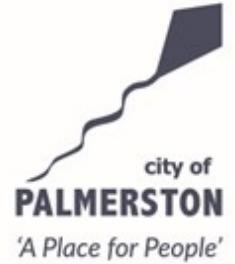


# AGENDA

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## COMMUNITY WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 25 MARCH 2025

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

Council business papers can be viewed on City of Palmerston's website [palmerston.nt.gov.au](https://palmerston.nt.gov.au) or at the Council Office located:  
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston NT 0830.

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ANDREW WALSH  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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# 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

# 2 OPENING OF MEETING

# 3 APOLOGIES

# 4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING

4.1 Request for audio/audiovisual conferencing

4.2 Audio/Audio visual conferencing previously granted

# 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

5.1 Committee members

5.2 Staff

# 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 December 2024 pages 44 to 48 be confirmed.

6.2 Business arising from previous meeting

# 7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

# 8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

8.1 Moving confidential items into open

8.2 Moving open items into confidential

8.3 Confidential items

Nil

# 9 OFFICER REPORTS

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## Committee Meeting

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	9.2.1
<b>Report Title:</b>	Community Services Network Update
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday 25 March 2025
<b>Author:</b>	Community Services Manager, Laura Hardman
<b>Approver:</b>	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl

## Community plan

Family and Community: Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs.

## Purpose

This Report provides the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee with an update on the following networks: Palmerston Kids Network, Palmerston Senior Network, and Palmerston and Rural Youth Services Network.

## Key messages

- City of Palmerston convenes several networks to support a collaborative and coordinated approach to sector development, engagement, and information sharing.
- The networks meet to share information, showcase best practices and needs, make connections, advocate, and promote professional development.
- Palmerston Kids Network held a meeting on 30 January 2025.
- Palmerston and Rural Youth Services Network held a meeting on 28 January 2025.
- Palmerston Seniors Network held a meeting on 5 February 2025.

## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Community Services Network Update be received and noted.

## Background

### Palmerston Kids Network

The Palmerston Kids Network (PKN) brings together a dedicated group of professionals from various organisations committed to delivering essential services and programs for children aged 0-12 and their families. PKN meetings offer a vital platform for collaboration, allowing members to exchange information, address community concerns, and spark innovative initiatives. These gatherings are an excellent opportunity for sector updates, enabling the sharing of valuable resources and insights that benefit the entire community.

### Palmerston and Rural Youth Services Network

Palmerston and Rural Youth Services (PaRYS) is a large group of professionals representing organisations providing services and programs paramount to improving the future for Palmerston young people. The Network provides a much-needed collaborative space for services to share funding opportunities, community programs and events for Palmerston youth. The agenda features a regular Service Spotlight segment, where organisations present an overview of their services, followed by a discussion and question and answer session to address any barriers to inclusion.

### Palmerston Seniors Network

The Palmerston Seniors Network (PSN) offers a collaborative platform for networking, sector updates, and raising awareness of critical issues affecting seniors in the Palmerston community. A dedicated group of 10 members consistently participates in the Network, representing a diverse range of senior-focused organisations and service providers in the region. This committee fosters communication, advocates for seniors, and addresses key concerns impacting this demographic.

## Discussion

### Palmerston Kids Network

The most recent Palmerston Kids Network (PKN) meeting was held on 30 January 2025.

The following services attended and gave updates:

- Services Australia.
- Kidsafe NT.
- Palmerston Child and Family Centre.
- CoP Palmerston Library.
- Team Health.
- The Smith Family.

All services have implemented plans to increase their community engagement which include increasing visibility through marketing on various channels and holding more stalls at events to increase community awareness.

Topics covered during the meeting include:

- A lack of understanding of what grants and funding opportunities exist for their organisations, including how to apply confidently with accuracy and where to source the most appropriate grants.
- The use of a communication tool to share sector updates.

The next PKN meeting will be held on 28 March 2025.

## Palmerston and Rural Youth Services Network

The most recent Palmerston and Rural Youth Services (PARYS) Network meeting was held on 28 January 2025.

The following services attended and gave updates:

- Services Australia.
- Office of Youth Affairs.
- Team Health.
- Kentish Community Services.
- Department of Education.
- The Smith Family.
- CDC NT.
- PaRBA.
- CoP Palmerston Library.
- Dementia Australia.
- Indigenous Allied health.
- Legal Aid NT.
- Alcohol and Drug Foundation.
- Create Foundation.
- NAPCAN.

Topics covered during the meeting include:

- Review of the Palmerston Youth Action Plan and the reformation of the Palmerston Youth Representative Group.
- Changes to current laws about the age of criminal responsibility that impact young people and how this is being effectively communicated.
- The development of an Alcohol and Drug Plan for Palmerston youth, which will be a multi-service supported plan.
- Continued focus on financial wellbeing and employment opportunities for young people by multiple services, who are also seeking after-school programs to attend and share information.
- Introduction of programs that will support young parents in Palmerston to complete schooling, transition to the workforce after finishing school, and maintain stability in employment.

- A marked change to programs that provide in-school counselling for school attendees, aimed at encouraging young people to stay in school or increase their attendance at school, as school truancy can now incur a fine for families and guardians.
- The Circuit Breaker program has started in Palmerston to provide vulnerable and at-risk young people with a Safe Place. Territory Families operates this program.
- Young people having increased, non-stigmatized access to sexual health services.

Based on this input, information sessions have been scheduled as part of the next three (3) network meetings to cover the following topics:

- Sexual Health and Safety for Young People, delivered by Clinic 34.
- Laws that impact Young People, delivered by Legal Aid NT.
- Circuit Breaker information session, delivered by Territory Families.

The next PARYS meeting will be held on 25 March 2025.

### Palmerston Seniors Network

The most recent Palmerston Seniors Network meeting was held on 5 February 2025. 12 members attended the first meeting of 2025, and the Chair welcomed everyone to the session. Council staff updated the group on actions from the previous meeting and demonstrated how to use City of Palmerston's mobile app to report issues instantly.

The following organisations gave updates:

- COTA.
- Services Australia.
- PLSA.
- PROBUS.
- 50+ Club.
- Dementia Australia.
- Healthy Living NT.
- TeamHEALTH.

Topics covered during the meeting include:

- 50+ Club: The group reported feeling safer at Bakewell shops after installing security personnel.
- Services Australia: Shared that police hold a weekly BBQ at Mindil in partnership with Orange Sky and want to organise a similar event in Palmerston. They also introduced the NT Police Public Safety App for Apple phones. For more details, visit their website.
- Christmas Wonderland: 50+ Club gave positive feedback about the event.
- Australia Day Nominations: We will be introducing new nomination processes.
- RSL Darwin: RSL Darwin will relocate to Admiralty House, The Esplanade, Darwin.





Changes were proposed and accepted to future meeting dates as follows:

- 2 April 2025 to 7 May 2025.
- 6 August 2025 (no change).
- 1 October 2025 & 3 December 2025 to 5 November 2025.

The next Seniors Network meeting will be held on 7 May 2025.

No actions are required from the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee currently.

## Consultation and marketing

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

## Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

## Budget and resource 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:

1. **Community Safety**  
Failure of Council to effectively plan and deliver its role in community safety.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

This Report relates to the following City of Palmerston Strategies, Framework and Plans:

- [Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework](#)

## 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

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## Committee Meeting

Agenda Item:	9.2.2
Report Title:	Palmerston Youth Festival Update
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 25 March 2025
Author:	Community Services Manager, Laura Hardman
Approver:	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl

## Community plan

Family and Community: Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs.

## Purpose

This Report provides the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee with an update on the Palmerston Youth Festival program for 2025.

## Key messages

- The highly anticipated Palmerston Youth Festival is returning for its sixth year.
- The festival comprises seven (7) events: two (2) major and five (5) bespoke over seven (7) days.
- An array of competitions is open to young people throughout the week with thousands of dollars of prizes up for grabs.
- The Northern Territory Government has provided grant funding of \$300,000 to City of Palmerston to deliver the Palmerston Youth Festival. The funding agreement is in place until FY2026/27. City of Palmerston has committed \$50,000 towards the festival plus significant in-kind support and staff resources.
- The report provides details of the 2025 Program.

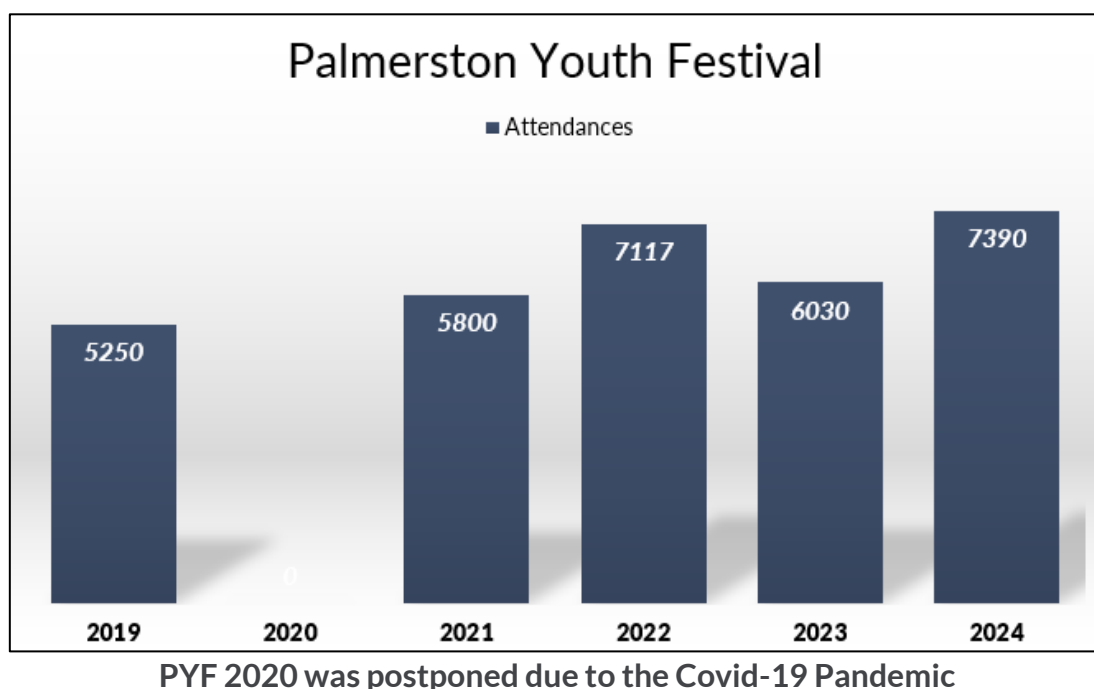
## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Palmerston Youth Festival Update be received and noted.

## Background

The Palmerston Youth Festival (PYF) has been delivered by City of Palmerston (CoP) in partnership with the Northern Territory Government (NTG) since 2019. The fifth PYF was held in 2024, attracting a record total attendance of 7,390; Geekfest Top End was the biggest drawcard, with 4,200 attendees.

The innovative program has been created with free events and activities designed to be, accessible and inclusive and provide a broad range of experiences including culture, music, sports, arts, hobbies, and technology. The week aims to provide youth with unique opportunities to grow skills, confidence and knowledge across a variety of topics whilst connecting like-minded individuals. Based on the program changes and additions, we expect this year's festivities to be the biggest yet!



## Discussion

CoP is currently planning for this year's festival, with the 2025 dates being Saturday 5 July to Friday 11 July. The program outline is as follows:

### Day 1 - Saturday 5 July – Geekfest Top End – Recreation Centre, Library and Goyder Square

The iconic Geekfest Top End (GFTE) is returning and set to take over the CBD like never before. Goyder Square, Palmerston Recreation Centre and Library will be buzzing with iconic attractions and new thrilling experiences.

As the Northern Territory's longest-running Geek Convention, GFTE is the ultimate celebration of geek culture. Geekfest Top End has become the standout event of PYF week, drawing an impressive average of 4,380 attendees over the past three (3) years. In contrast, the PYF Wrap Up Party attracted just 1,000 attendees on average.

Leveraging on the success and popularity of Geekfest Top End, we are transforming the event into a two (2) day Geekfest extravaganza; the second day replacing the PYF Wrap Up Party; It's going to be bigger, better and more exciting than ever before! Ensuring we continue to include musical elements from the PYF Wap Up Party into the PYF week, alternate events such as NAIDOC Pool Party and Palmy's Got Talent will have enhanced musical elements highlighted.

The interactive and immerse experiences will including:

- Artist Alley.
- Library laser tag.
- Variety of free play and e-sports competitions.
- Food trucks.
- Cosplay characters.
- Cosplay competition.
- Games and gadgets and much more!

GFTE 2025 promises to be an unforgettable experience, highlighting the best of geek culture and a celebration to remember.



Highlights from Geekfest Top End 2024

### Day 2 - Sunday 6 July – Geekfest Top End – Event Cinema

Honouring the thriving geek culture, Geekfest Top End (GFTE) will expand into a two (2) day celebration in 2025, offering more opportunities and experiences to fully embrace into the geek world. To elevate the experience, a partnership with Event Cinema will use its state-of-the-art facilities to maximise the digital and immersive experience.

The event will offer attendees the opportunity to play video games on the big screen, immerse themselves in the gaming lounge, and relax with a geek inspired movie. Vendor expressions of interest have been sent to ensure this multisensory event will bring the world of gaming, film and technology to life in ways that haven't been explored in the Territory.

### Day 3 - Monday 7 July – NAIDOC Pool Party, SWELL

Following the success of the first NAIDOC Pool Party in 2024, this event will continue to grow as a meaningful platform for cultural celebration and awareness. The pool party is held in conjunction with NAIDOC Week, offering exciting opportunities to honour and recognise the rich cultural heritage of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Last year's event was greatly enthused, providing a platform for cultural education and community engagement. Building on this success, the 2025 event will look to include giveaways, a BBQ lunch, a musical element and Indigenous workshops planned to offer hands-on cultural learning.



**CDC Bus Painting 2024**



**Dream Impact Inspire and PaRBA**

#### **Day 4 - Tuesday 8 July – Pamper Palmy, Palmerston Recreation Centre**

Pamper Palmy is set to return as a celebration of youth empowerment. This year's event will deep dive into the power of self-care and mental health management, providing youth the tools to prioritise their health in a fun and inclusive environment.

Components of the event will include stallholders providing information to youth; activities, offering opportunities to try new experiences; and workshops, offering practical skills to help nurture participants' mental health.

Attendees can expect a mix of creative, relaxing and practical experiences that will help support their mental health and physical well-being. These activities may include journalling workshops, yoga, henna, ice baths and much more.

#### **Day 5 - Wednesday 9 July – Sportsfest, Palmerston Recreation Centre**

Sport is an opportunity to engage youth from all backgrounds, bringing them together to showcase local talent while naturally developing valuable life skills, such as leadership, teamwork and sportsmanship. Through sports and exercise, young people improve their physical and mental well-being, build self-confidence and form meaningful relationships with their peers.

This event offers opportunities for personal growth and achievement, regardless of skill level, and supports the overall well-being and development of youth. It's an inclusive celebration that aims to involve the whole family, ensuring there's a place for everyone in sport.





**Soccer activation**



**Wheelchair basketball**

## **Day 6 - Thursday 10 July – Creative Collective, Palmerston Recreation Centre**

Creative Collective is set to ignite a spark of creativity into the PYF program. The vibrant addition to the program will provide a diverse range of workshops and hands on activities for participants to unleash their creativity and explore new artistic expressions. The program will be designed to foster a creative community through upskilling or learning new skills from art, music and design. Activities may include comic drawing, gaming design, K-Pop dance classes, 3D design printing and more.

## **Day 7 - Friday 11 July – Palmy's Got Talent, Goyder Square**

Palmy's Got Talent is returning to display the range of talent within our municipality. To be hosted in conjunction with Palmerston Markets at Goyder Square, the event will provide a platform for both emerging and professional talent to highlight their range of skills and talents within an inclusive, professional environment. From comedy, circus skills, dance to vocalists, the event will feature something for everyone.

The integration of Palmy's Got Talent and the Palmerston Markets brings an additional element to the event, encouraging community attendance and creating a vibrant, inviting and multi element space. Palmerston Markets will run as usual; the layout will be revamped to transform Goyder Square into a dynamic hub of food, fun, and live entertainment for all to enjoy.



**Young talent performing**



**Crowds at Palmy's Got Talent**

## Competitions

Throughout the festival, a variety of prizes and competitions are run to encourage participation. This year \$15,000 has been allocated for prizes with focus on supporting local businesses through vouchers and physical gifts. Once these competitions have been finalised, further details will be provided on the council website.

## Consultation and marketing

The following City of Palmerston staff were consulted in preparing this Report:

- Community Services Manager.
- Acting Marketing & Communications Manager.
- Marketing & Communications Lead.

## Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

## Budget and resource implications

Under the funding agreement, the Northern Territory Government (NTG) grant contribution is \$300,000 per year, with City of Palmerston contributing an additional \$50,000 per year.

## Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

**4. Inclusion, Diversity and Access**

Failure to balance meeting needs of Palmerston's cultural mosaic.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

This Report relates to the following City of Palmerston Strategies, Framework and Plans:

- [Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework](#)

## 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

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## Committee Meeting

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	9.2.3
<b>Report Title:</b>	Library Wellbeing Events and Programs
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday 25 March 2025
<b>Author:</b>	Manager Library Services, Hayley Arkinstall
<b>Approver:</b>	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl

## Community plan

Family and Community: Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs.

## Purpose

This Report seeks to inform the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee of the programs the library delivers that contribute to community wellbeing.

## Key messages

- The library provides a diverse range of programs that cater to different age groups and community needs.
- Programs are designed to support literacy, social interaction, mental health, and personal development.
- The library partners with external organisations to provide information sessions and community support.
- Programs for all ages to encourage lifelong learning and community connection.


## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Library Wellbeing Events and Programs be received and noted.

## Background

The library has a strong history of delivering programs that support literacy, community engagement, and wellbeing. Through supporting external services, facilitating spaces for external programs and library staff delivering programs internally and outreach programs,





the library offers an array of activities that cater to different demographics. These programs align with the library's mission to be a hub for information, learning, and social connection.

## Discussion

Library programming is an important service that the library delivers. Programs bridge the economic gap and give people the opportunity to participate in social and educational activities which decreases isolation and loneliness, provides entertainment, encourages lifelong learning and teaches new skills, especially job seeking and digital skills.

The library delivers a variety of diverse programs and aims to be inclusive with extra activities or specialty versions of our regular programs to celebrate or commemorate certain times of the year, such as NAIDOC, International Women's and Men's Days, Refugee Week, Harmony Day and others. Recognition and inclusivity have a positive impact on social inclusion, mental wellbeing, physical wellbeing and teaches people about other cultures which creates a more tolerant and well-rounded community.

Regular programming includes:

### Late Nights at the Library

The library hosts evening events for adults, including workshops mainly focused on creative activities and gaming. These activities provide opportunities for relaxation, skill development, and social interaction. The program is designed to foster social inclusion in an alcohol-free environment, ensuring that all community members feel welcome and comfortable. By providing a safe and engaging space, the library helps reduce social isolation and strengthens community ties.

### Storytimes and Nurserytimes

Regular storytime and nurserytimes sessions are held for young children and their families. These sessions introduce children to the library at an early age and support early literacy development, encourage a love of reading, and provide a space for families to connect. The sessions also promote social skills and language development for young children and facilitates social interactions between the parents and carers, combating an isolating time for many young families. The sessions strive to be inclusive with sensory activities, bilingual sessions and collaborative sessions with Deaf Connect who deliver Auslan sessions.

The library has been delivering sessions outside the library to external organisations and their clients, such as early childhood centres, STEPS and CAAPS. The purpose of this is to ensure there is increased access to library programs, build relationships with non-library users and promote library services.

### Information Hub at the Library

The Information Hub at the Library provides a weekly space for community organisations to connect directly with the public. Many people are unaware of the range of services available to support them, and the hub helps bridge this gap by offering a visible, accessible point of contact. Positioned within the library, it allows organisations to share information, offer guidance, and engage with visitors in a welcoming environment. Helping the community access the support they need has a positive impact on their overall wellbeing.

## Geeksquad and Youth programs

Programs tailored to young people include coding clubs, gaming sessions, creative arts workshops, and DJ workshops. These initiatives provide safe and engaging spaces for youth to learn, socialise, and explore their interests and contribute to personal development and digital literacy.

The library offers a weekly youth program called Geeksquad, which is a social group who come together to share interests, connect with likeminded individuals and occasionally has an external vendor teach them new skills, such as special effects makeup, cosplay design and sewing.

The library has recently facilitated Danila Dilba to hold a weekly youth program in the library community room to increase the wellbeing of the attendees and help combat antisocial behaviour in the library space and out in the community.

The library will be delivering a Youth Week program in April which will be centred around the Gulwa Recording Studio. Young people can attend the opening pizza party and book sessions throughout youth week with a sound technician to either learn the technology side of content producing or have their content produced by the technician. This event will develop their technological skillsets and give an outlet for their creativity, all while developing a professional product.

## School Holiday Programs

During school holidays, the library runs special programs such as STEM workshops, art and craft activities and performing arts activities. These programs offer children and families meaningful and educational activities, helping to prevent boredom and encourage learning outside the classroom. Just like all the library programs, the school holiday program is free to attendees which helps families connect, learn and discover new activities in the school holiday time which is usually an expensive time for families to provide consistent entertainment for children.

## NBN Digital Literacy Classes

The library facilitates NBN to deliver digital literacy classes to the community. The digital literacy classes improve community well-being by empowering individuals with essential technology skills, reducing social isolation, and increasing access to vital online services. These classes help community members confidently participate in the online world, assist with job applications, healthcare services, and social connections, which increases independence and reduces the stress associated with digital exclusion. By providing a welcoming and supportive learning environment, the library ensures that all individuals, regardless of age or background, can participate in the digital world, ultimately improving their quality of life and overall well-being.

The library consistently reviews its programs to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community. Along with meeting the outcomes of City of Palmerston's Community Plan, the library strives to satisfy the outcomes of the Public Library Funding Agreement with by adhering to the outcomes in the Library & Archives NT Libraries Connecting Communities Strategic Vision 2023 – 2028. Website found here: <https://lant.nt.gov.au/vision-public-libraries>

## Consultation and marketing

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

## Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

## Budget and resource implications

All library and events are covered by the library operational budget. The Youth Week activities is covered by the library operational budget and the NT Youth Week Grant.

## Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

1. **Community Safety**  
Failure of Council to effectively plan and deliver its role in community safety.
4. **Inclusion, Diversity and Access**  
Failure to balance meeting needs of Palmerston's cultural mosaic.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

This Report relates to the following City of Palmerston Strategies, Framework and Plans:

- [Disability Inclusion Access Plan 2022-2025](#)
- [Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework](#)

## 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

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## Committee Meeting

Agenda Item:	9.2.4
Report Title:	Community Inclusion update
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 25 March 2025
Author:	Community Inclusion and Projects Officer, Tree Gillam
Approver:	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl

## Community plan

Cultural Diversity: In Palmerston we celebrate our cultures in a way that values our diversity.

## Purpose

This Report provides the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee with a Community Inclusion update.

## Key messages

- City of Palmerston is dedicated to fostering a community where all individuals have equal rights to access Council services, activities, events, and facilities.
- The development of the 2025-2028 Disability Inclusion and Access Plan has commenced.
- In collaboration with Dementia Australia, City of Palmerston is working to make the Recreation Centre the second dementia-friendly building in Palmerston, enhancing support for people living with dementia.
- The city has engaged with Deaf Connect NT for a walk through the library and to discuss Deaf Awareness Training for front facing staff.
- City of Palmerston is reviewing feedback relating to access issues for carers and people with disabilities, particularly focusing on the location of all-abilities parking bays in relation to the Recreation Centre entrance.

## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Community Inclusion update be received and noted.

## Background

City of Palmerston (CoP) is committed to creating a community where every individual is given equal rights in their ability to access Council services including activities, events, and facilities. In July 2021, Council adopted the Inclusive Diverse Accessible (IDA) Policy Framework, created as a supporting document to the City of Palmerston's Community Plan. In alignment with the IDA, Council adopted the Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2022 – 2025 (DIAP) in September 2022.

The Disability Inclusion and Access Plan was developed in collaboration with people with disability as well as those who have lived experience of the challenges faced by people with disability. The DIAP establishes a series of goals and corresponding actions, designed to remove barriers to equitable participation in Council services, programs, and events. This was the first plan developed by City of Palmerston specifically designed to improve access and inclusion for Palmerston residents and visitors.

The development of Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2025–2028 is currently in progress.

## Discussion

### Hearing Loop

Deaf Connect NT attended City of Palmerston Library to review the hearing loop. Investigation is now underway regarding a new system in the library or explore alternative options. Our goal is to offer equipment that people can borrow so all community rooms can provide a service for those who are deaf or hearing impaired, enabling them to hold meetings in our facilities.

### Deaf Awareness Training

Deaf Connect NT facilitator Allie Johnstone hosted the Deaf Awareness Training for City of Palmerston staff.



**Allie Johnstone, with CoP Staff at Deaf Awareness Training**

Allie and Paula (the interpreter) provided valuable insight into what it's like to be deaf and how we can support individuals in leading a fulfilling life. They highlighted the role of modern technology, interpreter services, and Auslan in helping people communicate and participate fully in everyday activities

Feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive. Many commented that both the presenter and interpreter were knowledgeable, proficient, and easy to understand. The training itself was described as wonderful, enjoyable, and incredibly relevant to our roles. Staff appreciated the course material and felt that the two (2) hour session offered great value in terms of learning.

### **Dementia Australia (DA) – Making the Recreation Centre Dementia-Friendly**

Council staff have worked with Dementia Australia to start making the Recreation Centre the second dementia-friendly building for City of Palmerston.

To meet the required standards, City of Palmerston must complete the following steps:

- Staff Training: All staff must complete a 15-minute online training module and submit their dementia friend certificate. (Completed)
- Environmental Walkthrough: Staff organised a walkthrough of the centre with a community member living with dementia, a carer, a dementia advocate, and the CDO to assess the building. (Completed)
- Findings Report: Staff to provide the findings from the walkthrough to Dementia Australia. (Completed)
- Implementing Changes: Staff have begun making changes based on the findings and provided photographic evidence to Dementia Australia.
- Dementia-Inclusive Programs: Staff have shared information about programs at the Recreation Centre that are inclusive for people living with dementia.



**Emil (Dementia Australia), Jack, Chris and CoP Staff following the environmental walk through.**



## All Abilities Parking

City of Palmerston is currently reviewing feedback regarding Recreation Centre access issues for carers and people with disabilities.

As an immediate solution, a small waiting area in the foyer with a couple of chairs and a small table, allowing people to sit while their carer retrieves the car.

An audit of accessible parking bays in Civic Plaza and the CBD has been completed. We are committed to improving access and will continue to explore further solutions to better support people with disabilities and their carer's.

## Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2025-2028

A plan has commenced for the DIAP 2025–2028, the first step being the establishment of a DIAP Working Group. The working group will be made up of key services and community members identified through a public expression of interest.

The DIAP Working Group will consider the future objectives and actions to improve all abilities access and inclusion across Palmerston. Consultation will aim to attract more input from residents with lived experience, ensuring the plan is authentic and meets the diverse needs of our community.

Actions that are in progress from the current DIAP will be carried over to the draft plan.

## Consultation and marketing

In preparing this Report, the following external parties were consulted:

- Dementia Australia.
- Deaf Connect NT.

## Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

## Budget and resource implications

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

## Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

- 1. Community Safety**  
Failure of Council to effectively plan and deliver its role in community safety.
- 4. Inclusion, Diversity and Access**  
Failure to balance meeting needs of Palmerston's cultural mosaic.



## Strategies, framework and plans implications

This Report relates to the following City of Palmerston Strategies, Framework and Plans:

- [Disability Inclusion Access Plan 2022-2025](#)
- [Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework](#)

## 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





## 10 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### 10.1 Information

### 10.2 Correspondence

## 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

## 12 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

THAT the next Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 10 June 2025 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

## 13 CLOSURE OF MEETING



## MINUTES

### Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting

**Thursday 5 December 2024**

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

Council business papers can be viewed on the City of Palmerston website [www.palmerston.nt.gov.au](http://www.palmerston.nt.gov.au)

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COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting  
held in Council Chambers  
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston  
on Thursday 5 December at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Deputy Mayor Mark Fraser (Chair) Senior Sergeant Siiri-Kai Tennosaar, Northern Territory Representative Sheryl Sephton, Senior Community Member Veronica Matipira, Youth Community Member Representative
STAFF	General Manager Infrastructure, Nadine Nilon General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl Acting General Manager People & Place, Emma Blight Acting Community Services Manager, Laura Hardman Minute Secretary, Georgina Davies Executive Assistant General Manager Infrastructure, Monica Silva
GALLERY	Nil

Initials:



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## COMMITTEE MINUTES

### 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 5:33pm.

### 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### 3.1 Apologies

Moved: Sheryl Sephton  
Seconded: Veronica Matipira

1. THAT the apology received from Councillor Danielle Eveleigh for 05 December 2024 be received and noted.
2. THAT the apology received from Michelle Walker for 05 December 2024 be received and noted.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/74 - 5/12/2024

#### 3.2 Leave of Absence Previously Granted

Nil

#### 3.3 Leave of Absence Request

Nil

### 4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

#### 4.1 Committee Members

Nil

#### 4.2 Staff

Nil

### 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved: Sheryl Sephton  
Seconded: Siiri Tennosaar

THAT the Minutes of the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting held on 12 September 2024 pages 39 to 43 be confirmed.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/75 - 5/12/2024

#### 5.2 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

Nil

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTES COMMUNITY WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 DECEMBER 2024 45



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## COMMITTEE MINUTES

### 6 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

#### 6.1 Palmerston And Litchfield Seniors Association Summary Report 2024

Moved: Siiri Tennosaar

Seconded: Sheryl Sephton

THAT the presentation by Marg Lee, President and Neville Driver, Vice President from Palmerston And Litchfield Seniors Association on PLSA Summary Report 2024 be received and noted.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/76 – 5/12/2024

### 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 Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule 2025

Moved: Sheryl Sephton

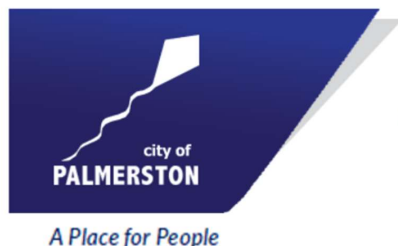
Seconded: Veronica Matipira

1. THAT Report entitled Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule 2025 be received and noted.
2. THAT the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee recommend to the Council:
  - a. THAT the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee meetings for 2025 be scheduled as follows:
    - i. 5:30pm Tuesday 25 March 2025 in Council Chambers
    - ii. 5:30pm Tuesday 10 June 2025 in Council Chambers
  - b. THAT a review of Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee meeting schedule take place after the declaration of the poll following the Local Government Election in 2025.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/77 – 5/12/2024

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTES COMMUNITY WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 DECEMBER 2024 46



## COMMITTEE MINUTES

### 8.1.2 Terms of Reference Review - Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee

Moved: Siiri Tennosaar  
Seconded: Veronica Matipira

1. THAT Report entitled Terms of Reference Review - Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee be received and noted.
2. THAT the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee recommend to the Council:
  - a. THAT Council endorse the reviewed Terms of Reference for the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee as **Attachment 8.1.2.3**.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/78 - 5/12/2024

### 8.2 Receive and Note Reports

#### 8.2.1 Community Services Network Update

Moved: Siiri Tennosaar  
Seconded: Veronica Matipira

THAT Report entitled Community Services Network Update be received and noted.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/79 - 5/12/2024

#### 8.2.2 Children's Week Celebration

Moved: Veronica Matipira  
Seconded: Siiri Tennosaar

THAT Report entitled Children's Week Celebration be received and noted.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/80 - 5/12/2024

#### 8.2.3 International Men's Day 2024

Moved: Deputy Mayor Fraser  
Seconded: Siiri Tennosaar

THAT Report entitled International Men's Day 2024 be received and noted.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/81 - 5/12/2024

### 9 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

#### 9.1 Information

Nil

#### 9.2 Correspondence

Nil

### 10 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTES COMMUNITY WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 DECEMBER 2024 47



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COMMITTEE MINUTES

11 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved: Sheryl Sephton  
Seconded: Veronica Matipira

THAT the next Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 25 March 2025 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/82 – 5/12/2024

12 CLOSURE OF MEETING

Moved: Siiri Tennosaar  
Seconded: Sheryl Sephton

THAT the meeting of the Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee held in Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, Palmerston on 05 December 2024 closed at 6:35pm.

CARRIED (4/0) - CWAC10/83 – 5/12/2024

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6:35pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials: