

# AGENDA

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## 1st ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 19 AUGUST 2025

The Ordinary 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 AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

## 3.1 Apologies

## 3.2 Leave of absence previously granted

# 4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING PREVIOUSLY GRANTED

# 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

## 5.1 Elected members

## 5.2 Staff

# 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

## 6.1 Confirmation of minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 July 2025 pages 11790 to 11802 and the Special Council Meeting held on 28 July 2025 pages 11809 to 11812 be confirmed.

## 6.2 Business arising from previous meeting

# 7 MAYORAL REPORT

# MAYORAL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	7.1
Report Title:	Mayoral Update Report - July 2025
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 19 August 2025
Author:	Mayor, Athina Pascoe-Bell

## Community plan

Governance: Council is trusted by the community and invests in things that the public value.

## Purpose

This report provides an overview of events the Mayor has attended in July 2025 on behalf of Council.

## Key messages

- As the principal member of Council, the Mayor undertakes regular activities and attends events to speak on Council's behalf.
- During the month of July 2025, the Mayor attended meetings with Ministers, MLA's and Government Departments.
- This report provides context on several events that were attended by the Mayor, on Council's behalf.

## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Mayoral Update Report - July 2025 be received and noted.

## Discussion

As the principal member of Council, the Mayor undertakes regular activities and attends events on behalf of Council.

An overview of events attended by the Mayor during the month of July 2025 as follows:

- Monthly meeting with Northern Territory Police (NTPOL)
- Palmerston Youth Festival 2025
- Palmerston NAIDOC Flag raising and Community March 2025

- Darwin NAIDOC Week 2025 Official Opening and Flag raising Ceremony
- Member for Drysdale Mr Clinton Howe MLA Monthly meeting
- Palmerston Development Consent Authority (DCA) Monthly meeting
- Regional Capitals Australia (RCA) Board meeting
- Legacy Lunch
- Future Northern Territory
- Palmerston Youth Centre (PYC) 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations
- FlicNics
- Brekkie in the Park
- Serena Dalton, CEO of Grassroots Youth Engagement (GYE)
- Member for Blain Mr Matthew Kerle MLA Monthly meeting
- Northern Territory Government Department of Education and Training briefing
- Autism Northern Territory Reception
- Eid-Al-ADHA Reunion dinner
- Live at the Lake
- Australia's Ambassador to Greece
- YouthworX NT graduation ceremony

### Palmerston Youth Festival 2025

Once again Palmerston Youth Festival returned for another amazing 7-day festival. Geekfest attendance has continued to grow in popularity and attendees so it was decided it would run over two days. Youth were celebrated through Culture, art, talent, sport, wellbeing and music. The festival ended with Palmy's Got Talent which for the first time was held at the ever-popular Palmerston Markets. Thus, giving the performers a real chance to perform before a crowd if they hadn't already had the opportunity to do so.

Palmerston's median age is 32 which means we are quite a young municipality, and it is important that we provide infrastructure, amenities and events for our young people. Palmerston Youth Festival continues to be the most popular event in the City of Palmerston's calendar and this year was no exception with a record total attendance of 9,995 attendees over the seven days. I would like to thank all staff for their support and hard work and thank you to the Northern Territory Government for their ongoing support of the Palmerston Youth Festival for the sixth year running.



Mayor Pascoe-Bell getting creative at the NAIDOC Pool Party held at SWELL



City of Palmerston Mayor and Athina Pascoe-Bell and her daughter at the Opening of Geekfest 2025

### Palmerston NAIDOC Flag raising and Community March 2025

I was honoured once again to speak at the NAIDOC Flag raising ceremony at Memorial Park after walking the Community March from Goyder Square. This year's national NAIDOC theme is "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy", celebrating the achievements of the past whilst looking ahead to a future shaped by empowered young people which really speaks to the Palmerston Community as we have such a young population. NAIDOC Week is a significant time for First Nations People and the community, and I would like to thank the Palmerston NAIDOC Week Committee for all their hard work in bringing us together today to acknowledge our strong local history. Reconciliation remains a key focus for Council and the community. City of Palmerston Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan is well underway and marks a real step forward in how we work together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to build a more inclusive and connected Palmerston.





**City of Palmerston Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell speaking at the NAIDOC flag raising ceremony at Memorial Park.**

### Legacy Northern Territory Lunch for July 2025

It is always a pleasure to catch up with the wonderful Legacy Ladies for Legacy Lunch, July's lunch was held at Cazaly's Palmerston Club. Legacy NT are recipients of City of Palmerston's Community Funding Program – a grant funding initiative that helps to support individuals, groups and organisations that will contribute to Palmerston being A Place for People. Legacy was formed from a promise – to support a veterans' family after the loss or injury of their loved one. Legacy provides support to the partners and children of those who gave their lives or health for Australia. Legacy volunteers do an amazing job of providing social, financial and developmental support across Australia. Within the Northern Territory there are Legatees in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs.



**City of Palmerston Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell with Legacy members at the July Legacy Lunch**

## Australia's Ambassador to Greece

It was a pleasure to meet Ms Alison Duncan, Australia's Ambassador to Greece alongside Lord Mayor of Darwin the Hon Kon Vatskalis. Ms Duncan was interested in learning more about our Greek communities in both City of Darwin and City of Palmerston.



**L-R Lord Mayor Darwin, the Hon Kon Vatskalis, Australian Ambassador to Greece, Ms Alison Duncan and Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell**

## YouthworX NT – CareerStart – Engineering Pathways Graduation

I thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon tea to celebrate the achievements of the Youthworx NT graduating Career Start – Engineering Pathways participants and was grateful for the opportunity to congratulate each participant individually. YouthworX NT is welcoming and inclusive for all people, no matter their ethnicity, lifestyle choice, religion and gender identity. They help young people to identify their strengths and talents, explore career pathways, develop their goals and design a plan that best suits the individual. YouthworX build a solid foundation with job ready programs and workshops with industry specific learning which aids personal development with accreditation and one on one coaching. They offer support and guidance including employer support and an ongoing safety net to ensure that young people have the skills and confidence to succeed in their chosen profession.



**YouthworX NT Youth Development Coach Sebastian Ochoa, Participant Dwayne Campion and City of Palmerston Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell**



## Meeting with Serena Dalton, CEO of Grassroots Youth Engagement and Palmerston NAIDOC Committee member

It is always a pleasure to catch up with Serena Dalton, CEO of Grassroots Youth Engagement and founding member of Palmerston NAIDOC Committee. Serena founded Grassroots back in 2017 and has made a huge positive impact within Palmerston, by supporting and mentoring disengaged and disadvantaged youth. This has not gone unnoticed, and in 2018 she won The City of Palmerston Citizen of the Year at our Australia Day Awards. In 2025 Serena was again recognised for her work with the Palmerston NAIDOC Committee Elders Lunch winning the Community Event of the Year. The Committee is made up of passionate volunteers from our community that organise a full week of activities to celebrate First Nations people and their culture.



**L-R City of Palmerston Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell and Grassroots Youth Engagement (GYE) CEO Serena Dalton**

## Meeting with Member for Blain

I have regular monthly meetings with Members for Blain and Drysdale to discuss the City of Palmerston. It is a great opportunity to come together and discuss the issues that affect their electorates and our residents and find solutions. Topics of discussion often vary often include illegal dumping of rubbish, roads, unmown verges and social issues.



**L-R Member for Blain Mr Matthew Kerle and City of Palmerston Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell**



## 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

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

## Attachments

Nil

## 8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### 8.1 Youth Round Table

THAT the presentation by Amanda Stevenson, Palmerston Regional Youth Programs Coordinator, Office of Youth Affairs and Amelia Phommachanh, Youth Round Table Member, Office of Youth Affairs on Youth Round Table be received and noted.

## 9 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

## 10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

### 10.1 Moving confidential items into open

### 10.2 Moving open items into confidential

### 10.3 Confidential items

THAT pursuant to Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential items:

Item	Confidential Category	Confidential Clause
25.1	External Presentation Request	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(e) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.
27.1.1	Council Committee Recommendations	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that

		would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
27.2.1	Contract and Tender Assessment and Award	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.
28.2.1	Correspondence	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

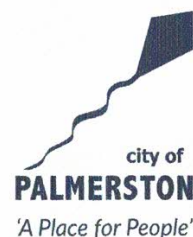
## 11 PETITIONS

## 12 NOTICES OF MOTION

### 12.1 Australian Flag Protocol - CoP Website and Emails

1. THAT the Notice of Motion received from Council Fraser entitled 12.1, Australian Flag Protocol - CoP Website and Emails be received and noted.
2. THAT the City of Palmerston's official email signatures, all display the Australian National Flag prominently.
3. THAT the City of Palmerston's official website, displays the Australian National Flag prominently.
4. THAT within the City of Palmerston's official website, is created, a 'Flags Definition Page', to provide background and context of all the official flags being displayed.
5. THAT the Chief Executive Officer conduct an audit of all City of Palmerston official digital platforms where it displays flags, and add the Australian National Flag, where it has been omitted.

# NOTICE OF MOTION



COUNCIL MEETING DATE	Tuesday, 19 August 2025
ELECTED MEMBER	Councillor Mark Fraser
SUBJECT	Australia Flag Protocol – CoP website and emails

## BACKGROUND

There is only one Australian National Flag.

The Australian National Flag is inclusive of all Australians, regardless of their heritage, to the exclusion of all others.

There is an Australian National Flag protocol, to guide in the respectful display and use of the Australian National Flag.

Currently City of Palmerston does not display the Australian National Flag prominently on the official website and email signatures.

## OBJECTIVE

To be more inclusive of all Australian residents, by displaying the Australian National Flag prominently, and as it is Australia's foremost national symbol, it should be placed to the left of any other flags which are displayed and to be at least of equal size, but not smaller or lower.

The motion does not seek to remove the Australian Aboriginal Flag and/or Torres Strait Islander Flag, as these were proclaimed flags of Australia under section 5 of the Flags Act 1953 on 14 July 1995.

There are captions explaining each flag, and by adding the Australian National Flag and its caption, the limited space would become very cluttered.

The captions may be better relocated to a dedicated 'Flags Definition Page', giving the 'Main Landing Page' a cleaner look with just the flags displayed, and hyperlinked to the 'Flags Definition Page' for those wanting to read more details, indeed there is a lot that many Australians don't know about the Australian National Flag.





## NOTICE OF MOTION

THAT the CoP's official email signatures, all display the Australian National Flag prominently;  
THAT the CoP's official website, displays the Australian National Flag prominently;  
THAT within the CoP's official website, is created, a 'Flags Definition Page', to provide background and context of all the official flags being displayed; and  
THAT the CEO conduct an audit of all CoP official digital platforms where it displays flags, and add the Australian National Flag, where it has been omitted.

## SIGNATURE

  
Signature

Cr Mark Fraser

Print Name

29/07/2025

Date

NOTE: NOTICES OF MOTION MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 5 CLEAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE MOTION IS TO BE MOVED.



## 13 OFFICER REPORTS



# COUNCIL REPORT

1st Ordinary Council Meeting

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	13.1.1
<b>Report Title:</b>	Tamil Society - Grant Application
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday 19 August 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 seeks Council endorsement for the community initiative proposed by the Tamil Society of Northern Territory for the Indian Food Festival 2025 through the Community Funding Program.

## Key messages

- Council supports initiatives that benefit the community through the Community Funding Program.
- The Tamil Society of Northern Territory has applied for \$14,000 inc. GST through the Community Funding Program to deliver an Indian Food Festival 2025.
- The Tamil Society of Northern Territory Society festival features a diverse selection of authentic Indian dishes from various regions and will feature vibrant cultural performances.
- The Festival was held on Saturday, 2 August 2024 and was designed to be a family-friendly event, offering activities such as henna art, face painting, and storytelling sessions about Indian folklore.
- \$143,794.45 remains in the Community Funding Program (CFP) grant budget for the 2025/26 financial year, including Environmental Initiatives.
- \$95,000 is committed to multiyear agreements for the 2025/26 financial year.

## Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Tamil Society - Grant Application be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse Option three (3) as outlined in the report entitled Tamil Society - Grant Application. That City of Palmerston does not support the application through the Community Funding Program as **Attachment 13.1.1.1**.

## Background

The Tamil Society of Northern Territory describes itself as a vibrant cultural organisation dedicated to preserving and promoting Tamil heritage, language, and traditions within the Northern Territory of Australia. Serving as a central hub for the Tamil-speaking community, organising various cultural, religious, and educational events throughout the year. These include traditional celebrations like Pongal, Tamil New Year, and Deepavali, as well as dance, music, and language programs that engage both younger and older generations. The society explains it plays an important role in fostering community unity and multiculturalism by collaborating with other local groups and supporting new migrants in settling into the region.

In July 2024, City of Palmerston funded a vibrant cultural event through the Community Funding Program (CFP), contributing \$2,000 to support the "Indian Musical Night" held at Goyder Square. The event took place on Saturday, 2 August 2024, from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM and was hosted by Bollywood Music Night. It featured an energetic lineup of live performances celebrating Indian music and culture, drawing a diverse audience from across the community. The Tamil Society described the evening as a showcase of the region's multicultural spirit and provided a lively, family-friendly atmosphere for attendees of all ages.

## Discussion

The Tamil Society of Northern Territory applied for \$14,000 inc. GST through the Community Funding Program to deliver an Indian Food Festival 2025. The full application can be seen as **Attachment 13.1.1.1**.

The organisers advised that the Indian Food Festival would proceed without the \$14,000 contribution through CoP's CFP. The event was held on Saturday 2 August 2025.

The Tamil Society described the Indian Food Festival as a vibrant, family-friendly celebration of Indian culture, cuisine, and community. The festival supports local artists and celebrates diversity, inclusion, and pride, making it a well-received event in the Northern Territory community.

The organisation secured funding from the Office of Multicultural Affairs to the value of \$9,000, and \$2,158 was used from the Tamil Society's funds,. The application was accompanied by three (3) quotations to the amount of \$17,608 for stage hire, promotion, toilet hire and security services.

The following table is the financial breakdown submitted by the Tamil Society. The total cost of the event is \$25,158.

Description	Amount
Venue Hire	\$60
Stage Hire – <i>Quote provided</i>	\$4999
Sound System	\$1000
Lighting	\$1000
Toilet Hire – <i>Quote provided</i>	\$1824
Promotion (Banners, Email, Flyers, Mail, Magazine, Media Release, Newspaper, Newsletter, Paid Print, Posters, Radio Station, Social Media, Television Station, Website) <i>Quote Provided</i>	\$8937
Administration / Free Voucher for Performers costs	\$1000
Security Services - <i>Quote provided</i>	\$1848
<b>Total event cost</b>	<b>\$25,158</b>
Value of quotes provided to CoP for this application	<b>\$17,608</b>
Funding sources	
Requested through CFP	\$14,000
Received - external grants	\$9,000
Organisers contribution	\$2,158

The Community Funding Program intends to provide initial financial support to help organisations launch or strengthen projects that have the potential to become self-sustaining over time. Offering ongoing funding with increased financial value does not empower groups to build capacity, develop sustainable practices, and establish funding or operational models that enable long-term success. This approach encourages innovation, resilience, and community ownership of initiatives that align with broader social and developmental goals.

### Option 1 (Not Recommended)

#### *Full funding*

That City of Palmerston offers a grant for the full amount requested, \$14,000 inc. GST, this option is not recommended. While the Indian Food Festival supports social cohesion through cultural engagement and inclusion, the organisers have successfully delivered the event at the time of this report, the decision to support would be retrospective and not in alignment with the intent of the funding program. A large proportion of the event funding is attributed to event promotion; an area Council has previously chosen not to support through CFP.

### Option 2 (Not Recommended)

#### *Partial funding*

That City of Palmerston offers a partial grant of \$2000 inc. GST to cover the cost of the event sound system and lighting support key aspects of the Indian Food Festival, including staging, pop-up tents, This option is not recommended as the organisers have successfully delivered the event at the time of this report.

## Option 3 (Recommended)

### *No funding*

That City of Palmerston does not provide funding at this time, as the event has occurred, at the time of this report. Retrospective funding presents a reputational risk to the Council and may set a precedent for future requests of a similar nature. The event received \$9,000 from the Office of Multicultural Affairs to support this event. The organisation will be encouraged to submit applications with a longer lead time for upcoming events and programs that require CPF funding.

Further details of the proposed project at **Attachment 13.1.1.1**.

## Consultation and marketing

- The applicant was consulted in relation to this report.
- City of Palmerston City Activation Manager was consulted in relation to this report.

## Policy implications

- Community Funding Program Policy.
- Community Funding Guidelines.

## Budget and resource implications

The Community Funding Program has the remaining funds for the 25/26 financial year; all figures below exclude GST.

- \$88,794 for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti and School Awards.
- \$35,000 for Sponsorship with \$95,000 committed to multiyear agreements.
- \$20,000 for Environmental Initiatives.

\$88,794 remains in the Community Grant Funding Program for the 2025/26 financial year. If this grant were to be fully funded at the requested amount of \$14,000 (\$12,727.27 excluding GST), a balance of \$76,066.73 would remain. \$44,522 is currently pending in applications.

Available funds for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti, and School Awards  
\$31,544.73 available.


## 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.

In accordance with the upcoming Northern Territory Local Government elections, City of Palmerston has entered a caretaker period effective 1 August 2025. During this time, the Council will refrain from making any significant decisions or commitments, as mandated by



the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2021 (NT). The funding decision outlined in this report is required in August 2025.

Please note that the Community Funding Program budget has been previously endorsed for the current Financial period, as it therefore poses no associated risks.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027](#)

This application addresses several areas in City of Palmerston's Community Plan, particularly:

- 1: Family and Community
- 3: Cultural Diversity and Inclusion
- 4: Future Focused

## 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. The Tamil Society of Northern Territory - Indian Food Festival 2025 [**13.1.1.1** - 1 page]

## The Tamil Society of Northern Territory - Indian Food Festival 2025

The festival will feature a diverse selection of authentic Indian dishes from various regions. Visitors can savour classic favourites such as butter chicken, biryani, dosas, samosas, and street food delights like pani puri and chaat. There will also be a variety of vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options, ensuring that everyone can indulge in the flavours of India. Beyond the incredible food, the festival will feature vibrant cultural performances, including Bollywood dance, Bharatanatyam, Bhangra, and live music. Expect high-energy entertainment with performers dressed in colourful traditional attire, creating a lively and immersive experience. The Tamil Society parai artists will perform the parai instrument. The audience will also be given an opportunity to practice parai. The Indian Food Festival is designed to be a family-friendly event, offering activities such as henna art, face painting, and storytelling sessions about Indian folklore. There will also be interactive workshops where attendees can engage with Indian traditions and crafts. The event will be an alcohol-free event.

Anyone visiting the festival will enjoy the delicious Indian cuisine available from different vendors. Anyone from the community who loves music and dance will have a great time as we will be offering a range of cultural performances. All the children attending the festival will have a great time as they will enjoy the children's activities such as face painting, henna art and storytelling sessions. The event will provide a platform for local restaurants, home chefs, and businesses to showcase their offerings. The local cafes and shops will also have great business as thousands of people will be in the area. The NTG government and Palmerston council will benefit by providing the community with a great community event with great food and cultural performances. The Tamil Society will have great moral satisfaction of conducting a great event, which is enjoyed by thousands of people.

The Event is a family friendly event. People from any culture can join the event and enjoy the great food and entertainment. Children will have many activities for them. People of diverse culture can come together in the event. We will use cutlery which are environmental friendly. The event will be monitored for all the safety measures and all the apt food handling and preparation and garbage removal.



# COUNCIL REPORT

1st Ordinary Council Meeting

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	13.1.2
<b>Report Title:</b>	Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin Inc (GCAD) – Grant Application
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday 19 August 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 seeks Council endorsement for the community initiative proposed by the Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin to deliver multiple cultural activities in Palmerston through the Community Funding Program.

## Key messages

- Council supports initiatives that benefit the community through the Community Funding Program.
- Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin has applied for \$13,000 inc. GST through the Community Funding Program to deliver multiple cultural activities in Palmerston.
- The application from the Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin provides an opportunity to support five (5) cultural events in Palmerston.
- All the association's events are drug and alcohol free to provide a family-friendly environment where the whole family can enjoy and relax.
- \$143,794.45 remains in the Community Funding Program (CFP) grant budget for the 2025/26 financial year, including Environmental Initiatives.
- \$95,000 is committed to multiyear agreements for the 2025/26 financial year.

## Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin Inc (GCAD) – Grant Application be received and noted.



2. THAT Council endorse Option two (2) partial funding as outlined in the report entitled Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin Inc (GCAD) – Grant Application for \$3,500 inc. GST, to support the Gujarati Cultural Association grant proposal at **Attachment 13.1.2.1**.

## Background

The Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin (GCAD) is a nonprofit organisation dedicated to promoting Indian culture and fostering community spirit in the Northern Territory, since its inception in 2017. GCAD describes itself as an organisation that takes the lead in organising various cultural and community events throughout the year. They present these events as family-friendly and alcohol- and drug-free, aiming to create a safe and inclusive environment for all attendees.

According to GCAD, their focus on inclusive and culturally rich programming is intended to foster a sense of belonging and unity within the Palmerston community. They position their events as platforms that bring together people from diverse backgrounds to celebrate shared traditions, promote mutual understanding, and support intercultural dialogue. GCAD also highlights the importance of showcasing Indian heritage while encouraging broader community engagement, to build lasting connections and strengthen social cohesion in a multicultural society.

## Discussion

Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin has applied for a community grant to support five (5) Palmerston-based events in 2025/26. \$13,000 inc. GST has been requested for the events below. The full application and proposal are seen in **Attachment 13.1.2.1**.

Upcoming Events for the 2025–2026 Financial Year include:

### *Sports Day – August 2025 -Marlow Lagoon Recreation Park*

Sports Day focuses on teamwork, integrity, respect, and honour. GCAD organises this event, especially for young kids and teenagers, introducing them to Indian native sports that many may not have experienced before.

### *Karaoke Night – November 2025 -Palmerston Recreation Centre*

Karaoke Night provides a platform for individuals of all age groups, particularly the youth, to highlight their talents. Since 2016, GCAD has organised this event, now equipped with its own sound and karaoke systems, upgraded to enhance the experience for both performers and attendees. The event organisers hope to attract 150 to 200 people for this event. The karaoke night held in July 2024 at Palmerston Recreation Centre attracted 125 attendees.

### *Cultural and Educational Movie – 2025–2026 -Palmerston CDU campus, Media Room*

This initiative aims to connect young individuals (under 14 years) with their cultural roots by screening movies based on Indian history, documentaries, or animations. The first movie, “Arjun the Warrior Prince,” was shown in 2024, receiving positive feedback. Future screenings are planned during school term breaks. In 2024, 70 children and 20 adults attended the movie night.



### *Navratri Festival – 26-27 September 2025 -Palmerston Recreation Centre*

Navratri is a Hindu festival celebrated over nine nights, honouring Goddess Durga. GCAD introduces this vibrant dance festival to Palmerston, featuring traditional Garba and Raas dances. The event has become one of GCAD's most successful multicultural celebrations, attracting 300 to 350 diverse participants.

Navratri is a festival that teaches many valuable lessons to the people for their life. Some of them are:

- Navratri inspires people to respect and honour women as manifestations of divine energy. It also encourages them to celebrate the diversity and beauty of women in society.
- Navratri motivates youth to overcome their fears and challenges with courage and faith. It also reminds them to be humble and grateful for their blessings.
- Navratri instils in youth the values of devotion, discipline, purity and self-control. It also helps them to develop their concentration, creativity and skills.
- Navratri educates people about the rich and vibrant culture and heritage of India. It also exposes them to various art forms, music styles and dance forms.

### *Yoga Day – June 2026 -Marlow Lagoon Recreation Area*

Yoga Day is an opportunity to connect the mind and body through physical, mental, and spiritual practices. Originating in India, yoga promotes unity and well-being. GCAD aims to bring this global practice to the Palmerston community, encouraging unity and health. A total of 170 Yoga lovers attended this year's Yoga Day at the Darwin Waterfront.

#### **Event Expenditure 2025-26**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Website design and maintenance	\$5060.00
Yoga Day	\$1,000.00
Sports Day	\$1,500.00
Karaoke Night	\$2,000.00
Cultural and Educational Movie	\$1,000.00
Navratri at Palmerston -decoration	\$4,000.00
Navratri at Palmerston -catering	\$6,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,560.00</b>

The organisation will contribute \$7,750 to the overall budget of \$20,560, requiring a \$12,810 contribution from external sources. Notably, a substantial amount \$5,060.00 has been allocated for website design and maintenance, with an additional \$6,000 for event catering.

No catering quotations have been submitted as all catering will be cooked by members and food purchased from local supermarkets to reduce costs. The applicant has provided a breakdown of the cost per head for each event.

Event	Approximate no. of attendees	Food cost / person	Approximate catering cost
Movie	100	\$5 to \$10 / Person	\$ 500 to \$ 1000
Karaoke night	150 to 200	\$5 to \$10 / Person	\$1000 to \$1500
Sports Day	150 to 200	\$5 to \$10 / Person	\$1000 to \$1500
Yoga Day	150 to 200	\$10 to \$12 / Person	\$2000
Navratri at Palmerston	300 to 350	\$5 to \$10 / Person	\$3500

## Option 1 (Not Recommended)

### Full funding

City of Palmerston offers a grant for the full amount requested, \$13,000 inc. GST. This option is *not recommended*. While the City of Palmerston acknowledges the contributions of the Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin (GCAD) in fostering cultural diversity and community engagement, it is essential to consider the financial sustainability and equitable distribution of public funds. CoP will not provide funding towards website design, maintenance, and event decoration. The cost of \$6000 for catering is variable, and quotes have not been supplied for this expenditure.

## Option 2 (Recommended)

### Partial funding

City of Palmerston offers a partial grant of \$3,500 inc. GST to support the program of events. These activities have proved popular with the community in previous years or locations and promote diversity and inclusion in Palmerston. This recommendation aligns with the objectives of the Community Funding Program, which aims to support a diverse range of community initiatives while ensuring equitable distribution of resources.

Further details of the proposed project at **Attachment 13.1.2.1**.

## Consultation and marketing

The applicant was consulted in relation to this report.


## Policy implications

- Community Funding Program Policy.
- Community **Funding Guidelines**.

## Budget and resource implications

The Community Funding Program has the remaining funds for the 25/26 financial year, all Exc. GST.

- \$88,794 for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti and School Awards.
- \$35,000 for Sponsorship with \$95,000 committed to multiyear agreements.
- \$20,000 for Environmental Initiatives.



\$88,794 remains in the Community Grant Funding Program for the 2025/26 financial year. If this grant were to be fully funded at the requested amount of \$13,000 (\$11,818.18 excluding GST), a balance of \$76,975.82 would remain. \$43,522 is currently pending in applications.

Available funds for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti, and School Awards  
\$32,544.73 available.

## 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.

In accordance with the upcoming Northern Territory Local Government elections, City of Palmerston has entered a caretaker period effective 1 August 2025. During this time, the Council will refrain from making any significant decisions or commitments, as mandated by the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2021 (NT). The funding decision outlined in this report is required in August 2025.

Please note that the Community Funding Program budget has been previously endorsed for the current Financial period, as it therefore poses no associated risks.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027](#)

This application addresses several areas in City of Palmerston's Community Plan, particularly:

- 1: Family and Community
- 3: Cultural Diversity and Inclusion
- 4: Future Focused

## 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. GCAD Events 2025-2026 [13.1.2.1 - 2 pages]



## **GUJARATI CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF DARWIN Inc.**

Gujarati Cultural Association of Darwin (GCAD) is a nonprofit organization serving the Northern Territory since 2017. We organize Indian festivals and other community events throughout the year. Some of these events and festivals organized by GCAD are free for active members, and some are planned with minimal contribution by the members.

We have planned to organize the following events and activities during the financial year 2025-2026. Out of these events, some are free for the active members, and some events are planned with minimal contribution by the members. Some of our major events are being organized in the Palmerston region and some of them are in the Darwin Region. The list of events planned in Palmerston region is as follows,

- **Yoga Day (June 2026):** Yoga is an ancient art that connects the mind and body and way to attain physical, mental, and spiritual practice. It is an exercise that we perform by balancing the elements of our bodies. In addition, it helps us meditate and relax. Primarily originating in India, the word 'yoga' is derived from Sanskrit, meaning to unite. This means GCAD is organizing Yoga Day for unity in society as many people around the world are practicing Yoga as their daily routine.  
Yoga Day-2025 is organized at Darwin Waterfront on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2025 from 8:00 am to 9:30am. We are planning to bring Yoga Day 2026 at Marlow Lagoon Recreational Area.
- **Sports Day (August 2025 at Marlow Lagoon Recreation Park):** Sports are the best tools to learn about Teamwork, Integrity, Respect, and Honor. GCAD organizes this event, especially for young kids and teenagers. It is very engaging as we arrange Indian native sports. Many young kids and teenagers in Australia never had a chance to explore and enjoy these Indian native sports.
- **Karaoke Night (November 2025 at Palmerston):** This is another successful event organized by GCAD. With this event, GCAD provides a stage for all age group people, especially for the youth. Many of our youth's talents also emerge due to the stage provided by GCAD. Karaoke night has been organized by GCAD since 2016 and as a requirement, GCAD now has its own sound system and karaoke system. GCAD also upgraded the sound mixer last year so people can enjoy singing and other people also can enjoy the event.
- **Cultural and Educational Movie (2025 - 2026 at Palmerston):** This is our new start-up and our effort for young people (less than 14 years of age) to stay connected with their roots. With this event, GCAD shows movies based on Indian history, a documentary, or an animation to the young kids to make them aware of rich Indian culture and history. The first movie that was arranged, in 2024, was "Arjun the Warrior Prince" and we received a very good response. The movie will be arranged during the school term break.
- **Navratri 2024 (26 and 27 September 2025 at Palmerston Recreation Center):** Navratri is a Hindu festival that spans over nine nights and is celebrated with great enthusiasm across India. It is also popularly known as a dance festival and officially declared as the world's longest dance festival. This is our try to introduce this festival of Dance in Palmerston. It is one of our most successful events for very diverse participants and audiences. We have attached a brief introduction to this festival for your reference.

GCAD also planned to organize Navratri at Parliament House on 24th October 2025, as requested by government officials.



### **GUJARATI CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF DARWIN Inc.**

Many other events are also planned but could not be possible during 2025 since those are outdoor event activities and GCAD decided to organize them during May or June 2026.

GCAD is also seeking support to upgrade our website. The existing website is outdated and not working. It is very difficult for us to reach out to the people without online support.

The diverse community of Palmerston will have a great family time and enjoyment. The young Indian kids can be aware of the Indian culture and stay connected with their roots. It also opens doors for the other people of Australia to share and know the rich culture of India and vice-versa. All GCAD organized festivals and events are the best way to relax and enjoy family life without alcohol. "Strictly Family Friendly Events" These events are the major events and the whole community (registered members and non-registered members) are joining in these events. GCAD organize all their events Drugs and Alcohol free to provide Family Friendly environment where the whole family can enjoy and relax.

In addition, GCAD also participating in other multicultural events organized by the City of Palmerston. The community and kids are really enjoying the well managed events by the City of Palmerston.

To organize these main events and many other creative activities, GCAD request the City of Palmerston for funding of \$

Regards,  
Hiranch Patel  
President of GCAD  
0410654720

# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	13.1.3
Report Title:	Soldier On - Aqua Fitness - Grant Application
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 19 August 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 seeks Council endorsement for the community initiative proposed by Soldier On to deliver Aqua Fitness to Thrive through the Community Funding Program.

## Key messages

- Council supports initiatives that benefit the community through the Community Funding Program.
- Soldier On have applied for \$24,552 inc. GST through the Community Funding Program to deliver a year-long Aqua Fit program in Palmerston.
- The proposed program includes weekly low-impact aqua aerobics classes for up to 30 local Defence members and their families, focused on improving physical health, social connection, and mental wellbeing.
- Sessions will be held at SWELL Palmerston and facilitated by Emerse, with optional post-class coffee catchups to strengthen peer support networks and reduce isolation.
- \$143,794.45 remains in the Community Funding Program (CFP) grant budget for the 2025/26 financial year, including Environmental Initiatives

## Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Soldier On - Aqua Fitness - Grant Application be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse Option two (2) as outlined in the report entitled Soldier On - Aqua Fitness - Grant Application. That City of Palmerston partially support the application through the Community Funding Program as **Attachment 13.1.3.1**.

## Background

Soldier On is a not-for-profit organisation supporting current and former Australian Defence Force personnel and their families. The organisation provides a range of integrated services focused on mental health, employment support, education, and social connection. Soldier On works to enable veterans and their loved ones to thrive through tailored, trauma-informed support that acknowledges the unique challenges of military service.

The defence community in Palmerston is centred around Robertson Barracks, home to the Australian Army's 1st Brigade and 1st Aviation Regiment, along with supporting units like Engineers, Signals, Infantry and Medical Corps.

Soldier On describes its presence in Palmerston as a way to support local veterans and their families. It delivers tailored programs in mental health, employment, education and social connection that meet the needs of this community. By offering trauma-informed support, career transition assistance and peer connection, the organisation ensures Defence families and veterans in Palmerston receive the holistic help they need to adapt, recover and thrive.

## Discussion

Soldier On have submitted a CFP grant application to the value of \$24,552 to facilitate a program, Aqua Fitness to Thrive at the Palmerston Swell complex. See **Attachment 13.1.3.1**.

Soldier On states that this activity provides a targeted response to the unique needs of Palmerston's veteran community by offering accessible, low-impact aqua aerobics classes paired with structured social engagement.

Soldier On outline the program also:

- Addresses the social wellbeing of veterans and their families,
- Provides an informal, welcoming space to build relationships, reduce isolation, and strengthen peer support networks,
- Creates shared opportunities for healthy activity and connection; and
- The initiative aligns with best practice principles for veteran engagement by integrating physical rehabilitation with social support in a trauma-informed, community-based setting.

The proposed activity aligns with Outcome 1 – Family and Community of the Palmerston Community Plan. It supports Objective 1.1 by encouraging family participation in a safe, inclusive fitness program designed for veterans and their families, including older youth. It also contributes to Objective 1.2 by promoting community wellbeing through regular low-impact exercise and social connection.

While the program addresses general veteran health and wellbeing concerns, the application does not sufficiently demonstrate a distinct or urgent unmet need within the

Palmerston veteran community that justifies this specific intervention. No local data or evidence of demand for aqua fitness activities from veterans or their families is provided.

The proposal does not outline how the program will continue beyond the grant period. There is little indication of a long-term strategy, funding diversification, or plans to build self-sufficiency through community partnerships, volunteer involvement, or sliding-scale fees. Although the intended benefits are well described, the proposal lacks clarity on how success will be measured. There is no robust evaluation framework or defined KPIs to assess the program’s impact on physical and social wellbeing outcomes for participants.

The proposed budget of \$24,552 for a relatively small-scale activity may not represent the best use of limited community funding. Without clear breakdowns of cost per participant and projected engagement levels, it is difficult to assess the program’s value for money.

The cost per person over the 52-week period is **\$818.40**, which represents a significant investment for a relatively small group of 30 individuals. This raises questions about the broader reach and cost-effectiveness of the program, particularly when considering limited funding and competing priorities.

The requested amount of **\$24,552** represents **24.55%** of the total **2025–26 financial year budget of \$100,000 allocated for CFP grants**. This is a significant allocation for a single request, which may impact the availability of funds for other initiatives or applicants throughout the financial year.

The Community Funding Program is designed to offer early stage financial assistance to help organisations initiate or enhance projects with the goal of long term self-sufficiency. Instead of covering the full cost of a program, the recommended funding approach encourages organisations to build their own capacity, develop sustainable practices, and establish independent funding or operational models. This supports innovation, strengthens resilience, and fosters community ownership of initiatives that align with broader social and developmental objectives.

All required supporting documentation and quotations have been submitted and duly reviewed as part of the assessment process.

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Emerse Instructor fee	\$14,352
Social Event – monthly	\$7,200
Marketing	\$1,000
Resources	\$2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,552</b>



SOLDIER ON CONTRIBUTION	AMOUNT
Program Planning	\$3,643
Reporting and Evaluation	\$910
Administration	\$2,192
Insurance	\$300
IT	\$300
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,345</b>

### Option 1 (Not Recommended)

#### *Full funding*

City of Palmerston offers a grant for the full amount requested, \$24,552 inc. GST. This option is not recommended as the program aims to reach a small cohort of attendees and is not open to wider community registration. While the proposed aqua fit program provides clear physical and social benefits for local veterans and their families, the scale of the funding request is not considered proportionate given the activity scope and available alternative delivery options.

### Option 2 (Recommended)

#### *Partial funding*

City of Palmerston offers a partial grant of \$3,000 inc. GST to support key aspects of the Soldier On Aqua Fit program. This option is recommended as it supports the program's core objectives of improving veteran health by providing the resources required for strengthening community connections and reducing social isolation. It is acknowledged that the program may not run for all 52 weeks of the year due to seasonal weather conditions and pool availability. The grant ensures public funds are directed toward delivering elements that offer measurable benefits to local veterans and their families.

Further details of the proposed project at **Attachment 13.1.3.1.**

## Consultation and marketing

- The applicant was consulted in relation to this report.

## Policy implications

- Community Funding Program Policy.
- Community Funding Guidelines.

## Budget and resource implications

The Community Funding Program has the remaining funds for the 25/26 financial year, all Exc. GST.

- \$88,794 for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti and School Awards.
- \$35,000 for Sponsorship with \$95,000 committed to multiyear agreements.
- \$20,000 for Environmental Initiatives.

There is currently \$88,794 remaining in the Community Grant Funding Program for the 2025/26 financial year. If this grant were to be fully funded at the requested amount of \$24,522, a balance of \$64,272 would remain. Of this, \$34,000 is already pending in other applications, potentially leaving \$30,272 available.

Alternatively, if the grant were funded at a reduced amount of \$3,000, the remaining balance would be \$85,794, with \$51,794 available after accounting for pending applications.

## 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.

In accordance with the upcoming Northern Territory Local Government elections, City of Palmerston has entered a caretaker period effective 1 August 2025. During this time, the Council will refrain from making any significant decisions or commitments, as mandated by the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2021 (NT). The funding decision outlined in this report is required in August 2025.

Please note that the Community Funding Program budget has been previously endorsed for the current financial period, as it therefore poses no associated risks.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027](#)

This application addresses several areas in City of Palmerston's Community Plan, particularly:

- 1: Family and Community
- 3: Cultural Diversity and Inclusion
- 4: Future Focused

## 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.

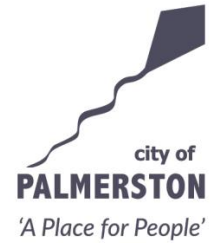


## Attachments

1. CFP - Solider On - application [**13.1.3.1** - 4 pages]

# COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

## APPLICATION FORM



Applicant name:			
ABN: (if applicable)			
Contact name:			
Telephone:		Mobile:	
Email:			
Address:			

### FUNDING TYPE SOUGHT:

- ☐ Representation Support, Individual
- ☐ Representation Support, Team
- ☐ Sponsorship
- ☐ Community Grant <\$2,000
- ☐ Community Grant <\$10,000
- ☐ Community Grant >\$10,000
- ☐ Environmental Initiative

### ACTIVITY DETAILS:

Activity name:			
Activity location:			
Activity start date:		Activity end date:	
Amount requested:	<b>\$24,552.00</b>		

### Provide an overview of what the activity entails:

Our activity will deliver a low-impact, physical fitness weekly aqua aerobics classes at SWELL Palmerston for up to 20 local veterans and their families weekly. Facilitated by Emerse, each class supports physical wellbeing and provides a safe, welcoming space for community fitness and connection. Classes are inclusive, targeting men, women, and families who may not feel comfortable in mainstream exercise classes. We would also like to provide a socially connected post activity coffee-catch up to strengthen community bonds, build social support networks, and reduce isolation among participants. Our activity will run for a year.

### Provide an overview of what benefits the activity will provide the Palmerston community:

Our activity improves the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of local Palmerston veterans their families. Water-based exercise is a clinically supported, low-impact option suitable for all ages and abilities. It can be particularly beneficial for those managing injuries, chronic pain, arthritis, post-surgical rehabilitation, and mental health conditions such as PTSD and anxiety. The buoyancy of water reduces stress on joints, alleviates muscle tightness and pain, and enables participants to move without fear of falling or aggravating symptoms (Goetz, 2025). Group-based aqua fitness fosters social connection, builds a sense of belonging, and promotes routine engagement in community life. This is important for veterans who experience social isolation or barriers to accessing traditional fitness settings. Research shows that social inclusion through group-based exercise directly contributes to improved mental wellbeing and community participation (Goetz, 2025).

### ALIGNMENT WITH COMMUNITY PLAN:

- ☐ Outcome 1, Family and Community.
- ☐ Outcome 2, Vibrant Economy.
- ☐ Outcome 3, Cultural Diversity.
- ☐ Outcome 4, Future Focused.
- ☐ Outcome 5, Environmental Sustainability.
- ☐ Outcome 6, Governance.

### The proposed activity/event/item aligns with the Community Plan by:

**Our activity aligns with Outcome 1- Family and Community of the Palmerston Community Plan. It supports Objective 1.1 by encouraging family participation in a health-promoting activity open to veterans and their family members, including older teens. It also aligns with Objective 1.2 by enhancing community wellbeing through regular exercise and social connection, both of which contribute to improved mental health and resilience in the Palmerston veteran community.**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

City of Palmerston's support will be publicly acknowledged in the following ways:

- ☐ Social media post.
- ☐ Website.
- ☐ Newsletter.
- ☐ Promotional material.
- ☐ Other. Provide details:

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**DECLARATION:**

1. I agree to supply City of Palmerston with photos from the activity, with permission to reproduce.
2. I confirm that I / my organisation, have not received any other funding through the CFP this financial year.
3. I hereby acknowledge that the information provided is true and correct at the time of signing.

Signed:		Date:	
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**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:**

Please attach the following documentation to support your application, based on the type of funding sought:

**Representation Support, Individual:**

- ☐ Proof of selection for representation, either from the club or event organiser.
- ☐ Proof of residential address.
- ☐ Details of the competition or event.
- ☐ Outline of expenses associated with representation, e.g. travel costs.

**Representation Support, Team:**

- ☐ Proof of selection for representation, preferably from the event organiser.
- ☐ Proof of team/club base address.
- ☐ Details of the competition or event.
- ☐ Outline of expenses associated with representation including quotes.
- ☐ List of team members noting which are Palmerston based.

**Sponsorship:**

- ☐ A copy of your sponsorship proposal.
- ☐ Proof of registration as a Community, Not-for-profit, or Incorporated body.
- ☐ Proof of appropriate insurance, i.e. certificate of currency.

**Community Grant <\$2,000:**

- ☐ Proof of registration as a Community, Not-for-profit, or Incorporated body.
- ☐ Proof of appropriate insurance, i.e. certificate of currency.
- ☐ Minuted details of your organisation's resolution to request funding.
- ☐ Activity budget, including quotes and details of any in-kind support and/or alternate funding sources.

**Community Grant <\$10,000:**

- ☐ Proof of registration as a Community, Not-for-profit, or Incorporated body.
- ☐ Proof of appropriate insurance, i.e. certificate of currency.
- ☐ Minuted details of your organisation's resolution to request funding.
- ☐ Activity budget, including quotes and details of any in-kind support and/or alternate funding sources.

**Community Grant >\$10,000:**

- ☐ Proof of registration as a Community, Not-for-profit, or Incorporated body.
- ☐ Proof of appropriate insurance, i.e. certificate of currency.
- ☐ Minuted details of your organisation's resolution to request funding.
- ☐ Activity budget, including quotes and details of any in-kind support and/or alternate funding sources.
- ☐ A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statements.

**Environmental Initiative:**

- ☐ Proof of registration as a Community, Not-for-profit, or Incorporated body.
- ☐ Proof of appropriate insurance, i.e. certificate of currency.
- ☐ Minuted details of your organisation's resolution to request funding.
- ☐ Activity budget, including quotes and details of any in-kind support.
- ☐ Proof of alternate funding sources to a minimum of 50% of the total activity costs.

**Auspice Information:**

If applying in partnership with an auspice organisation, applications must include a letter or written agreement from the auspice organisation stating that they accept legal and financial accountability for the grant.



# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	13.1.4
Report Title:	Risk Management & Audit Committee Open Minutes 29 July 2025
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 19 August 2025
Author:	Executive Assistant to General Manager Finance and Governance, Alexandra Malady
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta

## Community plan

Governance: Council is trusted by the community and invests in things that the public value.

## Purpose

This Report seeks Council endorsement of the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting minutes, for the meeting held on Tuesday, 29 July 2025.

## Key messages

- The Risk Management and Audit Committee met on Tuesday, 29 July 2025.
- The Risk Management and Audit Committee agenda and unconfirmed minutes from this meeting are available for viewing on the Council website.
- The Risk Management and Audit Committee reviewed one Action report and nil Receive and Note reports.
- The Risk Management and Audit Committee made one (1) recommendation to the Council.
- Council approval is sought to endorse the recommendations from the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting.

## Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Risk Management & Audit Committee Open Minutes 29 July 2025 be received and noted.
2. THAT the unconfirmed Risk Management and Audit Committee minutes provided at **Attachment 13.1.4.1** to Report entitled Risk Management & Audit Committee Open Minutes 29 July 2025 be received and noted.

3. THAT Council adopts the recommendations from the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting held Tuesday 29 July 2025, in relation to below item being removed from the Action Report at **Attachment 10.1.1.1**.
- a. New Council Policy – Risk Management.

## Background

The Risk Management and Audit Committee (the committee) is responsible for overseeing the responsibilities of corporate governance, particularly maintaining adequate internal controls over the revenue, expenditure, and assets of the Council.

As per the Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019 (the act) and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations, the Committee make recommendations to the council about any matters as a result of the committee's functions to monitor and review the integrity of the Council's financial management and review internal controls.

As per the Terms of Reference of the Committee, the committee is advisory by nature and can only recommend matters, falling within its function and role, to the Council.

## Discussion

The Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, 29 July 2025, with the unconfirmed minutes provided as **Attachment 13.1.4.1**.

The Agenda of the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting can be located on the Council [website](#).

At the meeting, one Action report was discussed. This report was in relation to the RMAC Action Report. The Risk Management and Audit Committee recommended to Council to adopt an item being updated in the RMAC Action Report.

## Consultation and marketing

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

- Risk Management and Audit Committee Members.

## 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

As per section 101(4) of the Local Government Act 2019 the minutes of an audit committee, a council committee or a local authority must be tabled at the next meeting of the council.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

**6. Governance**

Failure to effectively govern.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

There are no strategy, framework or plan 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. 20250729 - UNCONFRIMED Risk Management and Audit Committee minutes - 29 July 2025 [13.1.4.1 - 8 pages]



# MINUTES

## RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 29 JULY 2025

The 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 City of Palmerston's website [palmerston.nt.gov.au](http://palmerston.nt.gov.au)

UNCONFIRMED



Minutes of Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting  
held in Council Chambers  
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston  
on Tuesday 29 July 2025 at 5:00pm.

**PRESENT**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Clare Milikins, Independent Member (Chair)  
Craig Kirby, Independent Member (*Via Audio/ Audiovisual*)  
David Ray, Independent Member (*Via Audio/ Audiovisual*)  
Deputy Mayor Damian Hale (*Proxy*)  
Councillor Sarah Henderson

**STAFF**

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon  
Acting General Manager Finance and Governance, Penny Hart  
General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl  
Acting General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight  
Acting Executive Manager Financial Performance, Jeffrey Guilas  
Minute Secretary, Alexandra Malady

**GALLERY**

Nil members of the public

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

## 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 5:01 pm.

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 3.1 Apologies

Moved: Councillor Henderson  
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hale

1. THAT the apology received from Mayor Pascoe-Bell for Tuesday 29 July 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/218 – 29/07/2025

### 3.2 Leave of absence previously granted

Nil

## 4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING PREVIOUSLY GRANTED

*THAT it be noted the following Elected Members have been granted attendance via Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing for this meeting in accordance with the policy:*

*Independent Member Kirby.  
Independent Member Ray.*

## 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

### 5.1 Committee members

Nil

### 5.2 Staff

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

Nil

## 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 6.1 Confirmation of minutes

Moved: Councillor Henderson  
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hale

THAT the Minutes of the Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting held on 27 May 2025 pages 317 to 323 be confirmed.

CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/219 – 29/07/2025

### 6.2 Business arising from previous meeting

Nil

## 7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

## 8 VERBAL UPDATE

### 8.1 Mayoral Update

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hale  
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT the verbal report provided by Deputy Mayor Damian Hale regarding Mayoral Update be received and noted.

CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/220 – 29/07/2025

### 8.2 Chief Executive Officer Update

Moved: Craig Kirby  
Seconded: David Ray

THAT the verbal report provided by Acting Chief Executive Officer Nadine Nilon regarding Chief Executive Officer Update be received and noted.

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



CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/221 – 29/07/2025

## 9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

### 9.1 Moving confidential items into open

Nil

### 9.2 Moving open items into confidential

Nil

### 9.3 Confidential items

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hale  
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT pursuant to Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential items:

Item	Confidential Category	Confidential Clause
19.1.1	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.1.2	Council Project Initiative	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice

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

		the interests of the council or some other person.
19.1.3	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.
19.2.1	Council Project Initiative	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.
19.2.2	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.2.3	Council Project Initiative	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if

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

		publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
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CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/222 – 29/07/2025

## 10 OFFICER REPORTS

### 10.1 Action reports

#### 10.1.1 Action Report

Moved: Councillor Henderson

Seconded: Craig Kirby

1. THAT Report entitled Action Report be received and noted.
2. THAT the Risk Management and Audit Committee recommend to Council that the following item can be removed from the Action Report at **Attachment 10.1.1.1**.
  - a. New Council Policy – Risk Management.

CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/223 – 29/07/2025

### 10.2 Receive and note reports

Nil

## 11 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### 11.1 Information

Nil

### 11.2 Correspondence

Nil

## 12 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

## 13 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hale

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

**Seconded:** Councillor Henderson

THAT the next Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting be held on Tuesday, 23 October 2025 at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

**CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/224 - 29/07/2025**

## 14 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

**Moved:** Clare Milikins

**Seconded:** David Ray

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.

**CARRIED (5/0) - RMA10/225 - 29/07/2025**

The open section of the meeting closed at 5:17 pm for the discussion of confidential matters.

The closed section of the meeting reopened at 6:12 pm.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6:12 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	13.2.1
Report Title:	Infrastructure Quarterly Report - April to June 2025
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 19 August 2025
Author:	Executive Assistant to General Manager Infrastructure, Monica Silva
Approver:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon

## Community plan

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

## Purpose

This Report summarises the key activities undertaken by Infrastructure in the April to June 2025 quarter, along with an overview of the 2024/25 financial year.

## Key messages

- Public lighting upgrades are complete in Stockwhip Drive, Marlow Lagoon.
- Work has recommenced at the Archer Waste Management Transfer Station Recycle Centre Upgrade after weather delays.
- Zuccoli Stage 2 pump track design is complete with the tender advertised and closing mid-August.
- Energy audits of key Council buildings were completed this quarter. In total seven (7) key Council facilities were audited in the 2024/25 financial year, with the aim of determining measures to reduce electricity consumption and resultant greenhouse gas emissions.
- Council spent approximately \$187,359 on maintaining and repairing play space infrastructure this financial year, with approximately \$58,000 specifically for vandalism related repairs.
- 42 residential lots in The Heights (Stage 11) were released this quarter, bringing the total number of new residential lots released in Palmerston for the year to 130.

## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Infrastructure Quarterly Report - April to June 2025 be received and noted.

## Background

Infrastructure provides a quarterly report to Council on key activities undertaken during the quarter and further works underway for the next quarter, aligned to the outcomes and objectives of the Community Plan and Municipal Plan.

## Discussion

### 1. Family and Community

*Objective 1.2: 'The wellbeing of our community is a focus for all our work'.*

#### Play Space Strategy

Council's Play Space Strategy advocates the need for Council to upgrade and maintain our play spaces at a level required to proactively respond to community needs and expectations.

The following minor maintenance works were undertaken over the April to June quarter 2025:

- Replacement of parts for exercise equipment at Michael Ting Park.
- Replacement of swing seats at Gordon Stott Park.
- Replacement of handles grips for exercise equipment at Joan Fejo Park.
- Repair of vandalised swing at sister Frederick Managan Park.
- Replacement of the Marlow Park Dog Park gate, after vehicle damage.
- Repair of damaged climbing equipment at Prism Park.

In total, the following expenditure occurred for the maintenance and repair of Palmerston's play spaces over the 2024/25 financial year:

- \$56,529 for playground maintenance and repairs.
- \$72,820 for other park structure (other than playgrounds) general maintenance and repairs.
- \$57,910 for replacing or repairing vandalised park infrastructure.

Council also completed several playground capital works programs over the course of 2024/25, equating to approximately \$1,050,000 in expenditure. This included upgrades to the Sanctuary Lakes Playground, and the Marlow's Lagoon Junior Playground to replace infrastructure at end of useful life and improve diversity of play options.

#### Play Space Accessibility

The Play Space Strategy also highlighted the importance of making Council's play spaces more accessible by enhancing the availability of information about playgrounds and recreational areas in Palmerston. In response, directional signage has been installed this

quarter at Marlow Lagoon. This signage offers clear, easy-to-understand details about the park's layout and available facilities.



Marlow Lagoon Directional Signage

#### Hobart Park All-Access Public Toilet

A tender has been awarded for the procurement and installation of a new toilet at Hobart Park which is funded through a grant from the Australian Government. Off-site manufacture has commenced, with site work planned for October 2025. Procurement documentation for the supply and install of a shade structure and park furniture is being prepared.

The Municipal Plan 2024/25 identified that this project would be completed by June 2025. Delays were experienced during the process to execute the grant. An extension to the grant has been approved until October 2025.

#### Development Application Responses

This quarter Council provided comments on eight (8) development applications, bringing the total number of applications Council has commented on over the past twelve-months to 48.



## Proposed rezoning of The Heights, Durack

An application to rezone the undeveloped area of The Heights from Specific Use Zone (SP8) to another specific use zone was received in May 2025. The proposed rezoning provides the framework for a multi-staged residential subdivision of approximately 383 low to low-medium density residential lots and open space areas.



Council raised several concerns about the application, the main one being a proposed road connection into established areas of Durack via Carpentaria Court. The submission was supported by representations made by officers at a public hearing held on 16 June 2025 by the NT Planning Commission. Feedback received at the hearing is currently being collated into a report being prepared by the NT Planning Commission, which will ultimately be provided to the Minister. The Minister will use the report to inform the decision as to whether approve the amendment as proposed, approve the amendment in some other way, or refuse the amendment.

Over the course of the last 12 months Council has commented on one other planning scheme amendment (1 Ridge Street, Palmerston) and made comment on several NTG planning initiatives including the proposed Strategic Planning Policy and the draft Species Guide for Landscaping in the Northern Territory.

## 4. A Future Focus

### Objective 4.1: 'We support and foster innovation'

#### Fibersense

Fibersense uses underground fiber optic cables and technology to detect vibrations from machinery, vehicles, pedestrians and more. The vibrations are converted into data that City

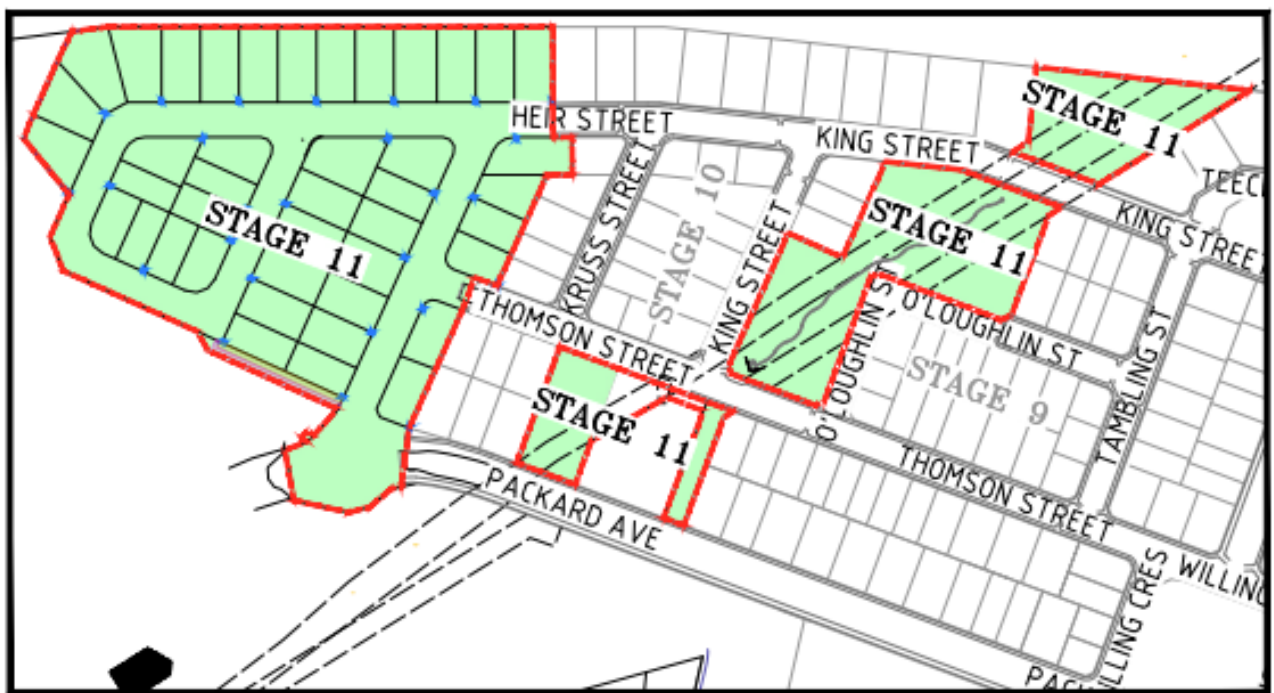
of Palmerston (CoP) will be able to use for planning and improvements to the city. A total of 60km of fiber optic cable has been laid throughout Palmerston Central Business District (CBD) and Tiger Brennan Drive.

The installation is complete, and the Digital Asset system is live, with alerts of disruption (i.e. digging) near the fibre being received. The first version (1.0) of the Digital City system has been developed.

Fibersense have been working with their consultant to undertaking data verification trials and system design to ensure data is accessible and beneficial to Council.

#### Subdivisions

Stage 11 of The Heights reached practical completion this quarter, bringing 42 new low to low-medium density residential lots to market, along with three (3) new parcels of public open space.



Civil works for the next stage of Zuccoli Aspire (Stage 4B) continue, and it is expected that this stage will reach practical completion later this year.

During the course of the last 12 months two (2) other stages in Zuccoli (Phase 2K, Phase 3.8) reached practical completion, bringing the total number of new residential lots in Palmerston (when combined with The Heights) to 130. One (1) industrial development in Wishart (Cloud Street) consisting two (2) industrial lots also reached practical completion.

*Objective 4.2: 'Infrastructure is fit for purpose'.*

#### Potholes

There were a total of 105 potholes identified during the financial year with 102 potholes repaired.

## Road Renewal

Road re-seal works for the 2024/25 program was completed in May, with 4.5km of road completed for the year. Recently completed works include sections of Granites Road, Forrest Parade and Lambrick Avenue. Work has commenced on a new road reseal period tender was advertised in August.

## Black Spot Program

Progress has been made on each of the four (4) Black Spot projects that Council has secured funding for:

- Buscall Avenue, Gunn – Works were completed in June.
- Packard Avenue / Haultain Crescent intersection, Durack – Works were completed in June.
- Bonson Terrace, Moulden - Work commenced in June and was completed in July.
- Yarrawonga Rd / Toupein Rd intersection, Yarrawonga – Design is complete, commencement of construction is pending, with completion expected in August.

## Signage

Overall, there were a total of 55 road signs identified for replacement or repair during the financial year with all completed.

## Pathways

Overall, there were a total of 86 pathways identified during the financial year with 80 repaired.

## Pathway Replacement and Renewal

The Footpath Connectivity Program aims to enhance connections between key services, assets, and public open spaces. The program identifies and prioritises areas for upgrades and new pathways, with an annual review to ensure alignment with current priorities and budget availability.

New paths were completed last quarter in:

- Flockhart Drive, Marlow Lagoon – from #35 to Stockwhip Drive.
- Darla Place, Rosebery – from Odegaard Drive to the Rosebery shops.
- Duwun Road, Rosebery – path extension from #34 to Larrakia Road.

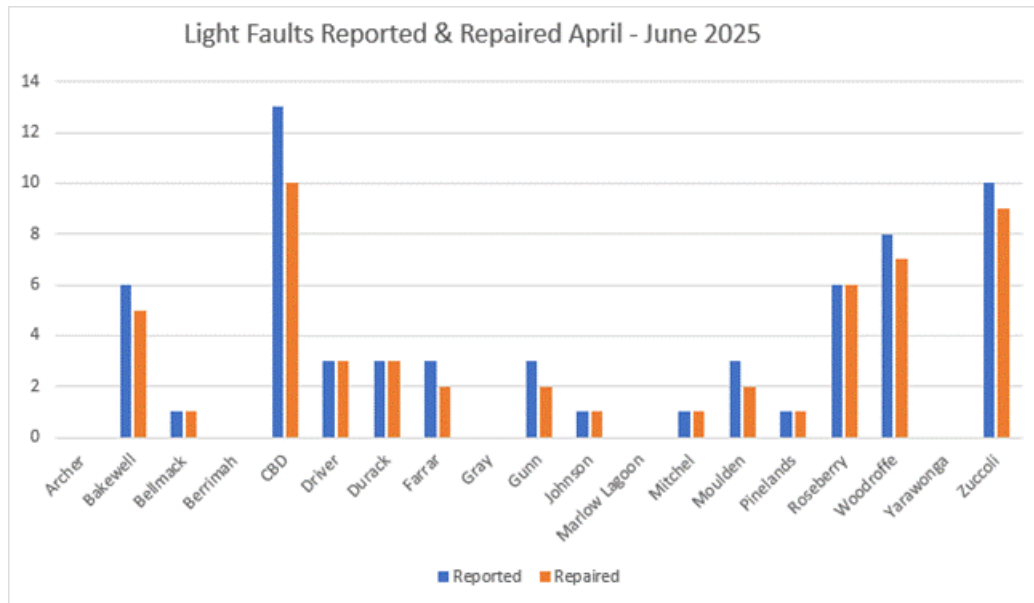
These were in addition to the previously completed pathways in 2024/25:

- Sister Frederick Mangan Park, Bellamack.
- Marlow Lagoon Park, Marlow Lagoon.
- Bryden Street, Rosebery.
- Haydon Street, Rosebery.
- Allcorn Street, Farrar.

## Light Fault Rectification

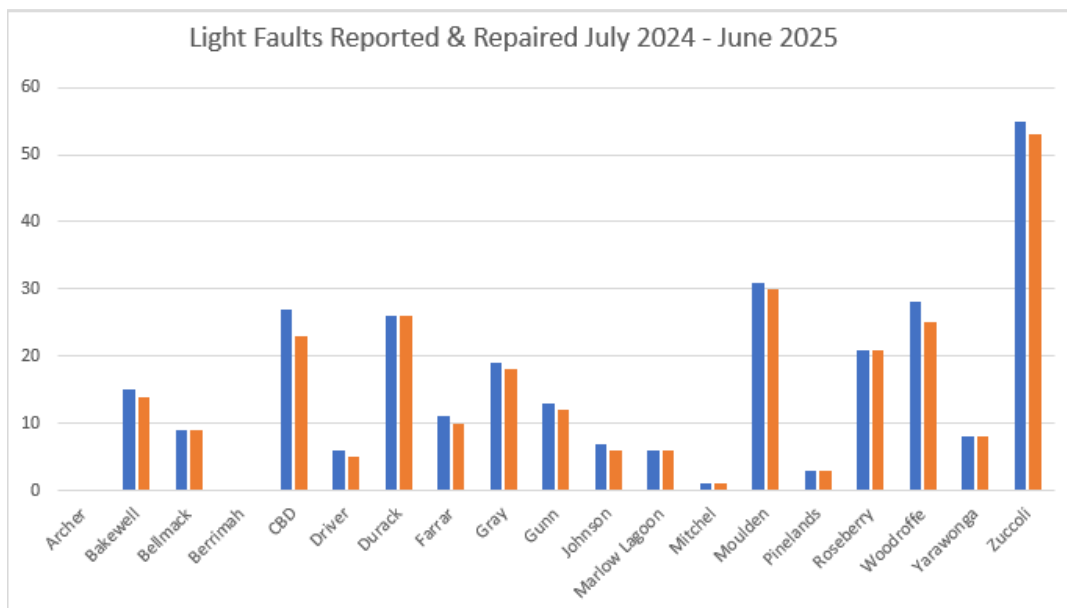
This quarter 62 (1.152% of total inventory) streetlighting faults were identified. 53 of the identified faults have been resolved and works are continuing to rectify the nine (9) new and seven (7) faults from the previous quarter.

Council is continuing to undertake scheduled night inspections and rectification works, with a total of 98% of streetlights working as of 30 June 2025.



*Data as of 30 June 2025*

On an annual basis (July 24 to June 25) 286 streetlighting faults were identified. 270 of the identified faults have been resolved.



*Data as of 30 June 2025*

### Dark Spots Lighting Upgrade Program

Council's period contractor has been engaged to undertake public lighting upgrades as part of the 2024/25 Dark Spots Upgrade Program.

Installation of new lights in Stockwhip Drive, Marlow Lagoon has been completed this quarter.

Work completed earlier in the year includes:

- Allamur Court, Gray.
- Essington Park, Gray.
- Harrison Park, Woodroffe.

Design for upgrades in Kilgour Lane and Fiveash Lane carpark are being finalised, and coordination work is underway with Council's period contractor to progress the work.

Planning work has commenced for upgrading of lights at Sanctuary Lakes in 2025/26.

### Driveways and Stormwater

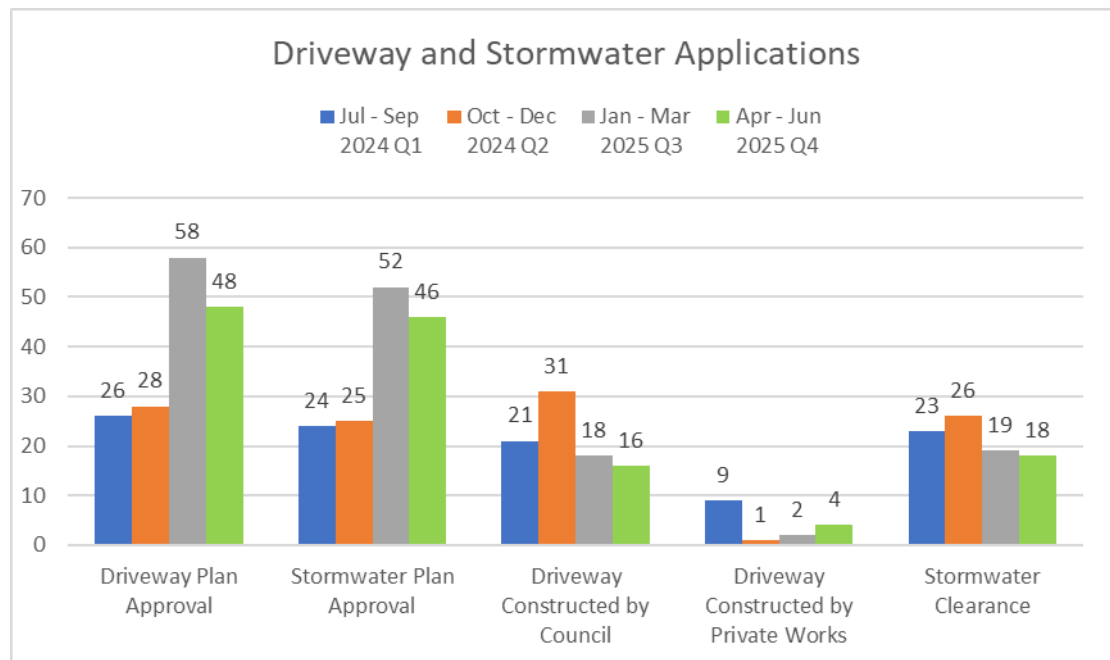
134 applications were received for the quarter, covering 81 allotments, including 65 in Zuccoli, four (4) in Johnston, three (3) in Rosebery, and Durack, and one (1); each in Woodroffe, Bellamack, Gunn, Gray, Palmerston City, and Marlow Lagoon.

The 134 applications consisted of the following:

- 48 driveway plan approval requests – 47 driveway plans approved, with 38 from Zuccoli, two (2); each in Johnston, Durack, and Rosebery and one (1); each in Palmerston City, Bellamack and Gray.
- One (1) second driveway each in Bellamack and Johnston and one (1) driveway widening in Rosebery.
- 16 driveway construction requests – All requests were from the new properties in Zuccoli. All driveways have been constructed.
- Four (4) Work on Public Places applications for driveway constructions– Four (4) permits issued to allow private owners to undertake driveway construction work, one (1) each in Durack, Rosebery, Woodroffe, and Johnston.
- 46 stormwater plan approval requests - 44 stormwater plans approved, with 37 from new properties in Zuccoli, two (2) in Durack and one (1); each in Palmerston City, Johnston, Gunn, Gray, and Rosebery.
- 18 stormwater clearance requests – all clearance letters issued all in Zuccoli for new properties.

Over the course of the last 12 months, Council has received 160 driveway plan applications, 147 stormwater plan applications, 102 driveway construction request and 86 stormwater clearance requests, bringing the total number of applications to 495.





*Data as of 30 June 2025*

### Stormwater

Ongoing condition inspection of stormwater drains, pipes, pits and other civil works have been carried out to ensure proper function. There are 11 stormwater defects that have been identified in this quarter with seven (7) scheduled for further investigation.

Overall, there were a total of 46 stormwater drains identified during the financial year with 41 repaired.

### Stormwater Capital Program

A section of stormwater pipe in Victoria Drive has been repaired. 24 pipe joints were repaired by accessing the pipe and undertake repairs from the inside. This work has ensured the ongoing performance of the pipe and the road pavement above.

### Irrigation Maintenance

Irrigation maintenance works this quarter have focused on repairing and testing bore components to ensure irrigation systems sourced from ground water will function well into the dry season. This has included:

- Lake 1 and Lake 7 testing and repair of pump systems.
- Lake 8 soft starter and mainline repairs.
- Installation of a Variable Speed Drive on the Lindsey Bore pump.
- Relining of the Marlow Bore.

There has also been the servicing of irrigation infrastructure breaks and leaks across open space areas this quarter, including repairs required at Temple Terrace, Finders Park, Sanctuary Lakes, Stanford Park, Goyder Square and Stalwart Park.

Planning for the 2025/26 financial year has also commenced, including the awarding of a two-year panel contract for irrigation maintenance and refurbishment works. This contract establishes a panel of two (2) qualified contractors who can be called upon to support and supplement the works of Council's irrigation team.

In addition, the irrigation capital improvement plan for 2025/26 has been finalised, with priority works scheduled for infrastructure upgrades at Woodroffe and Cunningham Parks.

In total, \$292,000 was spent on irrigation maintenance and \$265,605 was spent on irrigation capital works over 2024/25.

### Irrigation Controllers

Irrigation controllers are devices that remotely and automatically manage irrigation schedules by setting watering frequencies, run times, and water volumes for open space areas. Due to aging infrastructure and the transition to the 4G network, many of the existing controllers connected to Council's telemetry system have become inoperable and require replacement. To address this, a three-year controller replacement program has been developed and is scheduled to begin in the 2025/26 financial year. To support this initiative, a Request for Quotation (RFQ) was issued during the April to June quarter, resulting in the appointment of a contractor to supply irrigation controllers over a 12-month period.

### Zuccoli Community Hub – Stage 2

Stage 2 consists of the pump track, the sensory walking path, shade structures, BBQ facilities and associated civil works, and is currently in progress.

- Civil earthworks are complete, which has prepared the site for upcoming work packages.
- Installation of a BBQ, shelter and seating with a link from the walking track was completed.
- Construction of the walking trail is completed.
- Tender documents for the construction of the pump track were released in July.

The Municipal Plan 2024/25 identified that the pump track construction would be complete by June 2025, however as delays were encountered, completion is now anticipated in November 2025.

### Driver Community Centre

The 100% design drawings have been completed. Application for Building Permit is in progress, with consent being received from Driver Primary School around shared access. A Development Application was submitted in May.

The project cost, including contingencies, has been estimated at \$3.9 million based on the final design. Funding is currently being sought to support the construction of the Centre.

### Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade

Significant delays due to the impacts of wet weather have been experienced, with work not able to recommence until June. Completion of the construction of the Resource Recovery



Area is now expected in September, with the installation and commissioning of the cardboard compactor to follow.

Capital Projects Expenditure and Delivery Summary 2024/25

The total approved Capital Expenditure Budget for 2024/25 is \$15.07 million, following the third budget review.

The expenditure to the end of June is \$10.14M, or 67% of the budget. \$4.68M is to be rolled over to 2025/26, with the balance of \$0.49M as either savings to Council or returned to reserves.

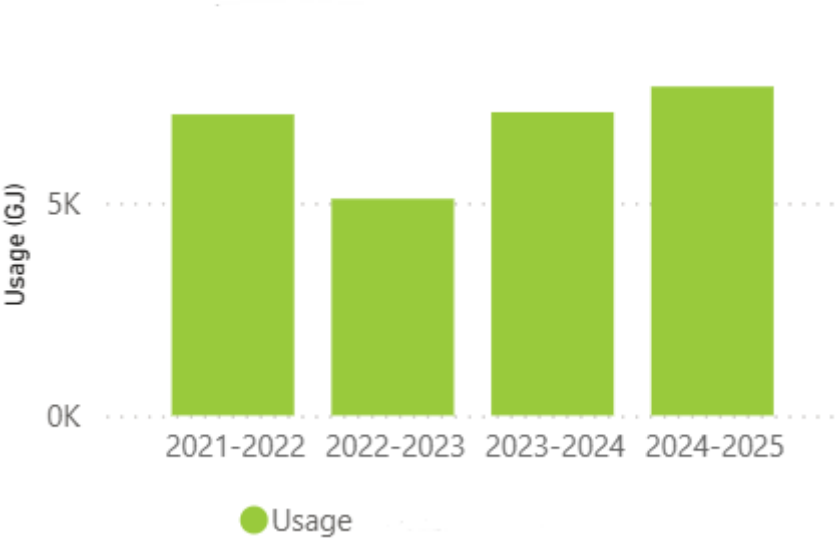
A brief description and status of each project, and the 2024/25 budget can be found in **Attachment 13.2.1.1**.

**5. Environment Sustainability**

*Objective 5.1: ‘Reduce our footprint on the environment’*

Electricity Consumption

The graph below compares Council’s total electricity consumption across the last four (4) financial years. In 2024/25, electricity usage increased by 8.45% compared to the previous year. This rise is primarily attributed to several infrastructure upgrades undertaken during the year, including the installation of a new air-conditioning system at the Recreation Centre (which is therefore now operational) and the integration of upgraded and additional assets such as the SWELL facility. These enhancements have contributed to increased energy demand throughout the reporting period.



**Total Electricity Consumption for All Council Assets (Financial Year)**

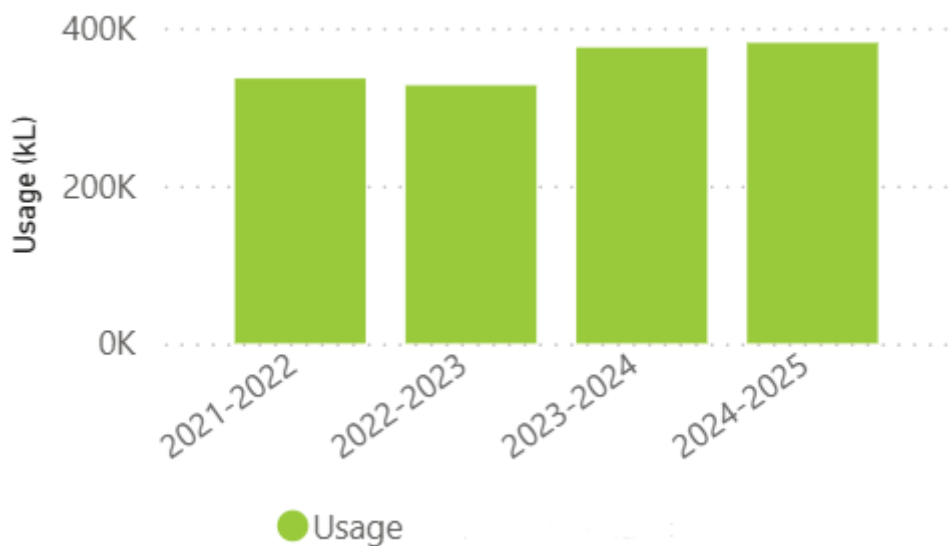
Energy Audit of Council Buildings

The final energy audits of key Council facilities were completed this quarter, with audits undertaken at the Driver Resource Centre, Gray Community Hall and the Operations

Centre (Depot). In total, seven (7) facilities were audited across the 2024/25 financial year, including the Recreation Centre, Civic Centre, Library, and SWELL. The audits were designed to assess electricity consumption patterns and identify opportunities for energy efficiency improvements. Several short, medium and longer-term actions including recommended operational changes and infrastructure upgrades. If all recommended actions from the audits are implemented, Council could achieve annual electricity cost savings of up to \$316,930. This would result in the reduction of approximately 645.9 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions from Council operations each year.

Water Consumption

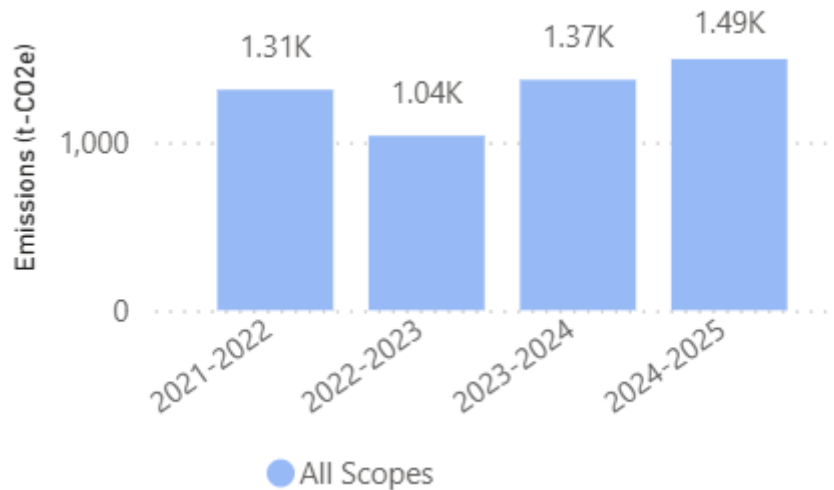
The graph below compares Council’s total mains water consumption over the past four (4) financial years. This data includes mains water use from both facilities and open space across the municipality. The 2024/25 financial year recorded a modest 1.59% increase in usage, significantly lower than the 14.66% rise observed in 2023/24. These increases over the past two (2) years are largely due to the repair and reactivation of several irrigation systems, the detection and rectification of multiple leaks, and the integration of new assets such as parks, all of which have contributed to higher overall water use.



**Total Mains Water Usage for Council Assets (Financial Year)**

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The graph below presents Council’s total Scope 1 and 2 CO<sub>2</sub>-e emissions over the past four (4) financial years. In 2024/25, emissions increased by 8.99% compared to the previous financial year. This rise correlates with higher electricity consumption, largely driven by the integration of new assets.

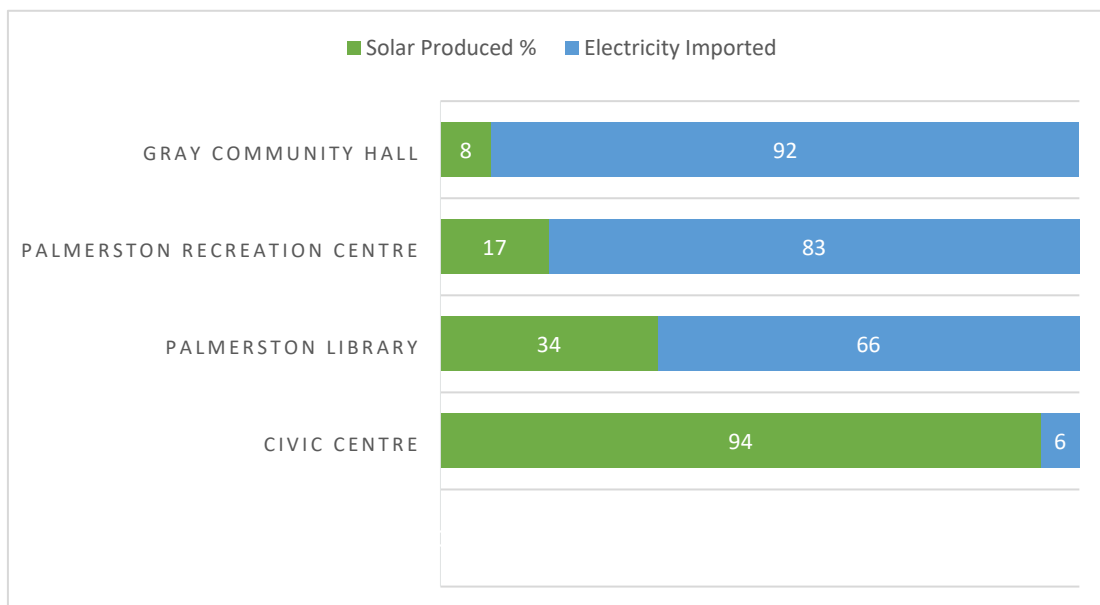


**Scope 1 & 2 Emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>-e) Across All Council Assets (Financial Year). Note, data excludes fleet emissions.**

#### Solar Power Generation – Recreation Centre, Palmerston Library, Civic Centre & Gray

Council maintains the solar generation systems at four (4) facilities (Palmerston Library, Civic Centre, Palmerston Recreation Centre, and Gray Community Hall).

The graph below illustrates the solar energy contribution to the total electricity consumption of Council buildings for the 2024/2025 financial year. Notably, the Palmerston Civic Centre's solar system meets the majority of its energy needs. In contrast, Gray Community Hall and the Palmerston Recreation Centre have the lowest solar energy contributions relative to their consumption, primarily due to system size limitations and the nature of facility use, as they operate frequently in the evening and at night, when solar generation is unavailable.



**Proportion of Total Energy Consumption: Solar Generation vs. Grid Import (2024/2025 FY)**

## Recycling at Archer Waste Management Facility

The table below presents a comparison of recyclable materials received at Archer Waste Management Facility during the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years.

This data includes key recyclable waste streams such as paper and cardboard, scrap steel/metal, mixed aluminium, glass, and plastic. However, e-waste, white goods, and items donated for resale by HPA are not included. The volume of recyclables collected and diverted from landfill is influenced by several factors, including market demand for recyclables, contamination levels, and weather conditions.

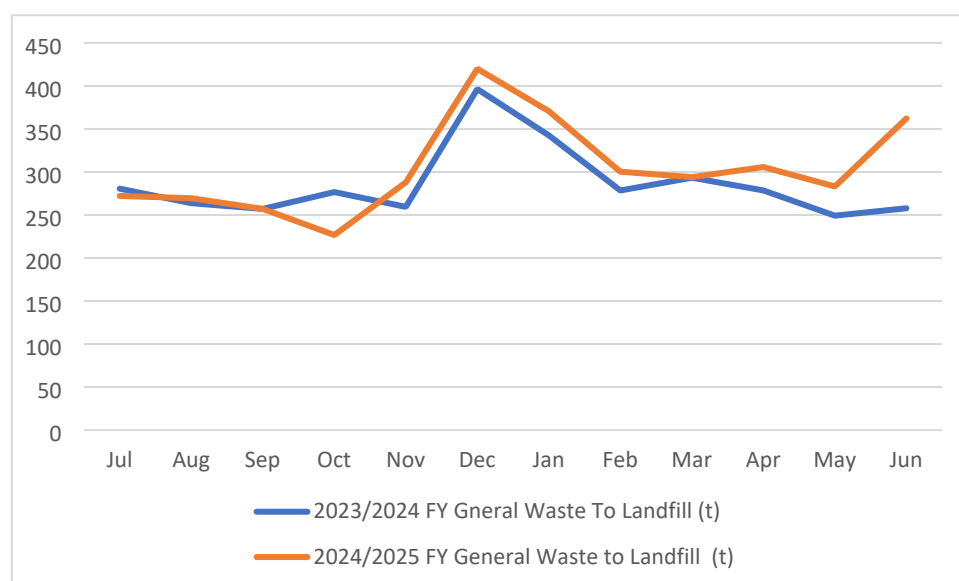
To further enhance waste diversion, the ongoing Stage 2 upgrades of Archer Waste Management Facility will reposition the recycling area at the facility entrance and incorporate in a brand-new Cardboard Compactor. These improvements aim to increase accessibility, streamline recycling processes, and encourage greater use of the recycling facilities prior to general waste disposal.

**Materials Received at Archer Waste Management Facility 2024/2025 FY**

	PAPER & CARDBOARD (TONNES)	STEEL/METAL (TONNES)	MIXED ALUMINIUM / GLASS / PLASTIC (TONNES)	PAINT (WATER BASED) KILOLITRE	PAINT (OIL BASED) KILOLITRE	BATTERIES (TONNES)	WASTE OIL (KILOLITRE)	MATTRESS (EACH)
24/25	82.66	522.66	1.80	26	8	60.84	38.95	0
23/24	62.25	412.32	1.09	8	3	58.89	29.20	1437

General waste volumes collected remain consistent across each financial year.

Increased diversion rates will be the focus of the new management contract for the site, which is due to commence in August 2025. This should see increased recycling volumes and a decrease in general waste being sent to landfill.

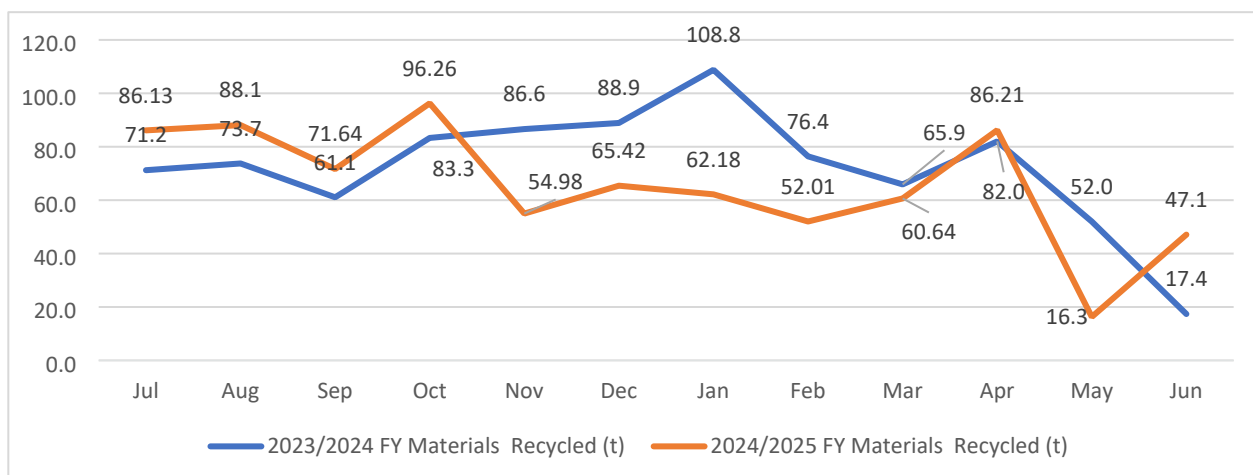


**General Waste Volumes from Archer Waste Management Facility that end up in Landfill 2024/2025 FY.**

## Kerbside Recycling Service

The graph below compares the tonnage of recyclable materials collected through the kerbside collection program during the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years.

Recycling volumes have varied, with the start of 2024/25 initially tracking above the previous year. However, a mid-year decline in tonnage can be attributed to ongoing market challenges and the temporary closure of the Cleanaway Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), which necessitated diverting recyclables to a third-party processor.



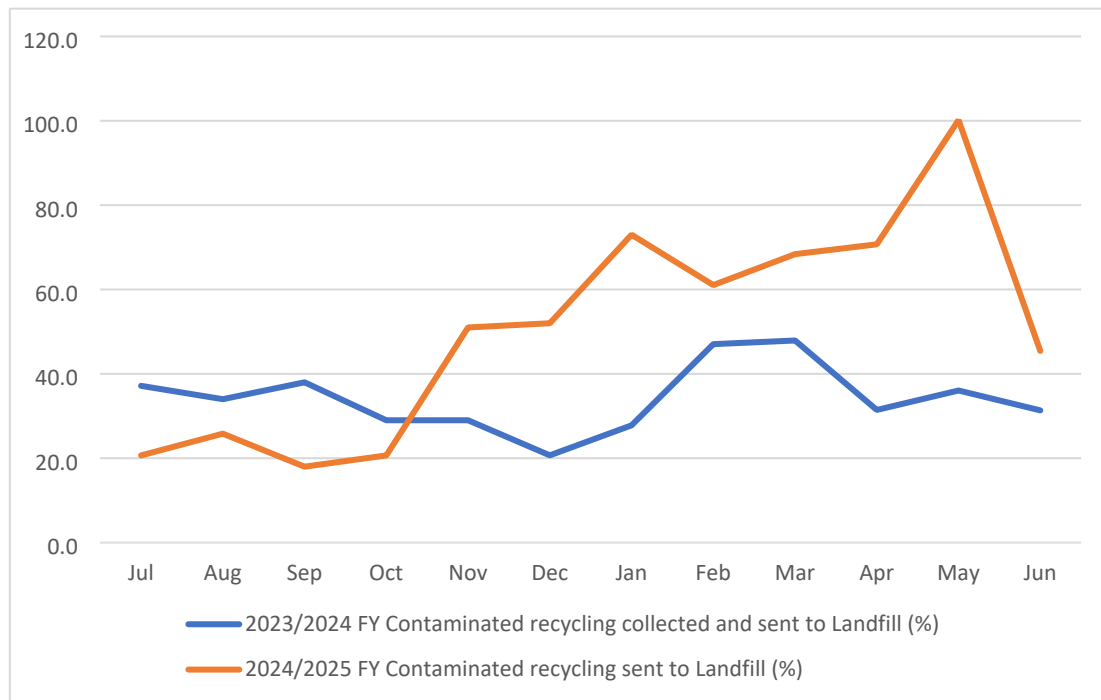
**Recyclable Materials Recovered from Kerbside Collection**

## Kerbside Recycling Contamination Rates

The graph below illustrates the percentage of recycling collected through the kerbside program that was contaminated and consequently diverted to landfill. Contamination typically occurs when non-recyclable materials such as soft plastics, food waste, or hazardous items, are incorrectly placed in recycling bins, rendering the load unsuitable for processing.

Tracking contamination rates enables the identification of trends, target education efforts, and enhance overall waste diversion outcomes. During the 2024/25 financial year, contamination levels have been notably higher across most reporting periods. This increase is partially attributed to the use of an alternative recycling processor, which applies different sorting and acceptance criteria.

City of Palmerston will continue to prioritise community recycling education initiatives into the next financial year to help reduce contamination and improve recycling outcomes.



**Recycle Contamination Rates**

### Pre-cyclone Cleanup

Pre-planning for the 2025/26 Annual Pre-Cyclone Cleanup (PCCU) commenced this quarter. During the 2024/25 PCCU, approximately 213 tonnes of general waste and 113 tonnes of recyclables were collected. This represents an increase of around 50 tonnes in recyclable materials compared to the 2023/24 financial year.

### Home Composting Rebate Program

“Council Initiatives” signage is displayed across multiple Council facilities to increase awareness of the Program.

In the 2024/25 financial year, Council received 23 new applications under the Home Composting Rebate Program in the quarter (compared to 18 applications received in 2023/24). The total number of applications for the life of the Program is 105. The Home composting Rebate continues to be promoted on social media and the Council website.

PERIOD	2023/2024	2024/2025
New applications	18	23
Total applications for life of the scheme	82	105

### *Objective 5.2: Palmerston is a cool, shaded, green City*

#### Lake Weed Management

Council continues its proactive management of weed outbreaks in Palmerston’s lakes through a combination of manual harvesting and targeted weed spraying. Lakes are



maintained on a rotating schedule, with routine clearing using harvesters to ensure optimal water quality and ecosystem health. These measures are part of Council's broader commitment to maintaining the health and biodiversity of our waterways.



**Councils weed harvester in action**

#### Land Conservation (Weed and Fire) Management

Council remains committed to mapping, monitoring, and managing declared weeds across Council-owned and managed land. In the 2024/25 financial year, targeted weed control activities were carried out at Gunn Escarpment, Marlow Lagoon, and the Archer Waste Management Facility. In addition, ongoing ad hoc management of declared weeds occurs across all Council-maintained land under the landscape maintenance contract.

The 2024/25 prescribed burns program was delivered during both the early and late wet season, aiming to reduce fuel loads, support native ecosystem health, and encourage bushland regeneration. Priority areas included Marlow Lagoon, the Palmerston Escarpment, and Archer (including the oval and transfer station), selected due to their high vegetation density and proximity to residential zones.

Further fire mitigation works commenced at the end of the wet season, when conditions allowed safe access to fire-prone areas. These works included the maintenance and clearance of firebreaks through mowing, slashing, pruning, weed control, and vegetation removal, supporting bushfire risk reduction and compliance.



**Prescribed burns in action at Marlow Lagoon and Palmerston Escarpment**

## Tree Planting and Maintenance Programs

Approximately 1600 trees were planted as part of the tree planting contract in the 2024/25 financial year. These trees are currently on a 24-month establishment period which includes ongoing watering, pruning, mulching and pest management. Additionally, approximately 42 residential verge tree planting requests were actioned, and 1500 native trees were given away at community events this financial year.

Additionally, the street tree clearance program, which commenced in January 2025 was rolled out to three (3) additional suburbs this quarter:

- Bakewell.
- Zucolli.
- Farrar.

The street tree clearance program is designed to ensure adequate separation of trees from street furniture, light poles and signage. It also ensures that trees do not block line of site for pedestrians and motorists. In total, the street tree clearance program for 10 suburbs were completed in the 2024/25 financial year, including Bellamack, Durack, Johnston, Marlow Lagoon, Moulden, Palmerston City, and Yarrawonga. All remaining suburbs will be undertaken in the 2025/26 financial year.

*Objective 5.3: 'Encourage personal action and taking a leadership role'.*

## Community Waste and Recycling Education Program

In the 2024/25 financial year, Council implemented a community waste and recycling education program, with the goal of delivering monthly initiatives including information stalls and education sessions focused on waste reduction and recycling. Key highlights included participation in Clean Up Australia Day, Recycling Information Sessions, a repair workshop at Reboot Your Loot, and a range of targeted social media campaigns.



**Volunteers working hard at Councils Clean Up Australia Day Event 2025**



Council also launched the 2025 Waste Collection Calendars alongside Recycle Right bin stickers and magnets to support improved recycling habits. An A2 version of the Recycle Right print is now available on Council's website, providing body corporates, schools, offices, and community groups with a ready-to-print resource suitable for use as durable metal signage or posters in bin compounds and communal areas. These initiatives aim to make recycling more accessible while encouraging sustainable waste practices across the community.



2025 Waste Calendar and Recycle Right Sticker

### Great Unwaste Campaign

With households throwing out on average \$2,500 per year of uneaten food, Council joined the national *Great Unwaste* Campaign this quarter. The campaign aims to reduce household food waste by over 20% by 2030. The *Great Unwaste* Campaign was promoted on Council's Facebook page for a period of four (4) weeks, with weekly food-saving tips, highlighting easy ways to waste less and save more. The campaign was a huge success on Council's Facebook page, with 7,997 views of the posts over the 4-week period. Community members who shared their own food-saving tips over this time also had the chance to win great prizes.

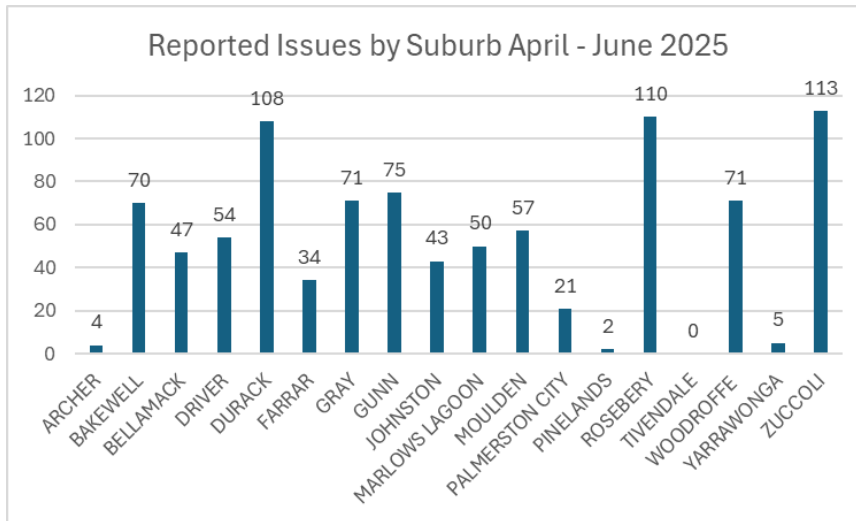
## 6. Governance

### *Objective 6.1: 'Ensure we have a leading governance model'*

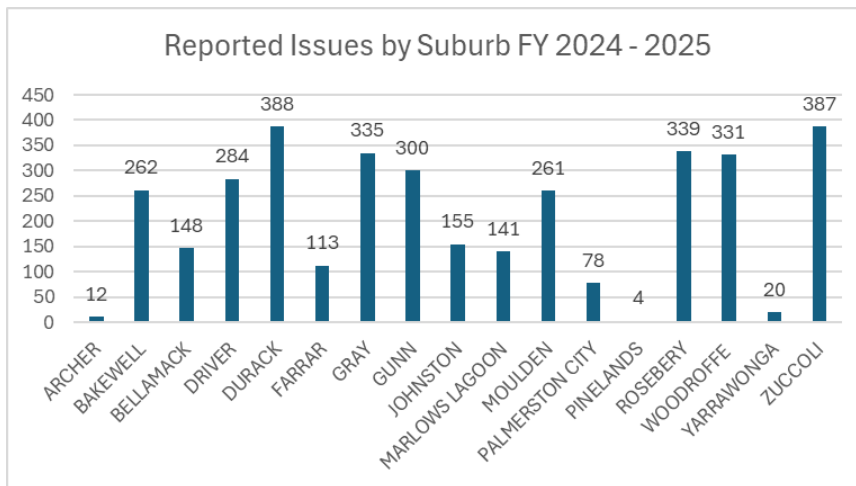
During the 2024/25 financial year, a total of 3,558 cases were reported by residents. Of these, 936 were raised during this quarter. As of 30 June 2025, 768 of the quarterly cases were resolved, with 168 remaining outstanding.

Zuccoli recorded the highest number of resident reports with a total of 113 cases in this quarter, followed closely by Rosebery with 110 and Durack with 108. The majority of reports across were related to waste management, public places and road issues.

The below data summarises resident reports by suburb to Council in this quarter along with the 2024/25 financial year.

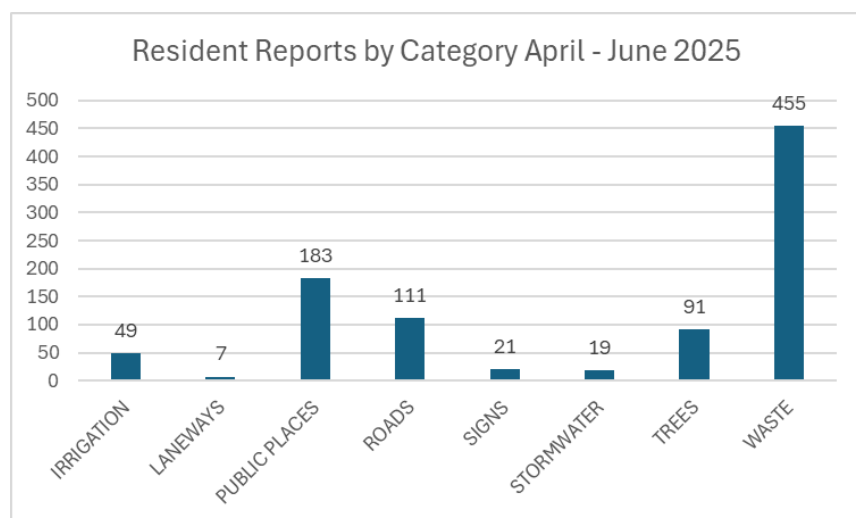


**Data as of 30 June 2025**

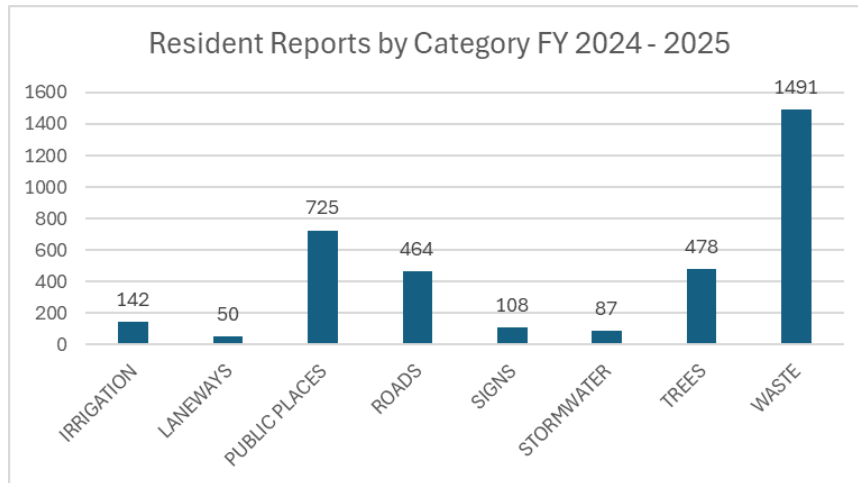


**Data as of 30 June 2025**

During this quarter and throughout the 2024/25 financial year to date, most resident reports submitted to Council have related to issues concerning Waste and Public Places as shown in the graph below.



**Data as of 30 June 2025**



*Data as of 30 June 2025*

## Consultation and marketing

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

- Executive Manager Environment.
- Executive Manager Projects and Civil Operations.
- Manager Planning & Development.
- Acting Manager Sustainability.
- Senior Project Manager.
- Facilities Maintenance Officer.
- Development Engineer.
- Administration Assistant.

## 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:

### 5. Infrastructure

Failure to plan, deliver and maintain fit for purpose infrastructure.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Community Infrastructure Plan 2016-2026](#)



## 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. Capital Expenditure do Date 2024-25 [**13.2.1.1** - 1 page]

Project Title	Revised Budget	Actuals	Commitments	Total YTD (Actuals + Commitments)	Available Budget Prior to 30 June	Funds to roll over to 2025/26	Savings	Project Status
Zuccoli Community Hub	\$ 2,106,563	\$ 1,174,115	\$ 78,449	\$ 1,252,565	\$ 853,998	\$ 1,199,600	-\$ 267,152	Walking trail complete. Civil works for pump track complete. BBQ and shelter complete.
Aquatic Centre Renewal	\$ 748,210	\$ 607,696	\$ 11,396	\$ 619,092	\$ 129,118	\$ 125,764	\$ 14,750	Car Park reseal and shelter complete. BBQ and seating completed. RFQ for basketball shade underway
Water Aquifer Study	\$ 200,000	\$ 375	\$ -	\$ 375	\$ 199,625	\$ 200,000	-\$ 375	Tenders closed and under assessment
Recreation Centre Renewal	\$ 66,500	\$ 65,756	\$ 255	\$ 66,011	\$ 489		\$ 744	Program complete
Depot Renewal and Upgrades	\$ 14,800	\$ 14,670	\$ 11,475	\$ 26,145	-\$ 11,345		\$ 130	Depot gate upgrade complete
Civic Centre Renewal	\$ 67,100	\$ 16,644	\$ -	\$ 16,644	\$ 50,456		\$ 50,456	Program complete
Driver Resource Centre Renewal	\$ 1,441	\$ 1,080	\$ -	\$ 1,080	\$ 361		\$ 361	Program complete
Driver Community Hall Upgrade	\$ 99,246	\$ 99,246	\$ -	\$ 99,246	\$ -		\$ -	Designs 100% complete. Building permit application submitted. Project shovel ready when funding is available.
Library Building Renewal	\$ 67,000	\$ 76,002	\$ -	\$ 76,002	-\$ 9,002		-\$ 9,002	Program complete, includes Library Café design
Durack Community Arts Centre Renewal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	No works required. Budget reallocated
Dark Spots (Lighting Upgrades)	\$ 713,730	\$ 552,740	\$ 13,170	\$ 565,910	\$ 147,820	\$ 160,990	\$ -	CBD works pending
Streetlighting Renewal	\$ 26,400	\$ 26,400	\$ -	\$ 26,400	\$ -		\$ -	Program complete
All Ability Upgrades	\$ 60,000	\$ 42,558	\$ -	\$ 42,558	\$ 17,442		\$ 17,442	Program complete
Driveway Renewal	\$ 31,200	\$ 28,771	\$ 62	\$ 28,833	\$ 2,367		\$ 2,429	Program complete
Driveway Construction - new developments	\$ 200,000	\$ 155,508	\$ -	\$ 155,508	\$ 44,492		\$ 44,492	Works completed as required
Pathway Renewal	\$ 175,000	\$ 118,804	\$ -	\$ 118,804	\$ 56,196		\$ 56,196	Program complete
New Pathway	\$ 623,475	\$ 553,743	\$ 20	\$ 553,763	\$ 69,712		\$ 69,732	Program complete
Laneway Renewals	\$ 32,800	\$ 32,800	\$ -	\$ 32,800	\$ -		-\$ 0	Program complete
Roads Reseal and Reconstruction	\$ 1,915,258	\$ 1,719,922	\$ -	\$ 1,719,922	\$ 134,563		\$ 195,336	Program complete
Traffic Calming & Pedestrian Safety	\$ 706,600	\$ 556,517	\$ 335,431	\$ 891,948	-\$ 185,348	\$ 312,393	-\$ 162,310	Work at Yarrawonga Road pending
Mitchell Creek Study	\$ 95,510	\$ 68,010	\$ 31,190	\$ 99,200	-\$ 3,690	\$ 27,500	\$ -	Draft study received and under internal review
Archer Upgrade Project	\$ 1,567,508	\$ 575,681	\$ 798,140	\$ 1,373,821	\$ 193,686	\$ 952,602	\$ 39,225	Construction underway
Tree Replacement Program	\$ 1,364,984	\$ 1,106,706	\$ -	\$ 1,106,706	\$ 258,278	\$ 337,368	-\$ 79,090	1600 trees planted and being established
Sustainability Programs	\$ 110,000	\$ 80,752	\$ -	\$ 80,752	\$ 29,248	\$ 33,527	-\$ 4,279	Energy audits were completed for 7 key Council facilities. Approx 1300 native plants were given away at Community events. A sustainable fishing workshop was held in the dry season of 2024.
Stormwater Renewal & Upgrades	\$ 120,000	\$ 43,357	\$ -	\$ 43,357	\$ 76,643		\$ 76,643	Program complete
Park Infrastructure Renewal Program	\$ 1,095,568	\$ 1,049,395	\$ 24,309	\$ 1,073,704	\$ 21,864		\$ 46,173	Program complete
Irrigation Refurbishment	\$ 377,700	\$ 248,319	\$ 16,586	\$ 264,905	\$ 112,795		\$ 129,381	Marlows Bore refurbishment completed. Upgrades to Chung Wah Terrace and Fairway Ridge Irrigation systems. Backflow Prevention Devices installed in over 30 water metres at Council parks. Sanctuary lakes bore refurbishment completed. Maluka Drive Irrigation Designs completed.
Artwork - Sculpture	\$ 241,500	\$ 76,164	\$ 91	\$ 76,255	\$ 165,245		\$ 165,336	Program complete
Palmerston Library Modernisation	\$ 94,219	\$ 58,000	\$ -	\$ 58,000	\$ 36,219		\$ 36,219	Master Plan consultancy complete
IT - Renewal and ERP	\$ 870,700	\$ 561,533	\$ -	\$ 561,533	\$ 309,167	\$ 314,367	\$ 5,200	Procurement process ongoing
Building Management System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	Budget reallocated
Fleet Purchases	\$ 350,000	\$ 322,143	\$ 17,377	\$ 339,521	\$ 10,479	\$ 17,377	\$ 10,479	Delivery of one trailer outstanding
Custom Animal Holding Pens (LG IP Grant)	\$ 100,700	\$ 81,120	\$ -	\$ 81,120	\$ 19,580	\$ 19,580	\$ -	Two vehicles fitted with custom holding pens
Hobart Park Public Toilet	\$ 450,000	\$ 76,806	\$ 225,603	\$ 302,409	\$ 147,591	\$ 373,194	-\$ 0	Off site construction underway
Marlow Lagoon Masterplan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	-\$ 150,000	Funds reallocated to reserve
Lakebed Aerators	\$ 100,000	\$ 88,966	\$ 1	\$ 88,967	\$ 11,033	\$ 26,834	-\$ 15,800	Aerators installed in Lake 1, Lake 7, Sanctuary Lakes and Basin Lake.
Library Café Construction	\$ 270,000	\$ 22,690	\$ -	\$ 22,690	\$ 247,310	\$ 247,310	\$ -	Works to commence following EOI process
CBD Lighting - The Boulevard	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	\$ -	\$ 8,500	\$ -		\$ -	Complete

# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	13.2.2
Report Title:	Financial Report for the Month of July 2025
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 19 August 2025
Author:	Finance Manager, Jeffrey Guilas
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta

## Community plan

Governance: Council is trusted by the community and invests in things that the public value.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Report is to present to Council the Financial Report for July 2025.

## Key messages

- This report presents the July 2025 financial report and is representative of the year-to-date income and expenditure as at 31 July 2025.
- This is the first financial report for the 2025-26 financial year and it is expected that there would be adjustments required to recognise income and expenditure for the 2024-25 financial year end. This includes adjustments to the Balance Sheet accounts and is subject to an external audit.
- The financial health check ratios indicate that overall Council is in a positive financial position.
- The annual budget is the 2025-26 budget, which is the original budget published in the 2025-26 Municipal Plan plus and the budget rollover.
- Total operating income is \$38.19 million or 86% of the annual budget.
- Capital income is at 1% of the \$5.16 million budget. Grants income is recognised when grant obligations are met, which is generally when capital expenditure is incurred.
- Capital expenditure is \$0.092 million which is 1% of the \$11.1 million approved revised Capital budget. There is a further \$0.19 million in commitments where works have commenced or are awaiting payment.
- Operating surplus (excluding depreciation) is at \$35.46 million.
- The total cash and cash investments were \$16.92 million, which includes \$12.85 million in term deposits in various banking institutions with less than 12 months to maturity and \$4.07 million in our general bank account.

- Rates debt receivables is \$37.8 million, which includes:
  - Outstanding debt for this year of \$35.58 million which is 93% of the rates levied
  - \$1.3 million outstanding for 2024-25.
  - A further \$923,150 of accumulated unpaid rates from prior years.
- Total payments to creditors in July 2025 amounted to \$4.28 million, of which \$3.83 million (89.57%) was paid to local suppliers.
- Council is compliant with its statutory obligations such as Pay-as-You-Go Withholdings, Goods and Services Tax, and Superannuation Guarantee reporting.
- There were two contract variation during July 2025 that met the criteria under Regulation 42 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.

## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Financial Report for the Month of July 2025 be received and noted.

## Background

In accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 - Part 2 (Division 7), the preceding month's Financial Report must be presented to Council. Regulation 17(1) of the General Regulation requires a monthly report from the Chief Executive Officer to provide the Council with the actual income and expenditure for the period; the most recently adopted annual budget; and details of any material variances between the most recent actuals and the most recently adopted annual budget.

The information below is provided to assist with the terminology used throughout the report.

Annual Budget for 2025-26 consists of:

- the total budget per the municipal plan for the 2025-26 financial year,
- the approved capital expenditure roll-over from 2024-25 (refer Decision 10/1984 2nd Ordinary meeting in July 2025),
- Year-to-date actuals (YTD Actuals) is the actual income and expenditure from 1 July 2025 to the current reporting date, 31 July 2025.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following:

- Dashboard report found at **Attachment 13.2.2.1** which is a traffic-light reporting system highlighting the current health status and areas of interest to Council. Further details are then reported in the body of the report.
- Financial reports are included at **Attachment 13.2.2.2** presenting the financial position of Council as at 31 July 2025, noting that the 2024-25 End of Financial Year adjustments are still underway, therefore, the Balance Sheet accounts are yet to be finalised, and subject to external audit.

## Discussion

### Financial Health

The financial health check ratios provide Council with a quick snapshot of the Council's financial position.

- The July 2025 ratios are benchmarked against the forecast ratios as per the Municipal Plan. If the ratio indicates that Council is not on target, a detailed explanation is provided. The ratios show Council's ability to monitor the cashflows (in and out) and ensure that Council has sufficient cash to cover its obligations.
- The operating surplus ratio (operating surplus divide by operating income) of 96% is higher than the KPI due to rates being levied and recognised as income. Further below discusses explanation to propose an adjustment to the ratio to provide a meaningful KPI.
- The debt service ratio (net operating income divide by debt repayments plus interest) for July 2025 is 546.04 which indicates that Council has the capacity to meet loan obligations. This is higher than the KPI due to rates being levied and recognised as income. Further below discusses explanation to propose an adjustment to the ratio to provide a meaningful KPI.
- Rates collection shows that 6% of total rates revenue has been collected, which is expected low as rates were only levied on 28 July and are not due until 30 September. This will increase as we receive the rates payments.
- The current ratio (Current Assets divide by Current Liability) is 9.65 for July 2025 which demonstrates that Council has enough resources to meet its short-term obligations. This is high due to rates being levied and recognised as income and recorded as debtors. This will reduce as the months go by.

Several key metrics are presently elevated because of accrual accounting. Going forward, these ratios will be calculated on a cash accounting basis to more accurately represent trends. The affected ratios are:

- Operating Surplus Ratio
- Debt Service Ratio

### Operating Overview

The dashboard provides an overview of Council's operating income and expenditure for 2025-26 as at 31 July 2025. Refer to **Attachment 13.2.2.1**.

Total Operating Income as at 31 July 2025 is \$38.22 million, which is 86% of the Annual Budget of \$44.20 million including the budget review adjustments throughout the year.

Total Operating Expenditure at 31 July 2025 is \$2.64 million, this mainly consists of the following:

- \$0.79 million Employee Costs.
- \$0.99 million Materials & Contractors.
- \$1.03 million Depreciation (non-cash).
- \$0.09 million Professional services such as external consultants and management fee for Odegaard.
- \$0.36 million Other Expenses such as program running cost and training costs.
- \$0.07 million Software, Hardware, Stationery, and Subscription.

The \$2.73 million underspend in operating expenditure is largely due invoices that are yet to be received and processed for services received in July.



## Overview

The dashboard provides an overview of Council's capital expenditure for 2025-2026 as per **Attachment 13.2.2.1**.

## Capital Expenditures

The 2025-2026 Capital Expenditure budget is \$11.10 million. This includes \$4.49 million capital budget from last financial year that was rolled over to the current financial year.

The pie chart in the dashboard as per **Attachment 13.2.2.1** shows that out of the \$11.10 million capital expenditure budget, the actual capital expenditure is \$0.09 million which is 1% of the budget.

In addition to the \$0.09 million actual expenditure, there is a further \$6.38 million in commitments where works have commenced and/or are awaiting payments, or for capital budget roll-over. The current expenditure combined with the commitments presents 58% of expenditure against the original capital budget.

## Capital Funding

Capital projects are funded by capital grants, Council contributions (operating surplus and financial reserves), and borrowings.

The table below provides a breakdown of the budgeted capital grants income for 2025-26 (A), funds that have been received (C) and funds still yet to be received (D).

- Grants that have been received are recognised as a grant liability until the assessment of income criteria has been met such as meeting the grant agreement obligations.

CAPITAL PROJECT 25-26	TOTAL GRANT INCOME FOR 2025-26	GRANT RECOGNISED AS INCOME	GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED TO DATE	GRANT FUNDS YET TO BE RECEIVED
PRJ10380 - Pump Parks/skate parks Zuccoli	\$0.33M		\$0.33M	
PRJ10553-SWELL Carpark Upgrade	\$0.05M		\$0.05M	
PRJ10580- SWELL Basketball Court Shade Structure	\$0.08M		\$0.08M	
PRJ10039- Reseal Program	\$0.21M		\$0.21M	
PRJ10246-Road Reconstruction (R2R)	\$0.45M		\$0.45M	
PRJ10537- Black Spot - Bonson Terrace	\$0.04M			\$0.04M

CAPITAL PROJECT 25-26	TOTAL GRANT INCOME FOR 2025-26	GRANT RECOGNISED AS INCOME	GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED TO DATE	GRANT FUNDS YET TO BE RECEIVED
PRJ10538-Black Spot - Yarrawonga Road	\$0.11M			\$0.11M
PRJ10522 -Hobart Park Exeloo and Park Upgrade	\$0.37M			\$0.37M
PRJ10375-21/22 Custom Animal Holding Pens (LG IP Grant)	\$0.02M		\$0.02M	
PRJ10303- Water Aquifer Prevention Strategy	\$0.10M		\$0.10M	
PRJ10394- Archer Recycling Modernisation Project	\$0.03M		\$0.03M	
PRJ10257 - Lakebed Aerators	\$0.03M		\$0.03M	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.81M</b>		<b>\$1.29M</b>	<b>\$0.52M</b>

## Cash and Investments

Trading Account: \$4.07 million.

Investments: \$12.85 million.

Year to Date interest revenue: \$0.09 million.

CASH AT BANK AND INVESTMENTS				
DURATION	NO.	(MILLION)\$ VALUE	% OF TOTAL PORTFOLIO	LIMIT
Cash at bank	1	\$4.07M	NA	NA
<12months	7	\$12.85M	100%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$16.92M</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

The investment portfolio is currently not compliant with the Council Investments Policy as we exceed the maximum individual limit to invest on one institution by 7%. However, this will be compliant once we redeem the investment in September. Please refer to following table:

ADI	\$ Invested (Total)	Projected redemption	Redemption - Short Term	Total (All)	Projected total investment	Current Portfolio %	Projected % per bank over total Investment	Policy Max.
<b>A1+/AAA</b>								
NAB (A1+)(AA-)	\$ 3,500,000.00			\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 3,500,000.00	27.23%	27.23%	60.00%
CBA (A1+)(AA-)	\$ 3,302,695.53			\$ 3,302,695.53	\$ 3,302,695.53	25.69%	25.69%	60.00%
<b>TOTAL A1+/AAA</b>	<b>\$ 6,802,695.53</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,802,695.53</b>	<b>\$ 6,802,695.53</b>			
<b>A2/A</b>								
Judo Bank (A2)(BBB)				\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%
AMP Bank (A2)(BBB)	\$ 6,051,000.00	-\$ 3,000,000.00		\$ 6,051,000.00	\$ 3,051,000.00	47.08%	30.96%	40.00%
<b>TOTAL A2/A</b>	<b>\$ 6,051,000.00</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,051,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,051,000.00</b>			
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 12,853,695.53</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 12,853,695.53</b>	<b>\$ 9,853,695.53</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>84%</b>	

- As at 31 July 2025 the Council held \$12.85 million in term deposits across three financial institutions.
- Cash held by Council in the National Australia Bank (NAB) Trading account as at 30 July 2025 was \$4.07 million earning 3.85% interest per annum.
- Performance of our investments against our policy and details on our investments are provided in section 2.3 of the Investments Management Report at **Attachment 13.2.2.2**.

## Receivables

Council has \$39.9 million in Receivables, which is made up of the following.

- \$38 million in Rates and charge, including rates levied during 2025-2026. Further explanation of the breakdown is detailed below is rates and charges.
- \$1.96million in other receivables including infringements, sundry debtors, grants receivables, GST receivables and accrued interest receivables for Term Deposits.

## Rates and charges

- The dashboard at **Attachment 13.2.2.1** highlights the rates levied for the 2025-26 financial year are \$37.97 million, of which \$2.39 million has been already collected.
- Item 2.4 Debtors Control at **Attachment 13.2.2.2** provides for the summary of the breakdown of the \$2.27 million rates overdue:
- The actual overdue amount for 2024-25 rates as at July 2025, is \$1.3 million which is 3.6% of the total 2024-25 rates revenue.
- There is \$923,150 of overdue rates from prior years.
- 1192 properties have outstanding rates for 2024-25 and prior
- 13,965 Ratepayers have paid their 2024-25 rate in full.
- Total of 496 properties have either direct debit or payment arrangement in place.
- The Local Government Act 2019 (NT) allows Council to place an overriding statutory charge on a property where rates have been outstanding for at least six (6) months, which gives Council priority over other registered and unregistered mortgages, charges, and encumbrances except for a previously registered overriding statutory charge. Council currently holds overriding statutory charges on 102 properties for debts from 2018/19 and earlier.
- 17 new Financial Hardship applications were approved for the 2024-25 financial year.

- A balance of \$258,986 of rates received in advance is accounted for in the balance sheet as a liability as it relates payment of rates for a future period for the 25/26 FY to date

#### *Infringements*

- Total infringements outstanding is \$204,471.70 as at 31 July 2025; this consists of Animals (\$177,695.26), Public Place (\$20,381.44) and Parking (\$6,395).
- The graph in the dashboard at **Attachment 13.2.2.1** shows the total infringements issued and collected for the year until 31 July 2025.
- Total Animal infringements issued for 2025-26 as at 31 July 2025 is \$33,352 and collected is \$23,168.
- Parking infringements issued and collected for 2025-26 as at 31 July 2025 is \$5,705.
- Total Public Places infringements issued for 2025-26 as at 31 July 2025 is \$1,012, of which \$853 has been collected.

#### *Sundry Debtors*

Sundry Debtors as at 31 July 2025 is \$451,363.98 as presented in **Attachment 13.2.2.2**. This balance includes \$75,000 that is expected to be received from Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet. The total also includes the amounts to be received relating to long grass and property maintenance. More details are available in section 2.4 Debtor Control Account.

#### **Trade Creditors Paid**

- Total payments to creditors in July 2025 amounted to \$4.28 million, of which \$3.63 million (85%) were paid to local suppliers.
- During July 2025, the significant vendor payments consisted of \$0.70 million to Fulton Hogan Industries, \$0.29 million to N and M Klidas Nominees Pty Ltd, \$0.29 million to JLM Contracting Services Pty Ltd, \$0.27million to Top End Race, \$0.24 million to Programmed Property Services, \$0.21 million to Australian Taxation Office - PAYG, \$0.17 million to Darwin Festival Limited, \$0.10 million to Information Professionals Pty Ltd.

#### **Borrowings**

Total external borrowings of \$6.96 million is made up of the following:

- Archer Land Fill Rehabilitation loan: The total amount borrowed from NAB was \$1.96 million with the balance as at 30 July 2025 being \$0.53 million. The interest rate is fixed at 2.78% for the duration of the loan and is paid on a quarterly basis. This loan was for 8 years and is due to conclude on 30 June 2027.
- SWELL loan: The \$5 million approved loan for the SWELL project was drawn down during December 2023 with a current balance of \$4.56 million. This is a 20-year loan with current variable interest rate of 4.75% with the principal being repaid quarterly. This loan is renegotiated every 5 years.

#### **Other Compliance matters**

Council is compliant with payment and reporting of all tax liabilities as outlined below:

- Council has remitted \$211,670 Year-to-Date (YTD) in Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) tax to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The PAYG withholding tax is regularly reported to the Australian Taxation Office on a fortnightly basis by Council.
- The Business Activity Statement (BAS) balance for the month ended 30 June 2025 has been finalised and lodged in July 2025 as a Goods Services Tax refund of \$735,220. ATO refund was received in NAB on 24th of July. The July 2025 BAS will be finalised and lodged in August 2025. First quarter FBT payment of \$23,753 was automatically deducted by ATO in our June BAS Activity statement.
- Council has the required insurances to manage the current risk exposure.

## Contract Variations

CONTRACT VARIATIONS	NO OF VARIATIONS
Varied contract, after a quotation under regulation 34 has been accepted and the total cost of supplies exceeds \$100,000 but is less than \$150,000.	Nil
Varied contract, after a quotation under regulation 34 has been accepted or a public quotation under regulation 35 has been accepted and the total cost of supplies exceeds \$150,000.	Nil
Varied contract is entered into after a tender under regulation 36 has been accepted and the total cost of supplies exceeds the original tender cost by more than 10%.	<p>Supplier: Allan King &amp; Sons Construction Pty Ltd  Contract: Zuccoli Hub Stage 2 Civil Works  Supplies Provided: Changes from tender drawings to construction drawings resulting in quantity changes to site clearings, earthworks, subsoil drainage and under boring underneath existing path.  Original contract cost: \$644,450.50 ex GST  Total contract cost of supplies is \$723,553.88 ex GST  Percentage increase from original contract cost to total contract cost: 12.27%.  Applicable provision: Section 42 (5)(a)</p> <p>Supplier: Allan King &amp; Sons Construction Pty Ltd  Contract: Zuccoli Hub Stage 2 Civil Works  Supplies Provided: Stabilise remainder of the site and removal from contract pricing of "Locate existing site water service pipe and relocate or lower" as it is no longer required.  Original contract cost: \$644,450.50 ex GST  Total contract cost of supplies is \$744,800.54 ex GST  Percentage increase from original contract cost to total contract cost: 15.57%.  Applicable provision: Section 42 (5)(a)</p>

## Consultation and marketing

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

- Finance team
- Governance team
- Infrastructure team.

## Policy implications

This report is in line with the reporting requirements under the Local Government Act and relevant Council Policies, with the exception of the Investment Policy. Currently, the single entity exposure in the A2/A rating category slightly exceeds the policy limit by 7.08%. This is expected to return to compliance following the redemption of the AMP term deposit in September.

## Budget and resource implications

This Report provides an overview of the budget and resource implications.

## Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

**2. Financial Sustainability**

Failure of Council to be financially sustainable to deliver key services and infrastructure for the community.

**6. Governance**

Failure to effectively govern.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

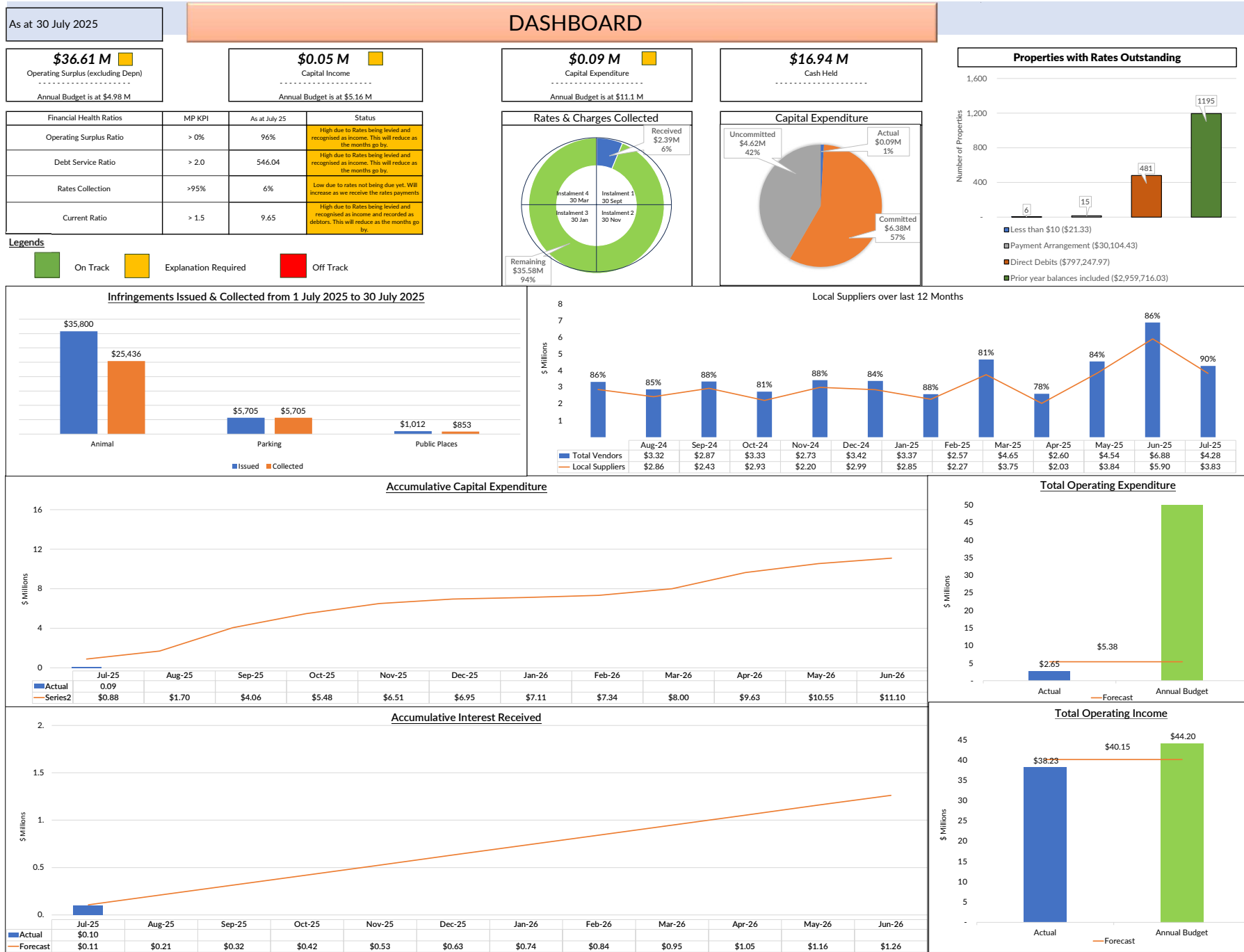
- [Long Term Financial Plan](#)

## 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.

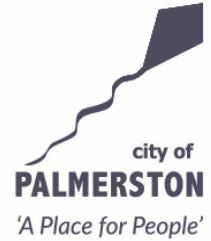
## Attachments

1. Dashboard [13.2.2.1 - 1 page]
2. Finance Report July 2025 [13.2.2.2 - 26 pages]





# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORTS



JULY 2025

- 1. Executive Summary
- 2. Financial Results

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July 2025

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## Certification By Chief Executive Officer

I, Andrew Walsh, the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Palmerston, hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

- The internal controls implemented by Council are appropriate; and
- The Council's Financial Report for July 2025 best reflects the financial affairs of the Council.

  
-----

Andrew Walsh  
Chief Executive Officer

Section 2  
Financial Results  
30 July 2025  
8.33%

Executive Summary as at  
% of year passed

## 1.2 - Executive Summary

Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
<b>Operating Income</b>						
Rates	28,976,123	28,956,821	100%	28,924,123	100%	
Charge	8,932,422	9,015,064	101%	8,932,422	101%	
Fees & Charges	1,645,432	72,949	4%	59,005	124%	1
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	2,878,873	8,024	0%	2,090,115	0%	2
Interest & Investment Revenue	1,729,151	137,023	8%	144,178	95%	
Other Income	41,960	39,151	93%	3,247	1206%	3
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>44,203,961</b>	<b>38,229,031</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>40,153,090</b>	<b>95%</b>	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>						
Employee Costs	-13,640,851	-799,445	6%	-1,370,784	58%	4
Materials & Contractors	-14,594,804	-99,890	1%	-1,179,204	8%	6
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	-12,306,000	-1,025,500	8%	-1,025,500	100%	
Elected Members Allowances	-523,612	-23,583	5%	-47,260	50%	5
Elected Members Expenses	-383,370	-439	0%	-2,449	18%	6
Professional Services	-2,261,415	-83,297	4%	-229,632	36%	6
Auditor's Remuneration	-55,886	0	0%	0	0%	
Utilities	-2,427,946	-36,664	2%	-156,810	23%	7
Legal Expenses	-315,700	-25,188	8%	-26,291	96%	
Telephone & Other Communication Charges	-196,678	-79,164	40%	-12,702	623%	8
Donations, Sponsorships & Grants	-255,000	-30,006	12%	-4,000	750%	9
Software, Hardware, Stationery, Subscriptions	-1,216,016	-64,519	5%	-239,513	27%	5
Insurance	-769,519	0	0%	-755,919	0%	10
Borrowing Costs	-309,806	-24,637	8%	-25,817	95%	
Other Expenses	-2,274,641	-358,625	16%	-300,455	119%	11
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>-51,531,244</b>	<b>-2,650,956</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>-5,376,336</b>	<b>49%</b>	
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-7,327,283</b>	<b>35,578,075</b>		<b>34,776,754</b>		
<b>Capital Income</b>						
Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets	150,000	8,636	6%	0	0%	
Developer Contributions	200,000	43,313	22%	0	0%	12
Asset Income	3,000,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Grants received	1,807,208	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>Capital Income</b>	<b>5,157,208</b>	<b>51,949</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>Net SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) transferred to Equity Statement</b>	<b>-2,170,075</b>	<b>35,630,024</b>		<b>34,776,754</b>		
Asset Purchase	-4,538,512	-79,880	2%	-879,167	9%	6
Asset Upgrade	-6,561,843	-12,102	0%	-4,416	274%	13
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>-11,100,355</b>	<b>-91,982</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>-883,583</b>	<b>10%</b>	

Section 2  
Financial Results

Executive Summary as at  
% of year passed

30 July 2025  
8.33%

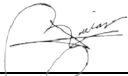
### 1.2 - Executive Summary

Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
Less Non-Cash Expenditure	-12,306,000	-1,000,000	8%	-1,025,500	98%	
Plus Gifted Assets	3,000,000	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>NET CAPITAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-3,964,430</b>	<b>36,538,042</b>		<b>34,918,671</b>		
Less Repayment of Borrowings	-512,201	-42,447	8%	-42,683	99%	
Reserve Movement	4,476,632	0	0%	373,053	0%	14
<b>NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36,495,595</b>		<b>35,249,040</b>		

End of Financial Year adjustments for 2024-25 are still underway, therefore, the Balance Sheet accounts are yet to be finalised, and subject to external audit

**Notes**

1. Higher rate search fee and infringement revenue than expected.
2. Due to the early receipt of 50% of the 2025-26 financial assistance grants in June rather than July
3. Variance is due to receipt of some insurance claims and refund of item returned
4. Variance is due to timing of cashflow and Workers Comp Insurance invoice received and processed in August
5. Variance is due to less number of council member
6. Variance is due to invoices that are yet to be received for the services provided in July.
7. Utilities invoices yet to be received for the month of July.
8. Variance is due to payment of annual public Wi-Fi and NBN fee.
9. Variance is due to grants and sponsorship payments made earlier than budgeted.
10. Insurance invoice has been received and processed in August
11. Variance due to the timing of expected cashflow for the program running cost of Palmerston Youth Festival
12. Funds received for Funds in Lieu of Construction driveway
13. Variance is due expenditure for Zuccoli
14. Actual Reserves Movement will be recognised as part of end of year process



Approved by: Finance Manager

Section 2  
Financial Results  
30 July 2025  
8.33%

Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at  
% of year passed

**1.3 - Operating Income**

Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
<b>Office of the Chief Executive</b>						
Office of the CEO	1,094,060	0	0%	913,024	0%	
<b>Office of the Chief Executive</b>	<b>1,094,060</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>913,024</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>People and Place</b>						
City Activation	300,000	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>People and Place</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>						
Governance	0	21,208	0%	0	0%	
GM Finance & Governance	70,000	10,763	15%	5,833	185%	1
Financial Services	1,095,618	57,830	5%	91,301	63%	
Rates	29,193,496	29,022,815	99%	28,942,321	100%	
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>	<b>30,359,114</b>	<b>29,112,615</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>29,039,455</b>	<b>100%</b>	
<b>Community</b>						
Library Services	758,432	13,592	2%	4,001	340%	2
Animal Management	381,050	24,918	7%	12,842	194%	3
Parking & Other Ranger Services	35,600	4,381	12%	2,717	161%	4
<b>Community</b>	<b>1,175,082</b>	<b>42,890</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>19,560</b>	<b>219%</b>	
<b>Infrastructure</b>						
Civic Centre	151,150	13,882	9%	12,595	110%	5
Gray Community Hall	15,000	0	0%	1,250	0%	
Private Works	50,000	5,858	12%	4,167	141%	6
Recreation Centre	18,000	0	0%	1,500	0%	
Roads & Transport	1,384,813	0	0%	1,177,091	0%	
Subdivisional Works	115,000	0	0%	9,583	0%	
Waste Management	8,971,382	9,015,219	100%	8,935,669	101%	
Odegaard Drive Investment Property	466,160	38,567	8%	38,846	99%	
Durack Heights Community Centre	4,200	0	0%	350	0%	
Goyder Square	100,000	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>11,275,705</b>	<b>9,073,526</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>10,181,051</b>	<b>89%</b>	
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>44,203,961</b>	<b>38,229,031</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>40,153,090</b>	<b>95%</b>	

**Notes**

1. Income from rental and lease properties received in advance
2. Income from recording studio and printing is higher than expected
3. Higher number of animal infringement issued during the month
4. Due to high income from infringement reminder notice fees
5. Rent for ground floor Civic Centre received in advance
6. Due to higher income from permits during the month than budgeted



Approved by: Finance Manager

Section 2  
Financial Results

30 July 2025  
8.33%

Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at  
% of year passed

### 1.3 - Operating Expenditure

Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
<b>Office of the Chief Executive</b>						
Councillors	-906,982	-24,021	3%	-49,709	48%	1
Office of the CEO	-872,177	-85,089	10%	-116,094	73%	2
<b>Office of the Chief Executive</b>	<b>-1,779,159</b>	<b>-109,110</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>-165,803</b>	<b>66%</b>	
<b>People &amp; Place</b>						
GM People & Place	-640,745	-29,948	5%	-49,010	61%	3
Customer Experience	-370,789	-23,559	6%	-30,254	78%	4
People and Customer	-1,036,621	-37,512	4%	-87,564	43%	4
Public Relations and Communications	-898,857	-63,613	7%	-89,322	71%	5
City Activation	-1,732,080	-415,629	24%	-261,285	159%	6
<b>People &amp; Place</b>	<b>-4,739,091</b>	<b>-570,520</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>-522,435</b>	<b>109%</b>	
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>						
GM Finance & Governance	-598,471	-36,436	6%	-42,139	86%	7
Records Management	-330,843	-12,434	4%	-27,233	46%	10
Financial Services	-13,930,369	-1,102,823	8%	-1,142,352	97%	
Rates	-105,700	19,052	-18%	-7,083	-269%	8
Governance	-1,540,703	-56,739	4%	-1,105,887	5%	
Information Technology	-1,945,200	-175,899	9%	-236,614	74%	9
Fleet	-259,925	-1,764	1%	-10,966	16%	9
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>	<b>-18,711,212</b>	<b>-1,367,043</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>-2,572,275</b>	<b>53%</b>	
<b>Community</b>						
Community Development	-1,134,428	-69,342	6%	-91,777	76%	9
Diversity and Inclusion Activities	-34,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Families & Children	-23,500	0	0%	0	0%	
Health and Wellbeing Services	-12,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Library Services	-1,727,052	-105,535	6%	-165,451	64%	9
Senior Citizens	-10,000	2,000	-20%	0	0%	
Youth Services	-77,000	-240	0%	0	0%	
GM Community	-355,494	-16,798	5%	-28,158	60%	9
Safe Communities	-20,000	-926	5%	0	0%	
Animal Management	-80,617	-8,170	10%	-3,641	224%	10
Parking & Other Ranger Services	-883,578	-74,710	8%	-71,255	105%	9
<b>Community</b>	<b>-4,357,668</b>	<b>-273,722</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>-360,282</b>	<b>76%</b>	
<b>Infrastructure</b>						
Aquatic Centre	-1,477,736	-38,072	3%	-120,644	32%	9
Civic Centre	-276,356	-11,933	4%	-21,779	55%	9
Depot	-82,093	0	0%	-6,840	0%	
Driver Resource Centre	-36,894	-34	0%	-3,073	1%	9
Emergency Operations	-10,000	0	0%	-3,000	0%	
Gray Community Hall	-80,735	-641	1%	-6,726	10%	9



Section 2  
Financial Results

30 July 2025

8.33%

Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at  
% of year passed

### 1.3 - Operating Expenditure

Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
GM Infrastructure	-1,455,027	-39,538	3%	-128,176	31%	9
Open Space	-6,070,535	-70,452	1%	-505,540	14%	9
Private Works	-117,438	-7,451	6%	-9,495	78%	9
Recreation Centre	-347,299	-10,981	3%	-28,943	38%	9
Roads & Transport	-1,496,614	-77,255	5%	-119,652	65%	9
Stormwater Infrastructure	-174,177	0	0%	-20,000	0%	
Street Lighting	-884,675	-29,462	3%	-27,408	107%	
Subdivisional Works	-25,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Waste Management	-8,981,150	-39,003	0%	-710,313	5%	9
Odegaard Drive Investment Property	-123,003	-5,100	4%	-18,313	28%	9
Durack Heights Community Centre	-65,177	-641	1%	-5,426	12%	9
Goyder Square	-240,204	0	0%	-20,213	0%	9
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>-21,944,114</b>	<b>-330,562</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>-1,755,541</b>	<b>19%</b>	
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>-51,531,244</b>	<b>-2,650,956</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>-5,376,336</b>	<b>49%</b>	

**Notes**

1. More election related expenditures expected toward the end of calendar year.
2. This relates to expenditures in subscriptions and memberships, more invoices expected in coming months
3. Variance is due to vacant position during the period
4. Staff training and recruitment expenses lower than budgeted
5. Invoices for July yet to received and processed
6. Variance due to the timing of expected cashflow for the program running cost of Palmerston Youth Festival
7. Lower than expected employee and stationery expenses for the month of July
8. The accounting treatment for the recognition of NT Concession needs to be rectified
9. Variance is due to awaiting invoices for the services received in month of July.
10. Spent more than budgeted in some areas like disability parking permits and animal identification tags but will be managed within the department budget.



Approved by: Finance Manager

Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at  
% of year passed

Section 2  
Financial Results

30 July 2025

8.33%

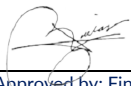
### 1.3 - Capital Income

Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
<b>Office of the Chief Executive</b>						
Office of the Chief Executive	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>People &amp; Place</b>						
People & Place	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>						
Financial Services	3,000,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Fleet	150,000	8,636	6%	0	0%	1
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>	<b>3,150,000</b>	<b>8,636</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>Community &amp; Culture</b>						
Animal Management	19,580	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>Community &amp; Culture</b>	<b>19,580</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>Infrastructure</b>						
GM Infrastructure	100,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Open Space	852,287	0	0%	0	0%	
Roads & Transport	808,864	0	0%	0	0%	
Subdivisional Works	200,000	43,313	22%	0	0%	2
Waste Management	26,478	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>1,987,628</b>	<b>43,313</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>CAPITAL INCOME</b>	<b>5,157,208</b>	<b>51,949</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	

Note: Capital Grants largely make up Capital Income. Grants are recognised when the grant obligations have been met, which is when expenditure on capital

**Notes**

1. Income from sale of vehicle
2. Income received from Funds in leu of construction



Approved by: Finance Manager

Section 2  
Financial Results

Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at 30 July 2025  
% of year passed 8.33%

### 1.3 - Capital Expenditure

	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
<b>Office of the Chief Executive</b>						
Office of the Chief Executive	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<b>People &amp; Place</b>						
Arts & Culture	-100,000	-10,870	11%	0	0%	1
People & Place	-100,000	-10,870	11%	0	0%	
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>						
Information Technology	-817,967	0	0%	-39,167	0%	
Fleet	-417,377	-67,340	16%	0	0%	3
Finance & Governance	-1,235,344	-67,340	5%	-39,167	172%	
<b>Community &amp; Culture</b>						
Library Services	-353,294	0	0%	0	0%	
Animal Management	-19,580	0	0%	0	0%	
Community & Culture	-372,874	0	0%	0	0.00%	
<b>Infrastructure</b>						
Aquatic Centre	-72,228	0	0%	-6,000	0%	
Civic Centre	-179,920	0	0%	0	0%	
Depot	-374,986	0	0%	0	0%	
Driver Resource Centre	-10,240	0	0%	0	0%	
GM Infrastructure	-1,118,730	0	0%	-450,000	0%	2
Open Space	-2,764,031	-2,650	0%	-30,000	9%	2
Recreation Centre	-105,984	0	0%	0	0%	
Roads & Transport	-2,901,165	-1,671	0%	-200,000	1%	2
Stormwater Infrastructure	-204,800	0	0%	0	0%	
Street Lighting	-605,957	-9,452	2%	0	0%	4
Waste Management	-972,602	0	0%	-158,416	0%	2
Odegaard Drive Investment Property	-72,228	0	0%	0	0%	
Durack Heights Community Centre	-9,267	0	0%	0	0%	
Infrastructure	-9,392,137	-13,772	0%	-844,416	2%	
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>-11,100,355</b>	<b>-91,982</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>-883,583</b>	<b>10%</b>	

**Notes**

1. Variance is due to expenditure on Library Bulkhead Word Art
2. Invoices are yet to be received for the works completed
3. One fleet vehicle purchased during the month
4. Variance due to expenditure for replacement of cable in Zuccoli

  
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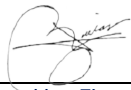
Section 2  
Financial Results

Capital Expenditure & Funding as at  
% of year passed

30 July 2025  
8.33%

### 1.4 - Capital Expenditure & Funding

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	Annual Budget	Actuals
Land & Buildings	4,713,566	2,650
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	4,559,433	1,671
Fleet	436,957	67,340
Other Assets (including furniture & office equip)	817,967	0
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>11,100,354</b>	<b>91,982</b>
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY:	Annual Budget	Actuals
Operating Income	4,572,924	20,322
Capital Grants	1,807,208	0
Transfers from Cash Reserves	4,720,222	71,660
Borrowings	0	0
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING</b>	<b>11,100,355</b>	<b>91,982</b>



Approved by: Finance Manager

Balance Sheet as at  
% of year passed

## 2.1 - Balance Sheet


Balance Sheet	YTD	
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash & cash equivalents		
Cash on Hand	1,355	Petty Cash
Tied Funds	4,083,304	Tied funds equals restricted reserve and unearned Grant income
Investments		
Tied Funds	6,058,117	Tied funds equals restricted reserve and unearned Grant income
Untied Funds	6,795,579	
Receivables		
Rates and Charges	38,073,204	
Other Receivables	1,963,921	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>56,975,479</b>	
<b>Non-Current Assets:</b>		
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	534,277,296	
Investment property	6,200,000	
Work in progress	7,285,383	
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>547,762,679</b>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>604,738,157</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>		
Payables	2,893,471	
Unearned Grant Income (AASB1058)	874,169	Unearned grant income
Borrowings	619,205	
Provisions	1,519,053	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>5,905,898</b>	
<b>Non-Current Liabilities:</b>		
Borrowings	4,432,665	
Provisions	2,102,456	
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>6,535,121</b>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>12,441,019</b>	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>592,297,139</b>	
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated Surplus	237,611,486	
Profit & Loss - current Year	24,452,993	
Net Reserves	5,197,648	
Working Capital Reserve	5,711,243	
Net Transfers to & from Reserves	- 9,780,846	
Election Reserve	100,000	Internally restricted reserve
Disaster reserve	500,000	Internally restricted reserve
Unexpended Capital works	4,103,508	Internally restricted reserve
Developer Funded reserve	989,011	Internally restricted reserve
Waste Reserve	3,574,733	Internally restricted reserve
Revaluation reserves	325,035,012	
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>592,297,139</b>	



Approved by: Finance Manager

Section 2  
Financial ResultsStatement of Reserves as at 30 July 2025  
% of year passed 8.33%**2.2 - Statement of Reserves - Budget Movements 2024/25**

OTHER RESERVES	Opening Balance \$ 01/07/2025	Surplus Analysis to Reserves \$	Original Budget 2025/26 to Reserves \$	Original Budget 2025/26 from Reserves \$	1st Review 2025/26 to Reserves \$	1st Review 2025/26 from Reserves \$	2nd Review 2025/26 to Reserves \$	2nd Review 2025/26 from Reserves \$	Projected Balance at the YTD 2025/26 \$
<b>Externally Restricted Reserves</b>									
Unexpended Grants Reserve	141,600								141,600
<b>Externally Restricted Reserves</b>	<b>141,600</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>					<b>141,600</b>
<b>Internally Restricted Reserves</b>									
Election Expenses Reserve	200,000			(200,000)					-
Disaster Recovery Reserve	500,000								500,000
Unexpended Capital Works Reserve	-								-
Developer Funds In Lieu Of Construction	1,806,470		627,871	(200,000)					2,234,341
Waste Management Reserve	2,397,404			(284,743)					2,112,660
Asset Renewal Reserve	-								-
Major Initiatives Reserve	-								-
<b>Internally Restricted Reserves</b>	<b>4,903,874</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>627,871</b>	<b>(684,743)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>4,847,001</b>
<b>Unrestricted Reserves</b>									
Working Capital Reserve	5,378,895		80,462	(1,150,000)					4,309,357
<b>Unrestricted Reserves</b>	<b>5,378,895</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>80,462</b>	<b>(1,150,000)</b>					<b>4,309,357</b>
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>10,424,369</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>708,333</b>	<b>(1,834,743)</b>					<b>9,297,958</b>



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Section 2  
Financial ResultsInvestments Management Report as at  
% of year passed30 July 2025  
8.33%**2.3 - Investment Management Report**

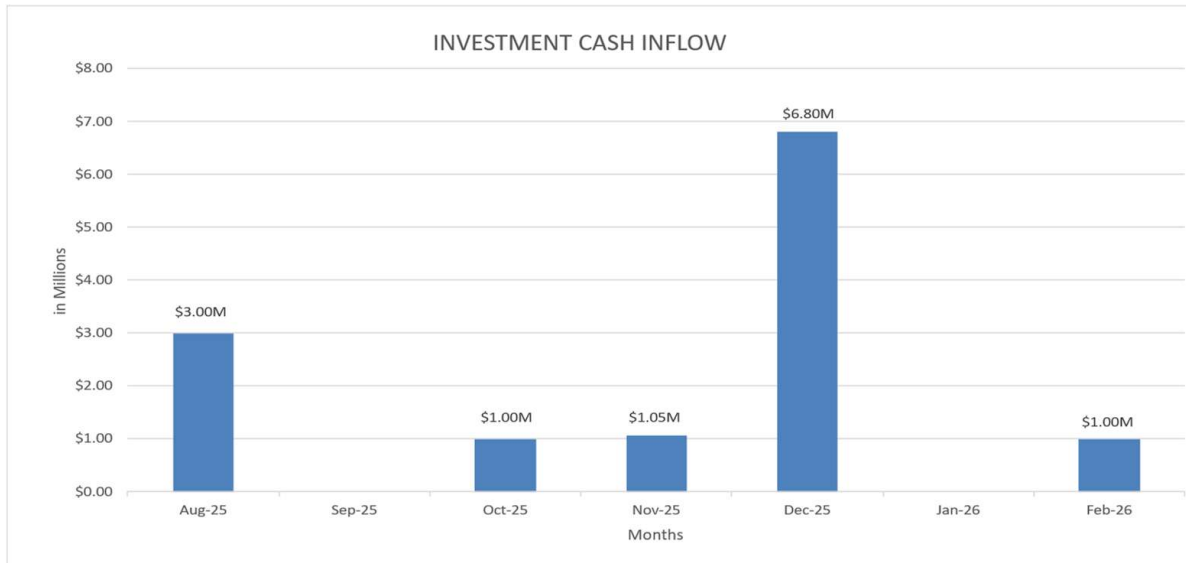
COUNTERPARTY	RATING	AMOUNT	INTEREST RATE	MATURITY DATE	DAYS TO MATURITY	INSTITUTION TOTALS
AMP	S&P A2	\$ 2,000,000	5.00%	December 20, 2025	143	
AMP	S&P A2	\$ 3,000,000	5.10%	September 5, 2025	37	
AMP	S&P A2	\$ 1,051,000	4.85%	November 12, 2025	105	\$ 6,051,000.00
CBA	S&P A1+	\$ 3,302,696	4.11%	December 1, 2025	124	\$ 3,302,695.53
NAB	S&P A1+	\$ 1,000,000	4.95%	October 9, 2025	71	
NAB	S&P A1+	\$ 1,500,000	5.10%	December 5, 2025	128	
NAB	S&P A1+	\$ 1,000,000	4.70%	February 24, 2026	209	\$ 3,500,000.00
		\$ 12,853,696			117	

Investment Distribution by Credit Rating		
Credit Rating	% of Portfolio	Counterparty Limit
A1 & A1+	53%	100%
A2	47%	60%
A3	0%	40%

Investment Distribution by Individual institution		
ADI	% of Total	Max Individual limit
National Australian Bank (NAB)	27%	60%
Commonwealth Bank (CBA)	26%	60%
AMP Bank Limited	47%	40%

Interest Income Year to Date	Amount
Total Year to Date Interest on Cash at Bank	\$ 12,447
Total Year to Date Investment Earnings	\$ 24,548
Total Year to Date Interest from internal loan	\$ 3,218
Total Year to Date interest penalty income	\$ 58,243
<b>Total YTD Interest Income</b>	<b>\$ 98,456</b>

Cash at bank & Investments	Amount
Trading Account	\$ 4,083,304
Short Term Investment	\$ 12,853,696
Petty Cash	\$ 1,355
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$ 16,938,354</b>



PROPERTY INVESTMENT						
PROPERTY ADDRESS	VALUATION BASIS	VALUE	INCOME YTD	EXPENSE YTD	NET PROFIT YTD	COMPARATIVE YTD YIELD AT CASH RATE OF 3.85%
48 Odegaard Drive, Rosebery	Fair Value	\$ 6,200,000	\$ 38,567	\$ 5,100	\$ 33,467	\$ 258,319

  
 Approved by: Finance Manager



Section 2  
Financial Results

Debtor Control Accounts as at  
% of year passed

30 July 2025  
8.33%

## 2.4 Debtor Control Accounts

### RATES OUTSTANDING FOR THE CURRENT YEAR (Including interest)

Report Month	Debtor Rates & Charges	Current year Outstanding	Outstanding % of CY Rates	Total outstanding interest for all years	Payments Received in Advance
Jul-25	\$35,582,086	\$35,582,086	93.7%	\$15,398	\$258,986

### RATES OVERDUE BY YEARS

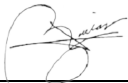
	Total	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-2021	2019-20	2018 & Prior
Rates and Charges Overdue Amount (Incl. Interest)	\$2,275,627	\$1,352,477	\$482,377	\$235,552	\$112,479	\$52,421	\$22,063	\$18,260
	100%	59.4%	21.2%	10.4%	4.9%	2.3%	1.0%	0.8%
Number Of Properties	1824	1195	334	141	74	43	19	18

### INFRINGEMENTS

	Total	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-2022	2020-21	2019 & Prior
Animal Infringements	177,695.26	10,364.00	68,536.00	28,169.00	25,480.86	21,787.40	16,994.00	6,364.00
Public Places	20,381.44	159.00	6,393.00	4,768.00	2,132.00	2,972.00	1,725.00	2,232.44
Parking Infringements	6,395.00	-	3,139.00	139.00	1,632.00	1,485.00		
Net Balance on Infringement Debts	204,471.70	10,523.00	78,068.00	33,076.00	29,244.86	26,244.40	18,719.00	8,596.44
	100%	5.1%	38.2%	16.2%	14.3%	12.8%	9.2%	4.2%
Number of Infringements	1,336.00	29	305	312	240	218	152	80

### SUNDRY DEBTORS:

	Total	Under 30 days	31 - 60 Days	61 - 90 Days	Over 90Days
	\$451,363.98	\$292,775.94	\$15,915.53	\$4,379.53	\$138,292.98
	100%	64.9%	3.5%	1.0%	30.6%



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SECTION 2  
Financial Results  
Creditor Accounts Paid 30 July 2025  
% of year passed 8.33%

### 2.5 - Creditor Accounts Paid

Vendor Number	Creditor Name	Creditor Payment Type	Amount \$	Notes
V03200	Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd	General Creditors	701,561.10	
V01814	N and M Klidas Nominees Pty Ltd T/A Vrahos Contr	General Creditors	293,677.59	
5104	JLM Contracting Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	286,078.03	
2587	Top End RACE	General Creditors	271,863.76	
V03073	Programmed Property Services	General Creditors	244,660.50	
2	Australian Taxation Office - PAYG	General Creditors	211,670.26	
V05237	The Darwin Festival Limited	General Creditors	165,000.00	
V01904	Veolia Environmental Service (Australia) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	109,324.39	
V04094	Information Professionals Pty Ltd	General Creditors	106,828.22	
V00368	iWater NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	88,185.57	
1607	Sterling NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	78,923.75	
V04986	Bridge NT Pty Ltd T/A Bridge Toyota	General Creditors	74,074.76	
V04904	Tropical Tree Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	57,220.90	
V02432	E3 Pro Pty Ltd	General Creditors	52,800.00	
3936	Arafura Tree Services and Consulting	General Creditors	52,206.00	
V02309	Mousellis and Sons Pty Ltd	General Creditors	46,847.93	
V04859	Keegan Group Pty Ltd	General Creditors	44,207.35	
V03655	Verian Group Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	44,000.00	
4660	Brightly Software Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	43,777.60	
54	Powerwater	Utilities	40,713.45	
V05638	The Trustee for UDLA Unit Trust trading as UDLA Pty Ltd	General Creditors	39,330.50	
V00295	Jacana Energy	Utilities	38,208.19	
V04498	HCS Constructions NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	33,082.50	
V00582	Ezko Property Services (Aust) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	32,728.80	
V00250		General Creditors	32,624.50	
V04167	All About Party Hire	General Creditors	31,203.80	
V02369	Maher Raumteen Solicitors	General Creditors	30,988.65	
87	Industrial Power Sweeping Services Pty	General Creditors	28,434.19	
V05234		General Creditors	27,173.70	
V04743	Orikan Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	26,550.70	
V02162	RMI Security - Conigrave Pty Ltd	General Creditors	25,587.77	
V01884	Valuations NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	24,750.00	
V00939	Defend Fire Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	24,062.08	
V05321		General Creditors	23,265.00	
V00228	Outback Tree Service	General Creditors	22,220.00	
V05494	Ashford Lamaya Architects	General Creditors	21,164.04	
5131	Core Traffic Control Pty Ltd	General Creditors	20,530.40	
V02025	Event Hospitality & Entertainment	General Creditors	19,391.57	
V04317	Randstad Pty Ltd	General Creditors	19,332.51	
V00682	Leigh Dyson Plumbing	General Creditors	18,887.00	
V04803	Top End Sounds Pty Ltd T/A Territory Events & Hire	General Creditors	18,816.40	
V05649	WhiteWater West Industries Ltd	General Creditors	18,800.00	
V04381	Telstra Limited	General Creditors	18,126.90	
V01801	Pumptech NT	General Creditors	17,380.00	
V00505	Riding for the Disabled Top End Inc	Refunds & Reimbursements	16,500.00	1
4912	Remote Area Tree Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	16,106.20	
V04802	AHG Building Contractors Pty Ltd	General Creditors	15,606.87	
4963	Centratech Systems Pty Ltd	General Creditors	15,180.00	
566	Stickers & Stuff	General Creditors	14,679.00	
V00292	Melbourne Business School Ltd	General Creditors	14,500.00	
V00399	Palmerston & Regional Basketball Assoc (PARBA)	General Creditors	13,685.47	
5640	Think Water - Winnellie & Virginia	General Creditors	13,163.77	
53	Eggins Electrical	General Creditors	12,843.18	
V04789	ACECOM NT PTY LTD T/A ACECOM FIRE & SECURITY	General Creditors	11,185.90	
V05852	Geografia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	10,857.00	
V05212	Next Tier Enterprises Pty Ltd	General Creditors	10,677.00	
V01789	Next Energy Lighting Pty Ltd	General Creditors	10,065.00	
2965	KIK FM Pty Ltd	General Creditors	10,000.00	
5615	EcOz Environmental Consulting	General Creditors	9,938.50	
V04072	Atomic Search Pty Ltd	General Creditors	9,900.00	
V05495	Proper Creative Darwin Pty Ltd	General Creditors	9,700.00	
V05173	Crest Performance Pty Ltd	General Creditors	9,530.40	
V01134	Territory Technology Solutions Pty Ltd	General Creditors	9,043.10	
V05580	Hoogland Consult Pty Ltd	General Creditors	9,020.00	
5508	Open Systems Technology Pty Ltd - CouncilFirst	General Creditors	8,624.70	
V00860	Costojic Pty Ltd	General Creditors	7,874.37	
1569	OneMusic Australia	General Creditors	7,727.36	
V01664	BCA Engineers Pty Ltd	General Creditors	7,700.00	
V05875	Darwin Film Society	General Creditors	7,700.00	

V03973	AANT Salary Packaging	General Creditors	7,382.48	
V03000	Jess Cussen Graphic Design	General Creditors	7,139.00	
V05748	House of Darwin Pty Ltd	General Creditors	6,975.65	
3099	Iron Mountain Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	6,904.47	
V04710	Sydney Tools Pty Ltd	General Creditors	6,155.60	
V04798	Australian Radio Network Pty Limited	General Creditors	5,993.68	
1109	Carcom Installations	General Creditors	5,958.60	
V05726	Neptune NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	5,867.40	
V01619	PKF Merit Pty Ltd	General Creditors	5,720.00	
V03776	Business Fuel Cards Pty Ltd	General Creditors	5,687.74	
V04809	Palmerston Rugby Union Club	General Creditors	5,500.00	
V04943	Centrelina Traffic Pty Ltd	General Creditors	5,500.00	
V05024	The Array Learn Make Play Ltd	General Creditors	5,400.00	
5525	Easyweb Digital Pty Ltd	General Creditors	5,187.57	
V00730	Tip Top Circus Entertainment	General Creditors	5,076.50	
V04258	L H & P Gouldson Partnership	General Creditors	4,932.00	
V03611	Northern Lights NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	4,928.00	
4561	Bendesigns	General Creditors	4,780.60	
V01860	Hays Specialist Recruitment (Australia) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	4,754.33	
90	Local Government Association of the NT (LGANT Ltd)	General Creditors	4,537.50	
V01697	Roussos Legal Advisory	General Creditors	4,512.20	
V01584	Salary Packaging Australia	General Creditors	4,466.01	
V05305	UE Tech Pty Ltd	General Creditors	4,196.50	
V05742	Val Morgan Retail Media Pty Ltd	General Creditors	4,195.71	
V01598	Social Playground Darwin	General Creditors	4,060.10	
V02328	Dale Austin - Dingo, Cockatoo Aboriginal Culture	General Creditors	3,960.00	
V04934	Fewmore Contracting	General Creditors	3,850.00	
V05354	Cleaner The Crow Cleaning Service P/L	General Creditors	3,674.00	
V05491	Cengage Learning Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,540.90	
V05367	MEC NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,531.70	
3438	NT Shade & Canvas Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,464.07	
V05220	Tangled Ventures Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,350.00	
399	St John Ambulance (NT) Incorporated	General Creditors	3,331.22	
V04068	Amazing XR	General Creditors	3,310.00	
V04056	Pit Stop Recharge Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,300.00	
V05851	ONE BUSINESS NT PTY LTD	General Creditors	3,300.00	
V03557	Global Headquarters Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,289.00	
479	JLT Risk Solutions Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,267.17	
5713	Clean Fun T/A Darwin Outdoor Cinema Hire/Darwin Laundries	General Creditors	3,267.00	
V02229	Studio B Designs	General Creditors	3,245.00	
5435	Access Hardware (NT) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,187.25	
V00971	Go Transit Media Group Pty Limited	General Creditors	3,174.30	
V02285	Territory Native Plants	General Creditors	3,169.89	
V04812	RingCentral Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,164.59	
V05619	Resource Hub Consulting Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,970.00	
V03971	Darwin Catering Company	General Creditors	2,950.00	
194	Jtagz Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,923.25	
V02444	Local Community Insurance Services	General Creditors	2,775.98	
V05689	Department of Corporate and Digital Development	General Creditors	2,772.00	
639	Cleanaway Pty Ltd.	General Creditors	2,707.46	
V05889		General Creditors	2,705.55	
V00168	Crafts Council of the Northern Territory	General Creditors	2,578.24	
V05105	Litchfield Welding	General Creditors	2,551.12	
V05765		General Creditors	2,475.00	
V04531	Mulga Security Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,458.78	
V05912		Refunds & Reimbursements	2,450.80	1
3313	Zip Print	General Creditors	2,447.50	
V01648		General Creditors	2,427.00	
V02534	Water Dynamics Pty Limited	General Creditors	2,396.38	
V04811	ReadSpeaker Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,359.50	
5387		General Creditors	2,354.00	
V01192	Easy Glass Services	General Creditors	2,343.02	
5114	S.E. Rentals Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,330.90	
V01610	Zone 3 Darwin	General Creditors	2,200.00	
V05682	Open Circle Training	General Creditors	2,155.00	
V05293	BAM Party & Events	General Creditors	2,120.45	
V01088	Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics	General Creditors	2,030.05	
2915	Territory Uniforms	General Creditors	2,015.30	
V03975	ArborWork Tree Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,980.00	
V04650	GC Freestyle Football Show	General Creditors	1,980.00	
123	Kerry's Automotive Group - KAP Motors Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,930.05	
V03746	Kim Koole Music	General Creditors	1,900.00	
V01194	Hire A Hubby Darwin	General Creditors	1,876.00	
V05755	GX Outdoors Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,809.50	
4007	The Ark Animal Hospital Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,774.31	
V02232	Xavier Beaubois - Amazing Drumming Monkeys	General Creditors	1,760.00	

V00873	Australia Day Council of SA	General Creditors	1,756.00	
V01106	Darwin Toilet Hire	General Creditors	1,732.50	
V05634	Dream Impact Inspire Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,630.00	
V05842	Playground Safety Inspectors Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,632.51	
V05724		General Creditors	1,600.00	
V01190	Slimline Warehouse	General Creditors	1,559.96	
V00962	Dept of Territory Families, Housing and Communities	General Creditors	1,543.25	
V04487		General Creditors	1,500.00	
4735	Palmerston and Rural Party Hire	General Creditors	1,452.00	
V05768	Innergic Art & Craft NT	General Creditors	1,430.00	
V02379	Paint and Create Darwin	General Creditors	1,428.00	
4398	Quality Indoor Plants Hire	General Creditors	1,411.15	
V01647	The Light Up Letter Co. NT	General Creditors	1,400.00	
V05606	Home Grown Lawn Mowing	General Creditors	1,400.00	
V05822		General Creditors	1,382.00	
V00515		Refunds & Reimbursements	1,356.45	1
4221	Institute of Public Works Engineering - IPWEA	General Creditors	1,298.00	
V00443	Forecast Machinery	General Creditors	1,210.99	
V02316		General Creditors	1,200.00	
251	Territory Party Hire	General Creditors	1,177.00	
V05190	Beauty of Tatum	General Creditors	1,175.00	
V01420	CENTRELINK (PAYROLL)	General Creditors	1,157.67	
V03767	WRM Water & Environment Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,155.00	
V05897	Luke James & Carolyn Adams	Refunds & Reimbursements	1,142.00	1
2186	Optus Billing Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,110.00	
V04352	MH Training Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,100.07	
4730	Sign City (NT) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,100.00	
V01277		General Creditors	1,100.00	
V05750	Spirit Hugs Artwork	General Creditors	1,100.00	
V05901		Refunds & Reimbursements	1,100.00	1
V00193	Amcom Pty Ltd Acc no CN5439	General Creditors	1,085.70	
V02306	Well Done International Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,081.79	
V02869	Tamsten Pty Ltd T/A Palmerston Veterinary Hospital	General Creditors	1,077.30	
3428	Bunnings Group Limited	General Creditors	1,071.63	
215	Employee Assistance Services NT Inc (EASA)	General Creditors	1,059.85	
V00271	NTIT (Fuji Xerox Business Centre NT)	General Creditors	1,051.20	
V05899		Refunds & Reimbursements	1,048.99	1
V00270		General Creditors	1,000.00	
V02275		General Creditors	1,000.00	
V04679		General Creditors	1,000.00	
V05100	Just Peachy Productions	General Creditors	1,000.00	
V05883	Sunshine Slushies	General Creditors	1,000.00	
3787	Top End Sounds Pty Ltd T/A Total Event Services	General Creditors	995.00	
V04917	OverDrive Australia	General Creditors	951.47	
253	Territory FM 104.1 Darwin - CDU	General Creditors	946.00	
5417	Institute of Public Works Engineering - IPWEAQ (Qld & NT)	General Creditors	935.00	
V04923	Garrards Pty Ltd	General Creditors	917.99	
3829	Fairy Jill's Enchanted Entertainment	General Creditors	902.00	
4029	Totally Workwear Palmerston	General Creditors	870.00	
V00022	Officeworks	General Creditors	867.45	
V01612	News Pty Limited (Advertising)	General Creditors	824.26	
V00073	Off the Leash	General Creditors	770.00	
V03035	Darwin Mobile Detailers	General Creditors	770.00	
V05222		General Creditors	770.00	
V03274	Top End Critters	General Creditors	750.00	
4528	Miranda's Armed Security Officers Pty	General Creditors	737.00	
V05199	ByProgress Pty Ltd t/as Giggling Geckos Amusements & Hire	General Creditors	709.50	
35	WINC Australia Pty Limited	General Creditors	702.49	
V05771	Akajack's Leathercraft	General Creditors	700.00	
V03431	Monsterball Amusements	General Creditors	692.00	
V05712		General Creditors	670.00	
V01397	RSPCA Darwin	Refunds & Reimbursements	660.00	1
V02780		Refunds & Reimbursements	660.00	1
V01722		General Creditors	650.00	
V05740	Lee Plowman Coaching	General Creditors	650.00	
V00200	Red Earth Automotive Pty Ltd	General Creditors	640.75	
V05814	Wild North Arts	General Creditors	600.00	
V05796		General Creditors	575.00	
V02474	HMG - Heath Motor Group Pty Ltd (Isuzu)	General Creditors	550.00	
V04293	Kulture Cuts Barbershop	General Creditors	550.00	
256	The Bookshop Darwin	General Creditors	546.11	
V03834		General Creditors	540.00	
V05914		Refunds & Reimbursements	526.00	1
V05913		Refunds & Reimbursements	510.84	1
V02314		General Creditors	500.00	
V04642	Patel Distributors	General Creditors	500.00	

V05143		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	500.00	
V05144		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	500.00	
V05882		General Creditors	500.00	
V05886		General Creditors	500.00	
V05915		Refunds & Reimbursements	490.15	1
V05884	Star Decor Group as Trustee for Ros Simpson Family trust t/as Kaboom Confetti	General Creditors	471.08	
V00648		General Creditors	470.00	
V00542	Industry Health Solutions	General Creditors	440.00	
V04876		General Creditors	430.10	
V01203	Tyrreright Palmerston	General Creditors	409.00	
4065	Southern Cross Protection Pty Ltd	General Creditors	401.50	
V05112	Darwin Chill Recovery	General Creditors	400.00	
V05684		Refunds & Reimbursements	400.00	1
V03665	Bilske Investments Pty Ltd T/A Outback Pest Co	General Creditors	396.00	
V05653	Stoddy's Mobile Mechanical	General Creditors	391.49	
V00332		General Creditors	374.00	
V03320		General Creditors	350.00	
V03936		General Creditors	350.00	
V02599	Freddy's Car Installations	General Creditors	330.00	
V04624		General Creditors	320.00	
272	City Wreckers	General Creditors	308.00	
V03237		Refunds & Reimbursements	300.00	1
V05089		General Creditors	300.00	
V05588		Refunds & Reimbursements	300.00	1
V05878		Refunds & Reimbursements	300.00	1
V05896		General Creditors	300.00	
V05900		Refunds & Reimbursements	300.00	1
V05772	CRC NT PTY LTD	General Creditors	297.00	
30	Colemans Printing Pty Ltd	General Creditors	284.35	
V05400	FIRSTAIDPRO AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD	General Creditors	277.00	
V05503	Mind Your Paws	General Creditors	275.00	
5036	Dormakaba Aust P/L T/as Territory Door Services	General Creditors	264.00	
V05809		Refunds & Reimbursements	257.49	1
V04085		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V04109		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V04226		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V04547		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V04775		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V05313		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V05362		Refunds & Reimbursements	250.00	1
V05879		General Creditors	250.00	
V05880		General Creditors	250.00	
V05881		General Creditors	250.00	
V05903		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V05907		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	
V00202	Central Business Equipment	General Creditors	238.70	
2336	Flick Anticimex Pty Ltd	General Creditors	216.81	
59	City of Palmerston-PLEASE PAY CASH	General Creditors	214.63	
V02223		General Creditors	200.00	
V05892		General Creditors	200.00	
V05902		Refunds & Reimbursements	200.00	1
V05790		General Creditors	150.00	
V05876		General Creditors	150.00	
V05770		Refunds & Reimbursements	149.00	1
237	National Flags	General Creditors	143.00	
V05376		Refunds & Reimbursements	124.10	1
V05890		General Creditors	120.00	
V05855		General Creditors	111.26	
V05583	FCD Health Pty Ltd t/as Palmerstonb GP Super Clinic	General Creditors	110.00	
3788	HPA Incorporated	General Creditors	100.00	
V01810	Jacana Energy - Payroll Deductions	General Creditors	100.00	
V03194		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	100.00	
V01569		Elected Members	84.00	
V00075	Mercury Group of Companies Pty Ltd (T/A Fit2Work)	General Creditors	61.60	
V05877		General Creditors	60.00	
V05920		Refunds & Reimbursements	60.00	1
V05356		Refunds & Reimbursements	51.55	1
V05817		General Creditors	51.55	
V05916		Refunds & Reimbursements	51.55	1
V05917		Refunds & Reimbursements	51.55	1
V05919		Refunds & Reimbursements	51.55	1
V05716		Refunds & Reimbursements	50.00	1
V05848		General Creditors	50.00	
V05885		Refunds & Reimbursements	50.00	1
V05898		General Creditors	50.00	
V05921		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	50.00	

V05922		Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	50.00	
V01938	Windcave Pty Limited	General Creditors	49.50	
V05101	Ezyas Car Wash NT	General Creditors	19.00	
V02545	Amazon Web Services Inc	General Creditors	5.44	
5	Australia Post	General Creditors	3.80	
			<b>4,278,452.67</b>	

Investments

-

Total Creditor Payments (excludes investments placed)

4,278,452.67

**Total Payments made to Local suppliers this month****3,832,415.55****Percentage of this month's payments made to local suppliers****89.57%****Notes**

1. Names redacted to de-identify personal details



Approved by: Finance Manager

SECTION 2  
Financial Results

Creditor Accounts Outstanding as at 30 July 2025  
% of year passed 8.33%

### 2.6 - Creditor Accounts Outstanding

Creditor No.	Creditor Name	Amount \$	Notes
V05088	[REDACTED]	(55.00)	1
V05814	Wild North Arts	(600.00)	1
54	Powerwater	(2,345.27)	1
V00318	QuickSuper Clearing House	(9,566.63)	1

**Notes**

1. Invoice processed in July and were paid in August

Names redacted to de-identify personal details



Approved by: Finance Manager



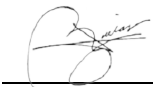
Section 2  
Financial Results  
Commercial Leases as at 30 July 2025  
% of year passed 8.33%

### 2.7 - Commercial Leases

Description	Original Budget \$	First Budget Review \$	Second Budget Review \$	Third Budget Review \$	Revised Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
<b>Income</b>										
Library Services	30,000	0	0	0	30,000	0	0%	0	0%	
GM Finance & Governance	70,000	0	0	0	70,000	10,763	15%	5,833	185%	1
Civic Centre	151,150	0	0	0	151,150	13,882	9%	12,596	110%	2
<b>Income</b>	<b>251,150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>251,150</b>	<b>24,645</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>18,429</b>	<b>134%</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>										
GM Finance & Governance	-12,000	0	0	0	-12,000	-1,355	11%	-1,000	135%	
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-12,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-12,000</b>	<b>-1,355</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>-1,000</b>	<b>135%</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>239,150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>239,150</b>	<b>23,290</b>		<b>17,429</b>		

**Notes**

1. Income from rental and lease properties received in advance
2. Rent for Civic Centre is slightly higher than budgeted due to CPI increase
3. High due to management fee charged for 60 Georgina Crescent



Approved by: Finance Manager

Section 2  
Financial Results

Council Loans as at  
% of year passed

30 July 2025  
8.33%

## 2.8 - Council Loans

### INTERNAL LOANS

Making the Switch Balances (FILOC)	
1st Withdrawal June 2019	640,000
2nd Withdrawal June 2020	2,583,849
Public lighting officer June 2020	114,000
<b>Project Cost taken from FILOC</b>	<b>3,337,849</b>
Repayments 2019/20	(200,000)
Repayments 2020/21	(313,615)
Repayments 2021/22	(321,849)
Repayments 2022/23	(330,299)
Repayments 2023/24	(338,971)
Repayments 2024/25	(346,950)
<b>Loan Balance at 1/07/2025</b>	<b>1,833,114</b>
Expected Repayments 2025/26	(357,004)
<b>Expected Loan Balance as at 30/06/2026</b>	<b>1,476,111</b>

Making the Switch (FILOC)					
Principal as of 1/7/2025	Principal Loan Repayments for 2025-26	Principal Loan Repayments YTD	Interest for 2025-26	Interest YTD	Loan balance as of 30/07/2025
1,833,114	-357,004	-29,462	35,154	3,218	1,803,653
The above table shows the total loan amount taken from the FILOC Reserve. The interest rate is fixed at 2.60% for the duration of the loan and is paid on a quarterly basis. The loan repayments will end in 2029. The final loan value for this project is \$3,223,849 not including employee costs for the Public Lighting Officer. External Loan - Archer Landfill Rehabilitation Balances					

SWELL Loan (FILOC)	
<b>Project Cost taken from FILOC</b>	<b>400,000</b>
Repayments 2023/24	(80,000)
Repayments 2024/25	(80,000)
<b>Loan Balance at 1/07/2025</b>	<b>240,000</b>
Expected Repayments 2025/26	(80,000)
<b>Expected Loan Balance as at 30/06/2026</b>	<b>160,000</b>

SWELL Loan (FILOC)			
Principal as of 1/7/2025	Principal Loan Repayments for 2025-26	Principal Loan Repayments YTD	Loan balance as of 30/07/2025
240,000	-80,000	-6,667	233,333
The above table shows the loan amount taken from the FILOC Reserve for SWELL construction. An amount of \$80K is repaid on yearly basis and no interest is charged. The loan repayments will end in 2028.			

Section 2  
Financial Results

Council Loans as at  
% of year passed

30 July 2025

8.33%

## 2.8 - Council Loans

### EXTERNAL LOANS

Archer Landfill Rehabilitation Balances (NAB)	
<b>Total Loan Amount</b>	<b>1,960,000</b>
Repayments 2019/20	(221,414)
Repayments 2020/21	(228,223)
Repayments 2021/22	(234,634)
Repayments 2022/23	(241,037)
Repayments 2023/24	(248,082)
Repayments 2024/25	(254,986)
<b>Loan Balance at 1/07/2025</b>	<b>531,624</b>
Expected Repayments 2025/26	(262,201)
<b>Expected Loan Balance as at 30/06/2026</b>	<b>269,423</b>

Archer Landfill Rehabilitation (NAB)					
Principal as of 1/7/2025	Principal Loan Repayments for 2025-26	Principal Loan Repayments YTD	Interest for 2025-26	Interest YTD	Loan balance as of 30/07/2025
531,624	-262,201	-21,613	-12,172	1,251	510,011
The External Loan - Archer Landfill Rehabilitation is for a term of 8 years commencing 28 June 2019 and concluding 30 June 2027. The interest rate is fixed at 2.78% for the duration of the loan and is paid on a quarterly basis.					

SWELL (NAB)	
<b>Total Loan Amount</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>
Repayments 2023/24	-187,500
Repayments 2024/25	-250,000
<b>Loan Balance at 01/07/2025</b>	<b>4,562,500</b>
Expected Repayments 2025/26	-250,000
<b>Expected Loan Balance as at 30/06/2026</b>	<b>4,312,500</b>

SWELL (NAB)					
Principal as of 1/7/2025	Principal Loan Repayments for 2025-26	Principal Loan Repayments YTD	Interest for 2024-25	Interest YTD	Loan balance as of 30/07/2025
4,562,500	-250,000	-20,833	-263,362	20,168	4,541,667
The External Loan - SWELL is for a term of 20 years commencing 29 December 2023 and concluding 28 September 2043. The interest rate is variable for the duration of the loan and is paid on a quarterly basis. The current interest for September quarter 2025 quarter is 4.7537%					



Approved by: Finance Manager

Section 2  
Financial Results


Elected Member Expenses 30 July 2025  
% of year passed 8.33%

## 2.9 - Elected Member Expenses

Description	Revised Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>						
Superannuation	-49,507	3,119	-6%	-4,126	-76%	
Mayoral Allowance	-121,264	-9,903	8%	-10,105	98%	
Mayor Vehicle Allowance	-25,000	-2,123	8%	-2,083	102%	
Mayoral Professional Dev Allowance	-5,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Deputy Mayoral Allowance	-17,200	-1,461	8%	-1,433	102%	
Elected Members Councillor Allowances	-179,095	-10,514	6%	-14,925	70%	1
Elected Members Professional Dev Allowance	-30,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Elected Members Meeting Allowance	-70,000	-2,700	4%	-14,588	19%	2
Information Technology Capital Entitlement	-16,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Acting Mayor Allowance	-10,546	0	0%	0	0%	
Contractors	-350,000	0	0%	-1,794	0%	
Printing & Photocopying Costs	-1,000	0	0%	-200	0%	
Other Sundry Expenses	-6,578	-134	2%	0	0%	
Food & Catering Costs	-9,000	-305	3%	0	0%	
Course Seminar & Conference Registration	-10,557	0	0%	0	0%	
Air Travel	-3,093	0	0%	0	0%	
Travel Accommodation	-2,111	0	0%	0	0%	
Travel Related Costs Other	-1,031	0	0%	-455	0%	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>-906,982</b>	<b>-24,021</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>-49,709</b>	<b>48%</b>	

**Notes**

1. Due to two Elected Member Vacancies.
2. Limited additional meetings.



Approved by: Finance Manager

Section 2

Financial Results

CEO Credit Card Transactions as at  
% of year passed

30 July 2025  
8.33%

2.10 - CEO Credit Card Transactions

Cardholder Name: Andrew Walsh

Cardholder Position: CEO

Period 01/07/2025 to 28/07/2025

Transaction Date	Amount \$	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
No transactions			
Total	\$ -		

Cardholder Name: Nadine Nilon

Cardholder Position: CEO

Period 29/07/2025 to 10/08/2025

Transaction Date	Amount \$	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
No transactions			
Total	\$ -		



Approved by: Finance Manager

# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	13.2.3
Report Title:	Major Capital Projects Update
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 19 August 2025
Author:	Senior Project Manager, Richard Azzopardi
Approver:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon

## Community plan

Future Focused: Palmerston is an innovative city that sustains itself through the challenges of the future.

## Purpose

The purpose of this Report is to update Council on the status of current Major Capital Projects.

## Key messages

- Council has several major capital projects underway that have a planned, or contracted value, greater than \$1 million.
- The following projects have updates included as attachments of this report:
  - Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade.
  - Zuccoli Community Hub – Stage 2.
  - Enterprise Resource Planning Project (ERP).
- Updates on other relevant projects additional to those listed are also included within this report with updates, these include:
  - Dark Spot Lighting Upgrade Program.
  - SWELL Barbecue and Carpark Upgrades.
  - Library Café Refurbishment.
  - Hobart Park Upgrade.
  - Black spot Projects.
- Animal Management Facility

## Recommendation

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

## Background

Council had a \$15.07M Capital Works Program in 2024/25 following the third budget review. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Council Meeting in June, Council adopted a Capital Works Program for 2025/26 of \$6.60M. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Council Meeting in July, Council resolved to carry forward \$4.50M from 2024/25, which resulted in a total capital budget for 2025/26 of \$11.10M.

The Capital Works Program include a broad range of asset renewal programs along with major capital projects from planning and development stages to delivery.

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). Typically, Council's programs and projects are reported through specific project communications with updates provided in the quarterly and financial reports.

## Discussion

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

- Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade **Attachment 13.2.3.1.**
- Zuccoli Community Hub **Attachment 13.2.3.2.**
- Enterprise Resource Planning Project (ERP) **Attachment 13.2.3.3.**

Council is also progressing other relevant capital projects, as summarised below.

### Dark Spot Lighting Upgrade Program

Installation of new lights on Stockwhip Drive, Marlow Lagoon was completed in June 2025, with final luminaires to be relocated from existing power poles in conjunction with energisation by Power and Water.

The design of lighting upgrades in Kilgour Lane and Fiveash Lane is complete, and a procurement process has commenced through the relevant period contract.

The 2025/26 works program has been prepared with work planned for:

- Sanctuary Lakes, Gunn.
- Rosebery Park, Rosebery.
- Palmerston Circuit, CBD.

### SWELL Barbecue and Carpark Upgrades

Quotations for a new shade structure over the basketball area are being assessed, with work on site likely to start in September.



## Library Café Refurbishment

Demolition and rectification work to bring building services up to standards is now complete. The next phase of work is ready to commence following a successful Expression of Interest (EOI) process for the cafe operation.

## Hobart Park Upgrades

A tender was awarded for the design and construction of a new public toilet in May. Off-site manufacturing is ongoing, and installation is expected in October 2025.

Quotations for shade structures and park furniture, utilising the remainder of the grant funds, are being assessed, with work likely to start in October.

## Black Spot Projects

Work on safety improvements on Bonson Terrace between the SWELL access and Tilston Avenue intersection has been completed. The project will reduce vehicle speeds and provides improved pedestrian facilities.



**Completed work at Bonson Terrace**

Work on safety improvements on Yarrawonga Road is expected to commence in August. This project will reduce vehicle speeds and facilitate safer turning movement.

## Animal Management Facility

This project involves the construction of the next stage of the animal management facility, including up to 16 new pens. Planning work has commenced on this project, with a review of the operation of the previously constructed stage informing some design modifications for the new stage.

## Consultation and marketing

Consultation occurs as relevant to each project and its status required during the preparation of this Report.

## Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

## Budget and resource implications

The projects are being delivered within the 2025-26 Capital Works Program. Individual budget updates are included with the current project summaries.

## Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

### 5. Infrastructure

Failure to plan, deliver and maintain fit for purpose infrastructure.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Community Infrastructure Plan 2016-2026](#)

## Council officer conflict of interest declaration

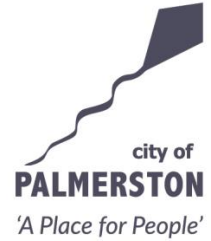
We the author and approving officer declare that we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

## Attachments

1. Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade [13.2.3.1 - 5 pages]
2. Zuccoli Community Hub [13.2.3.2 - 4 pages]
3. Enterprise Resource Planning Project ( ER P) [13.2.3.3 - 3 pages]

# ARCHER WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

## AUGUST 2025 UPDATE



### PROJECT REVIEW

#### Summary:

Redevelopment of the Archer Waste Management Facility (AWMF) includes the construction of a new recycling area (inclusive of a cardboard compactor), relocation of the gatehouse to facilitate the recycling area upgrade, improvements to access and roads, and the construction of a general waste push-pit to improve safety and functionality.

#### Website link:

<https://palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/major-projects/archer-waste-management-facility-awmf-upgrade>.

#### Total budget:

\$1,581,733

#### Funding source(s):

- City of Palmerston - \$1,555,255.
- Northern Territory Government - \$26,477 (installation of the cardboard compactor).

#### Anticipated completion date(s):

- 
- Cardboard Compactor – September 2025.
- Recycling area – September 2025.

### STATUS UPDATE

#### Percentage complete:

Design: 100%  
Construction: 50%

**Value of Works Complete:**

\$769,815.36

**Cost to complete:**

\$682,803 (recycle centre)

\$ 73,522 (carboard compactor)

\$756,325 (total)

**Works to date summary:**

The contract for the design and construction of the recycling area, which will accommodate the cardboard compactor, was awarded on 17 October 2024 to CMA Contracting.

The contractor commenced construction in January 2025. Clearing, demolition, disconnection of existing services, and bulk earthworks have been completed.

Unfavourable weather conditions in February caused project delays. Subgrade preparation was completed in early March, and drainage works commenced. However, significant additional rainfall appeared to have raised the water table, causing instability in the material beneath the subgrade. As a result, further progress was not possible without substantial additional earthworks to stabilise the site. All works were ceased on 20 March 2025.

Following a geotechnical investigation, it was recommended to Council that the site be allowed to naturally dry prior to recommencing works. Standdown costs and some re-works were required which has increased the overall costs of the project.

Groundwater monitoring was established in May, which after regular monitoring, works resumed on site 23 June 2025, three (3) weeks later than previously forecast, as groundwater impacted the subgrade material longer than anticipated. This has delayed the likely completion and installation of the cardboard compactor from August to September.

Since recommencement, drainage culverts and underground service installations and subgrade preparation is complete. Kerbing and the supply, spreading and compaction of road pavement material is underway.

The cardboard compactor is ready for delivery to site. Council is in communication with the supplier to coordinate delivery with the schedule of works, expected early September.





30 July 2025 – Subbase placement and compaction



31 July 2025 – Subbase placement and compaction



## Upcoming works:



**Subbase material being placed**

Including some re-work to the subgrade layer, approximately 6 weeks will be required to complete construction. The current anticipated timeline is as follows:

**August 2025**

- Final trim of subbase material.
- Completion of kerbing.
- Shaping swale drains and installation of rock pitching around culvert headwalls.
- Installation of footings for shade structure and concrete slab for cardboard compactor.
- Completion of road basecourse.
- Shade structure and cardboard compactor installation.

**September 2025**

- Asphalt.
- Landscaping and irrigation.
- Commissioning of services, cardboard compactor and handover.
- Communications plan for opening of upgrade.

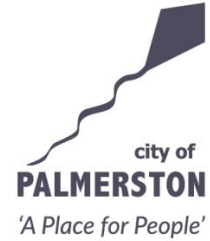


### Project risks:

With the installation of the road pavement materials the risk to the project schedule has significantly reduced.



# ZUCCOLI COMMUNITY HUB



## AUGUST 2025 UPDATE

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

#### Summary:

The Master Plan for the Zuccoli Community aims to provide an integrated multi-purpose precinct to meet open space, recreation and community needs for the rapidly growing Zuccoli and wider City of Palmerston communities. The Master Plan details the proposed stages of construction. This report pertains to the construction of Stage 2 and the design of Stage 3.

#### Total budget:

\$ 2,106,563 (2024/25) – for Stage 2 construction (partial)  
\$ 450,000 (2025/26) – for Stage 3 design

#### Funding source(s):

- City of Palmerston - \$1,444,674 (2024/25).
- Federal Government – \$411,889 LRCI (2024/25).
- Northern Territory Government - \$250,000 (2024/25).
- Internal Reserves \$450,000 (2025/26).

#### Anticipated completion date:

- Stage 2 pump track – November 2025
- Stage 3 design - 2026

#### Additional information:

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

## STATUS UPDATE

### Stage 2 Costs:

ACTIVITY	STATUS	AWARDED CONTRACT VALUE	APPROVED VARIATIONS	APPROVED CLAIMS
Civil Design	Complete	\$54,970	N/A	\$54,970
Stage 2 Landscape Design	Underway	\$133,885	Nil	\$114,300
Walking Trail (LRCI)	Complete	\$270,904	Nil	\$270,904
BBQ and Seating (LRCI)	Complete	\$165,110	Nil	\$145,037
Stage 2 Civil Works	Complete	\$644,450	\$100,350	\$676,905
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,369,669</b>	<b>\$100,350</b>	<b>\$1,262,116</b>

### Works to date summary:

Stage 2 includes the pump track, walking paths, shade structures, BBQ facilities, and associated civil works. The civil design, encompassing earthworks and stormwater management, has been completed.

The current activities within the available budget aims to complete the Stage 2 landscaping design, Stage 2 civil earthworks and stormwater, walking trail with seating and BBQ area provided, and the pump track. The areas for all remaining Stage 2 elements will be grassed in the interim. Progress in the past month:

- Practical Completion of Stage 2 Civil works. Site has now been hydroseeded with establishment period underway.
- Procurement of park furniture including BBQ, shelter, seating and bins complete with construction of the area nearing completion (at the time of writing this report).
- Landscape overall design of all Stage 2 elements has progressed and the 100% design drawings are currently under review.
- Tender for the construction of the pump track element is currently being advertised, with the tender expected to be awarded late August.



Stage 2 Civil works complete – multi-sports court area hydroseeding



BBQ & Shade Structure Area under construction

### Upcoming works:

Work progressing in the next two (2) month includes:

- Continued establishment of seeded grass for Stage 2 areas including sports court, skate park and gym station areas.
- Review and completion of 100% designs for all Stage 2 infrastructure, including the elevated walkway, skate park, basketball/multi-purpose court, and exercise equipment.
- Closing of pump track construction tenders, evaluation and award of contract.

The elevated walkway, skate park, basketball/multi-purpose court, and exercise equipment will be built as further funding becomes available.

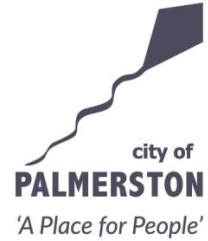
### Project risks:

The allocated budgets are based on concept designs and high-level estimates. A detailed cost assessment for the remainder of the Stage 2 works will be updated once the design is complete and will be used to inform future staging and budget requirements.

Current project funding will enable the completion of the civil earthworks, the identified walking trail and seating areas, and commencement of the pump track. The final extent of supporting infrastructure able to be delivered with the pump track (i.e. lighting, additional seating, shade, landscaping) will be limited to the available budget at the time of tendering.

# ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING PROJECT

## AUGUST 2025 UPDATE



### PROJECT OVERVIEW

#### Summary:

City of Palmerston (CoP) requires effective software systems capable of delivering efficient and quality services to the community while meeting the organisation's internal corporate needs. An Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Project has been identified to enable a strategic approach to updating Council's existing system.

#### Project budget:

\$2 million over three (3) financial years

#### Funding source(s):

City of Palmerston

#### Completion date:

2026

#### Contractor:

Project Management Support - Information Professionals Group (IPG).

### STATUS UPDATE

#### Percentage complete:

25%

#### Actual costs to date (consultancy):

- FY24 - \$282,900.
- FY25 - \$499,984.
- FY26 - \$0.
- Total to date \$782,884.

### Works to date summary:

CoP currently uses several software systems to meet its core operational requirements, some of which have partial integration, and most operate independently. To mitigate these issues, CoP has made the decision to invest in an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) tool. Information Professionals Group (IPG) have been engaged to provide project management services and specialist resources. An internal Project Control Group (PCG) has been established to provide direction and governance for the project.

A two-stage tender process has been prepared utilising the engaged professional services for legal support and probity services. The initial stage of Expression of Interest (EOI) was distributed to the market on 9 April and closed on 21 May. Following the assessment process, it was determined that no submissions would be proceeded with, and the tender panel has been disbanded by the Chief Executive Officer. All vendors have been advised of the outcome.

A revised procurement process is being established including consideration of a best of breed selection process with focus on solutions for high-risk areas.

Council's procurement staff have contacted the companies that downloaded the ERP EOI package seeking feedback to assist Council in refining its future tender processes to better align with the expectations and capabilities of potential suppliers, with limited responses having been received to date.

Council's professional services partner, Information Professionals Group (IPG), are undertaking a market review of key potential suppliers to better understand their high-level product and service capabilities.

It is expected that a full tender process will commence by September 2025, supported by legal and probity advice.

The Information Asset Register (IAR), high-level test cases, plans and acceptance criteria have been completed for all directorates.

### Upcoming works:

- Update of Project Plan to meet revised deliverables.
- Completion of the User Scenarios that are to be utilised as part of the tender assessment process.

### Project risks:

The project is currently tracking 19 risks and 0 issues.

The top four (4) high rated risks are:

- Limited CoP staff – as CoP has a limited number of resources, if business resources or SMEs are not available to support project activities, project deliverables, timelines and overall cost may be impacted.
- Impact of change and training activities - if change management and training activities are not timely and appropriately managed, there is a risk that staff may not use the system.
- Insufficient funding – while funds have been set aside for the implementation of the new ERP system, if the tender quote is higher and additional funding is not available, there is the risk that scope may need to be cut.

- No suitable vendors submitting tender responses – whilst ERP vendors/products for local governments have been identified, the EOI process has highlighted that there is a risk that they may not submit a tender response. This may be due to environmental issues such as current workload/commitments vs capacity, an unwillingness to enter a new market such as the Northern Territory, or an inability to align with Council's requirements.



# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	13.2.4
<b>Report Title:</b>	Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027 Annual Update
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday 19 August 2025
<b>Author:</b>	City Activation Manager, Matthew McNamara
<b>Approver:</b>	General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight

## Community plan

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

## Purpose

To provide Council with an update on the implementation of the Creative Industries Plan 2023–2027, specifically demonstrating how current actions align with the Measures identified for each of the five (5) strategic focus areas: Places and Spaces, Progressive and Unique, People, Partnerships, and Council as Host, Connector, Partner, Enabler.

## Key messages

- The Creative Industries Plan, adopted in 2023, sets a framework for arts, culture, and creative industries, guiding resource allocation for community enrichment.
- Over the past year, initiatives completed include the Marlow Lagoon Basketball Court artwork, Art workshops, a new Arts & Culture webpage, and planning for a dedicated arts facility and online art gallery.
- A newly created Artist Opportunities webpage has been created, providing greater visibility for artists within Palmerston.
- Workshops in 3D mapping and mobile filmmaking were delivered, along with a review of potential artists in residency sites.
- Strengthening of collaborations with Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Charles Darwin University (CDU) and other Council Arts Officers occurred through increased integration.
- Continued Sponsorship of Darwin Festival will help to create ongoing opportunities for our creative sector.
- City of Palmerston Library has expanded its programs to include art classes and self-directed creative projects.



## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027 Annual Update be received and noted.

## Background

At the 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Council Meeting of 7 March 2023, Council endorsed the Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027 to replace the expired Arts Strategy 2016 –2021 with a new framework for arts culture, and the creative industries.

### **13.1.4 Adoption of the City of Palmerston Creative Industries Plan 2023 – 2027**

**Moved:** Councillor Henderson  
**Seconded:** Councillor Garden

1. *THAT Report entitled Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027 be received and noted.*
2. *THAT Council adopts the City of Palmerston Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027 being Attachment 13.1.4.1 to report entitled Adoptions of the City of Palmerston Creative Industries Plan 2023-27.*
3. *THAT Council write to all participants who provided feedback, thanking them for their participation and advising them of adoption of the Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027.*

**CARRIED 10/279 - 7/03/2023**

The Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027 was developed to act as the framework for arts, culture and creative industries in Palmerston over a five (5) year period. It clearly articulates the objectives and measures that guide Council in making timely decisions regarding financial and human resource investments for the development of all forms of arts, culture and heritage, as well as the broader cultural engagement and enrichment of community life.

This Report provides an update on the Creative Industries Plan achievements over the past 12 months.

## Discussion

The Creative Industries Plan is a strategic document guiding the growth of arts and cultural activities in Palmerston. The Plan outlines specific Measures across five (5) focus areas to evaluate progress.

The five (5) focus areas are:

1. Places and Spaces
2. Progressive and Unique
3. People
4. Partnerships
5. Council as Host, Connector, Partner, Enabler.

## Progress Overview of the last 12 months

### 1. Places and Spaces

Objective: Palmerston features unconventional art spaces providing unique opportunities for live events, filming and developing new audiences.

The following progress against the Plan has been made in the past year against this objective:

- The Marlow Lagoon half-court basketball has been painted, with the public art commission awarded to Jason Lee, a Palmerston local and Larrakia artist.
- Eleven City of Palmerston planter boxes were painted of Native Flora by local artist Jessie Bell, who is a nationally renowned muralist.
- A dedicated [Art and Culture web page](#) has been created that will link residents to creative grant opportunities with Council, NT agencies and beyond.
- A new Workshop Arts program was held, providing professional development and skill building to our local Palmerston creatives. The first two (2) workshops were held in May (3D Mapping) and June (Mobile Phone Film Making).
- The library has established a community art space that is available for local artists to display their collections. Throughout the year, the library has showcased Art by Sully, an International Women's Day display by STEPS and Art Jam, James Venetis, the Rural Thursday Art Group and Martin Blakemore.



**Public Art Commissions: Marlow Lagoon Basketball Court & Planter Boxes**



**Library staff with local artist Jame Ventis and International Women's Day Display by Art Jam and STEPS**

## 2. Progressive And Unique

Objective: Embrace, celebrate and support the distinguishing cultural and creative features of Palmerston as a point of difference and pride.

The following progress against the Plan has been made in the past year against this objective:

- **Artist 'news and opportunities' web page:** A centralised web page is under development, dedicated to Palmerston artists and creatives. The page is to provide increased awareness and recognition of Palmerston art opportunities. Artist will have the opportunity to explore the latest commission opportunities. Our art will also be showcased.
- Exploration has commenced on a new initiative to identify and connect artists and creatives in Palmerston. The goal is to raise awareness and recognition of local art and culture, provide support, and encourage participation in future arts programs and decision-making.



Arts and Culture and Grant Resources for Artists page from CoP website

## 3. People

Objective: Maximise access for our community to engage with and participate in a diverse range of arts and creative industries experiences and opportunities.

The following progress against the Plan has been made in the past year against this objective:

- **3D Mapping Workshop:** A one-day 3D projection mapping workshop led by Northern Lights NT introduced participants to animation, spatial design, and projection software. Attendees created a 60-sec projection mapping piece using two (2) projection planes. The hands-on session engaged local artists and creatives, offering a valuable opportunity to explore light-based creative outcomes in a supportive, skill-building environment.
- **Mobile Film Making:** Led by Charles Darwin University, this hands-on workshop introduced participants to the fundamentals of mobile filmmaking. Using only their smartphones, attendees learned how to shoot and edit short films through a series of fun, practical exercises. The workshop focused on building confidence, developing storytelling skills, and encouraging creative exploration. It catered to both beginners and those looking to better understand their phones camera, offering an accessible and engaging introduction to digital film making.



- Darwin International Film Festival (DIFF) in Palmerston: A new partnership for 2025, bringing the DIFF to Palmerston for the first time.
- First Nations Artists engagement: Larrakia artist Jason Lee commissioned for Marlow Lagoon Basketball Court project



**3D mapping workshop**

- Launched in February 2025, All-In Activities is a fortnightly program designed for adults, held on Tuesday mornings. Initially aimed at seniors, the program has attracted a broad range of adult participants and offers a mix of guided art classes, self-directed creative projects, board games and social interaction.
- Afternoon Art Adventures, launched in May 2025, is a new monthly program held on the last Sunday of each month, offering creative painting sessions led by a Council Officer and practicing artist.



**Library staff and participants from All-In Activities and Afternoon Art Adventure**

#### 4. Partnerships

Objective: Work in partnership with established Northern Territory arts organisations and peak bodies, Top End Councils, Larrakia Nation and Northern Territory and Commonwealth agencies to maximise financial resourcing, access to skilled arts professionals, and access to opportunities for Palmerston artists and audiences.

The following progress against the Plan has been made in the past year against this objective:

- City of Palmerston engaged with the Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory (MAGNT) and Charles Darwin University to share resource information on delivery and logistics of arts programming.

- We established a new initiative for Council staff across the NT called Inter-Council Arts Officers Strategy Meeting, with the first meeting held in June. The forum allows staff to share information and collaborate in resource sharing across Councils.
- Discussion of a long-term strategy with the Darwin Fringe Festival to explore theatre in our yearly arts programming to further align with our Creative Industries Plan and to develop a broader picture of cultural tourism.
- Networking has been established with The Y and Larrakia Nation to ensure our arts programming is inclusive for all our community.

#### 5. Council as Host, Connector, Partner, Enabler

Objective: Council acts as an enabler and facilitator to link existing artists, arts organisations, businesses, and community with Council opportunities and resources.

The following progress against the Plan has been made in the past year against this objective:

- In February 2025, the Library hosted Textiles Travelling Suitcase (TTS), a Darwin-based community group who partnered with the Australian Textile Arts and Surface Design Association (ATASDA) to learn new stitching techniques.



**Textile Travelling Suitcase at the Library and Mobile Phone Film Making Workshop**

## NEXT STEPS

Building on the momentum established since the commencement of the Creative Industries Plan 2023–2027, the following actions are proposed to sustain progress, deepen community engagement, and ensure alignment with strategic measures.

These initiatives will support the continued development of Palmerston's arts and cultural landscape and reinforce Council's role as a host, connector, partner, and enabler:

- Continue to deliver the scheduled Workshop Arts program and evaluate engagement outcomes.
- Host and continue regular meetings with the NT Council officers Art Meet.
- Explore an online Art Collection Gallery / Public Art Trail page.
- Develop inclusive arts programming that ensures accessibility for people of all abilities.
- Distribution of a community art survey to ask Palmerston artists and creatives what art programming is relevant to the municipality.
- Form a public art reference group to involve local artists to contribute to art programming decisions and include First Nations artists.

- Extend programming into literature, theatre and music.
- Maintain and expand partnerships with cultural institutions, local organisations, and peak bodies to leverage resources and broaden reach.
- Continue feasibility assessment for a dedicated arts facility.

## Consultation and marketing

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

- Acting Manager Library Services

## Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

## Budget and resource implications

The Creative Industries Plan is funded through approved, existing operational and capital budgets.

## 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.

Advancing the initiatives set out in the Creative Industries Plan is essential to support and grow creative communities in Palmerston. Giving precedence to these actions not only encourages artistic expression but also helps build a space where local creatives can flourish. This approach demonstrates City of Palmerston's dedication to supporting the arts and helps protect the Council's public image by showing a clear commitment to investing in the continued growth of the creative sector.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Creative Industries Plan 2023-2027](#)

This report aligns to the Creative Industries Plan by discussing the actions, objectives and implementation strategy.

## 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

# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	13.2.5
<b>Report Title:</b>	Planning Scheme Amendment PA2024/0130
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday 19 August 2025
<b>Author:</b>	Planning and Development Manager, Christopher Tickner
<b>Approver:</b>	Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon

## Community plan

Future Focused: Palmerston is an innovative city that sustains itself through the challenges of the future.

## Purpose

This report provides Council with the submission on a proposed Minister-initiated planning scheme amendment to facilitate group dwelling and multiple dwelling development across the NT.

## Key message

- The Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment is proposing to amend the NT Planning Scheme 2020.
- The amendment proposes a reduction in density rates for one-bedroom dwellings in Zone LMR (Low-medium density residential) and a decrease in the required number of car parks for one-bedroom homes, social housing and new dwellings located close to bus stops, commercial zones and shared pathway networks.
- By reducing current density and car parking requirements for specific and well-located development, the amendment aims to encourage an increase in the range of housing types across the NT and support new and innovative housing designs.
- A submission to the Minister about the amendment has been prepared, which is due 29 August 2025.
- The submission is generally supportive of the changes but does raise some concern about the potential impacts on the local road network resulting from any reduction in parking rates.



## Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Planning Scheme Amendment PA2024/0130 be received and noted.

## Background

The Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment is proposing to amend the NT Planning Scheme 2020, with PA2024/0130. An explanatory document of the amendment is provided at **Attachment 13.2.5.1**, with the full amendment able to be viewed here; <https://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/planning-notices-online/notices#/index>

The amendment is in addition to current legislative reform introduced through the Lands, Planning and Environment Legislation Amendment Bill 2025, on 30 July 2025. The bill can be viewed here; <https://legislation.nt.gov.au/LegislationPortal/Bills/Before-Legislative-Assembly>. A review of the impact of the changes is underway and will be provided with the next quarterly infrastructure report.

Consultation on the proposed amendment commenced on 1 August 2025 and will run for a four-week period ending 29 August 2025. Feedback received during this period will inform the Ministers decision whether to amend the planning scheme as proposed or alter the proposal and amend the planning scheme in some other way.

## Discussion

The amendment relates to Part 5 (development requirements) of the NT Planning Scheme and proposes the following three (3) initiatives designed to encourage more innovative housing solutions and a wider range of homes to suit different needs. A submission has been prepared, provided at **Attachment 13.2.5.2**.


### Initiative 1

Proposes reductions to the minimum area of land required to establish a one-bedroom dwelling in Zone LMR (Low-Medium Density Residential) from 300m<sup>2</sup>, which is the rate that applies for all dwelling sizes, to 150m<sup>2</sup>.

Importantly for Council this only relates to multiple dwellings on a single lot and the minimum lot size in Zone LMR remains 300m<sup>2</sup>, which will ensure orderly spacing for crossovers and minimise potential impacts on the local road and pedestrian networks. The level of assessment for multiple and group dwellings is also maintained, meaning development approval will still be required for three (3) or more dwellings on a lot.

### Initiative 2

Proposes reductions to the minimum number of car parking spaces required per dwelling, from two (2) spaces for all dwelling sizes, to one (1) space for one-bedroom dwellings. The change is designed to better match car parking requirements for smaller households and help reduce construction costs of one-bedroom dwellings, making them more affordable and achieving a more efficient use of appropriately zoned land.



Whilst supported in principle, there is potential for impacts on the local road network resulting from overflow and visitor parking, particularly for larger scale developments (i.e. multiple one-bedroom dwellings on a large lot). The use of on-street parking to support development is generally discouraged by Council as it is not guaranteed and has the potential to block sightlines at crossovers and intersections, increasing the risk of accidents. The attached submission recommends that additional consideration be given to this matter and how overflow and visitor parking will be managed.

### Initiative 3

Further reductions to the required car parking numbers ranging from 5% up to 50% for dwellings located close to public transport, commercial areas, and for social housing are also proposed. A maximum 30% reduction is proposed for one-bedroom dwellings that meet certain requirements.

The reduction is calculated cumulatively and is dependent on the type of development and walking/riding proximity to bus routes, commercial zones and public pathways. For example, a social housing project, located close to bus stops and a commercial centre will be afforded a larger reduction than housing proposed near a bicycle pathway only. A table outlining the criteria is included at **Attachment 13.2.5.3**.

Like Initiative 2, there are potential impacts in any reduction in parking rates on the local road network, and the attached submission recommends additional clarity and consideration around this potential issue. Clarification around what is considered a reasonable walking and riding distance that considers all-abilities is also recommended.

## 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:

### 5. Infrastructure

Failure to plan, deliver and maintain fit for purpose infrastructure.

## Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Community Infrastructure Plan 2016-2026](#)



## 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. P A 2024.0130 - Explanatory Document [**13.2.5.1** - 11 pages]
2. Council Submission to PSA 2024.0130 [**13.2.5.2** - 2 pages]
3. Parking reduction criteria [**13.2.5.3** - 1 page]

**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA**  
**PROPOSAL TO AMEND NT PLANNING SCHEME**  
**PA2024/0130**

The Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment has decided to consider an amendment to the Northern Territory Planning Scheme to facilitate group dwelling and multiple dwelling development by placing it on exhibition.

The proposed amendment aims to remove unnecessary barriers to the development of dwelling-group and dwelling-multiple development and encourages a wider range of housing typologies (particularly smaller dwellings), housing innovation, and contributes to better housing affordability.

The proposed amendment targets Part 5 of the NT Planning Scheme and proposes:

- reductions to the minimum area of land required to establish a one bedroom dwelling in Zone LMR (Low-Medium Density Residential) from 300 square metres, which is the rate that applies for all dwelling sizes, to 150 square metres;
- reductions to the minimum number of car parking spaces required per dwelling, from two spaces for all dwelling sizes, to one space for one bedroom dwellings; and
- further reductions to required car parking numbers ranging from 5% up to 50% for dwellings located close to public transport, commercial areas, and for social housing.

An explanation of the proposed changes can be found in the attached Explanatory Document.

**Period of Exhibition and Lodging a Submission**

The exhibition period is from Friday 1 August 2025 to Friday 29 August 2025.

Written submissions about the proposed planning scheme amendment are to be received by 11:59pm on Friday 29 August 2025 and addressed to:

Lands Planning  
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 1680  
DARWIN NT 0801; or

Email: [planning.ntg@nt.gov.au](mailto:planning.ntg@nt.gov.au); or

Hand delivered to: Level 1, Energy House, 18-20 Cavenagh Street, Darwin.

For more information please contact Fletcher Willis on 08 8924 7341 or [fletcher.willis@nt.gov.au](mailto:fletcher.willis@nt.gov.au)

# Explanatory Document

Proposed Planning Scheme Amendment to facilitate  
group dwelling and multiple dwelling development

PA2024/0130



## Contents

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## 1. Introduction

As part of the challenge to meet the Northern Territories future housing supply needs, the Department is proposing changes to the NT Planning Scheme 2020 (Planning Scheme) to encourage housing development and to contribute to housing supply, choice, and affordability across the Northern Territory.

Current requirements within the Planning Scheme generally focus on typical housing products without considering the dwelling's size or the number of people it can accommodate. This can make it harder and more expensive to construct certain types of housing. As a result, some types of housing are less likely to be developed or available to the housing market.

The proposed amendment aims to remove unnecessary barriers and make it easier to deliver more innovative housing solutions and a wider range of homes to suit different needs.

## 2. Details of proposed amendment

The proposed amendment applies to group dwelling<sup>1</sup> (more than one dwelling on a site not located above one another such as a duplex) and multiple dwelling<sup>2</sup> (more than one dwelling on a site located above one another such as an apartment) development.

Specifically, the proposed amendment seeks to:

- change the minimum density requirements for one bedroom dwellings<sup>3</sup> (either in the form of a group dwelling or multiple dwelling) from 1 per 300m<sup>2</sup> of site area, to 1 per 150m<sup>2</sup> of site area in Zone LMR (Low - Medium Density Residential);
- change the minimum number of car parking spaces required for one bedroom dwellings (either in the form of a group dwelling or a multiple dwelling) from two car parking spaces to one; and
- introduce new criteria to allow for a reduction to the number of car parking spaces required for group dwellings and multiple dwellings where the location is considered 'well-located' (i.e. has sufficient access to alternative transport options or is in close proximity of a commercial area), and where the development or dwelling is for social housing<sup>4</sup>.

The proposed amendment applies to Part 5 of the Planning Scheme (Development Requirements) shown at Appendix A.

While the proposal seeks to amend the associated Planning Scheme requirements, the requirements are a minimum, and developers or home builders will continue to have the

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<sup>1</sup> 'Group dwelling' refers to the defined use of **dwelling-group** within Schedule 2 of the Planning Scheme

<sup>2</sup> 'Multiple dwelling' refers to the defined use of **dwelling-multiple** within Schedule 2 of the Planning Scheme

<sup>3</sup> A 'one bedroom dwelling' may include a bed-sitter (i.e. studio) dwelling arrangement

<sup>4</sup> 'Social housing' refers to housing that is government subsidised for short and long term rental housing that is either managed by a not-for-profit organisation or is owned and managed by the NTG.



ability to provide for greater needs to suit market demand and/ or respond to neighbourhood character.

### 3. Merits of the proposed amendment

This amendment aims to support new and innovative types of housing by breaking down some barriers to residential development, and to increase the range of housing options available across the Northern Territory.

The proposed amendment includes the following 3 initiatives:

#### Initiative 1

##### **Change the density rules for one bedroom dwellings.**

- Reduce the area of land required to establish a one bedroom home in Zone LMR (Low - Medium Density Residential) from 300m<sup>2</sup> down to 150m<sup>2</sup>.

Current density requirements for dwellings in Zone LMR (Low-Medium Density Residential) are based on the number of houses on a site rather than the size of a dwelling or expected number of occupants. This can discourage developers or land owners from undertaking single bedroom housing development as every dwelling, regardless of the number of bedrooms, requires 300m<sup>2</sup> of site area, making it harder and less appealing to build smaller, more affordable homes.

Changing the density rates for one bedroom dwellings will provide an opportunity for more innovative housing products to be developed, a more efficient use of appropriately zoned land, and will contribute to the intent of Zone LMR to provide for a mix of dwellings.

##### *Key points:*

- *The proposed amendment applies to Zone LMR only;*
- *Subdivision requirements are not proposed to be amended and minimum lot sizes in Zone LMR remain at 300m<sup>2</sup> to ensure orderly spacing for vehicle crossovers;*
- *Development is still required to address all other Planning Scheme requirements (including car parking which is detailed in the next section);*
- *A dwelling with two or more bedrooms will still require 300m<sup>2</sup> of site area to be established; and*
- *The level of assessment required for dwelling-group or dwelling-multiple remains unchanged in Zone LMR.*

## Initiative 2

### Change the car parking requirements for one bedroom dwellings in group or multiple dwelling development.

- Reduce the required number of car parks for one bedroom homes (either in the form of a group dwelling or a multiple dwelling) from two spaces to one.

Current car parking requirements for group dwellings and multiple dwellings require two car parks for every dwelling, regardless of the expected number of occupants. This means that one bedroom homes that are likely to have fewer occupants, still need the same number of car parks as larger homes.

Changing the car parking rate for single bedroom dwellings will better match the actual needs for car parking in smaller homes and help reduce construction costs of one bedroom dwellings, making them more affordable and achieving a more efficient use of appropriately zoned land.

#### Key points:

- *The proposed amendment applies specifically to dwelling-group and dwelling-multiple uses, in every zone where the uses are not prohibited;*
- *The level of assessment required for dwelling-group or dwelling-multiple remains unchanged, in every zone where the uses are not prohibited;*
- *Car parking rates for dwellings with two bedrooms or more are not proposed to be amended; and*
- *Developers will still have the ability to provide more car parking than the minimum requirement to ensure development meets the needs of the market.*

## Initiative 3

### Car parking reductions for well-located development and social housing.

- introduce criteria to allow for a reduction to the number of car parking spaces required for group dwellings and multiple dwellings where the location is considered 'well-located' (i.e. has sufficient access to alternative transport options or is in close proximity of a commercial area), and where the development or dwelling is for social housing.

In 2020, requirements were introduced into the Planning Scheme to allow a reduction to the number of car parks required for development in Darwin CBD. This was based on a car parking study undertaken and the concept that car ownership rates are lower when residents have convenient access to services, employment and alternative means of transport. The same logic is considered just as relevant to other areas with good access to shops, jobs, and public transport (bus) or active transport (walking/ bicycle) options.

Research has also showed that statistically, households with lower incomes tend to own fewer cars. This is relevant to social housing which provides for people on lower incomes.

The following key principles are used to inform a proposed reduction in car parking rates:

- (a) people own fewer cars or are less reliant on cars when they have convenient access to public transport.
- (b) people own fewer cars or are less reliant on cars when they have convenient access to employment hubs and other daily urban amenities; and
- (c) people own fewer cars when their household income is lower.

Reducing car parking rates based on the above principles will better respond to actual generated demands and help reduce construction costs, contribute to greater housing affordability, and provide a more efficient use of appropriately zoned land.

*Key points:*

- *The proposed amendment applies specifically to group dwelling and multiple dwelling uses, where the location of the development meets the requirements outlined in the applicable table;*
- *Each reduction category can be applied separately and therefore the rates are considered cumulative; and*
- *The provisions do not apply to development that is not well-located (i.e. does not meet the criteria in the table for sufficient access to alternative transport options or to be in close proximity of a commercial area), or development that is not for social housing (managed by a registered provider/NT Government public housing).*

## 4. Consideration of Legislative Framework

### 4.1. Alignment with the *Planning Act 1999*

The proposed amendment is consistent with the purpose of the *Planning Act 1999* (the Act), which is to establish a system to facilitate planning for the orderly use and development of land. Proposed changes contribute to achieving the following objectives of the Act:

- (b) to ensure that strategic planning reflects the wishes and needs of the community;
- (c) to ensure that appropriate public consultation and input are included in the formulation of planning schemes and the making of decisions under planning schemes;
- (e) to promote the sustainable development of land; and
- (j) to promote the good design of buildings and other works that respects the amenity of the locality.

The amendment will help deliver more affordable, well-located housing options, as well as increase housing diversity and availability across the Northern Territory while ensuring that impacts of development are appropriately managed.

### 4.2. Alignment with the NT Planning Scheme 2020 Strategic Framework

The proposed amendment supports the development of group and multiple dwellings and aligns with the intent of the Compact Urban Growth Policy for the efficient use of land for urban residential development in close proximity to appropriate services and infrastructure.

## 5. Further information

For further information on the details of this proposed planning scheme amendment, please contact Lands Planning, Department of Lands, Planning and Environment.

- Phone: 08 8999 8963
- Email: [planning.ntg@nt.gov.au](mailto:planning.ntg@nt.gov.au)

Please quote application number PA2024/0130 to be directed to the Project Officer.

You may make a submission to the proposed amendment during the exhibition period through the following means:

- Online: [www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/planning-notices-online/notices#/](http://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/planning-notices-online/notices#/)
- Email: [planning.ntg@nt.gov.au](mailto:planning.ntg@nt.gov.au)
- Post: NT Planning Commission, GPO Box 1680, DARWIN NT 0801
- Hand delivered: Level 1, Energy House, 18-20 Cavenagh Street, DARWIN NT 0800

All submissions must include the name, contact details and signature of the person making the submission to be considered valid.

The feedback received will inform the Minister's final consideration of the proposed amendment for inclusion into the NT Planning Scheme 2020.

## Appendix A – Proposed Planning Scheme amendment

- Blue indicates new policy
- Red text with a strikethrough indicates text that will be deleted

### Density provisions for one bedroom dwellings in Zone LMR (Low - Medium Density Residential)

#### 5.4.1 Residential Density

##### Requirements

2. The maximum number of **dwellings** that may be constructed on a **site** is to be determined in accordance with Table A, B, C or D (as the case requires) to this clause.

Table A to Clause 5.4.1: Dwelling Density in Certain Zones	
Zone	Dwelling Density
LR, RR, RL, R and for a <b>dwelling-single</b> in CL, CV and T	1 <b>dwelling-single</b> per lot
LMR	1 per 150m <sup>2</sup> for a 1 bedroom <b>dwelling</b> 1 per 300m <sup>2</sup> for a 2+ bedroom <b>dwelling</b>
<del>LMR and for</del> <b>Dwellings-group</b> in CL and T and <b>dwellings-multiple</b> in T	1 per 300m <sup>2</sup>
A and H	2 per lot
<b>Editor's Note: A study which is readily convertible to a bedroom is considered a bedroom for the purpose of this clause.</b>	

### Car parking rates for group dwellings and multiple dwellings

#### 5.2.4.1 Car Parking Spaces

##### Administration

1. This clause does not apply where alternative car parking space requirements are established under clause 5.9 (Location specific development requirements).
2. The consent authority may **consent** to use or development that is not in accordance with sub-clause 4 5 if it is satisfied a reduction in the number of **car parking spaces** is appropriate with regard to:
  - (a) the zoning of the land, the use or development or proposed use or development of the land, and the possible future use or development of the land;
  - (b) the provision of **car parking spaces** in the vicinity of the land;
  - (c) the availability of the public transport in the vicinity of the land; ~~and~~

- (d) the potential impact on the surrounding road network and the **amenity** of the locality and adjoining property; ~~or~~ **and**
  - (e) if the use or development relates to a **heritage place** and the Minister responsible for the administration of the *Heritage Act 2011* supports the reduced provision of **car parking spaces** in the interest of preserving the significance of the **heritage place**.
3. The consent authority may require the provision of **car parking spaces** for any **ancillary** use or development in addition to that specified for the **primary use** or development in the **relevant** table to this clause.
4. For the purposes of this clause:
- (a) the reductions in Table B only apply to uses specifically referenced within Table A and apply to the base car parking rates established in Table A;
  - (b) only one reduction percentage is permitted per category when applying Table B;
  - (c) a maximum 30% reduction applies to bed sitter and one bedroom **dwelling**s when applying Table B; and
  - (d) reductions in category 3 of Table B apply only to **dwelling**s used for social housing.

#### Requirements

5. Use and development is to include the minimum number of **car parking spaces** specified in the **relevant** table to this clause (rounded up to the next whole number).

**Editor's Note: Clause 5.2.4.4 provides for the design and layout of a car parking area.**

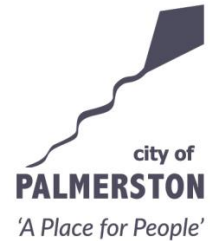
Table A to Clause 5.2.4.1: Minimum number of required parking spaces	
Use or Development	Minimum Number of Car Parking Spaces Required
Dwelling-group	1 per bed sitter and one bedroom <b>dwelling</b> 2 per <b>dwelling</b> with two or more bedrooms <u>Plus</u> any reductions in accordance with Table B (if the development meets the criteria)
Dwelling-multiple	1 per bed sitter and one bedroom <b>dwelling</b> 2 per <b>dwelling</b> with two or more bedrooms <u>Plus</u> any reductions in accordance with Table B (if the development meets the criteria)
<b>Editor's Notes:</b> (1) Clause 5.2.4.4 provides for the design and layout of a <b>car parking area</b> . (2) A study which is readily convertible to a bedroom is considered a bedroom for the purpose of this clause.	

<b>Table B to Clause 5.2.4.1: Reductions in car parking spaces for specific uses</b>		
<b>Category</b>		<b>Reduction permitted</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Access to alternative transport options</b>	
(a)	The development is located wholly within 200m walking distance of a public bus stop that provides <b>access</b> to: five or more bus routes; or a bus route with a minimum 15 minute frequency during morning and afternoon peak hours Monday to Friday.	15%
(b)	The development is located wholly within 400m walking distance of a public bus stop that provides <b>access</b> to: five or more bus routes; or a bus route with a minimum 15 minute frequency during morning and afternoon peak hours Monday to Friday.	10%
(c)	The development is located wholly within 400m riding distance of a dedicated off-road bicycle path or on-road bicycle lane.	5%
<b>2</b>	<b>Proximity to commercial areas</b>	
(a)	The development is located wholly within: a commercial zone; or 200m walking distance of a commercial zone.	15%
(b)	The development is located wholly within: a commercial zone; or 400m walking distance of a commercial zone.	10%
<b>3</b>	<b>Social housing</b>	
(a)	The development or dwelling is for: community housing to be managed by a registered provider under the National Regulatory System for Community Housing (NRSCH); or public housing owned and managed by the Northern Territory Government.	20%
<b>Editor's Notes:</b> <b>(1) Where a reduction in car parking is sought across more than one category, the reduction percentages are combined, and the reduction is calculated cumulatively across all categories.</b> <b>(2) Morning and afternoon peak hours occur between 7am and 9am, and 4pm and 6pm Monday to Friday.</b> <b>(3) The boundary of a commercial area is defined by the extent of the land within a commercial zone in the relevant location. Commercial zones are identified in the Table to Clause 4.1.</b> <b>(4) Clause 5.2.9.11 and Clause 5.2.9.12 provide for car parking spaces specific to Darwin City Centre. The extent of Darwin City Centre is identified by the diagram to Clause 5.9.2.</b> <b>(5) NT community housing providers registered with the NRSCH are identified at <a href="https://dhlgcd.nt.gov.au/social-housing/community-housing">https://dhlgcd.nt.gov.au/social-housing/community-housing</a></b>		



ID: 648170 – NN:ct

20 August 2025



Lands Planning  
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment

Email: [planning.ntg@nt.gov.au](mailto:planning.ntg@nt.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Proposed planning scheme amendment to facilitate group dwelling and multiple dwelling development (PA2024/0130)**

I refer to the above which was presented to Council at its Second Ordinary Council meeting on 19 August 2025 (decision no. XXXXX).

*Proposed amendment*

Council is generally supportive of the proposed amendment and recognises the need to provide a mix of housing types within the municipality to suit different needs. Encouraging density and housing choice in appropriate locations close to shops, bus routes and bicycle pathways will likely help to achieve this outcome and lead to more vibrant and productive local communities.

*Car parking rate reduction*

The proposed reduction in parking rates for one-bedroom homes, social housing and 'well-located' dwellings whilst supported in principle, does have potential for unwanted consequences on the local road network from overflow and visitor car parking. On-street parking to support new development is generally discouraged by Council as it is not guaranteed and can block sightlines at crossovers and intersections increasing the risk of accidents.

Council would encourage additional consideration be given to this issue, and at a minimum additional Editor's Notes to be included making clear that **car parking spaces** exclude on-street car parking in the vicinity.

*Walking and riding distance*

Clarification around "walking-distance" and "riding distance" is encouraged to ensure distance is based on all-abilities being able to easily and safely arrive at a destination (i.e. along a conveniently located designated walking or bike path).

*Summary*

Council is supportive of the proposed amendment but would encourage additional consideration be given to the potential impacts of reducing car parking rates on the local road network. On-street carparking resulting from new development can be a major issue for the community in some locations. Also, clarification around walking and



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riding distances is encouraged to ensure that people of all abilities can easily access identified destinations where otherwise they would be required to drive.

Please contact Councils planning and development team at [development@palmerston.nt.gov.au](mailto:development@palmerston.nt.gov.au) or phone 8935 9922 should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

**Nadine Nilon**  
*General Manager Infrastructure*

DRAFT

<b>Table B to Clause 5.2.4.1: Reductions in car parking spaces for specific uses</b>		
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(c)	The development is located wholly within 400m riding distance of a dedicated off-road bicycle path or on-road bicycle lane.	5%
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<b>Editor's Notes:</b> (1) Where a reduction in car parking is sought across more than one category, the reduction percentages are combined, and the reduction is calculated cumulatively across all categories. (2) Morning and afternoon peak hours occur between 7am and 9am, and 4pm and 6pm Monday to Friday. (3) The boundary of a commercial area is defined by the extent of the land within a commercial zone in the relevant location. Commercial zones are identified in the Table to Clause 4.1. (4) Clause 5.2.9.11 and Clause 5.2.9.12 provide for car parking spaces specific to Darwin City Centre. The extent of Darwin City Centre is identified by the diagram to Clause 5.9.2. (5) NT community housing providers registered with the NRSCH are identified at <a href="https://dhlgcd.nt.gov.au/social-housing/community-housing">https://dhlgcd.nt.gov.au/social-housing/community-housing</a>		

# COUNCIL REPORT

## 1st Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	13.2.6
Report Title:	Palmerston Youth Festival - Update 2025
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 19 August 2025
Author:	Events Lead, Sophie Walkington
Approver:	General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight

## Community plan

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

## Purpose

This Report provides Council a summary on the Palmerston Youth Festival 2025.

## Key messages

- The 6<sup>th</sup> Palmerston Youth Festival proved to be the biggest festival yet attracting 9,995 attendees over the seven (7) days of celebrations.
- Geekfest Top End spanned across two (2) days to bring the geek community a deeper dive into their favourite worlds.
- Geekfest Top End Day 1, the longest running celebration of geek culture in the Northern Territory, returned in 2025 and attracted 3,500 attendees.
- The Cosplay Competition saw a 26% increase in participants compared to 2024, with a stronger emphasis placed on showcasing it as a key highlight of Geekfest Top End Day 1.
- Geekfest Top End Day 2 was delivered in partnership with Event Cinema Palmerston and attracted over 1,140 attendees.
- The NAIDOC Pool Party celebrated the rich heritage of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through engaging educational activities and cultural experiences.
- Pamper Palmy continued to be a well-attended event, with over 500 attendees getting involved in the variety of self-care, wellbeing and mental health activities.

- Sportsfest once again highlighted the inclusive nature of sports, showcasing teamwork across a variety of disciplines throughout the day.
- The Palmerston Youth Festival week saw the addition of Creative Collective. The day involved a variety of workshops and activities sparking creativity and imagination.
- Palmy's Got Talent closed out the week. Hosted in conjunction with Palmerston Markets, the event provided its biggest platform yet for performers, attracting over 3,000 attendees.

## Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Palmerston Youth Festival - Update 2025 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council notes the Mayor has sent a Letter of Appreciation to the Chief Minister and Minister Charls, thanking the Northern Territory Government for its continued support of the 2025 Palmerston Youth Festival and acknowledging this year's success.

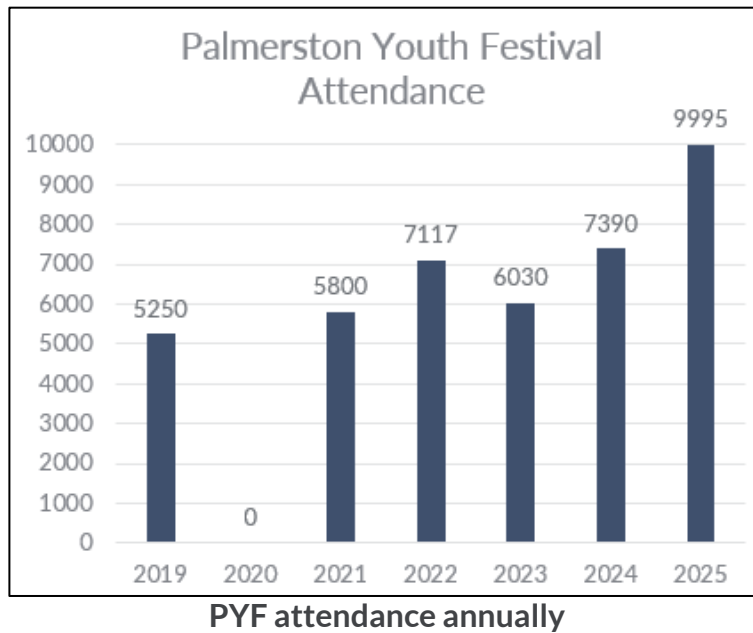
## Background

Since 2019, the Palmerston Youth Festival (PYF) has been delivered by City of Palmerston (CoP), supported by the Northern Territory Government (NTG). The 6<sup>th</sup> Palmerston Youth Festival has proven to be the biggest festival yet attracting 9,995 attendees over the seven (7) days of celebrations.

This year's program was curated with events and activities designed to be free, accessible and inclusive, offering a broad range of experiences and activities including culture, music, sports, arts, hobbies, and technology. The week provided youth from Palmerston and beyond with unique opportunities to gain experience, skills, confidence and knowledge across a variety of topics whilst connecting like-minded individuals.

Acknowledging the integration with the Palmerston Markets, attendance for the festival increased over by 26% with most attended events being Geekfest Top End; Day 1 and Palmy's Got Talent.

This Report provides Council with an overview of the 2025 Palmerston Youth Festival held between 5 and 11 July 2025.



## Discussion

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

Palmerston's iconic Geekfest Top End returned on Saturday 5 July, where over 3,500 gathered in the CBD to support the largest and longest running celebration of geek culture in the Northern Territory. Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell, along with Elected Members and key dignitaries, officially opened the Palmerston Youth Festival with a bang.



Geekfest Top End Day 1 – Opening

This year, Cosplay was given a special spotlight at Geekfest Top End with the addition of the Cosplay Repair Station, a Cosplay Parade and new opportunities to engage with this year's special guest Vera Chimera, who has been a professional cosplayer for over 15 years. Vera played the live-action Lilith in the Borderlands 2 and 3 video games and been Australia's preliminary judge for the World Cosplay Summit. Fans were able to meet Vera during an exclusive Q&A session and meet-and-greet.

The Cosplay Competition remains a highlight for attendees, boasting strong engagement and continuing to grow each year with a total of 35 entrants in 2025, up 26% from 2024. It provides a platform for participants to showcase their creativity and craftsmanship by



developing costumes and embodying characters from anime, movies, video games and comics.



**Cosplay Competition Entrants and Repair Station**

Medieval Land returned bigger and better than ever in 2025. Kaos Horde thrilled audiences with live demonstrations and interviews, showcasing the skill and technique behind historical swordplay and martial arts. Their talented blacksmith also captivated attendees with live forging displays, highlighting traditional methods and craftsmanship. Guests had the unique opportunity to view and try on authentic armour to gain a deeper appreciation of the skill and artistry involved in armour-making throughout the medieval period. Akajack offered a hands-on experience, inviting guests to create their own leathercraft souvenirs by stamping and dyeing custom pieces.



**Medieval Land Crafts and Displays**

The Palmerston Recreation Centre was transformed into a vibrant hub of gaming and technology, featuring virtual reality (VR) experiences, free-play stations, arcade games, tabletop gaming, an AI-generated photo booth, the Film Den, a custom card-making station, an interactive "Breaker" cart and much more.

Artist Alley showcased an impressive array of handmade geeky crafts, growing by 30% this year. Established businesses such as Wild North Comics, Kapow! and Howard Springs Newsagency also reported their highest-ever sales at the event.

City of Palmerston's Library was utilised again, featuring exciting activities such as laser tag, a silent disco, and the Conquering Crafts area, where attendees enjoyed clay painting and block printing.



Throughout the evening, pop-up demonstrations and live performances captivated the audience in Goyder Square. Highlights included a live painting session by Cordial Draws, high-energy Minute to Win It challenges hosted by Danielle Andrews, and electrifying K-Pop dance-offs with PsychH3, just to name a few.

In 2025, Geekfest Top End continued to cement its place in the community's event calendar. The event brought together passionate individuals, empowering them through a shared celebration of geek culture and fostering a vibrant, diverse and inclusive community.



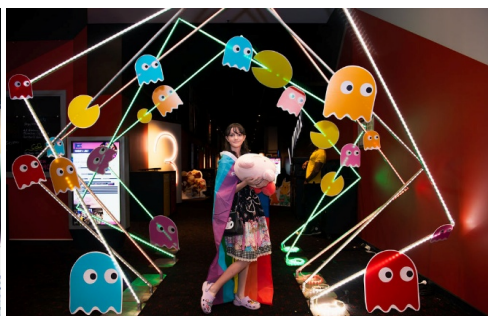
Live painting session by Cordial Draws and PsychH3 dancing



Chalkboard personalised PYF message and Ghostbusters stall

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

Geekfest Top End returned bigger and better this year, expanding into a two (2) day celebration at Event Cinemas Palmerston. The extended format gave the geek community a deeper dive to explore their favourite worlds from cosplay and comics to gaming, film and beyond. Over 1,140 attendees enthusiastically took part in a wide range of activations and experiences during the five (5) hour event.



Geekfest Top End Day 2 Entrance Theming

The event featured a range of presentations and Q&A sessions led by local industry experts. Highlights included special guest Vera Chimera's detailed workshop on costume creation, Dylan Bennett's guidance on entering the game development industry, Phillip Denson's insights into the local film sector and Johnathon Saunders' screening and discussion on comic production. These sessions were tailored to the NT audience, offering valuable insight and inspiration to encourage attendees to further pursue their passions across a variety of creative industries.

Interactive elements were a highlight throughout the day. From belting out tunes in karaoke, testing their geek knowledge in trivia, to gaming on the big screen, there was truly something for everyone. Northern Lights delivered two (2) standout installations on a 10-metre screen including:

- Pixel Tracker – an interactive projection that turned attendee movements into a live, reactive canvas of light.
- Virtual Control – where participants became ogres, space warriors, or sorcerers and fought off objects thrown at them.



**Northern Light's Pixel Tracker, Virtual Control**

The short film competition 'Reel Quick' provided a platform for young creators to showcase their talent in filmmaking and animation. These short films showcased the creativity of young people in our community featuring original videos on a range of topics including cosplay, dance, singing, animation, and acting.

A dedicated cinema ran non-stop gaming content, where attendees could play on the big screen with commentary from a live shout caster. The space hosted a Tekken 8 Tournament along with free play options including titles such as Minecraft, Fortnite, Marvel Rivals. Adding to the technological experience, Level Up Gaming facilitated a VR space, which proved to be a major hit with attendees.

In the cinema lounge space, attendees connected with a wide range of exhibitors and local creators, including Ghostbusters NT, Wild Comics, and a variety of tabletop and arcade-style games. The cinema also screened a selection of movies throughout the event, catering to a range of audiences. Titles included Howl's Moving Castle, Pixels, and the newly released Jurassic World: Rebirth, which proved to be a crowd favourite.





Gaming on the big screen and Level Up Gaming VR space



Activations throughout the lounge space

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

NAIDOC Week in Palmerston began with energy and excitement at the NAIDOC Pool Party where 745 attendees celebrated the rich heritage of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through engaging educational activities and cultural experiences. This community-focused event created a welcoming space for young people and families to connect with and embrace authentic cultural traditions.

One of the day's key highlights was a hands-on cultural experience led by Dingo Cockatoo, where attendees had the opportunity to interact with culturally significant animals including snakes, turtles and other reptiles. This immersive and educational activity helped attendees gain a deeper appreciation of Indigenous culture and environmental knowledge.

Another standout experience was Deadly Designs, a NAIDOC-themed bus design competition brought to life by local artist Trent Lee. Trent hosted a "come and try" bus painting activity, allowing participants to leave their creative mark on Palmerston's newest CDC bus.



Dingo Cockatoo Reptile Encounters and young attendees spray painting CDC bus

Live music set the tone throughout the day, led by local talent Riley P, who also provided a platform for a group of emerging young rappers. These passionate performers were given the opportunity to showcase their skills in a relaxed and supportive environment, building their confidence and stage presence.



**Riley P and local young performer**

A crowd favourite was the Dunk Tank, which added a fun and playful element to the event. Kids enjoyed the challenge of dunking their friends into the tank, creating lots of laughter and memorable moments; even Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell had a go!



**Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell patiently waiting on the dunk tank**

The Palmerston and Regional Basketball Association (ParBA) supported the event with a BBQ and basketball activities, helping to keep everyone fuelled and active. Meanwhile, Sunshine Slushies kept attendees cool by offering free slushies throughout the day.

Danila Dilba Health Service was also present, providing valuable information about their healthcare and community services, helping to support the wellbeing of attendees.



**Attendees enjoying the event**



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

This year's Pamper Palmy brought together young people from across the region for a vibrant and empowering day of self-care, creativity, and connection. With a strong focus on youth wellbeing and mental health, the event dived deep into the importance of prioritising personal wellness in a fun, inclusive, and supportive environment.

Returning after its successful 2024 debut, Pamper Palmy continued to be a well-attended (over 500 attendees) and highly engaging event, cementing its place as a key initiative in supporting and celebrating youth in the community.

Local musician Casey Jane provided live music throughout the four (4) hour event to create a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere as attendees participated in workshops and drop-in activities.

The guided workshops included:

- Yoga and Breathwork with Haruka, focusing on mindful movement and emotional regulation.
- My Journal, My Voice with Lee Plowman, a creative journalling session encouraging personal reflection and self-expression.

A range of drop-in activities allowed for flexible, hands-on participation, including:

- Incense making,
- Sensory play (clay, sand, physical tumble play),
- Stress ball creations,
- Handmade friendship bracelets,
- DIY dreamcatchers,
- Therapy dogs,
- Mindfulness colouring,
- Hand massage,
- Hair braiding,
- Haircuts,
- Henna,
- Shellac nails,
- Ice baths.



Therapy dogs and Yoga and Breathwork with Haruka



**Sensory play**

A standout feature of the day was the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, a themed high tea experience inspired by Alice in Wonderland offering refreshments and a unique social space.



**Mad Hatters Tea Party**

Headspace was present to connect with youth and share mental health resources. Chalkboards throughout the venue encouraged attendees to reflect on and share what they were grateful for.

The event concluded with a lucky door prize draw, where the winner received a \$200 pamper basket, and several attendees won House of Darwin x Palmerston Youth Festival collaboration t-shirts.

Pamper Palmy 2025 successfully created a positive space for young people to explore self-care, engage with mental health tools, and connect with community in a meaningful way.

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

Sportsfest returned to the festival program due to previous popular success. This year had close to 500 attendees that enjoyed a variety of activations throughout the Palmerston Recreation Centre. The focus of the day was to offer opportunities for personal growth and achievement, regardless of skill level, and support 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.

Attendees had the opportunity to get involved in hands-on activities with NT Sports Academy, table tennis, cornhole, sumo suits, inflatable golf driving range and bungee run

ensuring a fun-filled day for all ages and interests. For those who prefer virtual competition, Level Up Gaming provided a range of sports-themed arcade and e-sports games, including NBA2K and FIFA.

Inspiring figures, such as the Darwin Salties from the National Wheelchair Basketball League, Hivemind Sports, Rugby NT and Palmerston and Regional Basketball Association were part of the event, showcasing excellence and inclusivity in sport. The famous 3x3 basketball competition reoccurred which encouraged team collaboration.

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.



**Sumo suits wrestling and Bungee Run**



**Councillor Morrison and the Winners of the Basketball Competition**

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

A vibrant new addition to the Palmerston Youth Festival calendar, Creative Collective added a spark of imagination and innovation to the week through a dynamic mix of workshops and drop-in activities covering the arts, music, and design. The day was all about fostering a creative community, giving young people the chance to upskill or explore entirely new crafts in a welcoming and inspiring environment.

The event drew nearly 400 attendees with crowd-favourite activities that provided a firsthand experience for participants to express themselves and take home something uniquely their own.



Participants had the option to register in advance for a range of engaging and booked out sessions including:

- DJ Workshops,
- From Idea to Arcade: Game Design Class,
- Paint and Create Workshop,
- K-Pop Dance Class,
- Indigenous Carving & Painting.

In addition to the scheduled sessions, youth could spontaneously join a variety of creative stations throughout the day:

- Circus Come and Try,
- Badge Making,
- Origami Earrings,
- VR Headsets – Creative Design,
- Mosaic Drop-in,
- T-Shirt Screen Printing,
- Tote Bags Block Printing,
- Comic Book Drawing,
- Mindfulness Colouring-in.

Creative Collective was an important platform for youth to try new things, build their creative confidence, and connect with like-minded peers. Many of the skills developed during the day were later showcased at Palmy's Got Talent where participants including a young DJ took to the stage to share their new talents with the broader community.



**Paint and Create Workshop and T-Shirt Screen Printing**



**DJ Workshops and Circus Come and Try**

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

Rounding out a weeklong celebration of youth, Palmy's Got Talent returned to showcase the talent within our municipality. On Friday 11 July, approximately 3,200 community members gathered in the Palmerston CBD to enjoy a vibrant night of performances featuring emerging and professional local talent.



**Goyder Square, Palmy's Got Talent Stage**

The evening kicked off with an electrifying dance performance by Delanny Goodwin who placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Palmy's Got Talent 2024. Delanny wowed the crowd with her dynamic flips and spins across the stage. She was followed by the Top Rods, a talented sibling duo on guitar, vocals and drums who rocked the stage with their performance last year. Parents and attendees praised the event for giving their children a platform to grow in both skill and confidence, highlighting noticeable development between performances.

The talent show featured 12 acts across three (3) categories:

- Ages 9 and under – 3 entries,
- Ages 10 to 17 – 7 entries,
- Group category – 2 entries.

This marked a 42% increase in participation compared to 2024. Acts ranged from instrumental performances and musical theatre to vocal showcases and cultural dance. Councillors Fraser, Giesecke and Henderson had the challenging task of judging and announcing the winners.

To keep the momentum going, MC Shanae Kauo searched the crowd for spontaneous talent, while participants from the Creative Collective's DJ Workshop with Dream Impact Inspired



and Danielle Andrews' Comedy Workshop took the stage to showcase skills they had developed during the week. The crowd was also treated to a captivating performance by Adam Scriven, a versatile singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and producer, who impressed with his musical artistry.

The integration of Palmy's Got Talent with the Palmerston Markets added an extra layer of excitement, drawing in the broader community and transforming Goyder Square into a lively hub of food, entertainment, and celebration.

City of Palmerston's Library Community Room became a bustling creative zone for kids, featuring face painting, balloon twisting, badge making, and clay painting. Meanwhile, Frances Drive turned into a teen haven with games, inflatables and a bucking bull which kept the kid entertained all night long.

To round off the festivities, the Koole Duo performed in the library while Cordial Draws painted a live mural inspired by ideas from regular library visitors, capturing the essence of community creativity.

Overall, the event was a resounding success, bringing the weeklong celebrations full circle—right back to where they began.




2025 Palmy Got Talent performers



Bucking Bull and Palmy's Got Talent crowd

## Competitions

Throughout the seven (7) day Palmerston Youth Festival, a total of \$15,000 in prizes was awarded. Across 11 diverse competitions, 94 prizes were awarded to encourage youth participation and engagement.



The competitions catered to a wide range of interests, including gaming, creativity, sports and performance including:

- Super Smash Bros. Ultimate,
- Game Jam - Retro Geek,
- Purple Brick Road,
- Cosplay Competition,
- Tekken 8,
- Reel Quick,
- Pamper Palmy Door Prize,
- 3x3 Basketball Tournament,
- Sports Activation,
- The Great Polaroid Hunt,
- Talent Show Contest.

## Consultation and marketing

### Marketing and Communications Campaign

The 2025 Palmerston Youth Festival marketing campaign was a comprehensive and multi-channel effort aimed at increasing brand awareness, promoting individual events, and engaging young people across Palmerston and the greater Darwin region.

Promotion began in May and moved through awareness and engagement phases throughout June and July, ending with the promotion of seven (7) major festival events across print and digital platforms. The total marketing spend came in just under the budgeted \$50,000.

#### *Media Activity and Coverage*

A media event was held in June with the Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell and Hon Jinson Charls, the NT Minister for Youth, Seniors and Equality. The NT News attended the event and published an article in print, along with a mention on their Facebook page.

This media activity was used to create buzz and bring early attention to the upcoming festival events. It helped establish credibility, generate public interest and complemented the start of the broader campaign rollout.

#### *Digital media strategy*

The digital strategy was tailored to young audiences, focusing on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, YouTube and in-app gaming – all popular digital platforms for the intended audiences.

Three (3) promotional videos were created using six (6), 15 and 30 second versions. These were used across digital platforms (as mentioned above) throughout the awareness and engagement phases. Video and imagery were captured at all seven (7) events and will be valuable for future promotions.

### Digital media performance

As part of the broader digital strategy, paid advertising was used across in-app gaming, YouTube and TikTok. These platforms were selected to align with the media consumption habits of the festival's target audience, particularly young people aged 18–35. The total digital spend across these three platforms was \$7,106.

Summary of paid digital-buy performance:

CHANNEL	IMPRESSIONS*	VIEWS**	CLICKS***	CLICK-THROUGH RATE****	MEDIA SPEND
In-app Gaming	25,067	22,681	1,189	4.7%	\$1,330
YouTube	111,517	78,063	170	0.15%	\$2,600
TikTok	350,674	345,868	929	0.26%	\$3,176
<b>Total</b>	<b>487,258</b>	<b>446,612</b>	<b>2,288</b>	<b>0.47%</b>	<b>\$7,106</b>

\*Impressions are how many times the videos or digital ads were displayed on that platform

\*\*Views equal how many times the ads were viewed on someone's social media or gaming app feed

\*\*\*Clicks are how many times the ads were clicked on to find out more information

\*\*\*\* Click-through rate (CTR) = (Clicks/impressions) \* 100

### In-app gaming

The in-app gaming activation was delivered through an external media agency and exceeded benchmarks. The activity was live from 16 June to 11 July and focused on short-form video placements across popular casual mobile games.

Performance highlights:

- Total campaign video view-through rate (VTR) was 90.5%, in comparison to the industry benchmark of 80%.
- Total click-through rate (CTR) of 4.7%, against a digital marketing campaign benchmark of 0.5%.
- 6,801 unique users reached.
- 22,681 total delivered views (paid views were 19,000 therefore we received over 3,000 bonus views).

Top-performing app:

GAMING APP NAME	COMPLETED VIEWS	VTR	CTR
Wool Craze	361	91.9%	6.9%
Car Jam: Parking Games 3D	239	87.2%	7.7%
Happy Color™: Colour by Number	255	89.2%	3.5%
Words With Friends 2: Word Game	787	89.7%	2.7%
Words of Wonders: Crossword to Connect	341	90.7%	2.7%

GAMING APP NAME	COMPLETED VIEWS	VTR	CTR
Words With Friends 2: Board Games & Word	253	89.7%	2.5%

This platform was particularly effective for high-frequency exposure, with quick, repeatable engagement moments across games that already attract younger demographics.

#### *YouTube*

YouTube advertising ran video placements using six (6) second bumper ads, 15-second non-skippable ads and 30-second TrueView ads. These were optimised to reach users on large-screen devices and deliver high completion rates.

Device break down views were 57% on TV screen and 27% on mobile devices.

#### Performance summary:

PLATFORM	IMPRESSIONS	VIEWS (100%)	CTR	MEDIA SPEND	COST PER THOUSAND IMPRESSIONS (CPM)
YouTube	111,517	78,063	0.15%	\$2,600	\$23

#### *Tik Tok*

TikTok was introduced into the campaign for the first time this year and proved effective both organically and through paid promotion. The channel reached over 22,000 users, well above the original estimated audience, and showed successful video view-through rates.

Organically there were 12 videos posted, and followers reached 59 and resulted in 473 likes.

#### **Paid performance summary:**

Paid TikTok ads used the three (3) campaign videos and delivered over 345,000 full video views at just \$0.01 per view, demonstrating strong efficiency and creative cut-through in comparison to other content on the app.

METRIC	RESULT
Impressions	350,674
Views (100%)	345,868
Clicks	929
CTR	0.26%
CPM = (total spend per thousand)	\$9
Cost per click (CPC)	\$3.42
Cost per view (CPV)	\$0.01



METRIC	RESULT
Cost per completed view (CPCV)	\$0.87
Completion Rate	1.05%
View-through rate (VTR)	98.63%

#### Creative breakdown:

VIDEO LENGTH	IMPRESSIONS	VIEWS (100%)	CLICKS	CTR	COMPLETION RATE	VTR	CPCV
6 seconds	116,912	115,393	253	0.22%	1.78%	98.70%	\$0.51
15 seconds	117,085	115,406	359	0.31%	1.02%	98.57%	\$0.90
30 seconds	116,677	115,069	317	0.27%	0.34%	98.62%	\$2.69

Shorter creative lengths performed best for thumb-stop rates (which references the ability to capture attention and make people pause their scrolling) and cost efficiency, while longer versions supported deeper storytelling.

#### Social media

This was the second year the festival had dedicated social media accounts (@PalmerstonYouthFestival) on both Facebook and Instagram. These platforms were used to post updates, drive engagement, and run competitions.

Followers on both platforms increase by 14.12% and 3.45% on Facebook and Instagram respectively.

PLATFORM	2024 FOLLOWERS	2025 FOLLOWERS	% GROWTH
Facebook	2,940	3,355	14.12%
Instagram	923	955	3.45%

During the campaign 35 posts were published on Facebook and 19 posted on Instagram organically (unpaid). The main traction on socials is through paid advertising. There were 16 individual paid adverts placed from May to July across both Facebook and Instagram. These covered the three (3) promotional videos, competitions, survey and each event. In total the paid ads resulted in 403,118 impressions, 124,581 reach, costing \$2,649.50. The average cost per result was \$1.01.

### Facebook performance

METRIC	RESULT
Total Views	468,973
Total Reach (paid and organic)	117,888
Paid Reach	112,147
Content Interactions	1,543

### Instagram performance

METRIC	RESULT
Total Views	30,104
Total Reach	11,739
Paid Reach (paid and organic)	9,746
Content Interactions	543

#### Definitions:

- Impressions: The number of times content was displayed on screen.
- Reach: The number of unique users who saw content (includes paid and organic)
- Cost per Result: The average cost to achieve a click, view or interaction.
- Content Interactions: Total likes, saves, comments, shares and replies

### Website

Palmerston Youth Festival has a dedicated landing page, the views from May to July 2025 were 6,870. The landing page was where the information for the festival was and then directed to individual pages for each event, competition, vendor registration and survey questions embedded in it. Data showed that Geekfest Top End Day 1 was the most visited event for the festival.

The below website data from May to July 2025, shows activity throughout the campaign:

WEBPAGE	VISITS	ACTIVE USERS
Palmerston Youth Festival	6,870	4,365
Geekfest Top End Day 1	1,479	875
Geekfest Top End Day 2	1,213	701
NAIDOC Pool Party	452	332
Pamper Palmy	445	301
Sportsfest	235	167
Creative Collective	345	247

WEBPAGE	VISITS	ACTIVE USERS
Palmy's Got Talent	283	212

All events were individually promoted on Event Brite and Australia's trusted tourism platform (ATDW) for more exposure. (statistics for these pages are unknown).

#### *Print and outdoor advertising*

The print campaign included three (3) placements in the NT News, alongside features in Territory Savvy magazine, Off the Leash, and City of Palmerston's event booklet. These placements were timed to increase public awareness in the lead-up to and during the festival period.

Digital advertising with NT News supported the print campaign, delivering 65,745 impressions across desktop and mobile devices. The campaign achieved a strong overall click-through rate of 0.26%, which is significantly above the industry average of 0.03 to 0.05%. Desktop placements performed best, with the billboard half-page ad delivering 124 clicks from 24,885 impressions (0.50% CTR).

PRODUCT/AD NAME	DEVICE	DELIVERED IMPRESSIONS	CLICKS	CTR%
NT News CPM – billboard half page	Desktop	24,885	124	0.50
NT News mobile	Mobile	15,400	33	0.21
NT News homepage	Desktop	25,460	66	0.06

Outdoor advertising also played a key role in boosting visibility. Three (3) digital boards were activated at fuel stations in Darwin, Palmerston and Coolalinga, with the majority of screen time (80%) allocated to Palmerston Youth Festival messaging and the remaining 20% to Geekfest Top End.

To support event visibility, posters were placed on the interior of 55 public buses. Large banners, tear drop flags, fence wraps and directional signage from previous years were reused to reduce environmental impact and manage costs.

A total of 4,000 event booklets were printed and distributed to Palmerston schools prior to the holidays, with a digital version also shared by email. The booklet included overall festival information, with individual event pages, competition details, vendor registration links and embedded surveys.

New signage and print materials created this year included fourteen (14) Geekfest Top End vendor corflutes, a large print of Geekfest Top End Day 1 map (which allowed for more detailed booklets), a stage backdrop for the festival, and decals for the Recreation Centre and moveable walls used by attendees to write feedback and messages.

### *Merchandise and brand visibility*

Merchandise is used as a branding exercise and this year includes Tentacle Mike show charms, Geekfest Top End fidget spinners, Palmerston Youth Festival buckets hats, Palmerston Youth Festival beach balls, Palmerston Youth Festival lanyards, Tentacle Mike puzzle, football rocket and Geekfest Top End cards. The merchandise was provided to competition winners and given out at each event as a form of brand awareness.

This year saw a new promotional T-Shirt; these were exclusive (150) collaboration with House of Darwin. These were worn by event workers, front of house employees, Elected Members, the Executive Leadership team, Hot 100 radio competition winners, and were given out to competition winners throughout the festival.

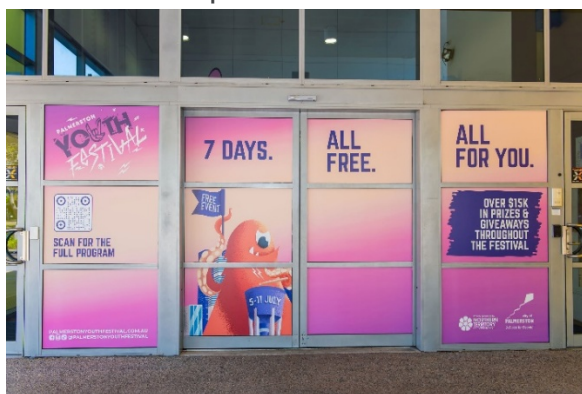
### *Radio advertising*

A radio campaign was run on Hot 100 throughout June and July. This included 87 placements of 15 and 30-seconds promotional ads and live reads and a competition with Black Betty. The placements of ads was during breakfast and afternoon drive as a match to the target demographic. The competition was run to increase awareness of the overall festival and increase engagement on Geekfest Top End Day 2. The prize was a double pass to the screening of Jurassic World Rebirth and two (2) House of Darwin x Palmerston Youth Festival shirts.

The 2025 Palmerston Youth Festival campaign successfully reached and engaged the target audience using a well-balanced media mix. Social media growth, strong paid advertising performance, and the introduction of TikTok added significant value.

Website and event-specific traffic confirmed growing interest, while printed and digital branding helped increase visibility across the region. Moving forward, a focus on collaborative content, digital-first engagement and more sustainable print planning will further strengthen outcomes.

Collateral examples:



Recreation Centre decals



Stage backdrop





## Event booklet



Find out all the details <https://bit.ly/4eh3mJP>



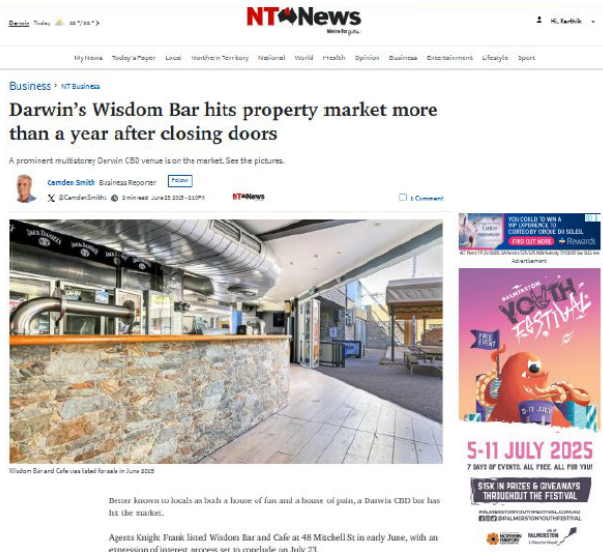
NT News – Facebook (earnt)



NT News (earnt)



NT News Paid (print)



NT News Paid (digital)



Merchandise



Sticker decal



House of Dawin x Palmerston Youth Festival shirt collaboration and Palmerston Youth Festival media wall

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

- City Activation Manager
- Events Lead
- Events Officer
- Acting Marketing & Communications Manager
- Acting 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:

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



## 14 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### 14.1 Information

### 14.2 Correspondence

#### 14.2.1 LGANT Annual Membership Subscriptions

THAT correspondence dated 28 July 2025 14.2.1 entitled LGANT Annual Membership Subscriptions be received and noted.



28 July 2025

Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell  
City of Palmerston

mayor@palmerston.nt.gov.au

Dear Mayor Pascoe-Bell,

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

I write to invite the City of Palmerston to rejoin the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) and take this opportunity to highlight some of our key achievements from 2024/25 on behalf of the LGANT Board and Secretariat.

#### Elections

LGANT has actively supported the sector through several electoral milestones. We:

- facilitated the LGANT Board election process in partnership with the NT Electoral Commission in November, ensuring transparency and member engagement, and welcomed the re-election of five Directors and four new Directors.
- advocated for local government priorities through briefings and stakeholder engagement in the lead-up to the NT and federal elections.
- supported the Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) federal election campaign: 'Put Our Communities First'.
- dedicated resources to building relationships with new Ministers and departmental staff to ensure they're familiar with the sector's issues and areas of opportunity.
- helped promote candidacy for the Barkly and Groote Archipelago Regional Councils elections and in preparing the sector for the 2025 Local Government Elections. We are happy to say that the new Groote council has joined as full members.
- secured departmental funding to develop a Territory-wide candidate information campaign and delivered pre-election candidate information sessions on request. LGANT also represented members on the 2025 Local Government Elections Working Group.

#### Member Services – Advocacy

LGANT continued to advocate strongly on behalf of its members. Our efforts spanned multiple channels including, but not limited to, submissions, media releases, committee representation, and direct engagement with ministers and agencies.

We are pleased to say that LGANT's advocacy efforts have resulted in tangible outcomes across multiple policy area. This includes amendments to telecommunications facility approvals under NT



Planning Scheme remaining impact assessable in favour of amenity and considered consultation, and an increase in base allowances for elected members.

We also advocated for the removal of conditional rating and commissioned two reports to support our position.

Other advocacy activity was focused on superannuation for elected members, clarifying rate exemptions, and ensuring code of conduct framework reform. As a result, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development included proposed amendments as part of Tranche 2 amendments to the Local Government Act 2019.

Our submissions also influenced other key legislative reforms, and LGANT appeared before the Legislative Scrutiny Committee to advocate for the exclusion of the Local Government Act from the scope of the Territory Coordinator Bill.

Representation on committees/working groups is a key element of LGANT's advocacy efforts and in recognising this, we completed a review of the 15 external committees that LGANT coordinates representation for. We also implemented more rigorous consultation and reporting requirements to ensure the sector is well represented. More information on these committees can be found at: <https://lgant.asn.au/member-services/advocacy-and-policy/external-committee-representation/>.

Submissions included:

- NT Territory Coordinator Consultation Bill
- NT Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (tranche 1)
- Scrutiny Committee's inquiry into the Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill (tranche 1)
- Legislative Amendments to the Local Government Act 2019 (tranche 2)
- Productivity Commission's final report into the review of Closing the Gap
- Guidelines for the Reconnection, Employment and Learning (REAL) Program
- Proposed NTG Aboriginal Grant Policy
- Remote Stores (food security) Program Standards discussion paper
- Review of the Regional Migration Discussion Paper
- Conditional rating
- NTG's Strategic Directions Planning Policy discussion paper
- NTG's Draft Strategic Planning Policy
- Regional Economic Development and Jobs Program (RJEDP) grant guidelines
- Remuneration Tribunal's inquiry into local government and Local Authority member allowances
- Jobs and Skills Australia 2025-26 Work Plan Consultation
- Regional Telecommunications Independent Review
- Productivity Commission's inquiry into Opportunities in the Circular Economy
- Parliamentary Committee on Northern Australia's inquiry into energy, food and water security
- Local Government National Report



Contributed to ALGA's submissions:

- Indigenous-led review of Closing the Gap
- Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding (Colvin Review)
- Independent Review of National Natural Disaster Governance Arrangements (the Glasser Review)
- Amendments to the Powers and Immunities Framework (Telecommunications Infrastructure) - Consultation Paper

### **Member Services – Projects**

LGANT delivered on strategic projects to enhance sector capability including collaborative initiatives across councils, development of shared resources, and facilitation of partnerships that address local government challenges. Our project work is informed by member feedback and aligned with sector priorities.

LGANT successfully:

- advocated for renewal as a Procurement Entity for a further five years and signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Local Buy, strengthening procurement options for member councils. LGANT also worked with Local Buy to improve the platform, including the ability to filter by location and the use of six key supplier badges, such as the Diversity Badge (which includes Indigenous businesses), to help councils find and work with local and diverse suppliers more easily. LGANT also added NTIBN as a Local Buy Indigenous Business certifying authority.
- negotiated a new contract with WALGA for the continuation of IR/HR services to members and fee-free access for members to WALGA's salary and workforce survey.
- delivered the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) for 2023/24, providing individual council comparisons on expenses.

### **Member Services – Roads**

Sustainable road funding and infrastructure development remained a critical focus for LGANT's advocacy. We continued to engage with Territory and Australian government stakeholders to secure funding and recognition of local roads as essential infrastructure.

This year, we completed a desktop audit confirming the LGANT road network spans 1,903km. Key renewal projects included Bonya Road causeway and adjacent road sealing, and Pukulki Road sealing.

### **Member Services – Workforce**

Workforce development is a key priority. LGANT:

- promoted careers in local government by hosting a stand at the 2025 VET Careers Expo and through collaboration with ISACNT.
- facilitated a new MOU with NORFORCE aimed at pursuing mutual community and workforce enhancement opportunities. The first two councils NORFORCE are working with are Central Desert and Barkly Regional Councils.
- created opportunities for 25 local government trainees by negotiating funding and delivery of the Local Government Traineeship Pilot Program in partnership with GTNT and ISACNT.
- established a HR Network in partnership with the WALGA, providing networking and workshop opportunities for council staff.



- established Communications Network in partnership with Access PR, providing networking and workshop opportunities for council staff.
- engaged with Public Skills Australia to ensure appropriate accredited training options for the sector and undertook research and ongoing advocacy for an improved Local Government learning and development framework.

### **Communications and Profile**

LGANT's communications strategy has evolved to increase engagement and visibility. We:

- grew our media presence thanks to our ongoing partnership with Access PR and increased our LinkedIn followers by 28% (to over 2,000).
- visited 12 of our 17 member councils, strengthening relationships and gathering insights to inform our work.
- finalised the 2025/26–2027/28 Strategic Plan and developed the 2025/26 Operational Plan to support its delivery.
- delivered the 2024 November Conference (including Annual and General Meetings) and the 2025 May Symposium (including General Meeting), which provided valuable networking, learning, and strategic planning opportunities for members across the Territory.
- supported the NT representatives at ALGA's six Board meetings and provided the Secretariat services for the LGANT Board's six meetings and strategic planning day.

### **Corporate functions**

LGANT established an Independent Remuneration Committee and subsequently implemented Board Director meeting fees for Board Directors.

We also developed key governance requirements for new Board Directors, including Consent to Act, Indemnity Agreement, and Declaration of Interests forms.

LGANT strengthened its risk management framework through Board workshops and formal endorsement of a new Risk Appetite Statement, enhancing oversight and guiding risk tolerance. To support implementation of the new Statement, a Risk Dashboard with detailed profiles across nine key risk themes was also developed. LGANT also secured funding to assist in the review of all internal policies and finalised 15 of 34.

Our internal capacity expanded with the appointment of a new CEO, an additional Project and Advocacy Advisor, a new Director of Public Affairs, a Marketing and Communications Coordinator, and a Business Support Trainee (who was promoted to Executive Officer). LGANT also introduced an Employee Assistance Program for staff.

### **Your membership**

LGANT increased alternate revenue sources to ensure value can be delivered to members while rebuilding their confidence in the organisation. We are happy to say that this increase enabled the Board to maintain 2025/26 subscription fees at 2023/24 levels.

The City of Palmerston's membership is important to both LGANT and the sector as we are stronger together. Your subscription and active participation will play a crucial role in enhancing the services and representation LGANT delivers as well as the profile and reputation of the sector more broadly.





The LGANT team look forward to working with you to support the sector. I have attached your 2025/26 member subscription fee invoice in anticipation.

LGANT remains committed to promoting the sector's achievements and advocating for its needs at every opportunity.

Should you have any questions about your membership, or the highlights outlined above, please don't hesitate to contact me or Mary Watson, CEO on 0417 864 183 or [mary.watson@lgant.asn.au](mailto:mary.watson@lgant.asn.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kon Vatskalis", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Kon Vatskalis  
**President**

CC: Andrew Walsh, CEO



# TAX INVOICE

CITY OF PALMERSTON  
PO BOX 1  
PALMERSTON NT 831

**Invoice Date**  
28 Jul 2025

**Invoice Number**  
INV-0350

**Reference**  
LGANT Member Subs FY  
26

**ABN**  
35 662 805 503

LGANT Ltd  
Attention: Accounts  
PO Box 2075  
PARAP NT 0820  
AUSTRALIA

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	GST	Amount AUD
2025/2026 Annual Member Subscriptions	1.00	59,616.00	10%	59,616.00
Subtotal				59,616.00
TOTAL GST 10%				5,961.60
<b>TOTAL AUD</b>				<b>65,577.60</b>

**Due Date: 28 Jul 2025**

BSB: 085933

Account Number: 98 800 0907

Account Name: LGANT Ltd

Please send remittance advice to [accounts@lgant.asn.au](mailto:accounts@lgant.asn.au)

## PAYMENT ADVICE

To: LGANT Ltd  
Attention: Accounts  
PO Box 2075  
PARAP NT 0820  
AUSTRALIA

**Customer** CITY OF PALMERSTON  
**Invoice Number** INV-0350

**Amount Due** **65,577.60**

**Due Date** 28 Jul 2025

**Amount Enclosed**

Enter the amount you are paying above



#### **14.2.2 Chief Minister response to Mayors PYF 2025 Letter of Appreciation**

1. THAT correspondence dated 11 August 2025 14.2.2 entitled Chief Minister response to Mayors PYF 2025 Letter of Appreciation be received and noted.
2. THAT the Mayor write to the relevant Minister to secure future funding commitments to the Palmerston Youth Festival.



CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House  
State Square  
Darwin NT 0800  
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146  
Darwin NT 0801  
Telephone: 08 8999 8700

Ms Athina Pascoe-Bell  
Mayor  
City of Palmerston  
Civic Plaza  
1 Chung Wah Terrace  
PALMERSTON NT 0831

Via Email: [mayor@palmerston.nt.gov.au](mailto:mayor@palmerston.nt.gov.au)

Dear Mayor Pascoe-Bell

Thank you for your letter and kind words of support for the Palmerston Youth Festival. I appreciate you taking the time to write, and I commend the City of Palmerston for its continued leadership in creating meaningful opportunities for young Territorians.

It was a pleasure to attend the opening of festival and to witness firsthand the strong community spirit that continues to grow each year. It was particularly encouraging to see record attendance in 2025, a clear reflection of the festival's growing impact and the enthusiasm of the Palmerston community.

I look forward to continued collaboration between the Northern Territory Government and the City of Palmerston to support initiatives that strengthen community connections and provide lasting opportunities for young people.

Yours sincerely

LIA FINOCCHIARO

11 AUG 2025





## 15 REPORT OF DELEGATES

## 16 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

## 17 GENERAL BUSINESS

## 18 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 2 September 2025 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

## 19 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.

## 20 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

# MINUTES



## 2nd ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 15 JULY 2025

The Ordinary 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 City of Palmerston's website [palmerston.nt.gov.au](http://palmerston.nt.gov.au)

UNCONFIRMED



Minutes of Council Meeting  
held in Council Chambers  
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston  
on Tuesday 15 July at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell (Chair)  
Deputy Mayor Damian Hale  
Councillor Benjamin Giesecke  
Councillor Lucy Morrison  
Councillor Mark Fraser  
Councillor Sarah Henderson

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Walsh  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon  
Acting General Manager Finance and Governance, Penny Hart  
Acting General Manager Community, Laura Hardman  
Acting General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight  
Minute Secretary, Jodi Holden

GALLERY

Nil members of the public  
One member of staff

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

## 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 5.30pm.

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 3.1 Apologies

Nil

### 3.2 Leave of absence previously granted

Nil

## 4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING PREVIOUSLY GRANTED

Nil

## 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

### 5.1 Elected members

Moved: Councillor Henderson

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hale

THAT the Declaration of Interest received from Councillor Morrison for Item 25.1 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1978 – 15/07/2025

### 5.2 Staff

Nil

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

## 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 6.1 Confirmation of minutes

Moved: Councillor Fraser  
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1 July 2025 pages 11776 to 11784 be confirmed.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1979 – 15/07/2025

### 6.2 Business arising from previous meeting

Nil

## 7 MAYORAL REPORT

Moved: Mayor Pascoe-Bell  
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT Report entitled Mayoral Update Report - June 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1980 – 15/07/2025

## 8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

## 9 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

Nil

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

## 10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

### 10.1 Moving confidential items into open

#### 10.1.1 Leave of Absence Requests

Moved: Councillor Hale  
Seconded: Councillor Garden

3. THAT the leave of absence received from Councillor Morrison for 25 June to 5 July 2025 inclusive be received and noted.
7. THAT each decision be moved to the Open Minutes at expiry of the leave of absence.

**CARRIED (7/0) - 10/1715 - 21/01/2025**

#### 10.1.2 Leave of Absence Requests

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hale  
Seconded: Councillor Fraser

1. THAT the leave of absence request received from Deputy Mayor Hale for 30 June to 4 July 2025 inclusive, for the reason of working remotely, be approved.
2. THAT the leave of absence request received from Deputy Mayor Hale for 7 July to 10 July 2025 inclusive, for the reason of working remotely be approved.
3. THAT each decision be moved to the Open Minutes at expiry of the leave of absence.

**CARRIED (5/0) - 10/1973 - 1/07/2025**

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

**10.1.3 Yilli Housing - Request for Rate Exemption**

**Moved:** Councillor Giesecke  
**Seconded:** Councillor Fraser

1. THAT Report entitled Yilli Housing - Request for Rate Exemption be received and noted.
2. THAT Council resolves that a rate exemption is not applied to Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation as the organisation has not provided sufficient information to make an assessment on whether a rate exemption can be applied under Section 222 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT).
3. THAT a letter be sent to Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation advising them of this outcome.
4. THAT this decision be moved into open once the letter advising Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation of the outcome has been sent.
5. THAT the Mayor write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development advising of Council's decision with respect to the rates exemption request from Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation.

**CARRIED (5/0) - 10/1975 - 1/07/2025**

**10.2 Moving open items into confidential**

Nil

**10.3 Confidential items**

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor Hale  
**Seconded:** Councillor Giesecke

THAT pursuant to Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential items:

Item	Confidential Category	Confidential Clause
25.1	External Presentation	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(e) of the <i>Local Government</i>

Initials:

		(General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.
27.1.1	Rate Concession Assessment	<p>This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(b) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.</p> <p>This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(ii) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.</p> <p>This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(d) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.</p>
27.1.2	Financial Hardship Application	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(b) of the <i>Local Government</i>

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



		(General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.
27.2.1	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
27.2.2	Contract and Tender Assessment and Award	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> , which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1981 - 15/07/2025

## 11 PETITIONS

Nil

## 12 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

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

## 13 OFFICER REPORTS

### 13.1 Action reports

#### 13.1.1 Review of Palmerston By-Laws

**Moved:** Councillor Giesecke  
**Seconded:** Councillor Henderson

1. THAT Report entitled Review of Palmerston By-Laws be received and noted.
2. THAT Council amends the priority review schedule for by-laws as follows:
  - a) Priority One - Palmerston (Public Places) By-Laws 2001.
  - b) Priority Two - Palmerston (Procedures for Meetings) By-Laws 2003.
  - c) Priority Three - Palmerston (Charges) By-Laws 1994.
  - d) Priority Four - Palmerston (Signs, Hoardings and Advertising) By-Laws 1999.

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1982 - 15/07/2025**

#### 13.1.2 Zuccoli Community Hub Community Centre and Library Design Scope

**Moved:** Councillor Henderson  
**Seconded:** Councillor Giesecke

1. THAT Report entitled Zuccoli Community Hub Community Centre and Library Design Scope be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorses the scope of the design of Stage 3 of Zuccoli Community Hub to include;
  - a. General alignment to the 2022 approved Masterplan and integration with the Stage 2 design;
  - b. Community hall building with a focus on event and creative performance activities, including connectivity to the outdoor events area and consideration of event seating options and audio-visual requirements;
  - c. Technology and community programs building with a versatile building that can support the delivery of library services, vocational training and bookable spaces for small business and other users;

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

- d. Covered entrance area priorities accessibility and connectivity to key elements, including provision for small pop-up markets and bookable spaces;
  - e. Incorporate public toilets and change facilities;
  - f. Incorporate artwork within the design of landscaping and building architecture;
  - g. Low-maintenance, unfenced community garden with orchard-style planting and future flexibility;
  - h. Shaded, bespoke playground space that caters for a variety of age groups, including nature play;
  - i. Relocates the garden of reflection to the Stage 2 area;
  - j. Prioritises accessibility for all users; and
  - k. Considers contemporary sustainability outcomes.
3. THAT a workshop is held with Council following the engagement of a consultant for the design of Stage 3 of the Zuccoli Community Hub.

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1983 - 15/07/2025**

### 13.1.3 2024-25 Capital Rollover

**Moved: Deputy Mayor Hale**  
**Seconded: Councillor Fraser**

1. THAT Report entitled 2024-25 Capital Rollover be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopts the capital works rollover movements of \$4,498,405.87 as identified in Table 1 "2025-26 Capital Roll-over" contained in the Report entitled 2024-25 Capital Rollover, from the 2024-25 financial year to the 2025-26 financial year.
3. THAT Council adopts the following capital works rollover movements effective as at 30 June 2025:
  - a) \$2,424,098.28 transferred to Unexpended Capital Works Reserve.
  - b) \$926,124.19 transferred to Waste Reserve.
  - c) \$1,148,183.40 will remain in Grants Liability.
4. THAT Council adopts the capital works rollover movements and associated expenditure effective as at 1 July 2025 of:
  - a) \$2,424,098.28 transferred from Unexpended Capital Works Reserve.
  - b) \$926,124.19 transferred from Waste Reserve.
  - c) \$1,148,183.40 will be recognised as Capital income, reducing the Unexpended Grants Liability.

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

5. THAT Council adopts the amended 2025-26 Budget that includes the capital works rollover movements and associated income and expenditure as of 1 July 2025 as presented in **Attachment 13.1.3.1.**
6. THAT Council adopts the amended 2026-35 Long Term Financial Plan that includes the capital works rollover movements and associated income and expenditure as of 1 July 2025 as presented in **Attachment 13.1.3.2.**

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1984 – 15/07/2025**

## 13.2 Receive and note reports

### 13.2.1 Finance and Governance Quarterly Report - April to June 2025

**Moved:** Councillor Fraser  
**Seconded:** Councillor Morrison

THAT Report entitled Finance and Governance Quarterly Report - April to June 2025 be received and noted.

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1985 – 15/07/2025**

### 13.2.2 Financial Report for the Month of June 2025

**Moved:** Councillor Henderson  
**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Hale

THAT Report entitled Financial Report for the Month of June 2025 be received and noted.

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1986 – 15/07/2025**

### 13.2.3 Gray Community Hall

**Moved:** Councillor Fraser  
**Seconded:** Councillor Giesecke

1. THAT Report entitled Gray Community Hall be received and noted.
2. THAT Council request a report on security upgrades that can be implemented to increase feelings of safety for users of the hall.  
 Items including:
  - Lighting Improvements
  - Panic Buttons
  - Fencing
  - Security Patrols

Initials:

Laneway usage  
 All Hours security  
 Frosted Glass  
 Other options to report anti-social  
 behaviour

3. THAT the Mayor write to the Liquor Commissioner, Director of Licensing and the Attorney General to invite them to attend a council meeting to discuss liquor related issues in Gray Community and the wider Palmerston region.

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1987 – 15/07/2025**

#### **13.2.4 People and Place Quarterly Report - April to June 2025**

**Moved:** Councillor Giesecke  
**Seconded:** Councillor Henderson

THAT Report entitled People and Place Quarterly Report - April to June 2025 be received and noted.

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1988 – 15/07/2025**

#### **13.2.5 Major Capital Projects Update**

**Moved:** Councillor Morrison  
**Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Hale

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

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1989 – 15/07/2025**

#### **13.2.6 Community Quarterly Report - April to June 2025**

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor Hale  
**Seconded:** Councillor Henderson

THAT Report entitled Community Quarterly Report - April to June 2025 be received and noted.

**CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1990 – 15/07/2025**

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

### 13.2.7 Community Funding Program Quarterly Report - April to June 2025

Moved: Councillor Morrison  
Seconded: Councillor Giesecke

THAT Report entitled Community Funding Program Quarterly Report - April to June 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1991 - 15/07/2025

## 14 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

### 14.1 Information

Nil

### 14.2 Correspondence

Nil

## 15 REPORT OF DELEGATES

Nil

## 16 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Nil

## 17 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 17.1 Condolences - Hayley Arkinstall, Manager of Library Services

Moved: Mayor Pascoe-Bell  
Seconded: Councillor Giesecke

THAT the City of Palmerston records its sorrow at the death of Hayley Arkinstall who served the Palmerston community as the Manager of Library Services and extend our heartfelt condolences to her husband Daniel, children Bronte and Riley and their family and friends.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1992 - 15/07/2025

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



## 18 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Moved: Councillor Fraser  
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 19 August 2025 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1993 – 15/07/2025

## 19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Moved: Councillor Fraser  
Seconded: Councillor Giesecke

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.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/1994 – 15/07/2025

## 20 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

Nil

The open section of the meeting closed at 6.21pm for the discussion of confidential matters.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

# MINUTES



## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 28 JULY 2025

The Special Council 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 City of Palmerston's website [palmerston.nt.gov.au](http://palmerston.nt.gov.au)

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of Special Council Meeting  
held in Council Chambers  
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston  
on Monday 28 July 2025 at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell (Chair)  
Deputy Mayor Damian Hale  
Councillor Benjamin Giesecke  
Councillor Lucy Morrison  
Councillor Mark Fraser  
Councillor Sarah Henderson

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Walsh  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon  
Acting General Manager Finance and Governance, Penny Hart  
General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl  
Acting General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight  
Minute Secretary, Kate Roberts

GALLERY

Nil members of the public  
Nil members of staff

## 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 5.30 pm.

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 3.1 Apologies

Nil

### 3.2 Leave of absence previously granted

Nil

## 4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING PREVIOUSLY GRANTED

Nil

## 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

### 5.1 Elected members

Nil

### 5.2 Staff

Nil

## 6 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

### 6.1 Confidential items

Nil

## 7 OFFICER REPORTS

### 7.1 Action reports

#### 7.1.1 Animal Management Fees and Charges corrections

Moved: Councillor Fraser  
Seconded: Councillor Morrison

1. THAT Report entitled Animal Management Fees and Charges corrections be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the following amended fees as highlighted in **Attachment 7.1.1.1 Fees and Charges 2025-26** to Report entitled Animal Management Fees and Charges corrections:
  - a) Page 6 Animal Registration – Concession / Aged and Disability Pension Fee per Dog or Cat to be amended from \$50.00 to \$35.00; and
  - b) Page 6 Animal Registration – Concession / Aged and Disability Pension Fee Desexed Dog or Cat to be amended from \$35.00 to \$13.00.
  - c) Page 7 'Dog Licence' to be amended to 'Animal Licence'.
3. THAT Council approve the removal of the fee Desexed/Northern Australian Canine Association COB Holder on Page 7 of **Attachment 7.1.1.1 Fees and Charges 2025-26** to Report entitled Animal Management Fees and Charges corrections.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/2003 – 28/07/2025

### 7.2 Receive and note reports

Nil



8 CLOSURE OF MEETING

Moved: Councillor Fraser  
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

THAT the special meeting of the Tenth City of Palmerston Council held in Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, Palmerston on 28 July 2025 closed at 5.33 pm.

CARRIED (6/0) - 10/2004 – 28/07/2025

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.33pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date