

PALMERSTON

'A Place for People'

AGENDA Committee Meeting Monday 26 June 2023

The Advisory Committee Meeting of the City of Palmerston will be held in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston, NT 0830 commencing at 5:30 PM.

Advisory Committee business papers can be viewed on the City of Palmerston website <u>www.palmerston.nt.gov.au</u> or at the Council Office located: Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston NT 0830.

LUCCIO CERCARELLI CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

'A Place for People'



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COMMITTEE AGENDA



A Place for People

- 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
- 2 OPENING OF MEETING
- 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
 - 3.1 Apologies
 - 3.2 Leave of Absence Previously Granted
 - 3.3 Leave of Absence Request

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- 4.1 Elected Members
- 4.2 Staff
- 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
 - 5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee Meeting held on 27 March 2023 pages 34 to 39 be confirmed.

5.2 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

6 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 7 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS
 - 7.1 Moving Confidential Items into Open
 - 7.2 Moving Open Items into Confidential
 - 7.3 Confidential Items

8 OFFICER REPORTS





COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Meeting

AGENDA ITEM:	8.2.1
REPORT TITLE:	Update on Palmerston Local Economic Plan Priority Actions
MEETING DATE:	Monday 26 June 2023
AUTHOR:	Director Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta
APPROVER:	Director Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta

COMMUNITY PLAN

Vibrant Economy: Palmerston is a destination city for employment, it is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow.

PURPOSE

This Report seeks to update Council on the progress of two priority actions in the Palmerston Local Economic Plan which are developing an economic development focussed website and a business survey.

KEY MESSAGES

- Two key actions in the Palmerston Local Economic Plan (PLEP) have been identified as key priorities as they have been identified as actions that would inform other future PLEP actions.
- These priority actions include the development of an economic development website and a business survey.
- The website aligns either fully or partially to several actions in the Palmerston Local Economic Plan.
- The website and business survey activities were endorsed by the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee and later by council as the priority actions from the Palmerston Local Economic Plan.
- A timeframe of 6 months from the March Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee meeting for completion of the website and business survey.
- A project plan has been developed for both projects and procurement processes have commenced.
- This report provides the Committee with an update on the priority actions.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report entitled Update on Palmerston Local Economic Plan Priority Actions be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

At the council meeting of 18 May 2023, council endorsed the website and business survey activities as the priority focus for work towards actions contained in the Palmerston Local Economic Plan.

THAT Council endorses the recommendations from the Palmerston Vibrant Economy Committee meeting held on 27 March 2023, being:

Priority Actions - Palmerston Local Economic Plan

1. THAT Report entitled Priority Actions - Palmerston Local Economic Plan be received and noted.



- 2. THAT the Committee recommend to Council that the priority actions of the Palmerston Local Economic Plan for the next six months are:
- a. Development of a website to support and promote Economic Development within Palmerston.
- b. Conduct a business survey of businesses located within Palmerston.

CARRIED 10/799 - 18/04/2023

Council's Community Satisfaction surveys identified that the Palmerston community rated highly the importance of encouraging and supporting local businesses. The surveys also indicated that the community would like to see Council do more to promote Palmerston and grow the local economy. Economic health and prosperity are recognised as vital to supporting a successful and prosperous community. The Palmerston Community plan states 'When businesses thrive, families also thrive and our city becomes more liveable'.

DISCUSSION

When the PLEP was adopted in 2021, there were 17 Short Term actions identified, which were originally scheduled to be completed within 1-2 years of the launch of the PLEP. This means that items with a timeframe of 1-2 years should be completed at the end of 2023.

Two activities have been identified as a priority which will enable several of the actions within the PLEP to be delivered. These activities are:

- Development of an Economic Development focussed website.
- Delivery of a business survey of businesses registered within Palmerston.

Website

The proposed economic development website will offer resources to help businesses to evaluate relocation within or to the municipality which includes assessing the liveability of the region. This will also assist in encouraging individuals and families to live and work in the area,

Having the economic development website as a standalone website opens opportunities for search engine optimisation in the future and allows businesses to find information without having to navigate via the main council website. The most cost-effective and timely method of doing this is having a standalone URL but hosted by City of Palmerston's existing website.

The content for the website will be developed by a consultant. The project is on track and the key milestones will be as follows:

Step	Activity	Date
1	Request for Quote	June 2023
2	Anticipated Start Date	Mid July 2023
4	Anticipated Completion Date:	Early September 2023
5	Demonstration of Website	25 September 2023 - Vibrant Economic Advisory
	prior to going Live	Committee meeting



While the successful proponent will guide Council in the look and feel of the website, the project plan provides examples of other websites, these include <u>https://www.investsalisbury.com.au/</u> and <u>https://liveworkalice.com.au/</u>

A key feature of the website will be the ability for local businesses to register their events on the website.

Business Survey

Another enabling activity in the PLEP is to undertake a survey of businesses in Palmerston. This survey will seek to confirm challenges, strengths and priority business support services and needs to ensure that there is adequate representation from sole operators who make up over half of the businesses in Palmerston.

Step	Activity	Date
1	Request for Quote	June 2023
2	Anticipated Start Date	July 2023
3	Conduct Survey	August 2023
4	Anticipated Completion Date:	Early September 2023

A RFQ for this project has been developed and the key milestones will be as follows:

De-identified data from the survey will be shared with other government agencies and providers as necessary to encourage provision of grants, funding, and training. The data will be a useful tool for council to use in advocating for services and support for business. All requirements regarding privacy and collection of data are reflected in the RFQ and project plan.

The Northern Territory produces a business confidence report on a quarterly publication which highlights confidence levels of Territory-wide businesses. The March Quarter is found at **Attachment 8.2.1.1**. It indicates that while confidence has slightly decreased since the last quarter it is still higher compared to pre-pandemic levels.

The survey covers urban and regional areas of the Territory and captures different industry sectors and business sizes (small, medium and large).

Monitoring business confidence levels is important as it is a key barometer and a leading indicator of business conditions and the overall health of the economy. Business confidence drives business growth and investment, supports employment opportunities and attracts people to the region.

While this publication provides a good indicator of the business community in Greater Darwin, the publication does not breakdown the data further to identify the confidence of Palmerston businesses. The successful proponent that will carry-out City of Palmerston Business Survey, will be required to take this publication into consideration. The outcome of the Business survey will inform a suite of data to measure the business confidence and identify the challenges, strengths and priority business support services within City of Palmerston to maintain and increase Business Confidence.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There was no consultation required during the preparation of this Report.

POLICY IMPLICATION

There are no policy implications for this Report.



BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The costs for these activities will be covered by existing budget and have been projected based on previous similar projects (e.g., community survey) and will only be confirmed after the RFQ has been done.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

It is imperative there is continued work towards completing actions contained in the PLEP to encourage economic growth in the region and to ensure that there is greater confidence in the support that City of Palmerston provide to businesses.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6 Fails to deliver the strategic vision for the City Context: Ensuring vision is delivered effectively & efficiently, progress is measurable & celebrated.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environment sustainability implications for this Report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the author and approving officer declare that we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

ATTACHMENTS

1. nt-business-confidence-survey-mar-23 [8.2.1.1 - 8 pages]

Territory Business Confidence Survey

March quarter 2023

Key points

- Despite rising interest rates and national and global economic uncertainty, Territory-wide business confidence was +67% in the March quarter 2023, well above pre-pandemic levels and the highest ever March quarter result. Only 7% of businesses reported as being worried.
- 56% of businesses reported improved performance, the highest level recorded for any March quarter since the survey began.
- The most commonly cited reasons for confidence this quarter were 'business opportunity', 'strong customer relations' and 'strong market position'.
- The most commonly cited reason for being worried this quarter was 'lack of suitably skilled workers', reflecting the Territory's high number of job vacancies and low unemployment rate.

Territory businesses are confident about their prospects

The Territory-wide business confidence index was +67% for the March quarter 2023 in response to the question 'How confident are you about your business prospects over the next 12 months?' This is a 6 percentage point decrease on the previous quarter and an 8 percentage point increase annually (Table 1). The quarterly change reflects a decrease in the share of fairly confident businesses regarding the short term outlook (Figure 1), while the annual change reflects the recovery from the impacts of the Omicron outbreak in the March quarter of 2022.

Table 1: Business confidence index

	Mar qtr 2023	Quarterly change	Annual change*
Confident	74%	-5ppt	+6ppt
Worried	7%	+2ppt	-2ppt
Net Balance	67%	-6ppt	+8ppt

*Current quarter compared with the same quarter in the previous year.

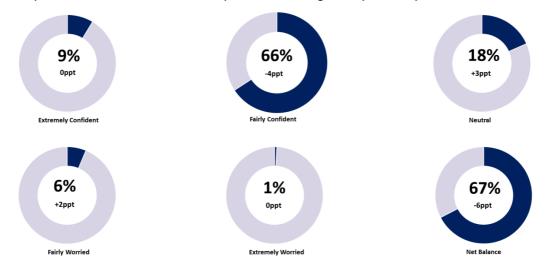


Figure 1: Responses to the business confidence question and change from previous quarter

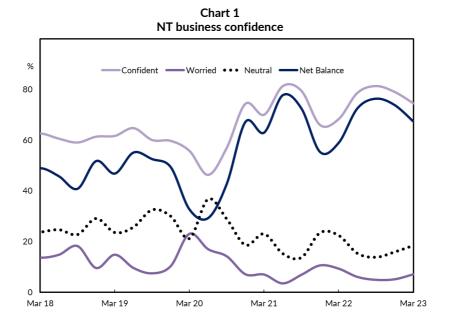
Note: Individual categories may not add to the net balance figure due to rounding.

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Territory Business Confidence Survey

Business confidence remains well above pre-pandemic levels

Business confidence sits well above pre-pandemic levels (Chart 1). Despite a slight decrease in the March quarter 2023, the average business confidence level in financial year 2022-23 continues its upwards trend (Chart 2). The business confidence this quarter is the highest of any March quarter on record.



Business confidence by financial year % Dec Mai Jun Average 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 FY18 FY19 FY20 FY21 FY22 FY23

Chart 2

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Territory Business Confidence Survey

Business performance decreased this quarter

When asked 'How's your business performing this year compared to last year?', 56% of businesses responded with 'better', representing a 10 percentage point decrease from the December quarter 2022 (Table 2). However, this is an increase of 9 percentage points annually and is the highest March quarter on record (Chart 3).

	Mar qtr 2023	Quarterly change	Annual change*
Better	56%	-10ppt	+9ppt
Same	33%	+5ppt	-3ppt
Worse	12%	+5ppt	-5ppt

*Current quarter compared with the same quarter in the previous year.

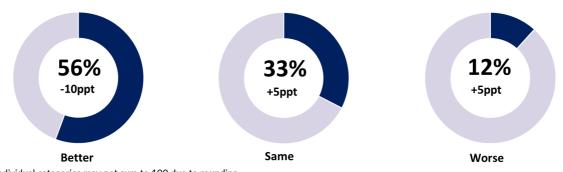
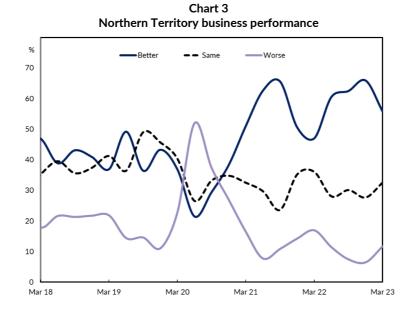


Figure 2: Responses to the business performance question and quarterly change

Note: Individual categories may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Businesses stating performance this year is worse than last year increased by 5 percentage points to 12% this quarter, though this follows a record low of only 6% of businesses which reported performance had deteriorated in the December quarter 2022, and is below the historical average for the March quarter. From a regional perspective, Alice Springs was the major contributor to the fall, and this aligns with reporting of increased anti-social behaviour in the region, and its impacts on consumers and businesses.

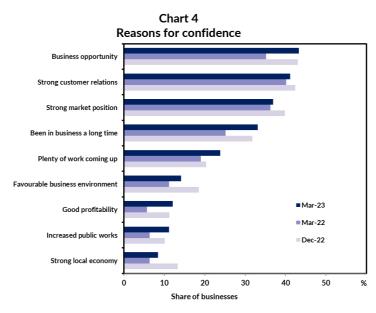


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Territory Business Confidence Survey

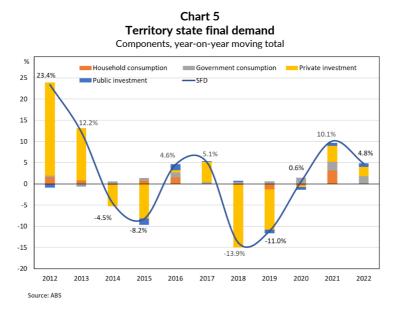
Business opportunities and customer relations drive confidence

In line with the December quarter, the key reasons cited for business confidence this quarter were 'business opportunity', 'strong customer relations' and 'strong market position' (Chart 4). There was an increase in the proportion of businesses reporting 'plenty of work coming up', 'good profitability' and 'increased public works' as the reasons for confidence, both in quarterly and annual terms.



Note: a business can submit more than one response

In the March quarter 2023, 8% of businesses cited 'strong local economy' as a reason for confidence, while only 1% of businesses cited 'weak local economy' as a reason for being worried. The proportion of businesses citing 'business opportunity' and 'plenty of work coming up' increased in the quarter, and this result is consistent with ABS data that reports the Territory's overall demand increased by 4.8% in 2022, with both the private and public sectors contributing to the 13.8% increase in investment in the Territory (Chart 5).

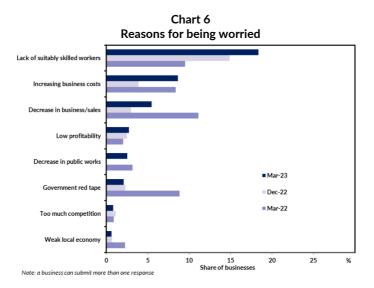


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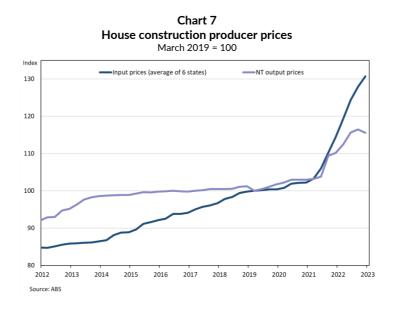
Territory Business Confidence Survey

Labour shortages and rising costs are major concerns

A large proportion of businesses continue to cite 'lack of suitably skilled workers' as a reason for being worried (Chart 6). Consistent with recent quarters, Territory businesses are struggling with labour shortages and the unemployed to vacancy ratio is currently around 1 (i.e. there are about the same number of job vacancies as unemployed people).



In the March quarter, there was an increase in the number of businesses citing 'increasing business costs' as a reason for being worried. Supply chain disruption, labour shortages and high fuel prices have contributed to increased input prices, though persistently high and broad-based rates of consumer price inflation (6.2% annually to March for Darwin) suggest that many businesses have been able to pass cost increases on to consumers. In industries such as housing construction an emerging risk is that some businesses may struggle to remain solvent if fixed price contracts set in earlier periods become unprofitable as input prices rise and cannot be passed on to clients (Chart 7). Fixed price contracts are workable if input prices are relatively stable, but there will be a transition period as businesses reset terms on new contracts to reflect the changed operating environment. Confidence in the construction industry dipped from +97% in the December quarter 2022 to +83% in the March quarter 2023 (Chart 8).



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Territory Business Confidence Survey

Business confidence and performance vary among the regions

Business confidence and performance varies by region (Table 3). Business confidence was highest in the Barkly region in the quarter with a net balance of +100% (though from a small sample size), unchanged from the previous quarter. Despite this, the Barkly region recorded the weakest result for business performance with 33% of businesses feeling better about their performance this year relative to last year. Please note that small sample size in some regions can contribute to large quarterly movements.

Business confidence in Alice Springs declined by 21 percentage points in the quarter to a net balance of +72%, though this is off the record high reported in the previous quarter. Alice Springs recorded a quarterly decline in business performance (down by 11 percentage points) with 52% of businesses reporting better performance this year compared to last year. In addition to macroeconomic factors impacting businesses across the Territory, confidence and performance in Alice Springs is being impacted by local factors, notably high rates of anti-social behaviour and its reporting by the media, which is having direct flow-on impacts on tourism, an important sector for the region.

	Business	Confidence			Busine	ss Performand	e
	Mar qtr 2023	Quarterly change	Annual change		Mar qtr 2023	Quarterly change	Annual change
	Territory-	wide (n=474)			Territor	y-wide (n=47	4)
Confident	74%	-5ppt	+6ppt	Better	56%	-10ppt	+9ppt
Worried	7%	+2ppt	-2ppt	Same	33%	+5ppt	-3ppt
Net Balance	67%	-6ppt	+8ppt	Worse	12%	+5ppt	-5ppt
	Greater Da	rwin (n=175)			Greater	Darwin (n=17	75)
Confident	73%	-3ppt	+6ppt	Better	57%	-9ppt	+12ppt
Worried	7%	+2ppt	-1ppt	Same	32%	+5ppt	-2ppt
Net Balance	66%	-5ppt	+7ppt	Worse	11%	+4ppt	-9ppt
Da	aly-Tiwi-Wes	st Arnhem (n=	-31)		Daly-Tiwi-V	Vest Arnhem	(n=31)
Confident	74%	+6ppt	+11ppt	Better	35%	-24ppt	-1ppt
Worried	13%	-5ppt	-13ppt	Same	48%	+21ppt	+6ppt
Net Balance	61%	+11ppt	+24ppt	Worse	16%	+2ppt	-5ppt
East Arnhem (n=14)				East Arnhem (n=14)			
Confident	57%	-23ppt	-43ppt	Better	57%	-3ppt	Oppt
Worried	14%	+9ppt	+14ppt	Same	29%	+4ppt	-14ppt
Net Balance	43%	-32ppt	-57ppt	Worse	14%	-1ppt	+14ppt
	Katheri	ne (n=51)			Katherine (n=51)		
Confident	82%	+3ppt	-8ppt	Better	54%	-9ppt	-4ppt
Worried	8%	-2ppt	+3ppt	Same	23%	-5ppt	-9ppt
Net Balance	73%	+5ppt	-11ppt	Worse	23%	+13ppt	+12ppt
	Bark	ly (n=6)	1		Ba	arkly (n=6)	
Confident	100%	Oppt	+47ppt	Better	33%	-67ppt	-7ppt
Worried	0%	Oppt	-47ppt	Same	67%	+67ppt	+60ppt
Net Balance	100%	Oppt	+93ppt	Worse	0%	Oppt	-53ppt
	Alice Spri	ngs (n=188)			Alice S	prings (n=188	3)
Confident	79%	-15ppt	+29ppt	Better	52%	-11ppt	+26ppt
Worried	7%	+6ppt	-17ppt	Same	37%	+4ppt	-14ppt
Net Balance	72%	-21ppt	+45ppt	Worse	12%	+7ppt	-12ppt

Table 3: Business confidence and performance by region

Note: Caution should be taken when interpreting these results as the sample size in some regions may be relatively small.

Territory Business Confidence Survey

Business confidence varies across industries

Of the 10 industries with the largest number of respondents, manufacturing recorded the strongest business confidence at +100%, while Arts & Recreation Services recorded the lowest at +42% (Chart 8).

Business confidence edged down across many industries in the March quarter 2023, most notably in the Arts & Recreation Services, and Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services industries. Consistent with the December quarter 2022, at least 50% of businesses in each industry reported as being 'confident', though there was an increase in the number of businesses reporting as being 'worried'.

The Territory's construction industry reported solid confidence of +83% this quarter after a record high of +97% in the December quarter 2022, with 6% of construction businesses reporting as 'worried' this quarter (up from 0%).

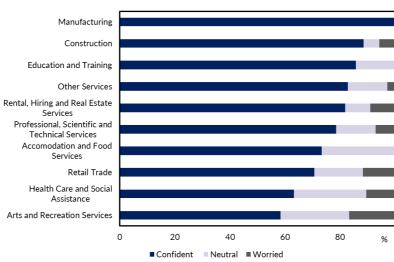


Chart 8 Business confidence by industry

Note: Graph contains the 10 most surveyed industries. Caution is advised when using this data as the sample size in some industries may be relatively small.

Territory Business Confidence Survey

Appendix

Methodology

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade conducts a face-to-face survey of businesses operating in the Territory on a quarterly basis. The results have been used to construct a business confidence index.

The business confidence index is calculated as the difference between the proportion of businesses that are 'confident about their business prospects for the next 12 months' and the proportion of businesses that are 'worried about their business prospects for the next 12 months' (net balance approach).

The Territory-wide confidence index is weighted to account for the number of businesses in each region. The weighted result provides a more balanced reflection of overall business confidence. Business confidence results are also presented by region and industry.

474 businesses were surveyed out of 15,777 operating businesses in the Territory (Table 4). For the sample survey to achieve a 95% confidence level with a margin of error of 5%, 376 survey responses are required.

Region	Total number of businesses	Businesses surveyed	Proportion of total
Greater Darwin	11,577	175	1.5%
Daly-Tiwi-West Arnhem	378	31	8.2%
East Arnhem	241	14	5.8%
Katherine	960	51	5.3%
Barkly	193	6	3.1%
Alice Springs	2034	188	9.2%
Total	15,777	474	3.0%

Table 4: Survey Numbers





COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Meeting

AGENDA ITEM:	8.2.2
REPORT TITLE:	Economic Development Activities
MEETING DATE:	Monday 26 June 2023
AUTHOR:	Executive Manager Finance and Economics, Chris Kimani
APPROVER:	Director Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta

COMMUNITY PLAN

Vibrant Economy: Palmerston is a destination city for employment, it is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow.

PURPOSE

This report seeks to provide an update on activities related to economic development since the last meeting of the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee since the last meeting on the 27 March 2023. Also included is information about future capital projects and local spend by Council.

KEY MESSAGES

- There has been good progress made on the priority actions under the Palmerston Local Economic Plan (PLEP), being the development of a website and a business survey.
- Council has several capital projects underway, including SWELL (Swimming, Wellness, Events, Leisure, and Lifestyle), the Zuccoli Dog Park, Fibersense and the Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade.
- The focus of this report is on future projects including the Driver Community Hall Upgrade and future stages of the Zuccoli Community Hub.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report entitled Economic Development Activities be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

This report is to provide an update on work done by Council that is focussed on economic development including October Business month 2023, and an overview of future major capital projects.

DISCUSSION

A summary of the actions completed and planned by Council to further advance the implementation of the PLEP since the last Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee meeting are found below:

- An internal working group comprising of representatives from Infrastructure, Community Development, Communications and Customer Experience has been formed and had two meetings since the last report. This group has been set up to assist in completing actions associated with the PLEP.
- City of Palmerston sponsored a Palmerston Region Business Association (PRBA) event which occurred on 30 March 2023. This aligns to PLEP action of 'Develop business networking and advocacy services in Palmerston'. The event generated good feedback from attendees.



- A federally funded 'Entrepreneurship 101' programme was completed in June. This program is hosted by the NT (Northern Territory) Government Entrepreneurship facilitator, Dante St James and consisted of eight free workshops over 16 weeks. This was aimed at Palmerston residents interested in Entrepreneurship and/or considering starting a business. City of Palmerston hosted these at the Gray Hall.
- A session for small business owners & entrepreneurs interested in making their operations more sustainable was held on the 6 June 2023. This was part of a series of sustainability focussed events with speaker Linsday Miles who is a renowned author, speaker, and waste educator. The focus of this session was to introduce the concept of a circular economy. The circular economy is a model of production and consumption, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible. In this way, the life cycle of products is extended.
- On the 3 July 2023, a session about creating a business plan for creative businesses will be held and is called 'The Creative Edge: Sculping a Strategic Business plan'.
- An expression of interest has been submitted for Council to host an event for October business month 2023.
- The Economic Development Website and Business survey have been progressed and are reported separately as they are key activities for the actions within the PLEP.

Business Month (October 2023 and 2024)

A full month of events for Business Month in October is organised by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (DITT) who have developed a website and facility for event organisers to promote an event as part of the schedule of events for the month. An expression of interest process is in place and the expression of interest submitted by Council has been accepted. The event is scheduled to occur on the 24 October, and this date cannot be altered as confirming a date is part of the approval process so that events do not clash.

It is proposed to host an event focussed on business networking and a capacity building session around how to tender for government business. This was chosen for its alignment to the key themes of the program which are:

- Human Connection
- Digital Transformation
- Workforce
- Growth
- Leadership
- Strategy and Planning
- With particular focus on events that are formatted to enable businesses to connect and network with other businesses to support professional development, learn new things, and develop new skills and be inspired by keynote speakers and Territory success stories.

It is intended that this be a small, hands-on learning event with no more than 25 places to be offered. No fee is planned to be charged. Whilst the focus of this event is proposed to be about tendering for government business (State and Federal), this will also include discussion/content around how to provide quotes/tenders to council to further facilitate local spend.

It is intended that in 2024, consideration and planning be done to enable City of Palmerston to do its own business month events, specifically targeted to businesses located within the city. This would be a series of workshops/capacity building sessions, and the topics covered will be informed by the business survey. These would be tailored to address needs for businesses of varying sizes. This activity aligns with PLEP actions:

• Develop business networking and advocacy services in Palmerston



- Deliver business support and capacity building services. Ensure tailored support for different business sizes, including sole operators
- Facilitate grants for businesses to support online services or transition of business to new service offerings (whilst not a grant, a workshop on a topic related to this would partially address this action).

Infrastructure Update (future projects):

Council has a Capital Works Program worth over \$27 million this financial year. This includes a broad range of asset renewal programs along with major capital projects.

This relates to the action in the PLEP 'Bring forward capital investment programs planned for the City of Palmerston.'

Capital projects are any project where a Council asset is built or renewed. This can include new assets, such as a new shade over a playground, or replacement (also referred to as renewal of assets such as road resurfacing). Updates on the following future major capital projects are included below:

Driver Community Centre

The Driver Resource Centre was constructed in the mid 1980's as a Childcare Facility co-located with the adjacent Driver Primary School. The existing facility is reaching end of life and requires development to better address the needs of the community.

As a summary:

- The building is located on Lot 4196, 19 Driver Avenue Town of Palmerston.
- The lot is 2070 square metres but constrained by significant easements, leaving a 450 square metre (approximately) area available for construction of a building.
- The lot is zoned for Community Purpose.
- The building, owned by Council, is currently used by several groups, and has a main tenant in place who have sole use of some of the space.
- The Centre is no longer fit for purpose or meeting the current and projected needs of the community.

The design contract was awarded in to GHD Woodhead in October 2022 to undertake a preliminary design, including a Needs Assessment for the replacement of the Driver Resource Centre with a modern Community Centre. The Needs Assessment has been completed will be presented to Council, in June 2023. The draft concept design has been provided by the consultant and is currently being reviewed. The estimated cost for the project based on the concept is in the order of \$2.5 - \$3 million.

Zuccoli Community Hub – Future Stages

The Master Plan for the Zuccoli and surrounds Community Hub incorporates an off-leash dog park (which is now open), walking trails, a skate park and pump track, a playground, library, community centre and a garden of reflection. The project has an estimate cost of \$20 million and is anticipated to be delivered over a 5-year period and commenced in 2022.

The Community Hub will be delivered in multiple stages, the first stage being the Dog Park which is now open. The second stage will be the Skate Park and Pump Track. Prior to works commencing on Stage 2, the design of the civil, landscaping, open space structures and related infrastructure (excluding the buildings) will occur. Procurement for the geotechnical investigation and civil design will occur in the second quarter of 2023.



Current Large Capital Projects

Updates on the following major capital projects currently under construction are included as attachments to this report:

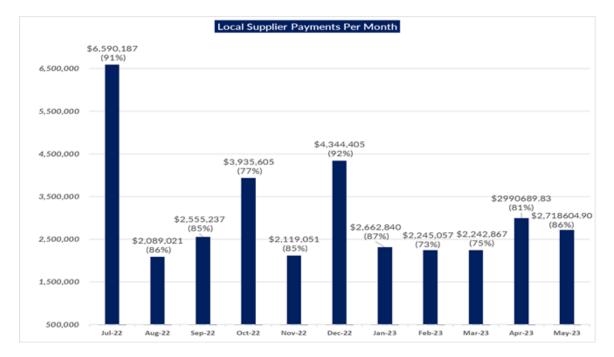
- SWELL Construction Attachment 8.2.2.1
- Zuccoli Community Hub Dog Park Attachment 8.2.2.2
- FiberSense Attachment 8.2.2.3
- Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade Attachment 8.2.2.4

Local Spend

City of Palmerston supports the local economy by using local suppliers where possible.

Trade Creditors paid in May 2023 amounted to \$3.1M and 86% (\$2.7M) of these creditors' payments were paid to local suppliers.

The Council has spent \$34.1M YTD out of the combined budget of Operational and Capital expenditure, on local suppliers as it continues to support the growth of the local economy.



Advocacy

City of Darwin (CoD) has released its draft Municipal Plan and Fees and Charges for 2023/24, on Wednesday 26 April 2023, relating to its budget for next financial year. Council undertook a media release on Friday 28 April 2023, expressing its concerns. Council acknowledges that an increase of 20-30% was foreshadowed by the CoD CEO for commercial weighbridge fees at the Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility (SBWMF).

Furthermore, CoD has advised that indicative trends in relation to future costs of disposal at SBWMF changes in waste fees and charges for FY 23/24 are based on supporting both operational costs and the significant capital investments that ensure environmental compliance and long-term sustainability of SBWMF. However, the actual increase presented of 30.4%, without transparent and clear detail of



reasoning, has come as a surprise and will result in a significant impact on not only the Palmerston community but also commercial businesses, particularly developers, across Greater Darwin.

Council made a submission to the City of Darwin requesting a review and deferment of the introduction of the 30% increase and further requests clarification of the application of the new fees.

Further information on this can be found at https://palmerston.nt.gov.au/council/meetings/council-meetings/2023 -Submission to City of Darwin Draft Municipal Plan - 2 May 2023

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The following areas were consulted during the preparation of this Report.

- Infrastructure
- Community Development

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget or resource implications relating to this Report.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6 Fails to deliver the strategic vision for the City

Context: Ensuring vision is delivered effectively & efficiently, progress is measurable & celebrated.

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications relating to this Report.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environment sustainability implications for this Report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the author and approving officer declare that we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. 20230620 SWELL Construction Council Update June 2023 [8.2.2.1 3 pages]
- 2. 20230620 Zuccoli Dog Park Council Update June 2023 [8.2.2.2 2 pages]
- 3. 20230620 Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade Council Update [8.2.2.3 2 pages]
- 4. 20230620 Fiber Sense Council Update June 2023 [8.2.2.4 2 pages]



SWELL CONSTRUCTION

June 2023 Update

Project Overview

Summary: The SWELL project is Palmerston's largest infrastructure project to date and is set to transform the current aging Palmerston Swimming and Fitness Centre into an aquatic and leisure precinct, including a refurbished 50m pool with improved accessibility, heated program pool, an adventure play zone, warm water pool, half basketball court, events area, upgraded amenities and plenty of shade.

Website Link: https://palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/major-projects/swell-construction

Construction Budget: \$19.4 million

Funding Source(s):

- City of Palmerston \$6.9 million
- Australian Government \$5 million (Building Better Regions Fund)
- Northern Territory Government \$7.5 million (grant)

Completion Date: November 2023

Contractor: Jaytex Construction Pty Ltd

Status Update

Percentage Complete: 40%

Actual Costs to Date (claims approved): \$7,208,195 or 37% of contract sum.

Approved Cost Variations: \$7,861.05 or 0.04%

Works to Date Summary:

Construction works commenced 22 August 2022. The Gym and Youth Centre are remaining operational during construction.

Project works completed to date:

- Demolition and removal of the pump house plantroom, leisure pool, shade structures and 50m pool edge (where the ramp will be installed), redundant underground services
- Installation of electrical substation, sewer pump station and water main
- Earth works, site leveling, pool and balance tank excavations and building pad construction
- Balance tank installation, and pool concrete slabs completed.
- 50m and program pools structurally complete and Mythra systems installed
- Plant room structure now complete

PAGE 1

COMMITTEE AGENDA Attachment 8.2.2.1 SWELL CONSTRUCTION

June 2023 Update

city of PALMERSTON

A Place for People



Plant Room structure complete 06/06/23



Internal plant room equipment installed06/06/23



Southern end of 50m pool 06/06/23



Plant room structure and roof/downpipes 06/06/23



50m Pool south to north both sides 06/06/23



Overall 50m south to north 06/06/23

DOC ID 515490 - MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE - SWELL CONSTRUCTION

Attachment 8.2.2.1 SWELL CONSTRUCTION



COMMITTEE AGENDA



A Place for People



Program pool Myrthra 06/06/23



Program pool showing Myrthra gutters 06/06/23

Upcoming Works:

Works are continuing, with key elements underway or nearing completion;

- Installation of underground services, footings and subsoil drainage
- Leisure pool detailed excavations and service installations.
- Adventure play, multipurpose half court construction and plant room fit out.
- Amenities facility structural works and fitout.

The project remains on track for November 2023 opening, Site works will continue to ramp up over the coming months as the design and construct elements arrive on site. A key milestone was reached this period with the arrival and installation of the Myrtha Pool System.

Project Risks:

Overseas design and manufacture of elements such as the Adventure Play are subject to logistical risk. Design, manufacture and delivery of these elements is being actively monitored to mitigate this risk.

As the complex elements of the project enter the construction phase there is the possibility of variations due to constructability issues and / or latent conditions. This risk is being mitigated through active design and construction management.



ZUCCOLI COMMUNITY HUB – DOG PARK

June 2023 Update

Project Overview

Summary: The Master Plan for the Zuccoli and Surrounds Community Hub incorporates an off-leash dog park, walking trails, a skate park and pump track, a playground, children's boutique library, community centre and a garden of reflection.

Stage 1 is currently under construction and comprises of a dog park featuring a duo of enclosed play spaces equipped with water play amenities, public restroom facilities, and provisional vehicle parking.

Website Link: <u>https://palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/major-projects/zuccoli-and-surrounds-community-hub-construction-0</u>

Initial Construction Budget: \$1.29 million (excluding GST)

Funding Source(s) Stage 1:

- City of Palmerston \$890,000
- Australian Government \$150,000 (Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund, Phase 2)
- Northern Territory Government \$250,000 (grant for the public toilet)

Completion Date:

- Stage 1 Dog Park May 2023
- Stage 2 Exeloo June 2023

Contractor: Sterling NT

Status Update

Percentage Complete: 98%

Actual Costs to Date (claims processed):

- 2021/22-\$ 317,614
- 2022/23-\$ 995,281
- Total = \$1,312,895 Excl Gst

Approved Cost Variations: \$149,761 Excl GST or 11.7% of total contract

Works to Date Summary:

The project was launched in June 2022 and will be opened in two stages; Stage 1 will include the Dog Park and Water Play Areas and Stage 2 will include the Exeloo.

Stage 1 has been completed, the occupancy certificate has been issued and the park was opened to the public 15 May 2023. There are some landscaping grassed areas requiring further establishment, but, this does not impact public usage. Public feedback to date has been overwhelmingly positive and the park is proving popular with the community.

Stage 2: The Exeloo has been installed on site with final connection works, operational testing, and certification to be completed. Works are expected to be completed in the coming weeks and once complete the formal opening of the park can occur.

DOC ID 515492 - MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE - ZUCCOLI COMMUNITY HUB - DOG PARK



June 2023 Update





Figure 1 - Dog Park – Active Dog Water Play area – photo 08/06/23



Figure 2 - Dog Park Exeloo Installation – photo 08/06/23

Project Risks:

city of PALMERSTON

A Place for People

The opening of the park prior to the completion of the full establishment period for the grass and landscaping is a risk. However, the park will be monitored closely and if required, some areas may have restricted access to mitigate any impacts.

DOC ID 515492 - MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE - ZUCCOLI COMMUNITY HUB - DOG PARK



ARCHER WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

June 2023 Update

A Place for People

Project Overview

Summary: Upgrade of the Archer Waste Management Facility (AWMF) includes design and construction of a new recycling area and general waste push-pit area (with roof).

The general waste area will be re-developed to improve safety, in particular the risk of fall from heights. The general waste area will also feature a push pit (with roof) which will enable separation and recovery of recyclable waste streams including but not limited to scrap metal and timber. Recovery of such recyclable waste streams from general waste is also aligned with the City of Palmerston's Sustainability Strategy and the waste diversion priority. A new more appealing recycle area will be developed at a location close to the site entry and prior to the general waste area to facilitate improved recycling outcomes.

Other ancillary scope items include relocation of the gatehouse, re-seal of road surfaces and other miscellaneous site improvements.

Project Budget: \$1,800,000

Funding Source(s):

Upgrade Works;

- City of Palmerston \$1,200,000
- Northern Territory Government \$400,000 (Priority Infrastructure Fund Grant)

Cardboard Compactor;

- City of Palmerston \$100,000
- Northern Territory Government \$100,000 (NT Recycling Modernisation Grant)

Expected Completion Date:

- Stages 1 & 2 November 2023
- Stages 3 & 4 To be determined

Contractor(s): NA (Contracts yet to be tendered)

Status Update

Percentage Complete: 80% of Pre-Construction Activities

Works to Date Summary:

Works undertaken by CoP to date include the relocation of the site compound and widening of a section of the access road to enable the gatehouse relocation.

Investigations to finalise the design concept have been completed. The complexity of the site has required multiple options of design to be considered to ensure that a viable solution is found. The focus of this project is to deliver a fit-for-purpose and safe facility that improves opportunities for recycling, however as the project is not intended to completely redevelop the site for 20+ years which would require significantly more cost and time to develop.

Additional works undertaken include development of a conceptual Temporary Transfer Station Operation Plan in consultation with the AWMF operator as well as AWMF Upgrade Communications Strategy.

DOC ID 528257 - MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE – ARCHER WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY UPGRADE



A Place for People

ARCHER WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

June 2023 Update

Works progressed this month:

- Appoint consultants to undertake Detailed Design based on revised design concept.
- Review of construction staging.
- Drafting of Contract for Operation of the AWMF
- Construction stages reviewed and updated as follows:
 - Stage 1 Relocate Gatehouse and upgrade access road to general waste disposal facility
 - Stage 2 Recycling Facility (including accommodation of cardboard compactor)
 - Stage 3 Temporary Facility
 - Stage 4 General Waste Push-Pit (including roof)

Upcoming Works:

- Proceed with revised Detailed Design for General Waste Push-Pit (including roof)
- Confirmation of Quantity Survey costings based on Detailed Design
- Draft, release and award Construction Contract (Stages 1 and 2)
- Draft, release and award Contract for Operation of the AWMF (ongoing)

Ongoing provision of operation and services during construction is critical and is being prepared for as part of the project.

Key Risks:

The complexity of the site and availability of design, consultant, and internal resources to progress the project has led to delays. This has been compounded with initial estimates of the project design coming in significantly higher, leading to a review of the scope, staging and design of the project.

The key element for the next stage is the tender development and appointment of contractor(s) for Stages 1 and 2. There is a risk that there is limited market interest in the works, similar to the cancelled tender process in 2022 for the design and construct works that did not have any tenderers.

The AWMF is highly utilised by the City of Palmerston residents, the community engagement and consultation are critical to project implementation and success. It is anticipated that the upgraded AWMF will contribute to improved community satisfaction. However, there is a potential risk of community dissatisfaction during the project construction phase.

The construction phase requires a temporary alternative solution for transfer station operations. A Community Engagement and Consultation Strategy has been prepared to mitigate this risk which includes promotion of project outcomes and communication of temporary change in operations.



FIBERSENSE

June 2023 Update

A Place for People

Project Overview

Summary: A total of 60km of fiber optic cable will be laid throughout Palmerston CBD and Tiger Brennan Drive to detect vibrations in real time to understand and capture vehicular and pedestrian movements.

Website Link: https://palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/major-projects/fibersense-technology

Construction Budget: \$2 million (including 5 years of data services)

Funding Source(s):

- City of Palmerston \$500,000
- Northern Territory Government \$1.5 million (grant)

Completion Date: Mid 2023

Contractor: FiberSense Pty Ltd

Status Update

Percentage Complete: 98%

Actual Costs to Date (claims processed): \$1,689,984 Ex Gst or 85%

- 2021/22 \$484,816
- 2022/23 \$1,205,168

Approved Cost Variations: \$111,800 ex Gst or 6% (NTG requested and funded variation)

Works to Date Summary:

As of end of May 2023, FiberSense has completed 98% of cable installation and splicing (56Km's of fiber has been laid and activated) for the project, with only the final section City Centre Carpark to be completed this month. Council is able to access and use the Digital Asset service, which enables monitoring of events (i.e. digging) along the network. Upcoming works include:

- The fiber installation works to the Civic Carpark has commenced and is scheduled for completion June 2023.
- Development of DigitalCity service (Software), including traffic data collection and modelling.
- Refinement and integration of DigitalAsset within operational activities.

DOC ID 515493 - MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE - FIBERSENSE

PAGE 1

FIBERSENSE

June 2023 Update



City Centre Car Park Fibre Installation

Key Risks:

city of PALMERSTON

A Place for People

As this is a trial of a new product and service for Council (and NTG), along with the service being developed by FiberSense for Council specifically, there are risks being managed with the relevant project managers.





COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Meeting

AGENDA ITEM:	8.2.3
REPORT TITLE:	Council's Investment into the City of Palmerston
MEETING DATE:	Monday 26 June 2023
AUTHOR:	Director Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta
APPROVER:	Director Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta

COMMUNITY PLAN

Vibrant Economy: Palmerston is a destination city for employment, it is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow.

PURPOSE

This Report seeks to provide the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee with an overview of Council's investment into the City of Palmerston

KEY MESSAGES

- Council's commitment in developing City of Palmerston's economy is illustrated by the delivery of service and events to the local community and the engagement of local suppliers to deliver these services.
- Council's investment into the economy as presented in the 2022-23 Municipal is \$58.5.M which is \$11 million in employee expenses, \$20.5M in operational expenses and \$27 million in capital expenditure.
- This financial year to date, Council has spent \$34.1 million with local suppliers, which is a significant injection into the local economy combined with employee expenditure for approximately 97 employees.
- Council has just adopted its 2023-24 Municipal Plan and the 2023-32 Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP)
- This commitment has continued by Council in its service delivery plan and the allocated budget for the forthcoming financial year.
- The Municipal Plan and Budget 2023-24 includes \$7.8 million of capital works.
- The Municipal Plan and Budget 2023-24 includes the delivery of projects such as the Swimming, Wellness, Events, Leisure and Lifestyle (SWELL), Enterprise Resource Planning and Where We Live Matters (Zuccoli).
- The Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) delivers capital spend of \$78.6 million over the course of the 10year plan. Part of this plan is the continuation of the major project Where We Live Matters – Zuccoli Community Hub.
- The forecasted capital expenditure is expected to be funded through different sources such as external grant funds, internal reserves, borrowings, and revenue.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report entitled Council's Investment into the City of Palmerston be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

Council's investment into City of Palmerston is crucial as it is an economic development enabler. The population of this region is 40,000 and sits in between City of Darwin and Litchfield Council in the Top End of the Northern Territory and covers 72 square kilometres. The gross regional product of Palmerston



accounts for 7% of the overall \$26 billion NT economy. Palmerston is a young and vibrant community, with many families choosing to live in Palmerston. This provides an opportunity for businesses to develop and provide a range of goods, services and employment opportunities for not only our residents but surrounding industries including Defence, gas, mining, aquaculture, agriculture and manufacturing".

This report provides an overview of the commitment that Council has in investing in City of Palmerston.

DISCUSSION

Council recognises the importance of its role in enabling the attraction of external investment and growth of the local economy through its annual budget.

Investment in 2022-23

Council's injection into the economy as presented in the 2022-23 Municipal is \$58.5 million which is \$11 million in employee expenses, \$20.5 million in operational expenses and \$27 million in capital expenditure.

This financial year to date, Council has spent \$34.1 million with local suppliers, which is a significant injection into the local economy, coupled with the employment of approximately 97 employees.

Further details of the Economic Development Activities for 2022-23 is found in a separate report.

Investment in 2023-24

The 2023-24 Budget shows Council's continuing commitment to deliver quality services and programs to the community as well an extensive capital works program to realise the Community Plan Outcomes. This will include delivery of a \$45.7 million operational budget and \$7.8 million capital expenditure total commitment of \$53.5 million. Capital works will include the following highlights:

- Council will be opening the \$19.4M Swimming, Wellness, Events, Leisure and Lifestyle (SWELL) facility by the end of 2023. The facility will boast a refurbished 50m pool, heated program pool, an adventure play zone, half basketball court, events area and plenty of shade. We will also be upgrading elements of the SWELL building, including a community room, replacement of the aged roof and installation of a solar system. This additional \$750,000 project will improve the aging facility whilst continuing Councils commitment to sustainability.
- Last financial year, Council launched the completed Stage 1 of Zuccoli Community Hub, with the community and their pets enjoying the new regional dog park. In 2023-24, we will deliver the second stage which includes a pump track and other associated works with \$500,000 included in the budget.
- The next facility to get a major upgrade will be the Driver Resource Centre. Redeveloping this community facility is important to this area.
- Enterprise Resource Planning software To successfully deliver all of these services to the community, Council requires effective systems capable of a high level of service
- Council is passionate about sustainability, and we look forward to completing the upgrade of the Archer Waste Management Facility. The design includes a new recycling area and an undercover general waste pushpit area to support improved recovery of recyclable items in line with Council's Sustainability Strategy. Council continues to actively look for ways to partner with the Northern Territory Government and Australian Government on projects in 2023-24.
- Council have partnered with the Northern Territory Government on the innovative and leadingedge FiberSense technology project. The technology will be completed early this financial year and will make Palmerston the first city in the world to roll out the large-scale deployment of the data monitoring software. Based on vibration sensing, the technology monitors and analyses moving



object and event data in real time, with insights enabling us to better understand the community's infrastructure usage to plan for future needs.

• A priority for Council is implementing programs and initiatives to promote sustainable development throughout our city. This includes efforts to reduce our carbon footprint, increase recycling, and promoting energy efficiency. We believe that by taking a proactive approach to sustainability, we can make our city a better place to live for everyone.

This years budget demonstrates the commitment to continuing the high standard of service delivery and continue to support the community through:

- the Community Benefit Scheme \$250,000 per annum is allocated to community groups through an application process
- free community events
- One of Council's popular events is the Palmerston Youth Festival which has a high youth attendance and engagement with over 7000 people participating/attending the 2022 Palmerston Youth Festival across seven days of events and activities. Events and activities were designed to be free, accessible, inclusive and to cater to a broad range of interests including culture, music, sports, arts, hobbies, and technology. Delivery of the Festival included partnerships between City of Palmerston and several community groups and organisations.
- verge beautification assistance
- free parking and free facility hire
- minimal increase to majority of Council fees and charges
- financial hardship rates concession
- maintaining service levels across the municipality.

Community safety is a high priority for Council to support the wellbeing of our community. Council is implementing the following initiatives to improve community safety:

- security patrols, in partnership with the Northern Territory Government
- youth programs and events.
- new Animal Management By-Laws
- management of laneways
- improved public lighting
- public places management
- advocacy for alcohol management and policing.

Long Term Financial Plan - 2023-34

Over the term of the Long Term Financial Plan, Council is planning to spend a total of \$78.6 million in capital works which will result in new and modern facilities for the Community. As well as the replacements and renewals of assets that relate to infrastructure such as roads, pathways, parks, public lighting, buildings, stormwater and fleet, we still need to ensure the assets within Palmerston remain in a satisfactory condition.

This injection into the community will contribute to the economic development success for the City of Palmerston, particularly when the services are delivered by local suppliers.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There was no consultation required during the preparation of this Report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this Report.



BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

This report provides and overview of the budget and resources Council has committed in delivering services to the local community.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Council's investment into the Palmerston Local Economy is and economic development enabler, through enabling the attraction of external investment and growth of the local economy through its annual budget.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

2 Fails to be sustainable into the long term Context: Optimising the financial, social and environmental sustainability of the City.

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications relating to this Report.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environment sustainability implications for this Report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the author and approving officer declare that we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



9 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

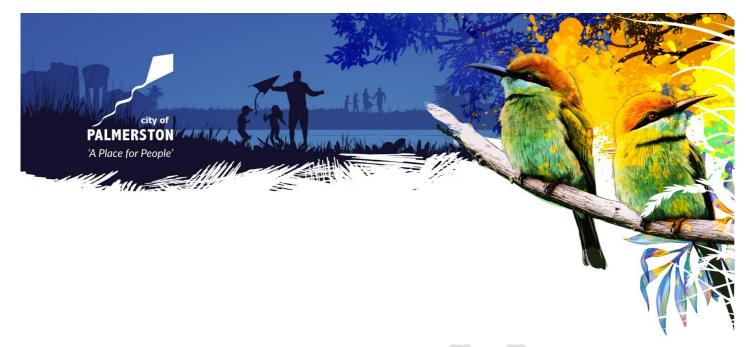
- 9.1 Information
- 9.2 Correspondence
- 10 GENERAL BUSINESS

11 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

THAT the next Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee Meeting of Council be held on Monday, 25 September 2023 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

12 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

THAT pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.



MINUTES

Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee Monday 27 March 2023

The Advisory Committee Meeting of the City of Palmerston held in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston, NT 0830

'A Place for People'



Minutes of Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee Meeting held in Council Chambers Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston on 27 March 2023 at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Councillor Mark Fraser (Chair)
	Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell (Audio-Visual)
	Brandon Evans, Department Chief Minister and Cabinet
	Representative
	Mohan Kandasamy, Local Business Owner Representative
	Ruth Palmer, Property Representative
	Carmine Rauseo, Local Business Owner Representative
	Sue Shearer, Business Association Representative
STAFF	Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli
	Director of Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta
	Executive Finance and Economics, Chris Kimani
	Economic Development Officer, Sharon Mitchell
	IT Manager, Ish Shah
	Minute Secretary, Tree Gillam
GALLERY	Nil members of the public



1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Palmerston acknowledges the Larrakia people as the Traditional Custodians of the Palmerston region. We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future leaders and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

2 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5.37pm.

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Apologies

Nil

3.2 Leave of Absence Previously Granted

THAT it be noted Councillor Giesecke will be on leave of absence as previously granted on 27 March 2023, for the period of 24 March to 29 March 2023 inclusive.

3.3 Leave of Absence Request

Nil

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4.1 Elected Members

Nil

4.2 Staff

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved: Sue Shearer Seconded: Brandon Evans

THAT the Minutes of the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee Meeting held on 21 November 2022 pages 1 to 6 be confirmed.

CARRIED VEAC10/7 - 27/03/2023

5.2 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

Nil

Initials:

MINUTES VIBRANT ECONOMY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 27 MARCH 2023



6 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

- 7 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS
 - 7.1 Moving Confidential Items into Open

Nil

7.2 Moving Open Items into Confidential

Nil

7.3 Confidential Items

Nil

- 8 OFFICER REPORTS
 - 8.1 Action Reports
 - 8.1.1 Priority Actions Palmerston Local Economic Plan

Moved: Sue Shearer Seconded: Ruth Palmer

- 1. THAT Report entitled Priority Actions Palmerston Local Economic Plan be received and noted.
- 2. THAT the Committee recommend to Council that the priority actions of the Palmerston Local Economic Plan for the next six months are:
 - a. Development of a website to support and promote Economic Development within Palmerston.
 - b. Conduct a business survey of businesses located within Palmerston.

CARRIED VEAC10/8 - 27/03/2023

8.2 Receive and Note Reports

8.2.1 Update on Committee Membership

Moved: Mayor Pascoe-Bell Seconded: Sue Shearer

THAT Report entitled Update on Committee Membership be received and noted.

CARRIED VEAC10/9 - 27/03/2023

Initials: MINUTES VIBRANT ECONOMY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 27 MARCH 2023



8.2.2 Update on the Progress of Palmerston Local Economic Plan

Moved: Mohan Kandasamy Seconded: Carmine Rauseo

THAT Report entitled Update on the Progress of Palmerston Local Economic Plan be received and noted.

CARRIED VEAC10/10 - 27/03/2023

8.2.3 Major Capital Projects March 2023 Update

Moved: Ruth Palmer Seconded: Mohan Kandasamy

THAT Report entitled Major Capital Projects March 2023 Update be received and noted.

CARRIED VEAC 10/11 - 27/03/2023

9 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Information

Nil

9.2 Correspondence

Nil

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 Property Crime and Antisocial Behaviour Report

Moved: Mohan Kandasamy Seconded: Sue Shearer

THAT the Committee request the Property Council of the Northern Territory present at the 26 June 2023 Meeting, the Property Crime and Antisocial Behaviour Report - Palmerston specific.

CARRIED VEAC10/12 - 27/03/2023

11 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved: Mohan Kandasamy Seconded: Ruth Palmer

THAT the next Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee Meeting of Council be held on Monday, 26 June 2023 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED VEAC10/13 - 27/03/2023

Initials:

MINUTES VIBRANT ECONOMY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 27 MARCH 2023

10



12 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Moved: Sue Shearer Seconded: Carmine Rauseo

THAT the meeting of the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee Meeting held in Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, Palmerston on 27 March 2023 closed at 6.37pm.

CARRIED VEAC10/14 - 27/03/2023

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.37pm.

Chair

Print Name

Date

Initials: MINUTES VIBRANT ECONOMY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 27 MARCH 2023