed from Tuesday 15 to Monday 21 May at the Palmerston Recreation Centre. Entries were open to all schools within the Palmerston municipality with several categories for entry including 'My Family Portrait' and 'My Favourite Memory'. Entries were received from students across five Palmerston schools including Bakewell Primary, Durack Primary, Palmerston Christian, Rosebery Primary and Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School. The exhibition was open until 8pm on Friday 18 May in conjunction with the Palmerston Markets with families welcomed to take a picture at the free photo booth.

PALMERSTON PLAY SPACE

Several activities were installed in Goyder Square near the Library and around the Water Tower in late June. The activities include a 4-Way Turn Hopscotch, Mirror Moves, Snakes and Ladders and a Sunflower Hopscotch connected by an activity trail. These play markings encourage and promote active movement for young children.

CHILDREN'S WEEK EVENT

Palmerston is a young community with 76% of its residents aged under 45, and children aged between 0-14 years making up 25.6% of the population.

Children's Week is an annual event celebrated in Australia during the fourth week in October. To support local families Council once more coordinated the establishment of an event working group, comprising of several community sector providers including The Palmerston Child and Family Centre, Kidsafe NT, Gray Family Centre and The Smith Family.

The event was held in the Palmerston Recreation Centre on October 24, 2017 and welcomed over 379 adults and 325 children. 37 stakeholders joined together to run a fun interactive event as part of the celebrations for Palmerston residents who have children aged between 0-5 years.

The stakeholders included Anglicare, Asthma Foundation NT, Australian Breastfeeding Association, Autism NT, Autism SA, Blooming Tunes, Burning Circus, Catholic Care NT, Child Australia, Danila Dilba, Crocodylus Park, Darwin Toy Library, Dept of Chief Minister, Dept of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistic, Early Childhood Australia, Good Start Early Learning, Gray Family Centre, Kidsafe NT, Larrakia Palmerston Culture Centre, NAPCAN, NT Police, Palmerston Community Care, Palmerston Child and Family Centre, Palmerston and Regional Basketball, Playgroup NT, Robertson Barracks Family Group, Royal Life Saving/Water Safety NT, and Somerville Community Services. The jumping castle, face painters, balloon twisters, tattoo artists and wild animals were a hit with children and adults alike.

DECEMBER/JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Over the course of the December-January school holidays, Palmerston Recreation Centre played host to the biggest and most successful school holiday program Palmerston has ever seen, with around 7,700 individual attendances at the school holiday programs held in the centre. The age range of attendees was 8–18 years with an average age of around 12 years, with some variation between the various programs.

Many attendees reported feeling welcome in the space and a sense of belonging, something they expressed they had not felt before and did not feel anywhere else in the community. The programs were highly successful in engaging a broad cross section of Palmerston young people and many young people considered 'at-risk' in the community.

The December-January school holiday program was delivered in a collaborative partnership between Council and the Northern Territory Government including funding from the Northern Territory Government's 'Youth Service Innovation Fund - Palmerston'.



7,700

INDIVIDUAL ATTENDANCES AT THE
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



YOUTH DROP IN SPORTS PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN COUNCIL, NORTHERN
TERRITORY GOVERNMENT AND
PALMERSTON AND REGIONAL BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION HOSTED BETWEEN 30-70
PARTICIPANTS DAILY.

“Many attendees reported feeling welcome in the space and a sense of belonging, something they expressed they had not felt before and did not feel anywhere else in the community”.





Rock Ya Temper - youth focused live music event

GEEKFEST TOP END 2018

On June 23 from 4pm to 9pm, Geekfest Top End (GTE) took over Palmerston City Centre, this year expanding to include not just Palmerston Library but also Goyder Square and Palmerston Recreation Centre. GTE is a free all ages community event which celebrates all things gaming, anime and geek culture.

The event included: virtual reality gaming, two mobile laser tag arenas, PC/console/tabletop gaming, live DJ, Esports exhibition matches, Cosplay competition and parade, Anime movie room, greenscreen photobooth, sword fighting demonstrations, body art/face painting, jumping castles, technology demonstrations, chalk art, career information, crafters corner, art stalls and various food vendors.

The inaugural GTE was held January 28, 2017 in Palmerston Library and was the first event of its kind and scale held in the Northern Territory, with over 650 people attending. GTE 2018 saw the events expansion across three venues and over 1,500 attendees through the evening. The event had broad appeal across a wide range of ages and interest groups, allowing attendees to connect with likeminded individuals and share their passions with the community in fun, safe and supportive environment.

Initial plans are underway to continue building on the success of GTE for an even bigger and better event taking over the Palmerston City Centre in 2019.

PALMERSTON BEATS

Council partnered with local music label Skinnyfish Music to support the delivery of a range of youth music events and programs in Palmerston from December 2017 to June 2018. This included the event series Palmerston Beats, taking place over five Friday nights during the December/January school holidays at the Palmerston Recreation Centre. Events included live DJ's, local and interstate guest performances including the nationally recognised NT band B2M, Caiti Baker, James Mangohig, MC Task and interstate rapper Tasmin Keith as well as a range of other local artists.

Each night of Palmerston Beats included performances from various artists and young people getting up on stage with performers and singing with them, as well as receiving lessons in DJing on stage from professional DJ's and dance lessons from Caiti Baker.

Through these events Skinnyfish made links with young people who Skinnyfish are now engaging in workshops to build skills in writing, recording and performing their own music.

There are currently very limited options in Palmerston for local young people to access live original music locally in an alcohol-free environment. There are also currently very limited opportunities for young people to be involved in creating music outside of a mainstream school environment. For many of the attendees, the Palmerston Beats event series was their first experience of live music and their first opportunity to engage meaningfully in creating music.

ROCK YA TEMPER

A youth focussed, live music event held in Goyder Square on Saturday, April 14 involved eight local bands performing original tunes and raising awareness around suicide prevention to the 200+ attendees. The event was organised in partnership between the Rock Ya Temper volunteer committee and Council.

headspace staff were involved on the day, having informal conversations with attendees and speaking to the crowd on stage during the event.

This is the first time in many years a youth focussed live music event has been held in Palmerston. The event provided a much-needed opportunity for young local residents to access live music in a safe drug and alcohol-free space as well a rare opportunity for local bands to perform in Palmerston.

YOUTH DROP-IN SPORTS PROGRAM (YDIS)

YDIS is a daily youth drop-in sports program at Palmerston Recreation Centre, which aims to provide a positive, fun and safe environment for young people of all backgrounds to participate at no cost in sport and active recreation. This program is a joint initiative between Council, Northern Territory Government and Palmerston and Regional Basketball Association (PaRBA).

The partnership delivers an after-school sports program from 3pm-5pm Monday to Thursday and 6pm-8pm Fridays from September 1, 2017 to September 1, 2018, including school holidays. The program offers access to various sports such as basketball, table tennis, ultimate frisbee, volleyball, badminton, indoor soccer and netball. PaRBA coordinates and runs the sport sessions, Council provides in-kind support of access to the Palmerston Recreation Centre and Northern Territory Government as the funding partner. YDIS continues to average up to 70 young people attending daily. Young people organise games amongst themselves with supervision and support from PaRBA staff.

1.2 Safe Communities

We are committed to ensuring the safety and security of our community.

- Animal Management
- Cyclone Disaster and Emergency Management
- Regulatory Services
- Street Lighting
- Support and Advocacy: Emergency Services
- Support and Advocacy: Crime Prevention and Law Enforcement
- Support and Advocacy: Injury Prevention

Community Safety continues to be a focus for Council and throughout 2017/2018 Council worked closely with Northern Territory Government and community organisations to implement or partner in several community awareness programs and safety initiatives aimed at reducing and preventing injuries, accidents and crime.

PALMERSTON SAFE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

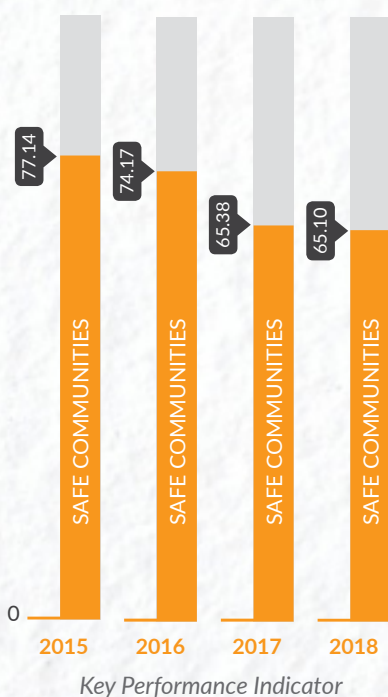
Council coordinates the Palmerston Safe Communities Committee (PSCC). We work in partnership with the NT Government, businesses and the community to reduce and prevent injuries, accidents and crime. The PSCC is committed to promoting the safety and well-being of Palmerston residents and visitors applying the World Health Organisation Safe Communities Framework in the Palmerston Municipality. The following stakeholders participate on a regular basis: CCTV Management, Community Corrections, Department of Transport, Department of Business - Compliance and Investigations, Gambling and Licensing, Jesuits Social Services, Kidsafe NT, MLAs, NAPCAN, Neighbourhood Watch, NT Legal Aid Commission, NT Police, Palmerston Family and Cultural Centre, Red Cross, Top End Health, Victims of Crime, YWCA, Domestic Violence Centre and YMCA. The group welcomed several guest speakers including a presentation about the Palmerston Regional Hospital.

WHITE RIBBON DAY

White Ribbon Day is a national event held each year on November 25 to promote the prevention of violence against women. Council prepared a promotional video of several staff taking the White Ribbon Day Oath to promote the upcoming event. The video was shared to the Council YouTube Channel and was posted on the Council Facebook page. Members of the community were encouraged to be filmed taking the White Ribbon Day Oath on November 24 in front of Palmerston Library at Goyder Square. A special photo backdrop was installed in front of Goyder Square with the event attended a Northern Territory based White Ribbon Day Ambassador.

PIPES AND DRAINS

Council proudly supported the NT Water Safety 'Stay out of Pipes and Drains' campaign. Council again provided funding to the Royal Life Saving Society Australia to support the safety promotion message. Council also supported National Water Safety Week, providing the venue and entertainment for the event which was held at the Palmerston Swimming and Fitness Centre in September.



RANGER SERVICES

Council continues its proactive approach to achieving the objective of maintaining a safe, secure and amenable environment for the Palmerston community with an ongoing focus on compliance and education as well as law enforcement.

Council also offered rebates on dog registration for obedience trained dogs, microchipped dogs and de-sexed dogs to promote responsible pet ownership. Ranger Services also regulates *Animal Management By-Laws* annual registration along with the management of lost or stray animals, and aggressive dogs.

Dog registration audits are conducted on an annual basis following the new registration deadline. Close working relationships with the community have been maintained through education programs and this includes the Animal Management Reference Group meetings conducted throughout the year.

Ranger Services are responsible for *Public Places By-Law* activities such as abandoned vehicles, untidy allotments, abandoned shopping trolleys, advertising signage and litter,

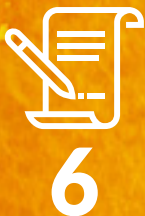
and take responsibility for traffic regulation under the *NT Traffic Act* and the *Australian Road Rules*.

Council, in conjunction with 'Brekkie in the Park', again hosted an annual free microchip and registration event at Marlow Lagoon Recreation Area which built on the previous year's successful event.

Dog health programs are conducted bi-annually at Palmerston Indigenous Village in partnership with the Animal Management in Remote and Rural Indigenous Communities (AMMRIC) and Ark Animal Hospital.

Audits of overgrown grass on vacant blocks are conducted annually towards the end of the Wet Season. Notices are sent to property owners requiring them to slash overgrown blocks that may become a fire hazard or harbour vermin.

The Ranger Services section was also involved in City Centre and suburban traffic management including timed and paid parking, loading zones, footpath obstructions and ensuring disabled parking bays were only used for the purpose they were intended. This included the enforcement of time-restricted car parking around the Palmerston Shopping Centre.



SAFE COMMUNITIES
COMMITTEE MEETINGS



PARTICIPATED IN WHITE RIBBON DAY
ACTIVITIES ON 24 NOVEMBER



5,976

DOGS WERE REGISTERED FROM
AUGUST 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018

CYCLONE DISASTER AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Cyclones are predominant in the Top End during the Wet Season and this year Palmerston faced its most challenging cyclonic event with Category 2, Tropical Cyclone Marcus making landfall on March 17, 2018. Wind gusts of up to 130kmph were recorded in the region.

The majority of the damage caused throughout the municipality by Cyclone Marcus was to trees and associated infrastructure such as footpaths. Over 500 trees fell on roads, blocking streets.

Assistance was provided by the Australian Defence Force and U.S Marine Corps shortly after the cyclone primarily to clear vegetation from roads and footpaths. In total 120 defence personnel were deployed initially to the three suburbs that had sustained the most damage by trees.

Council staff and contractors worked tirelessly to clear parks and any remaining trees from roads that required specialised



Track map of TC Marcus. Courtesy of Bureau of Meteorology website.



Australian Defence Force - Helping out with the Cyclone clean-up

equipment. Overall a total of approximately 3,500 trees on Council land were lost as a direct result of Tropical Cyclone Marcus. Council was quick to provide assistance to residents through a free green waste collection throughout the municipality. The volume of green waste collected throughout the clean-up was processed and this produced in excess of 15,000m³ of mulch.

Council offered the excess green waste mulch, created from Cyclone Marcus, free to residents from two locations within Palmerston. Over 950 vehicles that attended these sites over the weekend of April 21 and 22. A separate service was provided to seniors and people with disabilities over the week commencing May 1 which saw 71 residents receive deliveries. A second round of free mulch was conducted over the weekend of May 19 and 20 where 553 vehicles attended.

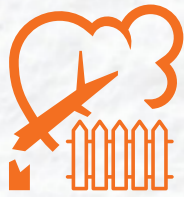
Internally, a review was conducted of Council's Cyclone Counter Disaster Plan (CCDP) and the CCDP was updated accordingly. All Council staff attend compulsory training sessions in relation to the CCDP and relevant staff form

part of Council's Cyclone Reference Group. The reference group comprises key personnel responsible for preparation and first response activities. Learnings from Cyclone Marcus will be incorporated into Council's Cyclone Counter Disaster Plan (CCDP).

PUBLIC LIGHTING

As of January 1, 2018, Council took over the ownership and maintenance of street lights from Power Water Corporation. Council is now responsible for approximately 4,000 streetlights and 700 park lights.

Through the initial implementation period, there has been continuous development of the systems and responses to reporting, auditing, assigning and completing the repairs. From this initial period, Council has adapted systems to provide a better service response moving forward and a significant improvement has occurred in the response to faults and outages. Council is enhancing the public lighting network by replacing broken lights with LED's and has commenced work on a Smart LED replacement program.



85 TREES ON FENCES



DAMAGED SHADE SAILS



15,000m³

OF GREEN WASTE PROCESSED



1,503

VEHICLES COLLECTED FREE
CYCLONE MULCH



LED MULTI-LAYERED RECOVERY EFFORT
FROM TROPICAL CYCLONE MARCUS WITH
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE, U.S MARINE
CORPS AND CONTRACTORS



1.3 Arts and Culture

We are committed to the fostering and promotion of arts and culture within our community, the awareness and promotion of our local history, and advocacy for increased cultural resources.

- Library Programs and Services
- Events
- Public Artwork
- Support and Advocacy: Arts and Culture Programs
- Support and Advocacy: Community Groups, Events and Attractions

Council aims to nurture a dynamic and participatory Arts and Culture community in Palmerston including the popular Palmerston Library.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Palmerston community has continued to enjoy the services offered by the Palmerston Library with 150,737 visitors welcomed to the Library this year. Over 13,000 people participated in Library programs including 5,639 in Children's Storytime.

HooNuit a set of online video training programs was purchased by the library. This includes on demand videos for more than 500 software training programs, including things like Microsoft Word, Excel, Social media and Adobe Photoshop. This has been used successfully for some face to face classes Council has held with Adult learners. Library patrons are also able to log on from home via the library's website and look at the courses at their own leisure.

Home Delivery Service has expanded its clientele to include a nursing home, and new members are now using this service on top of our current 12 clients who are unable to come into the Library due to illness or disability.

TRANSPARENT LANGUAGE

Transparent Language was also implemented this year. This is a complete language learning system for the independent learner featuring 100+ languages with easy to follow online tutorials.

Library members can access this from their desktop computers at home, or mobile devices anywhere there is Wi-Fi. There is also an extensive English collection for speakers of 25+ languages.

BRICK BY BRICK - LEGO DISPLAY ON CANBERRA

In March Council received a Lego exhibition 'Brick by Brick', from the National Library of Australia, designed for children over the age of four to learn about iconic buildings like Parliament house and how to build these using Lego.

Local schools were invited to attend the exhibition during school hours. The exhibition was popular with both school groups and local library members.

BEATS AND CLIPS

Beats and Clips was a 10-week program which started in October 2017 for youth aged between 12-25.

The workshop was based around making videos and short films using iPad/ Tablets and smart phones and was very popular.



13,133 

LIBRARY PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

150,737



VISITORS WELCOMED TO THE LIBRARY



HOURS PUBLIC COMPUTER USE

817



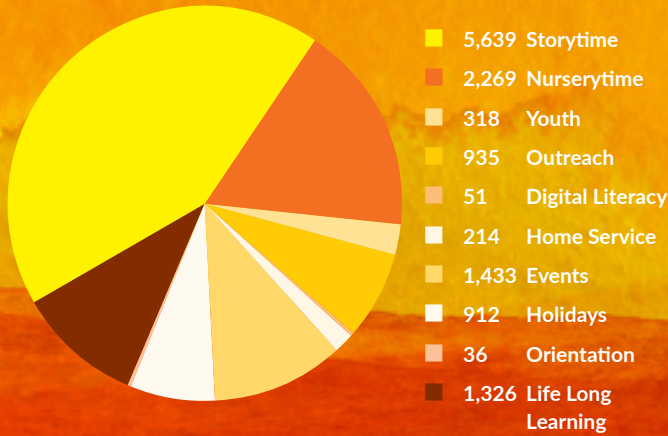
LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM
BOOKINGS


424

LIBRARY PROGRAMS DELIVERED

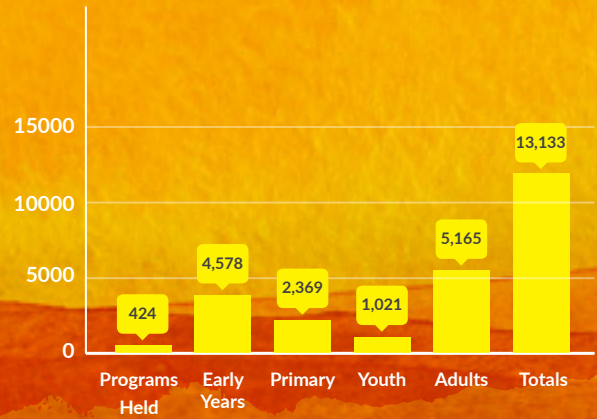
Program Attendees - All Programs

All of the programs and events that we ran during 2017/18 have been listed by program name or event.



Program Overview - Total Attendance

This graph is an overview of all the programs and events that were run in 2017/18 by age.



PALMERSTON CAROLS

Over the festive season, Council hosted the annual Palmerston Carols event for 2017 on Saturday 25 November. Located in the air-conditioned venue of the Palmerston Recreation Centre, this community Christmas celebration attracted school participation and local solo performers to celebrate the holiday season with approximately 900 people in attendance. St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc – Palmerston Cadet Division also participated in the sales of glow sticks to fundraise towards their division.

GOYDER CHRISTMAS TREE AND LIGHTING CEREMONY

Goyder Square again became home to the nine-metre-high Christmas Tree during December 2017. Renowned local artist and the tree’s designer and fabricator, Techy Masero, re-created the beautiful display of over 30,000 lights and dozens of hand crafted traditional Christmas decorations. The tree, a form of temporary public art, has become a source of community pride and Christmas spirit for Palmerston residents to celebrate and enjoy. Each year it is decorated differently to the previous and continues to enchant.

FLICNICS

Free movies under the stars at Goyder Square returned for the 2018 Dry Season from April to September to encourage families to gather together and bond over an outdoor picnic. Family movies are pre-scheduled to screen on Goyder Square TV from 7pm every Saturday evening. A comparison of the total attendees per movie from 2017 to 2018 to date is shown below. There has been a 22.5% increase of patrons attending FlicNics from 2017 to 2018 to date.



Goyder Square Public Christmas Tree display



Anita Newman, Winner of NT Australian of the Year Award

MONTH	PATRONS 2018
April	220
May	410
June	415
July	350
August	265
Total	1660

*Scheduled theme night



142

COMMUNITY MEMBERS BECAME
AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS IN PALMERSTON

AUSTRALIA DAY CITIZENSHIP AND FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

Australia Day celebrations were held on January 26, 2018 at the Palmerston Recreation Centre attracting approximately 200 special guests and Palmerston residents. Australian Defence Force - Tri Service performed the traditional raising of the Australian Flag. Thirty-five new Australians affirmed their commitment to Australia and received their citizenship certificates from the Presiding Officer Mr Mark Blackburn. Palmerston residents and guests reaffirmed their commitment to Australia by taking part in an Australian Citizenship Affirmation Ceremony. This year 142 community members became Australian Citizens in Palmerston in five ceremonies.

Anita Newman (2017 Citizen of the Year), the Australia Day Ambassador for Council, made a speech based on her life-time experiences and voluntary work she has accomplished for the Palmerston community.

Student Citizen Awards were presented by the Hon. Michael Gunner, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, and Minister for Education, Hon. Eva Lawler. Eight students from Driver Primary School, Girraween Primary School, Good Shepherd Lutheran College, Palmerston Christian School Primary and Middle and Woodroffe Primary School were presented with Student Citizen Awards.

The Australia Day Local Government Awards are divided into three categories, Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Event of the Year Awards. These awards were officially presented by Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran, Administrator of the Northern Territory and the Official Manager, Mr Mark Blackburn. Council received five nominations for each category, the winner for Palmerston Event of the Year awarded to Palmerston Cadet Division St Johns. Citizen of the Year won by Serena Dalton and Young Citizen won by Jessica Bartlett. These awards were

presented for their outstanding contribution to our community and have always been a major feature of our Australia Day Ceremony.

SHAKESPEARE AT SANCTUARY LAKES

Back by popular demand for the second year in a row, Essential Theatre's returned to Sanctuary Lakes May 5 and 6, 2018 with a new exciting live act, "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare. Over the two evenings, a combined 249 tickets were sold. Ticket holders could bring a picnic to share with their friends and families and enjoy the show within the picturesque surrounds of Sanctuary Lakes. Next year's performance will be "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

WARISAN BUDAYA INDONESIA

Council and Darwin Indonesian Women's Association (DIWA) had the opportunity to collaborate to produce another Warisan Budaya Indonesia Festival for 2018. The event was held at Goyder Square on Saturday 19 May. This year celebrations included traditional and contemporary Indonesian dances that reflected the richness and diversity of the Indonesian culture. The main performances were the Wan Sendari dancers and Fani and Ayuni Music from Bandung. Local Indonesian groups performed cultural dancers including the Papuan students from St John's College - Ombay Wandamen Dance. Five local Indonesian food stalls were available for the community to experience a taste of Indonesian cuisine. The event brought approximately 2,000 multi-cultural, Indonesian and Palmerston residents into Goyder Square to celebrate and acknowledge our cultural diversity.

YOUNG PRODUCERS MENTORING PROGRAM

It was identified that there is a need for more family-friendly music events around Palmerston. Council engaged facilitator Amy Hetherington to collaborate on the Palmerston Young Producer's Program - mentoring five young people in the skills required to produce and manage a community music event. Five young people were selected, aged from 13 and 23, all with enthusiasm for producing events of value to the Palmerston community. This has resulted in the design and programming of three afternoon concerts at Sanctuary Lakes across three months of the day season, under the moniker 'Sanctuary Sessions'.

SANCTUARY SESSIONS

Sanctuary Sessions is a series of family-friendly music events held across the Dry Season in Palmerston, sharing acoustic music from a variety of talented local musicians, food trucks, and a relaxed atmosphere. This is an initiative of the Palmerston Young Producer's Team, who are working with Council to bring live music and community events around town. Held at Sanctuary Lakes, they provide an afternoon of music, food and relaxation.

The first in a series of three was held on June 16, 2018. It shared music from artists Ellie Belle, Joy Greer, Elli Grover and Kyle Maher, and hosted food trucks - the Dreamtime Bakery and Sunshine Smoothies and Juices.

Over 200 community members enjoyed a lovely sunset by the lake with their families and even their dogs. The new fencing around Sanctuary Lakes playground provided added peace of mind to parents, and the lake provided a beautiful natural setting.



Sanctuary Sessions, Sanctuary Lakes, 16 J



Rock Ya Temper



Indonesian Daner - Warisan Budaya



June 2018



Elle Belle



Yarn Bombing in Goyder Square

1.4 Recreation

We are committed to providing quality recreation and sporting facilities, parks, gardens, playgrounds and open spaces for the benefit of our community.

- Sporting, Recreational and Leisure Facilities and Programs
- Walking and Cycling Infrastructure
- Parks, Gardens and Playgrounds
- Streetscapes and Open Spaces
- Support and Advocacy: Increased Recreational Infrastructure

Council continues to play an important role in providing quality facilities to the community including sporting facilities, community halls, parks, gardens, playgrounds, reserves and swimming pools.

PARKS WEEK

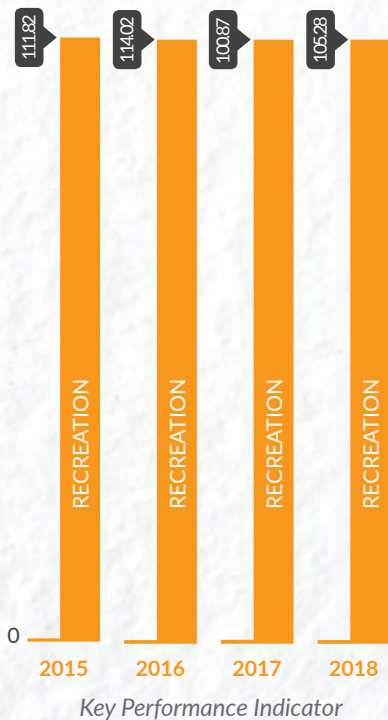
The Parks Week initiative celebrated the vital role parks play in creating liveable cities and thriving communities. Parks Week was promoted throughout the municipality from March 10 to March 16. A program highlight was the Yarn Bombing project which saw colourful pieces of knitting displayed on trees in Goyder Square which were accompanied by signage to bring awareness of Parks Week to community members. The knitted pieces were shaped by the Knit and Natter group, Our Common Threads, two art classes from Palmerston College and other members of the community. A series of social media posts were promoted through Council's Facebook page to highlight the facilities available within Council managed parks and encourage usage.

QUEENS BATON RELAY

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) is the largest sporting event that Australia has hosted for a decade. Two years in the planning, the Queen's Baton visited Palmerston on March 2, 2018, as part of Australia connecting and engaging together. Local schools, Government Departments and 19 Palmerston residents, who shared the dream by carrying the Baton throughout the streets of Palmerston, celebrated this community event at Goyder Square.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT SCHEME

Council actively supports initiatives which benefit the Palmerston community. Funds are allocated annually to enable a funding scheme which provides financial support by way of grants, donations, scholarships and sponsorships. In 2017/2018 Council issued the following community grants, donations and sponsorships, to a value of \$95,509.09 (plus in-kind support as listed):



HOSTED THE GOLD COAST COMMONWEALTH GAMES BATON RELAY

\$40,000+

PROVIDED IN-KIND SUPPORT INCLUDING \$36,000 IN RENT FOR PALMERSTON MENS SHED

Council Community Benefit Scheme Applications Approved 2017-2018

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT RECEIVED	PROJECT
Sponsorship		
Autism NT	\$1,818.18	Autism NT fundraising luncheon
Turner Marketing	\$350	Tourism IdeasFest
Special Children's' Christmas Party	\$1,000	Special Children's' Christmas Party 2017
Returned Soldiers League	\$10,000	ANZAC Day services (3 years)
United Nations Association of Australia NT Division	\$1,000	International Women's Day Event
Touch Football NT	\$13,000	Touch Football NT Titles
Palmerston and Rural Seniors Committee	\$12,000	Seniors Fortnight 2018
Cazaly's Club -Palmerston	\$30,000	NT PGA Championship 2018
SIDS and Kids NT	1,818.18	Walk 2 Remember 2018 – Sanctuary Lakes
Donations		
Camp Quality	\$1,622.73	Support of Camp Quality Radio Auction (Fundraising event)
Gray Community Garden	\$4,800	Purchase and install 2 large mahogany outdoor tables and chairs at Harvest Corner
Top End Mental Health Consumer Organisation	\$2,000	Art and promotional materials
Nepalese Association of NT	\$2,000 plus in-kind*	Nepali Language and Culture classes
11 Palmerston Schools	\$1,100	Annual School Community Awards (see table over the page)
Grants		
Wildcare Inc	\$2,000	Promotion/education bags
Palmerston 50+ Club Inc.	\$1,000	Annual Seniors Christmas Celebration 2017
Save the Children Australia	\$2,550	Purchase of art materials, speakers, ipads
Baptist Care NT	\$2,500	Food for Life program support - infrastructure
Top End Association for Mental Health Inc.	\$500	Morning Tea – Neighbour Day
Neighbourhood Watch NT	\$500	Community BBQ - Neighbour Day
Palmerston Lions	\$1,950	Purchase Community BBQ
Child Australia	\$2,000	Indoor Cubby House
TOTAL	\$95,509.09	

School Community Awards

SCHOOL COMMUNITY AWARDS		
School	Amount Awarded	Project Title
Bakewell Primary School	\$100	Annual School Awards 2017/2018
Driver Primary School	\$100	
Durack Primary School	\$100	
Good Shepherd Lutheran School	\$100	
Gray Primary School	\$100	
Palmerston Christian School	\$100	
Palmerston Senior College	\$100	
Rosebery Middle School	\$100	
Rosebery Primary School	\$100	
Forrest Parade School	\$100	
Sacred Heart Primary School	\$100	



\$30,000

TO NT PGA
CHAMPIONSHIP 2018



\$2,500

TO FOOD FOR LIFE
PROGRAM SUPPORT



\$2,000

TO CHILD AUSTRALIA
FOR AN OUTDOOR
CUBBY HOUSE



\$281,756

IN TOTAL COMMUNITY
SUPPORT



WALKING AND BIKE RIDING INFRASTRUCTURE

A network of 218km of footpaths and shared pathways is managed by Council. Maintenance is focussed around providing a safe and secure route of travel that interconnects areas of the municipality and encourages use of open spaces.

Within the last 12 months a significant amount of works have been undertaken including;

- Replacement of 845m of various pathways and resurfacing 1.45km of bituminous pathways within road reserves, parks and laneways to remove safety hazards and uneven surfaces;

- Newly construction of crossings and footpaths along Lambrick Avenue and Mannikan Court to improve access around the Bakewell Shopping Centre;
- Continuation of the footpath works within Marlow Lagoon Recreation Area to raise the level of footpaths above annual flood levels to increase usage during the Wet Seasons; and
- Ongoing maintenance and sweeping of paths.



ANNUAL SCHOOL AWARDS



IN KIND SUPPORT OF THE PALMERSTON MEN'S SHED



ORGANISATIONS/CLUBS SUPPORTED THROUGH THE PROGRAM



COMMUNITY EVENTS SUPPORTED BY COUNCIL

PARKS, GARDENS, PLAYGROUNDS, STREETSCAPES AND OPEN SPACES

The aim of the development and management of Palmerston's 171ha of Open Space is to have suitable areas for both passive and active recreation, providing a visual amenity, preservation of valuable vegetation, retention of habitats, and provision of path networks to enable pedestrian and cycling connectivity within the Municipality.

During the last 12 months, projects associated with the open spaces include:

- Fencing of Sanctuary Lakes Playground, and Haydon Park Playground;
- Safety rubber surfaces of playgrounds were replaced at Sanctuary Lakes in Gunn, Joan Fejo Park in Rosebery, and Father Gerry Rennie Park in Bellamack;

- Shade sails over playgrounds had major refurbishments or were provided at Sanctuary Lakes in Gunn, Father Gerry Rennie Park in Bellamack, Rosebery Park, Sibbald Park in Woodroffe, and Marlow Lagoon Recreation Reserve;
- Playgrounds replaced at Gager Park in Gunn, Cornwallis Park in Gray, and Shadforth Park and Royal Park in Durack;
- A public BBQ with shelter constructed at the Marlow Lagoon Dog Park;
- Ongoing upgrade of irrigation control; and
- Lightning protection of irrigation controllers.

Contracts were awarded for grounds and landscape maintenance to combined approximate value of \$1.6 million per annum.

TREE PLANTING

As a result of Tropical Cyclone Marcus, the annual tree planting schedule was interrupted. Prior to this 147 trees were planted. Approximately 3,500 trees fell on Council land which included some of the estimated 500 trees which fell on roads.

Even prior to the impact of the loss of trees with Cyclone Marcus, Council has been looking at a forward plan to increase the amount of landscape planting to encourage a greening of Palmerston and the creation of a liveable city.

Tree planting continued through the Wet Season with trees provided in Duracks Golf Course surrounds, Eric Asche Park in Farrar, Sanctuary Lakes, Marlow Lagoon Recreation Area, Ida Scott Park in Bakewell, Joan Fejo Park in Rosebery, Goyder Square, Memorial Park and various road reserves.

The Street Tree Pruning Program is continuing to clear passageways for pedestrians and vehicles, as well as checking on the health and condition of the trees.

New areas of open space are being reviewed and refined across development proposals for the Open Space section with the development of Zuccoli and Durack. Council continues to liaise with Developers in the design and construction of new open spaces intended for Council.

Farrar Boulevard was formally handed over to Council with all maintenance services now being undertaken by Council.

With the focus of future sustainability of environmental resources and financial costs, Council in collaboration with the Northern Territory Government is in the process of reviewing the use of water resources within the municipality, particularly in relation to sustainable irrigation practices.

Resources and issues involved with water including stormwater treatment, irrigation, lakes and aquifer resources are all being assessed for current practices and to meet the requirements of the ongoing and potential future use within the greater Palmerston area.

In conjunction with various Northern Territory Government departments and other Palmerston water users, Council is currently contributing towards the development of the Palmerston Aquifer Management Plan to ensure that water resources around Palmerston are more effectively managed to ensure future sustainability of the environment.



OVER 500 FALLEN TREES ON ROADS
DUE TO TROPICAL CYCLONE MARCUS





COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Council staff administer bookings for five community facilities. Bookings for several community facilities, including the Palmerston Recreation Centre, and equipment have 'gone online'; others are facilitated by direct contact with relevant staff.

The facilities include:

Gray Hall

Corner Essington Avenue and Victoria Drive, Gray

This facility has a large, open area with a wooden floor, which is popular with dancing and exercise groups. The Harvest Corner Community Garden, which wraps around both sides and back of the hall, provides a sheltered area with garden views. Carparks at front and rear, plus a near-by bus stop provide good access.

Long-term users are predominantly seniors' community groups and not for profit organisations. Other users include families holding celebrations.

Driver Family Resource Centre

29 Driver Ave, Driver

This facility was designed as a preschool and the large yard is well-fenced for children's security. Trees and verandah provide areas for sheltered play. A small carpark at front and near-by bus stop provide access.

Long-term users, across six days, are predominantly community groups - including three morning playgroups and a church congregation. The lead tenant is Red Cross Australia, which operates from offices at the venue.

Joy Anderson Centre

25 Dillon Circuit, Gray

This facility is leased by Council from Territory Housing, which is responsible for major maintenance.

Joy Anderson Centre is a house that is provided by Council to Alzheimer's Australia NT to run programmes for adults with dementia in a homely, safe environment. The long-running JAC Craft Group attends each week to hold a social art and crafts session and socialises with the other tenants. The lead tenants worked with other organisations to develop a dementia-friendly garden, partly sponsored by Council.

Council does not offer the space to other


groups, to maximise comfort and security of the lead tenants.

Palmerston Recreation Centre

11 The Boulevard, Palmerston

This facility offers a stadium consisting of two courts suitable for team games such as basketball, netball and inline hockey, plus two large community rooms. A small meeting room and large foyer with comfortable seating, enable people to use the space for a variety of purposes. Centrally located, extensive car parking and proximity to the bus station ensure accessibility.

Long-term users of the stadium include local sporting teams. Community events, displays, meetings and recreational activities also take place in both the stadium and community rooms.



72,219

VISITORS TO THE RECREATION CENTRE



6,299hrs

TIME SPENT AT THE RECREATION CENTRE
BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS



3,617

BIGGEST EVENT - SPORTS NIGHTS

PALMERSTON RECREATION CENTRE USAGE					
Number of hours booked	6299.5				
Number of attendees	Total	72219			
	Community Rooms	23441			
	Stadium	48778			
Biggest events	Seniors Expo	900			
	Geekfest	1500			
	Sports Nights (Christmas)	3617			
	COP Christmas Carols	900			
Number of people who used the website to book	1536				
	Jul - Sep 2017	Oct - Dec 2017	Jan - Mar 2018	Apr-Jun 2018	YTD
Number of hours	980.5	1,732.25	1,878	1,708.75	6,299.5
Number of visits	7,057	22,202	22,276	20,684	72,219
Revenue	\$19,644.40	\$32,925.03	\$39,685.97	\$39,710.00	\$131,965.40

The Heights, Durack Community Centre
33 Packard Avenue, Durack

Designed to provide a practical work space for performing and visual artists, art tuition and crafting groups, this facility has a lovely outlook to the lake.

A range of features, both fixed and mobile, support practitioners to encourage cultural growth, social interaction, creativity and participation in the arts.

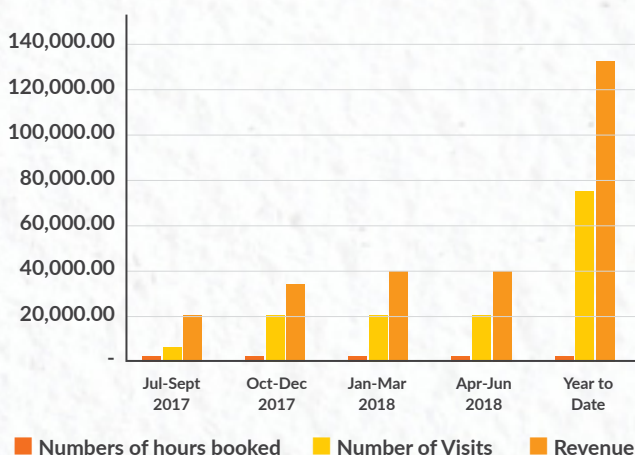
Marketing the purpose-built art centre to encourage use of the facility by the wider community, including more individuals or groups of friends working on their own art and craft practices, has been undertaken.

Currently the spaces are utilised mostly by tutors with small, subsidised classes. Ideally the space will also begin to be used by more individuals or groups of friends working on their own art and craft activities.

In-kind support provide through Council Facilities

During the 2017-2018 year Council supported not-for profit and community organisations to access Council facilities by providing in-kind support via discounting or waiving hire fees.

Recreation Centre Usage



VENUE	INKIND VALUE
Palmerston Recreation Centre	\$83,805.00
Gray Community Hall	\$25,112.00
Driver Family Resource Centre	\$36,088.00
Joy Anderson Centre	\$3,952.00
Palmerston Library	\$1,290.00
Palmerston Men's Shed	\$36,000
TOTAL FACILITY IN-KIND SUPPORT	\$186,247.00



GRANTS AWARDED TO
ARTS AND CULTURE



GRANTS AWARDED TO
SPORT AND RECREATION



GRANTS AWARDED TO
SAFE COMMUNITIES



GRANTS AWARDED TO
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



GRANTS AWARDED
TO TOURISM



The Heights, Durack cCommunity Centre





2

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

IN THIS SECTION

Tourism

Local Business and Industry

City Planning

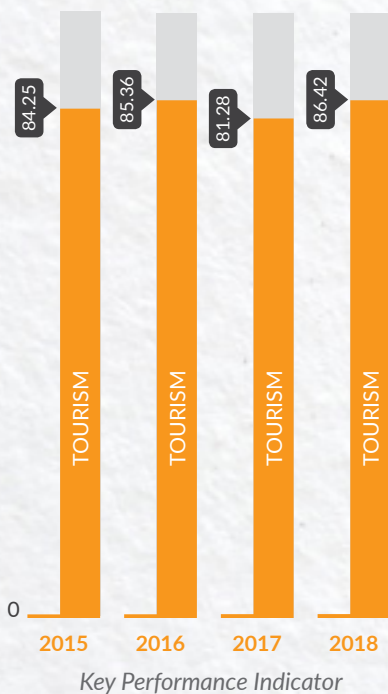
2.1 Tourism

We are committed to supporting tourism throughout our region.

- Town and Business Signage
- Accommodation
- Support and Advocacy: Tourism Organisations and Operators
- Support and Advocacy: Government initiatives

Although Council does not play a primary role in the tourism industry, it seeks to influence and facilitate the growth of tourism through advocacy and support, as well as ensuring that bylaws related to town and business signage, car parking strategies and recreational infrastructure allow for growth.

Palmerston is a young city, and as such, is seeking to become a destination for visitors rather than just a residential area. Initiatives such as the Economic Development Plan will ensure that Palmerston is positioned to take advantage of organic opportunities such as its proximity to Kakadu and Litchfield National Parks, Daly River Region, Mary River Wetlands and Arnhem Land as a provider of accommodation, dining and retail for people wishing to take advantage of fishing, camping, bush walking, four-wheel driving and other sightseeing opportunities.



THE GOYDER SQUARE TV

The Goyder Square TV is a large format screen mounted on the Palmerston Library, which continues to communicate with and attract residents and visitors to Palmerston's City Centre. Events such as Flicnics which attract people into the City Centre have seen a 22.5% growth in attendance. Community groups are encouraged to approach Council to produce tailored and professional advertisements for their events and service offerings.

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Council continued its ongoing support for the Northern Territory PGA Championship by providing \$30,000 sponsorship. This four-day golfing tournament generates an estimated \$1.5 million in local economic benefits from visiting competitors, officials, families and friends. This represents a return on investment of \$50 of local expenditure for every \$1 invested.

2018 BMX AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SERIES

On June 23, Satellite City BMX Club hosted the third round of the 2018 BMX Australia National Series with 200 participants plus family and supporters descending on Palmerston. Council is proud to support Satellite City BMX Club and according to BMX Australia the overwhelming vibe at the event was 'How good is this venue', with many riders arriving early to get in some sightseeing and practice. Palmerston looks forward to welcoming our visitors again in 2019.



2.2 Business and Industry

We are committed to ensuring local businesses and industry receive the support they need in order to grow and prosper within our region.

- Transport Infrastructure
- Local Purchasing and Procurement
- Support and Advocacy Government Funding Initiatives
- Support and Advocacy: Training and Employment Initiatives
- Support and Advocacy: Industry Organisations

Council recognises that in order to support local business and industry and to promote continual growth it needs to effectively communicate its strategies and initiatives. Council needs to partner with local business groups to influence the growth of the city. In this spirit, Council continues to support local business organisations such as the Palmerston Regional Business Association, Property Council and Urban Development Institute of Australia and work on improving partnerships.

LOCAL PROCUREMENT

Council makes every effort to utilise local suppliers and to ensure locally based businesses and industries are given an opportunity to participate in quotation or tender processes.

Council recently adopted revised Council *Policy FIN04 Procurement* with a 20% local supplier criteria weighting to be applied to ensure value for Palmerston from procurement activities. In the last financial year 90% of Council's expenditure occurred in the region resulting in \$27.1 million being spent in the Northern Territory.





2.3 City Planning

We are committed to effective and responsible city planning which balances and meets both residential and commercial needs in our community.

Council City
Centre Master Plan Implementation

Public Land Use

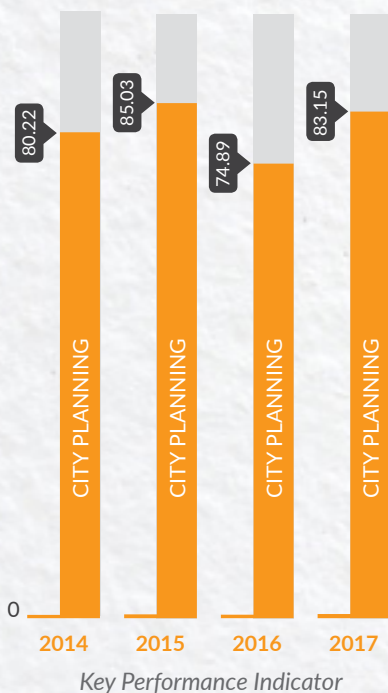
Support and Advocacy: NT
Government Planning and
Development Control

Local Government in the Northern Territory does not have planning authority, unlike in other states around Australia.

Council responds to all planning applications presented to the Palmerston division of the Development Consent Authority as well as Liquor Licence applications presented to the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation. This year, Council responded to 42 development applications.

Council responds as both a responsible authority under the *Local Government Act* and as community advocate. Council continues to work with the Northern Territory Government and developers across the municipality.

This year Council saw continued growth with 265 new rateable properties created.









3

ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

IN THIS SECTION

Environmental Sustainability

Assets and Infrastructure

Waste

3.1 Environmental Sustainability

We are committed to actively protecting and enhancing the environmental assets and infrastructure of the Council, while supporting local businesses and industry in sustainable land use.

- Climate Change Impact Reduction
- Greenhouse Emissions Measurement and Reduction
- Energy and Water Resource Management Initiatives
- Support and Advocacy: Planning and Development Controls
- Support and Advocacy: Community Action, Education and Organisations
- Support and Advocacy: Conservation and Biodiversity

Council continues to experience strong growth and development. Part of maintaining the balance between the natural and developed environment is focusing on environmental initiatives to ensure that Council protects the environment and sustainably manages growth.

ENVIRONMENT

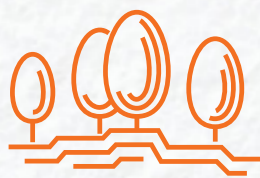
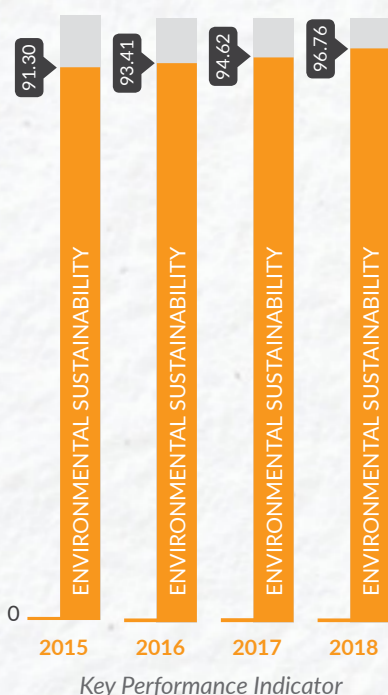
The implementation of the final year of the *Sustainability Strategy 2013-2018* included various activities such as Council’s participation in the Mobile Muster (recycling of old unwanted mobile phones), Close the Loop (recycling of printer cartridges), Sustainability Week and World Environment Day. Council also engaged with local organisations and schools through a variety of opportunities during the year.

Council will shortly begin a review of the *Sustainability Strategy 2013-2018*. This will review the strategy which was developed to enable Council to achieve excellence in the management of environmental and climate change responsibilities and to work with the community to enable a sustainable future for the city as a whole.

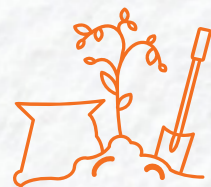
ARCHER LANDFILL REHABILITATION

The Archer Landfill Rehabilitation project has progressed well this year with Stage 2 almost at completion. Stage 2 was the largest component of the project with a surface area of approximately 106,000m². To put this in perspective, this section of the site could accommodate almost five football fields the size of the MCG on it. So far this project has remediated 167,500m².

Over 97,000m³ of material (soils) was used on this section of the site bringing the total to date for Stage 1 and 2 to just over 154,000m³. This is equivalent to 220,528 standard box trailer loads of soil.



STAGE 2 OF ARCHER LANDFILL REHABILITATION PROJECT ALMOST COMPLETED WITH 5 TIMES THE SURFACE AREA OF THE MCG REMEDIATED



PARTICIPATED IN WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY AND INTERNATIONAL COMPOSTING WEEK

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PROJECT

Council was successful in obtaining grant funding through the Northern Territory Environmental Protection Agency to promote awareness throughout our community about the health of our wildlife and waterways. Signage was installed at Sanctuary Lakes that provides information about the importance of not feeding wildlife and the potential harm it may cause. This includes not only the native species that occupy the area but also the aquatic life that inhabits the lakes and the affect this may have on the water quality in the lakes.

Following on from this, Council teamed up with Parks and Wildlife and Ark Animal Hospital to better manage the duck population at Sanctuary Lakes. There were non-native ducks occupying the area and a collaborative decision was made to capture and remove these ducks. A total of 10 non-native ducks were removed and after a thorough vet check, all were rehomed.

BARRAMUNDI FINGERLING RELEASE

Three fishing permitted signs were also installed at three locations in Durack. These three lakes have fishing platforms and in collaboration with Northern Territory Government and Northern Territory Fisheries, these lakes are stocked with Barramundi to allow residents to have a venue for land based recreational fishing activities. These signs assist anglers with best practice guidelines on how to safely release fish back into the lake and also has information relating to keeping harmful chemicals out of our waterways, the importance of placing litter in bins and contact numbers for the public should they sight any unusual fish or aquatic plants in the lakes.

The ongoing joint project between the Council, Northern Territory Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries saw the release of another 1,500 barramundi fingerlings in three of our Durack Lakes and Sanctuary Lakes. This is the third successful release of the fingerlings and allows residents the opportunity to catch a Barra without the need to hook the boat! The program complements Council's initiatives directed at maintaining healthy waterways throughout the municipality and provides inclusive recreational activities for residents and visitors alike.



New Signage



Barramundi Fingerling release

 **1,500**

BARRAMUNDI FINGERLINGS RELEASED INTO DURACK LAKES FOR 'CATCH AND RELEASE' FISHING



Tony Sivers MLA with Mayor, Athina Pascoe-Bell



SOLAR AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Council has commenced the roll out of energy efficiency improvements with the procurement of a solar panel system consisting of over 300 rooftop photovoltaic (PV) panels for the Palmerston Library in the form of a 99kw system.

The Library was identified as the preferred first PV project for Council, following a review of major Council assets earlier in the year, which took into consideration power consumption, condition of the asset, and installation requirements.

During the year, Council approved investigating additional renewable energy efficiency projects for Council owned assets, including improving efficiency of buildings and facilities with an aim to reducing emissions and energy costs.

REBOOT YOUR LOOT

This event is an environmentally sustainable way to recycle, reuse or declutter your preloved goods to a new home. Reboot Your Loot aims to reduce waste to landfill, fundraise for a cause and engage with people.

Council hosted two Reboot Your Loot Car Boot Sales in Council's main carpark in the Dry Season and one as part of the National Garage Sale Trail during the Wet Season in the Palmerston Recreation Centre.

RECYCLING WEEK, NOVEMBER 13 - 19

Three art and craft workshops utilising recycled textiles and other recycled/repurposed materials, facilitated by Darwin Community Arts Inc, were held in the Recreation Centre on November 13, 14 and 15, 2017.

INTERNATIONAL COMPOSTING WEEK, MAY 6 - 12

On May 12 gardeners from the Harvest Corner (*Gray Community Gardens*) hosted a composting workshop at the garden, located beside Gray Community Hall, in Confalonieri Park, Gray.

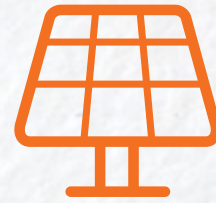
A second composting factsheet; ideas for building composting bins at home, was developed by the gardeners and Council. Both this and the original information sheet are now available on Council's website.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - JUNE 5

The theme for World Environment Day 2018 was 'plastic pollution' – specifically, reducing both the use of plastic products and the detrimental effects plastic rubbish and pollution has on the environment. Single-use plastic items such as bags and containers are a major source of dangerous and damaging pollutants in many habitats.

The 2018 slogan is – “If you can’t reuse it – refuse it!” Council shared an entertaining and empowering video “Break Up with Single-Use Plastic” on Facebook and Goyder Square TV, plus a few very simple tips to help Palmerston residents reduce their use of single-use plastic items.

Our Common Threads tutors (*operating at Durack Heights Community Centre*) agreed to help people with sewing recycled/reusable shopping bags to avoid plastic bags while shopping.



COMMENCED PROCUREMENT
OF COUNCIL'S FIRST ROOFTOP
PV SOLAR SYSTEM



New Solar panels being installed onto the Library

3.2 Assets and Infrastructure

We are committed to maintaining and developing community assets and infrastructure which meet the needs of our community.

- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths and Car Parking
- Council Buildings and Facilities
- Stormwater Infrastructure
- Support and Advocacy: Traffic Management and Road Safety
- Support and Advocacy: Territory and Federal Infrastructure and Land

Council maintains \$710 million worth of diverse infrastructure assets on behalf of the community and is continually aiming to achieve an acceptable level of maintenance and service to ensure a sustainable outcome both now and into the future. A strategic approach to asset management ensures that Council delivers an appropriate level of service through its assets.

STORMWATER AND DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE

Stormwater and drainage are critical for Council. Besides the large infrastructure costs of the system, the safety aspects of flooding and risk to public remains a priority to Council. Also, with the level of development and urbanisation within Palmerston, the quality of water within the environment is also a consideration.

Drainage infrastructure ranges from open drains (either grassed or concrete lined), subsurface drainage pipes, pits, culverts, bridges (road and footbridges), and water treatment devices such as lakes. The drainage infrastructure is distributed through the entire municipality including roads, open spaces and recreation areas.

There is an ongoing inspection regime undertaken by Council to assess the drainage infrastructure not only for damage and structural integrity, but a high level of focus upon the public safety around the infrastructure, especially during potential flood events in the Wet Season. Safety aspects include access to open drains whilst in flood, safe pedestrian access, restricting potential access in to subsurface pipe drains and pits, and reducing the potential for flooding into private properties.

A priority is given to any potential issues noted during inspections. Necessary repair and upgrades works are scheduled throughout the year, but especially prior to commencement of the Wet Season.

Within the last 12 months, works on drainage infrastructure has included;

- Replacement of 31 stormwater pit lids and reinstatement of 20 dislodged lids;
- Permitted connection of 260 private lot developments to the Council's stormwater infrastructure; and
- Repair of 20 secure stormwater pits to meet safety requirements.

CAR PARKS

Council is responsible for various public off-street car parking throughout Palmerston. Outside the City Centre, these mainly are associated with Council owned properties such as community halls, recreational parks and the Palmerston Swimming and Fitness Centre. Ongoing works generally are pavement and lighting repairs and maintenance with a program of sweeping of areas.



Within the City Centre, Council is responsible for 742 parking spaces. With the implementation of paid parking meters, these Council parks are now either regulated under enforced time regulations, or the ticketed paid for parking areas.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Council maintains nine buildings and facilities. Regular audits and testing is carried out throughout the premises to check the safety, compliance and performance of the fires services, electrical devices and systems, security (including alarms and CCTV) pest control and air conditioning systems.

To improve safety and security, additional CCTV was installed in Civic Plaza, Palmerston Library, Palmerston Recreation Centre, and Palmerston Swimming and Fitness Centre in addition to existing security measures in the facilities.

Ongoing maintenance also includes painting, replacement of air conditioning and lighting systems.



611

REPAIRED POTHOLES



188

NEW CONSTRUCTED DRIVEWAYS



108

FREE CITY CENTRE COUNCIL
PARKING SPACES

TRANSPORT

Council owns and maintains 21.6km of road network. Council constantly monitors its roads and carries out necessary maintenance activities to rectify any identified defects.

Major highlights of works carried out on roads include:

- Upgrade of Yarrawonga Road (North) and Wallaby Hotze Road;
- Profiled and asphalted 1.39km of road and spray sealed 1.2km of road under yearly reseal program;
- Reconstructed 402m² of road;
- Repaired 611 potholes;
- Replaced 175 damaged signs and repaired 205 vandalised road signs;
- Undertook sweeping of all the roads on four monthly basis for all minor and local access roads and quarterly basis for all sub-arterial and collector roads.; and
- Installed Electronic Speed Check Sign along Driver Avenue in front of Driver School to warn motorists if they are speeding in School Zone.

Besides Roads, Council also owns and maintains driveways on Council verge across the municipality. Major highlights of works carried out on driveways include:

- Constructed 188 new driveways and issued permits to private builders to construct 129 new driveways in new developments;
- Carried out repair works on 22 damaged driveways in various locations; and
- Resurfaced 16 bituminous driveways in Marlow Lagoon.

3.3 Waste

We are committed to providing comprehensive and effective waste management services to our community.

Kerbside Waste Collection and Recycling
Hard and Green Waste Facilities
Support and Advocacy: Recycling, Re-Use and Minimisation
Support and Advocacy: Education Initiatives

Residents continue to highly regard the waste collection and management services Council offers including kerbside collection, recycling, Pre-Cyclone Cleanup, and Archer Waste Management Facility.

KERBSIDE

Council continues to offer a twice weekly general waste kerbside collection and a fortnightly recycle kerbside collection for single dwellings. Unit complexes have four collections per week for general waste and a weekly recycle collection. Our aim is to reduce the amount of waste that we send to landfill.

Council provided waste collection services to over 13,000 households this year which equated to 1,207,137 bins being collected. Customer requests in relation to waste were up this year to just over 2,000. These included replacement of stolen or damaged bins, missed collections or new connections.

Of the 9,500 tonnes of waste that was recorded from kerbside collections, approximately 1,425 were recycled.

In 2016/2017 the monthly average kerbside waste going to landfill was 683 tonnes. In 2017/2018 that figure decreased to 669 tonnes.

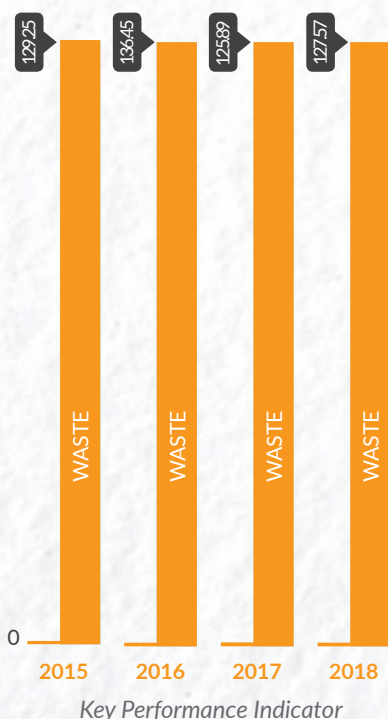
Similarly, the 2016/2017 monthly average for recyclables was 132 tonnes. In 2017/2018 this figure also decreased to a monthly average of 126 tonnes. In the coming year Council will increase education about recycling and waste management to minimise the amount of waste going to landfill.

ARCHER WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

Council operates the Archer Waste Management Facility which is located off Elrundie Avenue in the suburb of Archer. Entry to the facility is free to Palmerston residents for non-commercial waste. Archer Waste Management Facility operates under an Environmental Protection Licence and is able to accept a wide range of recyclable products. This includes paper and cardboard, glass, plastics, whitegoods, steel and metal, gas bottles, engine oil, paint, car batteries, small electronics, aluminium cans and green waste. There is also provision to drop off general household waste. This year almost 8,800 tonnes of waste was deposited at the facility. 33% of this waste was recycled and 14% was green waste which was also able to be recycled.

PRE-CYCLONE CLEAN UP

Each year Council holds an annual clean up prior to the commencement of the upcoming cyclone season. This encourages residents to have a look around their yards to see if there are items that are no longer of use that could potentially become airborne during a severe storm or cyclonic event. Residents are able to place the items on their verge for collection by Council contractors. There are two rounds conducted each year, the first in early September for those suburbs on the western side of the city and the second round in early October for the eastern suburbs.





Last year over 128 tonnes of material were collected from across the municipality. Almost 28% of the material was recyclable and included items such as old BBQ's, lengths of building material, old pieces of children's play equipment such as swing sets and trampolines and garden furniture.

128t 

OF WASTE COLLECTED AS PART OF THE ANNUAL PRE-CYCLONE CLEANUP

1,425t 

RECYCLED WASTE



Residents taking advantage of Cyclone Clean-Up





4

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

IN THIS SECTION

Responsibility

Service

People

Systems

4.1 Responsibility

We are committed to corporate and social responsibility, the sustainability of Council assets and services and the effective planning and reporting of Council performance to the community.

- Elected Member Accountability to the Community
- Governance, Strategy, Legislation and Policy
- Business Planning and Performance Reporting Frameworks
- Financial Sustainability and Asset Management
- Risk Management and Workplace Health and Safety

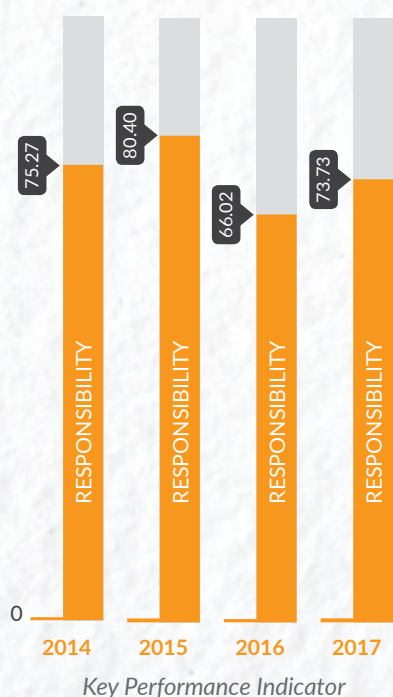
On the June 29, 2017, the Minister for Housing and Community Development Gerry McCarthy placed the Council under official management and appointed Mark Blackburn as the Official Manager. Elected Members and standing Committees being the Governance and Organisation, Community, Culture and Environment, and Economic Development and Infrastructure were suspended as a result of this decision with all officer reports being presented to the Ordinary Meetings of Council. In late January 2018 Minister Gerry McCarthy dismissed the Council following an independent investigation and report into Council.

Council elections were held in August 2017 for all local authorities in the Northern Territory, however as Official Manager, Mark Blackburn performed the functions of Mayor and Elected Members until the 9th Council was sworn in on April 3, 2018, following elections which were delayed until March 24, 2018.

ELECTED MEMBER ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE COMMUNITY

Athina Pascoe-Bell was elected as the Mayor of the Council and the following people were elected as Aldermen: Lucy Buhr, Amber Garden, Benjamin Giesecke, Damian Hale, Sarah Henderson, Dr Tom Lewis OAM and Mick Spick. Total Meetings held in 2017/2018 were 23 with five meetings and seven workshops held following the Council elections on March 24. Prior the the elections Mark Blackburn as Official Manager attended all Council meetings.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on April 17, 2018, Alderman Hale was elected Deputy Mayor. Council resolved to rotate the Deputy Mayor position every five months and approved the chair of a Council meeting to have a casting vote.



COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE	
Elected Member	Attended
Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell	4/5
Deputy Mayor Damian Hale	4/5
Alderman Lucy Buhr	4/5
Alderman Amber Garden	3/5
Alderman Benjamin Giesecke	5/5
Alderman Sarah Henderson	5/5
Alderman Dr Tom Lewis OAM	4/5
Alderman Mick Spick	5/5

At the Ordinary Meeting of May 1, 2018, Council resolved to abolish its standing Committees being the Governance and Organisation, Community, Culture and Environment and Economic Development and Infrastructure and rescind Council Policy MEE02 Committees of Council. In that meeting, Council also established the following Executive Committees and made the following appointments:

- Administrative Review Committee (ARC)-Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell (Chair), Aldermen Benjamin Giesecke and Alderman Mick Spick.
- Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee (CEOPAC)-Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell, the serving Deputy Mayor and Alderman Dr Tom Lewis OAM.
- Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC)-Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell, Alderman Amber Garden and Alderman Sarah Henderson

Council also has a number of Advisory Committees that Alderman are members of including:

- Palmerston Seniors Advisory Committee-Alderman Dr Tom Lewis OAM (Chair) and Alderman Sarah Henderson.
- Palmerston Safe Communities Committee-Deputy Mayor Damian Hale (Chair).
- Palmerston Animal Management Reference Group-Alderman Amber Garden (Chair).
- Palmerston Australia Day Awards Selection Panel-Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell and the serving Deputy Mayor.

Elected Members actively participate in external organisations and committees including:

- Local Government Association of the Northern Territory

(LGANT)-Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell, Alderman Lucy Buhr and Alderman Sarah Henderson.

- Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC) - Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell.
- Tourism Top End - Alderman Sarah Henderson.
- Palmerston Regional Business Association (PRBA) - Alderman Benjamin Giesecke.
- Palmerston Division of the Development Consent Authority (DCA) - Alderman Benjamin Giesecke and Alderman Sarah Henderson.

Periodically, discussions and decisions made by Council are done in sessions closed to the public, as required by the *Local Government Act* and associated Regulations. Council is committed to ensuring there are time limits placed on confidential matters and that wherever possible these decisions are brought into the open and accessible by the public.

During the last financial year Council considered 253 reports of which 46 were confidential. Council also considered several other confidential matters which meant a total of 50 confidential items were considered by Council. The following chart shows the number of confidential items and the reasons they were confidential.



AWARDED TENDERS
WORTH \$6,756,044



COUNCIL REPORTS
CONSIDERED



COMMISSIONED 9TH COUNCIL
FOLLOWING ELECTIONS ON
MARCH 24, 2018

NUMBER OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS		50
Grounds for Exclusion		
(a) Information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the Council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual;		1
(b) Information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;		19
(c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:		
(i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person		4
(ii) prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law		0
(iii) prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff		0
(iv) prejudice the interests of the council of some other person;		11
(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity;		7
(e) information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential.		15

Seven (7) Confidential items required the use of more than one Confidential Clause.

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

Providing a safe workplace is a high priority for Council, which continues to stress the importance of Work Health and Safety amongst staff. The Work Health and Safety Committee consisting of Council staff meets on a regular basis and involves employees from a variety of business units. Council places a high value on the safety of staff and monitors and responds to safety incidents to ensure any learnings inform future policy and processes.

51 incidents and accidents occurred in 2017/18. A majority of these incidents relate to abuse of staff and public nuisance. In response to these incidents, Council has increased CCTV coverage in Council facilities and provided training for staff on dealing with confrontational situations. Council also provides support and counselling services to all staff.

INFORMATION AND PRIVACY

Council believes that the responsible handling of personal information is a key aspect of democratic governance and is strongly committed to protecting an individual's right to privacy. Council's Privacy Statement is available on our website, www.palmerston.nt.gov.au and it outlines Council's approach to protecting privacy and complying with our obligations under the *Information Act* (the Act). Council will

only use personal information within Council, or disclose it outside Council, for the purpose for which it was collected or as allowed under the Act. As part of Council's Open Data releases and policy planning, some de-identified information may be released but not in a way that reduces privacy. Council may also disclose personal information to our contractors for the purpose of carrying out their duties, for example if you request for work to be carried out, such as repairs to a driveway or footpath outside your house, Council may ask the contractor to contact you to arrange a suitable time or seek further information.

An important part of the Act is the ability for members of the public to make application for personal information about themselves, and/or access information about Council's operations and decision-making process. These requests are known as Freedom of Information (FOI) requests and are a key component of transparent and open government. Where requests are not in conflict with privacy principles protecting other members of the community or other exemptions found in the Act, these requests are met as quickly as possible. Members of the public can seek reviews of decisions made in response to FOI requests through Council and the Information Commissioner. The following table shows the total number of requests dealt with in 2017/18:

CATEGORY	NUMBER OF REQUESTS ACTIONED 2017/18
Access to Personal Information held by Council	0
Access to Other Information held by Council	12

OMBUDSMAN REQUESTS

Members of the public can make requests or seek redress for grievances through the office of the Northern Territory Ombudsman. Council assists with these requests and considers any findings to improve our processes. In the 2017/18 financial year, Council handled six requests from the Northern Territory Ombudsman.

TENDERS AWARDED

Under Regulation 28 of the *Local Government (Accounting) Regulations*, Council must seek tenders for contracts estimated to be worth more than \$100,000 unless exceptions in Regulation 30 apply. The table below lists the tenders awarded in the 2017/18 financial year.

CONTRACTOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	DATE AWARDED	CONTRACT AWARDED
Aldebaran Contracting	Archer Landfill Rehabilitation - Stage 2	4/7/17	\$2,312,270.00
Paradise Landscaping (NT) Pty Ltd	Grounds Maintenance - Palmerston East	4/7/17	\$303,355.21
Paradise Landscaping (NT) Pty Ltd	Grounds Maintenance - Palmerston West	4/7/17	\$417,601.45
Adventure Plus	Playground Refurbishment - Various Locations	18/7/17	\$180,000.00
JLM Civil Works Pty Ltd	Yarrowonga and Wallaby Holtze Road Upgrade	19/9/17	\$1,058,389.64
Nighcliff Electrical	Electrical Contract	3/10/17	\$1,034,260.86
Sterling Property Services	Landscape Maintenance - Area 1 - Durack and Marlow Lagoon	3/10/17	\$241,289.74
Sterling Property Services	Landscape Maintenance - Area 2 - Bakewell, Farrar, Gunn and Yarrowonga	3/10/17	\$250,308.08
Sterling Property Services	Landscape Maintenance - Area 3 - Driver, Gray, Moulden and Woodroffe	3/10/17	\$189,051.96
Sterling Property Services	Landscape Maintenance - Area 4 - Rosebery, Bellamack, Johnston and Zucolli	3/10/17	\$191,457.62
Downer EDI Works	Reseal Various Roads 2017/2018	21/11/17	\$477,760.89
TS Constructions NT	Fire Protection Services - Palmerston Library	1/3/18	\$100,299.00

RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Risk Management and Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing corporate governance, particularly controls over revenue, expenditure and assets of Council.

Throughout the 2017/18 financial year, the Risk Management and Audit Committee met a total of four times. Some of the tasks undertaken by the Committee in the 2017/18 financial year were approving the 2016/17 financial statements, providing advice on the review of Council policies, endorsing the Risk Management and Internal Audit Framework, and providing recommendations on the appointment of Council's external auditors for the next 3 years.

Council has recently appointed renowned firm KPMG to provide internal audit services for Council and in the forthcoming year they will review Council's risk and develop comprehensive internal audit plans for Council's functions focussing on the greatest risks initially.

COUNCIL LOAN BORROWINGS

Council must seek Ministerial approval for any loan borrowings. Approval has previously been sought and granted for a \$2 million loan to fund the Archer Landfill Rehabilitation, however this was not drawn down this financial year.

“Council believes that the responsible handling of personal information is a key aspect of democratic governance and is strongly committed to protecting an individual's right to privacy.”



4.2 Service

We value and encourage participation in Council activities by the community and are committed to delivering the highest possible levels of service and community engagement.

- Customer Service Standards
- Community Engagement and Voter Participation
- Governance and Participation on Council Advisory Groups
- Open Government and Transparency Initiatives

Council continues to look for opportunities to enhance the customer experience for our community. Everyone in our organisation will directly serve our customers, or support someone who does, by providing internal customer service. Council will continue to look for opportunities to train staff in the importance of professional, responsive and personalised service to ensure we deliver the best possible customer experience that.

Several community consultations occurred during the 2017/18 year, including the development of the 2018/19 Municipal Plan and Council's Long-Term Financial Plan. Both of these consultations were in excess of Council's obligations under the *Local Government Act*. Council has also introduced a new portal on the website where residents can provide feedback and access information from previous consultations.

Council will also continue to look for opportunities to make it easier to interact with Council in ways that are convenient to the community. As well as traditional contact methods, Council also engages through social media messaging and this year began implementation of EzyBill for the 2018/19 financial year, which delivers rates notices directly to email. Rates notices are accessible on any electronic device (*phone, tablet, laptop, desktop*); anytime, anywhere, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Ratepayers can simply visit Council's website to sign up.

Council also values the advice and input from our community and runs a number of advisory groups that provide advice directly to the Council. These include:

- **Youth Inspiring Palmerston (YIP)** - is made up of youth from Palmerston. YIP keeps Council informed on issues that are significant and important to young people in Palmerston.
- **Senior's Advisory Group** - is an advocacy body for the community regarding issues relating to seniors in the Palmerston municipality.
- **Palmerston Safe Communities Committee (PSCC)** - works in partnership with Council and the Northern Territory Government, businesses and the community to prevent injuries, accidents and crime. The PSCC is committed to promoting the safety and wellbeing of Palmerston residents and visitors.
- **Animal Management Reference Group** - which is in place to facilitate consultation and co-operation between Council and its stakeholders in the development of domestic animal management policy.
- **Palmerston and Rural Youth Services (PARYS) Network** - provides a forum for workers in the youth sector to discuss local youth issues and develop plans to deliver services for Palmerston and rural young people (12-25 years).



Council facilitates meetings approximately every six weeks for workers from community and government agencies who have regular contact with young people, and representatives of agencies which provide and/or fund services for young people.

- **Palmerston Kids Network** - is a committed network of workers representing organisations who provide services and programs to children (0-12 years) and their families living in Palmerston. The network meets regularly and is committed to sharing information about programs and initiatives, needs in Palmerston, building relationships and making connections, participating in community engagement and capacity building, as well as taking opportunities to lobby, advocate and influence policy.



ANIMAL MANAGEMENT REFERENCE
GROUP MEETINGS



324
FACEBOOK MESSAGES RESPONDED TO



265
FACEBOOK POSTS



4.3 People

We value our people, and the culture of our organisation. We are committed to continuous improvement and innovation whilst seeking to reduce the costs of Council services through increased efficiency.

Human Resources and Workforce Development
 Training and Development of Elected Members
 Cost Reduction and Efficiency Initiatives
 Continuous Improvement, Benchmarking, Research and Innovation

Council remains committed to workforce development and continuous improvement. Without a skilled and dedicated workforce, Council would not be able to meet its commitments to the community and deliver effective and efficient services. In challenging economic times attracting and retaining quality staff to ensure turnover is low and morale is high remains a priority to ensure we consistently deliver excellent service to the community.

Council strives to be an employer of choice, attracting the best people to live and work in Palmerston. Council provides attractive employment conditions, which include a wide variety of benefits such as salary continuance insurance cover, salary packaging options and additional employer superannuation contributions.

Additionally, Council strongly supports the development of staff through a wide range of professional development and training opportunities and membership of professional associations. The health and wellbeing of Council employees is supported by access to health programs and the provision of counselling services.

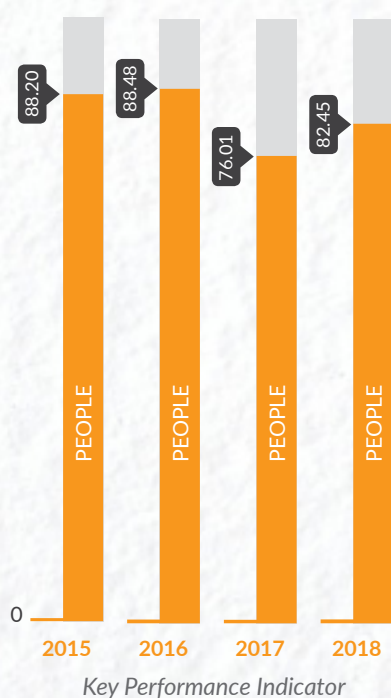
Council is committed to creating a positive workplace culture that values continuous learning and development. Workplace culture had not been tested for several years so a pulse survey was conducted in May 2018 to measure staff satisfaction. 81% of staff responded to the survey, which was an outstanding result. Action plans were developed to address the areas of improvement indicated in the survey.

Council has strong representation from females in its workforce (59%). Council's policy of topping up the Federal Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme provides solid support for employees on Maternity and Paternity Leave. Council is also an accredited breastfeeding friendly workplace, which is administered by the Australian Breastfeeding Association.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

In accordance with Section 71 of the *Local Government Act* and the *General Instruction for Elected Member Allowances*, Council elected members may access an allowance to attend appropriate and relevant conferences or training courses which sustain a member's professional competence by keeping them informed of and able to comply with, development in professional standards applicable to their role as a Council member.

In 2017/18 Council Elected Members could access an amount of up to \$3,653.68 each to attend appropriate and relevant conference or training courses to comply with the standards applicable to their role.





ELECTED MEMBER	ACTIVITY	DATES	COST
Deputy Mayor Damian Hale	Developing Northern Australia	18/06/2018 19/06/2018	\$2,332.08

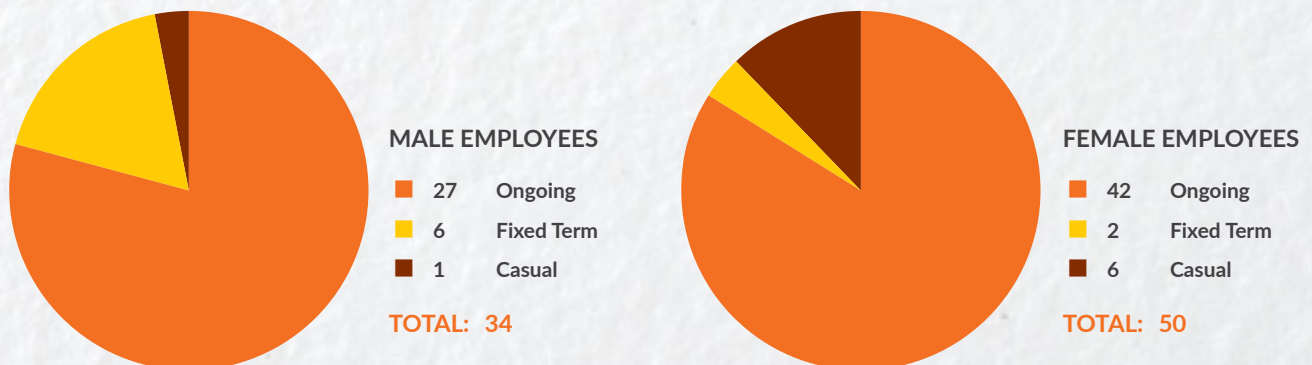
Total Number of Employees (Headcount and FTE)

TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	(as at 30 June 2018)
People	84
Approved FTE (Full Time Equivalent)	77

Staffing Changes (Recruited to Council and Separated from Council)

STAFFING CHANGES	2017/18
Recruited to Council	21
Separated from Council	16

Employee by Position Type (Ongoing, fixed term, casual, total) broken down by gender





84
STAFF



59%
FEMALE STAFF

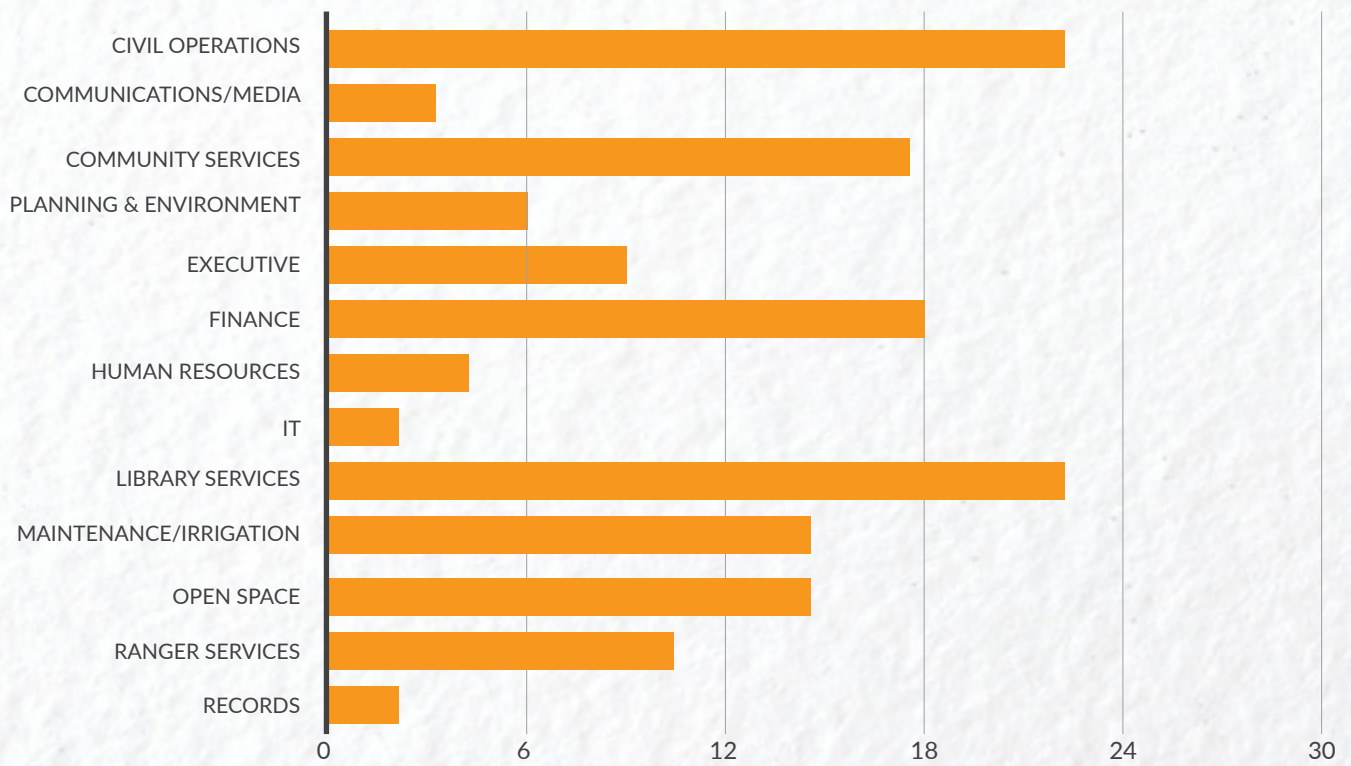


0
FAIR WORK INCIDENTS



\$75,844
INVESTMENT IN STAFF
TRAINING

Number of Training Activities 2017/18





ACCREDITED
BREASTFEEDING
FRIENDLY WORKPLACE



WORKERS COMPENSATION CLAIMS



NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES BORN OVERSEAS



4.4 Systems

We are committed to ensuring the systems and processes of Council support the organisation in delivering the best possible services to the community.

Internal Business Processes and Service Levels
 Financial and Administrative Services
 Information and Communication Technology Services

Council develops and implements systems and processes to provide an exceptional customer experience to the community.

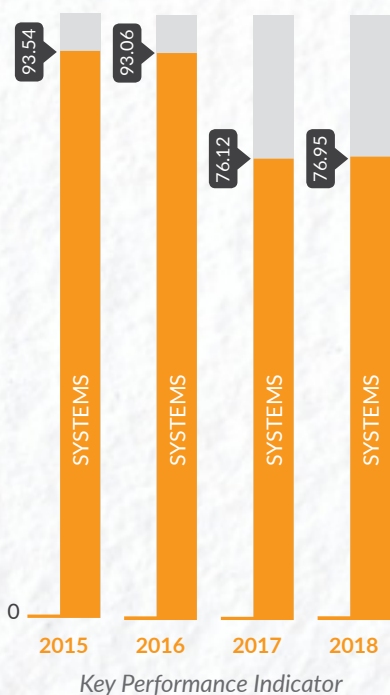
These systems also underpin how our customers interact with us, including through our website and online payment channels.

In response to the recommendations of the Independent Investigator's Report released in January, Council has appointed a Strategic Procurement Advisor to review policies and processes associated with procurement.

This role will also update standard documentation and provide specialist advice on compliance with Council's legislative obligations.

Similarly, the appointment of a Manager of People, Performance and Change will promote organisational development and manage realignment, whilst reviewing Human Resource and Workplace Health and Safety policies and procedures.

Council also strives for continuous improvement to enhance efficiency and improve the customer experience.



RECORDS

Council manages an increasing amount of records generated internally or received from external sources. Over the last 12 months, Council has prepared for the implementation of a new Retention and Disposal Schedule from the Northern Territory Archives.

Council will continue to look for ways to optimise its record keeping system to improve efficiency as the volumes of transactions increase due to growth in our community.



REVIEWED POLICIES



NEW POLICIES

POLICIES

Council maintains a large suite of policies which are designed to be simple statements of how our organisation intends to conduct its services, actions and business. They provide a set of guiding principles to help with decision making. It is the Elected Members role to weigh Council matters and decide upon policies which Council officers will then administer. Policies do not need to be long or complicated and are not required if they simply restate statutory obligations or outline operational procedures.

Over the course of the 9th Council term, Council will review existing policies, noting that a number of policies will be recommended for rescinding as they are simply a restatement of legislation and therefore may be superfluous and not adding value to Council's decision-making process.

Over this financial year, Council has reviewed the following policies:

- AD02 Media Policy
- EM01 Elected Members
- EM02 Elected Member Benefits and Support
- EM04 Caretaker
- EM05 Political Involvement in Council Events
- FIN04 Procurement
- FIN18 Grants, Donations, Scholarships and Sponsorships
- FIN19 Financial Reserve
- MEE01 Access to Council and Committee Meetings and Confidential Minutes

Introduced new policies:

- AD04 Lease of Council Property
- AD05 Recognition of Service to the Community
- AD06 Open Data
- FIN03 Annual Financial Statements
- FIN29 Security Payments
- MEE03 Public Question Time
- MEE04 Teleconferencing

Rescinded the following policies:

- FIN01 Finance
- FIN03 Annual Financial Statements
- FIN11 Financial Recognition of Employee Entitlements
- FIN12 Asset Capitalisation
- FIN13 Asset Depreciation
- FIN14 Asset Revaluation
- FIN16 Computer Based Account
- FIN24 Chart of Accounts
- MEE02 Committees of Council
- MEE03 Audio Recording of Meetings

As at 30th June 2018, Council was applying the following policies:

Administration

- AD02 Media
- AD03 Liquor License
- AD04 Lease of Council Property
- AD05 Recognition of Service to the Community
- AD06 Open Data

Community

- COMM003 Community Consultation
- GSTV01 Goyder Square TV Screen Content and Usage

Elected Members

- CC01 Code of Conduct Elected Members
- EM01 Elected Members
- EM02 Elected Members Benefit and Support
- EM03 Conflict of Interest
- EM04 Caretaker
- EM05 Political Involvement in Council Events

Finance and Rating

- FIN02 Financial Management
- FIN03 Annual Financial Statement
- FIN04 Procurement
- FIN06 Investments

- FIN08 Internal Controls
- FIN09 Risk Management and Audit Committee
- FIN10 Fraud Protection Plan
- FIN15 Asset Disposal
- FIN17 Rate Concession
- FIN18 Grants, Donations, Scholarships and Sponsorships
- FIN19 Reserve
- FIN20 Borrowing
- FIN21 Debt Collection
- FIN22 Grant Income
- FIN23 Credit Card
- FIN27 Related Part Disclosure
- FIN29 Security Payments

Meetings

- MEE01 Access to Council and Committee Meetings and Confidential Minutes
- MEE03 Public Question Time
- MEE04 Teleconferencing

Regulatory

- REG01 Outdoor Dining
- REG02 Feral Cat
- REG03 City Centre Car Parking

Roads and Streetscapes

- RS01 Works on Council Verge
- RS02 Place Names
- RS03 Playground Risk Management

Waste

- TECH04 Waste Management



MANAGED POLICIES WHICH WILL BE REVIEWED OVER THE TERM OF THE 9TH COUNCIL





5

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

IN THIS SECTION

2017/18 Financial Statements Review

General Purpose Financial Statements

Statement of Comprehensive Income

Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Changes in Equity

Statement of Cash Flows

Notes to and forming
part of the Financial Report

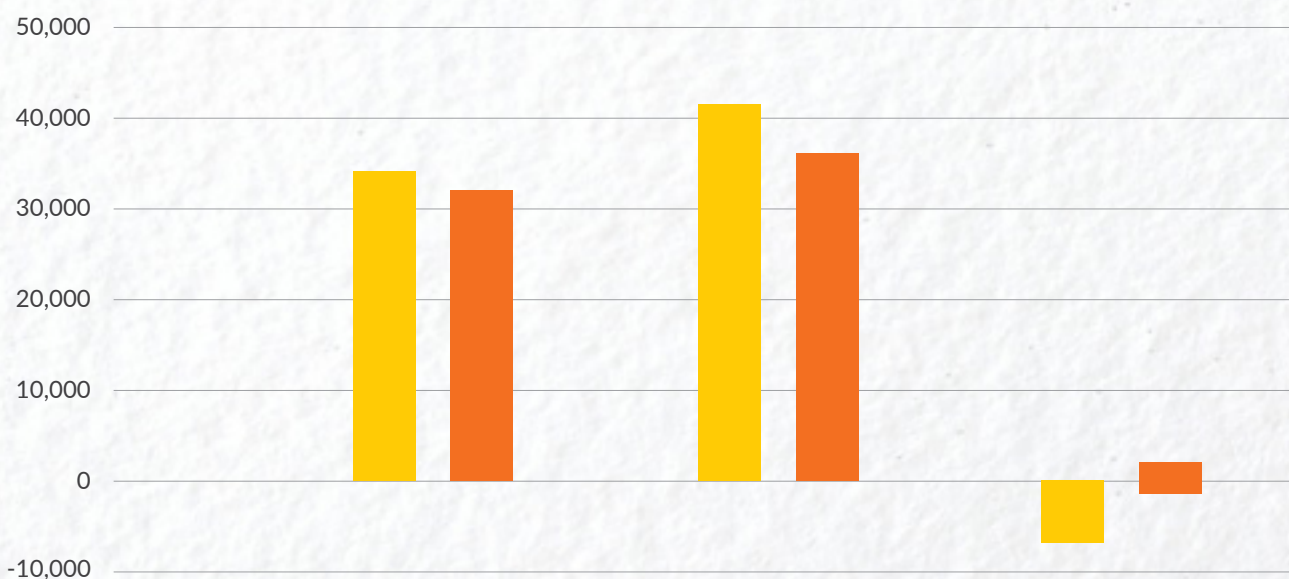
2017/18 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS *Review*

In the 2017/18 financial year, City of Palmerston generated a net surplus of \$40.556 million. The net surplus is inclusive of one-off items such as non-recurring capital grants to the value of \$2.306 million as well as assets and contributions received free of charge from developers and the Northern Territory Government to the value of \$46.933 million. The assets include a transfer of street lighting infrastructure from Power and Water to the value of \$23.930 million, \$9.333 million for stormwater drainage, \$12.849 million for roads, pathways and pavements and \$821,000 for land and improvements. Once these items are removed Council ended the financial year with an operational deficit of \$7.489 million inclusive of depreciation of \$9.406 million. The

original budget for the 2017/18 year showed Council having an operational deficit of \$3.788 million. The main reason for the significant variance is the cost of the clean-up efforts undertaken by the City of Palmerston in response to Tropical Cyclone Marcus that hit the city in March 2018. Council spent \$2.923 million on the clean-up in the 2017/18 financial year. Council is attempting to recapture the funds spent on the clean-up through the National Disaster Recovery and Relief Arrangement, however this process could take several years, and the extent of any reimbursement is currently unknown. All other variances were explained in detail in the Budget Reviews for the 2017-18 financial year which are publicly available on Council's website.

DESCRIPTION	2018 ACTUAL	2018 ORIGINAL BUDGET	% CHANGE BUDGET TO ACTUAL
Total operational income (\$) '000	33,877	32,170	5.31%
Total operational expenses (\$) '000	41,366	35,958	15.04%
Operating surplus / (Deficit) (\$) '000	(7,489)	(3,788)	97.70%

2017/18 Actuals vs Original Budget



	TOTAL OPERATIONAL INCOME (\$) '000	TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES (\$) '000	OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) (\$) '000
■ 2018 Actual	33,877	41,366	(7,489)
■ 2018 Original Budget	32,170	35,958	(3,788)

INCOME			
Total income including capital grants	2018 Actual \$,000's	2018 Original Budget \$,000's	% Change Budget to Actual
Rates and annual charges	27,658	26,910	2.78%
Statutory charges	177	195	-9.23%
User charges	1,451	1,931	-24.86%
Grants, subsidies and contributions	3,120	2,338	33.45%
Capital grants and contributions	2,390	709	237.09%
Investment income	1,152	746	54.42%
Reimbursements and other revenue	319	53	484.91%
TOTAL INCOME	36,267	32,882	10.27%

Changes of more than 10% are explained below

USER CHARGES

The significant reduction in user charges for the 2017/18 financial year compared to the original budget is related almost exclusively to car parking. The previous Council had planned to construct a multi-story paid carpark that was expected to be operational within the financial year.

Council had also just previously introduced paid parking into the city centre in June 2017. With the multi-story carpark not proceeding and higher than anticipated vacancy rates on existing carparks Council revised the original budget down by \$500,000 in the Second Budget Review for 2017/18.

GRANTS, SUBSIDIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDING CAPITAL

Grant Funding income inclusive of capital grants forms the largest variance to budgeted income of approximately \$2.463 million. This occurred as Council only originally budgeted to receive the recurring Financial Assistance Grant provided through the Northern Territory Government with Commonwealth Government funds, the Roads to Recovery capital grant from the Commonwealth Government and finally the Library Grant received from the Northern Territory Government.

However, throughout the financial year Council was successful in applying for and receiving a considerable amount of extra grant funding from the Northern Territory Government. The details of each grant received is provided in Note 2(j) in the attached financial statements and all revisions to the budget to account for these grants were made throughout the year via the budget review process.

INVESTMENT INCOME

Investment income for the 2017/18 financial year was above the original budget by 54% or \$406,000. This variance was primarily due to actual cashflow improvements compared to budget due to the decision to not construct a multi-story carpark. This allowed Council to invest the now unrequired reserves into term deposits and was able to generate additional income.

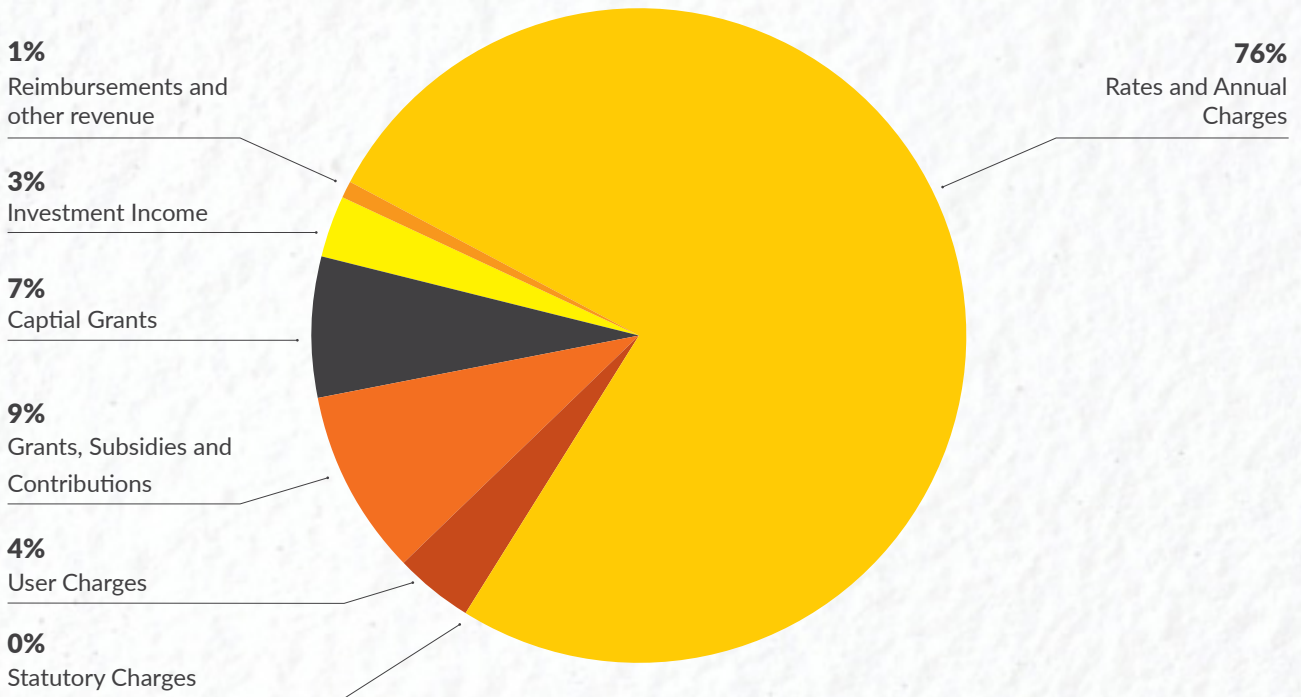
REIMBURSEMENTS AND OTHER REVENUE

During the 2015/16 financial year, Council recognised an \$8.5 million expense in relation to the pollution abatement notice (PAN) that was served upon it in the 2014/15 financial year. The rehabilitation work is to be completed in three stages with an estimate provided for the cost of each stage.

In 2017/18 Council went to tender for stage 3 of the rehabilitation work and the successful tenderer is able to undertake the work at a lower cost than initially estimated for a variety of reasons. Consequently, a reversal of a portion of the expense related to the PAN to the value of \$236,000 has been recognised in other revenues and the provision in the balance sheet adjusted downwards accordingly.

The original budget for the 2017/18 year only considered minor reimbursements or other income and consequently actuals achieved has resulted in significant percentage fluctuations in this category. Budget reviews were undertaken throughout the year to recognise changes in income to this category.

Income by Source



EXPENSES

Description	2018 - Actual	2018 - Original Budget	% Change Budget to Actual
Employee costs	7,797	7,344	6.17%
Materials, contracts and other expenses	24,168	19,793	22.10%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	9,401	8,820	6.59%
TOTAL EXPENSES	41,366	35,957	15.04%

Changes of more than 10 % are explained below

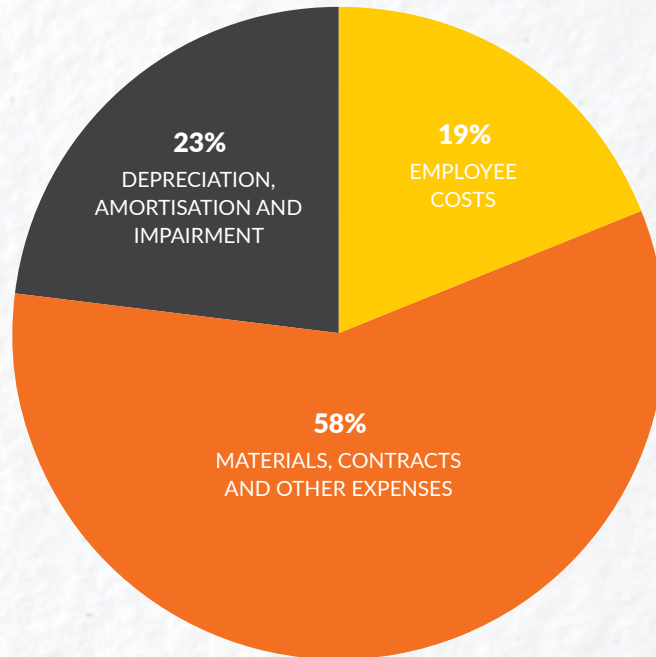
MATERIALS, CONTRACTS AND OTHER EXPENSES

The only material variance in relation to expenses between the original budget and actuals for the 2017/18 financial year was in materials, contracts and other expenses. The single largest contributing factor to this variance was the clean-up efforts undertaken by the City of Palmerston in relation to the damage caused by Tropical Cyclone Marcus. Council funded this clean-up by using \$500,000 of a specific purpose reserve for disaster recovery and by deferring non-urgent capital projects and reallocated the funds to the clean-up.

The remaining variance relates to a number of smaller adjustments but includes; increases in professional services, maintenance of street lighting and insurance. The increase in the professional services spend relates to a number of initiatives that Council had undertaken to improve governance, community engagement and future service delivery.

Full details of all budget adjustments are reflected in the budget review process and are publicly available on Council's website www.palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Expenses by Type



OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Revaluation Surplus and Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment Assets

During the 2017/18 financial year, Council obtained services from an engineering firm to provide the Council with current usual lives for its assets. Usual lives determine how long an asset will last before the asset needs to be replaced or upgraded. As well as reviewing the usual lives of the assets a full financial revaluation was completed across all classes of infrastructure assets and land resulting in an increase in fair value of the assets to the total value of \$122.680 million. Council now controls almost \$710 million dollars of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment. As City of Palmerston is a relatively young municipality the assets are in a reasonably good condition and only require general maintenance at this point in time. In future years when the assets are required to be replaced or upgraded significant capital outlays will be required and Council must ensure that it has the reserves or the capabilities to undertake these replacements without a reduction in service levels to the community.

External Loan Borrowings

In the 2017-2022 Municipal Plan, Council had originally budgeted to take out two separate loans to the value of \$12 million. The first loan was to fund stage 2 of the Archer Landfill remediation to the value of \$2 million. Council was able to fund this stage from the waste reserve instead and deferred applying for the loan. This loan is now included in the 2018/19 Municipal Plan to fund stage 3 of the remediation works. Secondly, a loan for \$10 million was proposed to assist in funding the multi-story carpark. This project was reassessed during the financial year and was deemed as no longer being a priority for the City of Palmerston and the project was removed during the budget review process. Consequently, Council did not apply for any funds in relation to this project.

Reserves

Council held \$15.741 million in reserves at 30th June 2018. This is an increase of \$7.452 million from the anticipated reserve balance in the Municipal Plan of \$8.289 million. Firstly, the opening balance of reserves in the 2017/18 was significantly higher than what was predicted in the Municipal Plan by \$4.049 million. This increase in the opening balance predominately related to the carry-over of capital works budget from the 2016/17 financial year into the 2017/18 financial year to the value of \$3.22 million. The remaining improvement in the expected reserve balance relates to not proceeding with the multi-story carpark that was originally budgeted for. It was budgeted that \$4.5 million would be paid out of reserves to fund the project with the remainder coming from an external loan. Consequently, these funds were never drawn out of reserves. During 2017/18, Council also funded stage 2 of the remediation works at the previous Archer Landfill from the waste reserve. It was originally budgeted to take out a \$2 million external loan to fund the works. Council determined that the loan was not needed in the 2017/18 financial year and deferred the draw down of the loan to 2018/19.

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL *Statements*

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

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City of Palmerston

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Chief Executive Officer's Statement

I, Luccio Franco Cercarelli, the Chief Executive Officer of City of Palmerston, hereby certify that the Annual Financial Statements:

- have been drawn up in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations, so as to present fairly the financial position of the Council and the results for the year ended 30 June 2018, and
- are in accordance with the accounting and other records of Council;



Luccio Franco Cercarelli
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: 29/10/18

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

		2018	2017
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
INCOME			
Rates	2a	27,658	26,320
Statutory charges	2b	177	154
User charges	2c	1,451	1,260
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2g	3,120	4,297
Investment income	2d	1,152	1,121
Reimbursements	2e	9	83
Other income	2f	310	755
Total Income		33,877	33,990
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3a	7,797	7,933
Materials, contracts and other expenses	3b	24,168	18,272
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	3c	9,401	9,541
Total Expenses		41,366	35,746
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)			
		(7,489)	(1,756)
Asset disposal and fair value adjustments	4	(1,278)	(404)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2g	2,390	4,785
Physical resources received free of charge	2i	46,933	23,492
"NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		40,556	26,117
Other Comprehensive income	9a	122,680	-
Total Other Comprehensive Income	-	122,680	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)		163,236	26,117

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

		2018	2017
		\$'000	\$'000
ASSETS	Notes		
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5a	16,142	7,639
Trade and other receivables	5b	1,498	1,595
Other financial assets	5c	4,500	15,000
Non-current assets held for sale	19	-	1,613
Total Current Assets		22,140	25,847
Non-current Assets			
Investment property	7a	6,773	6,936
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	7a	545,558	379,366
Other non-current assets	6	1,717	3,864
Total Non-current Assets		554,048	390,166
Total Assets		576,188	416,013
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8a	3,363	3,535
Provisions	8b	3,036	3,941
Total Current Liabilities		6,399	7,476
Non-current Liabilities			
Provisions	8b	1,744	3,728
Total Non-current Liabilities		1,744	3,728
Total Liabilities		8,143	11,204
NET ASSETS		568,045	404,809
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		206,136	164,563
Asset revaluation reserves	9a	346,168	223,488
Other reserves	9b	15,741	16,758
TOTAL EQUITY		568,045	404,809

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

		Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2018	Notes				
Balance at end of previous reporting period		164,563	223,488	16,758	404,809
Net Surplus for Year		40,556	-	-	40,556
Other Comprehensive Income <i>Gain (Loss) on Revaluation of I,PP&E</i>	7a	-	122,680	-	122,680
Total Comprehensive Income		40,556	122,680	-	163,236
Transfers between reserves		1,017	-	(1,017)	-
Balance at end of period		206,136	346,168	15,741	568,045
2017					
Balance at end of previous reporting period		140,882	223,488	14,322	378,692
Net Surplus for Year		26,117	-	-	26,117
Total Comprehensive Income		26,117	-	-	26,117
Transfers between reserves		(2,436)	-	2,436	-
Balance at end of period		164,563	223,488	16,758	404,809

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

		2018	2017
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Receipts			
Rates - General and Other		27,444	26,203
Statutory Charges		177	-
User Charges		1,596	1,502
Investment receipts		1,152	1,171
Grants utilised for operating purposes		3,256	4,512
Reimbursements		9	-
Other receipts		2,931	2,464
Payments			
Payments to Employees		(7,733)	(7,648)
Payments for materials, contracts and other expenses		(29,895)	(22,958)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operating activities	11b	(1,063)	5,246
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		2,390	4,785
Sale of replaced assets		14	-
Sale of surplus assets		50	1,887
Net disposal of investment securities		10,500	-
Payments			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(607)	(6,863)
Expenditure on new / upgraded assets		(2,792)	-
Net purchase of investment securities		-	(2,500)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) investing activities		9,555	(2,691)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Proceeds from bonds and deposits		11	-
Net cash provided by (or used in) financing activities		11	-
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		8,503	2,555
Plus: Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	11	7,639	5,084
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	11	16,142	7,639
Additional information:			
Plus: Investments on hand - end of year	5a	4,500	15,000
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		20,642	22,639

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted by Council in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of Preparation

1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

This general-purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards as they apply to not-for-profit entities, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Interpretations, the requirements of the Local Government Act, the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations and other relevant Northern Territory legislation.

1.2 Historical Cost Convention

Except as stated below, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. All amounts are stated in Australian Dollars unless otherwise stated.

1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies.

Particular areas involving a high degree of judgement or complexity include the estimation of future payments and timing in relation to tip restoration. Further information in relation to the estimation of these liabilities are given in the relevant sections of these Notes.

1.4 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

City of Palmerston ("the Council") is incorporated under the NT Local Government Act and has its principal place of business at 1 Chung Wah Terrace,

Palmerston. These financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

3 Income Recognition

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Income is recognised when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising the income, or when the amount due constitutes an enforceable debt, whichever first occurs.

3.1 Rates Revenues

Rates are recognised at the commencement of rating period. Rates overpaid at the end of reporting period are classified as current liability.

3.2 Non-cash contributions

Non-cash contributions with a value in excess of the recognition thresholds as stated in Note 1 – 6.2 are recognised as revenue and as non-current assets. Non-cash contributions below the thresholds are recorded as revenue and expenses. Physical assets contributed to Council by developers in the form of road works, stormwater and park equipment are recognised as revenue when the development becomes “on maintenance” (i.e. the Council obtains control of the assets and becomes liable for any ongoing maintenance) and there is sufficient data in the form of drawings and plans to determine the approximate specifications and values of such assets. All non-cash contributions are recognised at the fair value of the contribution received on the date of acquisition.

3.3 Developer Charges

Developers also pay infrastructure charges for the construction of assets, such as roads and stormwater drainage. Infrastructure charges are recognised as income when received.

3.4 Rental income

Rental revenue from investment and other property is recognised as income on a periodic straight-line basis over the lease term.

3.5 Interest and dividends

Interest received from term deposits is accrued over the term of the investment. No dividends were received during the reporting period.

3.6 Sales revenue

Sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the buyer, generally when the customer has taken undisputed delivery of the goods.

3.7 Statutory and User Charges

Statutory and User Charges are recognised upon unconditional entitlement to the funds. Generally, this is upon lodgement of the relevant applications or documents, issuing of the infringement notice or when the service is provided.

3.8 Grants Contributions and Subsidies

Where grants, contributions and subsidies recognised as incomes during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the amounts subject to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in Note 2(h). Also disclosed is the amount of grants, contributions and receivables recognised as incomes in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the Council's operations for the current reporting period.

The Operating Surplus Ratio disclosed in Note 15 has also been calculated after adjusting for the distortions resulting from the differences between the actual grants received and the grants entitlements allocated.

4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and other Financial Instruments

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Council's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Receivables for rates and annual charges are secured over the subject land, and bear interest at rates determined in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999. Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest.

All receivables are reviewed as at the reporting date and adequate allowance made for amounts the receipt of which is considered doubtful.

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments forms part of Note 13.

5 Inventories

Council does not hold any inventories

6 Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

6.1 Initial Recognition

All assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, cost is determined as fair value at the date of acquisition.

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use". Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including architects' fees and engineering design fees and all other costs incurred. The cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overhead.

6.2 Materiality

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each type of asset. In determining (and in annually reviewing) such thresholds, regard is had to the nature of the asset and its estimated service life. Examples of capitalisation thresholds applied during the year are given below. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

Furniture & Equipment	\$5,000
Plant & Equipment	\$5,000
Buildings & Other Structures	\$5,000
Roads	\$10,000
Footpaths and Bicycle ways	\$5,000
Kerb and Gutter	\$5,000
Motor Vehicles	\$5,000
Irrigation	\$5,000
Intangible Assets	\$10,000
Stormwater Drainage	\$10,000
Land Improvement	\$10,000

6.3 Subsequent Recognition

All material asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. Significant uncertainties exist in the estimation of fair value of a number of asset classes including land, buildings and associated structures and infrastructure. Further detail of these uncertainties, and of existing valuations, methods and valuers are provided at Note 7.

6.4 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Other than land, all infrastructure, property, plant and equipment assets recognised are systematically depreciated over their useful lives on a straight-line basis which, in the opinion of Council, best reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values of classes of assets are reviewed annually.

Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are listed below. Depreciation periods for infrastructure assets have been estimated based on information available to Council from an Engineering firm who undertook a review of the infrastructure assets in 2018. However, appropriate records covering the entire life cycle of these assets are not available, and care should be used in interpreting financial information based on these estimates.

Plant, Furniture & Equipment

Furniture and Equipment	2 to 10 years
Motor Vehicles	3 to 8 years
Plant & Equipment	5 to 15 years

Building & Other Structures

Buildings	25 to 80 years
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Infrastructure

Roads – Earthworks	100 years
Roads – Pavement	60 to 80 years
Roads – Seal	20 to 60 years
Road Furniture	70 years
Footpaths and Bicycle ways	15 to 60 years
Kerb and Gutter	60 years
Driveways	15 to 60 years
Irrigation	25 to 30 years
Stormwater Drainage	85 to 100 years
Street Lights	15 to 100 years

Other Assets

Land Improvement	30 years
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6.5 Impairment

Assets whose future economic benefits are not dependent on the ability to generate cash flows, and where the future economic benefits would be replaced if Council were deprived thereof, are not subject to impairment testing.

Other assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the present value of future cash inflows or value in use).

Where an asset that has been revalued is subsequently impaired, the impairment is first offset against such amount as stands to the credit of that class of assets in Asset Revaluation Reserve, any excess being recognised as an expense.

6.6 Borrowing Costs

Borrowing costs in relation to qualifying assets (net of offsetting investment revenue) have been capitalised in accordance with AASB 123 "Borrowing Costs". The amounts of borrowing costs recognised as an expense or as part of the carrying amount of qualifying assets are disclosed in Note 3, and the amount (if any) of interest revenue offset against borrowing costs in Note 2.

7 Investment property

Investment property comprises land &/or buildings that are principally held for long-term rental yields, capital gains or both that is not occupied by Council.

Investment property is carried at fair value, representing an open-market value determined annually by external valuers.

Annual changes in the fair value of Investment Properties are recorded in the Income Statement as part of "Investment Income".

Full revaluations are carried out every year.

The last full revaluation for Council's Investment Properties was dated 30/06/18.

8 Payables

8.1 Goods & Services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

8.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts other than grants received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

9 Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are carried at their principal amounts which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is accrued over the period to which it relates, and is recorded as part of "Payables".

10 Employee Benefits

10.1 Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences

Liabilities for employees' entitlements to salaries, wages and compensated absences expected to be paid or settled within 12 months of reporting date are accrued at nominal amounts (including payroll based oncosts) measured in accordance with AASB 119.

Liabilities for employee benefits not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based oncosts) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Present values are calculated using government guaranteed securities rates with similar maturity terms.

No accrual is made for sick leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. Council does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

10.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Statewide Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. No changes in accounting policy have occurred during either the current or previous reporting periods. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 17.

11 Provisions for Reinstatement, Restoration and Rehabilitation

Close down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure and the removal of residual materials and remediation and rehabilitation of disturbed areas. Estimated close down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs and are carried at the net present value of estimated future costs.

Although estimated future costs are based on a closure plan, such plans are based on current environmental requirements which may change.

12 Leases

Lease arrangements have been accounted for in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 117.

In respect of finance leases, where Council substantially carries all of the risks incident to ownership, the leased items are initially recognised as assets and liabilities equal in amount to the present value of the minimum lease payments. The assets are disclosed within the appropriate asset class and are amortised to expense over the period during which the Council is expected to benefit from the use of the leased assets. Lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of the lease liability, according to the interest rate implicit in the lease.

In respect of operating leases, where the lessor substantially retains all of the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the leased items, lease payments are charged to expense over the lease term.

13 Construction Contracts

Construction works undertaken by Council for third parties are generally on an agency basis where the third party reimburses Council for actual costs incurred, and usually do not extend beyond the reporting period. As there is no profit component, such works are treated as 100% completed. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance".

For works undertaken on a fixed price contract basis, revenues and expenses are recognised on a percentage of completion basis. Costs incurred in advance of a future claimed entitlement are classified as work in progress in inventory. When it is probable that total contract costs will exceed total contract revenue, the expected loss is recognised as an expense immediately.

14 Equity Accounted Council Businesses

Council participates in cooperative arrangements with other Councils for the provision of services and facilities. Council's interests in cooperative arrangements, which are only recognised if material, are accounted for in accordance with AASB 128 and set out in detail in Note 18.

15 GST Implications

In accordance with UIG Abstract 1031 "Accounting for the Goods & Services Tax"

- Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.
- Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.
- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.
- Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

16 New accounting standards and UIG interpretations

In the current year, Council adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current reporting period. The adoption of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations has not resulted in any material changes to Council's accounting policies.

City of Palmerston has not applied any Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective.

Some Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations have been issued but are not yet effective. Those standards have not been applied in these financial statements. Council will implement them when they are effective.

The standards that are expected to have a material impact upon Council's future financial statements are:

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018

- **AASB 9 *Financial Instruments*** This replaces AASB 139 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*, and addresses the classification, measurement and disclosure of financial assets and liabilities.

The standard introduces a new impairment model that requires impairment provisions to be based on expected credit losses, rather than incurred credit losses. Based on assessments to date, the Council expects a small increase to impairment losses however the standard is not expected to have a material impact overall.

- **AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* and AASB 2016-8 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Australian Implementation Guidance for Not-for-Profit Entities***

AASB 15 will replace AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 111 *Construction Contracts* and a number of Interpretations. AASB 2016-8 provides Australian requirements and guidance for not for-profit entities in applying AASB 9 and AASB 15, and AASB 1058 will replace AASB 1004 *Contributions*. Together they contain a comprehensive and robust framework for the recognition, measurement and disclosure of income including revenue from contracts with customers.

The Council is still reviewing the way that income is measured and recognised to identify whether there will be any material impact arising from these standards.

The standards are not expected to have a material impact upon Council's future financial statements are:

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018

- AASB 2010-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2010)*
- AASB 2014-1 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part E)*
- AASB 2014-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)*
- AASB 2016-3 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarifications to AASB 15*

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 01 January 2019

- AASB 2017-1 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Transfers of investment property, Annual Improvements 2014-2016 Cycle and other amendments.*
- AASB 16 *Leases*

17 Comparative Figures

To ensure comparability with the current reporting period's figures, some comparative period line items and amounts may have been reclassified or individually reported for the first time within these financial statements and/or the notes.



NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 2 - INCOME

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
(A) RATES REVENUES		
General Rates		
Residential	17,659	16,931
Commercial	1,869	1,901
Industrial	793	651
Rates received in advance	158	128
Other	73	68
TOTAL GENERAL RATES	20,552	19,679
Other rates (including service charges)		
Waste management service	7,106	6,641
Total other rates	7,106	6,641
TOTAL RATES REVENUE	27,658	26,320
(B) STATUTORY CHARGES		
Animal registration fees and fines	22	19
Parking fines / expiation fees	87	69
Other licenses, fees and fines	68	66
TOTAL STATUTORY CHARGES	177	154
(C) USER CHARGES		
Developer charges	97	209
Animal control	58	77
Rent and Hire of council equipment	474	352
Library	57	62
Parking fees	311	19
Rate searches and dog registrations	289	325
Licences and permits	148	163
Sundry	17	53
TOTAL USER CHARGES	1,451	1,260
(D) INVESTMENT INCOME		
Interest on investments		
- Banks and other	545	541
- Interest on overdue rates and charges	161	134
Investment property rental income	446	446
TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	1,152	1,121

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 2 - INCOME (CONT...)

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
(E) REIMBURSEMENTS		
- For private works	1	38
- Other	8	45
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENTS	9	83
(F) OTHER INCOME		
Insurance and other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	56	54
Landfill rehabilitation provision adjustment	236	622
Sundry	18	79
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	310	755
(G) GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2,390	4,785
Other grants, subsidies and contributions	3,120	4,297
TOTAL GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS	5,510	9,082
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>		
(i) Sources of grants		
Commonwealth Government	549	627
Northern Territory Government	4,388	7,789
Other	573	666
TOTAL	5,510	9,082

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 2 - INCOME (CONT...)

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
(H) CONDITIONS OVER GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS		
Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:		
Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period	-	250
Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods		
Government grants	-	(250)
Subtotal	-	(250)
Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions		
Government grants	1,776	-
Subtotal	1,776	-
Unexpended at the close of this reporting period and held as restricted assets	1,776	-
Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period	1,776	-
(I) PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE		
Land	795	4,735
Land improvements	26	1,908
Roads and pavement	8,143	5,871
Footpaths and cycleways	4,706	1,529
Kerb and gutter	-	865
Stormwater drainage	9,333	8,328
Water and irrigation	-	256
Street lights	23,930	-
TOTAL PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE	46,933	23,492

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 2A - RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT GRANTS

This schedule records all amounts received from other levels of Government, whether described as grants, subsidies or otherwise. (Amounts shown as negative are awaiting reimbursement to Council.)

	Opening Balance 1 July 2017	Movements		Closing Balance 30 June 2018
		Received/ Receivable	Expended	
(J) GRANTS (with discretion on use)				
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
GENERAL PURPOSE (Untied)				
Grants commission grant - general purpose	-	742	742	-
Grants commission grant - roads funding	-	928	928	-
Subtotal	-	1,670	1,670	-
SPECIFIC PURPOSE (Recurrent)				
Roads to Recovery	-	538	538	-
Street Lighting	-	238	238	-
Libraries	-	582	582	-
Other	-	9	9	-
Subtotal	-	1,367	1,367	-
TOTAL OTHER GRANTS	-	3,037	3,037	-
GRANTS SPECIFICALLY FOR NEW/UPGRADED ASSETS				
SPECIFIC PURPOSE (Recurrent)				
Territory road asset grants - Johnston, Zuccoli	-	1,000	-	1,000
Culvert and drainage - Wallaby Holtz	-	90	90	-
Territory grant - City of Palmerston revitalization grant	-	490	-	490
Outdoor basketball court	-	11	-	11
ISLRP - Wallaby Holtz flood mitigation	-	260	-	260
SPG - CCTV installation	-	47	32	15
TOTAL GRANTS SPECIFICALLY FOR NEW/UPGRADED ASSETS	-	1,898	122	1,776
Recognised as revenue in advance of expenditure	-	-	-	1,776
TOTAL OTHER GRANTS	-	-	-	1,776

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 3 - EXPENSES

		2018	2017
		\$'000	\$'000
(A) EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and wages		5,822	5,822
Employee leave expense		879	991
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	17	635	652
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	17	11	27
Workers' compensation insurance		107	89
Other		343	352
TOTAL OPERATING EMPLOYEE COSTS		7,797	7,933
Total Number of Employees		74	75
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>			
(B) MATERIALS, CONTRACTS AND OTHER EXPENSES			
Prescribed expenses			
Auditor's remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		28	31
- Other auditors		12	3
Bad and doubtful debts		126	-
Elected Members' expenses		256	265
Minimum lease payments		179	182
Subtotal - prescribed expenses		601	481
OTHER MATERIALS, CONTRACTS AND EXPENSES			
Contractors		14,626	12,442
Energy		1,155	1,072
Legal expenses		607	135
Professional services		1,324	637
Sundry		5,855	3,505
Subtotal - Other materials, contracts and expenses		23,567	17,791
TOTAL MATERIALS, CONTRACTS AND OTHER EXPENSES		24,168	18,272

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 3 - EXPENSES (CONT...)

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
(C) DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT		
(i) Depreciation and Amortisation		
Land improvements	677	1,363
Buildings and other structures	891	589
Infrastructure		
- Roads and pavement	2,619	3,794
- Kerbs and guttering	244	505
- Footpaths and cycleways	814	638
- Stormwater drainage	2,981	1,731
- Water and irrigation	579	703
- Street Lights	371	-
Motor vehicles	123	100
Plant and equipment	33	33
Furniture and fittings	66	69
Intangible assets	3	-
Other assets	-	16
	9,401	9,541
(ii) Impairment		
Nil		
TOTAL DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT	9,401	9,541

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL AND FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
<i>(i) Assets renewed or directly replaced</i>		
Proceeds from disposal	14	33
Gain (Loss) on disposal	14	33
<i>(ii) Assets surplus to requirements</i>		
Proceeds from disposal	50	1,854
Less: Carrying amount of assets disposed	-	(2,697)
Gain (Loss) on disposal	50	(843)
FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS		
Investment property - fair value increase/(decrease)	(162)	406
Revaluation decrements expensed	(1,180)	-
TOTAL FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS	(1,342)	406
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS	(1,278)	(404)

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
(A) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT		
Cash on hand and at bank	6,981	5,980
Short term deposits and bills, etc	9,161	1,659
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT	16,142	7,639
(B) TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Rates - general and other	938	724
Accrued revenues	121	91
Debtors - general	24	156
GST recoupment	176	220
Prepayments	78	117
Animal control	116	120
Parking and traffic	164	157
Sundry	11	14
Sub Total	1,628	1,599
Less: Allowance for doubtful debts	(130)	(4)
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	1,498	1,595
(C) OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS (INVESTMENTS)		
Term deposits over 90 days	4,500	15,000
TOTAL OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS (INVESTMENTS)	4,500	15,000

Amounts included in other financial assets that are not expected to be received within 12 months of reporting date are disclosed in Note 13.

NOTE 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
OTHER ASSETS		
Capital work-in-progress	1,717	3,864
TOTAL OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS	1,717	3,864

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 7B - VALUATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Valuation of Assets

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various Accounting Standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes. AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a "level" in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (*unobservable inputs*). Refer to Note 7a for the disclosure of the Fair Value Levels of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment Assets.

Information on Valuations

Certain land, and the buildings and structures thereon, are shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 2 valuation inputs. They are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, with directly or indirectly observable adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset. Valuations of Crown land, community land and land subject to other restrictions on use or disposal, shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 3 valuation inputs, are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, but include adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset that are not directly or indirectly observable in that market, or the number and / or amount of observable adjustments of which are so great that the valuation is more fairly described as being based on level 3 valuation inputs. There is no known market for buildings, infrastructure and other assets. These assets are valued at depreciated current replacement cost. This method involves:

- The determination of the cost to construct the asset (*or its modern engineering equivalent*) using current prices for materials and labour, the quantities of each being estimated based on recent experience of this or similar Councils, or on industry construction guides where these are more appropriate.
- The calculation of the depreciation that would have accumulated since original construction using current estimates of residual value and useful life under the prime cost depreciation method adopted by Council.

This method has significant inherent uncertainties, relying on estimates of quantities of materials and labour, residual values and useful lives, and the possibility of changes in prices for materials and labour, and the potential for development of more efficient construction techniques.

Highest and best use All of Council's non financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use. Transition to AASB 13 - Fair Value Measurement The requirements of AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement have been applied to all valuations undertaken since 1 July 2013 as shown by the valuation dates by individual asset classes below.

Land and Land Improvements

Basis of valuation: Fair Value
Date of valuation: 30 June 2018
Valuer: Asset Val Pty Ltd

Buildings and Other Structures

Basis of valuation: Fair Value
Date of valuation: 30 June 2018
Valuer: Asset Val Pty Ltd

Infrastructure

Roads, Kerb and Gutter, Footpaths

Basis of valuation: Fair Value
Date of valuation: 30 June 2018
Valuer: Asset Val Pty Ltd

Stormwater Drainage

Basis of valuation: Fair Value
Date of valuation: 30 June 2018
Valuer: Asset Val Pty Ltd

Water and Irrigation

Basis of valuation: Fair Value
Date of valuation: 30 June 2018
Valuer: Asset Val Pty Ltd

Street Lights

Basis of valuation: Fair Value
Date of valuation: 30 June 2018
Valuer: JLL Infrastructure Advisory Pty Ltd

Plant and Equipment

Basis of valuation: Cost

Furniture and Fittings

Basis of valuation: Cost

Motor Vehicles

Basis of valuation: Cost

Investment Property

Basis of valuation: Fair Value
Date of valuation: 30 June 2018
Valuer: Asset Val Pty Ltd

Most investment properties are leased to tenants under long term operating leases with rentals payable monthly (Note 16). Contractual obligations relating to the properties are disclosed in Note 14.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 8 - LIABILITIES

	2018		2017	
	\$'000		\$'000	
(A) TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Goods and services	464	-	556	-
Payments received in advance	97	-	98	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	132	-	132	-
Accrued expenses - other	1,775	-	1,865	-
Deposits, retentions and bonds	895	-	884	-
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	3,363	-	3,535	-

(B) BORROWINGS				
Nil				

(C) PROVISIONS				
Employee entitlements (<i>including oncosts</i>)	1,036	396	960	393
Future reinstatement / restoration, etc	2,000	1,348	2,981	3,335
TOTAL PROVISIONS	3,036	1,744	3,941	3,728

				Future Reinstatement
(C) MOVEMENTS IN PROVISIONS				
Opening Balance				6,316
(Less) Payments				(2,732)
(Less) Unused amounts reversed				(236)
Closing balance				3,348



NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 9 - RESERVES

(A) ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE		01/07/2017	Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/06/2018
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land - Other		114,414	9,612	-	124,026
Land improvements		7,304	(7,304)	-	-
Buildings and other structures		5,648	1,634	-	7,282
Infrastructure					
- Roads and pavement		37,372	16,424	-	53,796
- Kerbs and guttering		4,551	2,179	-	6,730
- Footpaths and cycleways		4,193	5,051	-	9,244
- Stormwater drainage		45,471	88,726	-	134,197
- Water and irrigation		-	6,358	-	6,358
Waste infrastructure		4,464	-	-	4,464
Motor vehicles		71	-	-	71
TOTAL ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE		223,488	122,680	-	346,168
	<i>Comparatives</i>	223,488	-	-	223,488
(B) OTHER RESERVES		01/07/2017	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/06/2018
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property reserve		1,077	-	(155)	922
Plant and equipment reserve		311	-	(39)	272
Infrastructure reserve		4,109	6,470	(5,026)	5,553
Developer funds reserve		4,670	573	(257)	4,986
Unexpended capital works reserve		3,217	845	(3,217)	845
Unexpended grants reserve		-	1,776	-	1,776
Election expenses reserve		150	150	(150)	150
Disaster recovery reserve		500	500	(500)	500
Strategic initiatives reserve		500	140	(340)	300
Community grants reserve		100	-	-	100
Waste management reserve		1,313	-	(1,287)	26
Street Lighting reserve		811	-	(500)	311
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES		16,758	10,454	(11,471)	15,741
	<i>Comparatives</i>	14,322	9,351	(6,915)	16,758

PURPOSES OF RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements arising from changes in fair value of non-current assets and available-for-sale financial assets.

Other Reserves

These are cash backed reserves and represent funds that are accumulated within the Council to meet anticipated future needs. In each case the amount relates to a perceived future requirement which is not currently a liability.

Property Reserve	The reserve holds funding for renewal, replacement or upgrading of existing assets and/or the establishment of new assets.
Plant and Equipment Reserve	The reserve holds funding for renewal, replacement or upgrading of existing assets and/or the establishment of new assets.
Infrastructure Reserve	The reserve holds funding for renewal, replacement or upgrading of existing assets and/or the establishment of new assets.
Developer Funds Reserve	This reserve holds the balance of unexpended funds in lieu of construction received by developers.
Unexpended Capital Works Reserve	This reserve holds the balance of unexpended capital works funds that are requested to be carried forward to the following financial year.
Unexpended Grants Reserve	This reserve holds the balance of unexpended grant funds that are requested to be carried forward to the following financial year.
Election Expense Reserve	The reserve will fund expenses related to Local Government elections and By-Elections.
Disaster Recovery Reserve	This reserve will fund expenses occurred due to storms, storm surges, floods or any other natural disaster. The fund will enable Council to recover from these disasters and return to operations.
Strategic Initiatives Reserve	This reserve will fund strategic initiatives for the future development of the Council in line with the Municipal Plan and the Long-term Financial Plan.
Community Grants Reserve	This reserve is in line with the Grants, Scholarship and Sponsorship Policy (FIN18) of the Council and holds funds that have been committed to initiatives in line with that policy.
Waste Management Reserve	This reserve holds funds for the direct and indirect expenditures of the rehabilitation of the waste transfer site and development of the site to accommodate expected future requirements.
Street Lighting Reserve	This reserve holds funds received from the Northern Territory Government that will be utilised on the maintenance and upgrade of the street lights.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 10 - ASSETS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS

The uses of the following assets are restricted, wholly or partially, by legislation or other externally imposed requirements. The assets are required to be utilised for the purposes for which control was transferred to Council, or for which the revenues were originally obtained.

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
CASH AND FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$	\$
Unexpended amounts received from Federal Government	-	-
Unexpected amounts received from Northern Territory Government	1,776	-
Total cash and financial assets	1,776	-
TOTAL ASSETS SUBJECT TO EXTERNALLY IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS	1,776	-

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 11 - RECONCILIATION TO STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
(A) RECONCILIATION OF CASH			
Cash Assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Cash flow statement is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of financial position as follows:			
Total cash and equivalent assets	5a	16,142	7,639
Balances per cash flow statement		16,142	7,639
(B) RECONCILIATION OF CHANGE IN NET ASSETS TO CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net Surplus (Deficit)		40,556	26,117
Non-cash items in income statement			
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		9,401	9,540
Fair value adjustments		1,342	(406)
Non-cash asset acquisitions		(46,933)	(23,492)
Grants for capital acquisitions (<i>treated as investing activity receipts</i>)		(2,390)	(4,785)
Landfill rehabilitation		(236)	(622)
Net (gain) Loss on disposals		(64)	810
		1,676	7,162
Add (Less): Changes in net current assets			
Net (increase) / decrease in receivables		(29)	(180)
Change in allowances for under-recovery of receivables		(126)	(1)
Net (increase) / decrease in other current assets		252	-
Net (increase) / decrease in trade and other payables		(183)	(345)
Net (increase) / decrease in unpaid employee benefits		79	-
Net (increase) / decrease in other provisions		(2,732)	(1,390)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		(1,063)	5,246
(C) NON-CASH FINANCING AND INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Acquisition of assets by means of:			
- Physical resources received free of charge	2i	46,933	23,492
Amounts recognised in income statement		46,933	23,492
Total non cash financing and investing activities		46,933	23,492
(D) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS			
Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:			
- Corporate credit cards		100	70

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 12 - FUNCTIONS

"Income, Expenses and Assets have been directly attributed to the following Functions / Activities. Details of these Functions/Activities are provided in Note 12(b)."

FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES	INCOME			EXPENSES			"OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)"			"GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME"		"TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)"	
	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Actual 2017	Actual 2018	Actual 2017	Actual 2018	Actual 2017
\$ '000													
General Public Services	22,433	22,832	22,285	22,470	23,503	17,791	(37)	(671)	4,494	1,027	2,293	24,332	30,480
Public Order and Safety	509	509	560	858	847	934	(349)	(338)	(374)	-	-	-	68
Economic Affairs	4,570	4,860	7,832	3,237	3,279	3,506	1,333	1,581	4,326	3,882	6,214	343,324	268,733
Environmental Protection	7,108	7,108	7,265	5,744	5,663	5,339	1,364	1,445	1,926	3	-	-	-
Housing and Community Amenities	-	-	-	1,032	1,035	1,124	(1,032)	(1,035)	(1,124)	-	-	30,333	62,357
Recreation, Culture and Religion	958	958	833	7,116	7,036	7,049	(6,158)	(6,078)	(6,216)	598	574	178,199	52,553
Social Protection	2	-	-	3	3	3	(1)	(3)	(3)	-	1	-	1,822
TOTAL FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES	35,580	36,267	38,775	40,460	41,366	35,746	(4,880)	(5,099)	3,029	5,510	9,082	576,188	416,013

Revenues and expenses exclude net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets, net gain (loss) from joint ventures & associated entities, amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets and physical resources received free of charge.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits

Accounting Policy: Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned.

Terms and conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 2.55% and 2.80% (2017: 2.53% and 3.20%).

Short term deposits have an average maturity of 65 days and an average interest rates of 2.65% (2017: 156 days, 2.79%).

Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

Receivables - Rates and Associated Charges (including legals and penalties for late payment)

Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.

Terms and conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 18% (2017: 18%). Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - Fees and other charges

Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.

Terms and conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - Other levels of government

Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal value.

Terms and conditions: Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of the Governments of the Commonwealth and State.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

Note: Certain of the above receivables do not meet the definition of financial instruments, being statutory charges rather than arising from a contract. Accounting policies are reported here for purposes of completeness but they are excluded from the remainder of the Note.

Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals

Accounting Policy: Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.

Terms and conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT...)

2018	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; < 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Cash and equivalents	16,142	-	-	16,142	16,142
Receivables	436	-	-	436	436
Other financial assets	4,500	-	-	4,500	4,500
Total	21,078	-	-	21,078	21,078
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES					
Payables	3,363	-	-	3,363	3,363
Total	3,363	-	-	3,363	3,363
2017					
FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Cash and equivalents	7,648	-	-	7,648	7,639
Receivables	537	-	-	537	537
Other financial assets	15,218	-	-	15,218	15,000
Total	23,403	-	-	23,403	23,176
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES					
Payables	3,535	-	-	3,535	3,535
Total	3,535	-	-	3,535	3,535

All financial instruments are categorised as loans and receivables.

Note: Statutory receivables, such as rates, have been excluded from the above tables.

Risk Exposures

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any provision for doubtful debts. In accordance with regulations, all Council investments are made with authorised deposit taking institutions. Except as detailed in Notes 5 and 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

Market Risk is the risk that fair values of financial assets will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. All of Council's financial assets are denominated in Australian dollars and are not traded on any market, and hence neither market risk nor currency risk apply.

Liquidity Risk is the risk that Council will encounter difficulty

in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. Liabilities have a range of maturity dates based on cash inflows. Council also has available a range of bank overdraft and short-term draw down facilities that it can access.

Interest Rate Risk is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Most of Council's financial instruments - both assets and liabilities - are at fixed rates. Any such variations in future cash flows will not be material in effect on either Council incomes or expenditures.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
(A) CAPITAL COMMITMENTS		
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Buildings	-	13,566
Roads and footpaths	275	394
	275	13,960
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	275	13,915
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	-	45
Later than 5 years	-	-
	275	13,960
(B) OTHER EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS		
Other expenditure committed for (excluding inventories) at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Audit services	28	-
Waste management services	2,862	6,885
Other maintenance contracts	1,752	-
Landscaping and mowing	2,852	997
Civil works	2,308	3,836
Other	804	1,439
	10,336	13,157
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	7,190	7,397
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	3,075	5,760
Later than 5 years	71	-
	10,336	13,157

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 15 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	Indicator 2018	Prior -Periods	
		2017	2016
(1) CURRENT RATIO			
Current assets - Less externally restricted assets	3.18	3.46	3.75
Current liabilities			
(2) SERVICE RATIO			
Net debt service cost	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operating revenue*			
(3) RATE COVERAGE PERCENTAGE			
Rate revenues	56.67%	57.89%	60.02%
Total revenues			
(4) RATES AND ANNUAL CHARGES OUTSTANDING PERCENTAGE			
Rates and annual charges outstanding	3.39%	3.57%	3.16%
Rates and annual charges collectible			

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 16 - OPERATING LEASES

Leases providing revenue to the Council

Council owns various buildings, plant and other facilities that are available for hire or lease (*on a non-cancellable basis wherever practicable*) in accordance with the published revenue policy. Rentals received from such leases are disclosed as rent and hire of non-investment property in Note 2.

Investment Property

Rentals received, and outgoings reimbursed, in relation to Investment Property are also disclosed in Note 2. These lease agreements, all of which are classified as operating leases, are made on a non-cancellable basis wherever practicable. Lessees commitments under all non-cancellable lease agreements, including those relating to Investment Property, are as follows:

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	662	715
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	1,925	2,069
Later than 5 years	393	1,341
	2,980	4,125

Lease payment commitments of Council

Council has entered into non-cancellable operating leases for various items of computer and other plant and equipment.

No contingent rentals were paid during the current or previous reporting periods.

No lease imposes any additional restrictions on Council in relation to additional debt or further leasing.

Leases in relation to computer and office equipment permit Council, at expiry of the lease, to elect to re-lease, return or acquire the equipment leased.

No lease contains any escalation clause.

Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases that have not been recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	94	126
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	58	166
Later than 5 years	-	-
	152	292



CITY OF PALMERSTON

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 17 - SUPERANNUATION

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the following schemes;

Statewide Super Scheme (under Local Government Superannuation Scheme)

Statewide Super receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (9.50% in 2017/18; 9.50% in 2016/17). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Contributions to Other Superannuation Schemes

The Council also makes contributions to other superannuation schemes selected by employees under the “choice of fund” legislation. All such schemes are of the accumulation type, where the superannuation benefits accruing to the employee are represented by their share of the net assets of the scheme, and no further liability attaches to the Council.

CITY OF PALMERSTON

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 18 - INTERESTS AND OTHER ENTITIES

Council has no interest in any Equity Accounted Businesses such as Joint Ventures, Associates and Joint Operations.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 19 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS HELD FOR SALE AND DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
NON CURRENT ASSETS AND DISPOSAL GROUP ASSETS		
- Land	-	1,613
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS & DISPOSAL GROUP ASSETS	-	1,613

In 2017 an option existed for a developer to purchase a parcel of land. In 2018 the option expired and therefore the land is no longer held for sale.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 20 - CONTINGENCIES AND ASSETS/LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE BALANCE SHEET

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Balance Sheet, but knowledge is considered relevant to the users of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

1. LAND UNDER ROADS

As reported in the Financial Statements, Council is of the opinion that it is not possible to attribute a value sufficiently reliably for these assets to qualify for recognition, and accordingly land under roads has not been recognised in the reports. Land acquired for road purposes during the year is initially recognised at cost, but transferred to fair value at reporting date, effectively writing off the expenditure.

2. POTENTIAL INSURANCE LOSSES

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled. Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to deductible "insurance excesses", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has recognised the potential losses arising from claims known at reporting date based on average historical net cost (including insurance excess) of similar types of claims. Other potential claims not reported to Council may have existed at reporting date.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 21 - EVENTS AFTER THE BALNCE SHEET DATE

Events that occur after the reporting date of 30 June 2018, up to and including the date when the financial statements are “authorised for issue” have been taken into account in preparing these statements. Council has adopted the date of receipt of the Auditors’ Report as the appropriate “authorised for issue” date relating to these General Purpose Financial Statements. Accordingly, the “authorised for issue” date is 29/10/2018.

Council is unaware of any material or significant “non adjusting events” that should be disclosed.

NOTE 22 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The related parties of the Council include:

- the key management personnel (KMP) because they have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Council directly; and
- spouses, children and dependants who are close family members of the KMP and;
- any entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or controlled or jointly controlled by their close family members

TRANSACTIONS WITH KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Transactions with Key Management Personel The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act. In all, 16 persons were paid the following total compensation:

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
THE COMPENSATION PAID TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPRISES		
Salaries, allowances and other short-term employee benefits	1,267	1,034
TOTAL	1,267	1,034

Amounts paid as direct reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of Council have not been included above.

i) Retirement Benefits

No retirement benefits have been made by the Council to KMP during the reporting year.

(ii) Loans to Responsible Persons

No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to KMP during the reporting year.

(iii) Other Transactions

Other than the amount paid as taxpayers or residents (e.g. rates, swimming pool entry fees, etc.) no other transactions have been made with the KMP during the year.

There are no transactions to any organisations, on an arm’s length basis and under normal terms and conditions, where the Council’s KMPs may hold executive positions and/pr Directorships during the year.

(iv) Outstanding Amounts

As at 30 June 2018, there were no outstanding amounts receivable from the Council’s KMP



Independent audit report to the Chief Executive Officer of City of Palmerston

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial report of City of Palmerston (“the Council”), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Chief Executive Officer’s Statement.

In our opinion, the financial report of the City of Palmerston is in accordance with the *Northern Territory Local Government Act*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the City of Palmerston as at 30 June 2018 and of the Council’s performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Local Government (Accounting) Regulations*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the *Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board’s APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the ‘Code’) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The Responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

The Chief Executive Officer of the Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Northern Territory Local Government Act* and for such internal control as the Chief Executive Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for assessing the Council’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Chief Executive Officer either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council’s financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

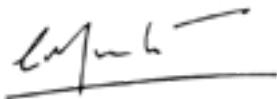
As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Chief Executive Officer.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Chief Executive Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Chief Executive Officer and those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Merit Partners

Merit Partners



MunLi Chee
Director

DARWIN

29 October 2018

meritpartners.com.au



A Place
for
People

The Palmerston ESCARPMENT

city of
PALMERSTON

The Palmerston escarpment is a steep faced ridge that winds it's way through the suburbs of Gunn, Bakewell and Rosbery (Refer map). →

It is recognised by the steepness of the ridge, tall dominant eucalypt trees, rocky outcrops and grasslands.

The total length of the escarpment walk is approximately 2.7km. This section of track from Redshank Court to Buscall Avenue is 220m.

Enjoy the walk and if you would like to participate in the conservation and preservation of the Palmerston bushland, please contact the City of Palmerston.



AUSTRALIAN WALKING TRACK GRADING SYSTEM User Guide for Northern Territory Parks

The trail has been classified as follows: Walking track and the Northern Territory Parks for a Council and Regional Council.

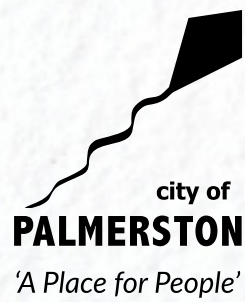
- GRADE 1**
Easy (Child friendly)
The trail is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages.
- GRADE 2**
Easy
The trail is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages.
- GRADE 3**
Moderate
The trail is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages.
- GRADE 4**
Moderate/Difficult
The trail is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages.
- GRADE 5**
Difficult
The trail is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages. The trail is well maintained and is suitable for all ages.



CAUTION

- ⚠ Track use becomes restricted and slower
- ⚠ No water supply points
- ⚠ No rest points or seating
- ⚠ The track is isolated and obscured from public view
- ⚠ Encounters with feral animals and other animals are likely
- ⚠ Mobile coverage may be difficult in some areas of the track
- ⚠ No lighting along track





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