OPEN DATA

COUNCIL POLICY

PURPOSE

Council is committed to enhancing transparency, accountability, innovation and service delivery by making public data widely accessible. This policy outlines how City of Palmerston will manage the release of non-sensitive information and data to third parties.

SCOPE

This policy applies to City of Palmerston staff, Elected Members and contractors who collect, create or manage data. It encompasses all public datasets, excluding those protected by privacy, security or confidentiality legislation and regulation.

PRINCIPLES

Council values open data as a tool for economic growth, innovation, transparency, and efficiency, benefiting the entire community.

City of Palmerston actively identifies, collates, and publishes high-quality, accurate datasets on its website, including the Open Data platform. By making this data accessible, City of Palmerston enhances innovation, improves service delivery and strengthens industry engagement. Open data supports cost-effective service delivery, enables responsiveness to community needs and fosters public awareness.

Council is committed to providing third parties with easy access to its public data, ensuring datasets are available in machine-readable formats while safeguarding sensitive information and protecting privacy. Furthermore:

- Council recognises that all data is public and supports openness and transparency in the release of information where there is no legal need to protect the information (such as personal information).
- City of Palmerston reserves the right to charge fees and charges for the provision of information or data that is individually requested, specific in nature or requires City of Palmerston resources to provide that information.
- City of Palmerston will not pre-define the value of data and withhold data that it does not believe would be of use to others.
- City of Palmerston will share information with other government or open data agencies unless otherwise restricted under legislation.
- City of Palmerston commits to maintaining accurate and reliable datasets and repairing errors when identified.

- City of Palmerston will seek Open Data partnerships that have a direct benefit for the community of Palmerston.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

TERM	DEFINITION
Open Data	*Open data is data which is:* ▪ freely available to anyone to be used, reused and redistributed; ▪ available in a machine readable format, such as a CSV or an API; and available under an open licence, such as Creative Commons.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Identification of data

1.1. City of Palmerston will identify ways to publicly share data and promote opportunities for the use of City of Palmerston data. City of Palmerston values the privacy of individuals and will honour its legislative obligations, appropriately aggregating data and ensuring that data is approved and checked before release. Data sets will be made available externally.

2. Engagement with dataset users

2.1. City of Palmerston provides an avenue for third parties to make requests and provide feedback through its online form at www.palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/open-data-hub or by contacting City of Palmerston directly.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Privacy Policy

REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 2019* (NT)
- *Information Act 2002* (NT)
- The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC)

POLICY DETAILS

OWNER	CEO	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	General Manager Finance and Governance
APPROVAL DATE	18 March 2025	NEXT REVIEW DUE	18 March 2029
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