



ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015



CITY OF PALMERSTON | www.palmerston.nt.gov.au

City of Opportunity



Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Palmerston acknowledges the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of all the land and waters of the greater Darwin and Palmerston region.



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Ian Abbott
Mayor

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

The City of Palmerston continues to grow rapidly with residential housing and open space being established in Zuccoli, Durack Heights, Johnston and Bellamack.

Council has closely monitored the development of these areas and, when considered necessary, has lobbied the NT Government to ensure these new suburbs are developed in line with good urban planning principles.

The development of the city centre in accordance with the Palmerston City Centre Master Plan continues to be the main priority for Council. Stage 2 of Goyder Square is currently under construction and is due to be completed

for 'The Boulevard' redevelopment. It is reassuring to see the NT Government invest in our city centre and to share the vision outlined in the Palmerston City Centre Master Plan.

The NT Government has also provided details of a systematic upgrade to Palmerston roads over the next two years. This is an excellent initiative and will support many of the major projects currently under construction in Palmerston.

A "City of Opportunity"

by the end of November 2015. This will provide the Palmerston and Rural Markets with much improved infrastructure and additional room for their growing number of stall holders when they return to Goyder Square for the 2016 dry season.

The City of Palmerston has been fortunate to receive untied grant funding of \$1,487,638 through the Commonwealth Government's Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) program. This funding comprises two components—a general purpose allocation of \$691,350 and a roads allocation of \$796,288. Council is extremely grateful for these allocations along with the "Roads to Recovery" funding and "Black Spot Programme" funding it has received from the Australian Government. Council also acknowledges the financial support it received from the NT Government to support the Palmerston Library and the Festival. A recent application submitted to the NT Government's "Improving Strategic Local Infrastructure Program" was successful with \$2.5M being awarded

For many years the focus on Palmerston has been around residential growth; however, this is now being supported by new shopping centres, hotels, commercial developments, schools and mixed use developments. This will create significant job opportunities for Palmerston residents and will increase the level of social infrastructure available. It is also pleasing to see the construction of the Palmerston Regional Hospital planned for commencement later this year.

Our Community Grants program has seen Council contribute a record \$135,749 to community groups and sporting clubs. Grants awarded varied from Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) in partnership with St John Ambulance to the inaugural NT Athletics 5km Palmerston Fun Run.

The City of Palmerston is shaping into a vibrant, modern regional capital. A city to be proud of, and reflects our vision a "City of Opportunity".

D. Abbott
(Mayor)

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

The 2014-2015 year saw the City of Palmerston continue to focus on delivering the Palmerston City Centre Master Plan.

This included the adoption of several plans / strategies during the year including the:

- Palmerston City Centre Master Plan 2015;
- Palmerston City Centre Planning Framework;
- Palmerston City Centre Public Realm Great Streets Strategy; and
- Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy.



The implementation of the Master Plan also continued during the year with the completion of Stage 1 of 'The Boulevard' redevelopment which was completed in early 2015 at a cost of \$4.395M. Following the completion of design work for the city centre open space, Council agreed to call tenders for Stage 2 of the Goyder Square redevelopment with these works expected to be completed by the end of November 2015. This will bring the total outlay for City Centre redevelopment projects to \$11M by the end of 2015.

Council has proactively sought grant funding to continue the redevelopment of the City Centre and achieved success through the NT Government's "Improving Strategic Local Infrastructure Program" with an amount of \$2.5M being awarded for Stage 2 of 'The Boulevard' redevelopment. An application has also been lodged with the Australian Government's "National Stronger Regions Fund" for an additional \$2M to complete this project. It is anticipated this project will commence in mid-2016.

The completion of the Odegaard Drive Units has seen this building development leased back to the Department of Housing as part of the NT Government's "Real Housing for Growth" program. This will assist in providing affordable rental housing for a number of Palmerston residents and provide an alternative revenue source for Council.

Residential growth in Palmerston remains strong with Australian Bureau of Statistics Population

Ricki Bruhn
CEO

Growth figures indicating that the population had reached 33,900 at the end of June 2014. This includes an increase of 1,700 people during 2013-2014, the highest growth area in the Northern Territory. Current estimates now have the population in excess of 35,000.

This rapid population growth is also being supported by major developments including:

- Rydges Palmerston Hotel;
- Gateway Shopping Centre;
- Bakewell Woolworths Development;
- Palmerston Regional Hospital;
- Oasis Shopping Centre Refurbishment;
- The Boulevard Plaza Mixed Use Development;
- Bellamack Special School;
- Duplication of Tiger Brennan Drive;
- Commercial developments in Rosebery and Bellamack; and
- Planning for new schools in Zuccoli.

These major developments and the commitment by Council to rejuvenate the City Centre demonstrate considerable confidence in Palmerston by all levels of government and the private sector.

Council also completed its Review of Constitutional Arrangements in accordance with legislative requirements. This has been forwarded to the

Minister for Local Government and Community Services with the following changes proposed:

- increasing the number of elected representatives (not counting the Mayor) from six to eight;
- changing the title of elected members from Alderman to Councillor; and
- amending the boundaries of the Palmerston Municipality.

A decision on these proposals will be made by the Minister in conjunction with proposals received from other councils.

The Council continues to provide a wide range of services and facilities which are well received by residents. Details of a cross-section of these services are provided throughout this Annual Report.

I acknowledge the direction and support I receive from the Elected Members and the dedication of our 77 staff members who work together to create a 'City of Opportunity' and to 'Build a Better Palmerston'.

R. Bruhn

(Chief Executive Officer)

33,900 
AT THE END OF JUNE 2014.

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Population Growth figures indicating
that the population had reached
33,900 at the end of June 2014.



VISION AND MISSION

Our Vision

City of Opportunity

Our Mission

*Building a Better
Palmerston*

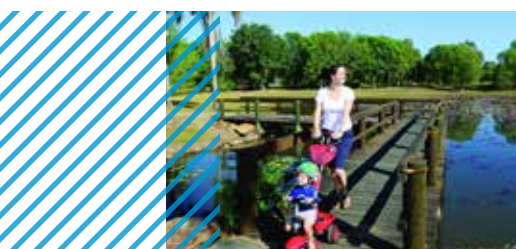
Our Values

We are committed to:

- Community involvement and teamwork
- Commitment and accountability
- Sustainability and self sufficiency
- Support for diversity
- Respect for culture
- A culture of continuous improvement

52.9km²

Palmerston Area covers



OUR CITY

The second largest city in the NT, Palmerston is a young, vibrant regional hub with a fast-growing future. Located 20kms from the Territory's capital Darwin, Palmerston is a diverse community with many young families calling the city home, along with defence personnel and a range of local businesses.

The city boasts more than 33,900 residents, two shopping centres, a well utilised regional library, a GP Super Clinic, a swimming and fitness centre, a recreation centre and gymnasium, a number of sporting grounds dotted in and around the city and a water park, proving it has come a long way since welcoming its first resident 33 years ago.

Palmerston is currently undergoing a significant period of infrastructure growth and development, with Council adopting a detailed Master Plan for the city centre to be rolled out over the next 20 years. Designed to accommodate Palmerston's growing population and reinvigorate the City Centre, work on the first stage of the Master Plan commenced at the end of 2013. The redevelopment will see Goyder Square, the City Centre's major open space, transform into a vibrant new social hub where residents are able to meet, relax and enjoy Palmerston's tropical lifestyle. 'The Boulevard' is also being redeveloped to create a bustling new main street for Palmerston. For more information on Palmerston's strong plans for the future of the City Centre visit www.palmerston.nt.gov.au.

The growth of Palmerston continues to expand with a number of major projects announced and several of these already underway:

\$300M	Gateway Shopping Centre
\$200M	Boulevard Plaza Mixed Use Development
\$150M	Palmerston Regional Hospital
\$88M	Tiger Brennan Drive Duplication
\$50M	Rydges Palmerston Hotel
\$20M	Woolworths Bakewell
\$21M	Bellamack Special School



33,900 
people

28 years 
average age

25.8% 
of population under 15 years

4.1% 
of population over 65 years

16 
suburbs, 2 light industrial areas

12,289 
residential properties

120 
defined parks

404 
assets maintained under contract

The NT and Federal Governments have committed to the construction of a new hospital facility which will be located on the outskirts of the city, servicing residents in both Palmerston and the rural area. It is anticipated the hospital will be completed in 2018.

With a projected population of 42,000 by 2021, accelerated growth is high on the region's agenda with four suburbs under construction including the rapid expansion of existing suburbs Bellamack and Johnston, and new residential developments Zuccoli and The Heights Durack.

A must-see for families is the city's water park 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 refurbished skate park conveniently located next door. Palmerston is home to an 18-hole golf course and a six-screen cinema complex. Every Friday night during the dry, the Palmerston Markets are a cornerstone of the City's unique culture. Enjoy

fresh fruit and vegetables, local arts, entertainment and a range of delicious cuisine from around the globe – the Palmerston Markets are an experience for the senses!

Palmerston provides a green retreat, with a wealth of picturesque open spaces providing the ideal location for a quiet BBQ or leisurely morning walk. The many kilometres of well-kept bike paths are worth a visit for eager riders looking to explore the region.

The city recently welcomed the opening of the Rydges Palmerston, offering guests 4 star accommodation, to accompany the established Quest Serviced Apartments. When it comes to cuisine, Palmerston caters for a wide range of tastes, from boutique restaurants and cafes to popular chain outlets.

With a strong plan in place for the region's future growth, the City of Palmerston proves to be a

'City of Opportunity.'



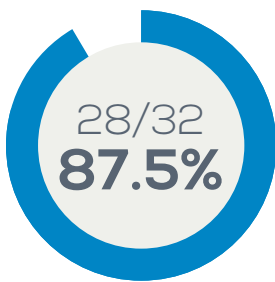
OUR COUNCIL

In accordance with the Local Government Act, Council is made up of seven elected members: a principal member holding the title of Mayor, and six elected members holding the title of Alderman.

Each year Council elects one Alderman to serve as Deputy Mayor for a term of 12 months. The City of Palmerston operates under a single (or 'no wards') system with each of the seven elected members representing the entire city. With 17,475 electors as at 2015, this makes a ratio of one elected member for every 2,913 electors.

Shown in the photograph above are, from left to right: (back) Alderman Andrew Byrne, Alderman Paul Bunker, Deputy Mayor Heather Malone (10 April 2014 to 10 April 2015) and Alderman Geoff Carter, and (front) Deputy Mayor Sue McKinnon (11 April 2015 to date), Mayor Ian Abbott and Alderman Seranna Shutt.

Over the course of 2014-2015 Deputy Mayor Heather Malone completed her 12 month term as Deputy Mayor, following which Alderman McKinnon was appointed Deputy Mayor.



Attended Council meetings (regular and special)



Attended Governance and Organisation Committee meetings



Attended Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee meetings



Attended Community, Culture and Environment Committee meetings



Ian Abbott Mayor

Mayor Ian Abbott was elected in the Local Government Election on 24 March 2012 and provides the following biography:

“ I first joined Council as an Alderman through a By-Election in August 1999 and was re-elected on 27 May 2000 in the full election. I served as Deputy Mayor in 2003-2004 and again in 2007-2008. I aim to fully represent the community and present the wider views of Palmerston residents.

In particular, I am interested in youth issues and ensuring the survival of small community and sporting groups. My goal is to ensure a strong representative Council that encourages a strong city.”

Mayor Abbott is ex-officio on all committees of Council but represents Council particularly as a member of the following committees or organisations:

- Palmerston Safe Communities Committee
- CEO Performance Appraisal Committee
- City of Palmerston Administrative Review Committee
- City of Palmerston Internal Audit Committee
- Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC)
- Local Government Association NT (LGANT)



Sue McKinnon

Deputy Mayor (11 April 2015 to Date)

Sue McKinnon was first elected to Council as an Alderman in March 2008 and re-elected at the 2012 Local Government Election.

At its 7 April 2015 meeting Council elected Alderman McKinnon to serve as the City's Deputy Mayor for a 12 month period commencing Saturday 11 April 2015.

Deputy Mayor McKinnon has provided the following biography:

"I aim to provide a community focused and environmentally aware approach to Council decisions through community consultations and on-ground small community-driven local projects. I am particularly focused on improving access to social, creative and recreational activities for the whole community.

I reactivated and incorporated the Mitchell Creek Catchment Landcare Group Incorporated in 2011 with a nine person management committee that I chair, which organises recreation, education, advocacy and planning activities and wider community engagement with the natural environment of the Catchment.

In 2013 I received "Individual Natural Resource Management Champion" at the Inaugural NT Natural Resource Management Awards and the "Individual Landcarer Winner" at the 2013 NT Landcare Awards.

My interests are reading, gardening, current affairs, politics, music (listening), art and craft, writing, walking, cycling and bird watching."

Deputy Mayor McKinnon represents Council on the following committees and organisations:

- Palmerston Safe Communities Committee
- City of Palmerston Administrative Review Committee
- Local Government Association NT (Alternate)
- Community, Culture and Environment Committee
- Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee



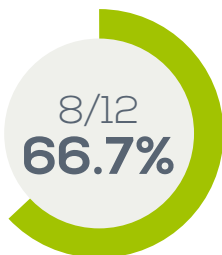
Attended Council meetings
(regular and special)



Attended Governance and
Organisation Committee
meetings (Observer)



Attended Economic
Development and
Infrastructure Committee
meetings



Attended Community, Culture
and Environment Committee
meetings

Andrew Byrne Alderman



Following the Local Government Election on 24 March 2012, Andrew Byrne was elected Alderman of City of Palmerston. Alderman Byrne served 12 months as the City's Deputy Mayor in 2013/14.

Andrew provides the following information:

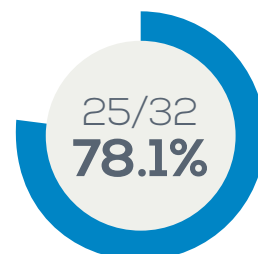
"I have been involved in the Finance and Insurance Industry for over 20 years. I moved to Palmerston with my young family in 2003. I am the Vice President of the Palmerston Regional Business Association and I am involved with a number of sporting clubs.

Palmerston is a vibrant city that is growing rapidly, I believe it is important to attract more business and develop infrastructure that keeps up with this growth.

We also need to support community groups and sporting clubs so our children have a choice of activities. I hope being a part of council I can play an active part in ensuring the success and development of these groups."

Alderman Byrne represents Council on the following committees:

- Youth Inspiring Palmerston
- City of Palmerston Internal Audit Committee
- Development Consent Authority (DCA) Palmerston Division
- Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee
- Governance and Organisation Committee (Chair)



Attended Council meetings
(regular and special)



Attended Governance and
Organisation Committee
meetings



Attended Economic
Development and
Infrastructure Committee
meetings



Attended Community, Culture
and Environment Committee
meetings (Observer)



Seranna Shutt Alderman

Seranna joined the City of Palmerston Council on the 5th of November 2013 following a by-election.

Seranna provided the following information:

“Since joining Council, some of my highlights include supporting the redevelopment of Goyder Square, keeping a low CPI increase of 1.9% for the majority of Palmerston ratepayers, increasing the overall amount of community grants provided to organisations, introducing the online community directory and the building a better neighbourhood program, and active participation in Council events such as the Palmerston Festival, FlicNics, Palmerston Fun Run, Australia Day and Picnics in the Park.

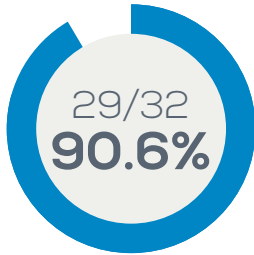
I currently combine my Alderman duties with full time work and as a weekend radio announcer role with Territory FM and can be found at the Palmerston Markets most Friday nights!

I am always aiming to improve my professional skills and since being elected I have completed a Diploma of Business Governance and am currently studying a Certificate 4 in Professional Writing and Editing.

I believe paying it forward is important, therefore I participate on various community boards including Northern Territory Aids and Hepatitis Council (NTAHC) and Australian Local Government Women’s Association (ALGWA) NT branch, I also chair the inaugural ALGWA International Women’s Day Dinner Committee who are currently planning the 2016 event.

Alderman Shutt is currently a member of the following Council committees:

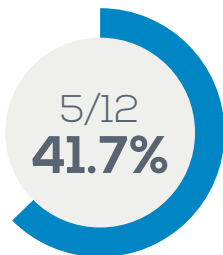
- Community, Culture and Environment Committee
- Governance and Organisation Committee



Attended Council meetings
(regular and special)



Attended Governance and
Organisation Committee
meetings



Attended Economic
Development and
Infrastructure Committee
meetings (Observer)



Attended Community, Culture
and Environment Committee
meetings

Paul Bunker Alderman



Following the Local Government Election on 24 March 2012, Paul Bunker was elected Alderman for the City of Palmerston. Alderman Bunker also served for 12 months as the City's Deputy Mayor in 2012/13.

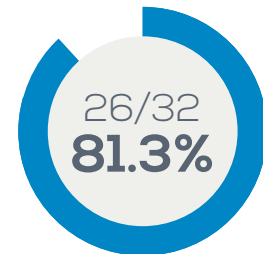
Paul provided the following information:

"I served 20 years in the Australian Defence Force and upon leaving in 1995 I settled with my family in Palmerston. I have three daughters who have all completed their schooling and grown up in Palmerston, with two still living here. I have worked in the Real Estate industry since leaving the Defence Force and in 2010 established a Real Estate business locally now employing 10 local people. I have lived in numerous cities across Australia while serving in the Defence Force, but when I retired I decided to make Palmerston my home.

I believe in our City and have a real passion to drive future development and implementation of our City Centre Master Plan for the future. I am excited for the future of Palmerston and look forward to helping make it a city we can all be proud of."

Alderman Bunker represents Council on the following committees and organisations:

- CEO Performance Appraisal Committee
- Administrative Review Committee
- Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC)
- Development Consent Authority (DCA) Palmerston Division
- Local Government Association NT (LGANT)
- Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee (Chair)
- Governance and Organisation Committee



Attended Council meetings
(regular and special)



Attended Governance and
Organisation Committee
meetings



Attended Economic
Development and
Infrastructure Committee
meetings



Heather Malone Deputy Mayor

Heather Malone was first elected as Alderman for the City of Palmerston at the 2012 Local Government Election.

At its 1 April 2014 meeting Council elected Alderman Malone to serve as the City's Deputy Mayor for a 12 month period commencing Thursday 10 April 2014.

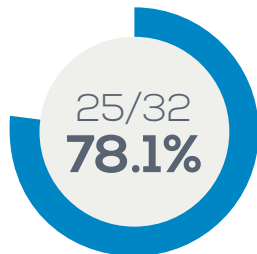
Alderman Malone has provided the following biography:

"I grew up in the Territory and have resided in Palmerston for 13 years. I am married with two, grown up, boys. I previously owned Penny's Fancy Dress, the Telstra Micro Business of 2010. I also won the Telstra Business Woman of the Year and Commonwealth Bank Business owner 2010.

As an active part of the Palmerston community, I intend to bring my business skills, compassion, energy, drive, problem solving skills and strength to the table of the City of Palmerston."

Alderman Malone represented Council on the following committees and organisations:

- NT Council of the Ageing (COTA)
- Tourism Top End
- Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee
- Community, Culture and Environment Committee (Chair)
- Development Consent Authority (DCA) Palmerston Division (Alternate)



Attended Council meetings
(regular and special)



Attended Governance and
Organisation Committee
meetings (Observer)



Attended Economic
Development and
Infrastructure Committee
meetings



Attended Community, Culture
and Environment Committee
meetings

Geoff Carter Alderman



Geoff Carter was appointed to Council as an Alderman in May 2007 having lived in Palmerston since 2002. He served as Deputy Mayor from 2011-2012. At the local government election on 24 March 2012 he was re-elected as Alderman of City of Palmerston.

Alderman Carter provided the following information:

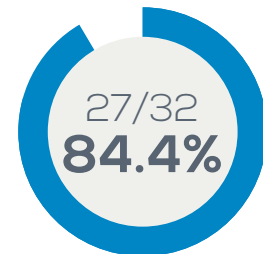
"Since joining Council, I have been a strong supporter of the arts in our community. Historically I was the founding Bandmaster of the Australian Army Band Darwin and rose to the rank of Warrant Officer Class One in the Australian Army before retiring in June 2013. I was awarded the Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours list in 1993 for services to military music.

I play with the Arafura Wind Ensemble with whom I was Music Director from 2001 to 2010. I also play (infrequently now) with the Darwin Symphony Orchestra. I am currently Music Director of the Darwin City Brass Band.

It is my endeavour to get, for Palmerston, a truly multifunction Entertainment Centre, which will support all levels and genre of the Arts in our great city. I am also very keen to advance effective animal management within the City".

Alderman Carter represents Council on the following committees:

- Governance and Organisation Committee
- Community, Culture and Environment Committee
- CEO Performance Appraisal Committee



Attended Council meetings
(regular and special)



Attended Governance and
Organisation Committee
meetings



Attended Economic
Development and
Infrastructure Committee
meetings (Observer)



Attended Community, Culture
and Environment Committee
meetings

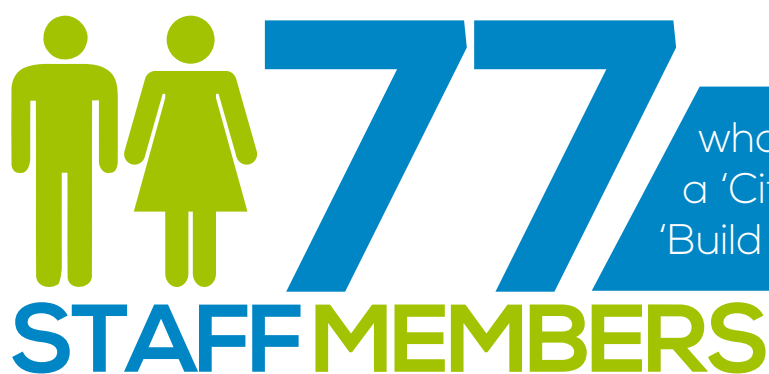
OUR STAFF

As per the Local Government Act, Council employs a Chief Executive Officer and delegates a number of authorities 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 elected members to ensure Council goals and objectives are met. The CEO is charged by the Local Government Act with the responsibility for managing Council's human resources in an effective and compliant manner.

Approximately 77 staff members operate under the CEO's direction, divided amongst the Corporate and Community Services and the Technical Services departments.

Working at Council provides a number of career opportunities from waste management to healthy eating and nutrition specialisations, and staff are skilled professionals in each of their specialised areas. Council's dedication to continuous improvement means a wide range of professional development and training opportunities are regularly offered in order to strengthen the organisation's capacity and to broaden staff skills.



who work together to create a 'City of Opportunity' and to 'Build a Better Palmerston'.

Working at Council provides a number of career opportunities

CEO

RICKI BRUHN

Director of Corporate
and Community
Services

Director of
Technical
Services

Human
Resources
Payroll
WHS
Recruitment
Employee Relations

Library
Life long learning
Digital Literacy
Early Literacy
Community Space
Reference
Digital Resources
Physical Resources
Outreach Services

Technical
Operations
Civil Operations
Major Projects
Buildings/Facilities
Open Space
Maintenance

Rangers
Animal
Management
Parking
Litter
Open Spaces

Records
Records
Management

Finance
Rates
Customer Service
Accounts Payable
Accounts
Receivable

Planning
Strategic
Statutory

Environmental
Services
Emergency
Management
Environment
Waste

Community
Services
Community
Development
COPAL
Arts/Culture
Youth
Sport recreation
Safe Communities
Children and
Families
Seniors
Grants
Facilities

IT
Digital Systems
Trouble Shooting
Customer Care
Back Up
Software
Hardware

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

1. Community and Cultural Wellbeing

- Library launches Facebook Page
- Library forms partnership with Tactile Arts to introduce a program of contemporary and educational art workshops
- Council provided \$135,749 in financial support to community groups and organisations through grants, donations and sponsorships
- Palmerston Festival
- Palmerston becomes an official Refugee Welcome Zone
- eBook platform added to the library collection. Wheelers eBook platform was identified as an important diversification to the Library e-resource provision.
- First library in the NT to implement Printer On, a mobile printing service which allows users to access printing facilities remotely from their device whether in the library or at home.

2. Economic Development

- The Boulevard Project Stage 1 Completed
- Goyder Square Stage 2 – Design (*construction commenced July 2015*)
- Palmerston City Centre Master Plan 2015;
- Palmerston City Centre Planning Framework;
- Palmerston City Centre Public Realm Great Streets Strategy; and

- Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy.
- Completion of the 15 unit complex at 48 Odegaard Drive Rosebery.

3. Environment and Infrastructure

- Obtaining a NTG Black Spot grant for \$500K for the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of Temple Terrace and Emery Avenue
- National finalist in the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Award 2014
- Road construction and new roundabout on Lakeview Boulevard
- Obtained a 16ha land grant for the future Archer Waste Management Centre.

4. Governance and Organisation

- New accounting, payroll and customer request management system
- Technical Services Contract Management Guidelines
- Programmed risk inspections for roads, pathways and stormwater drains
- LGMA NT Management Challenge Winners
- Implementation of Managed ICT Services improving reliability of systems
- Change of Enterprise Resource Planning System to improve governance and move towards paperless working
- Review of Financial and Human Resource Policies



YEAR AT A GLANCE

July 2014

COPAL's Outdoor Explorers Activity is a family version of Race around Palmerston, called "Outdoor Explorers". It was held across the 2014 June/July School Holidays.

August 2014

Library Facebook page launched!
2014 Palmerston Festival.

September 2014

Adelaide 36ers visit along with Townsville Crocs and Japanese National Team.

Library and Tactile Arts introduce a contemporary and educational art workshops program.

October 2014

The Library became the first library in the NT to implement Printer On, a mobile printing service.

November 2014

WorkPro was introduced as an online, induction and training tool providing information and training regarding bullying, harassment and Work Health Safety.

December 2014

In commemoration of Cyclone Tracy, the library created a public display showcasing newspaper clippings from The Melbourne Sun, donated by locals Rex and Ros Palmer.

City of Palmerston Christmas Carols Event and Goyder Square Christmas Tree lighting ceremony.

January 2015

Australia Day Ceremony welcoming 47 New Australian citizens to Palmerston.

February 2015

Council released the draft Development Guidelines for public feedback.

March 2015

Completion of Stage 1 of The Boulevard upgrade from the intersection at The Boulevard-Chung Wah Terrace to the intersection at The Boulevard - Frances Drive.

The Library added an additional eBook platform to their collection.
City of Palmerston was LGMA-NT Management Challenge winners.

April 2015

Roberts Day commissioned as the lead design consultant for Stage 2 of Goyder Square.

Major sponsorship of the very first Palmy 5k Fun Run, the event delivered by Athletics NT.

May 2015

The Activate 2015 program, in its tenth year, was a huge success, offering 500 participants a choice of 448 physical activity sessions from 18 different providers over eight weeks.

June 2015

Construction of unit complex 48 Odegaard Drive, Rosebery, completed and head-leased to the Department of Housing under the NT Government's Real Housing for Growth Initiative.

City of Palmerston team competed in the Australasian Final of the Local Government Managers Australia Management Challenge in Melbourne.

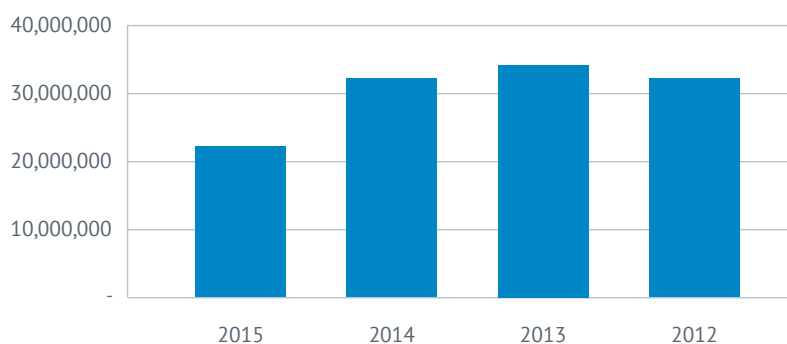
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

	2015	2014	2013	2012
TOTAL INCOME	27,382,911	25,143,296	24,398,582	24,226,857
TOTAL EXPENSES	32,907,966	31,203,000	28,332,866	26,228,022
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(5,525,055)	(6,059,704)	(3,934,284)	(2,001,165)
LESS DEPRECIATION	8,134,394	8,329,600	6,461,767	6,298,558
OPERATING SURPLUS	2,609,339	2,269,896	2,527,483	4,297,393
TOTAL ASSETS	383,129,959	387,974,667	343,786,965	319,709,845
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,175,107	3,714,564	3,076,154	2,489,539
NET ASSETS	378,954,852	384,260,103	340,710,811	317,220,306

City of Palmerston has improved its operational financial position for the 2014/2015 financial year by increasing its operating income by 8.91% with only a 5.46% increase to operating expenditure. This has allowed our Operating Deficit (which includes depreciation of \$8,134,394) to be reduced by 8.82% compared to the previous year. The actual results achieved for 2014/2015 align closely with the revised budget for 2014/2015.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

■ Cash and cash equivalents



Following a change to our accounting policies to reflect gifted assets, the City of Palmerston has experienced significant growth in infrastructure assets since the 2012/2013 financial year which is reflected in the growth of Total Assets. Gifted assets (newly created assets funded by developers) are now recognised at the date of practical completion. These new developments in Palmerston increase the amount of infrastructure to be maintained by Council, with an increase in value of over \$60M since 2011/2012.

The gradual increase of Total Liabilities is due to major Capital Works programs running into the dry season. This results in Council accounting for increased Accounts Payable at the end of the financial year.

12,281 

residential assessments generated \$14.8M in rates

357 

commercial assessments generated \$1.5M in rates

265 

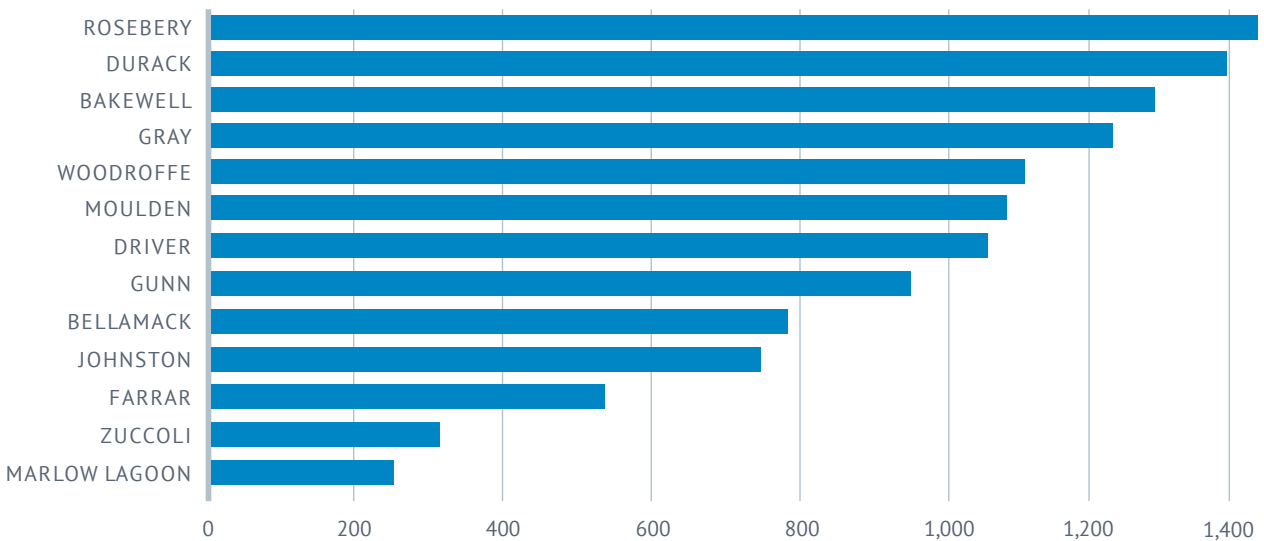
industrial assessments generated \$0.4M in rates

The City of Palmerston has no loan borrowings or debt at the end of the 2014/2015 financial year.

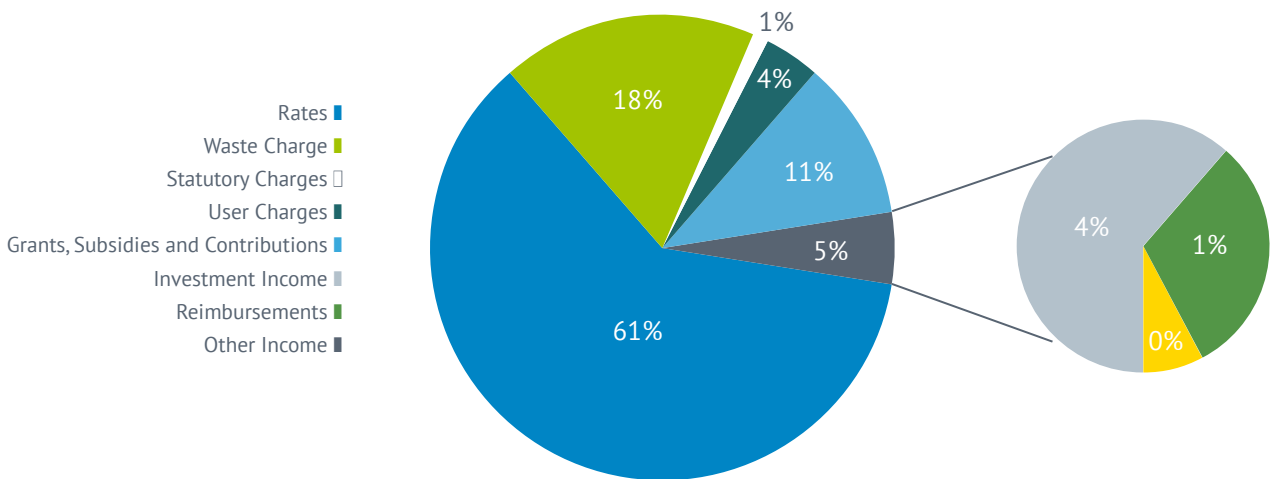
Overall the City of Palmerston is showing a Current Ratio of 5.33:1, meaning the current assets are 5.33 times the amount of current liabilities. Although the Current Ratio has declined over the last four years, the

City of Palmerston is still presenting a healthy cash liquidity position. With major investments within the municipality, Council has created valuable long term assets which provide for income generating opportunities into the future.

NO. OF RATED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES



TOTAL INCOME 2014/2015



The City of Palmerston generated \$27.4M in operational income for 2014/2015. Whilst Rates remain the main source of income at 61%, Council is investigating other opportunities to create alternative sources of income to reduce the pressure on ratepayers. A recently completed project is the residential unit development Odegaard Drive Rosebery as part of the 'Real Housing for Growth' initiative announced by the NT Government.

Investment Income reduced by 23% from the previous year due to term deposit rates dropping. The weighted average rate of short term investments decreased from 3.85% in 2014 to 3.35% for 2015. Council also utilised its Reserve Funds to complete significant capital projects including the unit development in Rosebery and the first stage of The Boulevard redevelopment in the Central Business District.

The annual Waste Charge for residential properties generated \$4.875M in 2014/2015, accounting for 18% of total income and balancing the \$4.897M of expenditure to deliver this important service to the residents of Palmerston.

8,476

Purchase invoices posted in 2014/15

\$17.5M

paid to suppliers

64%

of the \$17.5M paid to NT suppliers

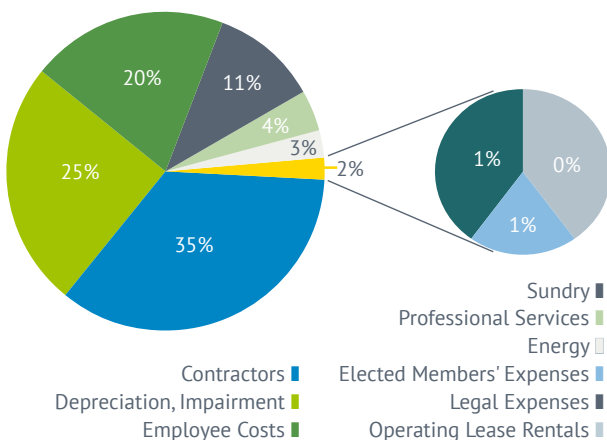


City of Palmerston has received a total of \$2.5M in grants in 2014/15.

FUNDING FOR	FUNDING FROM	\$ IN 2014/15
FAA - ROADS COMPONENT	Department of Local Government & Community Services	796,288
FAA - GENERAL COMPONENT	Department of Local Government & Community Services	691,350
LIBRARY OPERATING GRANT	Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts & Sport	570,612
ROADS TO RECOVERY 2015	Department of Infrastructure & Transport	269,190
COPAL	Department of Health NT	100,000
PALMERSTON FESTIVAL AUGUST 2014	Arts NT	50,000
JOY ANDERSON CENTRE	Department of Health & Ageing	7,311
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS	NT Office of Youth Affairs	3,500
AUSTRALIA DAY GRANT - PALMERSTON AUSTRALIA DAY COMMITTEE	Palmerston Australia Day Committee	1,000

The City of Palmerston would like to acknowledge all levels of government and the individual funding institutions for their financial support during 2014/2015.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2014/2015



The City of Palmerston's main expenditures for 2014/2015 were Contractors at a cost of \$11.4M. These contracts provide for services such as waste

collection, street sweeping, road maintenance, mowing, parks & gardens maintenance, the operation of the waste transfer station and many others.

Depreciation (non-cash item) for the City of Palmerston has increased by 29% from the reinstated 2012/2013 to 2013/2014 year due to new assets handed over by developers. With new suburbs being developed, Council's responsibility to maintain assets increases. Depreciation is the cost of using those assets in a financial year. Currently Council is not fully funding its depreciation through its operating income, however is working towards doing so to ensure a more sustainable financial future.

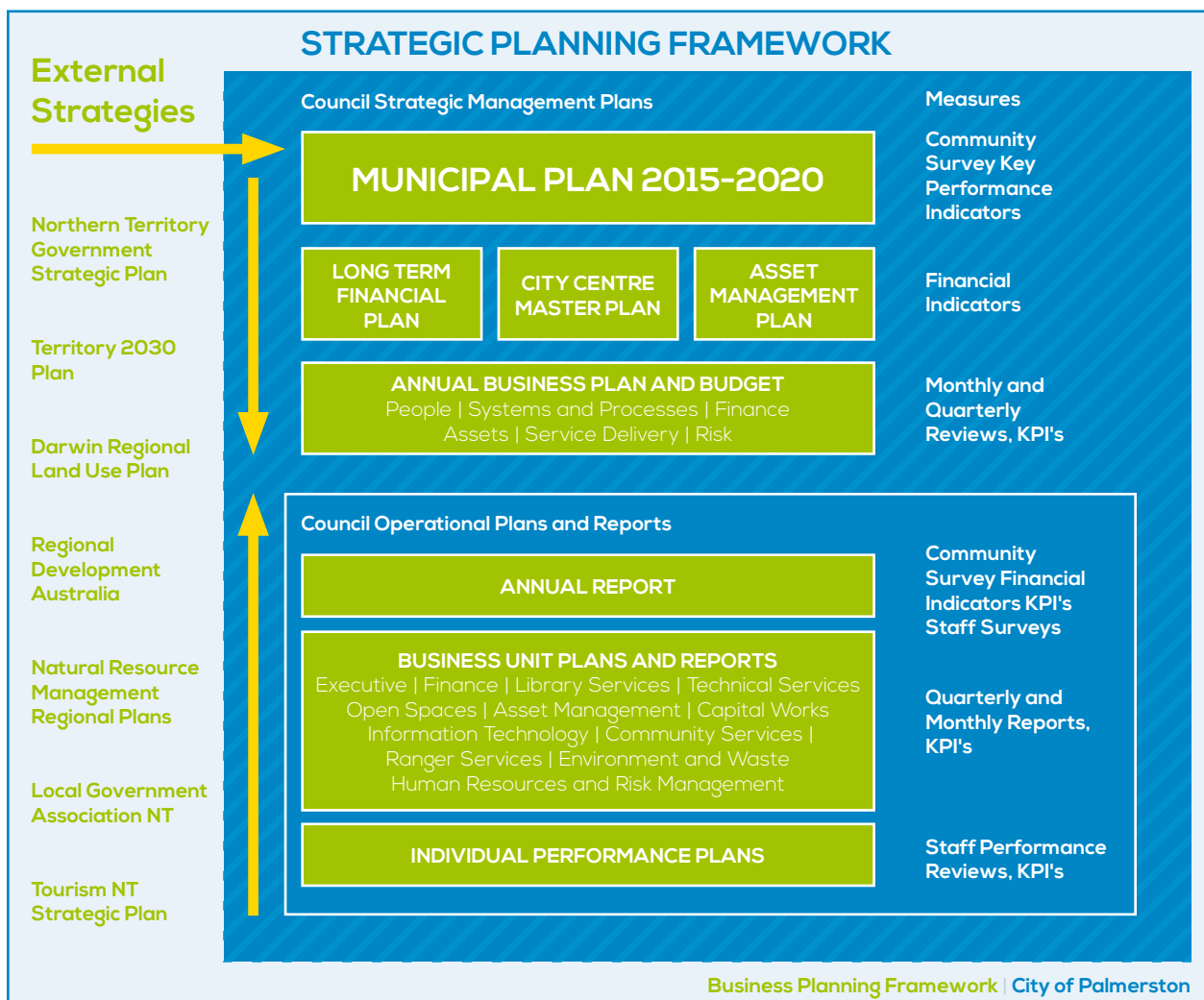
Employee Costs of \$6.7M includes expenses for staff wages and salaries, workers compensation, compulsory superannuation contributions, salary continuance insurance, Fringe Benefits Tax and other employee related expenses. Council currently employs 77 staff (72 full time equivalent) and is operating under the City of Palmerston Enterprise Agreement 2013.

STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK



The Annual Report plays an important role in Council's Strategic Planning Framework, providing a report on Council's activities and performance against the strategies outlined in Council's Municipal Plan, which was reviewed and updated in June 2015. It reports on the four Strategic Focus areas which cover the services and responsibilities of Council: Community and Cultural Wellbeing, Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure, and Governance and Organisation.

STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK DIAGRAM



MEASURING PERFORMANCE

How we Measure Performance

Primary Performance Indicators:
Community Satisfaction Survey

Council is very aware performance is 'in the eye of the beholder', and the satisfaction of the community is the primary measure of performance. No matter how well we think we are doing, it is the community's opinion that matters

For this reason, wherever possible there is a survey score for a particular service or activity tied to each outcome. The survey has been conducted annually by Roy Morgan Research on behalf of Council since 2012 and the scores are used to determine overall performance of Council with regards to a

providing an objective outcome the community can rely on.

Results from the survey are expressed with a numerical score. A score of 100 is equivalent of the community expressing its satisfaction with Council's performance, with scores higher than 100 expressing a rising degree of satisfaction, and scores below 100 indicating that Council needs to perform better. Council aims to have scores in all areas above 100.

The public is strongly encouraged to provide feedback regarding the Municipal Plan. The success of this plan is reliant on it matching the needs and addressing the concerns of the community! Email us at palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au or call 08 8935 9922.

Understanding Council's Municipal Plan

most. In Council's Municipal Plan 2015-2020, Council promised to use these measures as the primary reporting mechanism to the community, and this Annual Report 2014-2015 provides this.

particular outcome.

With roughly 400 telephone interviews conducted completely at random, Council has no ability to influence the analysis of community satisfaction, thus

Performance Table
2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

		2012	2013	2014	2015
	Sample size	401	407	402	400
	Projected population over 18	18,677	18,678	19,588	19,588
1.1	HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	97.09	98.69	97.73	95.78
1.2	SAFE COMMUNITIES	84.35	86.79	84.93	77.14
1.3	ARTS AND CULTURE	110.47	109.70	111.91	107.45
1.4	RECREATION	119.13	118.18	114.69	111.82
2.1	TOURISM	n/a	n/a	85.75	84.25
2.2	LOCAL BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY	85.63	85.53	85.54	82.92
2.3	CITY PLANNING	n/a	n/a	89.41	80.22
3.1	ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	95.98	95.19	96.93	91.30
3.2	ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE	110.61	111.79	107.75	106.65
3.3	WASTE	129.69	129.94	133.40	129.25
4.1	RESPONSIBILITY	83.89	82.74	80.93	75.27
4.2	SERVICE	82.02	82.34	82.00	73.18
4.3	PEOPLE	94.09	94.51	94.38	88.20
4.4	SYSTEMS	89.64	92.26	92.69	93.54

1. COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL WELLBEING



1.1 Healthy Communities

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

- Healthy Lifestyle Programs
- COPAL (Childhood Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle) Program
- Support and Advocacy: Families, Youth and Seniors
- Support and Advocacy: Medical Facilities and Services
- Support and Advocacy: Disability Access

Unfortunately our survey results report a slight decrease in satisfaction with the healthy communities services provided by Council. We are encouraged that the score remains relatively high and we will continue to review the services and programs we offer as part of our commitment to providing quality health and family support to the community.

We have a wide network of parks and recreational facilities where people of all ages can be active, healthy and enjoy our great tropical lifestyle. These spaces are brought to life by a range of Council programs, initiatives and resources that help our residents to eat well, be active and be involved in a safe and vibrant community.



We are committed to providing quality health and family support services



COPAL - Life Looks Brighter Outside

COPAL supports Palmerston children, through their families and communities, to be healthy now and stay healthy for life. The program works with children's biggest influences—family, friends and peers—across the places where children live, learn and play. COPAL works closely with local organisations to support ideas, information, activities and changes within our community that make healthy choices easier for you and your family.

COPAL's Outdoor Explorers activity is a family version of Race around Palmerston that was held across the 2014 June/July School Holidays. Families were encouraged to explore Palmerston's parks using their "COPAL Pocket Guide to Outside" and answer questions along the way. The program culminated in a combined COPAL and Library Family Fun Day at Goyder Square and the winners were awarded with family outdoor activity packs.

COPAL Family Fun Days is a new initiative introduced in 2014-2015. We have hosted four family fun days so far this dry season. The locations have been strategically selected to either bring residents of specific areas together in a fun day at their local park or to add value to other Council activities. Activities included the imagination playground, half-court basketball, Life Be In It games and other engagement activities.

The COPAL Small Grants Program was open to schools and early childhood settings again this past year with a focus on encouraging activities that took learning outdoors, developed school gardens or greening initiatives. For the 2014-2015 year, COPAL provided

support funding for one garden project, three schools to send multiple classes for practical bike education sessions at Parap Road Safety Centre, and two school excursions to field days or other community gardens for environment studies.

In May 2015, with its theme "Life is Brighter Outside", Council and COPAL launched a brand new initiative, Picnic in the Park, connecting families and children with their local parks and encouraging our community to live healthy and active lifestyles. As part of this, a free healthy breakfast was provided at each picnic, educating parents and children on healthy morning eating habits. Kids enjoyed plenty of great outdoor activities including Fun & Games with Life Be In It, Imagination Playground and the smoothie bike.

In its launch phase, the Picnic in the Park initiative proved to be very popular with local residents and families. An overwhelming number of residents participated in the first three events, activating local parks and spaces and creating a community based hub for local residents wanting to form relationships with their community and neighbours.

Council engaged Graeme Denton of Bright Spark Entertainment to perform his acclaimed 'Maximum Power' show for Palmerston school children. From 25 to 31 March, Graeme performed 10 shows, reaching over 1,000 Palmerston kids with his healthy lifestyle messages about eating well, being active and sleeping well so they can reach 'maximum power'. Using a combination of magic and humour he had the kids mesmerised while taking these important messages on board.



Activate Participant Feedback

"We loved the large participation from the community and their eager attitude to join in on the activities we provided. We also appreciated the prompt and professional interaction with Palmerston Council staff."

"It covered a range of activities for people of all ages and fitness".

"Keep it going all dry season".

"I think it is a great program and cannot think of anything to make it better".

"I think it's fantastic, I have lived in 4 states and never seen anything like this offered. It is Brilliant!"

"Such great value for inclusive exercise sessions for all levels of fitness"

"I don't think you need to improve the program you all did a great job with classes early morning, lunch and later in the day. Even Saturday classes I think you catered for everyone very well just make sure it happens every year".

"I have found new activities that I enjoy so in the long run my fitness will have improved".

Getting Active

Our focus on promoting active healthy lifestyles has seen the delivery of a number of programs and initiatives including a community favourite, the Activate program. The 2015 program is the tenth year that Council have offered Activate in Palmerston. This year's program was a huge success, offering members a choice of 448 physical activity sessions from 18 different providers over eight weeks.

Registrations closed upon reaching our maximum capacity of 500 members, up 15% from 2014. There was a total of 3,505 individual instances of participation in physical activity as a result of Activate. The most popular classes were zumba, aqua aerobics, pilates, tabata and intensity.

Apart from the obvious healthy outcomes for participants, there is the added benefit to physical activity providers in our community. Most providers reported they were able to attract new members to their classes. More than half of the providers offered special incentives to Activate participants following on from the program.

Another great outcome is that some of the activities, like the Sunday walking group, have continued after Activate finished. This year for the first time we offered a weekly personal health and wellness course designed to complement the physical activity sessions by assisting participants to make healthy changes to their lifestyle. These courses were very popular, booking out prior to commencement and requiring an additional timeslot to be made available.

Over 95% of respondents rated the program as good

to excellent. Feedback shows that participants were very pleased with both the variety of classes on offer and the value for money that Activate offers. Almost 90% said that they would participate again next year.

In addition to Activate, the City of Palmerston hosted a Ride2Work daybreakfast in Goyder Square from 6.30am to 9am on 15 October 2014. The event contributed to promoting our bike paths, encouraging cycling and gathering feedback on how we can increase the number of residents cycling in Palmerston. The City of Palmerston also continues to be an Area Coordinator for Heart Foundation Walking.

Harvest Corner Community Garden

In 2012, Council began working with the community to establish Palmerston's first community garden at Confalonieri Park in Gray. Using funding provided by the Federal Government and in partnership with an enthusiastic bunch of community volunteers, Harvest Corner Community Garden sowed its first seeds in 2013 and continues to grow under the management of its committee of local residents.



The committee's vision is that the Gray Community Garden inspires healthy and sustainable growth in the garden, the gardeners and throughout the entire community.

To achieve this vision we worked in partnership with the committee to create a beautiful, safe and nourishing garden that is welcoming to everyone and shared by all. In the past 12 months some of the Community Garden achievements include:

- Self-management through the community garden and committee becoming incorporated.
- Partnership with COPAL to make the garden family friendly with play areas for children.
- Hosting a number of events including: a promotional stand at the Tropical Garden Spectacular, a visit from Costa Georgiadis of Gardening Australia fame and an official open garden day engaging with local businesses and the community.
- Weave Films shot footage at the garden including interviews with Elected Members and the committee chairperson.
- COPAL has donated a smoothie bike that is now permanently installed at the garden.
- The committee forged links with Community Corrections, to engage workers to assist with garden maintenance, liaised with Alzheimers NT on some garden art projects and with Men's Shed to build and install children's play areas within the garden.

Working with Young People of Palmerston

Young people represent a large portion of the City's population and, therefore, are a big focus for Council when planning facilities and programs within our municipality. We encourage our youth to be active in our community and provide a number of opportunities for young people to be involved in the future direction and planning for the City and its programs, activities and events throughout the year.

Council undertakes a range of activities including advocacy, youth sector development and youth engagement, and aims to promote the well-being of young Palmerston residents whenever possible.

Council facilitated a National Skatepark Day event in September 2014 to celebrate skate parks nationwide. Over 60 young BMX riders, scooter riders and skaters took the opportunity to participate in a jam session at Palmerston Skate Park demonstrating their skills. The Palmerston Lions Club and St Johns assisted with the event.

Council realises the importance of communicating with our young community members and to do this we need to use mediums that appeal to our young audience, so in January 2015, we launched our youth Facebook page, Palmerston Youth.

We celebrated National Youth Week Activities again in April 2015 with the Race Around Palmerston and pool party. A popular activity that encourages young people to be active and make connections with local youth services. Services organisations such as headspace, YMCA Drop In Centre, Mission Australia and Anglicare supported the event through the provision of interactive activities.



Youth Inspiring Palmerston (YIP)

The "Youth Inspiring Palmerston" (YIP) is an advisory committee of Council made up of young people from Palmerston. YIP keeps Council informed on issues that are significant and important to young people in the City of Palmerston. YIP assists in making sure that both the services and the way the City of Palmerston goes about its business are as youth friendly and fair as possible. The main aim of YIP is to strengthen the leadership skills of young people in Palmerston by providing pathways for already established young leaders to maximise their potential.

YIP members worked with Council on initiatives throughout the 2014-2015 year including the planning and delivery of the Reel Palmerston Film Festival, the Palmerston Festival Children's Event, the 'I Heart Palmerston' consultation activity and the filming of the 'Children having the right to speak and be heard film' and the Palmerston Carols event.

Council thanks the YIP members for their dedication, advice and activity ideas at formal Council meetings as well as their valuable feedback on the redevelopment of Goyder Square.

Palmerston and Rural Youth Services (PARYS) Network

Since 1996, Council has convened the Palmerston and Rural Youth Services (PARYS) Network. The PARYS Network provides a forum for workers in the youth



sector to discuss local youth issues and develop strategies to deliver a range of services for Palmerston and young rural people in the 12-25 year age group. 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. All youth workers/service providers are welcome to attend the meetings and be part of the network. Other community members who have an interest in addressing youth issues are also welcome to participate.

Seniors

The City of Palmerston senior community, although small in comparison to other demographics, is very active and involved in our community. This year seniors have played an integral role in creating a vibrant and strong community through their commitment to local clubs and community groups, delivery of Seniors month events and by providing advice to Council through avenues such as the Seniors Forums and through Council's Seniors Advisory Group.

Seniors Advisory Group and Forum

The Palmerston Seniors Advisory Group is an advisory group to the City of Palmerston and an advocacy body for the senior community on issues relating to seniors in the Palmerston municipality. The group aims to identify and progress strategies addressing the issues explored and discussed at the Annual Seniors Forum.

The Palmerston Seniors Forum is the main annual event held in Palmerston for seniors to convene and discuss issues of concern plus share experiences, thoughts and knowledge. It also provides an opportunity for the Seniors Advisory Group and the City of Palmerston to hear directly from our seniors.

The purpose of the forum is to consider and workshop issues and solutions for seniors in the Palmerston community. This year's forum held in March 2015, generated discussion around two key topics— Council's City Centre Master Plan and accessibility and safety of seniors in our community. Over 80 seniors attended the forum and the workshop outcomes have formulated the action plan for the Seniors Advisory Group in areas such as accessibility and safety in the city centre, transport issues and access to services.

Palmerston and Rural Seniors Week

Each year the Palmerston and Rural Seniors Week Planning Committee coordinates a week of special events to celebrate seniors month for residents of Palmerston and surrounding rural areas. The City of Palmerston contributes to the costs of some activities and provides administrative support to the Seniors Week Committee. The Palmerston and Rural Seniors

Week provides seniors with a range of opportunities to stay active, keep fit, try new things, meet new people and stay socially connected. Seniors Week in Palmerston is also a time to celebrate the positive aspects of ageing and say thank you to our older people for their commitment to the community.

Seniors Week in Palmerston 2014 included the following special events:

- Opening and Closing Ceremony at Woodroffe Primary School
- Morning Tea and Trivia Quiz at Cazaly's
- Mini Golf and Lunch at the Gardens
- Movie and Morning Tea
- Tour of the Military Museum and Lunch
- Motorcycle Rides and BBQ at Marlow Lagoon
- Sunset Dinner Cruise in Darwin Harbour

This year's event had over 160 individual participants across eleven days of events. Seniors that participated were from the Palmerston and rural areas. Litchfield Council also contributed funds directly to the planning committee for events.

Council's Community Development Team assisted the Planning Committee with becoming an incorporated body so that they could formalise their committee, create a governance structure that improved delivery of their annual program and allow them to apply for funding through peak grant bodies.

300

children, parents and grandchildren attended the Children's Week event

160

senior participants across eleven days of events for Seniors Week 2014

16

senior advisory group members

16 YIP Members

Children and Families

Council continues to work with the community sector to coordinate a number of activities that best reflect children and families' priorities. Annually Children's Week is celebrated around Australia during the month of October and this year's theme was based upon the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The City of Palmerston Children's Week event promoted the theme 'children have a right to speak and be heard' through two fantastic free events for grandparents, parents and children.

A Children's Week working group was established in early August with a facilitated session that focused on members identifying their skills and strengths and receiving an introduction to the community development principles of doing this with people, not to or for people. The group consisted of motivated grandparents, parents and workers who support families and children in Palmerston.

The 2014 Children's Week working group members included: The Smith Family, Good Beginnings, Gray Primary School, NT Swim Survive Royal Life Saving (RLSS), Red Cross, Road Safety, COPAL, Moulden Park Primary, and community members (Mothers and Grandmothers).

The City of Palmerston is committed as a partner organisation in a strategic collaboration for the well-being of children and young people in Palmerston. Grow Well, Live Well – Collective Impact Project aims to facilitate community-led action, decision making and activities to improve the well-being of children and young people in Palmerston.

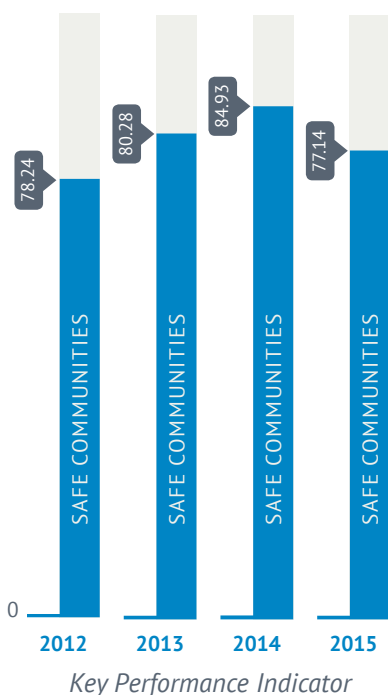
Palmerston Kids Network

A new Council initiative for 2014-2015 has been the establishment of the Palmerston Kids Network (PKN). The PKN 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, showcasing best practice, discussing identified gaps and 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.



The City of Palmerston is committed as a partner organisation in a strategic collaboration for the well-being of children and young people in Palmerston.





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

Law enforcement and crime prevention is not a traditional core service of Council, we do not hold law enforcement authority, and our ability to influence this area is limited. We do have a supporting role in natural disaster recovery and emergencies to the Federal and NT Government. Council does provide a range of regulatory services that impact community safety and security such as animal management and parking strategies. It is very concerning to see a drop in the safety and security experienced by the community.

Palmerston Safe Communities is a program facilitated by the City of Palmerston to promote community safety and reduce injury in our city, making it a safer place to live, work, study and play. The Safe Communities program is overseen by the Palmerston Safe Communities Committee which meets bi-monthly and includes representatives from Council, government departments, police, business, community organisations and other sectors.

As a designated International Safe Community (ISC), the City of Palmerston's Safe Communities Program is driven by the identification of issues relating to the community through data, consultation and strategic long-term planning in line with the seven key indicators of a safe community set by the World Health Organisation.

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.

A Palmerston Safety Survey was undertaken in 2006 and a report was produced that detailed the experiences and perceptions of injury, safety and crime in Palmerston. In 2014 the Palmerston Safety Survey was undertaken again in our community to guide the work of the Palmerston Safe Communities Program and in turn the Palmerston Safe Communities Committee. It provided key base level data to inform program priorities. The survey results assisted with the progression of the key objectives of the Safe Communities Strategy and contribute to the City of Palmerston maintaining International Safe Communities Designation with the World Health Organisation.

The City of Palmerston Community Safety Survey was launched in October 2014 as an online survey in the first instance; further respondents were conducted through telephone survey delivered by INSYNC Surveys.

The survey results report was presented to the Palmerston Safe Communities

128 

new pipes and drains
warning signs

18 

events supported with
the Community BBQ

Committee and members participated in a priority setting workshop to shape the committee's focus into the future. Utilising the qualitative and quantitative data collected from the Palmerston Community Safety Survey, three clear community safety priorities for the PSCC were established:

01 Community safety
Safe in Palmerston and Safe in Neighbourhoods

02 Getting around safely
Feel safe being a pedestrian

03 Home safety
Adequate safeguards nearby water, fences

These three priorities, identified by the PSCC have shaped the committees focus for 2015-2016.

Family Safe Environment Fund Grant and Installation of Drainage Signs

The purpose of the Family Safe Environment Fund grant was to install warning/danger signs at stormwater drainage entry and exit points around Palmerston. In February the City of Palmerston applied for a Family Safe Environment Fund grant through the Department of Local Government and Regions for the production and installation of 68 warning/danger signs. These specifically designed danger signs provide important warnings and education to residents in relation to the extreme danger of swimming or playing in or around stormwater draining areas during the wet season.

The expenditure of the Family Safe Environment Fund grant has resulted in the purchase and installation of 70 warning signs situated next to pipes and drains around the Palmerston municipality.

A review of the 2014-2015 budget attributed to the Safe Communities program identified funds available to



provide an additional 58 signs to complement and add value to previous signage placed in the Palmerston municipality with the 2014 Family Safe Environment Fund grant. The new signs have been re-designed to include the contact number for both emergency services (000) and reporting a drain fault (8935 9922). With the installation of additional signs the total number of sign locations for pipes and drains safety has increased to 128, of which 21 are double sided.

The City of Palmerston proudly supported the NT Water Safety 'Stay Out of Pipes & Drains' campaign. The NT Government launched a confronting new advertising campaign in December 2014 to assist in further education and prevention of drownings in pipes and drains. Council funding provided to the Royal Life Saving Society Australia supported the provision of direct education sessions on water safety being held in Palmerston primary schools.

Building Better Neighbourhoods Program and Launch of Community BBQ Trailer

The Building Better Neighbourhoods Program is about turning strangers into neighbours and streets into neighbourhoods, making neighbourhood's safe, fun and friendly places to live. It's about Palmerston residents taking the time to take part in small and local acts of neighbourliness. For some that may mean a first wave or smile, a chat over the fence, inviting a neighbour over for a cuppa or holding a neighbourhood barbeque. Put simply, it's about going one step further in getting to know those 'next door'. 'Good Neighbours, Make Great Neighbourhoods', when people make the choice to be a good neighbour, individuals, families and neighbourhoods benefit. We know that when Australian communities foster connection and everyday 'neighbourliness', they are soon safer, stronger and more resilient. Besides this, our neighbourhoods provide a great chance for us to meet people who are different from us, which can help us learn how to connect with a variety of people. This year the City of Palmerston purchased a Community BBQ Trailer which is free and available for use by members of the community, local organisations and groups to support activities and programs that directly benefit residents of the City of Palmerston.

The Community BBQ Trailer was launched in October 2014 and since its launch has been used by a number of community groups, including:

- Top End Remote Control Car Association (TERCCA)
- Amity Services
- Anglicare
- Local dance and calisthenics groups
- The Defence Force



5,836

dogs were registered

42

dogs rehomed
through the PAWS
program

715

dogs impounded
542 being released
back to their owners

120

infringement notices
issued for dog related
offences

830

infringements for
parking related
offences

96

abandoned vehicle
complaints

- Local Schools
- Elected members at community events
- Picnic in the Park events
- FlicNic events

The Building Better Neighbourhoods Program through the Community BBQ will create an opportunity for members of the community and community groups to build better relationships with the people who live around us, strengthening our community through social interaction.

Ranger Services

Ranger Services are responsible for Public Places By-Law activities such as abandoned vehicles, untidy allotments and litter. This includes Animal Management By-Laws relating to lost or stray animals, aggressive dogs, licensing and annual registration. Signage By-Laws, such as 'sandwich boards' and permanent advertising signs are administered by Ranger Services section. We also take responsibility for traffic regulation under the NT Traffic Act and the Australian Road Rules.

Ranger Services maintained its proactive approach to achieving Council's objective of maintaining a safe, secure and amenable environment for Palmerston residents with an ongoing focus on compliance and education as well as law enforcement.

Close working relationships with the community have been maintained through education programs and regular Animal Management Reference Group meetings conducted throughout the year. The focus being on the development of a Domestic Animal Management Plan in line with the anticipated introduction of new Palmerston Animal Management By-Laws legislation.

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

Long grass audits on vacant blocks are conducted annually on the completion of the wet season. Notices are sent to property owners



requiring them to slash overgrown blocks that may continue to become a fire hazard or harbour vermin.

Rangers Services was also involved in City Centre and suburban traffic management including timed 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 within the privately owned Palmerston Shopping Centre via a contract agreement.



Cyclone Disaster and Emergency Management

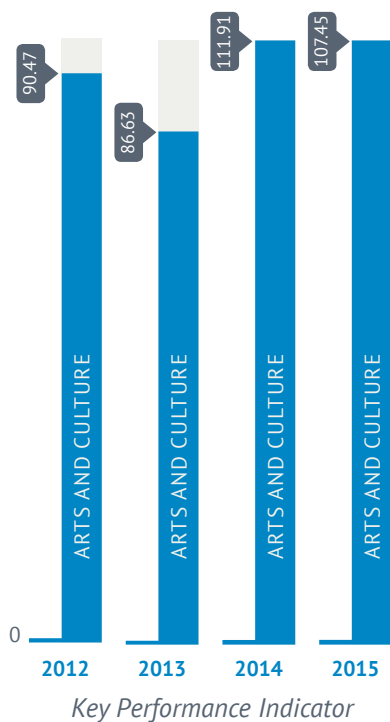
Cyclones occur predominantly in the Top End during the wet season and preparation is key. In conjunction with the annual Pre Cyclone Clean Up, Council representatives participated in a number of information sessions held by various departments of the NT Government in preparation for the upcoming cyclone season. Internally, a review is conducted of Council's Cyclone Counter Disaster Plan and updated accordingly. Council staff attends compulsory training sessions in relation to the plan and relevant staff also form part of Council's Cyclone Reference Group.

- *Tips on how to prepare for a cyclone including emergency plans and kits, can be found at www.securent.nt.gov.au*

Street Lighting

Park lights are important for communities as they provide a secure environment to walk along footpaths during dark hours. Council undertook eight audits for lights in all of our parks during night time at an interval of six weeks; a total of 378 lights were found to be faulty and were repaired. Two old and rusty light poles in Durack were replaced with new poles. Forty old park lights across various suburbs were replaced by efficient LED flat panel lights.





53% 

of the Palmerston population are library members

146,000 

people visited the library

190,314 

library items were borrowed

20,302 

hours were spent on the library public computers

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 understands that quality of life in our community is improved through the provision of a range of arts and cultural initiatives. Although 2014-2015 experienced an increase in the number and range of services Council provided in this area, we still see a significant drop in community satisfaction. A review of our promotion of initiatives and services may help us turn this around next year.

Library Programs and Services

It has been a year of innovation at the City of Palmerston Library with a number of developments aimed at improving our facilities and how we deliver services to our community. In addition to the regular programs the library delivers, including computer classes, story time, KAT in the Park and school holiday events, the library collaborated with Tactile Arts creating a program of contemporary and educational art workshops for our community. These workshops range from henna hand painting to beading and crochet.

With community engagement and communication at the forefront of our minds, we entered the world of social media, joining Facebook in August 2014. With over 550 likes, the library is well on the way to ensuring communication is available on a range of platforms. In line with innovation, the library also became the first library in the NT to implement PrinterOn, a mobile printing service which allows users to access printing facilities remotely from their device whether in the library or at home.

The library also completed a comprehensive stocktake of the entire physical collection in 2015. Over 50,000 items were checked individually by a team of dedicated staff to ensure the best possible service for our community. Post stocktake, library staff also added an additional eBook platform to our collection. Wheelers eBook platform was identified as an important diversification to our e-resource provision. This platform provides access to a number of authors and titles not available on our existing eBook platform.

Arts and Culture Programs

Council recognises the valuable contribution of art and culture to a flourishing, innovative and cohesive community and aims to contribute to a positive community and cultural identity for residents of Palmerston through facilitating, supporting and encouraging:

- temporary and permanent public and community art projects;
- artistic expression through a variety of mediums by a diverse range of community members from all demographics;
- initiatives supporting Palmerston's commitment as a Refugee Welcome Zone, including Palmerston's migrant community;
- providing opportunities to participate – building community pride and capacity of community groups and residents; and

- increasing cultural resources within the Palmerston municipality.

Some arts and cultural highlights from 2014-2015 include:

Harmony Day Football Festival

Harmony Day is a national initiative held annually on 21 March which promotes the message that everyone belongs. It is a day of cultural respect and a day to celebrate Australia's diversity. By participating in Harmony Day we assist the Palmerston community to learn more about our cultural richness and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

This ethos was demonstrated through our Harmony Day event, which consisted of Council working with a small group of stakeholders to organize a Harmony Day Football Festival. This festival included three football matches with Palmerston Football Club, Football Without Borders and the African Community All-Stars. There was also a Harmony Place underneath

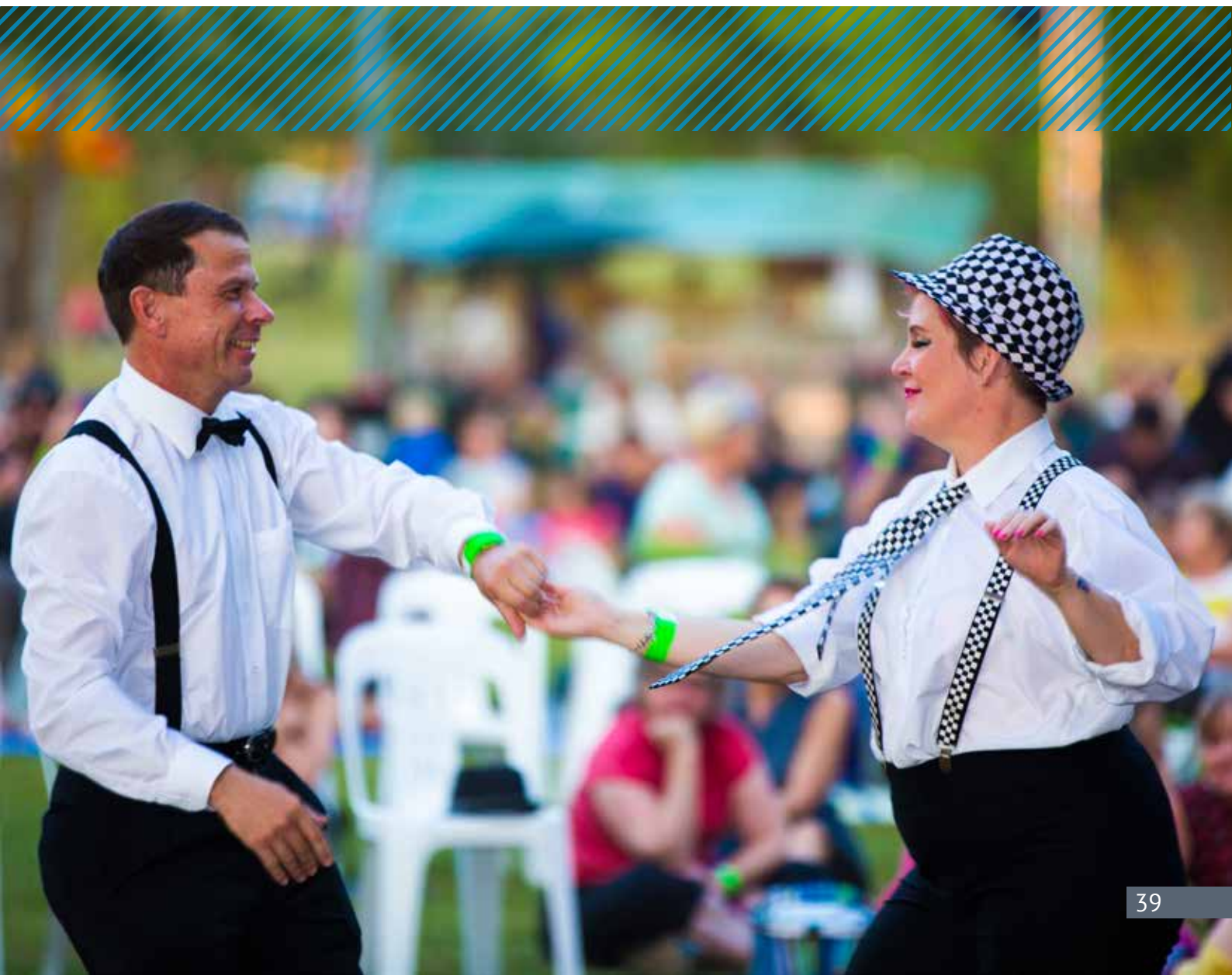
a pavilion overlooking the football matches. This had interactive engagement activities and community group and service provider stalls.

This festival assisted the forging of links and the building of relationships between community groups and services (Football Without Borders, Football Federation NT, Palmerston Football Club, Liberian Community of the NT etc.). Working together helped build the capacity of the community groups by providing opportunities to develop, implement and participate in community events. It was also a great opportunity to connect the community to local service organisations, education and awareness on what is offered to the community.

Palmerston Festival

The 2014 Palmerston Festival was held over one weekend in August at Marlow Lagoon and featured popular music artists with three interstate headline acts supported by local bands and performers.

The Festival included three separate events: a children's event called 'Making a Splash' which was



themed around water fun, a youth event called 'Satellite Sounds', and a broad appeal event 'Live at the Lagoon'. Over 7,000 people attended the Palmerston Festival's activities over the three events. Captain Barnacles, a character from the popular ABC Children's show The Octonauts, was the drawcard for children in the 0-8 year range. A movie booth was created with over 150 children and parents taking part. The footage from the booth was utilised to produce a short film that was shown at the Children's Week FlicNics event held in October 2014 and linked to the theme of 'Children have a right to speak and be heard'.

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.

An "I Heart Palmerston" activity consisted of parents and children sharing what they love about living in Palmerston and also what they'd love to see in Palmerston (hanging hearts on a fishing net hanging in the trees). Palmerston Schools were invited to participate in the festival via the production of artwork to be used as decorations. Their artwork was showcased at the festival with an 'Art in the Trees' type of gallery.

On Saturday night the all ages gig featured national headline act San Cisco playing indie pop, with local support acts Helena Smith, Rambutan Jam Band, Miranda Garling, "Saltwater Diva" accompanied by the Desert Divas, indie rock band Skarlett, VanderAa and Afro Moses, an internationally acclaimed musician from Ghana played a selection of reggae music leading into the main performance.

Sunday night featured the 23 piece big band, Melbourne Ska Orchestra, with inimitable front man Nicky Bomba. The popularity of the band saw crowds enjoying the electrifying and energetic performance. The front of the stage was saturated with the local Northern Territory swing dancers and members of the audience enjoying the lively performance.

Melbourne Ska Orchestra was supported by the local 17 piece swing band Hot and Cold. A demonstration by Quito Washington swing dancers entertained the audience then moved into crowd participation. The support act Room 105, a local band, entertained the audience with their laid back music.

Refugee Week Film Night

Refugee Week 2015 was celebrated around Australia in June, coinciding with World Refugee Day on 20

June. Throughout the week, there were a number of events in the Darwin and Palmerston region encouraging Territorians to improve our welcome for refugees and to acknowledge the skills and energy refugees bring to their new home.

The City of Palmerston helped celebrate Refugee Week by providing a free film night on the Lakeside Lawn at Charles Darwin University, Palmerston Campus. This location was chosen as the film was rated M+ and was not appropriate to be screened at a public location, such as Goyder Square or Sanctuary Lakes.

The chosen film, The Good Lie, starring Reece Witherspoon is about 3600 of Sudan's 'lost children' who were resettled in America. (www.thegoodliemovie.com.au) This event was supported by Melaleuca Refugee Centre and the English Migrant Language Program (CDU) who worked in conjunction with the City of Palmerston to deliver the event in Palmerston.

FlicNics

The 2014 FlicNics program successfully encouraged social health and well-being, and provided free family friendly activities for our residents. The Palmerston community embraced the program, with over 1,500 people representing a diverse range of demographics attending the program during the season. Many people that attended to support their particular community groups ended up returning each month. Although the majority of attendees were families with young and teenaged children, young couples and seniors also attended.

Involving community groups was a valuable exercise that provided additional human resources to assist in the set up/pack down of equipment, and allowed for greater awareness of services available to the community as well as interaction and fundraising opportunities for the community group. Darwin Community Arts were engaged as projectionists and proved to be reliable and skilled in the technical operation of the projection equipment. The event also strengthened relationships with organisations in the arts sector.

The start of the 2015 program proved that our 2014 program had built quite a following. Since the launch of the 2015 program in May, attendance levels have increased to 200-300 people each night and secured opportunities for two community groups per evening to hold fundraising food stalls.

An expression of interest was sent out to community members and film lovers to establish a Palmerston Film Interest Group who would oversee the FlicNics program for 2015 and other projects relating to film in our municipality; unfortunately, this group was short lived with not enough membership

for viability. However, Council was able to refer residents/members of the group to more appropriate avenues/organisations who would be able to assist their specific interests around film making.

Fabrication and Installation of City of Palmerston's very own City Centre Christmas Tree

Artist, Techy Masero, was commissioned in October 2014 to produce an eight metre Christmas tree with a life span of approximately ten years that can be installed in Goyder Square for the month of December each year. The design includes a large steel conical structure four metres in diameter and eight metres tall, with a one metre high Christmas Star on top. Decorations include 250 x 2.7m long garlands, approximately 12,000 lights and dozens of hand crafted traditional Christmas decorations.

The artist's aim was for an elegant, traditional Christmas tree that will appeal to the majority of residents. It is suggested that decorations could be updated every three years to ensure relevancy and freshness of design. The artist also aims for the tree to be part of the landscape, a form of temporary public art that residents get close to and admire.

The installation and dressing of the tree commenced on 1 December 2014 and a tree lighting ceremony was held in conjunction with the Palmerston Carols event on the 6 December 2014. Mayor Abbott wished everyone a merry Christmas and the Sing Australia Choir entertained residents with carols during this event.

Some other arts and cultural initiatives supported by the City of Palmerston in 2014-2015 include:

- Major sponsor of the Palmerston Association of Dance production – Cinderella in 3 Parts, held at the Darwin Entertainment Centre in November 2014.
- The Reel Palmerston – Short film festival competition held at the Palmerston Water Park, 15 short films made by young people were screened on an inflatable movie screen with over 70 young people attending the screening.
- School Holiday Programs for 2014 – Over three weeks of the school holidays six days of creative film making workshops were held for young people in Palmerston. Workshops included Claymation, film making techniques, and costume and character development.

Palmerston Carols

2014 was the first time in quite a few years the City of Palmerston hosted and delivered the City's Carols event which celebrated the festive season with the local community on Saturday 6 December. Palmerston Carols was designed to be a community celebration

involving as many community performances as possible and was targeted at families with young children. Over 230 Palmerston students performed on the night along with two community choirs, a local ensemble band and individual community artists.

The aim was to provide families with an opportunity to celebrate Christmas, build the holiday season spirit within Palmerston, celebrate the past year and spread a message of hope for the coming year. Through community participation, the event also aimed to encourage social health and well-being and bring together families to harness good family relationships.

The Palmerston community embraced the event, with approximately 800 people in attendance. There was a diverse range of ages and nationalities. There were many children and families, but also groups of seniors, large family groups and couples.

The Palmerston Recreation Centre proved to be an excellent venue for an event during the wet season. Palmerston experienced heavy rainfall on the afternoon of the event which, because of the venue, had no effect on the event. The centre also provided valuable resources such as staging, green rooms, stadium seating and toilets which reduced event costs. Having an air-conditioned venue on an extremely humid evening also increased the comfort of the audience.







274 

programs were delivered which equals one every weekday for the whole year

4,685 

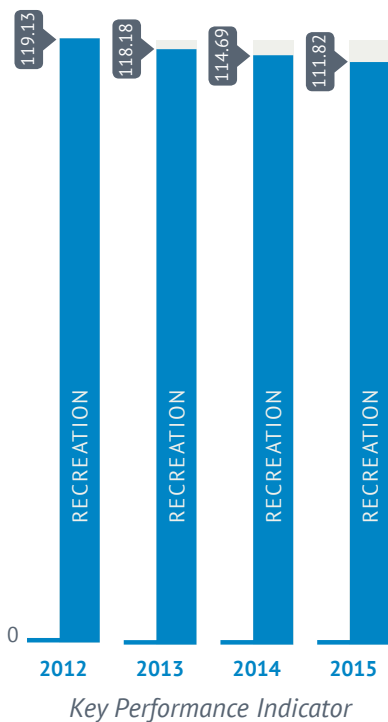
children attended an early literacy program

819 

bookings in the community and training rooms

11,788
PEOPLE ATTENDED
OUR PROGRAMS





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

Although well over our target of 100 indicating general satisfaction by the community for recreational facilities and offerings in the city, we have been experiencing an ongoing decline of satisfaction in this area. Council maintains approximately 120 parks, gardens, playgrounds reserves and open spaces for use by residents and visitors along with a broad expanding network of cycling and walking paths, several community centres, one swimming pool and recreational centre.

Walking and Cycling Infrastructures

Council manages approximately 40km of cycle path asset and 160km of footpath. A significant amount of maintenance and capital works have been carried out on footpaths this past 12 months. Some of the major pathway works include:

- Widening of the footpath in front of Gray Community Hall from 900mm to 2.5m, which serves as an access way for kids, parents and others to get into the Community Hall, Child Care and Gray School.
- Installation of a new footpath to join North End of Wright Crescent with Essington Avenue.
- Replacement of 1200m² of concrete and asphalt on paths along laneways, parks and road reserves.
- Edge-patching of 70m of asphalt footpath along Forest Parade.
- Installation of 125m of 1.5m wide footpath in various locations under the disability access program.
- Installation of seven new pram crossings in various locations.
- Weekly sweeping of all pathways in the City Centre and monthly sweeping of footpaths in other suburbs.

Parks Gardens and Playground, Streetscapes and Open Spaces

The Open Space Section of the Technical Services department manages trees, parks, gardens, playgrounds, irrigation systems and capital work projects to maintain and improve the city's open space network.

Contract management is an important focus of the open space section with annual contracts of approximately \$1.72M for grounds maintenance and \$0.85M for landscape maintenance. Open space officers undertake regular audits and inspections of the areas maintained to ensure work is performed on time and to the prescribed standard.

Asset construction and renewal is another core function of Council and some capital improvements during this 2014-2015 year have been:

- Installation of shade sails over play equipment at Bill Lewis Park in Bakewell and at Marlow Lagoon Recreational Area.
- Designs for BBQ, water fountain and shaded picnic facilities at Dunbar Park in Gray, Haydon Park in Rosebery, and Tiverton Park in Moulden.

\$1.72M 
ground maintenance

\$0.85M 
landscape maintenance

144 
trees planted

197 
tree enquiries

291 

instances of remedial tree work

125 

irrigation locations requiring attention

179 

routine park safety/contract inspections

555 

irrigation repairs

185 

irrigation systems

117 

hectares of irrigated grass

158 

mowing contract inspections

141 

playground safety inspections

- Installation of play equipment at Gordon Stott Park in Moulden.
- Installation of 2 x Telemetry irrigation controllers along the Boulevard.

Open Space Officers are skilled in the knowledge of tree science and experienced in spotting defects. Qualified arborists are engaged to undertake the remedial work on trees. A concerted tree planting program was undertaken this financial year with 144 trees planted in parks throughout Palmerston.

In addition to reactive work on trees, each suburb within the city received attention from the Street Tree Pruning Program whereby qualified personnel were engaged to undertake clearance pruning throughout the street network. Companies undertaking this work for Council attend to every street tree in each suburb to provide pedestrian and vehicular clearance and sight lines, and provide feedback to Council officers on whether further work is required, for instance, if the tree is in decline.

Development assessment is a vital function of the open space section. Landscape master plans, designs and construction of new parks and streetscapes are scrutinised to provide new assets in subdivisions to the best standards. In the 2014-2015 financial year, parks, gardens and streetscapes have been accepted by Council in Durack, Johnston and Zuccoli with many more to come as the suburbs continue to grow.

All playgrounds are inspected by contractors on a prescribed frequency. Their findings are reported to

open space officers. Any issue reported is inspected immediately and repairs undertaken where necessary. A comprehensive inspection of every playground was undertaken during the 2014-2015 year to assess the playgrounds against the requirements of the Australian Standards.

Council manages and maintains 185 separate irrigation systems of varying complexity and size with sites ranging from as small as 70m² to sites as large as 27,000m². The irrigation system is a complex network of pumps from lakes, bores from aquifers, and mains water supply to irrigate the parks and gardens in the dry season. The city has been calculated to have 117 hectares of irrigated grass with the base replacement value of the irrigation system in the vicinity of \$18M dollars.

Irrigation systems are easily and often vandalised. Reports from the public and Council's telemetry system recognise when something has occurred and shut the system down until repairs can be undertaken.

\$18M 
IRRIGATION ASSETS



Adelaide 36ers

Council made significant investment to the irrigation system this year with the replacement of lightning damaged controllers at 10 locations after the wet season and the inspection and repair of the irrigation systems located along Temple Terrace. The Temple Terrace irrigation system section of road measures in excess of 1.8 kms with a sprinkler located every 4 metres on both verges.

Adelaide 36ers

On 3 June 2014 Basketball NT Executive Officer, Andrew Farley, presented a proposal to Council requesting sponsorship support for the Adelaide 36ers to provide a pre-season match, conduct local school visits, provide clinics and promotional activities to the Palmerston community over two financial years (2014-2015 and 2015-2016).

Major sponsorship was awarded by Council to secure and deliver the basketball event in Palmerston. Two games were played at the Palmerston Recreation Centre between the Adelaide 36ers and the Japanese National Team for a sell-out event both nights. Over 1,000 people attended games and community clinics over the week-long event.

The Adelaide 36ers also delivered a number of free community clinics in the Top End region through Hoops for Health. One highlight was a great session held at the YMCA Recreation Centre with disadvantaged youth from the Palmerston community, who on top of learning new basketball skills and having a bit of fun, received valuable leadership and mentoring from the team.

1.5. COMMUNITY BENEFIT SCHEME

Council actively supports initiatives which benefit the community. We allocate funds annually to enable a community benefit scheme which provides financial support by way of grants, donations, scholarships and sponsorships. In 2014-2015 Council issued the following community grants, donations and sponsorships:

COMMUNITY GRANTS

ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Palmerston Game Fishing Club	Junior Angler Education Clinic 2014	\$ 2,000.00
Palmerston Men's Shed	Palmerston Men's Shed computer and Equipment	\$ 2,000.00
ECH Inc.	Steady Footsteps Program - Palmerston	\$ 2,000.00
Role Models and Leaders Australia	Deadly Chicks Seminar	\$ 2,000.00
Good Beginnings Australia	Children's Week Event 2014	\$ 2,000.00
The Bump, Bub and Beyond Expo	The Bump, Bub and Beyond Expo	\$ 3,500.00
Somerville Foundation Incorporated	Anti - Poverty Week Event	\$ 450.00
St John Ambulance Australia	2 Defibrillators Palmerston Volunteer Centre Vehicle	\$ 4,600.00
Australia Day Council NT Inc	Australia Day Family Fun Day at the Pool 2015	\$ 2,000.00
Palmerston Bridge Club	Youth Bridge Recruitment	\$ 1,200.00
Palmerston 50+ Club	Community Grants - Easter Extravaganza 2015	\$ 500.00
Melaleuca Refugee Centre	Grant - Football Without Borders Player Registration	\$ 1,700.00
Palmerston Rugby Club	Upgrade of Clubhouse Air Conditioning	\$ 5,000.00
Palmerston and Regional Basketball Association (PARBA)	PARBA Basketball Programs, Equipment & Court Hire Fees	\$ 14,300.00
Mid-Year Junior Golf Clinic	Annual Junior Golf Clinic	\$ 2,000.00
Amity Community Services Incorporated	Family Fun Day Palmerston Indigenous Village	\$ 2,000.00
Palmerston RSL	Anzac Day Services and Commemorative Art Project	\$ 10,000.00
Darwin Community Arts Inc in conjunction with Breakdance NT and headSpace NT	Breaking the Silence Dance Workshops	\$ 2,000.00
Neighbourhood Watch	Mark Your Territory - UV Marker Kits	\$ 10,000.00
Liberian Community in the NT	Celebrating Independence and Reflecting on Ebola Virus - Football Match and Celebrations	\$ 10,000.00

9 

annual school awards

36 

organisations/clubs supported through the program

18 

community events supported by council

6 

donations

4 

major events supported by council

COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP

ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Northern Territory Indoor Cricket Incorporated	NT Indoor Cricket	\$ 2,000.00
Palmerston Golf & Country Club	Palmerston Pro Am Sponsorship	\$ 1,500.00
Basketball Northern Territory	Sponsorship to Host 2 Adelaide 36ers & Japan	\$ 25,000.00
Palmerston Association for Dancing Incorporated	Major Sponsor Package - Cinderella Ballet	\$ 25,000.00
Autism NT Inc.	Autism NT Cox Plate Ladies Lunch	\$ 1,800.00
Special Children's Christmas Party	Special Children's Christmas Party 2014 – Darwin Convention Centre	\$ 1,000.00
Athletics Northern Territory	Palmy 5k - Fun Run and Walk	\$ 15,000.00
Australian Local Government Women's Association NT	International Women's Day Dinner	\$ 1,000.00
Total Recreation NT	Dancing with Celebrities Event	\$ 1,000.00
Rotary Club of Darwin	Sponsorship Package - Ladies Long Lunch 29/5/15	\$ 909.09
NT White Ribbon Committee	White Ribbon Ball	\$ 1,500.00
NT Space School Incorporated	NT Space School	\$ 1,000.00

COMMUNITY DONATIONS

ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Camp Quality Northern Territory	Camp Quality Radio Auction	\$ 890.31
Clean Up Australia	Donation to Clean Up Australia	\$ 2,000.00
Darwin City Council (Libraries)	Donation Young Territory Author Awards	\$ 500.00

COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Charles Darwin University Foundation	COP Conservation Land Management Scholarship	\$ 2,500.00
Charles Darwin University Foundation	CDU Scholarships	\$ 5,500.00

SCHOOL COMMUNITY AWARDS

ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Sacred Heart Primary School	Annual School Awards 2014-2015	\$ 100.00 each
Gray Primary School		
Rosebery Middle School		
Rosebery Primary School		
Palmerston Christian School		
Durack Primary School		
Palmerston Senior College		
Good Shepherd Lutheran College		
Driver Primary School		

\$79,250 

grants

\$3,390 

donations

\$76,710 

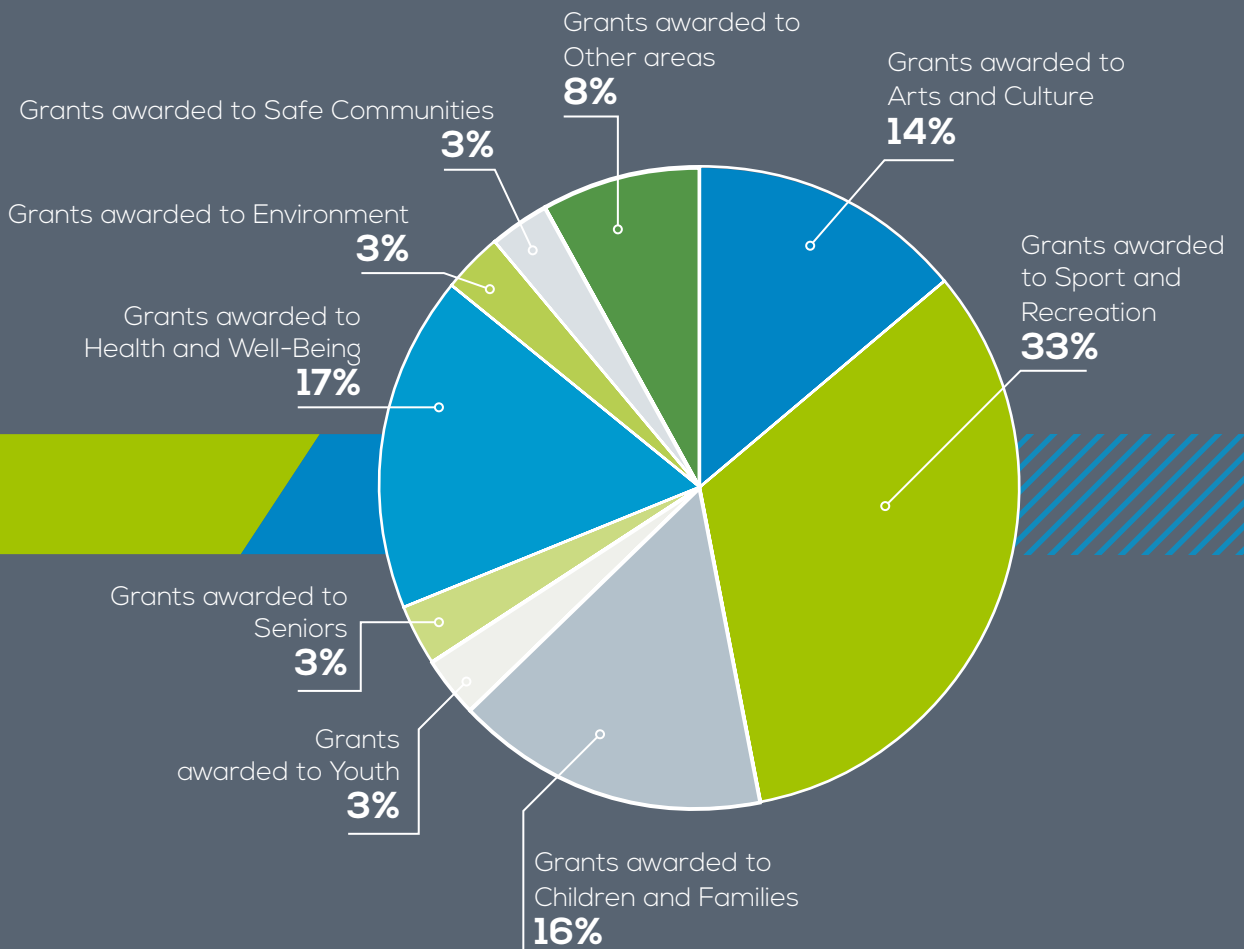
sponsorships

\$900 

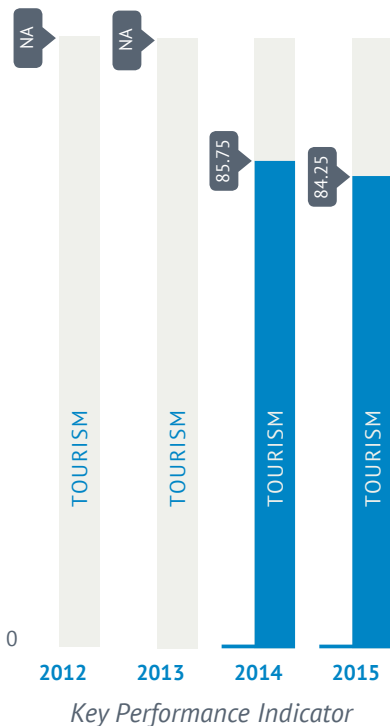
annual school awards

\$8,000 

scholarships



2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



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

This is a relatively new indicator for Council, in only its second year of measurement. Even though 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 by-laws 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 City Centre Master Plan will play a major role in ensuring the infrastructure



supports the growth of business and is capable of attracting the tourism industry.

In the past year we have seen the beginning of a number of new and exciting projects that will support the growth of business and tourism such as the Gateway Shopping Centre, The Boulevard Plaza and the new Rydges Hotel behind the Palmerston Sports Club (the Hub).

Goyder Square TV

The Goyder Square TV (GSTV) is a large format screen mounted on the Palmerston Library which plays a strategic role in communicating with and attracting residents and visitors to Palmerston's Central Business District. The screen also provides the City of Palmerston with a unique opportunity to link the city with other parts of Australia for a national

64

individual community service and event profile short films produced and aired

experience, and with the wider international community to celebrate global events of cultural and community significance and entertainment value.

The City of Palmerston worked with the following groups to develop content for the Goyder Square TV and for use by the organisation to showcase and educate our community on the services they provide to our residents.

JANUARY 2015

- City of Palmerston Australia Day 2015
- City of Palmerston Christmas
- Harvest Corner - Community Garden
- Film Making Workshop Promotion
- City of Palmerston Irrigation
- Tai Chi

MARCH 2015

- 50plus Group
- Banana Freckles
- Chinese New Year CDU
- Clean Up Australia
- YMCA Swimathon
- Down Syndrome
- Harmony Day Football Match
- Joy Anderson Home Alzheimer's NT
- Keep Australia Beautiful
- Mark Your Territory
- Multicultural Football
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Sandra Parker – Poet Laureate
- Palmerston Seniors Forum
- WWII 16 Mile Camp

MAY 2015

- Australian Centre for Moving Image Video
- NT Breast Cancer Video
- FlicNics
- Goyder Square Before and After
- Hidden Valley Drag Racing Association (HVDRA)
- Library
- Palmerston and Rural Markets
- SIDS and KIDS
- Staff Interview (David Ronche)
- Tamil Society Event

FEBRUARY 2015

- Activate Promotion
- Chinese New Year 2015
- Chinese Language Class
- Clean Up Australia
- Library closed notification
- St John Ambulance

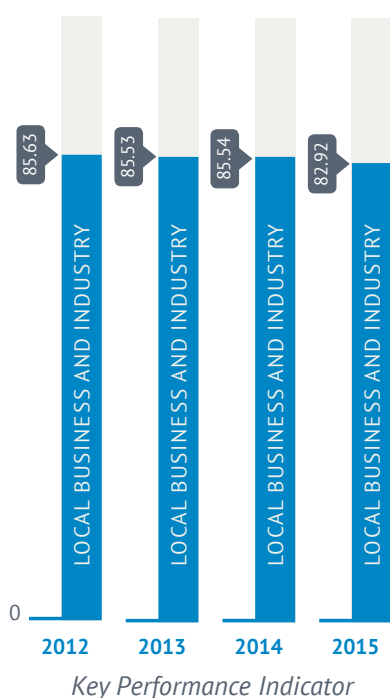
APRIL 2015

- Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Alex Mohan
- Cool Mob
- ECO Disco
- Palmerston and Rural Markets
- Race Around Palmerston
- Woodroffe Park
- YMCA Kids Vs Copz Promotion

5.475  **HOURS OF**
CONTENT STREAMING
FOR 2014-2015
(7AM-10PM 7 DAYS A WEEK)

JUNE 2015

- Crocwise Promotion
- East Timor Association
- FlicNics
- Hidden Valley Drag Racing Association
- City of Palmerston Rangers
- Refugee Week 2015
- St John Ambulance
- Telstra
- Tournament of Minds Kormilda College



2.2 LOCAL 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 participate in the Palmerston Regional Business Association (PRBA) and work on improving partnerships. The past year has seen the development of a Car Parking Strategy and planned new developments as part of our City Centre Master Plan which will invite new commercial and retail businesses back into the heart of our city. Additionally, residential opportunities will aim to make city living an affordable reality for Territorians.

As part of the City Centre Master Plan, The Boulevard is being upgraded to become Palmerston's main street, supporting new opportunities for restaurants, cafes, retailers and inner city living. Stage 1 of The Boulevard upgrade from the intersection at The Boulevard - Chung Wah Terrace to the intersection at The Boulevard - Frances Drive included:

- Installation of traffic lights with pedestrian crossing at the Chung Wah Terrace intersection
- Construction of new road pavement and asphalt
- Removal of the roundabout at The Boulevard - Palmerston Circuit intersection
- Closure of Palmerston Circuit adjacent to Goyder Square
- Installation of two pedestrian zebra crossings
- Widening of The Boulevard adjacent to Goyder Square
- Shared bicycle and pedestrian path
- Installation of new LED street lighting
- Landscaping to integrate The Boulevard with Goyder Square

Road maintenance is one of the core functions of Council's Technical Services department. We constantly monitor our roads and carry out necessary maintenance activities to rectify any identified defects.

Major highlights of works carried out on roads are:

- Major road reconstruction work to rectify pavement failure issues at the cul-de-sac of Lobelia Court, Rosebery and Essington Avenue/Raffles Road roundabout, Gray.
- Reconstruction of 1,095m² of road.
- Profiling and asphaltting of 6,795 m² of road.
- Spray sealing of 21,790 m² of road.
- Construction of indented bay on Forrest Parade opposite to the Bakewell School for waste trucks to enable bin collection and improved road safety.
- Reconstruction of the pedestrian crossing in front of Bakewell School along Forest Parade to comply with disability access requirements.
- Completion of four monthly sweeping of all minor and local access roads and quarterly sweeping of all sub-arterial roads.

THE BOULEVARD STAGE 1

\$4.395M



PROJECT COST





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

- City of Palmerston City Centre Master Plan Implementation
- Public Land Use
- Support and Advocacy: NT Government Planning and Development Control

As with Local Business and Industry, Council continues to refine its plans and strategies with regards to City Planning. This past year has seen the major progress in the implementation of Council's Master Plan for the City Centre.

Following the completion of Goyder Square Stage 1 in April 2014, the City of Palmerston commissioned Roberts Day as the lead design consultant for Stage 2 of Goyder Square.

The project encompasses Frances Mall, Goyder Square and the water tower park. Stage 2 works will create an exciting public space in the City Centre that will support a range of activities including an outdoor cinema, the Friday night markets, and a performance area and recreational area for future inner city residents. Large shade trees, grassed areas and a water feature will create a refreshing oasis for residents and workers in the City Centre during the day. Lighting will energise the area at night and will provide opportunities for the City Centre to grow into an active and safe space for alfresco dining and other activities by night.

GOYDER SQUARE

stage 2

\$0.692M 

design cost



Goyder Square Stage 2 is currently under construction and is due for completion in December 2015.

Council continues to work closely with developers and NT Government planners as new suburbs are developed. As local government in the NT does not have the planning authority functions existing in other states in Australia, it needs to be even more effective in communication with and advocating for appropriate planning decisions. Where possible, Council has sought to influence and persuade stakeholders to provide outcomes which benefit the community as a whole. This year Council has employed their own planning officer to ensure Council provides expert advice and

feedback to the Northern Territory Planning Authority on planning applications and planned developments. To create a vision for Palmerston City Centre and to develop an active and revitalised City Centre in line with that vision, City of Palmerston adopted the Palmerston City Centre 2030 Master Plan in February 2012.

Changing economic trends and other influences outside the control of Council, such as major development proposals within and surrounding the City Centre were determined to have a significant impact on the implementation of the Master Plan and the redevelopment of the City Centre. Consequently, the City of Palmerston decided in late 2012 to review the Master Plan to better reflect the City Centre's development potential and to include a clear vision for implementation.

The Palmerston City Centre Master Plan package was adopted by Council in February 2015 and consists of the Master Plan supported by a Public Realm Strategy and a Car Parking Strategy.

The Palmerston City Centre Master Plan

The Palmerston City Centre Master Plan is the overarching document that sets out the future vision



for the Palmerston City Centre. The vision of the Master Plan is that:

The city will foster a sense of community in a clean, safe friendly and sustainable environment that supports and nurtures the lifestyles of residents, workers and visitors.

It will create a vibrant, tropical and lush place that connects a mix of commercial, retail, community, residential and

open space, and creates a unique identity; facilitated by authentic city streets that supports a variety of activities, events, informal gathering spaces and entertainment; sustained by safe and convenient public transport and pedestrian links to the wider community.

By setting out clear urban design principles, objectives and supporting design guidelines, it seeks to make the city centre an attractive place for people to live, work and visit. Council will use the master plan in any discussions with government or private sector to guide development or the public realm. The Master Plan is proposed to be included into the Northern Territory Planning Scheme as a reference document. The intentions of the Master Plan is to be included into an amended Area Plan and new clauses into the Northern Territory Planning Scheme.

The Palmerston City Centre Public Realm Strategy

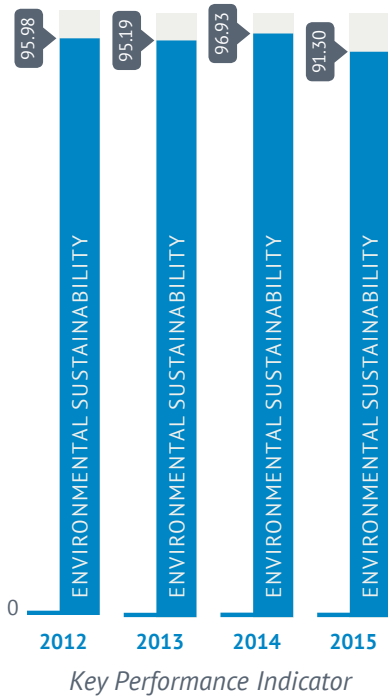
The Palmerston City Centre Public Realm Strategy has been prepared to guide the design of the public realm in the City Centre, including streets, public space, parks, plazas, drainage, lighting and public art. The strategy provides a common reference for designers, developers and stakeholders involved in the construction of the city centre's public realm. It sets out a design philosophy, principles, strategies and design details for streets and public spaces.

The Palmerston City Centre Car Parking Strategy

The Car Parking Strategy sets out an alternative approach to the conventional parking model. The strategy outlines new trends in relation to car parking, car parking principles, revised minimum/maximum parking rates as well as options for a funding model to facilitate the implementation of the car parking strategy. It outlines a viable alternative to the conventional parking model in the Northern Territory, facilitating the introduction of a Civic Infrastructure Fund that will allow the construction of consolidated parking garages on key sites in the city centre.

The strategy, while allowing developers to adopt the alternative model for car parking through participation in the Civic Infrastructure Fund, will still enable them to provide car parking on site under the existing model. The strategy identifies the opportunity for approximately 800 plus on street car parking spaces and 4 parking garages (to be built across the City Centre subject to market demand).

3. ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE



3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

We are committed to actively protecting and enhancing the environmental assets and infrastructure of the City of Palmerston, 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

The City of Palmerston is committed to Sustainability and Greening Palmerston.

Council's Sustainability Strategy 2013 – 2018: At Work In the Community has been developed to enable the City 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. It takes into consideration risks to city assets and operations from natural hazards and climate change to improve performance and resilience.

The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government reviewed the draft strategy and noted it as a comprehensive and visionary document addressing the wide range of challenges facing the City of Palmerston community and the implications of challenges for all areas of the city's activities and functions.

Measuring progress of the strategy is based on 10 key priorities, strategic directions and targets over the five year plan, and quarterly activities are linked through quarterly Key Performance Indicator Reporting.

Environmental Achievements

Throughout the year, participation in a variety of community, Council and staff environmental initiatives enabled many of the key priorities of the Sustainability Strategy to be achieved. Council harnesses all opportunities to avail itself of new and innovative programs that become available for its own operations and for engagement with the community.

Water Wise City

'Living Water Smart' is one such program and Council keenly took up two of the opportunities provided by PowerWater.

- 01** Swap It Shower Heads. Council participated in the first day launch of the program in Palmerston and to achieve greater water efficiency and water savings; all showerheads in Council buildings and reserves were swapped to the new three-star water efficient showerheads.

02

Water Audits. Mindful of costs and water efficiency, Council has taken up the opportunity of the free Water Efficiency Consultation and an Audit of all its assets. The program provides Council with an analysis of water usage showing simple water efficiency solutions and how to implement water efficiency plans to maintain ongoing water savings.

Community Engagement

Council was delighted to be a national finalist and the NT winner of the Keep Australia Beautiful Australian Sustainable Cities Awards 2014. The Award recognised our growing city’s commitment to the range of sustainable practices being undertaken within our organisation and within the community.

Council annually participates in Clean Up Australia Day in March, during Sustainability Week and World Environment Day in June, and engages with local organisations and schools throughout a variety of opportunities during the year.



Eco Disco

In collaboration with Keep Australia Beautiful and Eco Schools Australia, Council held the first Palmerston Eco Disco. Five participating Primary Schools (Rosebery, Kormilda, Wagaman, Tipperary Station and Parap) came to perform and share their play, provide a display, to sing a song and disco dance in the ‘Re-thinking Waste in the School Challenge’ in March. The Planet doesn’t need us but we need the Planet was the overall theme conveying respect and care of the environment and of each other.

Living Memorials

In recognition of the ANZAC Centenary this program links shared ANZAC heritage through nature based events. With an early expression of interest and submission, Council was successful and Palmerston was selected by Telstra as their NT site for four days planting with their staff volunteers. Working alongside the program providers, Conservation Volunteers Australia and Council, the first planting was held in June with the remaining plantings to be undertaken during the 2015 wet season.

Council harnesses all opportunities to avail itself of new and innovative programs that become available for its own operations and for engagement with the community.





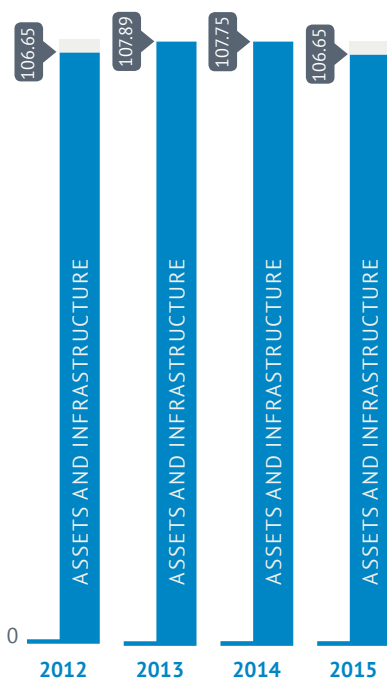
UNIT COMPLEX 48 ODEGAARD DRIVE

\$5,95M PROJECT COST

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



Key Performance Indicator

It is good to see the results remain well above our target of 100 in this area. Council maintains over \$300M worth of assets on behalf of the community and we are continually aiming to improve how well we do it.

To address the shortage of community space for organisations and community activities, Council has made a commitment to partner with the Durack Heights developers to deliver a new Neighbourhood Arts Centre and hopes to complete the facility in 2016.

Our Technical Services Department introduced a major change in the procedure of risk management of Council infrastructure. Council began the implementation of the Risk Based Infrastructure Inspection Manual for the condition based inspection and maintenance of roads, footpaths and stormwater assets. Two new positions of Asset Inspection Officers were created and the positions were filled in August 2014 for the execution of the works.

Council also developed and finalised the new Development Guidelines and Contract Management Guidelines this past year. Substantial time and effort was invested in conducting research and consultations at various levels to give the final form for these guidelines.

Grants form an important aspect of the Technical Services budget and are used for various major construction projects. This past year Council has negotiated with the NT Government for Black Spot programme funding to construct a new roundabout at the intersection of Temple Terrace and

Emery Avenue. Council also held discussions with NT Government relating to grants for the upgrade of stormwater infrastructure in Baban Place and the safety upgrade of Flockhart Bridge.

Unit Complex 48 Odegaard Drive, Rosebery

The City of Palmerston has developed a 15 unit complex at 48 Odegaard Drive, Rosebery. The units have been head-leased to the Department of Housing under the NT Government's Real Housing for Growth Initiative which allows eligible key workers to access rental properties at 30% below market rate. The unit complex comprises seven 2 bedroom villas and eight 3 bedroom townhouses.

The project has constructed an asset for the City of Palmerston that will provide a low risk, guaranteed revenue stream into the future.

Stormwater Infrastructure

Periodic inspection and maintenance of stormwater infrastructure is critical for the safety of properties and lives. Stormwater infrastructure throughout the municipality was inspected in accordance with the Risk Based Infrastructure Manual to check safety, blockage and damage. All of the secured stormwater structures were inspected three times during the year to check the safety conditions of structures. Necessary repair work was carried out as required. Other major works carried out on stormwater infrastructure include:

- Replacement of 45 stormwater pit lids and reinstatement of 29 dislodged lids
- Cleaning of 12 blocked stormwater pipes at various locations
- Inspection of all major open drains with debris and silts cleared as necessary

Car Parks

Council maintains around 12 car parks. This year, the Palmerston Shopping Centre Car Park was resurfaced and new line-marking was installed. Potholes and pavement issues in the car parks were regularly monitored and rectification works carried out as required.

Council carried out weekly sweeping of City Centre car parks, Sanctuary Lake Car Park and Marlow Lagoon Car Park. Monthly sweeping of Palmerston Swimming and Fitness Centre Car Park and quarterly sweeping of Joan Fejo Car Park, Gray Community Hall Car Park and Driver Resource Centre Car Park was undertaken.

Bridges

Council owns and maintains all the road bridges, culverts and footbridges located within its road reserves and open spaces. Major maintenance activity was carried out on the footbridge joining Emerald Place and the Palmerston Golf Course in Durack, where the damaged decks and rails were replaced. Fences were installed at approaches to the foot bridge over Lake 5 in Durack to ensure safety of bridge users. Two road bridges in Gunn were repainted.

Buildings and Facilities

In the year 2014-2015 an asbestos register was prepared for all the buildings and facilities built before 1 January 2004, as per legislative requirements. No asbestos issues were identified. Regular audits of fire services, air conditioning services, RCD tests, testing and tagging of appliances and pest control were also carried out.

Some of the highlights of works undertaken in buildings and facilities are

33 

signage requests

57

stormwater requests

244 

enquiries related to trees

214 

driveway requests

49 

verge requests

67 

work on council reserve permits

68 

general road enquiries

194.6km 

of roads

summarised below:

- New exeloo was installed and opened for public use in Marlow Lagoon Park in March 2015.
- At the Swimming and Fitness Centre, an old and inefficient air-conditioning unit serving office rooms of Tang So Do was replaced. Sealant within expansion joints of the swimming pool were replaced. The steps and mushroom head in the kid's swimming pool were repainted. Backwash valves were repaired and hair line baskets for all the pool pumps were replaced.
- In the Library, the manager's room was refurbished and supplied with new furniture to allow for two occupants. The bi-fold door of the community room was replaced with a roller door. A worn out compressor and regulator valve of the main air conditioner (Stage 4) was replaced.
- Archer Sporting Complex clubhouse building was demolished in October 2014 and 'Unauthorised Entry Prohibited' signs were installed on the gate of the complex to discourage itinerants from trespassing inside the complex. Vandalised main gates were replaced to prevent unwanted vehicular access.
- At the Civic Plaza, a new ceiling cassette style air conditioning system was installed at the reception area. The old air conditioner unit in the Ranger's office was replaced. New office room was constructed for the Strategic Planning Officer.
- In the Recreation Centre, the old issue of water leaking through high louvre windows during wet season was rectified. The AC circuit fault causing frequent shutting off of the air conditioning system in the gymnasium was repaired.
- In the Joy Anderson Centre, two new split-type air conditioners were installed in common areas.

Developments

One of the principle roles of Technical Services is Design Approval and Acceptance of Gifted Assets from Major Developments in the City of Palmerston. As reported in the Annual Roads Return, 8.1kms of roads was gifted to City of Palmerston. This brings the total length of roads under the ownership of the City of Palmerston to 194.6kms.

The following table provides the brief summary of progress of Development works in 2014-15.

DEVELOPMENT NAME	DEVELOPER	STAGE	NEW DEVELOPMENT DESIGN REVIEW COMMENCED	NUMBER OF LOTS RELEASED
Gateway Development	NESFALL P/L	Yarrowonga Rd	√	
The Heights Durack	CIC	5 & 8		46
The Heights Durack	CIC	6		45
The Heights Durack	CIC	7		40
The Heights Durack	CIC	9		50
The Heights Durack	CIC	10	√	
The Heights Durack	CIC	11	√	
Maluka Views	LDC	Stage 1	√	
Manikan Court	Woolworths	N/A	√	
Radford Road	LDC	Radford Road	√	
Zuccoli Stage 1	Urbex	Phase 2.1		79
Zuccoli Stage 1	Urbex	Phase 2.2		1
Zuccoli Stage 1	Urbex	Phase 2.3		18
Zuccoli Stage 1	Urbex	Phase 2.4	√	
Zuccoli Stage 2	Territory Life	Stage 2A		48
Zuccoli Stage 2	Territory Life	Stage 2B	53	
Zuccoli Stage 2	Territory Life	Stage 2C	√	
Zuccoli Stage 2	Territory Life	Stage 2D	√	
Zuccoli Stage 3	Territory Life	Stage 2 E	√	
Zuccoli Stage 3 & 4	Costojic	1	√	



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

We have received a very high indicator score again this year, this is not surprising given that we continue to offer the same services as in previous years. We received over 2,000 customer requests related to waste and 355 of these were due to waste bins not being picked up. Council provides around 1.5 million household bin services a year. Our complaint/request rate is 0.13%.

Less waste makes for a better City. Council provides services to make it easier to recycle and has a range of waste and recycling 'pick up and drop off' arrangements along with provision of specific education information and designated days to assist residents, such as Pre-Cyclone Clean-Up and E-Waste collections. The City of Palmerston operates the Archer Waste Transfer Station which is situated off Elrundie Avenue and access is free to all residents of Palmerston.

The City of Palmerston 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 focus each year is to reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill.

In 2013-2014 our monthly average for waste going to landfill was 851 tonnes. In 2014-2015 that figure increased to 964 tonnes. In comparison, our average monthly tonnage being recycled for the 2013-2014 year was 180 tonnes. This figure increased in 2014-2015 to 204 tonnes.

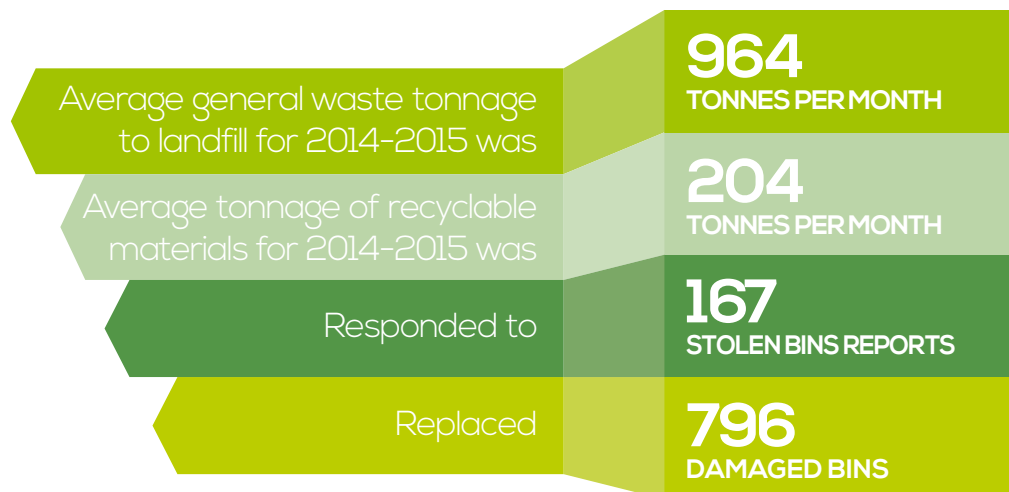
Each year Council conducts a pre-cyclone clean-up in September and October in preparation for the upcoming cyclone season. The aim of the pre-cyclone clean-up is to encourage residents to look around their yard and identify items that are no longer of use that have the potential to become airborne during a severe storm or cyclonic event. These items are placed on the verge by residents over a weekend and then collected by Council's contractors.

398 

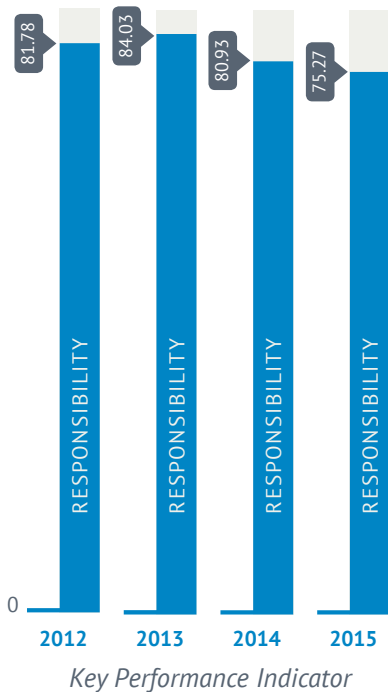
new waste connections

140 

tonnes of waste collected during the pre-cyclone clean-up



4. GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION



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

As the results above show, Council has not been very successful in communicating our plans to the community for many years. Council recently introduced a new residential rating system based on the unimproved capital value of properties; this major strategic change was adopted just prior to the Community Satisfaction survey being undertaken. Council released information to the community on the new rating system as part of its annual Municipal Plan consultation and wrote to every residential home owner in the municipality, drawing their attention to the plan and the proposed change. There has been some public community disagreement and disappointment with both the new rating system and Council's approach to consultation which is reflected in the scores for this area.

The 2014-2015 year has seen no changes to the membership of Council but has seen ongoing changes and fine-tuning of Council administrative policies and procedures. A number of changes have been made to Council's operating systems to ensure our policies and procedures are followed and more information on these changes can be found in the systems section of this report. Although these changes have resulted in major improvements in the governance and compliance of Council, these changes have not been properly conveyed to residents.

Council continues to publish the decisions made at every Council meeting in the local newspaper in a timely manner, giving increased visibility to decisions which effect residents and businesses. Agendas and minutes for all Council and Committee meetings continue to be posted on Council's website along with Council Strategic Plans and Annual Reports. Council has also recently reviewed its public question time procedure for Council meetings and requested that a review of Council's consultation policy be presented to the Governance and Organisation Committee.

For more information regarding access to information, Council strategy or policy, or elected member accountability visit www.palmerston.nt.gov.au

Elected Member Accountability to the Community

As well as attending regular Council meetings, Aldermen participate on a number of committees of Council which provide governance to the strategies and operations of Council.

Below are the Council and Committee meetings held under this structure, together with attendance details for elected members.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

MEETINGS HELD - 22 regular, 11 special

439 Decisions made

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee members:

- Alderman Byrne (chair)
- Alderman Shutt
- Alderman Carter
- Alderman Bunker
- Mayor Abbott*

MEETINGS HELD - 9 regular, 1 special

87 Decisions made

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee members:

- Alderman Bunker (chair)
- Deputy Mayor McKinnon
- Alderman Malone
- Alderman Byrne
- Mayor Abbott*

MEETINGS HELD - 12 regular, 0 special

140 Decisions made

COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee members:

- Alderman Malone (chair)
- Deputy Mayor McKinnon
- Alderman Shutt
- Alderman Carter
- Mayor Abbott*

MEETINGS HELD - 12 regular, 0 special

164 Decisions made

INTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

Committee members:

- Steve Gibson (Chair in 2014)
- Tim Flynn (Chair in 2015)
- Mayor Abbott
- Alderman Byrne

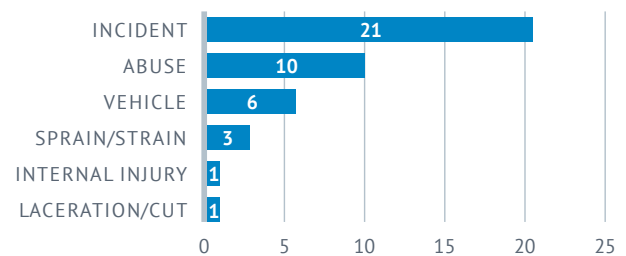
*The Mayor is an ex-officio voting member of all committees

MEETINGS HELD - 3 regular

14 Decisions made

Work Health Safety Policies and Guidelines that had been developed over the last 18 months were introduced and provided to all staff members. These documents provide greater guidance and direction in relation to Work Health and Safety and Injury Management.

TYPES OF INCIDENTS

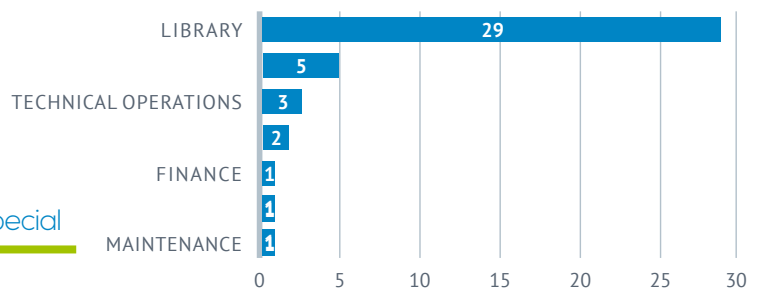


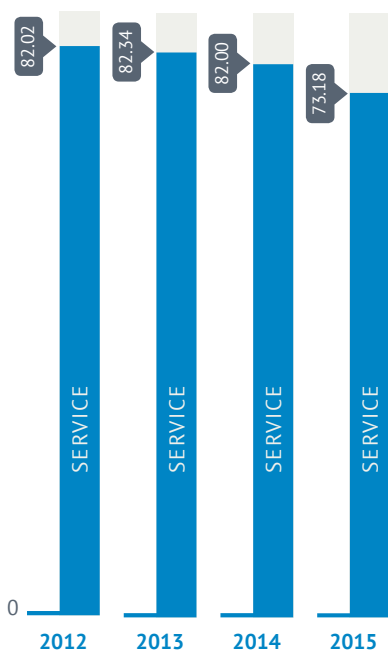
21 general incidents were documented by CoP staff. Almost all of the incidents occurred at the Library and involved patrons or property.

Abuse incidents were most prevalent at the Library with only two being reported from Rangers.

City of Palmerston has not had any workers' compensation claims in the last financial year.

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS PER WORK AREA





Key Performance Indicator

70

hall hire requests processed

6,281

customer requests received

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 put a great amount of effort into delivering a superior level of customer service and attempts to engage with community in many ways to understand our community and enable Council to make decisions in the best interest of the community. You can see from above that our survey score does not reflect this and indicates that Council needs to take greater steps in 2015-2016 in this area to meet the needs of our residents.

Council, in assistance with an IT provider, has developed a new Customer Service Request system, which enables the organisation to better record, track and report on requests. The new system caters for unpredictable staff absences and ensures that requests are acknowledged quicker and responded to in an appropriate timeframe.

Everyone in our organisation will directly serve our customers, or support someone who does. All of our staff are trained in the importance of professional, responsive and personalised service that we want to deliver.

We are committed to:

- Consult with you on all key initiatives,
- Explain bylaws and procedures clearly,
- Provide assistance in a courteous and responsive manner,
- Apply high standards of fairness and ethical behaviour,
- Continuous improvement and the collection of data to do this.

If you have any suggestions for improving our level of service, we would love to hear from you.

Council runs a number of advisory groups that residents can join and provide advice to Council. These include:

Youth Inspiring Palmerston (YIP) is an advisory committee to Council made up of young people from Palmerston. YIP keeps Council informed on issues that are significant and important to young people in Palmerston.

Seniors Advisory Group is an advisory group to the City of Palmerston and an advocacy body for the senior community regarding issues relating to seniors in the Palmerston municipality.

Palmerston Safe Communities Committee (PSCC) works in partnership with Council and the NT Government, businesses and the community to reduce and prevent injuries, accidents and crime. The PSCC is committed to promoting the safety and wellbeing of Palmerston residents and visitors.

Animal Management Reference Group serves to facilitate consultation and co-operation between the City of Palmerston 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 strategies to deliver a range of services for Palmerston and rural young people in the 12-25 year age group. The network has existed since 1996. Council facilitates meetings approximately every six weeks for workers from community and

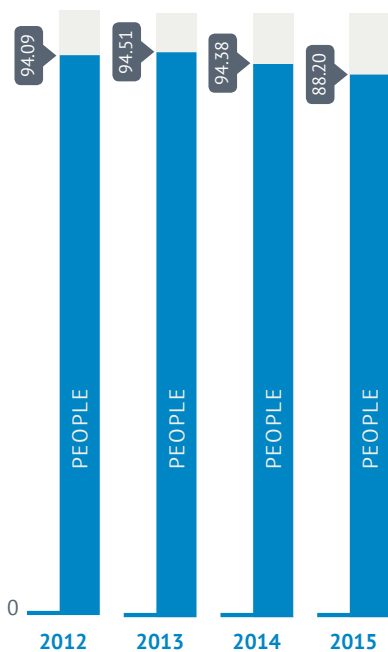


government agencies who have regular contact with young people, and representatives of agencies which provide and/or fund services for young people. All youth workers/service providers are welcome to attend the meetings and be part of the network. Other community members who have an interest in addressing youth issues are also welcome to participate.

Palmerston Kids Network is a committed network of workers representing organisations who provide services and programs to children (0-12years) and their families living in Palmerston. The network meets regularly and is committed to sharing information about programs and initiatives, showcasing best practice, discussing identified gaps and 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.

6,213 
CUSTOMER REQUESTS COMPLETED



Key Performance Indicator

77 EMPLOYEES



24 male employees **32%**



53 female employees **68%**

Employment Types:

3 casual employees **4%**

12 contract employees **16%**

62 employees with continuing positions **80%**

TECHNICAL SERVICES

19 males or 67%,

10 females or 33%

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

5 males or 11%,

43 females or 89%

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.

The human resources department was busy throughout the year reviewing, updating and developing all our human resource policies and guidelines. These documents provide guidance and clarity to all levels of Council staff in regards to industrial relations and payroll. Training was rolled out to all managers and employees regarding their entitlements in accordance with the current City of Palmerston Enterprise Agreement.

A highlight and great success story was the implementation and completion of the inaugural trainee programme. The inaugural trainee has completed her studies and gone on to further employment as a direct result of completing the traineeship at City of Palmerston.

EPAC was brought on board as City of Palmerston's partner in salary packaging, with several staff taking advantage of the new salary packaging options.

An employee opinion survey and a HR recruitment and retention report were compiled in order to review City of Palmerston's culture and organisational issues. The results of the employee opinion survey showed significant satisfaction improvement in all departments of Council.

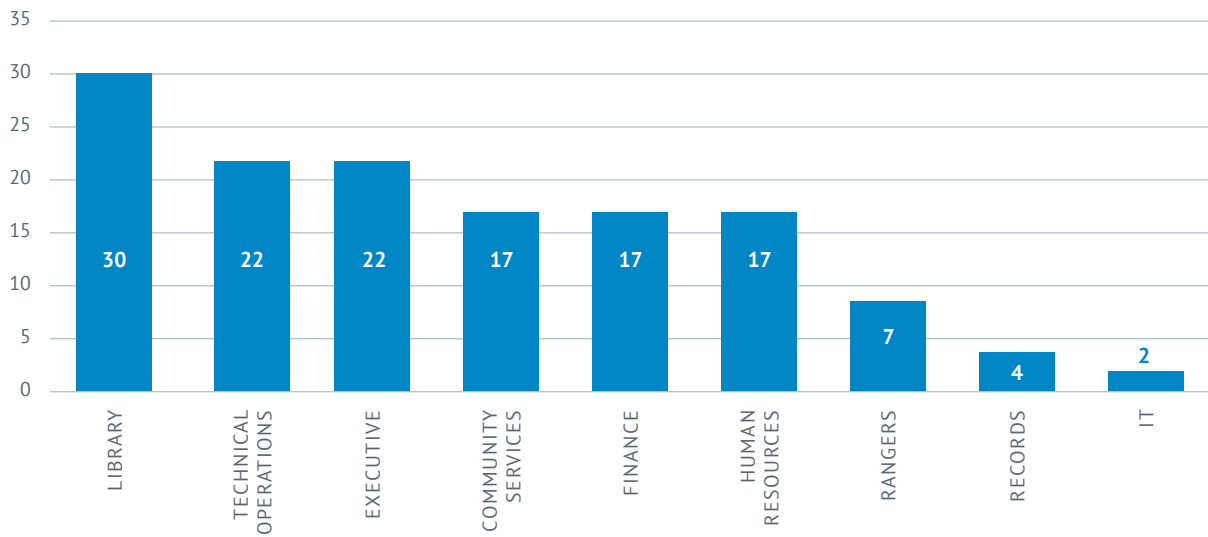
WorkPro was introduced as an online staff induction and training tool. WorkPro enables Council to comply with its legislative requirement to provide information and refresher training regarding bullying, harassment and work health safety. All current and commencing staff have completed WorkPro training.

A cloud based recruitment system, ASAP-recruit, was introduced to improve the application process for applicants and to make the recruitment administration process for HR staff easier and more efficient. The recruitment website was updated and a promotional video published.

An internal newsletter that uses multimedia was reintroduced to improve communication within Council; all departments of Council are making regular contributions and staff is enjoying the monthly read. Additionally, the process of digitalising employee files, payroll records and WHS records was started in accordance with the retention and disposal schedule.

City of Palmerston went live with the government mandated Superstream requirements which commenced with the March superannuation contributions.

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES PER DEPARTMENT



Professional Development for Elected Members

In accordance with Section 71 of the Local Government Act and the Ministerial guidelines for Council Member Allowance, City of Palmerston Elected Members may access an allowance to attend appropriate and relevant conferences or training courses which sustain a member's professional competence by keeping the member informed of, and able to comply with, development in professional standards applicable to their role as a Council member.

In 2014-2015 City of Palmerston Elected Members could access an amount of up to \$3,567 which included all associated costs such as travel, conference fees, meals and accommodation.

ACTIVITY	VENUE	DATES	NUMBER OF ELECTED MEMBERS ATTENDING
Diploma of Business (Governance)	Training.gov.au	2014-2015 financial year	1
Local Government Internal Audit Forum	SMC Conference & Function Centre, Sydney	6 November 2014	1
Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) 2015 National Biennial Conference	Barossa Novotel Resort, Barossa Valley	25-28 March 2015	1
ICTC & Mainstreet Conference 2015	Wollongong NSW	21-24 July	1
Local Government Financial Sustainability Conference	Rydges Sydney Central	11-12 March 2015	1

A highlight and great success story was the implementation and completion of the inaugural trainee programme.



Key Performance Indicator

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

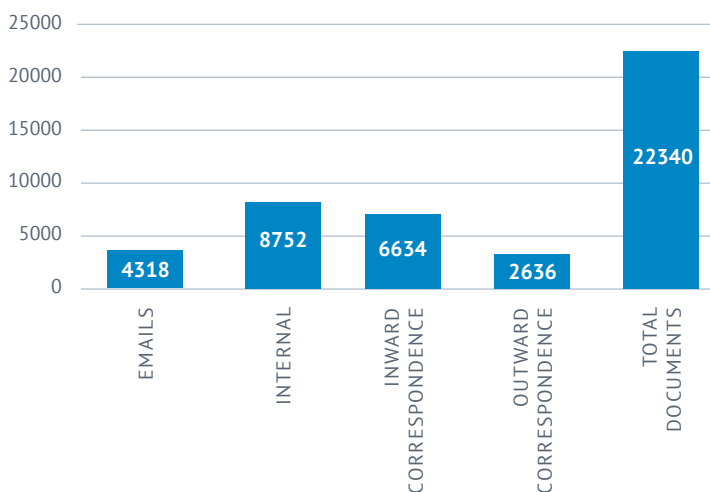
- Internal Business Processes and Service Levels
- Financial and Administrative Services
- Information and Communication Technology Services

Our survey results show a slight improvement in this area which is encouraging, but we do understand that we still have a way to go and need to continually improve our business processes and services.

All Council services rely on Council's "behind the scenes" systems and processes; the administrative and technical support services including finance and information technology. Council relies heavily on a dependable administrative support group to deliver everything from providing library services to rubbish removal in our city centre.

Council has changed its Enterprise Resource System (ERP) in 2014 with major improvements to the way we work. Internal processes like leave requests, timesheets, procurement and invoice approvals are now fully automated. City of Palmerston has been able to improve the governance on essential financial functions and introduced new systems to cater for the growing organisation.

REGISTERED DOCUMENTS - 1 JULY 2014 TO 30 JUNE 2015



Besides the development of a Customer Service Request system to support our commitment to our customers, City of Palmerston has implemented a Contracts system and has improved financial reporting systems significantly. Financial reports are now automated, reducing the risk for human error and increasing the ability to report on different items more efficiently.

External auditors of Council have identified fewer items in the review of internal processes due to the change and have been satisfied with the process improvements the organisation has made over the last twelve months.

Overall the new ERP has resulted in:

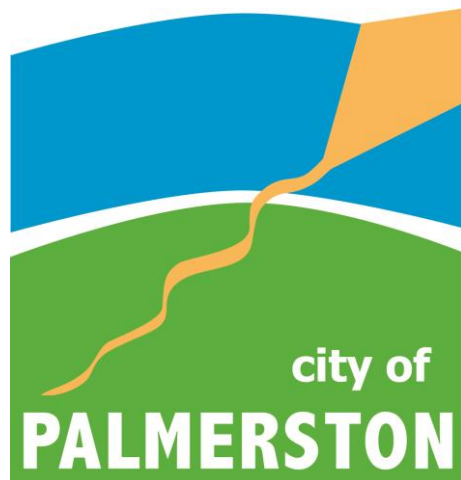
- Less printing,
- Less manual handling,

- Reduced process times,
- Reduction in training time for new staff,
- Increased governance,
- Increased reporting reliability, and
- Better auditing results

Furthermore Council has changed to a Managed ICT Service at the beginning of July 2014. With the help of our supplier, City of Palmerston has been able to reduce outages and increase the reliability of our systems. In cooperation with the provider of the ICT Services we have been updating communication systems and improving our information technology.

City of Palmerston has introduced ten new financial policies in the last year. Those policies are not only governing internal processes but also increase the transparency for residents and provide guidance for ratepayers.





GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 30 June 2015

City of Palmerston

General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2015

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City of Palmerston

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2015

OFFICER'S STATEMENT

I, Ricki Bruhn, the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Palmerston, hereby certify that the Annual Financial Statements:

(a) 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; and

(b) are in accordance with the accounting and other records of Council.

Ricki Bruhn

(Chief Executive Officer)

14 October 2015

(date)

City of Palmerston

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
INCOME			
Rates	2	21,723,750	20,084,089
Statutory charges	2	162,591	208,728
User charges	2	1,194,684	1,006,790
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	2,883,463	2,184,520
Investment income	2	1,152,556	1,469,573
Reimbursements	2	185,299	47,764
Other income	2	80,568	141,832
Total Income		<u>27,382,911</u>	<u>25,143,296</u>
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	6,729,842	5,946,382
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	18,043,730	16,927,018
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	8,134,394	8,329,600
Total Expenses		<u>32,907,966</u>	<u>31,203,000</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(5,525,055)	(6,059,704)
Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets	4	(2,371,745)	(67,424)
Physical resources received free of charge	2	2,549,867	33,950,453
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(5,346,933)	27,823,325
transferred to Equity Statement			
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	41,682	15,725,967
Total Other Comprehensive Income		<u>41,682</u>	<u>15,725,967</u>
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		<u>(5,305,251)</u>	<u>43,549,292</u>

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

City of Palmerston

BALANCE SHEET as at 30 June 2015

	Notes	2015 Restated \$	2014 Restated \$	1/07/2013 Restated \$
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	5	15,510,614	12,106,050	33,761,522
Trade & other receivables	5	1,394,444	1,336,123	1,283,716
Other financial assets	5	7,500,000	20,500,000	-
Total Current Assets		24,405,058	33,942,173	35,045,238
Non-current Assets				
Investment Property	7	6,611,463	-	-
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	7	351,377,151	352,464,456	308,534,549
Other Non-current Assets	6	736,287	1,568,038	207,178
Total Non-current Assets		358,724,901	354,032,494	308,741,727
Total Assets		383,129,959	387,974,667	343,786,965
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Trade & Other Payables	8	3,094,002	2,868,081	2,305,511
Provisions	8	643,427	519,254	500,757
Total Current Liabilities		3,737,429	3,387,335	2,806,268
Non-current Liabilities				
Provisions	8	437,678	327,229	269,886
Total Non-current Liabilities		437,678	327,229	269,886
Total Liabilities		4,175,107	3,714,564	3,076,154
NET ASSETS		378,954,852	384,260,103	340,710,811
EQUITY				
Accumulated Surplus		134,798,618	127,761,778	101,572,842
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	223,487,907	223,446,225	207,720,258
Other Reserves	9	20,668,327	33,052,100	31,417,711
TOTAL EQUITY		378,954,852	384,260,103	340,710,811

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

City of Palmerston

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 30 June 2015

		Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
		\$	\$	\$	\$
2015	Notes				
Balance at end of previous reporting period		127,761,778	223,446,225	33,052,100	384,260,103
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		(5,346,933)			(5,346,933)
Other Comprehensive Income					
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>					
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment			41,682		41,682
Transfers between reserves		<u>12,383,773</u>		<u>(12,383,773)</u>	-
Balance at end of period		<u>134,798,618</u>	<u>223,487,907</u>	<u>20,668,327</u>	<u>378,954,852</u>
2014					
Balance at end of previous reporting period		74,153,684	207,720,258	31,417,711	313,291,653
Adjustment to correct prior period error		<u>27,419,158</u>			<u>27,419,158</u>
Restated opening balance		101,572,842	207,720,258	31,417,711	340,710,811
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		27,823,325			27,823,325
Other Comprehensive Income					
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>					
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment			15,725,967		15,725,967
Transfers between reserves		<u>(1,634,389)</u>		<u>1,634,389</u>	-
Balance at end of period		<u>127,761,778</u>	<u>223,446,225</u>	<u>33,052,100</u>	<u>384,260,103</u>

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

City of Palmerston

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates - general & other		21,502,833	20,236,357
Fees & other charges		1,330,467	1,153,718
Investment receipts		1,498,983	1,289,100
Grants utilised for operating purposes		2,885,406	2,184,695
Other operating receipts		97,313	254,776
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee Costs		(6,572,099)	(5,900,143)
Contractual services & materials		(17,463,285)	(15,776,227)
Other operating payments		(393,209)	(461,225)
Finance payments		125,152	(125,152)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities		3,011,561	2,855,899
 CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Sale of replaced assets		25,000	64,379
Net disposal of investment securities		13,000,000	-
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(6,020,534)	(4,075,750)
Purchase of investment property		(6,611,463)	-
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		393,003	(4,011,371)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		3,404,564	(1,155,472)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		12,106,050	13,261,522
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period		15,510,614	12,106,050

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

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Preparation

The financial report comprises general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (as they apply to local governments and not-for-profit entities), Australian Accounting Interpretations, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the Local Government Act 2013 and accompanying regulations. Material accounting policies which have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

Except for cash flow and rate setting information, the report has also been prepared on the accrual basis and is based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and liabilities.

Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of a financial report in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that effect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances; the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The Local Government Reporting Entity

All Funds through which the Council controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

(b) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a Gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows.

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalentents

Cash and cash equivalentents include cash on hand, cash at bank, deposits available on demand with banks and other short term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts.

Bank overdrafts are reported as short term borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(d) Trade and Other Receivables

Trade and other receivables include amounts due from ratepayers for unpaid rates and service charges and other amounts due from third parties for goods sold and services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Collectability of trade and other receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts that are known to be uncollectible are written off when identified. An allowance for doubtful debts is raised when there is objective evidence that they will not be collectible.

(e) Fixed Assets

Each class of fixed assets within either property, plant and equipment or infrastructure, is carried at cost or fair value as indicated less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Valuation of Assets

The following asset classes were valued by Australian Pacific Valuers (APV) effective 1 July 2013 at Fair Value:

- Land
- Land Improvements
- Buildings
- Infrastructure

All acquisitions made after the respective date of revaluation are recorded as described in section Initial Recognition below.

The asset classes Plant, Furniture and Equipment and Motor Vehicles were valued by Maloney's Field Services effective 1 July 2014 at Fair Value.

Initial Recognition and Measurement between Mandatory Revaluation Dates

All assets are initially recognised at cost and subsequently revalued in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

In relation to this initial measurement, cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, cost is determined as fair value at the date of acquisition. 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 overheads.

Individual assets acquired between initial recognition and the next revaluation of the asset class in accordance with the mandatory measurement framework detailed above, are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation as management believes this approximates fair value. They will be subject to subsequent revaluation..

Revaluation

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of assets are credited to a revaluation surplus in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are recognised against revaluation surplus directly in equity. All other decreases are recognised in profit or loss.

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(e) Fixed Assets (Continued)

Transitional Arrangements

During the time it takes to transition the carrying value of non-current assets from the cost approach to the fair value approach, the Council may still be utilising both methods across differing asset classes.

Those assets carried at cost will be carried in accordance with the policy detailed in the ***Initial Recognition*** section as detailed above.

Those assets carried at fair value will be carried in accordance with the ***Revaluation*** Methodology section as detailed above.

Land Under Roads

Effective as at 1 July 2008, Council elected not to recognise any value for land under roads acquired on or before 30 June 2008.

Land under roads acquired on or after 1 July 2008 has not been recognised as in the opinion of Council it is not possible to reliably attribute a fair value, and further that such value if determined would be immaterial.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings but excluding freehold land, are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the individual asset's useful life from the time the asset is held ready for use.

When an item of property, plant and equipment is revalued, any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is treated in one of the following ways:

- a) Restated proportionately with the change in the gross carrying amount of the asset so that the carrying amount of the asset after revaluation equals its revalued amount; or
- b) Eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Major depreciation periods used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Buildings	25 to 60 years
Furniture and Equipment	3 to 10 years
Plant and Equipment	5 to 15 years
Roads	
Earthworks	100 years
Pavement	30 to 40 years
Seal	10 to 20 years
Road Furniture	20 to 40 years
Footpaths & Bicycle ways	30 to 50 years
Kerb & Gutter	40 to 50 years
Motor Vehicles	5 years
Waste & Sewerage Infrastructure	20 to 30 years
Stormwater Drainage	75 to 100 years
Land Improvement	20 to 50 years

The assets residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount.

These gains and losses are included in the statement of comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(e) Fixed Assets (Continued)

Capitalisation Threshold

Expenditure on assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisitions exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each asset class.

Buildings	\$5,000
Furniture and Equipment	\$1,000
Plant and Equipment	\$5,000
Roads	\$10,000
Footpaths & Bicycle ways	\$5,000
Kerb & Gutter	\$10,000
Motor Vehicles	\$5,000
Waste & Sewerage Infrastructure	\$10,000
Stormwater Drainage	\$10,000
Land Improvement	\$10,000

(f) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities

When performing a revaluation, the Council uses a mix of both independent and management valuations using the following as a guide:

Fair Value is the price that Council would receive to sell the asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability, in an orderly (ie unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset. The fair values of assets that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from either the principal market for the asset (ie the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or, in the absence of such a market, the most advantageous market available to the entity at the end of the reporting period (ie the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

Fair Value Hierarchy

AASB 13 requires the disclosure of fair value information by level of the fair value hierarchy, which categorises fair value measurement into one of three possible levels based on the lowest level that an input that is significant to the measurement can be categorised into as follows:

Level 1

Measurements based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2

Measurements based on inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3

Measurements based on unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data. If all significant inputs required to measure fair value are observable, the asset or liability is included in Level 2. If one or more significant inputs are not based on observable market data, the asset or liability is included in Level 3.

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(f) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities (Continued)

Valuation techniques

The Council selects a valuation technique that is appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available to measure fair value. The availability of sufficient and relevant data primarily depends on the specific characteristics of the asset or liability being measured. The valuation techniques selected by the Council are consistent with one or more of the following valuation approaches:

Market approach

Valuation techniques that use prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions for identical or similar assets or liabilities.

Income approach

Valuation techniques that convert estimated future cash flows or income and expenses into a single discounted present value.

Cost approach

Valuation techniques that reflect the current replacement cost of an asset at its current service capacity.

Valuation techniques

Each valuation technique requires inputs that reflect the assumptions that buyers and sellers would use when pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risks. When selecting a valuation technique, the Council gives priority to those techniques that maximise the use of observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs. Inputs that are developed using market data (such as publicly available information on actual transactions) and reflect the assumptions that buyers and sellers would generally use when pricing the asset or liability and considered observable, whereas inputs for which market data is not available and therefore are developed using the best information available about such assumptions are considered unobservable.

(g) Impairment of Assets

In accordance with Australian Accounting Standards the Council's assets, other than inventories, are assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication they may be impaired.

Where such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount.

Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another standard (e.g. AASB 116) whereby any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other standard.

For non-cash generating assets such as roads, drains, public buildings and the like, value in use is represented by the depreciated replacement cost of the asset.

(h) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Council prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the Council becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods and services. The amounts are unsecured, are recognised as a current liability and are normally paid within 30 days of recognition.

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(i) Employee Benefits

Short-Term Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the Council's obligations for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

The Council's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and sick leave are recognised as a part of current trade and other payables in the statement of financial position. The Council's obligations for employees' annual leave and long service leave entitlements are recognised as provisions in the statement of financial position.

Other Long-Term Employee Benefits

Provision is made for employees' long service leave and annual leave entitlements not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Other long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations or service and employee departures and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Any premeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The Council's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current provisions in its statement of financial position, except where the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period, in which case the obligations are presented as current provisions.

(j) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Council has a present legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured using the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

(k) Leases

Leases of fixed assets where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not legal ownership, are transferred to the Council, are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised recording an asset and a liability at the lower amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight line basis over the life of the lease term.

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(l) Rates, Grants, Donations and Other Contributions

Rates, grants, donations and other contributions are recognised as revenues when the local government obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions.

Control over assets acquired from rates is obtained at the commencement of the rating period or, where earlier, upon receipt of the rates.

Where contributions recognised as revenues 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 nature of and amounts pertaining to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in Note 2. That note also discloses the amount of contributions recognised as revenues in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the local government's operations for the current reporting period.

(m) Superannuation

The Council contributes to a number of Superannuation Funds on behalf of employees.

All funds to which the Council contributes are defined contribution plans.

(n) Current and Non-Current Classification

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be settled. The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be settled within the next 12 months, being the Council's operational cycle. In the case of liabilities where the Council does not have the unconditional right to defer settlement beyond 12 months, such as vested long service leave, the liability is classified as current even if not expected to be settled within the next 12 months. Inventories held for trading are classified as current even if not expected to be realised in the next 12 months except for land held for sale where it is held as non-current based on the Council's intentions to release for sale.

(o) Rounding Off Figures

All figures shown in this annual financial report, are rounded to the nearest dollar.

(p) Comparative Figures

Where required, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

When the Council applies an accounting policy retrospectively, makes a retrospective restatement or reclassifies items in its financial statement, an additional (third) statement of financial position as at the beginning of the preceding period in addition to the minimum comparative financial statements is presented.

CITY OF PALMERSTON
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015
SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Pending Accounting Standards

1. (a)

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2015 reporting period.

- (i) AASB 7 Financial Instruments Disclosures –
- (ii) AASB 9 Financial Instruments
- (iii) AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- (iv) AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures

Standards containing consequential amendments to other Standards and Interpretations arising from the above - AASB 2010-7, AASB 2014-1, AASB 2014-3, AASB 2014-4, AASB 2014-5, AASB 2014-6, AASB 2014-7, AASB 2014-8, AASB 2014-9, AASB 2014-10, AASB 2015-1, AASB 2015-2, AASB 2015-3, AASB 2015-4, AASB 2015-5 and AASB 2015-6

Council is of the view that none of the above new standards or interpretations will affect any of the amounts recognised in the financial statements, but that they may impact certain information otherwise disclosed.

The Australian Accounting Standards Board is currently reviewing AASB 1004 Contributions. It is anticipated that the changes resulting from this review may have a material effect on the timing of the recognition of grants and contributions, but the financial consequences cannot be estimated until a revised accounting standard is issued.

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 2 - INCOME

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
RATES REVENUES			
<u>General Rates</u>			
Residential		14,768,116	13,387,201
Commercial		1,506,288	1,473,086
Industrial		406,892	360,807
Rates received in advance		135,823	87,437
Other		31,477	35,642
		<u>16,848,596</u>	<u>15,344,173</u>
<u>Annual Charges</u>			
Waste Management Service		4,875,154	4,739,916
		<u>4,875,154</u>	<u>4,739,916</u>
		<u>21,723,750</u>	<u>20,084,089</u>
STATUTORY CHARGES			
Animal registration fees & fines		26,350	33,320
Parking fines / expiation fees		70,720	126,798
Other fines, penalties & expiations		65,521	48,610
		<u>162,591</u>	<u>208,728</u>
USER CHARGES			
Developer Charges		213,641	199,736
Animal Control		67,385	79,365
Rent & Hire of Council Equipment		345,342	234,243
Library		86,594	73,426
Rate Searches & Dog Registrations		331,159	332,404
Licences & Permits		125,910	59,296
Sundry		24,653	28,320
		<u>1,194,684</u>	<u>1,006,790</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME			
Interest on investments			
Banks & other		1,068,002	1,387,968
interest on overdue rates & charges		84,554	81,605
		<u>1,152,556</u>	<u>1,469,573</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
REIMBURSEMENTS			
- for private works		142,118	41,540
- other		43,181	6,224
		185,299	47,764
 OTHER INCOME			
Insurance & other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		71,127	11,739
Compensation received		-	126,000
Sundry		9,441	4,093
		80,568	141,832
 GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS			
Other grants, subsidies and contributions		2,883,463	2,184,520
		2,883,463	2,184,520
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>			
 Sources of grants			
Commonwealth government		276,501	498,741
Northern Territory government		2,211,750	1,333,773
Other		395,212	352,006
		2,883,463	2,184,520

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
Conditions over grants & contributions			
<i>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:</i>			
<i>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</i>		4,369,984	5,108,636
<i>Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>			
<i>Government Grants</i>		(2,514,899)	(2,728,296)
<i>Developer Contributions</i>		(202,893)	(194,876)
<i>Subtotal</i>		<u>(2,717,792)</u>	<u>(2,923,172)</u>
<i>Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>			
<i>Government Grants</i>		2,488,251	1,845,466
<i>Developer Contributions</i>		395,212	339,054
<i>Subtotal</i>		<u>2,883,463</u>	<u>2,184,520</u>
<i>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period and held as restricted assets</i>		<u>4,535,655</u>	<u>4,369,984</u>
<i>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</i>		<u>165,671</u>	<u>(738,652)</u>

PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE

Land	-	3,534,000
Land Improvements	783,841	743,077
Roads & Pavement	657,617	12,816,535
Footpaths and Cycleways	176,797	5,484,331
Kerb & Gutter	58,520	3,830,119
Stormwater Drainage	664,857	6,907,809
Water & Irrigation	208,235	634,582
TOTAL PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED	<u>2,549,867</u>	<u>33,950,453</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 3 - EXPENSES

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		4,823,640	4,436,868
Employee leave expense		944,687	761,644
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions		553,888	488,585
Workers' Compensation Insurance		94,548	103,170
Other		313,079	156,115
Total Operating Employee Costs		6,729,842	5,946,382
Total Number of Employees		71	63
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>			
MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES			
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>			
Auditor's Remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		31,882	30,473
- Other Auditors		3,000	-
Bad and Doubtful Debts		3,788	-
Elected members' expenses		241,958	344,986
Operating Lease Rentals - non-cancellable leases	16		
- minimum lease payments		116,369	85,766
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		396,997	461,225
<u>Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses</u>			
Contractors		11,413,656	10,840,221
Energy		1,081,717	1,062,258
Legal Expenses		153,449	112,853
Professional services		1,269,181	1,081,727
Sundry		3,728,730	3,368,734
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		17,646,733	16,465,793
		18,043,730	16,927,018

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 3 - EXPENSES (cont)

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT			
Depreciation			
	7		
Land Improvements		1,033,072	817,775
Buildings		509,217	636,755
Infrastructure			
- Roads Pavements		2,837,567	3,234,591
- Kerbs & Guttering		472,576	469,475
- Footpaths & Cycleways		558,356	549,951
- Stormwater Drainage		1,567,795	1,555,185
- Water & Irrigation		721,258	699,035
Other Assets		353,914	366,833
		<u>8,053,755</u>	<u>8,329,600</u>
Impairment			
Other Assets		80,639	-
		<u>80,639</u>	<u>-</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
Assets renewed or directly replaced			
Proceeds from disposal		25,000	64,379
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		<u>20,058</u>	<u>131,803</u>
Gain (Loss) on disposal		<u>4,942</u>	<u>(67,424)</u>
Assets surplus to requirements			
Less: Carrying amount of assets disposed		<u>2,376,687</u>	<u>-</u>
Gain (Loss) on disposal		<u>(2,376,687)</u>	<u>-</u>
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS		<u>(2,371,745)</u>	<u>(67,424)</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank		7,857,613	3,956,691
Short Term Deposits & Bills, etc		<u>7,653,001</u>	<u>8,149,359</u>
		<u>15,510,614</u>	<u>12,106,050</u>
 TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Rates - General & Other		597,562	376,645
Accrued Revenues		230,712	577,139
Debtors - general		33,336	38,294
Other levels of Government		-	1,943
GST Recoupment		178,540	9,986
Prepayments		104,612	110,412
Animal Control		116,289	107,535
Parking & Traffic		125,728	105,666
Sundry		<u>11,453</u>	<u>8,503</u>
Total		<u>1,398,232</u>	<u>1,336,123</u>
 Less: Allowance for Doubtful Debts		 <u>3,788</u>	 <u>-</u>
		<u>1,394,444</u>	<u>1,336,123</u>
 OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Term Deposits over 90 days		<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>20,500,000</u>
		<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>20,500,000</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

FINANCIAL ASSETS	Notes	2015	2014
		\$	\$
Capital Works-in-Progress			
Opening Balance		1,568,038	207,178
Additions		736,287	1,557,418
Transfers to Property, Plant, Equipment		(1,568,038)	(196,558)
		<u>736,287</u>	<u>1,568,038</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Fair Value Level	2014				2015			
		AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEPN	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEPN	CARRYING AMOUNT
Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT									
Land	2	122,180,000	4,554,000	-	126,734,000	121,101,000	3,903,000	-	125,004,000
Land Improvements	3	19,168,566	2,387,222	(9,430,545)	12,125,243	18,926,295	5,115,803	(10,358,588)	13,683,510
Buildings	3	26,491,294	182,926	(9,316,766)	17,357,454	24,334,274	533,799	(8,506,424)	16,361,649
Infrastructure		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Roads & Pavement	3	104,508,659	16,297,410	(43,424,721)	77,381,348	103,737,256	20,868,091	(45,780,766)	78,824,581
- Kerbs & Gutter	3	31,453,588	944,891	(15,564,420)	16,834,059	31,432,458	1,562,124	(16,023,278)	16,971,304
- Footpaths and Cycleways	3	21,453,495	3,553,728	(9,840,838)	15,166,385	21,397,519	3,829,343	(10,358,900)	14,867,962
- Stormwater Drainage	3	125,941,658	13,761,946	(58,502,917)	81,200,687	125,941,658	14,804,299	(60,070,712)	80,675,245
- Water & Irrigation	3	9,609,150	770,543	(5,574,797)	4,804,896	9,062,699	1,548,400	(6,296,053)	4,315,046
Motor Vehicles	2	-	810,493	(360,075)	450,418	944,951	161,225	(725,714)	380,462
Plant & Equipment	2	-	215,940	(80,920)	135,020	118,500	-	(18,114)	100,386
Furniture & Fittings	2	-	1,294,658	(1,019,712)	274,946	592,490	221,775	(659,892)	154,373
Intangible Assets	2	-	-	-	-	-	57,950	(19,317)	38,633
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		460,806,410	44,773,757	(153,115,711)	352,464,456	457,589,100	52,605,809	(158,817,758)	351,377,151
Comparatives			396,751,019	(88,216,470)	308,534,549	460,806,410	44,773,757	(153,115,711)	352,464,456

This Note continues on the following pages.

Note 7 - INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Land	-	-	-	-	-	651,000	-	-	651,000
Buildings & Structures	-	-	-	-	-	5,960,463	-	-	5,960,463
TOTAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY	-	-	-	-	-	6,611,463	-	-	6,611,463
Comparatives						-	-	-	-

This Note continues on the following pages.

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR										2015 \$
	2014 \$	Additions		Disposals		Depreciation		Impairment		Net Revaluation	
	CARRYING AMOUNT	New/Upgrade	Renewals	Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers	Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT		
Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (cont.)											
Land	126,734,000	-	-	(1,079,000)	-	-	(651,000)	-	125,004,000		
Land Improvements	12,125,243	2,652,638	75,943	(137,242)	(1,033,072)	-	-	-	13,683,510		
Buildings	17,357,454	350,873	-	(837,461)	(509,217)	-	-	-	16,361,649		
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
- Roads & Pavement	77,381,348	3,824,225	746,455	(289,880)	(2,837,567)	-	-	-	78,824,581		
- Kerbs & Gutter	16,834,059	596,103	21,130	(7,412)	(472,576)	-	-	-	16,971,304		
- Footpaths and Cycleways	15,166,385	219,638	55,975	(15,680)	(558,356)	-	-	-	14,867,962		
- Stormwater Drainage	81,200,687	1,042,353	-	-	(1,567,795)	-	-	-	80,675,245		
- Water & Irrigation	4,804,896	231,408	-	-	(721,258)	-	-	-	4,315,046		
Motor Vehicles	450,418	161,225	-	(20,057)	(252,806)	-	-	41,682	380,462		
Plant & Equipment	135,020	-	-	-	(7,847)	(26,787)	-	-	100,386		
Furniture & Fittings	274,946	17,234	-	(10,011)	(73,944)	(53,852)	-	-	154,373		
Intangible Assets	-	57,950	-	-	(19,317)	-	-	-	38,633		
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	352,464,456	9,153,647	899,503	(2,396,743)	(8,053,755)	(80,639)	(651,000)	41,682	351,377,151		
Comparatives	308,534,549	33,114,726	713,213	(131,802)	(8,329,600)	2,837,402	15,725,968	352,464,456			
Note 7 - INVESTMENT PROPERTY											
<i>This Note continues on the following pages.</i>											
Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	651,000	-	651,000		
Buildings & Structures	-	5,960,463	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,960,463		
TOTAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY	-	5,960,463	-	-	-	-	651,000	-	6,611,463		
Comparatives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

This Note continues on the following pages.

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 8 - LIABILITIES

	Notes	2015		2014	
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES					
Goods & Services		442,066		74,507	
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		697	-	3,069	-
Accrued expenses - other		2,336,771	-	2,449,375	-
Deposits, Retentions & Bonds		299,515	-	334,425	-
Other		14,953	-	6,705	-
		<u>3,094,002</u>	-	<u>2,868,081</u>	-
 PROVISIONS					
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		643,427	437,678	519,254	327,229
		<u>643,427</u>	<u>437,678</u>	<u>519,254</u>	<u>327,229</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 9 - RESERVES

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	1/07/2014	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/06/2015
Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land	114,414,121	-	-	114,414,121
Land Improvements	7,303,658	-	-	7,303,658
Buildings	5,648,196	-	-	5,648,196
Infrastructure				
- Roads Pavements	37,371,656	-	-	37,371,656
- Kerbs & Guttering	4,551,364	-	-	4,551,364
- Footpaths & Cycleways	4,192,922	-	-	4,192,922
- Stormwater Drainage	45,471,325	-	-	45,471,325
Waste Infrastructure	4,463,992	-	-	4,463,992
Other Assets	28,991	41,682	-	70,673
Total Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	223,446,225	41,682		223,487,907
TOTAL	223,446,225	41,682		223,487,907
Comparatives	207,720,258	15,725,967	-	223,446,225
OTHER RESERVES	1/07/2014	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/06/2015
Property Reserve	5,001,375	-	(3,120,187)	1,881,188
Plant & Equipment Reserve	1,291,451	-	(780,047)	511,404
Infrastructure Reserve	17,284,880	-	(11,700,696)	5,584,184
Developer Funds in Lieu of Construction	3,925,967	390,712	(198,392)	4,118,287
Unexpended Capital Expenditure	3,912,567	6,924,035	(3,912,567)	6,924,035
Unexpended Grants	378,517	2,492,751	(2,518,789)	352,479
Election Expenses	150,000	-	-	150,000
Storm/Cyclone Damage	500,000	-	-	500,000
Strategic Initiatives	500,000	-	-	500,000
Community Grants Reserve	107,343	39,407	-	146,750
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES	33,052,100	9,846,905	(22,230,678)	20,668,327
Comparatives	31,417,711	6,922,204	(5,287,815)	33,052,100

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 9 - RESERVES

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 in line with Council's Asset Management Plan for Property.
Plant and Equipment Reserve	The reserve holds funding for renewal, replacement or upgrading of existing assets and/or the establishment of new assets in line with Council's Asset Management Plan for Plant and Equipment.
Infrastructure Reserve	The reserve holds funding for renewal, replacement or upgrading of existing assets and/or the establishment of new assets in line with Council's Asset Management Plan for Infrastructure.
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 City of Palmerston to recover from these disasters and return to operations.
Strategic Initiatives Reserve	This reserve will fund strategic initiatives for the future development of the City of Palmerston in line with the Municipal Plan and the Long-term Financial Plan. Specific initiatives have to be identified and funds have to be
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 and have not been expensed at the End of
Developer Funds Reserve	This reserve holds the balance of unexpended funds in lieu of construction received by developers. Restrictions to these funds apply in line with individual developer agreements.
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.

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

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.

		2015	2014
CASH & FINANCIAL ASSETS	Notes	\$	\$
Unexpended amounts received from Federal Government		-	3,649
Unexpended amounts received from Territory Government or other institutions		352,479	374,869
Developer Funds for works in lieu of construction		4,118,287	3,925,967
		<u>4,470,766</u>	<u>4,304,485</u>
TOTAL ASSETS SUBJECT TO EXTERNALLY IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS		<u>4,470,766</u>	<u>4,304,485</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(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:

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	<u>15,510,614</u>	<u>12,106,050</u>
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>15,510,614</u>	<u>12,106,050</u>

(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash from Operating Activities

Net Surplus (Deficit)		(5,346,933)	27,823,325
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		8,134,394	8,329,600
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		232,250	(28,268)
Change in allowances for under-recovery		3,788	-
Non-cash asset acquisitions		(2,549,867)	(33,950,453)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		<u>2,371,745</u>	<u>67,424</u>
		<u>2,845,377</u>	<u>2,241,628</u>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		(62,109)	(52,407)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		<u>228,293</u>	<u>666,678</u>
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		<u>3,011,561</u>	<u>2,855,899</u>

(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

Acquisition of assets by means of:

- Physical resources received free of charge	2	<u>2,549,867</u>	<u>33,950,453</u>
<i>Amounts recognised in Income Statement</i>		<u>2,549,867</u>	<u>33,950,453</u>
		<u>2,549,867</u>	<u>33,950,453</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2015
Note 12 - FUNCTIONS

		REVENUES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES				ECONOMIC AFFAIRS				ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION				HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES			
		GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES				PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY											
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	2015	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2015	2014	2014
OPERATING REVENUES																	
Rates	16,827,734	16,848,596	15,344,173	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,927,410	4,875,154	4,739,916	-
Statutory & User Charges	304,600	232,825	158,354	522,056	570,430	262,025	199,962	318,660	199,962	-	416,083	6,584	-	-	-	-	-
Grants - NT recurrent	691,990	691,350	336,347	-	-	864,391	846,288	269,190	372,977	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants - Cwllth recurrent	-	-	-	-	-	269,190	269,190	391,712	351,418	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contributions & Donations	-	-	-	-	-	401,000	401,000	-	351,418	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	924,600	1,152,556	1,445,150	-	-	100,000	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	24,423	-	-	-	-
Reimbursements & Other Revenues	160,180	249,519	148,056	1,000	-	15,862	41,540	10,202	41,540	4,006	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	18,909,104	19,174,846	17,432,080	523,056	527,598	1,912,468	1,836,052	1,381,980	1,381,980	4,951,416	4,885,744	4,764,339	-	-	-	-	-
OPERATING EXPENSES																	
Employee Costs	4,163,811	4,449,713	3,679,669	550,778	577,132	275,294	349,257	337,784	337,784	-	76,681	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials, Contracts & Other	4,391,700	3,959,043	3,356,705	310,992	160,676	2,539,347	2,619,258	2,700,634	2,700,634	5,409,123	5,120,742	5,396,300	1,220,000	868,523	602,711	602,711	-
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	8,000,100	465,552	873,226	-	-	-	4,208,225	5,661,433	5,661,433	-	-	634,919	-	1,816,208	147,770	147,770	-
Total	16,555,611	8,874,308	7,909,600	861,770	737,808	2,814,641	7,176,740	8,689,831	8,689,831	5,409,123	5,120,742	6,107,900	1,220,000	2,684,731	750,481	750,481	-
TOTALS	2,353,493	10,300,538	9,522,480	(338,714)	(81,450)	(353,852)	(5,340,689)	(7,317,851)	(7,317,851)	(457,707)	(234,989)	(1,343,561)	(1,220,000)	(2,684,731)	(2,684,731)	(750,481)	(750,481)
TOTAL ASSETS UTILISED		25,610,211	77,218,184		25,591	18,512	257,808,825	276,163,626						52,344,691	46,308,222		
OPERATING REVENUES																	
Rates	233,458	272,153	286,772	-	-	21,755,144	21,723,750	20,084,089	20,084,089	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statutory & User Charges	677,612	684,923	579,543	1,500	1,800	1,322,139	1,357,275	1,215,518	1,215,518	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants - NT recurrent	-	-	126,352	-	-	2,235,493	2,222,561	1,333,773	1,333,773	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants - Cwllth recurrent	-	-	-	-	-	269,190	269,190	499,329	499,329	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contributions & Donations	-	-	-	-	-	401,000	391,712	351,418	351,418	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	1,044,600	1,152,556	1,469,573	1,469,573	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reimbursements & Other Revenues	3,000	1,595	-	-	-	184,048	265,867	189,596	189,596	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	914,070	958,671	992,667	1,500	1,800	27,211,614	27,382,911	25,143,296	25,143,296	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OPERATING EXPENSES																	
Employee Costs	1,246,521	1,332,436	1,275,136	-	-	6,236,404	6,729,842	5,946,382	5,946,382	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials, Contracts & Other	5,853,332	5,186,412	4,700,377	10,000	7,685	19,734,494	18,043,730	16,927,018	16,927,018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	7,099,853	1,575,220	966,334	-	68,242	8,000,100	8,134,394	8,329,600	8,329,600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	14,205,706	8,094,068	6,941,847	10,000	75,927	33,970,998	32,907,966	31,203,000	31,203,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	(6,185,783)	(7,135,397)	(5,949,180)	(8,500)	(53,733)	(6,759,384)	(5,525,055)	(6,059,704)	(6,059,704)								
TOTAL ASSETS UTILISED		45,357,489	45,770,335		1,983,152	2,495,788	383,129,959	387,974,667									

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Accounting Policies

<p>Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits</p>	<p>Accounting Policy: Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 2.80% and 3.90% (2014: 2.80% and 3.95%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 89 days and an average interest rates of 3.35% (2014: 152 days, 3.85%).</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.</p>
<p>Receivables - Rates & Associated Charges (including legals & penalties for late payment)</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 18% (2014: 18%) Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the Territory.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).</p>
<p>Receivables - Fees & other charges</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Terms & 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.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).</p>
<p>Receivables - other levels of government</p>	<p>Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal value.</p> <p>Terms & 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 & Territory.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value.</p>
<p>Receivables - Retirement Home Contributions</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective legislation.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).</p>
<p><i>Note:</i> Certain of the above receivables do not meet the definition of <i>financial instruments</i>, 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.</p>	
<p>Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value.</p>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

2015	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets					
Cash & equivalents	23,010,614			23,010,614	23,010,614
Receivables	517,518			517,518	517,518
Total	23,528,132	-	-	23,528,132	23,528,132
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	3,094,002			3,094,002	3,094,002
Total	3,094,002	-	-	3,094,002	3,094,002
2014					
Financial Assets					
Cash & equivalents	32,606,050			32,606,050	32,606,050
Receivables	839,080			839,080	839,080
Total	33,445,130	-	-	33,445,130	33,445,130
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	2,868,081			2,868,081	2,868,081
Total	2,868,081	-	-	2,868,081	2,868,081

All financial instruments are categorised as loans and receivables.

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

Sensitivity Analysis	30 June 2015			30 June 2014	
	Change to risk variable interest	Profit or Loss 2015	Equity 2015	Profit or Loss 2014	Equity 2014
	+0.5%	115,053	115,053	163,030	163,030
	-0.5%	(115,053)	(115,053)	(163,030)	(163,030)

Ageing of Receivables

	Total	Current	30-60 Days	61-90 Days	90+ Days	Past Due and Impaired
2015	517,518	512,116	1,904	461	3,037	
2014	839,080	836,898	4,020	(5,902)	4,064	-

Net Fair Value

All carrying values approximate fair value for all recognised financial instruments. There is no recognised market for the financial assets of the Council.

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 & 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.

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	2015	2014
<u>Notes</u>	\$	\$
Capital Commitments		
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Buildings	-	5,342,626
Roads & Footpaths	<u>5,026,719</u>	<u>2,182,765</u>
	<u>5,026,719</u>	<u>7,525,391</u>
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	<u>5,026,719</u>	<u>7,525,391</u>
	<u>5,026,719</u>	<u>7,525,391</u>
Other Expenditure Commitments		
Other non-capital expenditure committed for in relation to investment properties:		
Waste Management Services	13,579,968	8,891,068
Landscaping and Mowing	2,972,526	1,979,513
Civil Works	2,751,332	627,629
Other	899,061	1,393,644
	<u>20,202,887</u>	<u>12,891,854</u>
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	9,767,034	4,962,834
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	<u>10,435,853</u>	<u>7,929,020</u>
	<u>20,202,887</u>	<u>12,891,854</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 15 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2015	2014	2013	2012
Current Ratio				
<u>Current Assets - Externally Restricted Assets</u>	5.33:1	8.75:1	10.67:1	10.67:1
Current Liabilities				
Debt Service Ratio				
<u>Net Debt Service Cost</u>	0:01%	0:01%	0:01%	0:01%
Operating Revenue*				
* as defined				
Rate Coverage Percentage				
<u>Rate Revenues</u>	61.53%	61.03%	56.65%	53.63%
Total Revenues				
Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage				
<u>Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding</u>	3.47%	2.39%	3.07%	3.70%
Rates & Annual Charges Collectible				

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

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:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	491,964	170,774
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	1,884,840	1,805,293
Later than 5 years	2,307,620	2,602,600
	<u>4,684,424</u>	<u>4,578,667</u>

Lease payment commitments of Council

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

Contingent rental payments exist in relation to the lease of one grader if utilisation exceeds 250 hours during any month. 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:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	64,156	99,706
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	157,035	84,189
	<u>221,191</u>	<u>183,895</u>

City of Palmerston

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2015

Note 17 - PRIOR PERIOD CORRECTIONS

Under AASB 116 - Assets are required to be recognised when it is probably that future economic benefits will flow to the entity. In regards to Gifted Assets (newly established assets received from developers), the assets should be recognised at the point that the assets are ready for use (ie economic benefit). Council has previously recognised Gifted Assets at the end of the defect liability period, however after discussions between management and Council's auditors, it was agreed that future economic benefit passed to Council at the time of completion of the asset, rather than after the expiry of the defect liability period. As such, a correction has been made to amend these prior period errors commencing 1 July 2013.

Effect of the above: 1/07/2013	Original Balance	Amount of Adjustment	Restated Balance
Statement of Comprehensive Income			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	6,461,767	751,233	7,213,000
Total Expenses	28,332,866	751,233	29,084,099
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(3,928,653)	(751,233)	(4,679,886)
Physical resources received free of charge	-	28,170,391	28,170,391
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(3,928,653)	27,419,158	23,490,505
Total Comprehensive Income	(3,928,653)	27,419,158	23,490,505
Statement of Financial Position			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	281,115,391	27,419,158	308,534,549
Total Non-Current Assets	281,322,569	27,419,158	308,741,727
Total Assets	316,367,807	27,419,158	343,786,965
Net Assets	313,291,653	27,419,158	340,710,811
Accumulated Surplus	74,153,684	27,419,158	101,572,842
Total Equity	313,291,653	27,419,158	340,710,811
Statement of Changes in Equity			
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	(3,928,653)	(751,233)	(4,679,886)
Accumulated Surpluses	74,153,684	27,419,158	101,572,842
Total Equity	313,291,653	27,419,158	340,710,811
2014			
Statement of Comprehensive Income			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	6,851,839	1,477,761	8,329,600
Total Expenses	29,725,239	1,477,761	31,203,000
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(4,581,943)	(1,477,761)	(6,059,704)
Physical resources received free of charge	2,837,402	31,113,051	33,950,453
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(1,811,965)	29,635,290	27,823,325
Total Comprehensive Income	13,914,002	29,635,290	43,549,292
Statement of Financial Position			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	295,410,008	57,054,448	352,464,456
Total Non-Current Assets	296,978,046	57,054,448	354,032,494
Total Assets	330,920,219	57,054,448	387,974,667
Net Assets	327,205,655	57,054,448	384,260,103
Accumulated Surplus	70,707,330	57,054,448	127,761,778
Total Equity	327,205,655	57,054,448	384,260,103
Statement of Changes in Equity			
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	(1,811,965)	29,635,290	27,823,325
Accumulated Surpluses	70,707,330	57,054,448	127,761,778
Total Equity	327,205,655	57,054,448	384,260,103

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
CITY OF PALMERSTON**

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the City of Palmerston (the Council), which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2015, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory information, and the Officer's Statement.

Chief Executive Officers' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations), the Local Government Act (NT) 2015 and Local Government (Accounting) Regulations 2014 and for such internal control as the Chief Executive Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to Council's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Chief Executive Officer, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

When this audit report is included in an Annual Report, our procedures include reading the other information in the Annual Report to determine whether it contains any material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

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

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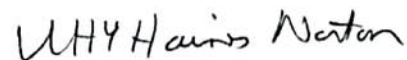
Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion,

- a) the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act (NT) 2015, Chapter 10 part 10.6 (the Act); and
- b) the financial statements:
 - a. have been presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of the Act;
 - b. are consistent with the Council's accounting records;
 - c. presents fairly, in all material respects, the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations 2014.
- c) all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained; and
- d) there are no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements that have come to light during the course of the audit.



M.D. Nicholaeff
Partner



UHY Haines Norton
Chartered Accountants

Signed in Sydney on 14th October 2015

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