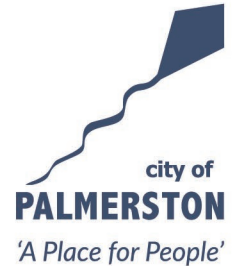


MEDIA RELEASE



LOCAL PALMERSTON BUSINESSES COME TOGETHER

The inaugural Palmerston Business Futures Forum, held at Rydges Palmerston on Wednesday, 20 November, was a resounding success, bringing together close to 60 enthusiastic local business people and representatives of government to collaborate on shaping a brighter economic future for Palmerston.

Key highlights included round table discussions with the sharing of innovative ideas, unique experiences, and practical challenges taking place in a united effort to foster local economic growth. Networking opportunities with representatives from Northern Territory Government departments and key Business Development Organisations, as well as discussion of future workshops to help businesses reduce costs rounded out a day that demonstrated unrivalled passion within Palmerston's business community.

City of Palmerston Mayor, Athina Pascoe-Bell recognised small businesses are at the centre of the Palmerston community, saying "Our round table meetings with industry leaders are vital for discussing business needs, priorities and immediate actions to be delivering in Palmerston to support industry development."

"Palmerston is a thriving hub for small and medium businesses, offering an ideal environment for individuals to start and grown their own ventures. The majority of businesses operating within the municipality are sole traders or have less than 20 employees, highlighting Council's support for entrepreneurial opportunities."

Through local business networking and development services with strong community ties, City of Palmerston is aiming to boost local trade and advocate for short and long-term business development and innovation, amid a challenging economic environment where cost of living pressures continue to put pressure on consumer spending.

City of Palmerston's support for local businesses includes grants which support the delivery of environmental initiatives, helping local businesses to reduce their environmental impact. Grants are open to community groups and commercial entities, with 50% cost matching.

For more information and to apply for an environment grant, visit palmerston.nt.gov.au/community/community-benefit-scheme

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