

Open Data

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Responsible Officer:	Director Organisational Services		
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1 PURPOSE

Council is committed to open government and transparency. This policy outlines how Council will manage the release of non-sensitive information and data to third parties.

2 PRINCIPLES

The Open Data principles that Council supports are:

- 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.
- Wherever possible, Council will provide information at no cost using www.palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/open-data-hub as the preferred platform for online release. Council reserves the right however to charge fees and charges for the provision of information or data that is individually requested, specific in nature or requires Council resources to provide.
- Council will not pre-define the value of data and withhold data that it does not believe would be of use to others.
- Council will share information with other government or open data agencies unless otherwise restricted under legislation.
- Council commits to maintaining accurate and reliable datasets and repairing errors when identified.
- Council will seek Open Data partnerships that have a direct benefit for the community of Palmerston.

3 DEFINITIONS

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

Term	Definition
Open Data	Open data is data which is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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.

4 POLICY STATEMENT

4.1 Rationale

Council commits to making available datasets to provide third parties with an easy way to find, access and reuse Council’s public data. Embracing the use of, and a policy around, open data is an essential element to building transparency and providing opportunities for the use of Council held data to make the Palmerston community more self-sufficient by creating local jobs. Open data can also support Council in the cost-effective delivery of services, its

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ability to be responsive to the needs of the community and to build awareness and engagement with industry.

4.2 Identification of Data

Council will identify ways to publicly share data and promote opportunities for the use of Council data. Council 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.

4.3 Engagement with Dataset Users

Council will make data available through its preferred platform www.palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/open-data-hub. Each dataset release will contain details on licensing and publication date. Council 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 Council directly.

5 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- 5.1 Privacy Policy

6 REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

- 6.1 *Northern Territory Local Government Act*
- 6.2 *Information Act 2002 (NT)*
- 6.2 *The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC)*