AGENDA

2nd ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2026

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 or at the Council Office located:
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston NT 0830.

ANDREW WALSH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2 OPENING OF MEETING

3 APOLOGIES

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4.1 Elected members

4.2 Staff

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2 June 2026 pages 12162 to 12177 be confirmed.

5.2 Business arising from previous meeting

6 MAYORAL REPORT

MAYORAL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	6.1
Report Title:	Mayoral Update Report - May 2026
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
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 May 2026 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 May 2026, 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 - May 2026 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 May 2026 is as follows:

- 2026 Harmony Soiree event at Parliament House.
- Monthly meeting with Palmerston & Rural Division, Northern Territory Police.
- Legacy Mother's Day High Tea 2026.

- Darwin Symphany Orchestra event, Island Signal, Island Song.
- Quarterly meeting with Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Local Government.
- Europe Day 2026 event at Parliament House.
- Palmerston and Litchfield Seniors Association (PLSA) Inc lunch event.
- Meeting with the Palmerston Liquor Accord.
- Meeting with Darwin Symphony Orchestra.
- AFL Northern Territory Official event, Gold Coast Suns vs Port Adelaide.
- Brekkie in the Park.
- Community Plan Health Check Workshop.
- Official Reception of the 2026 World Oceania Athletics Championships.
- ABC Darwin Live Radio Interview.
- Regional Capital Australia Board meeting.
- 2026 Darwin Festival Program Launch.
- Meeting with EmpowerCard™, regarding supporting the Palmerston community.
- Meeting with Pathfinders Palmerston, regarding project update and collaborative First Nations initiatives.
- Quarterly meeting with Minister Boothby.
- Culture Fest 2026.
- Quarterly meeting with Minister Edgington.
- Meeting with LGANT on the Draft Ministerial Guideline on Code of Conduct framework.
- Hooked On Palmerston Media event, Fisheries are releasing 20 barras in Marlow Lagoon.
- Elected Member Market Stall.
- Palmerston Raiders Mayor's Cup event.

2026 Darwin Festival Program Launch

The 2026 Darwin Festival Program Launch took place on Thursday 21 May 2026 on the lawns at Mindil Beach Casino Resort, bringing together key civic leaders, including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, alongside invited guests and festival supporters. The event consisted of the official program reveal, speeches at 7pm, and local performances, as Artistic Director Kate Fell unveils the full lineup of events and experiences planned for this year's highly anticipated festival.

Marking the official release of the 2026 Darwin Festival program, the launch sets the stage for the 19-day "Hot August Nights" celebration running from 5–23 August 2026 on Larrakia land. The program will showcase a vibrant mix of arts, culture, and food across iconic venues such as Festival Park, with events ranging from free experiences to ticketed performances averaging around $44.00. Audiences can explore the full lineup, discover artists, and secure tickets through the Darwin Festival website, ensuring broad access to one of the Top End's premier cultural events.



Justine Davis MLA Member for Johnston, Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell, Lord Mayor Peter Styles and Councillor Edwin Joseph at the Darwin Festival Launch

Quarterly Meeting with Minister Edgington

As part of the quarterly meeting with Minister Edgington at Parliament House, discussions focused on a range of key strategic and governance priorities affecting Palmerston and the broader region. Agenda items include the Homeless Strategy, Ministerial Code of Conduct and Guidelines, and the Application for Approval to Borrow for Zuccoli Community Hub.

Further discussions will cover major development and regional matters, including the Northcrest Development, the conduct and administration of the 2025 NT Local Government Elections, and engagement through the Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC), reinforcing collaborative planning and coordinated regional outcomes.



Mayor Pascoe-Bell and Minister Edgington

Hooked on Palmerston

The Mayor attended the Hooked on Palmerston media event that took place at Marlow Lagoon on Friday 29 May 2026, providing an opportunity to promote the upcoming fishing competition alongside the Hon Gerard Maley, Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. The event featured the release of 20 barramundi by Fisheries NT, creating a strong visual moment to highlight the start of the competition and encourage community participation.

Hooked on Palmerston is a popular community fishing competition that invites residents and visitors to explore local waterways, with a focus on family-friendly recreation, outdoor activity, and showcasing Palmerston's accessible fishing locations. The initiative supports local tourism and community engagement while celebrating the Top End lifestyle.



Matthew Kerle, Hon Gerard Maley, Mayor Pascoe-Bell and Alex.



Mayor Pascoe-Bell releasing a barramundi into Marlow Lagoon

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

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1 INPEX Carbon Capture and Storage Annual Update

THAT the presentation by Mr Jake Prout, Environment Leadon, Ms Cara Burke, Lead Stakeholder Engagement from INPEX, on the INPEX Carbon Capture and Storage Annual Update be received and noted.

8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

9.1 Moving confidential items into open

9.2 Moving open items into confidential

9.3 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
26.1.1	Council Committee Recommendations	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
26.2.1	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

10 PETITIONS

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

12 OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.1
Report Title:	Community Plan Health Check - Community Panel Report
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Manager Organisational Performance, Penny Hart
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearon

Community plan

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

Purpose

This Report provides a summary of the 2026 Community Plan Health Check outcomes.

Key messages

- The Community Plan is Council's governing document and provides guidance for all Council activities.
- It was developed in 2018 in collaboration with Palmerston residents and the support of engagement company DemocracyCo.
- A four-yearly review following election is a commitment in the Community Plan.
- A health check was undertaken in 2021 that determined that the Community Plan was on track.
- In October 2025, Council resolved to undertake a Health Check of the Community Plan again following the election of the 11th Council.
- Community consultation and engagement was undertaken between December 2025 and May 2026, culminating in a community panel workshop on 17 May 2026.
- Twenty community members attended the workshop to review the consultation feedback, identify what matters most to the Palmerston community and present recommendations to Council.
- This report provides the Community Panel report from the Community Plan Health Check 2025/26.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Community Plan Health Check - Community Panel Report be received and noted.

2. THAT Council thank the community members who contributed to the Community Plan Health Check consultation and Community Panel workshop for their time and involvement.

3. THAT Council note that a report exploring the themes of the Palmerston Community Plan Health Check 2026 Community Panel Report will be presented by August 2026.

Background

In late 2018 Council engaged DemocracyCo to work with a diverse group of Palmerston community members as part of the Palmerston People's Forum to consider the future they wanted for Palmerston. This includes that:

- Palmerston is a welcoming vibrant family city that fosters diversity and unity.
- In Palmerston, everyone belongs.
- In Palmerston, everyone is safe.

The group settled on six core outcomes for Palmerston that formed the basis for the Community Plan and the vision that Palmerston is 'A place for people':

1. **Family and Community**
   Palmerston is a safe and family-friendly community where everyone belongs.
2. **Vibrant Economy**
   Palmerston is a destination city for employment. It is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow.
3. **Cultural Diversity**
   In Palmerston, we celebrate our cultures in a way that values our diversity.
4. **A Future Focus**
   Palmerston is an innovative city that sustains itself through the challenges of the future.
5. **Environmental Sustainability**
   Palmerston is an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.
6. **Governance**
   Council is trusted by the community and invests in things that the public value.

The Community Plan was adopted by Council in 2019 and has since been the governing document for all of Council's work. It influences and drives the direction of Council's Municipal Plan, Budget and the Long-Term Financial Plan.

At the 2nd Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 October 2025 Council made the following decisions:

26.1.4 Review of City of Palmerston Community Plan

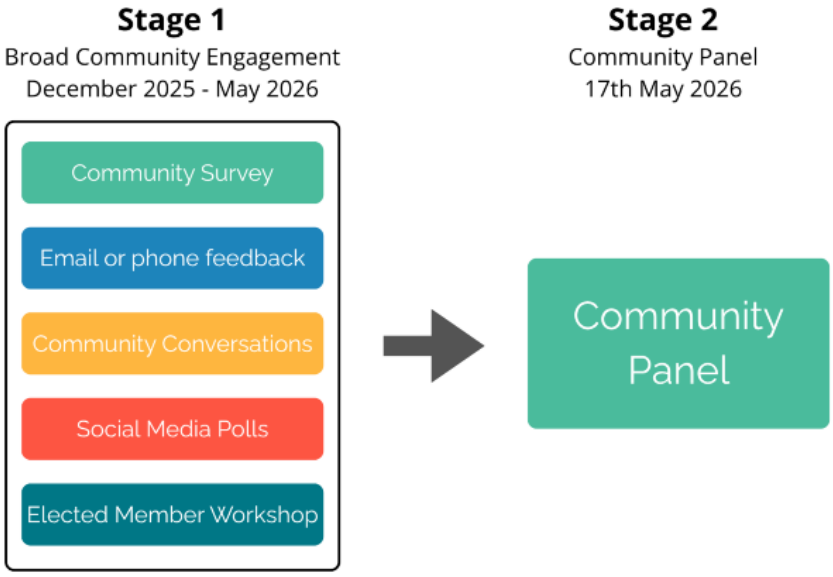
2. *THAT Council undertake a Health Check of the Community Plan in 2025–26, with the following scope:*
   a. *Inclusions:*
      i. Reviewing the strategic directions to ensure they continue to meet the needs and expectations of the community;
      ii. Reviewing the measures that sit under the six outcomes to confirm their relevance and effectiveness; and
      iii. Considering priority areas for action under each outcome.
   b. *Exclusions: The Health Check will not alter the Community Plan's overall vision or outcomes.*

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/073 – 21/10/2025

This report provides a summary of consultation and engagement, and the Community Panel report from the Community Plan Health Check.

Discussion

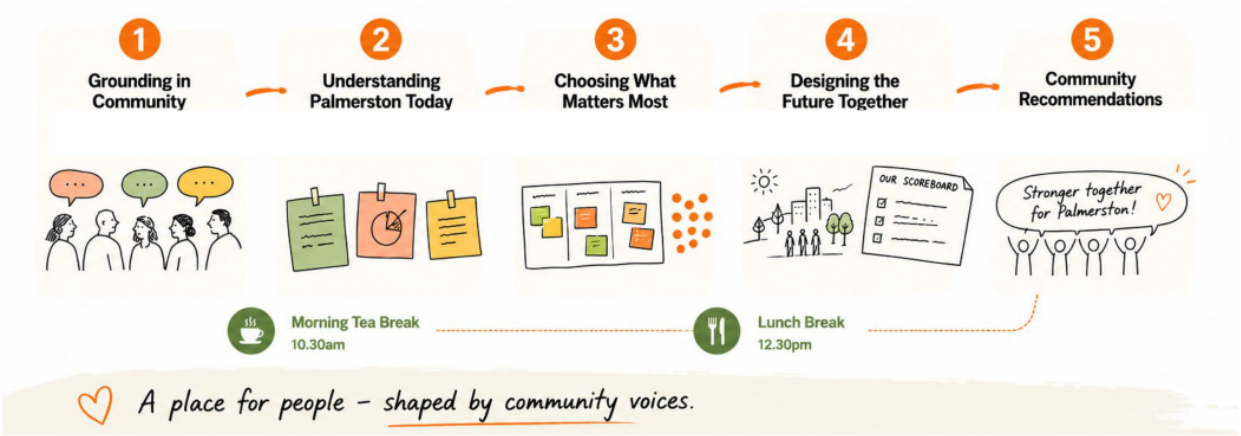
The Health Check in 2025/26 was undertaken in two stages:



Stage 1 involved broad community engagement open to all City of Palmerston residents. A range of engagement methods were utilised, including an online survey, community conversations, pop-up events, Council participation at community group meetings, social media polls and opportunities to provide feedback via email or telephone. A workshop was also held with Elected Members to capture reflections on the current Community Plan and identify future priorities.

During this stage, expressions of interest were also sought from community members to participate in Stage 2, being the Community Panel. The Community Panel subsequently convened in May 2026 to consider the outcomes of Stage 1 and develop a series of recommendations for Council.

The Community Panel came together for a one-day workshop facilitated by DemocracyCo on Sunday 17 May 2026. A summary of the agenda is provided below.



Community Panel report

The Community Plan Health Check 2026 Community Panel Report is provided at **Attachment 12.1.1.1**.

The panel stated that the discussions held were highly constructive and resulted in a shared understanding of Palmerston's future direction. They noted a strong sense of pride in living in Palmerston and a collective desire to continue progressing, acknowledging that while significant change has occurred over the past decade, the focus should now be on how Palmerston can reach its full potential over the next ten years.

The panel emphasised the importance of Palmerston's multicultural identity, highlighting that the community values its diversity and the efforts made to foster cohesion. They stated a strong aspiration to enhance the city as an inclusive and safe place for all residents, regardless of background, beliefs or perspectives, ensuring that everyone feels a sense of belonging. They underscored the importance of collective action across the community, particularly noting the critical role of young people in shaping the future.

The panel acknowledged that many of the ideas raised during the consultation and workshop may fall outside the direct responsibilities of Council; however, they expressed a desire for Council to play an advocacy and influencing role where possible.

Next steps

Council staff are reviewing the Community Panel Report, which provides detailed information on the consultation and the outcomes of the Community Panel workshop. There are clear themes throughout the report, particularly regarding building a strong sense of community, youth engagement, use of community spaces and safety, and economic development.

It is recommended that a report exploring the themes of the Palmerston Community Plan Health Check 2026 Community Panel Report is presented by August 2026 for consideration.

Consultation and marketing

In preparing this Report, the following parties were consulted:

- Executive Leadership Team
- Executive Manager People, Customer & Communications

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

- DemocracyCo

The Health Check 2025/26 used broad community engagement through online surveys, community presentations, information at community events and a deliberative group of Palmerston community members to reflect on the Community Plan and provide input into the review.

Policy implications

City of Palmerston is committed to open, accessible, and accountable decision-making informed by consultation with the Palmerston Community. All review activities were be undertaken in accordance with Council Policy Community Engagement, which sets the framework for a consistent, genuine and accessible approach to community engagement.

Budget and resource implications

All activities were undertaken within the approved budget

Risk, legal and legislative implications

To mitigate the risk of the Community Plan becoming misaligned with community expectations, Council is committed to reviewing it every four years following an election, as outlined in the plan itself.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

The Community Plan was originally developed by the community for the community. The Health Check will identify actions to deliver on the outcomes.

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. Community Panel Report [**12.1.1.1** - 31 pages]



Palmerston Community Plan Health Check 2026

Community Panel Report

May 2026

democracyCo

In this document

INTRODUCTION..... **ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.**

ABOUT THE CITY OF PALMERSTON COMMUNITY PLAN 4
ABOUT THE COMMUNITY PLAN HEALTH CHECK PROCESS 5
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OUR VISION FOR PALMERSTON..... 8
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Introduction

From the Community Panel Reflections

We have had amazing conversations today and have come to a common belief of where Palmerston is heading and how it can shine across Australia. We are confident this work will inform planning for the future. We like living here and we want to move forwards - there is always room for growth. So much has changed in the last 10 years – our focus is how we can make Palmerston the best it can be in the next 10?

We want to emphasise our multicultural nature – we like the fact we have such a diverse community, and we all try to get along. We live in one place, and we want to make this place and space the best it can be. We want to make Palmerston safe for everyone, regardless of what you do, see or how you think, we want everyone to feel like we belong.

We recognise that many of our ideas and thoughts are not the role of Council – but we want to make sure that you can influence those things that we are wanting to see. We are all in this together as a community - how are we working together, especially young people, who need to be part of the next generation? There are so many forward-thinking young people who are truly invested in our future.

About the City of Palmerston Community Plan

The Community Plan was developed in collaboration with the community in 2018 and was reviewed in 2021. It outlines the vision for Palmerston as 'A Place for People'. The Community Plan acts as a guide for Council to ensure their work follows the strategic direction and values that the community has set. In early 2026 a 'Health Check' has been undertaken on the Plan, to make sure Council activities are aligned with the outcomes. The Health Check was designed to find out if we need to refresh the content to better meet the needs and values of the community.

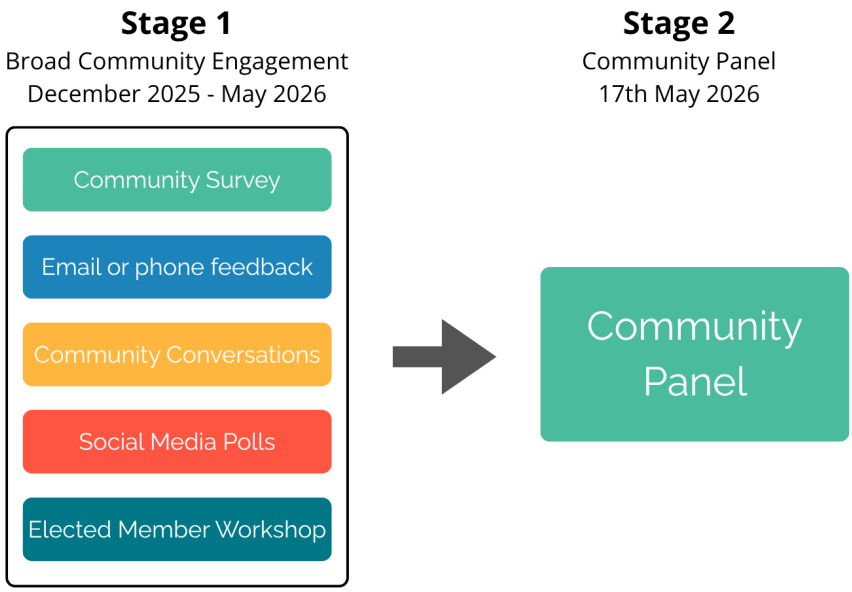
The Community Plan sets out 6 core outcomes for Council:

1. **Family and Community**
   Palmerston is a safe and family-friendly community where everyone belongs.
2. **Vibrant Economy**
   Palmerston is a destination city for employment. It is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow.
3. **Cultural Diversity**
   In Palmerston, we celebrate our cultures in a way that values our diversity.
4. **A Future Focus**
   Palmerston is an innovative city that sustains itself through the challenges of the future.
5. **Environmental Sustainability**
   Palmerston is an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.
6. **Governance**
   Council is trusted by the community and invests in things that the public value.

Each year, Council aligns its budget and expenditure to deliver on the activities, programs and services towards achieving these outcomes. You can read the current full Community Plan here.

About the Community Plan Health Check Process

The Health Check was designed to check in with the community about the City of Palmerston's strategic directions to make sure that it continues to meet the needs of the community. It was undertaken from December 2025 to May 2026 and involved two stages, as outlined in the diagram below.



Stage 1 involved broad community engagement, open for all City of Palmerston residents. This stage employed a variety of tools including an online survey, community conversations, pop-up events, Council attendance at community group meetings, social media polls and the opportunity to provide feedback via email or phone call. A workshop with Elected Members was also undertaken to explore their reflections on the current Community Plan and ideas for what needs focus in the future. 20 people responded to the survey, 59 people participated in Community Conversations (including 8 people in the Elected Member workshop) and social media polls received 1121 votes.

During this broad community engagement stage, registrations of interest to be part of the second stage - a Community Panel - were also collected, with a total of 45 community members indicating their interest in participating. The Community Panel met in May 2026 to reflect on the responses to the open community engagement stage and develop a series of recommendations to Council for amendments to the Community Plan.

About the Community Panel

The Community Panel's Task

The Community Panel came together for a one-day workshop facilitated by DemocracyCo on Sunday 17th May 2026. Their task was to review the feedback received through the broad engagement phase (which was open for all community members to contribute to) and provide recommendations to Council to ensure the Community Plan remains fit for purpose for the future. A summary of the workshop agenda is provided below.



The Community Panel workshop included:

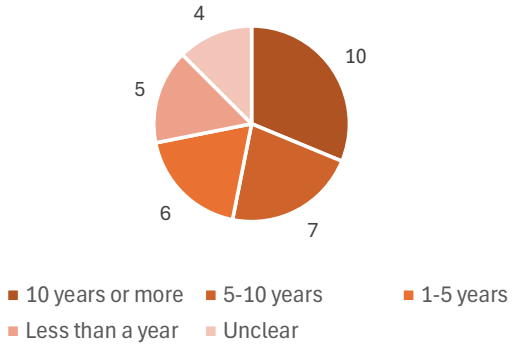
1. Grounding in Community
    - Exploring what residents were proud of in Palmerston
    - Highlighting issues where there is work to do
2. Understanding Palmerston today
    - Hearing from the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer on progress towards the plan
    - Understanding the Community Satisfaction Survey 2025 results and outcomes from the Health Check Community Conversations / Survey
    - Discussing what would be different in Palmerston is we achieved our vision and outcomes?
3. Identifying what matters most
    - Prioritising strategies which emerged from the Community Survey and Conversations.
4. Designing the Future together
    - Further developing and detailing key strategies that will help to achieve the Community Plan Outcomes.
    - Discussing measures of success / impact.
5. Community Recommendations and Reflection
    - Presenting the recommendations of the Community Panel to the Mayor and Elected Members.

Who was on the Community Panel?

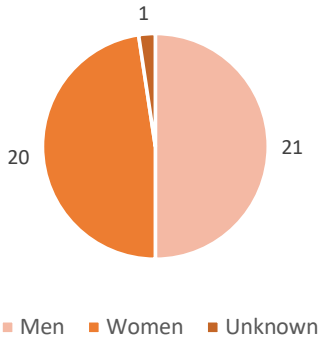
The membership of the Community Panel was designed to be as diverse and representative of the City of Palmerston community as possible. From the registrations of interest received, a group was selected using random stratification, with the aim to select a group that was as diverse as possible in terms of age, gender, cultural background, amount of time living in Palmerston, suburb and residence type (renting or owning a home). The registration of interest process did not provide enough men or First Nations participants and so we supplemented this open registration process through marketing recruitment company Q & A Market Research Services to help recruit a further 10 men including First Nations people.

The following charts show the makeup of the final confirmed Community Panel participants, which was a group of 32 participants. It should be noted that of this recruited group, 20 participants actually attended the session on the 17th May 2026.

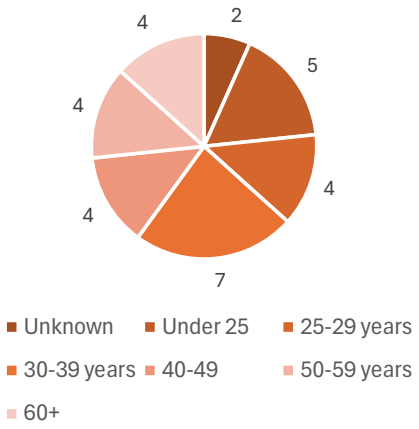
How long have you lived in Palmerston



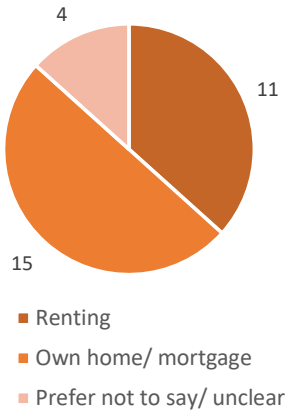
Gender



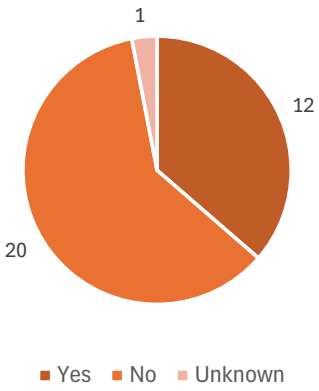
Age Profile



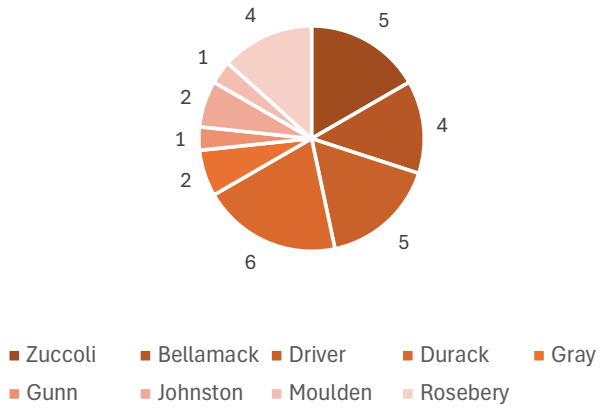
Living arrangements



Multicultural background



Participants by Suburb



The Community Panel's Work

Our Vision for Palmerston

It was clear that the Panel were both committed and connected to the Vision of the City of Palmerston – A Place for People.

This vision is clear and speaks to community.

In discussion about the vision, the Panel members reflected on the importance of inclusion, cohesion and building a community where everyone belongs, and is accepted. When they talked about what this would look like, they painted a picture of a "vibrant social district open 24/7" where "people feel safe and where people are not alone".

Panel members wanted to see greater community pride and greater engagement by community members – building a strong sense of community where people know their neighbours, learn about each other and "know the community we share community with". They have a vision of people in the community, walking, using public transport and also using public spaces safely, at all times of the day and night as a consequence of a thriving economy and a safe and inclusive community.

To support this, they highlighted the importance of a commitment to intentional design of all of our suburbs, facilities and public spaces as a way to reflect that sense of inclusion, cohesion and belonging.

The group also discussed the importance of a positive, growing economy – which helps to create sustainability and prosperity for all people – businesses and residents alike.



What has been achieved? What could be improved?

When reflecting on Palmerston over the last few years the Panel highlighted the below as achievements / things they are proud of, and things that they feel could be improved:

Outcome Area	What has been achieved?	What could be improved?
Family and Community	• Family-centred • Friendly neighbourhoods • Library – and the events which are held there ○ Recording studio • Markets and festivals • Community activities and markets • Social events • Events • Accessibility (however there is room for improvement for people in wheelchairs) • The recreation • Rural lifestyle • Land-based fishing • Palmerston Rovers Football Club • Disability parking	**Safety and Security** • Crime • Accessibility to assistance from police (hard to get) • Safety • Security • Management / compliance of the use of E-bikes / scooters and ATVs **Accessibility and Inclusion** • Disability access • Elderly community engagement and access to services • Wheelchair accessibility **Housing and Homelessness** • Housing – too many vacant homes while so many people are in need / searching • Homelessness **Facilities and Activities for Young People** • Things for children – parks, fencing around playgrounds, playground footings (that don't attract needles etc), parking • Facilities for teenagers • Engagement for young people – boredom, not enough to keep them occupied / positively engaged, YMCA hours could be expanded

Outcome Area	What has been achieved?	What could be improved?
Vibrant Economy	• Business opportunities • Services – shops, business areas	• Business
Cultural Diversity	• Cultural diversity • Diversity	• Larrakia nation – not enough resources or capacity • Cultural access – not enough multicultural access to services
A Future Focus	• Growth of the city of Palmerston	• Lack of entry level jobs
Environmental Sustainability	• Wildlife • Green space – we have a lot • Connection to nature • Beautiful	• Illegal dumping • Waste management - recycling
Governance	• Leadership of Council / accessibility to Council	• Quality of footpaths • Water leaks in suburbs • Lack of lighting at night / street lights • Dogs and cats roaming around • Governance • Slow to make road repairs • Feral cat issues – Council effectiveness / ranger. There is not enough capacity or facilities • Traffic and infrastructure • Maintenance of infrastructure

Where should we prioritise action?

During the workshop, participants were shown a list of potential strategies for addressing the six Community Plan Outcomes which the community had shared during the first stage of the engagement. Using the following criteria, the Panel voted for five strategies each that they thought would be important to include in the new plan:

- **Impact** - what will help us achieve our plan's vision and outcomes?
- **Importance** - we really care about this; it matters a lot to us.
- **Urgency** - this needs to be done in this next plan, it can't be delayed.
- **Feasibility** - this is achievable.

The full list of strategies which emerged from the first stage of the engagement and their corresponding voting as undertaken by the Community Panel can be found in **Appendix A.**

Following this process of prioritising the strategies for achieving the Community Plan Outcomes, the Community Panel further developed and detailed key strategies for each Outcome area. The following sections outline the Community Panel's work on each Outcome area including:

- Their 'mini vision' for the Outcome area.
- Their key priorities for strategies to help achieve the Outcome area.
- A detailed outline for each strategy.
- How we would know that we have made a difference with this strategy.



1. Family and Community

We want to see a community of interconnected diverse groups – a vibrant community interacting positively, safely and respectfully.

This is core business for Council – nothing about us without us. Together / one Palmerston. This is the heart of our community - diverse groups are visible and together, belonging.

We would know we'd made a difference if we saw:

- Increase in participation of members of the community
- Evidence of a variety of activities that take into consideration age, unseen and seen disabilities, cultural differences.

Key priorities

Key priorities

1.1 **Youth services** – safe activities and spaces for young people, including mental health support

1.2 **Improve safety in public spaces** and on public transport (security, lighting, liquor management)

1.1 Youth services

We want to involve young people and their families in planning and coordination of activities. We want to see our young people empowered to be part of the decision-making process and also their community / their future. We want young people working with stakeholders, not separate. Our goal is to have more young people and their families engaged in the work of Council. We need to find more ways to bring news or communicate to the youth better.

It's very important to us that there are a range of age specific activities provided for our young people – that matches young people's interests, abilities, cultures and age groups. For example, children with autism, children with physical disabilities – all need specific and tailored opportunities to participate in community activities.
Some ideas are thriving sports clubs, chess, hosting bigger things, other activities.

1.2 Improve Safety

Central to our sense of community is people feeling and being safe. We want to see a focus by Council in improving safety in public spaces and the use of public transport.

We would know we'd made a difference if we saw:

- Increase numbers of people walking and interacting in the streets / suburbs, any time of day
- People mowing each others lawns, playing cricket in the street
- Ongoing anti-social programs being delivered an measured
- Less Palmerston youth convicted of crimes, disconnected from their community
- More positive youth programs and events

We think there are things that are Council's role, and some that are the role of Government – as below:

Role of Council	Role of Government
• Ensure all lights are working • Safe footpaths • Closing alleyways and access • More community events to get to know your immediate neighbours • Music in public over speakers • Events and programs to engage youth and to stop then from going down the wrong path • Access to safe spaces in public for kids / youth to meet – sport, technology, music • Ensure enough security presence at public events – markets, live at the Lake, picnics etc • Therapy / relaxation – perhaps a Council therapy dog to relax, calm the mood?	• Increased police presence and community policing • Educating community regarding safety for elderly and new mums • Preventative education and support for offenders or potential offenders • Removal of children from bad homes, better support to ensure the systems work together for success • Safer bus stops for residents • Reinstate neighbourhood watch – engage us in supporting awareness and accountability

As a community we are also keen to explore things we can do to support people who are not working / turning to crime.

2. Vibrant Economy

An uplift in all of our economic circumstances. Increased productivity in the community and financial stability for many. As key to this we want to see a decrease in the unemployment rate and more successful and sustainable businesses (through access to business support). This will give people a sense of purpose – people being productive and wanting to have a good life.

Key priorities

2.1 **Support and promote local business** and opportunities for young people to thrive in business
2.2 **Attract new business** investment to Palmerston

2.1 Support and promote local business and opportunities for young people to thrive in business.

We want to see an uplift in the number of businesses that are running in Palmerston and that stay open over the long term. We also want to see community support of those businesses – to keep the local economic money in our local economy.

We see there are opportunities to do this through:

- Supporting more networking opportunities hosted by Council for local business owners and operators
- Local business expo - showcasing small businesses and family businesses
- Apprenticeship / youth in business expo – to showcase our young people
- Establishing partnerships with schools and universities to boost effort

We would know we had made a difference if we saw:

- An increase in foot traffic around business districts and shops – more people walking around the streets
- Increasing services and population
- Unemployment rate decreases
- More positive engagement and participation in community and the economy by young people (less anti-social behaviour)

2.2. Attract new business investment to Palmerston

We want to create the conditions for business to thrive in Palmerston - existing businesses to be located here and new ones choosing to do business in Palmerston. This will support the uplift in our economic circumstance.

If this was happening we would see an increase in homegrown investors as well as being open to national / international interest.

We see this could be done by:

- Creating safety for business owners – this is a really important thing. We need businesses to be comfortable establishing a footprint here and employing local staff versus recruiting interstate.
- Offering incentives that have a financial basis for new businesses to locate to Palmerston
- Training opportunities for young people that will help fill strategic gaps in the employment market

We would know we had made a difference if we saw:

- Less empty shops
- New / more infrastructure (e.g. buildings and industrial)
- More shops open for longer trading hours – which they would do if there was a decrease in anti-social behaviour. This will lead to more revenue opportunity for business owners / more wages for staff.



3. Cultural Diversity

City of Palmerston is recognised and celebrated as being the most culturally integrated city in Australia. Our social calendar is fully booked with different events / markets / cultural celebrations throughout the year.

Key priorities

3.1 Work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders.

3.2 Celebrate cultural diversity through events and programs throughout the year.

3.1 Work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders

We want a more harmonious community – which is focused on positivity and cultural engagement and storytelling. We should be proud of this as a city. We need to lift the political debate more to progress reconciliation.

By working closely with Larrakia Nation and Council and community together we can improve engagement and working together to achieve these outcomes. One positive way to do this is around sharing traditional owner knowledge and wisdom in cooking / basket weaving / dye making.

We would know we had made a difference is we saw more positive community engagement.

3.2 Celebrate cultural diversity through events and programs throughout the year.

We want to continue to celebrate everyone, and have a social calendar being fully booked with things that celebrate our cultures. Taking this further, we are already well integrated – but it's time to be more interconnected beyond food and events. Provide more opportunity for different generations and different groups to mix – a lack of tolerance comes from fear.

4. Future Focus

We want to see community spaces that we can all use – fit for purpose and accessible spaces that work for us all. We envision a community that is welcoming of new ideas and innovations, and we have the ability and support to implement those innovations.

Key priorities

4.1 Focus on supporting people to foster innovation
4.2 Create facilities which are multipurpose

Key priorities

4.1 Focus on supporting people to foster innovation

We need to plan for the future – we don't want to be left behind. We also need to find ways to bridge the intergenerational gap. We know that young people appreciate that humans are smarter than AI – and we need to find ways to use the strengths of both.

Innovation supports economic growth and development of our community, and it also boosts the building of skills and capability of community – so we see it as needing to be a central focus of Council. We want to see a community that is welcoming of innovations and implements them.

We also need to think and invest in the future of our facilities. To support the community we want to be, we need to increase the number of fit for purpose spaces that can be easily accessible for all / many.

Some things which could be done to foster innovation include:

- Supporting small and medium businesses (as per our Vibrant Economy ideas)
- Boost awareness and knowledge of online safety and security
- Upgrading of facilities to enable growth in innovation (library etc)
- Education, upskilling, constant evolution and learning for existing and newcomers to the workforce.
- Growing the population of innovators and the diversity of ideas.

We would know we had made a difference if we could see:

- More Palmerston businesses being established at home and online
- More entrepreneurs running business in Palmerston
- Young and people digital skills development programs are actively running
- No outdated equipment and systems in Council facilities
- Reduced staff turnover in Council and private business
- AI technology is embraced and managed by Council and private Palmerston businesses

4.2 Create facilities which are multipurpose

Having multipurpose facilities means that they can be used by many flexibly, and activated – instead of sitting empty. We want to activate participation – and get the most out of the amazing facilities we have.

Increasing the number of facilities and also increasing the use and activation of these – means that we will decrease the instances of vandalism and build a community that feels, and is safer.

We want to make spaces for community groups to thrive – especially those that are inclusive and provide interest for everyone. In addition to this, we want to ensure that there are more events and facilities suited and accessible for people with disabilities (seen and unseen).

To support this, there should be standardised IT across all Council facilities and also accessible Wi-Fi.

We would know we had made a difference if we saw:

- Increase in participation and engagement.
- Clearer advertising / promotion about the spaces.
- More people feeling safer there.
- Less damage to our community spaces.



5. Environmental Sustainability

We want to see a clean and green Palmerston, where the community are knowledgeable and participate in waste reduction activities.

Key priorities

5.1 Manage waste (including wastewater), to reduce littering and dumping by increasing recycling, reuse and repair.

5.2 Regenerate and maintain the natural environment.

5.3 Encourage and support sustainable practices.

Key priorities

5.1 Manage waste (including wastewater), to reduce littering and dumping by increasing recycling, reuse and repair.

We also want to see Palmerston cleaner, with less rubbish, dumping and littering occurring. We also want to remove the use of single use plastics. We'd like to see more greener practices around markets (compostable bags, single use plastic) and more rubbish bins outside of fast food outlets.

5.2 Regenerate and maintain the natural environment.

Ideally we would also have better planning for our green spaces – limiting access to 4x4 and quad bikes and appreciating nature more in how we use these green spaces. We have a very unique environment and see opportunities to look after the peri urban areas better – greater respect for bushland.

5.3 Encourage and support sustainable practices.

We want to see our community more knowledgeable and participating more in waste reduction activities – as they understand and appreciate their role in living greener.
There are opportunities for Council to be explaining / educate about recycling, reuse and repair. We'd like to see the evidence of community having more knowledge in this area, ultimately changing behaviours for the long term. In the term of the next Council we would like to see that every household knows what to do and we are seeing greater reuse – and repurposing resources. This may also lead to new industries emerging.

We would know we had made a difference if we saw:

- More respect of our environment - less rubbish, dumping, littering and no dumping of larger items in green spaces
- Number of people who turn up to clean up days (supply sausage sizzle)
- Opportunity to access drinking water in streets (bubblers etc) and power (wifi) to reduce plastic.
- Less calls to the Council about rubbish.

6. Governance

We want a Council that is accountable and transparent. It reaches out to the community using a variety of ways, on a variety of platforms – making its work highly relevant, inclusive and visible. All of its work is focused on accessibility (ie easy read approaches) that support uptake regardless of literacy or language barriers.

Key priorities

6.1 Consistently and appropriately engage with the full diversity of the community.

6.2 Be accountable and transparent. Invest in what the community sees as valuable.

The work of Council is work for all of us, so communication and engagement should be inclusive. We need to make sure everyone can connect with, understand and access what Council has to offer.

We need to ensure we can trust Council and that they have ongoing mandate.

Some ways this could be done include:

- Ensure community is aware of ideas and plans moving forward.
- Everyone has a voice and opportunity to be heard. Community engagement with kids – heritage / cultural / ATSI wisdom and knowledge.
- Helping people not on social media to be aware of Council meetings and plans.
- Must be multiplatform – not just Council website and newsletters (e.g. better community notice boards in shops, other libraries locally closer).
- Ensuring access for all – able and not able bodied – to be able to get to events / spaces / locations safely.
- Ensuring that Council publications are available in different languages – possibly taking them to cultural hubs.
- Easy read is brilliant for those with literacy challenges and also because of our multicultural diversity.
- Have cultural capability in Council to encourage diversity.
- Citizenship ceremonies are showing new citizens that Council is accessible to all.
- Cross cultural appreciation and acknowledgement of diversity.

We would know we had made a difference if we saw…

- Increased accessibility supports appropriately applied (e.g. rumble strips, braille, Loop) across our city
- Increased publication of process for sharing information in multiple languages and use of easy read
- Increase in the number of Council staff with full cultural competency
- Helping our new citizens connect with our programs and events through acknowledgement

Appendix A – Prioritising Strategies from Stage 1

1. Family and community

Strategies	Votes
Improve safety in public spaces and on public transport (e.g. security, lighting, liquor issues). • More police and security guards (for markets, CBD and shops). • Co-design (with next tier of government and police) engagement strategies to reduce crime rates. • Improve safety on public transport • Increased lighting for better safety. • Address liquor licencing issue	8
Youth services - safe activities and spaces for young people, mental health support. • Promote safe spaces and interactions for children and the next generation, empowering them to have choices and autonomy. • More diverse activities, programs and events for teenagers (e.g. sports, youth centres, opportunities for learning and growth, fishing competitions). • A hub for children and young people – which offers a sanctuary and promotes belonging. • After-hours drop-in space / programs for young people (youth centres). • The youth of Palmerston are visible - Positive stories about them are easily accessible. • Mental health support for young people.	6
Engaging and inclusive activities and programs. • Engaging and fun activities are available for Palmerston's' families (e.g. free access to pool for young people, sports activities, murals, taking care of Mitchell Creek, Harvest Corner Garden, Free access to Gulwa recording studio) • More wet season activities (indoors) • Support and places to gather for parents, single people and the elderly. • More programs that are multicultural and inclusive to all age groups • Programs to support health and wellbeing (e.g. Get Active Palmerston)	3
Invest in diverse community events. • Invest in free, or low cost diverse community events for families (e.g. markets, Winter wonderland - including low sensory activities, Children's Week, Youth Week, Palmys got talent, Geekfest, Gunn Lakes events, dog parks, Christmas lights, Light Up Palmerston, Hooked on Palmerston, sports, festivals, social events) • Open Council spaces for community events • Attract major events to Palmerston (e.g. Bass in the Grass")	3
Provide and maintain good infrastructure and facilities. • Maintain good facilities and spaces for families. • Facilities for commmunity use (e.g. rec centre, community halls/centres, library) • Create more parks, bike paths and open space. • Venue for early childhood programs • Repair bike paths	2

• Secure bike racks /storage	
Community Benefit Funding • Community Benefit funding	3
Ensure accessibility (e.g. disability, LGBTQIA+, seniors, multicultural, young people). • Accessible parks and equipment (e.g. swings and access) • Be LGBTQIA+ inclusive • Maintain services for seniors (e.g. groups, free parking, disabled parking spaces, seniors discounts, gyms, Rec Centre programs)	0
Community centred decision making. • Council considers the social implications of all planning and decision making, including when contributing to Territory planning processes and providing advice on development approvals. • Council will work with the community to develop some community impact principles which assist Council to make sound decisions that align with the community's aspirations about Palmerston.	0
Partnering with and supporting social services and volunteers. • Council has strong partnerships and works in collaboration with those who provide social services to the community to better coordinate the delivery and effectiveness of these services. • Our volunteers are valued and supported for the important work they undertake for our community.	0

2. Vibrant Economy

Strategies	Votes
Create opportunities for youth to thrive in business. • We involve and engage youth in business development and innovations. • Business forums for young people to attend. • More school networks to improve education.	6
Support and promote local businesses. • We encourage, develop and support local business. • Networking events • Increasing marketing and communications information on what is on offer on the City of Palmerston website (e.g. stallholder promotion) • Palmerston business newsletter • Policies that support businesses (e.g. alfresco policy) • We support and encourage entrepreneurs. • Business forums and OBM	6
Attract new business investment to Palmerston. • We attract and support new businesses to set down roots in Palmerston. • More restaurants • Encourage new, diverse retail investment • Opportunities for businesses to set up or rent a space • More services available at night time. Keep shops tenanted	5
Increase local employment opportunities. • We promote 'employ local' and 'buy local' where possible. • Accessible employment for youth program through Council (e.g. face to face resumes, traineeships) Increase local employment opportunities	1
Strategically activate the CBD and other hubs. • We locate businesses in a strategic way to promote activation and movement in the CBD. • Well executed events and activated spaces supporting the economy (e.g. Christmas Wonderland, markets, supercars, youth festivals, Goyder Square, future forum, libraries) Utilising hubs (e.g. Zuccoli, Bakewell)	1
Involve the community and businesses in business and economic planning. • The community of Palmerston is involved in all economic planning to ensure we maintain a social capital mindset. Advisory groups (Palmerston Businesses etc)	1
Palmerston is recognised as 'A Place for People'. • The image and brand of Palmerston is strong and authentic and reflects our vision as a 'A Place for People'.	0

Palmerston has a long-term economic vision. • Palmerston has a long-term vision which builds and encourages a sustainable economy. Areas of growth and development are earmarked in advance - We investigate alternative income streams and economic pursuits.	0

3. Cultural Diversity

Strategies	Votes
Develop a Culture and Diversity Plan. • Develop a Culture and Diversity Plan which models how the city values and respects the diversity of the community. This plan builds and enriches our diversity, promotes unity, embraces culture and heals the past.	0
Celebrate cultural diversity through events and programs throughout the year. • Palmerston celebrates cultural diversity with events throughout the year. Our community has opportunities to celebrate, include, understand, learn and accept. • Promote and sponsor cultural events and festivals celebrating diversity (e.g. including Palmerston in Glenthi Festival, a bigger and better NAIDOC week) • Culturally diverse programs • Better communications about events (e.g. beyond just the cultural group) • Create awareness about cultural diversity • More structured activities to help different cultures understand each other. • Proactively light up for events rather than it only being on a request basis. • Multicultural networking events • Encourage diverse groups to develop their own events • Citizenship ceremonies • Council grows support for cultural events. • Council works with schools and community groups to celebrate and recognize culture and diversity.	4
Enable storytelling about culture and heritage. • Recognition of our diversity and cultural heritage through statements, acknowledgments and publicly visible stories and signs about our heritage. • Improve knowledge and awareness of Palmerston / local History • Mitchell creek trails incorporate information about local history (embedding culture/historical information in new projects)	1
Support and celebrate the Arts. • Cultural and heritage is celebrated through art, exhibitions and education initiatives • Create an arts trail with signage for art installations • Support the Arts • Incorporate our cultural diversity into the design and layout of our public spaces (murals, art, paving)	1
Work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders.	7

• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders work in partnership with Council leaders to pursue cultural and heritage outcomes. • Consider development of a First Nations Strategy that recognises, acknowledges, • increases awareness, and promotes partnerships with Larrakia Nation.	
Include diverse views and needs in all Council planning. • Council has strong partnerships in the community which enable it to include diverse views and perspectives in its planning and decision-making processes. • Planning processes are inclusive of cultural diversity views and input. • Establish a mechanism to enable diversity to be considered in all major initiatives of Council (e.g. a Diversity Advisory Committee). • When undertaking town planning, Council incorporates needs of all residents of Palmerston.	2

4. A Future Focus

Strategies	Votes
Focus on supporting people to foster innovation. • We focus on developing our people. We develop and foster innovation in the community – through skills development, capacity building, enabling/encouraging and supporting the community to be self-reliant. • More youth focused programs (e.g. education pathways, career pathways) • Create spaces for young people to foster innovation • Invest in future focused innovations • We will support the establishment of a network of experts and innovators who can influence innovation and encourage forward thinking. • We support and encourage businesses to embrace change and innovate.	6
Create facilities which are multi-purpose. • Our assets have multiple uses. • Multipurpose facilities (e.g. Zuccoli Hub)	5
Attract and support businesses and not-for-profits to deliver social innovations. • We want to attract and retain businesses and not-for-profit agencies that use innovative approaches to social issues, service delivery, and product development. • Use grant funding to encourage private and community organisations to deliver more with support from Council instead of by Council, reducing risk and increasing outcomes, building capacity and enticing business to invest in Palmerston	3
Plan, manage and maintain infrastructure to meet community needs. • Infrastructure is planned, maintained and managed to meet community need (for all cohorts) and adopt innovative approaches. • More safe public toilets (unisex and available 24 hours a day) • Clean up public places. • Advocate for a maternity ward at Palmerston Hospital	2
Foster digital technology innovation. • Foster AI Adoption and other tech trends • Digital Hub / Incubator • Upskill seniors in technology	0

5. Environmental Sustainability

Strategies	Votes
Manage waste (including wastewater), to reduce littering and dumping by increasing recycling, reuse and repair. • Provide opportunities for community to recycle, reuse or repair all type of waste. • Clean up the rubbish. • Recycling program and bins • Council phase out the use of plastic at Council events and in all Council owned and run facilities. • Encourage Palmerston Markets to move away from single use plastics and have 10c recycling. • Council giveaways not to have single use plastics • Encourage greater use of recycling bins by reducing general waste collection fees/rates. • Council explores how waste water can be collected into the future and reused for watering. • Rain water tanks to supply playgrounds and parks Local clean up drives	6

Regenerate and maintain the natural environment.
• Council develops and implements a Green Plan which incorporates our vision for
  ○ Green, shaded and cool city,
  ○ Biodiversity and habitat health,
  ○ Better management and appropriate plant species selection; and
  ○ Future focused and innovative environmental approach.
• More bushland cleanups
• Mitchell Creek project
• Maintain the outdoor spaces (e.g. trees, creeks, ovals, playgrounds, gold club, grassed spaces)
• Planting of native, localised species that minimise water, promote shade and can withstand cyclones.
• Plant more trees, including along sidewalks and in parks to provide vibrancy, shade, encourage wildlife and get people out of doors.
• Promote environmental grants more
Explore opportunities for the creation of a large area of green in and around the centre of the city (ie botanical gardens) which could also become an educational facility for tropical urban species and tropical biodiversity education.
	2

Encourage and support sustainable practices. • People are engaged and encouraged to adopt best practice sustainable and environmental practices - practical ways to be green in Palmerston. • Support people to adopt sustainable, environmentally friendly practices. • Increase educational and awareness raising initiatives that improve and expand community understanding of how they can have a lower environmental footprint. • Educate people on sustainability	1
Encourage and pursue sustainable developments. • Council promotes, encourages, and where possible pursues sustainable development/or sustainable building for the climate that assists in reducing ambient temperature in houses, public buildings and private developments.	1

• Participate in and encourage NT Government to develop planning guidelines that promote green infrastructure. • Make sure Council's planning interfaces with other plans for our region – for a whole of landscape approach.	
Council models best practice in its sustainability actions. • Council's processes model best practice in sustainability and environmental management. • Increase solar use on public buildings and carparks. • Increase sustainability of Council facilities • Led Street Lights • Deal with stray animals • Promptly deal with water leakages / burst pipes • When Council constructs new buildings they seek to utilise renewable energy efficient technologies. • Council uses locally sourced materials where possible, supported by local labor. • Council procurement processes promote sustainability. • Consider the footprint of products brought into Palmerston, including end of life disposal. E.g. solar panels, batteries, wind turbines.	0
Find opportunities to support local greening. • Greening and cooling initiatives – tree planting, shade structures and the freedom for citizens to take initiative and green up their verges and neighbourhood**s**. • Verge program / pocket parks • Free mulch program (include delivery for those who can't collect it) • Increase awareness of free mulch program • Native plant and tree giveaways • Support residents to manage trees, especially palm fronds and removal of unsafe trees. • Green waste bins like the recycle bins, where compost, food waste and garden waste can go for recycling • Composting grants	0

6. Governance

Strategies	Votes
Consistently and appropriately engage with the full diversity of community. • Holding young people's forums – to more deeply understand what young people want and need for their future. • Spending time with specific groups (older citizens, cultural groups, interest groups) to understand their needs as well as bringing them together so that they can understand each other better. • Conduct more deliberative type forums (like the one that developed this plan) – to bring together people with knowledge (about topics/issues), those who are passionate about the same, and people who might not normally engage with Council to consider issues in depth. • Consistently engage with the community - not just during elections. • Be consistent with communications • Maintain diverse representation on Council Use a variety of communication tools to reach out and broaden diverse audience	5
Be accountable and transparent. Invest in what the community sees as valuable. • Be accountable – open and transparent and also report back on our progress. • Invest in things that the public see as valuable. • Demonstrate cohesion between what people want and the decisions that are made. Keep the community informed about projects	4
Be effective at core Council business. • Be effective – do what we are supposed to do, and deliver our Community Plan. • Communicate how people can report issues with Council lighting, pathways and potholes (e.g. City of Palmerston app) and be responsive to those reports. • Respond to resident requests in a timely manner. • Improve customer journey on the Council website • Maintain budget in surplus • Elected Member compliance • Issue rates correctly • Waste calendar and notifications on the City of Palmerston app • City of Palmerston app • Ensure people know where they can make a complaint • Change the Council feedback process into one of learning – complaints provide an opportunity to connect with the community, so we want to use them to improve how Council works. • Educate the community about what Council does. • Education about Regulatory Services, what they do, how the team works and how on-call works (for urgent matters only) • Continuous improvement in risk management, and understanding of this area for Council committees • Upgrade Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system	1
Council will be courageous and adaptable. • Be courageous – try new solutions, take measured risks, adopt new technologies, be flexible and adaptable.	1

Centre the community in everything that Council does. Invite and engage them in Council business. • Bring community into all aspects of the business - Citizens are active and participate in the business of Council. • Make community feel welcome at Council meetings • Improve community engagement with Council meetings • Prioritise transparency - live stream Council meetings for community to see discussion on decisions that impact the community. • Make it easy for people to engage and participate. • The Council has the people at heart and is always willing to listen and help the community • The youth of Palmerston are visible: they have a role in decision making and in the provision of services to other young people; and Young people's voices are included in all aspects of Council's work (planning, program design and delivery).	1
Partner and engage with external stakeholders and levels of government. • Contribute strategically to decisions others make for Palmerston (ie. planning) to ensure our strategic direction is being achieved - prioritise the 'health' of Council's partnerships and networks – and make sure they are working well • NT Police and NTG department invitations to Council committee meetings • Continued engagement between NT Police and Regulatory Services • Improve external communications with stakeholders	1
Employ rather than contract and work in partnership with staff. • Work in partnership with staff to achieve the very best outcomes. Enable frank and open dialogue. • Use Council employees rather than contractors	1



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COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.2
Report Title:	Zuccoli Community Hub - Stage 3 Concept Design Community Consultation Outcomes
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Manager Projects & Civil Operations, Michael Williams
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

This Report provides a summary of the community engagement phase of Stage 3 of the Zuccoli Community Hub and seeks Council approval to progress to preliminary design.

Key messages

- Zuccoli Community Hub is Council's largest strategic project in planning and delivery stages. The project is broadly split into three (3) stages, with a total anticipated cost of $30 million.
- Stage 3 of the Zuccoli Community Hub includes:
  - Community hall.
  - Community programs building.
  - Events zone.
  - Playground.
  - Garden of reflection.
  - BBQ Area.
  - Community backyard and picnic lawn.
- In May 2026, Council endorsed the concept design for Community Engagement, and a three-week Community Engagement campaign was delivered.

- Strong engagement was achieved and responses to the concept design were positive, with some recurring themes for Council to further consider.
- It is recommended to proceed to preliminary design of the Community Hall and the Community Programs building to progress further towards construction commencement in 2027, whilst the concept design can be finalised for other elements before undertaking further consultation once funding is confirmed.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Zuccoli Community Hub - Stage 3 Concept Design Community Consultation Outcomes be received and noted.

2. THAT Council progress with the preliminary design of the community hall, community programs building and car park, with the outcomes of consultation to be incorporated where feasible and without compromising the flexibility of the spaces.

3. THAT Council finalise the concept design of the event zone, BBQ area, community backyard and picnic area, and garden of reflection with future targeted engagement to occur to finalise designs once funding is confirmed for these elements.

4. THAT Council update the concept design of the playground, considering feedback received and commit to future community engagement once funding is confirmed for this element.

Background

Council undertook a Masterplan process for the Zuccoli Community Hub that was endorsed in 2022 and have been delivering elements of the site with stages 1 and 2 as budget has become available.

The current status of stage 1 and 2 is as follows:

- Stage 1 – Dog Park and public toilet – complete, total cost $1.5m, partially funded by NTG grant for $250k towards public toilet.
- Stage 2 – Recreation elements, total cost estimated to be $6.5m.
    - Pump track – complete.
    - Walking trail – partially complete.
    - Seating and BBQ areas – partially complete.
    - Skate Park – design and earthworks complete.
    - Exercise area, including outdoor gym and multi-sport court – design and earthworks complete.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 15 July 2025 Council made the following decisions relating to stage 3:

13.1.2 Zuccoli Community Hub Community Centre and Library Design Scope

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;*
   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

Council has allocated $450,000 in its 2025/26 Capital Works Program to the design of stage 3 of the Zuccoli Community Hub in accordance with the endorsed scope.

Council engaged MODE DESIGN Corp. Pty Ltd (MODE) for the design of stage 3. The concept design was presented to Council in May 2026

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 5 May 2026 Council made the following decisions:

12.1.1 Zuccoli Community Hub - Stage 3 Concept Design

1. *THAT Report entitled Zuccoli Community Hub - Stage 3 Concept Design be received and noted.*

2. *THAT Council endorse the concept design for Stage 3 of the Zuccoli Community Hub, which includes the updated site layout shown in Attachment 12.1.1.1 and the occupancy plan for the buildings shown in Attachment 12.1.1.2 for a community engagement commencing in May 2026.*

3. *THAT Council receive a report on the outcomes of the community engagement phase by the second Ordinary Meeting in June 2026.*

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0363 – 5/05/2026

This Report provides a summary of the Community engagement phase of Stage 3 of the Zuccoli Community Hub and seeks Council endorsement to finalise concept designs and progress to preliminary design for the Community Hall and Programs building.

Discussion

Campaign Summary

The community engagement campaign provided community with:

- Updated site plan (i.e. Masterplan), included as **Attachment 12.1.2.1.**
- Floor plan of the buildings.
- Ten renders of elements of the site including internal and external building views, the event zone and the garden of reflection, one example shown below in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Stage 3 concept design render

Respondents on multiple platforms were asked a set of questions including multiple choice and free text.

A total of 320 responses were received via Facebook, Instagram and Council's website. Details are provided in **Attachment 12.1.2.2** and **Attachment 12.1.2.3** and in the Consultation and Marketing section below. Key outcomes are:

- 89% of respondents supported the initiative, responding that the proposed spaces met or mostly met their needs.
- 65% of respondents would visit weekly or monthly.
- 78% of respondents would use a community hall for events or gatherings.
- 65% of respondents think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston.
- 82% of respondents think a shaded playground at this location is very important.

The responses have been analysed and key topics and themes identified for discussion below.

Playground Feedback

Community Engagement on the playground was particularly strong. Although limited information was available for the concept design, the community demonstrated they were highly engaged with the playground element of the project. The most common themes are shown in **Table 1** below:

Table 1: Most requested playground features

THEME	COMMON FEEDBACK
Shade and cooling	Shade structures, trees and cooling elements were repeatedly requested
Water play	Splash play and water features were highly requested
Inclusive play	Accessible and disability-friendly play equipment
Multi-age play	Separate areas for toddlers, younger children and older children
Nature play	Natural materials, climbing structures and adventure play
Seating and amenities	BBQs, picnic spaces, toilets and seating
No sand	Multiple respondents requested playgrounds without sand

Most of these features are already aligned with the design brief for the playground and are to be incorporated into the concept design prior to finalisation.

Water play was a common theme requested; however, water play is not part of the plans for the site and was not part of the design brief for the playground. Provision of water play is not recommended at the site for the following reasons:

- Size and cost of water play area critically impacts the delivery of other key playground requirements. That is, a water play area would need to be a separate element from the playground but if included would likely come at the cost of much of the playground scope.
- Water play generally appeals to a narrower age bracket than the playground is expected to cater to.
- Very strong positive response to the survey question on the importance of a shaded playground, noting that water play would be shaded, but likely at the expense of much of the playground scope.
- Council has approved plans for a water play area in a park space in Zuccoli. This outcome, negotiated with the developer, will meet the community demand for water play. Construction is planned to commence in 2026, so will likely be open to the public before the completion of the Zuccoli Community Hub playground.

Considering that the limited information on the playground released in the community engagement campaign, the high level of engagement on this element and the likelihood that construction is multiple years away, it may be too soon to be definite about the final design of the playground. Therefore, it is recommended to consider the responses to inform the finalisation of the concept design, then undertake further consultation when funding becomes available to construct the playground, noting that water play is to remain out of scope.

Frequently Requested Additional Features

The community was able to request additional features be included in the concept design when prompted with "What's missing or what could be improved?". The most common themes are shown in **Table 2** below:

Table 2: frequently requested additional features

THEME	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Sporting infrastructure	Volleyball courts, badminton, basketball and outdoor gyms
Water play	Splash parks and shaded wet play areas
Food and beverage	Café or kiosk facilities
Arts and culture	Performance spaces, rehearsal rooms and creative hubs
Markets and events	Weekend markets and flexible event spaces
Walking and cycling	Shared paths and bushwalking connections

Sporting infrastructure is provided in Stage 2, which includes a shaded multi-sport court and skate park yet to be constructed. Council will have to manage these facilities to maximise utilisation and offer a broad range of sporting experiences across its facilities.

Water play is not recommended, as described above.

Food and beverage facilities are catered for indirectly by the current concept design. A full-time retail space is not suitable for the site, so the concept design of the buildings includes external spaces for mobile food vendors that can be on site during events or other peak use periods. The community hall is supported by a reheat kitchen where pre-prepared food and beverages can be served to users of the facility. This may be staffed by professional caterers or by the community organisation hiring the hall.

Requests were received for the buildings to includes spaces for performing and visual art pursuits, including dance classes, rehearsal spaces and exhibition spaces. The current scope of the buildings is not to specifically cater for these uses as dedicated spaces. However, when the preliminary design is finalised, the requests will be incorporated where possible and feasible, including consideration of the flexibility of uses. Relevant stakeholders will be consulted with as relevant to inform the next stage of the design. The specific elements to be incorporated, where practical, will include;

- Space for performance rehearsals and dance classes.
- Space for training programs, including arts.

Markets and events are adequately catered for in the concept design of the buildings, providing suitable indoor and outdoor spaces.

The masterplan for the site incorporates several pathways, including the elevated walkway. Further, Council has endorsed a Mitchell Creek Concept Plan that identifies a broader path network throughout the Mitchell Creek area, with connectivity to existing and future developed areas. The complete, updated masterplan, incorporating both Stage 2 and 3 elements, and the connectivity to the Mitchell Creek Concept Plan will also be finalised.

Recurring Concerns Raised

Although the responses were generally positive, some residents raised concerns about the operation of the facility. The common concerns are shown in **Table 3** below:

Table 3: recurring concerns raised

CONCERN	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Parking and traffic	Concerns regarding congestion and parking
Antisocial behaviour	Requests for safety, lighting and security measures
Noise	Concerns from nearby residents regarding noise impacts
Maintenance	Requests for ongoing cleaning and upkeep

Parking and traffic appear to be a concern for some nearby residents. Whilst the site has always been nominated as a Community Purpose area, these residents have lived near an undeveloped site and have seen the use of the site increase as the dog park and pump track have been completed. The site masterplan includes a vegetated buffer along Feathertop Circuit, and access to the site will be prioritised on Tuckeroo Boulevard. This vegetation area will be further rehabilitated and established as the site continues to be developed.

The concept design includes a 75-space car park, which meets the statutory planning requirements for the proposed development of the site. However, for larger events on the site, or overlapping peak use periods of multiple elements, demand for parking may exceed supply. Increasing the size of the car park is not recommended, as it is constrained geometrically and would impact the space and funding available for the other elements. Council's options to manage parking during peak use periods include:

- Utilisation of nearby on-street parking.
- Convenient pick up and drop off zones.
- Convenient and safe active transport links.
- Convenient public transport and ride share access.
- Management of site bookings.
- Event management, traffic management and parking enforcement for major events.

Antisocial behaviour is a community concern, identified as the main detractor to community satisfaction in the 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey. Understandably, this concern is projected onto the future of the Zuccoli Community Hub by some respondents. The most effective response at this stage of the project is to ensure that the design includes consideration of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles which work to reduce the fear and incidence of crime. Specifically, for the Zuccoli Community Hub, the principles and features include:

- Natural surveillance: maximising sight lines through the site, and into the site from outside increases the risk to those engaging in antisocial behaviour.
- Natural access control: creating a defined network of pathways through the site guides people around the site and keeps people 'grouped'.
- Territorial reinforcement: creating a sense of community or group ownership over the site, or elements of the site will discourage antisocial behaviour.
- Maintenance and management: a well-maintained site and frequent operational presence discourage antisocial behaviour.

Noise was raised as a concern, which is understood to be a concern of nearby residents and has been communicated to Council by some residents since the opening of the Pump Track. To an extent, noise is a product of an active and vibrant site. However, Council can mitigate the impact of noise on nearby residents by:

- Site layout: the buildings and car park are located as far as possible from residents on Lasiandra Avenue and Feathertop Circuit.
- Sensible site activation: for example, the new Pump Track lights switch off at 9pm. Stage 3 elements can be managed similarly.
- Considerate event planning and site management: events and bookings can consider appropriate noise levels for the time of day and day of the week.

Addressing concerns regarding ongoing maintenance of the facility, forecasts have been included in Council's Long Term Financial Plan for the maintenance and operation of $13M of new assets to be constructed. Further allocations will be required in future operational budgets to maintain and operate other elements of Stage 3 as they are funded and constructed over time.

Summary

Council's community engagement campaign was well received by the community with 320 survey responses submitted and 89% of respondents supporting the progression of the Zuccoli Community Hub project in alignment with the concept design.

These results provide Council with confidence to proceed to the next phase of the project, which is the preliminary design of the buildings. The concept design for other stage 3 elements can now also be finalised in preparation for progression when funding becomes available.

For the building and car park, the common themes have been addressed suitably in the concept design or can be addressed as the design of these elements progresses, or later in the operation of the facility. It is recommended to proceed with the preliminary design of these elements, progressing towards and 2027 construction commencement.

For the event zone, BBQ area, community backyard and picnic lawn and garden of reflection, the concept design can be finalised as the survey responses did not warrant significant change. Funding for the elements is not secured and so a timeline for construction is not confirmed. There may be further refinement possible in later stages of design, and these improvements will likely be realised through targeted engagement with key users. Therefore, it is recommended to finalise the concept design and commit to a targeted engagement campaign once funding is secured and there is a confirmed timeline for construction.

For the playground, there is a high level of interest, despite limited information being included in the community engagement campaign. Council can progress the finalisation of the concept design based on the survey responses. Funding for this element is not secured and so a timeline for construction is not confirmed. Therefore, it is recommended to finalise the concept design and commit to another broad community engagement campaign once funding is secured and there is a confirmed timeline for construction.

A summary of recommended actions is shown in **Table 4** below:

Table 4: recommended project actions

PROJECT ELEMENT	RECOMMENDED ACTION
Stage 3A elements, funding being secured for 2027 construction commencement	
Community hall	Proceed to preliminary design, incorporating feedback where feasible and practical without compromising flexibility
Community programs building	
Car park	

PROJECT ELEMENT	RECOMMENDED ACTION
Stage 3B elements, funded in future	
Event zone	Finalise concept design, commit to future targeted engagement once funding is confirmed
BBQ area	
Community backyard and picnic lawn	
Garden of reflection	
Playground	Update concept design considering feedback received, commit to future broad engagement once funding is confirmed

Next steps and timeframes

The recent and upcoming key milestones for the project, as they relate to stage 3 are on track. These are:

- May 2026:
  - Concept design community consultation (complete).
- June 2026:
  - Design endorsement following consultation (current report).
- July-December 2026:
  - Cost estimates complete.
  - Preliminary design completion for buildings.
  - Construction tender (relating to buildings, subject to funding).

Construction of the buildings is likely to commence in 2027, with more precise timing dependant on tender submission and weather conditions.

Consultation and marketing

The marketing and engagement approach for Zuccoli Community Hub Stage 3 was a targeted community engagement campaign and built on the previous consultation undertaken as part of the broader Zuccoli Community Hub master planning process.

The purpose of the consultation was to present the proposed Stage 3 concept designs to the community and confirm that the proposed buildings and spaces aligned with community expectations prior to progressing detailed planning and future delivery opportunities.

Consultation opened on 6 May 2026 and closed on 26 May 2026.

The engagement approach included a combination of digital engagement, in person consultation and direct stakeholder outreach:

- Dedicated project webpage and online survey.
- Featured placement on City of Palmerston's homepage.

- Five (5) pop up engagement sessions:
  - 2 x Zuccoli Dog Park pop ups (morning and afternoon).
  - 2 x Zuccoli Pump Track pop ups (morning and afternoon).
  - 1 x Zuccoli IGA pop up (evening).
- Organic and paid social media promotion.
- Facebook and Instagram poll series.
- Direct email communication to Palmerston schools.

While the pop-up engagement sessions generated limited formal feedback, they provided an effective opportunity to increase community awareness of the project and engage directly with community members already using the area. Informal discussions during these sessions provided valuable insight into how the existing spaces are currently being used and what community members would like to see incorporated into future stages of the development.

The consultation achieved strong digital engagement and successfully reached the project's target audience. A total of 116 survey responses were received, with 90% of respondents identifying as Palmerston residents.

Additionally, 59 community members voluntarily provided their contact information to receive future project updates, demonstrating ongoing interest from the community, and will be followed up with the outcome of the engagement and the next steps for the project.

Supporting digital promotion generated more than 25,000 views on social media and directed users to the consultation webpage and online survey.

Social media polls provided an additional engagement mechanism and generated between 69 and 204 responses per question. The results generally aligned with the findings of the online survey, providing confidence that key themes and priorities were consistently identified across multiple engagement channels.

The social media poll series demonstrated strong and sustained community interest throughout the consultation period. While overall reach and impressions exceeded the number of poll participants, this reflects standard social media engagement behaviour where users may view content without directly interacting. Facebook consistently generated the highest participation levels, while Instagram audiences were smaller but generally aligned in sentiment across the consultation questions.

Key findings from the consultation included:

- The majority of survey respondents (89%) indicated the proposed concept would either meet or mostly meet their needs, while social media respondents similarly indicated the proposed spaces would generally meet their expectations.
- Most respondents indicated they would visit the precinct regularly. More than half of survey respondents indicated they would visit weekly, while social media respondents most commonly selected weekly or occasional visitation, demonstrating strong potential for ongoing community activation and use.

- Strong demand for community gathering spaces and indoor facilities, with 79% of online survey respondents indicating they would use a community hall for events and gatherings. Similarly, 77% of social media poll respondents indicated they would use a community hall if provided.
- Support for a larger community hall in Palmerston, with 65% of survey respondents identifying a need for a hall capable of accommodating up to 400 people.
- Open spaces and playgrounds were identified as the highest priority outdoor feature through the social media polls, while survey respondents consistently requested shade, water play, inclusive play equipment and facilities suitable for a range of age groups.
- Community programs, training opportunities and quiet study or workspaces emerged as the preferred uses for smaller indoor spaces, highlighting demand for flexible community infrastructure that supports both social and practical uses.
- Shaded outdoor spaces were identified as a key priority. More than 80% of both survey respondents (84%) and social media poll respondents (81%) rated a shaded playground as very important.

Written feedback across both engagement channels identified several recurring themes. Community members expressed strong interest in shade, water play, inclusive play equipment, sporting facilities, community gathering spaces, markets, community gardens and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Respondents also identified several considerations for future planning, including parking and traffic management, antisocial behaviour, noise impacts and ongoing maintenance requirements.

The following City of Palmerston staff were consulted in preparing this Report:
- Communications and Marketing Manager.

Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

Budget and resource implications

Stage 3 of the Zuccoli Community Hub is estimated to cost $22M. Funding for the construction of the buildings ($13M in total) is anticipated but has not been finalised at this time and will be reported to Council as relevant.

The design work has been budgeted in 2025/26, and is underway, at a cost of $450,000.

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

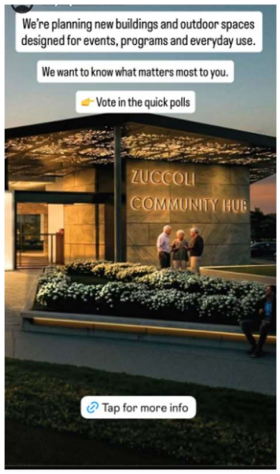
1. Zuccoli Community Hub Council Workshop_-_masterplan [**12.1.2.1** - 1 page]
2. Digital results - Zuccoli Community Hub Stage 3 consultation [**12.1.2.2** - 12 pages]
3. Survey results - Zuccoli Communty Hub website_ [**12.1.2.3** - 9 pages]


GARDEN OF REFLECTION
PUMP TRACK
SKATE PARK
COURTS
PLAYGROUND
BBQ AREA
COMMUNITY BACKYARD
PICNIC LAWN
DOG PARKS
PARKING
STAGE
EVENT ZONE
COMMUNITY HALL
PLAZA
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
SEWER EASEMENT
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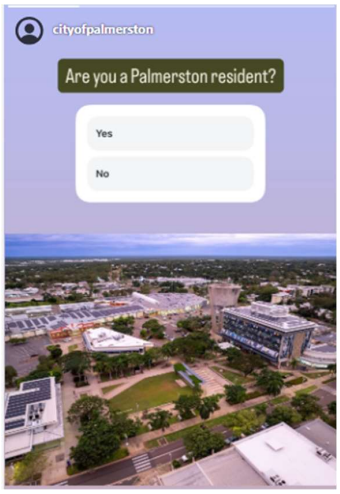
ZUCCOLI COMMUNITY HUB STAGE 3: SOCIAL POLLS

FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM POLLS

Social media performance first and last slide

CREATIVE	PLATFORM	VIEWS	REACH	INTERACTIONS	LINK CLICKS
	Facebook	952	881	1	-
	Instagram	177	142	3	1
	Facebook	333	298	1	-
	Instagram	108	-	0	4

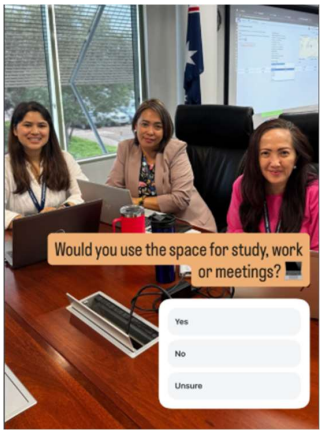
Are you a Palmerston Resident

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Yes	113 (77%)	53 (95%)	166 (81%)
	No	33 (23%)	5 (5%)	38 (19%)
	Total Responses	***146***	***58***	***204***

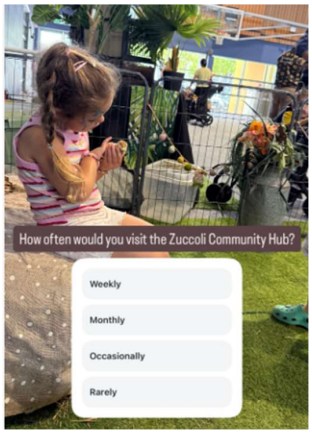
What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub?

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Events/performances	21 (21%)	18 (46%)	39 (28%)
	Catching up with friends and family	25 (25%)	6 (15%)	31 (22%)
	Playgrounds/open spaces	48 (48%)	14 (36%)	62 (45%)
	Programs/workshops	6 (6%)	1 (3%)	7 (5%)
	Total Responses	***100***	***39***	***139***

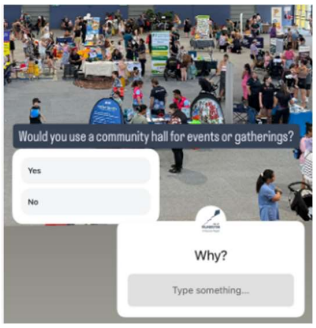
Would you use the space for study, work or meetings?

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Yes	33 (36%)	20 (49%)	53 (40%)
	No	40 (43%)	12 (29%)	52 (39%)
	Unsure	19 (21%)	9 (22%)	28 (21%)
	Total Responses	***92***	***41***	***133***

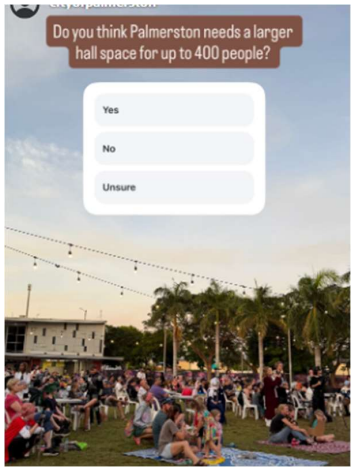
How often would you visit?

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Weekly	40 (38%)	11 (29%)	51 (36%)
	Monthly	27 (26%)	4 (11%)	31 (22%)
	Occasionally	33 (31%)	19 (50%)	52 (36%)
	Rarely	5 (5%)	4 (11%)	9 (6%)
	Total Responses	***105***	***38***	***143***

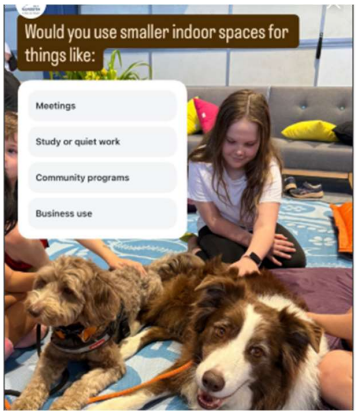
Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Yes	62 (74%)	30 (83%)	92 (77%)
	No	22 (26%)	6 (17%)	28 (23%)
	Total Responses	***84***	***36***	***120***
Comments			• Something new to explore • It's close to where I leave and its very descent community to mingle with	

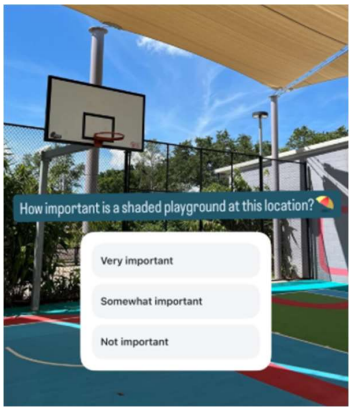
Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Yes	57 (56%)	34 (79%)	91 (63%)
	No	31 (31%)	3 (7%)	34 (24%)
	Unsure	13 (13%)	6 (14%)	19 (13%)
	Total Responses	***101***	***43***	***144***

Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?

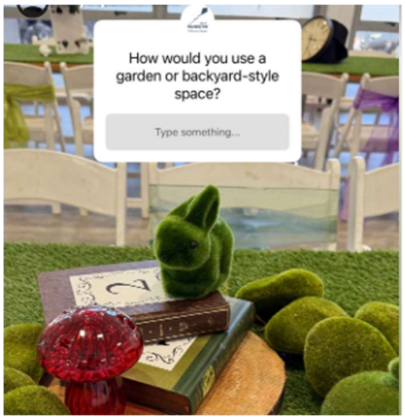
CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Meetings	5 (6%)	3 (9%)	8 (7%)
	Study or quiet work	32 (41%)	12 (36%)	44 (39%)
	Community programs	38 (48%)	18 (55%)	56 (50%)
	Business use	4 (5%)	0	4 (4%)
	Total Responses	***79***	***33***	***112***

How important is a shaded playground at this location?

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Very important	88 (77%)	36 (90%)	124 (81%)
	Somewhat important	25 (22%)	4 (10%)	29 (19%)
	Not important	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)
	Total Responses	***114***	***40***	***154***

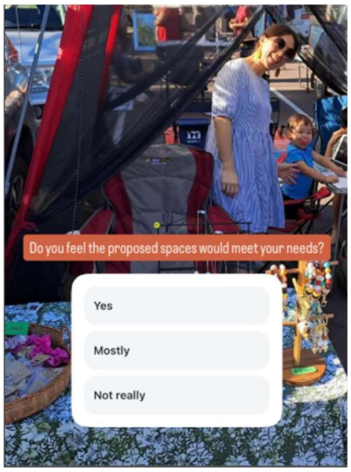
CREATIVE	RESPONSE #	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
	8 responses	• Bike track like Parap Road Safety Centre
		• Swings, see saw, slides, rubber base, obstacles, water fountain, sitting options and shade cooling
		• Jungle gym
		• Something for all ages
		• Water play
		• Toddler appropriate playground and bigger kid playground with shade
		• No sand, water features, space for toddlers and café
		• No sand and additional shade

Poll 8: How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?

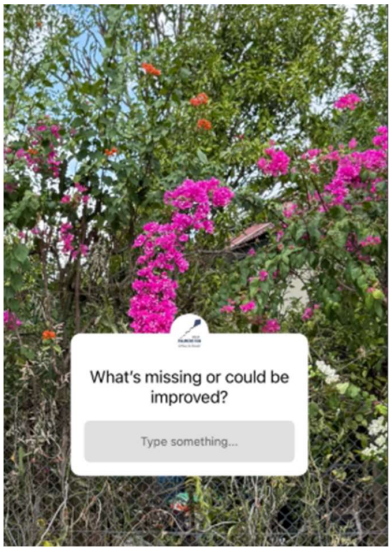
CREATIVE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
	6 responses	• For meet ups
		• Garden or vegetation flowers
		• Community herb gardens
		• Friends gathering and informal meets
		• Saturday market

Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	Yes	16 (33%)	12 (57%)	28 (41%)
	Mostly	29 (61%)	7 (33%)	36 (52%)
	Not really	3 (6%)	2 (10%)	5 (7%)

CREATIVE	RESPONSE	FACEBOOK	INSTAGRAM	COMBINED
	*Total Responses*	*48*	*21*	*69*

What's missing or could be improved?

CREATIVE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
	4 responses	• A water park in Zuccoli • A playground • Hygiene spaces, bins, fencing and seats • Adult gym or walking space

SOCIAL MEDIA POST:

- 25,804 views
- 119 interactions
  - 83 reactions
  - 23 comments
  - 12 shares
  - 1 save
  - 85 link clicks

Part of the April 'What's On' paid ad that's had:

- 88,102 impressions
- 67, 546 reach

Facebook comments on post:

23 comments:

- Badminton court please!
- How about think about why all schools have to travel to the AANT centre every year for school performances? Palmerston still, doesn't have one, and oh, we are a "city".
- I think we need something like the PCYC for the kids here in Palmerston. A lot of activities have 'big' equipment ie boxing, gymnastics, judo etc. so a place with plenty of storage or somewhere the equipment can be left in situ.
- better access and parking facilities and empty buildings within Palmerston CBD that would suit that- the old Centrelink bld.
- Please ensure you use an architect for the project
- Small meeting rooms for community groups to meet, external cooking BBq facilities that community groups could use (ie: to feed homeless), outdoor secure gym equipment, build big enough to house school productions or large events.
- Its not a massive site to fit all this onto, with minimal parking now anyway. The pump track is great! but you have stripped natural bush back to put in concrete .....put a playground in for littler kids that get overwhelmed on the pump track when the big kids are on there, open grassed spaces with good size strategically planted shade trees to offer outdoor community spaces..... does not need a library, we have shops within the IGA complext that are empty, what is the point of building more that there is no tenants for?
- How about getting the Zuccoli Tavern up and running
- this look awesome
- New Indoors Sporting Centre
- An art gallery with potential studio spaces artists could lease.
- not really best use of the space , Palmerston already has community halls, Durack, gray for example
- Darwin has all of the art galleries and working studios, why can't Palmerston have somewhere we can potentially use as a gallery space as well? This building is still in the development stage, so there's no reason why my idea can't be included along with so many other community ideas.
- Indoor market space
- VOLLEYBALL CENTRE
- Badminton courts please!
- No more anti-social behaviour
- This would be nice
- CALLING ALL VOLLEY BALLER'S...PLEASE SHARE ..Please have your say and request VOLLEYBALL COURTS to be added to the new stage of ZUCCOLLI...

ONLINE SURVEY

116 respondents and grew City of Palmerston's data base by 59.

QUESTION	RESPONSE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Do you live in Palmerston?	Yes	104	90%
	No	12	10%
	Total Responses	***116***	
How often would you visit?	Weekly	64	55%
	Monthly	23	20%
	Occasionally	17	15%
	Unsure	10	9%
	Rarely	2	2%
	Total Responses	***116***	
Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Yes	92	79%
	No	14	12%
	Conditional/Depends	10	9%
	Total Responses	***116***	
Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Yes	77	66%
	Unsure	22	19%
	No	17	15%
	Total Responses	***116***	
Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	Community programs	43	41%
	Training	18	17%
	Meetings	18	17%
	Study/quiet work	16	15%
	Business use	10	10%
	Total Responses	***105***	
How important is a shaded playground at this location?	Very important	98	84%
	Somewhat important	11	9%
	Not important	7	6%
	Total Responses	***116***	
Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	Yes	54	49%
	Mostly	43	39%
	Not really	14	13%
	Total Responses	***111***	

Key themes from open text questions

Most Requested Playground Features

THEME	COMMON FEEDBACK
Shade and cooling	Shade structures, trees and cooling elements were repeatedly requested
Water play	Splash play and water features were highly requested
Inclusive play	Accessible and disability-friendly play equipment
Multi-age play	Separate areas for toddlers, younger children and older children
Nature play	Natural materials, climbing structures and adventure play
Seating and amenities	BBQs, picnic spaces, toilets and seating
No sand	Multiple respondents requested playgrounds without sand

Common Uses for Outdoor Spaces

THEME	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Family gatherings	BBQs, birthdays, celebrations and picnics
Relaxation	Quiet spaces, reading, mindfulness and reflection
Community connection	Playgroups, markets, meet ups and informal gatherings
Community gardens	Herb gardens, edible gardens and tropical fruit trees
Active recreation	Walking paths, volleyball, outdoor gyms and sporting facilities

Frequently Requested Additional Features

THEME	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Sporting infrastructure	Volleyball courts, badminton, basketball and outdoor gyms
Water play	Splash parks and shaded wet play areas
Food and beverage	Café or kiosk facilities
Arts and culture	Performance spaces, rehearsal rooms and creative hubs
Markets and events	Weekend markets and flexible event spaces
Walking and cycling	Shared paths and bushwalking connections

Recurring Concerns Raised

CONCERN	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Parking and traffic	Concerns regarding congestion and verge parking

CONCERN	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Antisocial behaviour	Requests for safety, lighting and security measures
Noise	Concerns from nearby residents regarding noise impacts
Maintenance	Requests for ongoing cleaning and upkeep

WEBSITE DATA:

VIEWS	ACTIVE USERS	VIEWS PER ACTIVE USER	AVERAGE ENGAGMENT TIME PER USER	EVETN COUNT	KEY EVENTS
679	476	2m10s	2m	2,173	227

CAMPAIGN MONITOR

- 19 emails sent to Palmerston schools
- 8 opened (42% open rate)
- 6 clicked the link to the consultation page with the survey located (31%)

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
No	Darwin CBD	Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;c	Weekly	Yes	No	Training	Very important	Waterslide	x	Mostly	waater park
Yes	Gunn	Events or performances	Occasionally	No	Yes	Meetings	Very important	Different ages as the house blocks are small so you want all kids to be able to use	Relaxation and mindfulness	Mostly	
Yes	Durack	Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Monthly	Depends on the final look and the quality of the outdoor space. If the setting is really nice, like the hall you can hire at the botanic gardens I would consider it. I wouldn't host an event somewhere that wasn't in a nice environment (eg. garden, coast)	Unsure	Meetings	Very important	Nature play, lots of shade trees, natural materials.	gatherings with friends, work meetings, lunch breaks, leisure		Maybe a walking loop with lots of shade trees.
Yes	Durack	Rehearsal	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	Accessible areas and playground for all ages	I looks good for weeding's	Yes	We should have a kids Library, Zuccoli has families and I will be good for the community
No	anula	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;council run activities	Monthly	Yes	No	Community programs	Very important	No broken glass, rubbish, or people sleeping there — please put a plan in place to prevent this from happening in the first place. If this is properly managed, families like ours would visit much more often.	back yard style space, keep it open like the one next to museum, can be used for open activities or family events	Mostly	Please plan early to manage antisocial behaviour. This is a fantastic initiative, but without proper management, it risks being misused or becoming associated with antisocial behaviour, similar to Grey
Yes	Woodrofe	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important			Yes	
Yes	Bakewell	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Swing, zipline, slides	BBQ, family and friends gatherings	Yes	
Yes	Bellamack	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Safety fences and inclusive play equipment.	Picnics, outdoor BBQ	Yes	
Yes	Rosebery	Events or performances	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Training	Not important	Nature play, not brightly coloured plastic climbing equipment.	picnics	Yes	
Yes	Moulden	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	A playground should allow for some form of risky play. Kids dont learn proper motor skills without some form of risk involved.		Mostly	Its unclear whether the board room would allow for some kind of mirror set up. Many perfomance groups around Palmerston are very restricted on places that have mirror walls. If the board room or one of the meeting rooms had mirrored walls (which could be covered by curtains in the off time) the room could vastly increase in what the space could be used for, and thus increase bookings as well.
Yes	Rosebery	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground	Monthly	No;There are plenty of community halls around Palmerston - Invest in a good indoor playground - or a water park - something to entertain the kids during the long wet season days. something with slides for children between 2 and 7 can use	No	Business use	Very important	Water play - we live in the hottest place on earth and there is no use in having another playground or community hall - we have plenty scattered around. Have something for children to use during the wet, some slides for preschoolers and younger children. Plamerston water Park is a joke and Swell has no slides	to rest waiting for my children to run around	Not really	Water play
No	Wanguri	Events or performances ;Run my dance classes	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Swings, slide and climbing plus accessibility for children with disabilities		Yes	I run BABY BALLET DARWIN from Palmerston Recreation Centre and have been doing weekly classs there since May 2020! I have 100 Palmerston students each week. We would be interested in running our classes at this new venue. Although we do love the rec centre! A room with mirrors is crucial for all performers who choose to hire your space. We are very excited about the performance space / stage as Palmerston is very much in need of this!
Yes	Johnston	Events or performances ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Toddler safe options as well as areas for bigger kids	BBQ and family celebration events	Yes	
Yes	Rosebery	Movie theater with medium capacity of seats, Library.	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Some scientific stuff for kids Proper lightings.		Yes	Library in community hall.
Yes	Woodroffe	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important			Mostly	
Yes	Gunn	Events or performances ;Using the playground ;Study, work or meetings	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important				

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
Yes	Rosebery	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Occasionally	No	Unsure	Community programs	Very important	I don't have children, so I'm not sure	A community garden would be nice	Mostly	I would really like events for women or adults without kids. I'm 30 and don't have children. I play video games and I read. But I am not originally from Australia and I'm not sure what kinds of things I can do for my age bracket. I'm not outdoorsy and I have a food allergy so I can't do cooking classes. I want to be able to socialise with other adults and either play games (board games, etc) or read books together or general socialisation where I can make friends.
Yes	Bellamack	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Business use	Very important			Mostly	
Yes	Rosebery	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Accessible play equipment Seating and shade Lighting and safety measures Water play area		Mostly	
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Occasionally	Yes	No	Meetings	Very important	A pool or waterpark play area	Birthdays and picnics	Mostly	Pool/ waterpark
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important		For relaxation	Yes	
Yes	Gray	Events or performances	Monthly	Yes	Yes		Somewhat important			Yes	A community hall with 400 or more seating plus stage area and dressing rooms is definitely needed in Palmerston. WE already lack this sort of space across Darwin but there is nothing in Palmerston that can accommodate that many people with proper seating.
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Adventure style playground to encourage kids to explore. fallen logs, large rocks to climb on. make it look like where kids should play, out in nature.	community garden would be pretty good	Yes	sound recording booth similar to the one at palmo library. walking / riding track from the area down through the bush toward Mitchell creek that then connects to tracks along the roystonea green space. get us Army veterans out there to help build the track, we can make put signs along the way that talks about darwin military history and veterans who served in darwin
Yes	Palmerston	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Swing, slide and wet play area		Yes	
Yes	Gray	Events or performances ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Occasionally	No	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Somewhat important	A water play structure, similar to the water pumps area in Gateway at Pavillions entrance, where children can direct water flow to and from areas and piping to an end source. Additionally having a Flying Fox structure and an in ground balloon/trampoline would be a great addition that I havent seen in many parks in the NT even as a whole.	Picnics, mostly.	Mostly	I'd like to see the Garden of Reflection SIGNIFICANTLY increased in size. Having a large garden with a high amount of biodiversity in plants would be amazing and would look stunning, but the garden in the masterplan currently doesn't seem to be large enough.
Yes	Zuccoli	Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Rarely	Yes;Because it's close to home and a modern venue in a safe suburb	Unsure	Community programs	Very important			Mostly	
Yes	Bellamack	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	A playground that is accessible, fenced and properly shaded. So many playgrounds are designed for much older children and are completely unfenced or lack shade, which can make them difficult and unsafe for younger kids. It would be great to see more age-appropriate equipment for toddlers and preschool-aged children, including smaller slides, sensory and imaginative play elements, soft fall areas, swings for younger children, and safe open spaces where little kids can play confidently and independently.	A garden or backyard-style space would be lovely as an area for families and friends to gather and spend time together, especially if there are plenty of shaded areas, seating, tables and open space for children to play safely nearby.	Mostly	A large indoor, air-conditioned community space with adequate seating that can comfortably accommodate families and larger audiences would be a valuable addition. It could be used for school performances, concerts, plays, assemblies, cultural events and community gatherings. Ideally, the space would have good acoustics, a stage area, accessible seating options, and flexible layout so it can be adapted for different types of events.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Play equipment for children and youths. Sitting spaces for adults and older people	Backyard style space with lot of tropical veggies/Fruit trees.	Yes	A bigger kitchen/dining area to cater for the good crowd planned in the meeting hall.
Yes	FARRAR	Events or performances ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Very important	Outdoor Gym, Flying Fox, Sandpit, kids playground including outdoor monkey bars, swings, slides and cubby house	Outdoor picnic and community activities	Yes	None

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
No	NorthernSuburbs-weekly access to Palmerston Rec. Centre	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Safe playground equipment and security surveillance. Adventure playground design where children can explore with hands on experiences. Mini gym for fitness Visiting Pet farm	Peace/tranquil garden for relaxation/reading	Yes	Will this project be considering evening hours access to all facilities? The entire project is a wonderful idea for the community.
Yes	Gunn	Events or performances ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Occasionally	Yes	Unsure	Community programs	Very important			Yes	
Yes	Johnston	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Business use	Very important			Mostly	Palmerston doesn't have an art gallery or anywhere artists can lease as studio spaces to actively work, it would be amazing to create an artist hub where a variety of artists could potentially lease small individual studio spaces with a shared area to display the work they create and potentially have a shop front set up to sell their work. It could also include a shared space that can be utilised to run classes open to the public to join.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important			Yes	
Yes	Bakewell	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important		Shared garden.		
Yes	Gray	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;Church events	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Very important	Seesaw, slide, swing, a little obstacles course maybe a small climbing wall	Picnic, bbq	Yes	
Yes	ZUCCOLI	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	No	Study or Quiet work	Somewhat important	The playground can be whatever composition suits, just please do not build a skate park! It attracts negative activity to the area that we are already seeing with unsupervised kids driving motorbikes and Ebikes recklessly through the park and pump track. Use the space allocated for the skate park to extend picnic space, car parks, or playground/exercise equipment.	DO NOT PUT IN A SKATE PARK. Thank you.	Mostly	The community hub can be whatever composition suits, just please do not build a skate park! It attracts negative activity to the area that we are already seeing with unsupervised kids driving motorbikes and Ebikes recklessly through the park and pump track. Use the space allocated for the skate park to extend picnic space, car parks, or playground/exercise equipment. Personally, I would prefer something more environmentally friendly and educational like a native flora garden or green shaded picnic spot.
Yes	Bakewell	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Somewhat important			Mostly	
Yes	GRAY	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	No	Business use	Very important	A variety of play equipment that was sensory friendly and disability friendly	For picnics or family gatherings	Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Badminton/ table tennis	Outdoor cafe. Few cozy Sofa chairs for reading books	Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;Playgroup and Parent education program	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Community programs	Very important	Equipment that would be suitable for Children aged 0-8 years. All Ares to be shaded. Toilets near the playground would be great.	This would be great for a Playgroup as a outdoor space is needed to set up gross motor activities and equipment.	Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Lots of equipment for the children	Relaxing and meetings	Yes	The proposal looks good and meets the needs I would be asking for
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Well structured covering, NOT just a shade cloth. Somewhere for when it's raining/wet Swings Slide MONKEY BARS Disability accessible	Kids to play	Mostly	
No	The Gardens	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Somewhat important			Not really	Significant storage space for community groups
Yes	Bakewell	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Somewhat important	Playground should be replaced by an area dedicated to host weddings	No	Mostly	Wedding ceremony area. Hall would be perfect for receptions. No where in Palmerston currently available

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;I would love to run a market in Zuccoli and would love to chat to someone about that. I have reached out to IGA/the shopping complex in the past about it and was knocked back - maybe this could be the space I've been waiting for!	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Very important	Shade. No sand. Toilets. Perhaps a small wet play area		Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	No	Community programs	Very important	I dont know if it would be in the budget but it would be nice to have a undercover waterplay area. This would definitely be in use throughout the day, which isn't so much the case on other playgrounds as it is too hot	It would be lovely to see undercover settings so people can bring picnics abd have coffees	Yes	Im a mum with young kids so for me personally, I like the idea of having another playground. It would be great to have a small waterplay area. As for community events: it would be lovely to be able to hold playgroups once a week in the space And I would love to see community clubs like the bridge club being able to hold events there. Maybe even a small food market
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Business use	Very important	Lots of shade. Cold drinking fountain for humans and pets. Spray fan if possible to keep people cool. Washing basins. Tennis court would be a great a	Picnic, hoping to bring outside cinemas in Palmerston like deck chair cinema. Barbecue with friends and family	Mostly	Tennis court, a mini golf area, a bigger picnic area
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Using the playground	Monthly	No	No	Community programs	Very important	Absolutely NO skate park, build a playground that is fun for all ages, build a bike track for the little kids who love the pump track but can get overwhelmed with bigger kids on the track. NO concrete jungle, no more concrete paths, plant trees, shrubs, splash play area for kids. NO basketball, people can access full court at the school or half court further up into zuccoli, why does it need another one? There is a man made lake further into zuccoli, put the community centre up there.	Backyard	Not really	There is not enough parking in this TINY over developed suburb to put more things into this area will increase traffic, clog up streets with parking, annoying the residents who don't want people parking on their verges. There is plenty of land at the back of zuccoli- utilise that and just create natural spaces for families to utilise with younger kids while bigger kids on pump track. What is the point of another library- most people read on devises, library in Palmerston and coolalinga - waste of money!!!
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	Plenty of shaded seating, disability friendly	Spend time with my kids	Mostly	Indoor basketball/netball facility.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Training	Not important	We don't need anymore playgrounds	Walks	Mostly	Outdoor cinema space Shade - lots of shade
Yes	Durack heights	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	Multi age capabilities. I have children ranging from 8-1 and finding a playground they can all enjoy safely is hard		Mostly	
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	No	Community programs	Very important			Yes	
No	N/A	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Occasionally	No	No		Very important			Yes	
Yes	Rosebery	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Shade is a non negotiable. Water bubbler. All ages playground eg small children and older kids. Often older kids will take over a small kids playground and make it unsafe. Needs to be disable inclusive. It needs to be fenced.	I would use a lawned area for picnics and maybe attend playdates	Yes	
Yes	Bellamack	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	A shaded area usable all year around	No	Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Native gardens (similar to Follington Park)	Visit with family, visit alone, meet up with friends	Mostly	Community garden for people to grow edible plants. Good opportunity learn about and grow local seasonal produce, share info and plant materials for people to grow themselves. Native plant gardens, and good, hardy shade trees - NOT raintree/red poinciana.

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
Yes	ZUCCOLI	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Water play for hot days, NO red sand-minimal sand, slides that don't get hot, swings, a nest swing, nature based playground, climbing web	For pic nics with the kids and their friends, to grow things in a community garden	Mostly	Places to hang out in when it's hot outside (eg indoor places, water play)
No	N/a	Events or performances ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	Swings, climbing walls, water play, and a large cubby house	Shaded bbq areas and seating.	Yes	How would you keep out rough sleepers and people who don't clean up after themselves?
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Suitable area for young children, toddlers & seperate to area for school aged & older youth Another Dog park area back end of Zuccoli, away from all the noise & people. The current dog parks are not big enough for the area. Or a longer bush walk tracks through.	Bbq with family & friends. Kids / family birthdays, community events, mothers groups, play groups, community nurses could visit	Mostly	Must be Suitable area for young children, toddlers & seperate to area for school aged & older youth. Need to be feel safe walking through their up until 10pm youth still around on bikes & scooters with little respect or care for other around. Noisy, swearing making noises when I've been at the dog park after 9pm can get scary when dog & human is frightened as you can't see port lighting in pump area & dogpark lights are also off at this time. Another Dog park area back end of Zuccoli, away from all the noise & people. The current dog parks are not big enough for the area. Or a longer bush walk tracks through.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Unsure	No	Yes	Community programs	Very important	A gym training station would be nice.	Allotment. Would be nice if someone did gardening tutorials. I'd love to learn about how to improve my garden for the local ecosystem.	Not really	A pub, but without pokies.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Using the playground ;Study, work or meetings ;Rwading Library news paper	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Cricket net and pitch , tennis court	Rarely	Not really	More sport to be accommodate. Expecting mini library but should have news paper and computer, printers with justice of peach once in a week
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Can we have a shaded playground without a sand ? The playgrounds available around Zuccoli are sand based and not good for kids under 2-3 years of age.	For walking and refreshment	Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Skatepark you promised?	Weekly	No	No	Business use	Not important	Skatepark		Mostly	Where is the skatepark
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;Dog park	Occasionally	No;I'm not that social	Unsure	Business use	Very important			Yes	The library, books especially with the tech side of things.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;Place for outdoor food and textile markets	Monthly	Yes	Unsure	Community programs	Somewhat important	Play equiptment that dosnt get too hot to use	Walks	Yes	An area for a weekend market
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	All ages	Maybe	Yes	Nothing
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Unsure	There is not enough parking in the skinny streets to provide this	Unsure		Very important	We enough playgrounds in Zuccoli	Wouldn't		Traffic to be diverted from Feathertop, and the noise that has currently gone from quiet bush land to screaming, yelling kids & motorbikes from the pump track , dogs fighting and barking from the dog park and no more parking for family and friends to visit due to everyone parking on feathertop to access the pump track fixed. I didn't sign up for this when we bought here, it's now become a zoo.
No	I no longer do but our studio is in Palmerston	Events or performances	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Business use	Very important			Yes	In general, Darwin does not have enough performance spaces. We are forced to use the entertainment centre/uni theatre etc which are very expensive. I believe it wouldn't just be those in Palmerston wanting to use the performance space but many dance/performance style studios around Darwin. If it could be bigger than this that would be great but understand there is a budget. If it can be set up like a theatre too with a stage, seating, sound and lighting too that would be amazing:) Thanks and looking forward to seeing all the new changes:)
Yes	driver	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	shade	no	Yes	love the idea of an inside stage in palmerston to bring more of the arts to palmerston

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Community programs	Very important	Nature Play Swings. Kids are always lining up for a swing Rope/climbing play	Consider growing vegetables with the kids	Yes	Ticks all boxes Plant as many shade trees as possible. The ones in Goyder Square have come up a treat. Perhaps a water feature or fishpond. It is difficult to use outdoor spaces all year round especially when it is blazing hot. Think about a space for wall art. Miss Poly comes to mind. She has some cool as stuff around Palmerston City. Or get the kids involved.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	No		Very important		Community Garden	Yes	
Yes	ZUCCOLI	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Very important	fish ponds, kids shaded and secured play area.	yes	Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;Shopping centre	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	Playgtound with bbq and sits as well as water parks to allow families to spend the day in peace.	For training	Mostly	Biggest shopping center with all brands and important shops. Water park for adults and kids, bbq area and a tavern
Yes	Rosebery	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Training	Somewhat important	Outdoor games which inspire thinking and problem-solving. Climbing wall also for adults.	busking with my violin	Not really	1) I am teaching violin and am personally desperate for a nice clean and safe place to teach my students on a weekly basis. It would be important that using this space does not cost an arm and a leg. If you could keep it cheap to use for regulars, I am sure other musicians would also cherish rehearsal spaces, which means small cubicles with some noise treatment that are easily accessible (maybe with direct outside doors). Rehearsal spaces are a real problem for musicians of Palmerston (and Darwin). Maybe you would like to explore this further? 2) I am not sure about the 400 people hall, but I can share from Arafura Music Collective's experience, that we have members of our audience coming from Darwin to Palmerston for our concerts in Gray Community Hall. I think it is a great idea to give Palmerston the opportunity to develop its own cultural space and 400 people is a good number, but it needs a vision to work, too. Are you planning to invite any known artists from interstate for concerts? The Darwin Symphony Orchestra could be interested in a rehearsal and performance space with good acoustics (this would be a really important aspect). I am not part of DSO management, but they are easily accessible. There are other groups, like Vocalective or The Darwin Chorale who might be interested in more/other performance spaces with good acoustics. But I am just sharing some thoughts here. Good luck with this exciting project!
Yes	Bakewell	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Attending programs or workshops	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Very important			Not really	Recycling centre
Yes	Rosebery	Events or performances	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Not important	There are too many Playgrounds in Palmerston	Picnics or quiet reading area	Mostly	An outdoor entertaining space
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Swings	Picnic	Yes	
Yes	Durack	Events or performances ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Occasionally	Depends on how nice it looks and the overall feel. I want events to feel luxurious.	Unsure	Meetings	Very important	Nature play, natural elements, shade, trees. Enough of the ugly colours that fade in the sun.	meeting friends and family, picnics, walking	Mostly	Can we have public tennis courts somewhere walking loops are always good
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Occasionally	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important			Yes	A sensory space or quiet room.
Yes	Rosebery	Using the playground	Monthly	No	No		Very important	A fully enclosed fence	It would attract homeless people, terrible idea	Not really	Don't spend 13m on this. You upped our rates for this crap.

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
No	Girraween	Indoor beach rebound volleyball, winnelie is to far a drive	Weekly	Yes;If we set up a few rebound volleyball nets, we could run competitions	Unsure	Study or Quiet work	Very important	If there is sand, then a volleyball net is a must, boundaries aren't so important, but just letting people play and hit the ball without having to go to the ONLY net at the water front is detrimental to keep volleyball alive in the territory. If you look at the hardcourt volleyball situation, the sport is already dead, but indoor beach rebound is a growing sport around the country		Mostly	I know its not my position to say or ask this of you, but the closing of the palmerston sports centre has taken away most rural and palmerston people's sport and recreation, it had 3 popular sports running through it, indoor cricket, indoor rebound netball and indoor rebound beach volleyball. The centre made most its money from the cricket and volleyball competitions it was hosting, but it was a community that is no longer there
No	Girraween	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;There is a MASSIVE OUTCRY for VOLLEYBALL COURTS in the Palmerston area	Weekly	No	No		Very important	There is a MASSIVE OUTCRY for VOLLEYBALL COURTS in the Palmerston area, when the palmerston volleyball centre closed down,due to the owner wanting to retire. Hundreds of people could no longer play there favourite sport that pulled people together to socialize and catch up and have fun . This should be on the top of your list , there is ample if not tooo many basketball courts around. We would need atleast 3 beach sized courts with high nets, minimum ..... and lights as we play for hours		Not really	All of the Rural area and Palmerston residents are missing a VOLLEYBALL recreatioanal area, atm a lot of us are driving all the way into winnellie to play 2x 12 minute halves for $90 , which is more time driving rather than playing. If we had a volleyball centre out here it would be a huge improvement to the recreational choices we have. . Some of us do it for social, fitness, making new friends or destressing from the week. We would be willing to rent out the courts to help with upkeep and ongoing maintence.
Yes	Durack	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Sports	Weekly	No	Unsure	Community programs	Very important	Swings, Slides, Sporting equipment	Volleyball courts. Water play	Mostly	Indoor Sporting Centre with Volleyball, Cricket, Netball, Soccer
Yes	Gray	Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Beach volleyball nets / courts would be great	Weekly	Yes	Yes		Very important			Mostly	Beach volleyball nets
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Flying fox and a roundabout spinning thing.	For community bbqs.	Mostly	An outdoor/indoor volleyball court
Yes	Howard springs	Volleyball centre	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	More climbing frames	To study in the out doors	Not really	
Yes	GRAY	Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Casually visit while bike riding I might go sit in the park or something.	Monthly	Wouldn't organise one. Might attend one.	Unsure	Meetings	Very important		Not sure what that is meant to be like? How big? Why do I need a backyard if I have a backyard? :D ps. I don't really have a backyard...	Yes	Think its cool Shade is good but open space is also good. The sky is beautiful. The sun is life. I'm pro not dying but also pro enjoy outdoors. Like peak UV is 10-2 or 9-3 ok sure. 6-9 and 3-6/7 = sky time. Natural shade opportunities where possible throughout the day. Unsure how a shared space can have leased areas?. Seems like the labels show shared areas as shared how can they be shared and leased concurrently? Ok booths can be semi permanent? Or they come and go and dont store anything on site? Board / meeting rooms can be leased like yeah ok more like hired than leased. Leased gives impression they control the space 100%.
Yes	Rosebery	Volleyball 🏐🤣	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Not important			Yes	A Volleyball court 🏐🙏
Yes	Woodroffe	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Business use	Very important	Would love to see an interactive and inclusive playground for all ages especially toddlers and for there to be a water feature for the kiddies to splash in when the day gets hot!	For picnics, walking around identifying bugs or birds.	Mostly	Due to the Palmerston volleyball court being closed down, I would love to see a new and improved volleyball court built in Palmerston and I know many others in the community would too. I believe having a court at the Zuccoli Community Hub would be a great way to bring people together, especially those who may have never had the opportunity to play volleyball before. It would create a fun, active, and social space for people of all ages and skill levels. It would also be far more convenient for people living in areas like Humpty Doo and surrounding suburbs, as they could travel to Palmerston instead of having to drive all the way to Winnellie just to play. A local volleyball court would encourage more community involvement, promote healthy lifestyles, and help grow the sport in the area.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Using the playground ;Attending programs or workshops	Occasionally	Yes	Yes		Very important				It would be nice to have sport facilities to cater for such as volleyball ball, basketball, etc.

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Community programs	Very important	Shade, large slide, and zip line.		Mostly	A footpath connection between Brook Circuit playground and the community hub. The footpath already extends past the Brook Circuit playground and could easily be extended to connect to the community hub. This will allow local residents to walk safely to the new area, and it will allow easier access to the bus stop for a public transport connection.
Yes	Zuccoli or Durack	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Very important	Little kids safe most of the playground have equipment only for older kids. It would be nice to have something for babies and toddlers around age gap 1-3 years old.	Have a community event during the dry season	Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Parties	Unsure	Yes	No	Study or Quiet work	Very important	high and low thrills for all ages	unsure	Mostly	more space for study area
Yes	Rosebery	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Multigeneration, water play and lots of shade	Large family gatherings for birthday parties, celebrations	Mostly	
Yes	Woodroffe	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground	Weekly	No	Yes	Meetings	Very important	shaded areas, water play		Mostly	
Yes	gray	Study, work or meetings ;sport!! add volleyball courts!	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important			Not really	gymnasium courts. kids need more places than just the rec centre.
Yes	Bakewell	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Study, work or meetings ;Skatepark and Pump Track Facilities	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	Something that offers "exciting risky play" for older kids 10 to 16. Like maybe a genuinely difficult obstacle course, or some kind of spider web ropes system that doesn't just go up high, but also extends for a bit so kids and older kids have a chance to really climb. Also look at https://www.rvl13.com - they sell these awesome outdoor gym systems for kids, teens and adults.	Community garden?	Yes	An outdoor spartan gym/street workout setup from the likes of https://www.spartanparks.com.au/equipment/#equipment-street-workout or https://www.rvl13.com. I've recommended this before, but I will recommend it again. These kinds of systems can help attract young adults to the area, and build community. The Spartan Outdoor gym at East Point has helped build the Bar Brothers & Sisters Darwin (@barbrothersdarwin) community. Palmerston could totally do the same.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Meetings	Very important	A two-seperate but combined playground that is suitable for older kids 5-10 and for toddlers 1-4. I absolutely love the layout of the Anula playground, as an example. Potentially some water play activities for the really hot days.	Picnic, somewhere the kids can roam free.	Yes	Shade – The masterplan legend makes no mention of shade structures, canopy planting, or cooling strategies. We love the Zuccoli blue basketball court but we never go because there's zero shade there. Food/Coffee – No kiosk, or potential cafe space. I think this is a missed opportunity for small business and for a hub designed to serve 40,000+ residents. A flexible kiosk or cafe facility would make the Event Zone and Plaza far more usable on a daily basis, not just for scheduled events. Everything else is PERFECT – love it
Yes	Zuccoli	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important	a range of developmental play sections - little toddlers,	to play in and spend time.	Yes	
No	Virginia	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Skate park	Weekly	No	Unsure		Somewhat important			Not really	The skatepark that was discussed at the beginning of planning for pump track
Yes	Zucci	Events or performances ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Training	Very important			Yes	
Yes	Zuccoli	Do not want it	Unsure	No	No	Business use	Not important	No playground council cant even look after park on Canegrass	Not at all	Not really	Dont build another place for kids to hang out at night damage What a wast How about fixing the park on Canegrass?
No	Virginia NT	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;the reflection garden when it is in	Monthly	Yes;close location to home	Yes	Meetings	Somewhat important	Flying fox. Climbing things, swings, usual stuff	Relaxing. Being in nature. Catch up with friends with a coffee or picnic.	Yes	Coffee shop
Yes	Zuccoli		Rarely	No	No		Not important	We have plenty of playground now don't need another one for kids to hang around at night	Cafe or coffee shops	Not really	More cafe area for kids and family
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Weekly	Yes	Unsure	Community programs	Very important	Good covers, a range of safe, challenging equipment for a range of ages. Adult and child friendly	Place to picnic , meet friends, relax amidst greenery	Mostly	

Do you live in Palmerston?	If yes, what suburb do you live in?	What would bring you to the Zuccoli Community Hub? (select all that apply)	How often would you visit?	Would you use a community hall for events or gatherings?	Do you think a larger hall (up to 400 people) is needed in Palmerston?	Would you use smaller indoor spaces for things like?	How important is a shaded playground at this location?	What would you like to see in the playground?	How would you use a garden or backyard-style space?	Do you feel the proposed spaces would meet your needs?	What's missing or could be improved?
Yes	Johnston	Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Weekly	Yes	Yes		Very important	Would love to have a mix of playground for younger and older as I have 2 children different ages. More than 2x swings No red sand.	Picnics and adventures with the kids	Mostly	
Yes	Gray	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important		If it is shad enough.	Mostly	It would good for a nice and safe undercover area for setting and dancing during the wet season.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings ;Sport activities like badminton area where all players are squeezing in the rec centre.	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Instruments for exercises.	Reading.	Yes	Sport area like badminton area where all players are squeezing in the rec centre.
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing)	Monthly	Yes	Unsure	Community programs	Very important	Some things for early teen kids.	That would depend on what's available. A cafe with tables and chairs would be great. Some snacks, lunch, drinks.	Mostly	A cafe for gathering with friends/family in the sun. A "Barefoot walk" - we used to visit one in Germany. It's a little sensory walk with water, sand, stones. Fun activity for children and adults alike.
Yes	Bakewell	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	Inclusive for all ages	Picnic area	Mostly	A STEAM hub or tech hub run by the library
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	Badminton court	picnics	Yes	add some badminton court
Yes	Zuccoli	Using the playground	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Very important	I would love to see badminton, table tennis, or pickleball courts added to the playground area. These sports are easy to learn, suitable for all ages, and encourage social interaction. They'd give neighbours and families more ways to stay active and connect with each other.	I would like to use this space for relaxation, quiet reflection, and enjoying a calm environment away from noise and activity.	Yes	
Yes	Bakewell	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes	Yes	Community programs	Very important	A variety of equipment that has something for all ages of child from toddler to pre-teen.	Birthday parties and family gatherings	Yes	This could become a replacement for the current Palmerston markets venue, as the current is very cramped when busy.
Yes	Zuccoli	Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops	Monthly	Yes;Private events	Yes	Meetings	Very important	Basketball court	Yes	Mostly	
Yes	Zuccoli	Food Shopping, would be great if we have a Woolworths	Weekly	Yes	Yes	Study or Quiet work	Somewhat important			Yes	Woolworths shops
Yes	Zuccoli	Events or performances ;Catching up with friends or family ;Using the playground ;Spending time outdoors (garden, BBQ, relaxing) ;Attending programs or workshops ;Study, work or meetings	Unsure	Yes	Yes	Meetings	Very important	Slide for bigger kids, swing and monkey bars	family picnic	Yes	

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.3
Report Title:	Community Funding Program - Palmerston Cricket Club
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Community Services Lead, Stephen Power
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 a Council decision regarding a sponsorship application submitted by Palmerston Cricket Club Incorporated through the Community Funding Program.

Key messages

- Council supports initiatives that benefit the Palmerston community through the Community Funding Program.
- Palmerston Cricket Club Incorporated has applied for a sponsorship at a cost of $10,000 under the Community Funding Program.
- The proposed Sponsorship application aims to support community participation in cricket by maintaining accessible facilities, encouraging inclusive sporting opportunities and promoting healthy and active lifestyles within Palmerston.
- $61,044 remains in the Community Funding Program budget for the 2025/26 financial year.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Community Funding Program - Palmerston Cricket Club be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse Option One (1) of the report to approve the full sponsorship funding amount of $10,000 to the Palmerston Cricket Club through the Community Funding Program.

Background

Palmerston Cricket Club (PCC) is a community sporting organisation established in 1985 that delivers junior, senior and women's cricket participation opportunities within Palmerston and the wider Darwin region. The club currently supports over 120 junior players, multiple senior teams, women's cricket programs and a growing membership base of families and community supporters. PCC also provides access to cricket facilities for local schools, community groups and casual community use from its clubhouse and sporting grounds located at Woodroffe Avenue, Palmerston.

PCC has advised that participation within the club continues to grow, particularly across junior development and women's cricket programs. The club has identified increasing demand for accessible sporting facilities, community participation opportunities and infrastructure that supports ongoing growth in organised cricket activities within Palmerston.

PCC previously received funding through City of Palmerston Community Funding Program in 2021 to enhance player safety, wellbeing and participation outcomes. Funding supported the purchase of first aid equipment and delivery of training initiatives that benefited local players, volunteers and families.

Discussion

The PCC has applied for a sponsorship at a cost of $10,000 through the Community Funding Program. The application seeks support for the continued growth and development of the Club, including increasing participation and pathway opportunities, supporting junior and women's cricket programs, and maintaining community access to cricket facilities.

The application outlines that sponsorship funding would assist the PCC to continue delivering accessible and inclusive sporting opportunities for Palmerston residents. The PCC maintains a publicly accessible unlocked cricket practice nets, providing free access for Palmerston residents, local schools and community sporting groups. The facility supports informal recreation, skill development and ongoing community use.

The PCC has proposed a range of sponsorship recognition opportunities for City of Palmerston, including social media promotion, logo placement on training apparel, boundary signage, advertising during live game streams, and acknowledgement at club events and sponsor functions.

All required supporting documentation has been submitted and reviewed as part of the assessment process, including proof of incorporation, public liability insurance and a sponsorship package outlining sponsorship benefits and recognition opportunities.

In line with the Sponsorship Policy and Community Funding Program Guidelines the administration recommends option 1 of this report.

Further information is provided at **Attachment 12.1.3.1**.
Sponsorship Policy at **Attachment 12.1.3.2**.

Community Funding Program Guidelines at **Attachment 12.1.3.3**.

Option 1

Requested Amount– $10,000

Council approves the full sponsorship funding amount of $10,000 to the Palmerston Cricket Club through the Community Funding Program.

Option 2

Partial Amount – Amount to be determined

Council approves sponsorship funding at a cost of____ to the Palmerston Cricket Club through the Community Funding Program.

Option 3

No Funding

Council does not approve funding to the Palmerston Cricket Club through the Community Funding Program.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Community Services Manager
- Community Facilities Officer

The applicant was consulted during the preparation of this Report.

Policy implications

This Report aligns with the following City of Palmerston policies and guidelines:

- Sponsorship Policy
- Community Funding Program Guidelines

Budget and resource implications

The Community Funding Program has the remaining funds for the 25/26 financial year.

- $37,044 for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti and School Awards.
- $15,000 for Sponsorship.
- $9,000 for Environmental Initiatives.

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.
6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework
- 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. Community Funding Program Grants environmental initiatives Sponsorship Submission 20 (combined) [**12.1.3.1** - 18 pages]
2. 20250306 - Sponsorship Policy [**12.1.3.2** - 2 pages]
3. Community Funding Program Guidelines [**12.1.3.3** - 14 pages]

Community Funding Program - Grants, environmental initiatives & Sponsorship : Submission #20

Funding type sought: Sponsorship

Organisation's name Palmerston Cricket Club

Organisation type Association

ABN: (if applicable): 24 549 088 937

Details Joel Carter
Secretary

Provide details of your organisation Established in 1985, the Palmerston Cricket Club (PCC) is a community club based in Woodroffe, Palmerston. Participating annually in the Darwin and Districts Cricket Competition, the PCC consistently provides high-quality cricket pathways for players of all ages.

We are especially proud of our commitment to junior development and the ongoing pursuit of building sustainable and competitive opportunities for girls & women in cricket. Our numbers continue to grow, with over 120 juniors, 7 senior teams, and 2 women's team and a growing non-playing membership of family and social members.
We represent a significant number of families in Palmerston who are passionate about cricket and actively participate in organised sport. Additionally, PCC's facilities are open for use by local schools, community sporting groups, and casual players. We have a strong volunteering culture and actively encourage social events throughout the year. The clubhouse and grounds at 57 Woodroffe Avenue continue to be the focus point for these activities.

Provide details of the proposed activity Your sponsorship is an opportunity to get into a popular and fast-growing club that is currently experiencing a huge expansion to both its members and its sponsorship reach. The Palmerston Cricket Club plays a vital role in promoting healthy lifestyles, fostering social inclusion, and contributing to the development of young athletes within the community.

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Physical Activity:
Cricket is a beloved sport in the Palmerston community, offering health benefits such as improved physical fitness, coordination, and teamwork.

Your sponsorship will help us:
• attract new players, particularly youth, by providing modern and inviting infrastructure that encourages participation in organised sport.
• offer a safe and accessible space for community members of all ages, genders, and abilities to engage in recreational cricket, promoting physical activity and overall well-being
• support the development of talented young athletes by providing them with the necessary training infrastructure to excel and become positive role models for the community.

Provide details of previous activities held by the organisation
Palmerston Cricket Club was established in 1985 and has been offering cricket pathways for Palmerston families for more than 4 decades.

What are the intended objectives of this activity, and how will you evaluate its success?
The Palmerston Cricket Club is a welcoming and inclusive environment, valuing diversity and encouraging participation from all community members. Your sponsorship will further strengthen this inclusivity by:
• maintaining the Palmerston community's only unlocked cricket nets, ensuring free and open access for individuals regardless of background or financial limitations
• providing a vibrant space for community sporting groups and casual players to enjoy, fostering social interaction and community spirit
• Creating a platform for young people to connect, develop teamwork skills, and build lasting friendships through their shared passion for cricket.
Your sponsorship will help to create a lasting impact on the Palmerston community, promoting health, inclusion, and social well-being for all residents.

Date 18 May 2026

Venue 57 Woodroffe Avenue, Woodroffe

Time 0800

Expected number of attendees The club has circa 250 registered members all with families that attend regular social functions

Target audience The club has multiple teams in every grade from Juniors and Womens to Seniors

Total activity cost $10,000 sponsorship

Amount requested through the Community funding program $10,000

Is the amount requested excluding GST? No, it's including GST

Value of other funding sources The cricket club has a number of other sponsors

A copy of the sponsorship package outlining the levels and categories of sponsorship
Palmerston Cricket Club Platinum Sponsorship .docx (453.66 KB)

Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body
ASIC registration number 2002.pdf (356.41 KB)

Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances
CRICKET_COC.pdf (57.62 KB)

A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement (for applications over $10,000)
PCC 2025 Financial Statements - signed 28 Apr 26.pdf (103.41 KB)

City of Palmerston's support will be publicly acknowledged in the following ways: Social media post, Website, Promotional material, Boundary signage on oval, invitation to sponsors day, club cap, club shirt, logo on next print run of training shirts, advertising on live game stream, cricket practice net banner

Palmerston Cricket Club Sponsorship Opportunities

Introduction

Established in 1985, the Palmerston Cricket Club (PCC) is a community club based in Woodroffe, Palmerston. Participating annually in the Darwin and Districts Cricket Competition, the PCC consistently provides high-quality cricket pathways for players of all ages.

We are especially proud of our commitment to junior development and the ongoing pursuit of building sustainable and competitive opportunities for girls & women in cricket. Our numbers continue to grow, with over **120** juniors, **6** senior teams, a women's team and a growing non-playing membership of family and social members.

We represent a significant number of families in Palmerston who are passionate about cricket and actively participate in organised sport. Additionally, PCC's facilities are open for use by **local schools, community sporting groups, and casual players**. We have a strong volunteering culture and actively encourage social events throughout the year. The clubhouse and grounds at 57 Woodroffe Avenue continue to be the focus point for these activities.

Our recent successes

In 2024, the PCC fielded multiple teams in finals including our **women's** playing in the grand final and multiple premierships in both seniors and juniors. The highlight being 'the double' of winning **both** the men's senior **A Grade** and **B Grade Premierships.**

In 2025 we went back-to-back in the B Grade, winning the premiership for the second time running and finishing just out of finals in the A Grade.

Palmerston Cricket Club - palmerstoncricketclub@outlook.com - 57 Woodroffe Avenue, Woodroffe

Community benefit to your sponsorship

Your sponsorship is an opportunity to get into a popular and fast-growing club that is currently experiencing a huge expansion to both its members and its sponsorship reach. The Palmerston Cricket Club plays a vital role in promoting healthy lifestyles, fostering social inclusion, and contributing to the development of young athletes within the community.

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Physical Activity:

Cricket is a beloved sport in the Palmerston community, offering health benefits such as improved physical fitness, coordination, and teamwork.

Your sponsorship will help us:

- attract new players, particularly youth, by providing modern and inviting infrastructure that encourages participation in organised sport.
- offer a safe and accessible space for community members of all ages, genders, and abilities to engage in recreational cricket, promoting physical activity and overall well-being
- support the development of talented young athletes by providing them with the necessary training infrastructure to excel and become positive role models for the community.

Fostering Social Inclusion and Participation:

The Palmerston Cricket Club is a welcoming and inclusive environment, valuing diversity and encouraging participation from all community members. **Your sponsorship** will further strengthen this inclusivity by:

- maintaining the Palmerston community's only unlocked cricket nets, ensuring free and open access for individuals regardless of background or financial limitations
- providing a vibrant space for community sporting groups and casual players to enjoy, fostering social interaction and community spirit
- Creating a platform for young people to connect, develop teamwork skills, and build lasting friendships through their shared passion for cricket.

Your sponsorship will help to create a lasting impact on the Palmerston community, promoting health, inclusion, and social well-being for all residents.

Palmerston Cricket Club - palmerstoncricketclub@outlook.com – 57 Woodroffe Avenue, Woodroffe

Sponsorship

BENEFIT	PLATINUM **$10,000** Terms available from 1 to 3 years
Website recognition	✓
Recognition at social functions	✓
Club cap	✓ x 2
Sponsored club shirt	✓ x 2
Boundary signage 3050mm x 750mm	✓ (sign included)
Logo on training shirt	✓
Advertising on live game stream	✓
Cricket practice net banner	✓

Palmerston Cricket Club - palmerstoncricketclub@outlook.com – 57 Woodroffe Avenue, Woodroffe

Signage

- $10,000 Platinum Sponsors – signage will be provided by the PCC.
- The club welcomes discussion on any further signage options.
- The club uses RISE Sign & Print for all signage requirements.

Contact

Adrian Gallagher
President
0429 095 724
palmerstoncricketclub@outlook.com

Marsh Pty Ltd
ABN 86 004 651 512
727 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3008

GPO Box 1229
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Tel 1300 130 373
Email sport@marsh.com
Marsh.com.au

CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY

INSURANCE CLASS	Public & Products Liability
INSURED	Palmerston Cricket Club
GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE	Worldwide excluding USA, Canada and their protectorates
PERIOD OF INSURANCE	From: 30 June 2024 at 4pm Local Time (VIC) To: 30 June 2026 at 4pm Local Time (VIC)
INTEREST INSURED	Legal liability to third parties for bodily injury and property damage arising out of the activities of the Insured
LIMITS OF LIABILITY	General Liability $50,000,000 any one occurrence Products Liability $50,000,000 in the aggregate Errors & Omissions $10,000,000 in the aggregate
DEDUCTIBLE/EXCESS	**Public & Products Liability** $500 each and every occurrence (costs inclusive) **Errors & Omissions** $2,500 each and every occurrence (costs inclusive)
INSURER	Liberty Specialty Markets is a trading name of Liberty Mutual Insurance Company (ABN 61 086 083 605). Incorporated in Massachusetts, U.S.A. (The liability of members is limited).
POLICY NUMBER	ME-CAS-23-401369

Dean Mumm
Head of Corporate Sport

Date: 23 March 2025

This certificate of currency provides a summary of the policy cover and is current on the date of issue.
It is not intended to amend, extend, replace or override the policy terms and conditions contained in the actual policy document. This certificate of currency is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the certificate holder. We accept no responsibility whatsoever for any inadvertent or negligent act, error or omission on our part in preparing these statements or in transmitting this certificate by email or for any loss, damage or expense thereby occasioned to any recipient of this letter.

ASIC
Australian Securities & Investments Commission

Association

PALMERSTON CRICKET CLUB INCORPORATED

Extracted from ASIC's database at AEST 14:43:00 on 07/05/2026

Association Summary	
Name:	PALMERSTON CRICKET CLUB INCORPORATED
ABN:	
Registration Number:	01547C
Registered State:	Northern Territory
Registration Date:	19/09/2002
Status:	Registered
Type:	Associations
Regulator:	Office of Business Affairs, Northern Territory

Financial Statements and Reports

Palmerston Cricket Club Inc
ABN 24 549 088 937
For the year ended 30 June 2025

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Committee's Report

Palmerston Cricket Club Inc
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Committee's Report

Your committee members submit the financial report of Palmerston Cricket Club Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

Committee Members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Adrian Gallagher, Glen Chatto, Damion King, Alex Bleakley (R), Briony Gallagher, Daniel Fett, Anthony Schuppan, Tina Carlson (R), Stacey Taylor (R), Brendan May, Brendan Rudd, Clare Forsyth, Melanie Osborne, Christie Rennae, Joel Carter and Sarah Fowler.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were to develop and promote the game of cricket in Palmerston and the surrounding areas.

Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The profit/(loss) from ordinary activities amounted to $34,776.01 (2024 profit of $3,235.95).

Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

Annual Statements Give True and Fair View of Financial Position and Performance of the Association

We, being members of the committee of Palmerston Cricket Club Inc, certify that –

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Palmerston Cricket Club Inc and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2025.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on: 28 / 04 / 2026

Adrian Gallagher

Committee Member
Adrian Gallagher, Chairperson

Committee Member
Luke McMahon, Treasurer

Income and Expenditure Statement

Palmerston Cricket Club Inc
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Income		
Curator Subsidy	5,000.00	5,000.00
Fundraising/Events Income	7,480.38	10,769.04
Other Income	-	684.80
Player Fees	61,698.25	40,466.16
Rental Income	9,305.00	15,820.50
Sponsorship Income	52,621.82	42,578.00
Canteen Sales	105,411.23	89,418.53
profit/(loss) on sale of asset	-	1,700.00
Total Income	**241,516.68**	**206,437.03**
Cost of Sales		
Canteen Purchases	35,953.70	30,294.89
Total Cost of Sales	**35,953.70**	**30,294.89**
Gross Surplus	**205,562.98**	**176,142.14**
Expenditure		
Association and Affiliation Costs	14,259.02	5,374.86
Audit Fees	2,000.00	1,100.00
Bank Fees and Charges	1,843.14	1,323.90
Cleaning & Rubbish Removal	1,351.35	1,749.73
Curator Expenses	2,400.00	1,450.00
Depreciation	12,530.76	10,556.75
Electricity and Water Costs	12,000.25	8,964.97
Equipment Purchases	13,580.61	19,556.24
Fundraising/Events Expenses	31,808.06	24,401.81
Internet	2,408.06	1,822.63
Motor Vehicles expenses	10,245.67	2,227.92
Player/Coach Payments and Travel	3,260.18	8,884.81
Rates	4,084.11	3,949.34
Rent	24,330.00	24,580.00
Repairs & Maintenance	7,115.58	22,111.33
Scorer & Umpire costs	5,342.75	1,800.00
Subscriptions & Memberships	795.45	401.00
Sundry Expenses	-	3,413.75
Trophies	2,258.27	5,143.38
Uniforms	19,173.71	24,093.77
Total Expenditure	**170,786.97**	**172,906.19**
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit)	**34,776.01**	**3,235.95**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

Assets and Liabilities Statement

Palmerston Cricket Club Inc
As at 30 June 2025

	NOTES	30 JUNE 2025	30 JUNE 2024
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	75,422.10	39,265.33
Inventories		680.00	706.20
Total Current Assets		**76,102.10**	**39,971.53**
Non-Current Assets			
Land and Buildings	3	487,680.00	487,680.00
Plant and Equipment and Vehicles	4	49,028.41	47,989.17
Total Non-Current Assets		**536,708.41**	**535,669.17**
Total Assets		**612,810.51**	**575,640.70**
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accrued Expenses		2,200.00	2,200.00
Trade and Other Payables		-	3,531.00
GST Payable		5,924.80	-
Total Current Liabilities		**8,124.80**	**5,731.00**
Total Liabilities		**8,124.80**	**5,731.00**
Net Assets		**604,685.71**	**569,909.70**
Member's Funds			
Accumulated Surplus		169,909.70	166,673.75
Current Year Earnings		34,776.01	3,235.95
Reserves		400,000.00	400,000.00
Total Member's Funds		**604,685.71**	**569,909.70**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Palmerston Cricket Club Inc
For the year ended 30 June 2025

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Northern Territory. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

Income Tax

The Committee is of the view that the Association is exempt from income tax under the principal of mutuality.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated inclusive of the amount of goods and services tax.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities are recognised net of the amount of GST.

	2025	2024
2. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on Hand	3,737.50	4,768.95
Cash at Bank CBA 6448	71,684.60	34,496.38
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	**75,422.10**	**39,265.33**

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

	2025	2024

3. Land and Buildings

Land		
Land Revaluation	487,680.00	487,680.00
Total Land	**487,680.00**	**487,680.00**
Total Land and Buildings	**487,680.00**	**487,680.00**

	2025	2024

4. Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles

Plant and Equipment		
Plant and Equipment at Cost	107,403.39	93,833.39
Accumulated Depreciation of Plant and Equipment	(58,374.98)	(45,844.22)
Total Plant and Equipment	**49,028.41**	**47,989.17**
Total Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles	**49,028.41**	**47,989.17**

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

Depreciation Schedule

Palmerston Cricket Club Inc
For the year ended 30 June 2025

NAME	PURCHASED	COST	OPENING VALUE	PURCHASES	DISPOSALS	DEPRECIATION	CLOSING VALUE
Plant & Equipment							
Gator	1 July 2018	13,464.75	1,584.32	-	-	475.30	1,109.02
Clubhouse Security Upgrades	21 Aug 2018	9,900.00	5,342.84	-	-	534.28	4,808.56
7Kw 3 Phase Grid Solar System	28 Sept 2018	13,500.00	7,368.73	-	-	736.87	6,631.86
Outdoor Kitchen	1 May 2019	14,150.00	4,482.05	-	-	896.41	3,585.64
Sponsor Signs x 14	25 Mar 2021	5,082.00	1,602.84	-	-	480.85	1,121.99
Ice Machine	20 May 2021	5,196.00	3,744.14	-	-	374.41	3,369.73
Ride on Mower	13 Mar 2022	4,500.00	2,706.42	-	-	541.28	2,165.14
Kia Cerato	20 May 2022	3,000.00	1,755.23	-	-	394.93	1,360.30
26" Cricket Wicket Mower	11 Apr 2023	8,439.50	6,451.94	-	-	1,290.39	5,161.55
Camcorder and Galaxy Tab S8	18 May 2023	3,457.00	2,332.39	-	-	699.72	1,632.67
Shipping Container	25 May 2023	1,650.00	1,293.24	-	-	258.65	1,034.59
30x30 tarp and Hessian Covers	22 June 2023	4,970.00	2,952.59	-	-	1,181.04	1,771.55
Security Cameras	19 Mar 2024	1,485.90	1,359.23	-	-	407.77	951.46
Skope TME1000N-A 2 Door Fridge	25 June 2024	5,038.00	5,013.22	-	-	1,503.97	3,509.25
Skope BME1200N-A 2 Glass Door Fridge	27 Oct 2024	5,470.00	-	5,470.00	-	1,110.48	4,359.52
Skope BME1500N-A 3 Glass Door Fridge	27 Oct 2024	8,100.00	-	8,100.00	-	1,644.41	6,455.59
Total Plant & Equipment		**107,403.15**	**47,989.18**	**13,570.00**	**-**	**12,530.76**	**49,028.42**
Total		**107,403.15**	**47,989.18**	**13,570.00**	**-**	**12,530.76**	**49,028.42**

Auditor's Report

Palmerston Cricket Club Inc
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Independent Auditors Report to the members of the Association

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Palmerston Cricket Club Inc (the association), which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2025, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, cash flow statement, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Reports

The committee of Palmerston Cricket Club Inc is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Northern Territory and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects (or gives a true and fair view –refer to the applicable state/territory Act), the financial position of Palmerston Cricket Club Inc as at 30 June 2025 and (of) its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Northern Territory.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Palmerston Cricket Club Inc to meet the requirements of the Northern Territory. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

_____

Byrne David Haigh - Registered Company Auditor

7 Crinum Court, PALMERSTON NT

Dated: / / 2026

SPONSORSHIP

COUNCIL POLICY

PURPOSE

This Policy outlines City of Palmerston sponsorship opportunities and governance framework and details the process for providing support through sponsorship.

PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to supporting initiatives which benefit the Palmerston community through:

- Open and transparent governance, as well as ensuring Council is financially sustainable.
- Achieving the Outcomes of Council's Community Plan.
- Developing vibrant, engaged and more resilient communities.
- Distributing funds in an equitable, transparent, and sustainable manner.

DEFINITIONS

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

TERM	DEFINITION
Sponsorship	Where Council makes financial contributions to support events, initiatives or projects that provide significant recognition, foster economic development and promote growth within City of Palmerston.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Criteria

1.1. Sponsorship requests must be made by completing the relevant webforms on City of Palmerston's website.

1.2. Sponsorship requests must provide a clear benefit to Palmerston and must identify how the proposed activity or event relates to Palmerston's Community Plan, Municipal Plan and/or associated frameworks or strategies.

1.3. All requests for funding are subject to eligibility criteria.

1.4. The success of applications is determined by their relevance and value to the Palmerston community.

1.5. Community groups, incorporations and/or not-for-profit organisations are eligible to apply for Sponsorship.
1.6. Requests by commercial entities will not be considered except as outlined in Clause 3.3 of this Policy.
1.7. The success of applications is determined by their relevance and value to the Palmerston community.
1.8. Financial support is limited to one successful application per financial year.
1.9. A funding agreement prepared by Council, outlining conditions, must be signed by the successful applicant and returned to City of Palmerston prior to disbursement of funds.
1.10. Funding requirements are detailed in the Community Funding Program Guidelines and available on City of Palmerston's website.

2. Sponsorship

2.1. All applicants must submit a copy of the Sponsorship Package which details all levels/categories of sponsorship including costs and benefits.
2.2. The applicant is responsible for the appropriate display of the Council's branding, as deemed appropriate by the Chief Executive Officer or Council.
2.3. No acquittal is required.

3. Funding Decisions

3.1. A Council decision is not required for requests for funding of $2,000 and under.
3.2. Requests for funding over $2,000 will be presented to Council for decision.
3.3. Where a request for a Sponsorship is made which does not comply with the criteria outlined

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

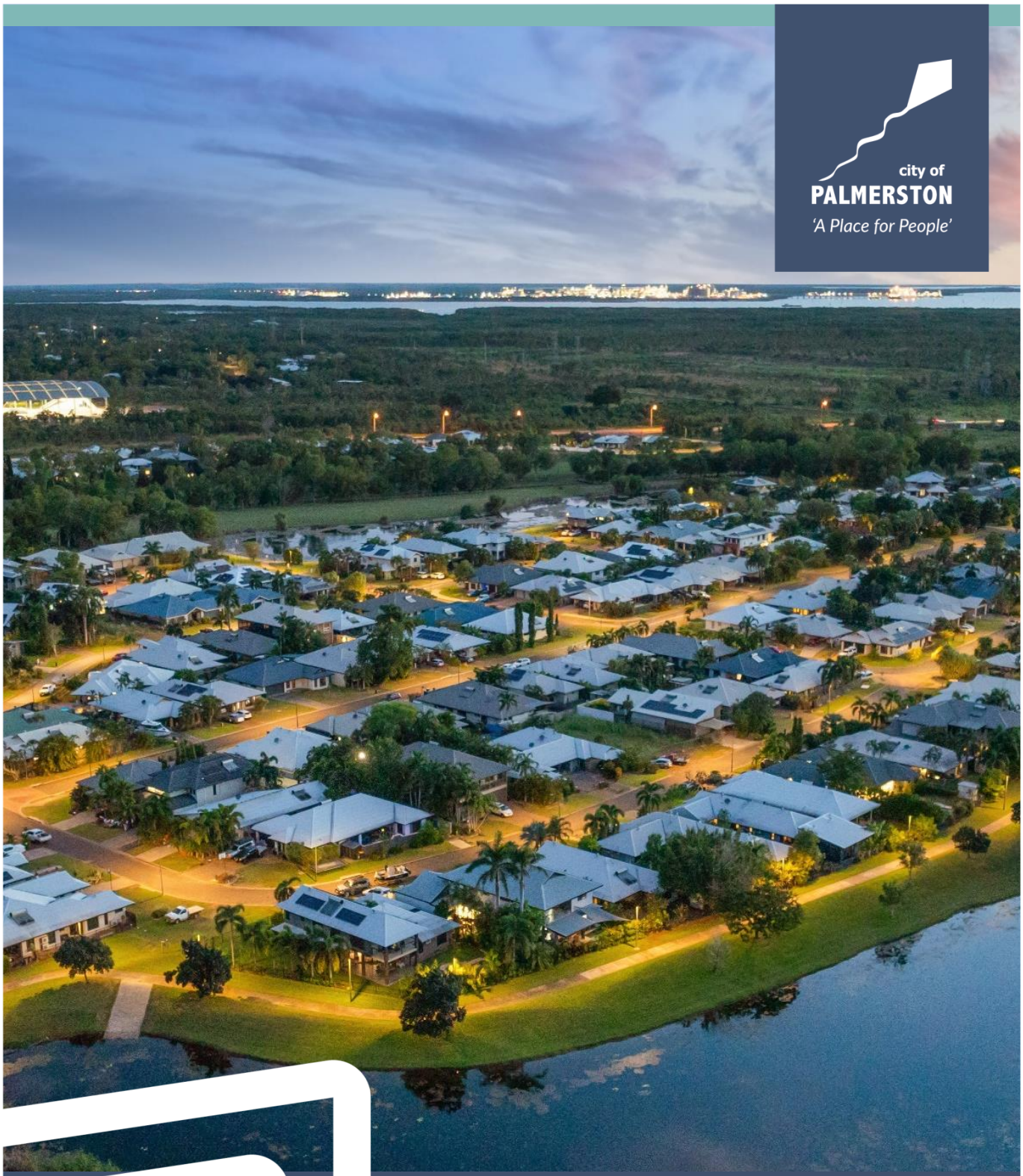
- City of Palmerston Community Funding Program Guidelines.

REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 2019*.

POLICY DETAILS

OWNER	Chief Executive Officer	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	General Manager Community
APPROVAL DATE	4 March 2025	NEXT REVIEW DUE	3 March 2029
RECORDS NUMBER	626922	COUNCIL DECISION	10/1776



city of
PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM
GUIDELINES

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COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

The Community Funding Program (CFP) Guidelines outline the administration of the CFP including the eligibility, application and assessment process.

The Guidelines support City of Palmerston's Community Funding Policy and Sponsorship Policy.

City of Palmerston actively supports initiatives which benefit the Palmerston community and support delivery of the Community Plan. The CFP provides funding to support community initiatives through the following funding opportunities:

- Grants
- Sponsorship
- Environment and Sustainability Initiatives
- Representation Support
- Annual School Awards
- Graffiti Removal

Applications are open all year round and are limited to one successful application per individual, business or organisation per financial year.

CFP Principles

- Open and transparent governance, as well as ensuring Council is financially sustainable.
- Achieving the Outcomes of Council's Community Plan.
- Developing vibrant, engaged and more resilient communities.
- Distributing funds in an equitable, transparent, and sustainable manner.

Application Process

- Requests for funding under the CFP are to be made via City of Palmerston's website. Webforms are available on the CFP webpage.
- Application must be completed in full, including provision of supporting documentation.
- Once a complete application is received, it will be assessed by City of Palmerston to determine if it is eligible, suitable, and viable to fund.
- Depending on the complexity of the application and the amount requested, this process may take up to six (6) weeks.
- City of Palmerston will notify applicants on the outcome of their application via email.
- Successful applicants will receive a letter of outcome and a funding agreement, which must be signed and returned to City of Palmerston.
- Funds will be released once all documentation has been signed and returned.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Aim

To encourage and support new projects and activities that build on social cohesion for the Palmerston community.

Available Funding

- $500 and over.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.

Supporting Documentation

All grant applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances.
- Minutes of the Committee meeting that document the decision to apply for CFP funding.
- A detailed budget, including all income and expenditure including in-kind contributions.
- Copies of quotations for all products and services listed in the budget.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

Each application is considered against the Community Grants Assessment Criteria below:

1. Community benefit
2. Value for money
3. Capacity to deliver and previous experience
4. Promotion and acknowledgement
5. Risk management
6. Project sustainability.

Further details about the assessment criteria are provided on page 9.

Acquittal

All grant recipients are required to provide a grant acquittal once their activity is complete. What is required as part of the acquittal will depend on the value of funding provided. Grant acquittals are due within three (3) months of project completion.

- All grant recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post.
- For grants under $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report. No financial acquittal report is required.
- For grants over $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report and a financial report.
- Acquittal outcome reports are to be submitted on the form provided and include photos of the activity or project.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Aim

To support environmental initiatives that demonstrate impact in one or more actions within the City of Palmerston Sustainability Strategy.

Available funding

- $20,000 or under.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.
- No financial contribution is required for not-for-profit organisations; all other entities will be required to make a 50% financial contribution.

Supporting Documentation

All environmental initiative applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances.
- Minutes of the Committee meeting that document the decision to apply for CFP funding.
- A detailed budget, including all income and expenditure including in-kind contributions.
- Copies of quotations for all products and services listed in the budget.
- Details of alternate funding sources to a minimum of 50% of the total activity costs to demonstrate financial commitment.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

All environment and sustainability initiative applications are assessed based on community impact and environmental merit, and alignment to City of Palmerston's Sustainability Strategy.

Acquittal

All environment and sustainability initiative grant recipients are required to provide a grant acquittal once their activity is complete. What is required as part of the acquittal will depend on the value of funding provided. Grant acquittals are due within three (3) months of project completion.

- All grant recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post.
- For grants under $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report. No financial acquittal report is required.
- For grants over $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report and a financial report.
- Acquittal outcome reports are to be submitted on the form provided and include photos of the activity or project.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

SPONSORSHIP

Aim

To support events, initiatives, or projects that provide significant recognition, foster economic development, and promote growth within the City of Palmerston.

Available funding

- $500 and over.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.
- Requests from commercial entities will generally not be considered, unless deemed to have merit by the Chief Executive Officer and subsequently presented to Council for consideration.

Supporting Documentation

All sponsorship applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- A copy of the sponsorship package outlining the levels and categories of sponsorship.
- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of Currency for applicable insurances.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

Each sponsorship application is assessed based on community impact, overall merit, and alignment to City of Palmerston strategies.

Acquittal

All sponsorship recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity as per the sponsorship package level and provide proof of acknowledgement. There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

REPRESENTATION SUPPORT

Aim

To support opportunities where Palmerston residents can represent the community within the Northern Territory, nationally or internationally.

Available funding

- $250 per individual and per team member.
- Up to $2,000 (Minimum of 8 team members).

Eligibility

- Applicants must be Palmerston residents.
- Teams must be Palmerston based.

Supporting Documentation

All individual representation support applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- 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 undertaking the representation, e.g. travel costs, registration fees, uniform costs.

All team representation support applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- 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 undertaking the representation, e.g. travel costs, registration fees, uniform costs.
- List of team members noting which are Palmerston based.

Assessment

Each representation support application is assessed based on eligibility.

Acquittal

All representation support recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post. No acquittal outcomes report is required, although City of Palmerston appreciate receiving an update from recipients.

OTHER FUNDING

Graffiti Removal

City of Palmerston will support initiatives for graffiti removal requested by community organisations.

Up to $500 is available.

All graffiti removal applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- A signed declaration of consent from the owner of the property/infrastructure to remove the graffiti.
- Proof of registration as a community, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence from a Palmerston business to support indicative costs for materials.

Proof of removal of the graffiti is required within three months of project completion. For example, this may include photos of the location before and after the graffiti was removed.

Annual School Awards

City of Palmerston provides $100 per annum to schools within the Palmerston Local Government Area for the purpose of a “City of Palmerston Community Service Award”.

Schools will be contacted with application details annually in July.

GRANT ASSESSMENT

Each application will be marked against the assessment criteria with the total score being out of 25. Applications which receive a score lower than 10 will be deemed not to meet the criteria.

Appendix A – Community Grants Assessment Criteria

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
Community benefit	Project outcomes and their alignment to the City of Palmerston Community Plan and strategies.
Value for money	Level of co-contribution, other funding sources, in-kind support or specialist knowledge or skills offered by the applicant.
Capacity	Relevant experience of the applicant in performing similar or comparable projects. Level of detail in the project plan.
Promotion and acknowledgement	Clear plan for the acknowledgement of City of Palmerston's contributions.
Risk Management	Level of risk associated with the project, and how any risk has been proactively managed.

Appendix B – Scoring Matrix

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
5	Requirements are addressed to a very high standard in all areas. Response demonstrates superior capability, capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
4	Requirements are addressed to a high standard in all areas. Response demonstrates very good capability, capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
3	Requirements are addressed to a good standard in all areas. Response demonstrates fair capability capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
2	Requirements are addressed to an acceptable standard. Response demonstrates acceptable capability, capacity and experience similar project delivery.
1	Requirements are not fully met. Response demonstrates marginal capability, capacity and experience, relevant to project delivery.
0	Requirements are not met. Response does not demonstrate capability, capacity and experience, relevant to project delivery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What will not be considered for funding?

1. Activities outside the Palmerston municipality.
2. Ongoing or general operating costs such as salaries, electricity, rent payments, insurance, uniforms etc.
3. Requests for reimbursement of funds already spent.
4. Activities that are the core responsibility of other levels of government.
5. Activities that duplicate other local service responses.
6. Activities whose predominate purpose is fundraising.
7. Activities where there is no expressed consent from the landowners.
8. Activities run in Palmerston Schools that do not provide broader community benefit.
9. Community initiatives or events that generate financial profits for commercial companies or individuals.
10. Alcohol or gambling related activities.
11. Travel costs including accommodation and flights (excluding for representation support).
12. Prize money, prizes or trophies, competitions (excluding for annual school awards).
13. Payment of debts and loans.
14. Activities which are considered to be a requirement under an existing agreement with another organisation.
15. School Excursions.

Where can I acknowledge council's support?

Acknowledgements can be posted on social media platforms, in public newsletters or on your organisation's website. If using City of Palmerston's logo, please ensure you use the correct image which will be sent to successful applicants who require it.

City of Palmerston can be tagged in socials using:

- If you require further support or information, please contact our Marketing and Communications team at marcomms@palmerston.nt.gov.au

What is an Auspice Organisation?

- An auspice organisation can assist smaller unincorporated groups with grant funding.
- An eligible organisation agrees to apply for and manage a grant on behalf of another group.
- The auspice organisation accepts responsibility for the legal and financial requirements of the project along with acquittal requirements.

Where can I find copies of Council's publications?

Click HERE to access a list of City of Palmerston's publications.

Who can I ask for help with my application?

If you require further support or information, please contact our Community Funding Program team at grants@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.4
Report Title:	Community Funding Program - Amber NT
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Community Services Lead, Stephen Power
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 a Council decision regarding a Community Grant application submitted by Bereaved Parent Support NT Inc. as Amber NT, through the Community Funding Program.

Key messages

- Council supports initiatives that benefit the Palmerston community through the Community Funding Program.
- The funding application has been assessed as meeting the current policy and guidelines.
- Amber NT has applied for a Community Grant at a cost of $2,900 to deliver the Walk to Remember event at Sanctuary Lakes on 5 July 2026.
- $61,044 remains in the Community Funding Program budget for the 2025/26 financial year.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Community Funding Program - Amber NT be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse Option One (1), to provide full funding amount at a cost of $2,900 to Bereaved Parent Support NT Inc trading as Amber NT through a Community Grant of the Community Funding Program.

Background

Bereaved Parent Support NT Inc trading as Amber NT is a Northern Territory not-for-profit organisation that provides bereavement support, advocacy, and connection for individuals, families, and communities impacted by the loss of a baby or child.

The organisation was established by people with lived experience of child loss who identified the need for compassionate and peer-informed support services within the Northern Territory.

Amber NT, previously operating as SIDS and Kids NT, has successfully received six (6) grants through the City of Palmerston Community Funding Program to support its annual Walk to Remember event. The event has also been recognised through a nomination for Community Event of the Year at City of Palmerston Australia Day Awards.

Discussion

Amber NT has applied for $2,900 through the Community Grants category of the Community Funding Program to deliver Walk to Remember 2026 at Sanctuary Lakes, Palmerston on Sunday, 5 July 2026.

The Walk to Remember is an inclusive community event that honours babies and children who have passed away, providing a safe and compassionate space for bereaved families, friends, and supporters to connect, reflect, and remember. The free community event is expected to attract more than 100 attendees and aims to encourage participation, inclusion, and community connection. The program includes a shared breakfast, family-friendly activities, remembrance elements, a symbolic walk around Sanctuary Lakes, and a poem reading and bubble release ceremony.

All required supporting documentation has been submitted and reviewed as part of the assessment process, including evidence of incorporation, public liability insurance, budget documentation, quotations, and committee endorsement authorising the funding application. Amber NT has advised that City of Palmerston support will be acknowledged through social media, promotional materials, newsletters, and other event-related resources.

In line with the Community Funding Policy and Community Funding Program Guidelines the administration recommends option 1 of this report.

Further details of the proposed event at **Attachment 12.1.4.1.**
Community Funding Program Policy at **Attachment 12.1.4.2.**
Community Funding Program Guidelines at **Attachment 12.1.4.3.**

Option 1

Full Funding – $2,900

Council approves the full funding amount at a cost of $2,900 to Bereaved Parent Support NT Inc trading as Amber NT through a Community Grant of the Community Funding Program.

Option 2

Partial Amount – Amount to be determined

Council approves grant funding at a cost of _____ to Bereaved Parent Support NT Inc trading as Amber NT through the Community Funding Program.

Option 3

No Funding

Council does not approve funding to Bereaved Parent Support NT Inc trading as Amber NT through the Community Funding Program.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Community Services Manager.
- Community Connection Officer.

The applicant was consulted during the preparation of this Report.

Policy implications

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

Budget and resource implications

The Community Funding Program has the remaining funds for the 25/26 financial year.

- $37,044 for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti and School Awards.
- $15,000 for Sponsorship.
- $9,000 for Environmental Initiatives.

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.
6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

This Report aligns with the following City of Palmerston policies and guidelines:

- Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework
- Community Funding Program Guidelines.

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. Community Funding Program Grants environmental initiatives Sponsorship Submission 21 (Combined) [**12.1.4.1** - 18 pages]
2. 20250306 - Community Funding Policy [**12.1.4.2** - 3 pages]
3. Community Funding Program Guidelines [**12.1.4.3** - 14 pages]

Community Funding Program - Grants, environmental initiatives & Sponsorship : Submission #21

Funding type sought: Community grant

Organisation's name Bereaved Parent Support NT Inc t/as Amber NT

Organisation type Charity

ABN: (if applicable): 31019028905

Details Katy Chin
General Manager

Provide details of your organisation Amber NT is a Northern Territory not-for-profit organisation providing bereavement support, advocacy, and connection for individuals, families, and communities impacted by the loss of a baby or child.
Amber NT was established by people with lived experience of child loss who recognised the need for compassionate, peer-informed support services within the Northern Territory. Since its beginnings, the organisation has grown into a community-based support network offering remembrance events, peer support opportunities, resource provision, education, advocacy, and community awareness activities.
The organisation is led by a volunteer management committee supported by volunteers, community members, and partner organisations. Amber NT works across the Northern Territory, including Palmerston, Darwin, and regional communities, supporting families from diverse cultural and social backgrounds.
Amber NT’s purpose is to ensure that no family experiences the loss of a baby or child alone, while also creating opportunities for remembrance, connection, and healing within the wider community.

Provide details of the proposed activity Walk to Remember 2026 is a free community remembrance event that brings together families, friends, and community members to honour and remember babies and children who have died.
The event will be held on Sunday, 5 July 2026 at Sanctuary Lakes, Palmerston. Participants will gather for a gentle community walk followed by a remembrance ceremony and opportunities for reflection and connection.
The event welcomes anyone impacted by child loss, including parents, siblings, grandparents, extended family members, friends, and community supporters. It also provides an opportunity for the broader community to increase understanding of grief and demonstrate support for bereaved

families.
The event will include:
• Community remembrance walk
• Welcome and acknowledgment
• Opportunity for families to honour their children
• Reflection and connection spaces
• Children and family-friendly activities
• Community information and support resources
• Volunteer support and event coordination
Funding from the City of Palmerston Community Funding Program will assist with event delivery costs including venue requirements, event equipment, signage, promotional materials, remembrance items, volunteer support, and accessibility measures to ensure the event remains free and inclusive for all attendees.
The loss of a baby or child has a profound and lifelong impact on families and communities. Many bereaved families experience isolation, stigma, and limited opportunities to openly acknowledge and remember their children within community settings.
Walk to Remember addresses the need for:
• Safe and inclusive community connection
• Public recognition of grief and remembrance
• Improved wellbeing through peer and community support
• Increased awareness and compassion surrounding child loss
• Accessible community events that promote inclusion and belonging
The event aligns with the City of Palmerston's commitment to fostering a connected, inclusive, and supportive community by:
• Encouraging community participation and social connection
• Supporting mental wellbeing and resilience
• Providing inclusive opportunities for families and residents
• Strengthening community partnerships and volunteer engagement
• Activating public community spaces through positive community events
The event also contributes to creating a compassionate and connected Palmerston community where families feel seen, supported, and included.

Provide details of previous activities held by the organisation Amber NT has successfully coordinated a range of community remembrance and support activities across the Northern Territory, including:
• Annual Walk to Remember events
• Light the Lagoon remembrance event
• Memorial Car Drives
• International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day activities
• Peer support gatherings and family connection events
• Awareness and education activities within the community
Previous events have attracted strong community participation and positive feedback from families, volunteers, and community stakeholders. These events have provided meaningful opportunities for remembrance, connection, and support while helping to reduce isolation experienced by bereaved families.
Amber NT has demonstrated capacity to safely and effectively deliver inclusive community events with volunteer coordination, risk management processes, community partnerships, and event

promotion.

What are the intended objectives of this activity, and how will you evaluate its success?

Objectives

The objectives of Walk to Remember 2026 are to:

- Provide a safe and supportive space for remembrance
- Reduce social isolation for bereaved families
- Strengthen community connection and inclusion
- Increase community awareness and understanding of child loss
- Promote wellbeing through compassionate community support
- Encourage community participation and volunteer engagement

Evaluation

The success of the activity will be evaluated through:

- Attendance numbers and community participation
- Participant feedback and testimonials
- Volunteer feedback
- Social media and community engagement
- Number of families accessing support information and services
- Observation of community participation and inclusiveness during the event

Amber NT will also review event outcomes internally to identify strengths, opportunities for improvement, and future community engagement opportunities.

Date Sunday 5th July

Venue Sanctuary Lakes

Time 9.00am

Expected number of attendees 100+

Target audience Whole Community - Anyone impacted by the loss of a child

Total activity cost $3,500-

Amount requested through the Community funding program $2,900-

Is the amount requested excluding GST? Yes

Value of other funding sources $600-

Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body

260519 ABNCurrentDetails_31019028905.pdf (103.89 KB)

Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances

260430 Certificate of Currency Public Liability.pdf (13.6 KB)

Minutes of the Committee meeting that document the decision to apply for CFP funding
Board Approval.pdf (486.86 KB)

A detailed budget, including all income and expenditure including in-kind contributions
CFP - Budget Template 2025.xlsx (17.72 KB)

Copies of quotations for all products and services listed in the budget
Copies of Quotes.pdf (883.5 KB)

A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement (for applications over $10,000) {Empty}

City of Palmerston's support will be publicly acknowledged in the following ways: Social media post, Website, Newsletter, Promotional material, If funding includes the printing of our My Brother Hayden Book which is given out on the day then we would include the City of Palmerston logo on the back as a supporter/sponsor

Activity Name:	Walk to Remember		
	$2,925	$650	$3,575
Item/Service	Amount Community Funding Program	Amount from organisation/Inkind support	Comments
Catering (Bacon & Eggs Sandwiches)	$500		See quote attached
Photographer		$400	In Kind
Tip Top Circus	$385		See quote attached
Jumping Castle	$750		See quote attached
BBQ Trailer Hire		$150	In Kind
Facepainting	$290		See quote attached
Bubbles		$100	Organisation
My Brother Hayden Colouring Book (250)	$1,000		We can add the City of Palmerston logo on each book
Totals	$2,925	650	

Katy Chin

From: Tip Top <info@tiptopcircusentertainment.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 29 April 2026 3:47 PM
To: Katy Chin
Subject: Re: Amber NT - Reflection Events

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Learn why this is important, if unsure forward to security@ategra.au or call 0889327888.

Hi Katy,

Hope you are well xx

Yes absolutely available and keen to be involved!

Walk to Remember - $350 + gst

Sunday 5th July 2026

Sanctuary Lakes

9.15/9.30 Circus activities

10.25 Big and small bubble release after walk and speeches

Light the Lagoon - $530 + gst

Sunday 18th October 2026

The Darwin Waterfront

5.00pm to 6.30pm

Combination of Circus Activities, Bubble Play, and Balloon Twisting before releasing the candles on the lagoon

Will book in now

Many thanks

36 Kingfisher Cresent
Darwin NT 0812
0422506723
fairy@fairyjill.com.au

Quote

ABN: 47 131 742 199

Quote# 3125
13th May 2026

Katy
Amber Nt

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Sunday 5th July 2026
Sanctuary Lakes- Walk to Remember
830-10am

Sunday 18th October
The Darwin Waterfront- Light the Lagoon
5.00pm to 6.30pm

DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1 x Face painter 1.5hr	2	$255.00	$510.00

SUBTOTAL:	$510.00
GST:	$51.00
TOTAL:	$561.00

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Quote is valid for 30 days from issue date. Invoice payment terms are strictly 7 days from issue. **If booking is cancelled a week or less, from date of event- a 50% cancellation fee will apply- alot of effort & organising goes into preparing for each event. This includes but is not limited to weather, mistakes, cyclones, COVID, date changes. 100% payment required if cancelled on the day. All quotes need to be checked throughly, then confirmation email reply sent, please include as much details around the event as possible. Your invoice will be sent along with event confirmation, the week before your event. Thanks for your kind understanding.

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions.

How to Pay

Quote#3125

We accept payment by: Bank Deposit, Card or Cash

Bank Details Name
bank_bsb
Account Number

Thank you for your business, have a great day!



EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

$0.95

$0.01 / 1EA

Armada 1 Ply Serviettes White 100 pack

★ 4.0 / 146



EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

$12.50

$0.48 / 1EA

Nescafe Cappuccino Coffee Sachets 26 pack

★ 4.5 / 450



$13.50

$0.14 / 1EA

Twinings English Breakfast Tea Bags 100 pack

★ 4.8 / 172



$1.85

$1.85 / 1L

Woolworths Full Cream Long Life Milk UHT 1L

★ 4.5 / 403



LOWER SHELF PRICE

$5.70

$0.81 / 100G

WAS $5.90 - 22/10/2025

Woolworths 12 Extra Large Cage Free Eggs 700g



$12.50

$12.50 / 1KG

Woolworths Middle Bacon 1kg

★ 4.7 / 403



$2.50

$0.38 / 100G

Woolworths White Sandwich Bread Loaf 650g

★ 3.5 / 1158



$4.00

$0.53 / 100ML

Woolworths Canola Oil 750mL

★ 4.4 / 802



$1.85

$1.85 / 1L

Woolworths Lite Long Life Milk UHT 1L

★ 4.6 / 380



EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

$3.00

$2.00 / 100G

CSR White Sugar Sticks 50 pack



EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

$3.10

$2.07 / 100G

CSR Raw Sugar Sticks 50 pack



EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

$5.00

$5.00 / 1EA

Armada Paper College Cups 20 pack

★ 4.7 / 43



LOWER SHELF PRICE

$8.00

$0.56 / 1L

WAS $9.50 - 23/07/2025

Woolworths Spring Water Bottles 600mL x 24 pack

★ 4.8 / 268



Bells Frozen Pure Bagged Ice | 5kg

$6.26

$1.25/ 1kg

Currently unavailable

Shop similar



$5.00

$2.78 / 100SS

Handee Ultra Paper Towel 3 x 60 pack

★ 3.0 / 1

Quote ID# 64045057

BOOK THIS EVENT

Contact Details

Name	Katy Chin	**Email**	gm@ambernt.org.au
Organization	Amber NT	**Phone**	0400580031
Billing Address	Harry's Place, 1 Willeroo St Tiwi, NT 0810	**Tax Exempt**	No

Event Details

Event Start	9:00 Sun, Jul 5, 2026	**Address**	Sanctuary Lakes Park, 120 Lakeview Blvd, Gunn, NT 0832
Event End	11:00 Sun, Jul 5, 2026	**Surface**	Grass - No Peg in
		Delivery	Fully Staffed

Items



Transport Jumping Castle
1 - $345.00



Sandbags
1 - $50.00



Generators
1 - $180.00



Operators
1 - $180.00

$ Prices

Rentals	$755.00
Discount	$-73.18
Subtotal	$681.82
Tax	+$68.18
Total	**$750.00**

Katy Chin

From: Stevie Greenwood <stevie@articulatent.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 May 2026 6:36 PM
To: Katy Chin; joanna21.minkiewicz; stacey.clements1; steph; Taylah Peters Contact
Subject: Re: Palmerston Community Grant for Walk to Remember - Out of Session Approval required.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Learn why this is important, if unsure forward to security@ategra.au or call 0889327888.

Approved.

Stevie Greenwood
Business Consulting | HACCP & ISO Consulting | Corporate Training

e. stevie@articulatent.com
m. 0428 220 980
w. www.articulatent.com



From: Katy Chin <gm@ambernt.org.au>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 14:49
To: joanna21.minkiewicz <joanna21.minkiewicz@gmail.com>; stacey.clements1 <stacey.clements1@hotmail.com>; steph <steph@risecollectiveaustralia.com.au>; Stevie Greenwood <stevie@articulatent.com>; Taylah Peters Contact <taylahjp@outlook.com>
Subject: Palmerston Community Grant for Walk to Remember - Out of Session Approval required.

Afternoon all,

As we missed last months meeting didn't get a chance to request approval to apply for the grant from City of Palmerston for the Walk to Remember again. Looking to apply for $3,000- again.

Can everyone please provide their approval so I can collate into one document as I need to submit proof of minutes approving the grant application.

Kind Regards

Katy Chin
General Manager

Amb
ABN: 31 019 028 905

P 08 8948 5311
M 0400 580 031
E gm@ambernt.org.au

Harry's Place, 1 Willeroo St
Tiwi NT 0810
ambernt.org.au

Katy Chin

From: Joanna Minkiewicz <joanna21.minkiewicz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 May 2026 3:12 PM
To: Katy Chin
Subject: Re: Palmerston Community Grant for Walk to Remember - Out of Session Approval required.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Learn why this is important, if unsure forward to security@ategra.au or call 0889327888.

Hi Katy,

Approved.

Jo

On Tue, May 12, 2026 at 2:19 PM Katy Chin <gm@ambernt.org.au> wrote:

> Afternoon all,
>
> As we missed last months meeting didn't get a chance to request approval to apply for the grant from City of Palmerston for the Walk to Remember again. Looking to apply for $3,000- again.
>
> Can everyone please provide their approval so I can collate into one document as I need to submit proof of minutes approving the grant application.
>
> Kind Regards
>
> Katy Chin
> General Manager
>
> Amb
> ABN: 31 019 028 905
>
> P 08 8948 5311
> M 0400 580 031
> E gm@ambernt.org.au
>
> Harry's Place, 1 Willeroo St
> Tiwi NT 0810
> ambernt.org.au

1

Katy Chin

From: Taylah Peters <taylahjp@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 May 2026 2:23 PM
To: Katy Chin; joanna21.minkiewicz; stacey.clements1; steph; Stevie Greenwood Contact
Subject: Re: Palmerston Community Grant for Walk to Remember - Out of Session Approval required.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Learn why this is important, if unsure forward to security@ategra.au or call 0889327888.

Approved Katy.

Do you have some time to give me a call on Friday?

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Katy Chin <gm@ambernt.org.au>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 2:19:43 PM
To: joanna21.minkiewicz <joanna21.minkiewicz@gmail.com>; stacey.clements1 <stacey.clements1@hotmail.com>; steph <steph@risecollectiveaustralia.com.au>; Stevie Greenwood Contact <stevie@articulatent.com>; Taylah Peters Contact <taylahjp@outlook.com>
Subject: Palmerston Community Grant for Walk to Remember - Out of Session Approval required.

Afternoon all,

As we missed last months meeting didn't get a chance to request approval to apply for the grant from City of Palmerston for the Walk to Remember again. Looking to apply for $3,000- again.

Can everyone please provide their approval so I can collate into one document as I need to submit proof of minutes approving the grant application.

Kind Regards

Katy Chin
General Manager

Amb

ABN: 31 019 028 905

P 08 8948 5311
M 0400 580 031
E gm@ambernt.org.au

Harry's Place, 1 Willeroo St
Tiwi NT 0810
ambernt.org.au

Australian Government
Australian Business Register

ABN Lookup

Current details for ABN 31 019 028 905

ABN details

Entity name:	BEREAVED PARENT SUPPORT NORTHERN TERRITORY
ABN status:	Active from 07 Jun 2000
Entity type:	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST):	Registered from 01 Jul 2000
Main business location:	NT 0810

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)

BEREAVED PARENT SUPPORT NORTHERN TERRITORY is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) as follows:

ACNC registration	From
Registered as a charity view ACNC registration	03 Dec 2012

Business name(s)

A business name is the registered name a business operates under. Businesses need to register their business name on the national Business Names Register if the business operates with a different name to their own. To learn more visit the ASIC website.

Business name	From
AMBER NT	07 Apr 2021
Bereaved Parent Support Northern Territory	09 May 2017
SIDS AND KIDS NORTHERN TERRITORY	11 Apr 2006

Trading name(s)

The ABR stopped collecting and updating trading names in May 2012. Businesses now register their business name on the Business Names Register. To learn more visit the ASIC website.

Trading name	From
SIDS NORTHERN TERRITORY	08 Jun 2000

Charity tax concession status

BEREAVED PARENT SUPPORT NORTHERN TERRITORY is a Public Benevolent Institution endorsed to access the following tax concession:

Tax concession	From
GST Concession	01 Jul 2005
FBT Exemption	01 Jul 2005
Income Tax Exemption	01 Jul 2000

Deductible gift recipient status

BEREAVED PARENT SUPPORT NORTHERN TERRITORY is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) from **01 Jul 2000** . It is covered by Item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Australian Government
Australian Business Register

ABN Lookup

Important

Please read Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) information before making a gift.

Disclaimer
The Registrar makes every reasonable effort to maintain current and accurate information on this site. The Commissioner of Taxation advises that if you use ABN Lookup for information about another entity for taxation purposes and that information turns out to be incorrect, in certain circumstances you will be protected from liability. For more information see disclaimer

Warning Statement
If you use ABN Lookup for information about a person or entity that provides financial or investment products or advice, make sure they have an Australian Financial Services (AFS) licence. You can check licenced professional registers here

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

COUNCIL POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy outlines City of Palmerston Community Funding Program and specifies the types of funding available for organisations, community groups, and individuals within Palmerston.

PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to supporting initiatives which benefit the Palmerston community through:

- Open and transparent governance, as well as ensuring Council is financially sustainable.
- Achieving the Outcomes of Council's Community Plan.
- Developing vibrant, engaged and more resilient communities.
- Distributing funds in an equitable, transparent, and sustainable manner.

DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
Community Grant	Council provides financial assistance to organisations that are executing projects or activities that offer benefit to the Palmerston community.
Environmental Initiatives	Council provides financial assistance to community organisations, schools or businesses to implement projects of activities that support waste reduction, water or energy efficiency opportunities or rehabilitation of the environment.
Representation Support	Council provides financial assistance to individuals, groups, or teams representing Palmerston locally, nationally or internationally.
Annual School Awards	Council provides financial assistance to Palmerston Schools toward student awards.
Graffiti removal	Council will support graffiti removal by offering financial assistance.
Auspice	An auspice is an organisation that manages grant funding on your behalf. This arrangement is often required when smaller unincorporated organisations do not meet eligibility requirements, a larger nonprofit group may choose to provide support.

TERM	DEFINITION
Acquittal	An acquittal is a written report submitted after the funded project is complete. It details how the recipient administered the relevant funds and met the project outcomes.

POLICY STATEMENT

1 Funding

1.1 Funding requests must be made via the application process, by completing the relevant webforms on City of Palmerston's website.

1.2 Funding requests must provide a clear benefit to Palmerston and relate Palmerston's Community Plan, Municipal Plan and/or associated frameworks or strategies.

1.3 All requests for funding are subject to eligibility criteria.

1.4 The success of applications is determined by their relevance and value to the Palmerston community.

1.5 Community groups, incorporations and not for profit organisations are eligible to apply for Community Grants and Team Representation.

1.6 Requests from commercial entities will be considered for Environmental Initiatives.

1.7 Individuals will be considered for Representation Support.

1.8 Financial support is limited to one successful application per financial year.

1.9 A funding application for funds greater than $10,000, requires the organisation to provide its most recent audited financials.

1.10 The successful applicant must sign a funding agreement and return it to City of Palmerston before funds are disbursed.

1.11 Successful Grant recipients will be required to complete an acquittal of funds within three (3) months of completion of the activity or project on the acquittal form provided by City of Palmerston.

1.12 Incomplete applications will not be progressed, any application that remains incomplete after a 6-month period will be deemed as withdrawn.

1.13 Funding requirements are detailed in the Community Funding Program Guidelines and available on City of Palmerston's website.

2 Funding Categories

2.1 Grant funding is available from $500 to over $10,000.

2.2 Environmental Initiatives are available for up to $20,000, with applicants providing a financial contribution that matches the requested grant amount. Environmental Initiatives require no financial contribution for non-profit organisations and Palmerston-based schools, while all other entities will be required to match the financial amount requested.

2.3 Individual Representation Support is $250 per eligible applicant.

2.4 Team Representation Support available for up to $2,000 per eligible team.

2.5 Annual School Awards $100 per Palmerston based School.

2.6 Graffiti Removal up to $500.

3 Funding Decisions

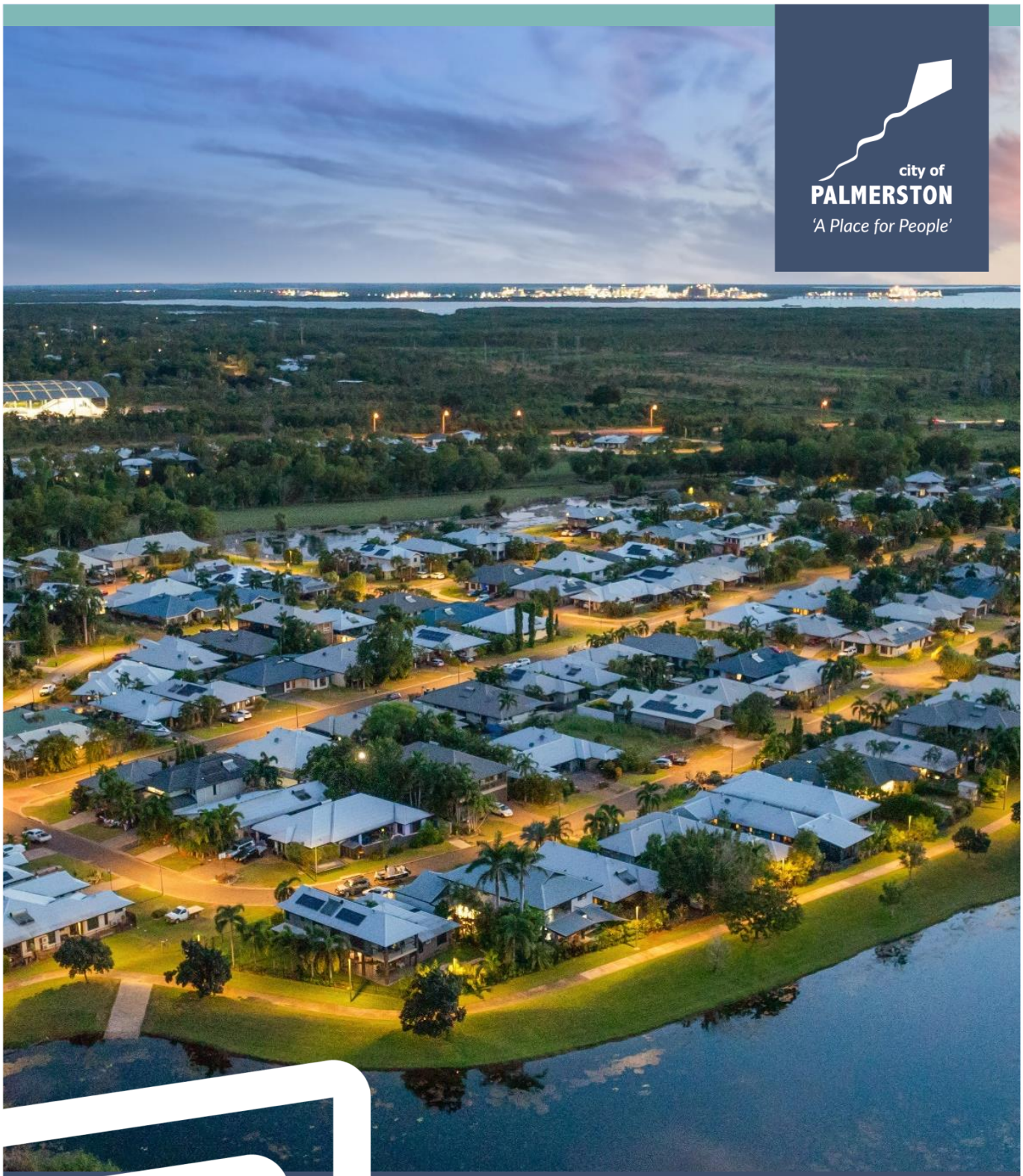
3.1 A Council decision is not required for Individual Representation Support.
3.2 A Council decision is not required for requests for funding of $2,000 and under.
3.3 Requests for funding over $2,000 will be presented to Council for decision.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- City of Palmerston Community Funding Program Guidelines.

POLICY DETAILS

OWNER	Chief Executive Officer	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	[Responsible Officer]
APPROVAL DATE	4 March 2025	NEXT REVIEW DUE	3 March 2029
RECORDS NUMBER	626921	COUNCIL DECISION	10/1776



city of
PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM
GUIDELINES

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COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

The Community Funding Program (CFP) Guidelines outline the administration of the CFP including the eligibility, application and assessment process.

The Guidelines support City of Palmerston's Community Funding Policy and Sponsorship Policy.

City of Palmerston actively supports initiatives which benefit the Palmerston community and support delivery of the Community Plan. The CFP provides funding to support community initiatives through the following funding opportunities:

- Grants
- Sponsorship
- Environment and Sustainability Initiatives
- Representation Support
- Annual School Awards
- Graffiti Removal

Applications are open all year round and are limited to one successful application per individual, business or organisation per financial year.

CFP Principles

- Open and transparent governance, as well as ensuring Council is financially sustainable.
- Achieving the Outcomes of Council's Community Plan.
- Developing vibrant, engaged and more resilient communities.
- Distributing funds in an equitable, transparent, and sustainable manner.

Application Process

- Requests for funding under the CFP are to be made via City of Palmerston's website. Webforms are available on the CFP webpage.
- Application must be completed in full, including provision of supporting documentation.
- Once a complete application is received, it will be assessed by City of Palmerston to determine if it is eligible, suitable, and viable to fund.
- Depending on the complexity of the application and the amount requested, this process may take up to six (6) weeks.
- City of Palmerston will notify applicants on the outcome of their application via email.
- Successful applicants will receive a letter of outcome and a funding agreement, which must be signed and returned to City of Palmerston.
- Funds will be released once all documentation has been signed and returned.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Aim

To encourage and support new projects and activities that build on social cohesion for the Palmerston community.

Available Funding

- $500 and over.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.

Supporting Documentation

All grant applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances.
- Minutes of the Committee meeting that document the decision to apply for CFP funding.
- A detailed budget, including all income and expenditure including in-kind contributions.
- Copies of quotations for all products and services listed in the budget.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

Each application is considered against the Community Grants Assessment Criteria below:

1. Community benefit
2. Value for money
3. Capacity to deliver and previous experience
4. Promotion and acknowledgement
5. Risk management
6. Project sustainability.

Further details about the assessment criteria are provided on page 9.

Acquittal

All grant recipients are required to provide a grant acquittal once their activity is complete. What is required as part of the acquittal will depend on the value of funding provided. Grant acquittals are due within three (3) months of project completion.

- All grant recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post.
- For grants under $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report. No financial acquittal report is required.
- For grants over $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report and a financial report.
- Acquittal outcome reports are to be submitted on the form provided and include photos of the activity or project.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Aim

To support environmental initiatives that demonstrate impact in one or more actions within the City of Palmerston Sustainability Strategy.

Available funding

- $20,000 or under.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.
- No financial contribution is required for not-for-profit organisations; all other entities will be required to make a 50% financial contribution.

Supporting Documentation

All environmental initiative applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances.
- Minutes of the Committee meeting that document the decision to apply for CFP funding.
- A detailed budget, including all income and expenditure including in-kind contributions.
- Copies of quotations for all products and services listed in the budget.
- Details of alternate funding sources to a minimum of 50% of the total activity costs to demonstrate financial commitment.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

All environment and sustainability initiative applications are assessed based on community impact and environmental merit, and alignment to City of Palmerston's Sustainability Strategy.

Acquittal

All environment and sustainability initiative grant recipients are required to provide a grant acquittal once their activity is complete. What is required as part of the acquittal will depend on the value of funding provided. Grant acquittals are due within three (3) months of project completion.

- All grant recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post.
- For grants under $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report. No financial acquittal report is required.
- For grants over $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report and a financial report.
- Acquittal outcome reports are to be submitted on the form provided and include photos of the activity or project.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

SPONSORSHIP

Aim

To support events, initiatives, or projects that provide significant recognition, foster economic development, and promote growth within the City of Palmerston.

Available funding

- $500 and over.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.
- Requests from commercial entities will generally not be considered, unless deemed to have merit by the Chief Executive Officer and subsequently presented to Council for consideration.

Supporting Documentation

All sponsorship applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- A copy of the sponsorship package outlining the levels and categories of sponsorship.
- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of Currency for applicable insurances.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

Each sponsorship application is assessed based on community impact, overall merit, and alignment to City of Palmerston strategies.

Acquittal

All sponsorship recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity as per the sponsorship package level and provide proof of acknowledgement. There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

REPRESENTATION SUPPORT

Aim

To support opportunities where Palmerston residents can represent the community within the Northern Territory, nationally or internationally.

Available funding

- $250 per individual and per team member.
- Up to $2,000 (Minimum of 8 team members).

Eligibility

- Applicants must be Palmerston residents.
- Teams must be Palmerston based.

Supporting Documentation

All individual representation support applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- 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 undertaking the representation, e.g. travel costs, registration fees, uniform costs.

All team representation support applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- 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 undertaking the representation, e.g. travel costs, registration fees, uniform costs.
- List of team members noting which are Palmerston based.

Assessment

Each representation support application is assessed based on eligibility.

Acquittal

All representation support recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post. No acquittal outcomes report is required, although City of Palmerston appreciate receiving an update from recipients.

OTHER FUNDING

Graffiti Removal

City of Palmerston will support initiatives for graffiti removal requested by community organisations.

Up to $500 is available.

All graffiti removal applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- A signed declaration of consent from the owner of the property/infrastructure to remove the graffiti.
- Proof of registration as a community, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence from a Palmerston business to support indicative costs for materials.

Proof of removal of the graffiti is required within three months of project completion. For example, this may include photos of the location before and after the graffiti was removed.

Annual School Awards

City of Palmerston provides $100 per annum to schools within the Palmerston Local Government Area for the purpose of a “City of Palmerston Community Service Award”.

Schools will be contacted with application details annually in July.

GRANT ASSESSMENT

Each application will be marked against the assessment criteria with the total score being out of 25. Applications which receive a score lower than 10 will be deemed not to meet the criteria.

Appendix A – Community Grants Assessment Criteria

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
Community benefit	Project outcomes and their alignment to the City of Palmerston Community Plan and strategies.
Value for money	Level of co-contribution, other funding sources, in-kind support or specialist knowledge or skills offered by the applicant.
Capacity	Relevant experience of the applicant in performing similar or comparable projects. Level of detail in the project plan.
Promotion and acknowledgement	Clear plan for the acknowledgement of City of Palmerston's contributions.
Risk Management	Level of risk associated with the project, and how any risk has been proactively managed.

Appendix B – Scoring Matrix

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
5	Requirements are addressed to a very high standard in all areas. Response demonstrates superior capability, capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
4	Requirements are addressed to a high standard in all areas. Response demonstrates very good capability, capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
3	Requirements are addressed to a good standard in all areas. Response demonstrates fair capability capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
2	Requirements are addressed to an acceptable standard. Response demonstrates acceptable capability, capacity and experience similar project delivery.
1	Requirements are not fully met. Response demonstrates marginal capability, capacity and experience, relevant to project delivery.
0	Requirements are not met. Response does not demonstrate capability, capacity and experience, relevant to project delivery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What will not be considered for funding?

1. Activities outside the Palmerston municipality.
2. Ongoing or general operating costs such as salaries, electricity, rent payments, insurance, uniforms etc.
3. Requests for reimbursement of funds already spent.
4. Activities that are the core responsibility of other levels of government.
5. Activities that duplicate other local service responses.
6. Activities whose predominate purpose is fundraising.
7. Activities where there is no expressed consent from the landowners.
8. Activities run in Palmerston Schools that do not provide broader community benefit.
9. Community initiatives or events that generate financial profits for commercial companies or individuals.
10. Alcohol or gambling related activities.
11. Travel costs including accommodation and flights (excluding for representation support).
12. Prize money, prizes or trophies, competitions (excluding for annual school awards).
13. Payment of debts and loans.
14. Activities which are considered to be a requirement under an existing agreement with another organisation.
15. School Excursions.

Where can I acknowledge council's support?

Acknowledgements can be posted on social media platforms, in public newsletters or on your organisation's website. If using City of Palmerston's logo, please ensure you use the correct image which will be sent to successful applicants who require it.

City of Palmerston can be tagged in socials using:

- If you require further support or information, please contact our Marketing and Communications team at marcomms@palmerston.nt.gov.au

What is an Auspice Organisation?

- An auspice organisation can assist smaller unincorporated groups with grant funding.
- An eligible organisation agrees to apply for and manage a grant on behalf of another group.
- The auspice organisation accepts responsibility for the legal and financial requirements of the project along with acquittal requirements.

Where can I find copies of Council's publications?

Click HERE to access a list of City of Palmerston's publications.

Who can I ask for help with my application?

If you require further support or information, please contact our Community Funding Program team at grants@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.5
Report Title:	Community Funding Program - Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
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 a Council decision for the Community Funding application submitted by Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation.

Key messages

- Council supports initiatives that benefit the Palmerston community through the Community Funding Program.
- Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation has applied for a Community Grant at a cost of $6,435 to support components of their NAIDOC week celebrations commencing 5 July 2026.
- The funding application has been assessed as meeting the current policy and guidelines.
- $61,044 remains in the Community Funding Program for the current FY.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Community Funding Program - Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse option one (1) of this report, Council approves funding of $6,435 to Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation through the Community Funding Program.

Background

NAIDOC Week is an important opportunity to celebrate and recognise the history, culture, achievements and ongoing contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It provides a meaningful platform for community connection, cultural learning and reconciliation, strengthening understanding and respect across the Palmerston community.

Discussion

Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation will be providing a week of events, to celebrate and recognise NAIDOC Week within Palmerston. The first event is the official Flag Raising Ceremony will include a Welcome to Country, acknowledgement of local Traditional Owners, the raising of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

The organisation has requested funding to support the flag raising ceremony and the Family Fun Day at SWELL Palmerston.

City of Palmerston's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) demonstrates Council's commitment to strengthening relationships, respect and opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC Week celebrations directly support the objectives of the RAP by recognising and celebrating First Nations cultures, histories and achievements while creating opportunities for the broader community to learn, connect and engage. Through inclusive community events, cultural activities and shared experiences.

All required supporting documentation has been submitted and reviewed as part of the assessment process.

In line with the Community Funding Policy and Community Funding Program Guidelines the administration recommends option 1 of this report.

Further details of the proposed event at **Attachment 12.1.5.1.**
Community Funding Program Policy at **Attachment 12.1.5.2.**
Community Funding Program Guidelines at **Attachment 12.1.5.3.**

Option 1

Full Funding – $6,435

Council approves the full funding amount at a cost of $6,435 to Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation through a Community Grant of the Community Funding Program.

Option 2

Partial Amount – Amount to be determined

Council approves grant funding at a cost of_____ to Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation through the Community Funding Program.

Option 3

No Funding

Council does not approve funding to Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation through the Community Funding Program.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Community Services Lead

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

- Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation

Policy implications

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

Budget and resource implications

The Community Funding Program has the remaining funds for the 25/26 financial year:

- $37,044 for Grants, Individual Representation, Graffiti and School Awards.
- $15,000 for Sponsorship.
- $9,000 for Environmental Initiatives.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- City of Palmerston's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

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. Grassroots Action Palmerston Application [**12.1.5.1** - 8 pages]
2. Community Funding Policy [**12.1.5.2** - 3 pages]
3. Community Funding Program Guidelines [**12.1.5.3** - 14 pages]

Community Funding Program - Grants, environmental initiatives & Sponsorship : Submission #27

Funding type sought:	Community grant
Organisation's name	Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation
Organisation type	Aboriginal Corporation
ABN: (if applicable):	20991845957
Details	Kat Lee General manager
Provide details of your organisation	Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation (GAPAC) is an Aboriginal community-controlled organisation established to support and empower Aboriginal people and families living in Palmerston and the surrounding region. The organisation was formed by local Aboriginal community members who recognised the need for a strong grassroots organisation to advocate for community needs, strengthen cultural identity, and create positive opportunities for Aboriginal people. GAPAC is governed by a Board of Directors made up of local Aboriginal leaders and community representatives. Board members oversee the strategic direction, governance, and operations of the organisation, ensuring its activities are community-led and culturally appropriate. The purpose of GAPAC is to promote community wellbeing, cultural preservation, youth development, education, social inclusion, and

	community participation. Through community events, cultural activities, advocacy, and partnerships, GAPAC works to strengthen connections between Aboriginal families, celebrate culture, and support positive outcomes for the Aboriginal community within Palmerston.
Provide details of the proposed activity	Palmerston NAIDOC Week 2026 – Celebrating 50 Years of Deadly Aunties will deliver a week-long program of free, community-led events that celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, strengthen community connections, and promote inclusion across Palmerston. The program includes: 5 July – Flag Raising and Community March: Official opening of NAIDOC Week with a flag raising ceremony, cultural performances, speeches from Elders and community leaders, and a community march from Goyder Square to Memorial Park. 7 July – NeuroDeadly Event: A culturally safe and inclusive event raising awareness of neurodiversity and disability within Aboriginal communities while connecting families with support services. 8 July – Elder Luncheon: An opportunity to honour and celebrate local Elders for their leadership, knowledge, and contribution to the community. 9 July – Mulligahs and Cudjeries Dinner: A community gathering that celebrates culture, storytelling, and connections between generations. 10 July – Aunties Place Playgroup and Terrace Gardens Aged Care Visit: Activities that support early childhood engagement, family participation, and connection with Elders. 12 July – CDC Family Fun Day: A free family event featuring cultural activities, entertainment, community stalls, games, and children's

	activities, providing a fun and inclusive conclusion to NAIDOC Week. All events are free, family-friendly, and open to the wider community, with lunch, snacks, cultural activities, and community information available throughout the week. Community Need and Alignment with City of Palmerston The Palmerston Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community has identified a need for culturally safe, accessible events that celebrate culture, strengthen community pride, support social inclusion, and create opportunities for positive engagement between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents. This program addresses these needs by: Promoting cultural awareness, understanding, and reconciliation. Creating opportunities for community participation and social connection. Supporting the wellbeing of Elders, families, children, young people, and people living with disability or neurodiversity. Providing free and inclusive activities that reduce barriers to participation. The project aligns with the City of Palmerston's strategic priorities by fostering a connected, inclusive, and vibrant community, celebrating cultural diversity, supporting community wellbeing, and encouraging strong partnerships between community organisations, residents, and local stakeholders.
Provide details of previous activities held by the organisation	Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation (GAPAC) has a strong track record of delivering culturally appropriate community programs and events that support Aboriginal and

	Torres Strait Islander families, young people, and the wider Palmerston community. Key activities delivered include: Palmerston NAIDOC Week Celebrations (2021–2025) – Coordinating and delivering annual NAIDOC Week programs, including Flag Raising Ceremonies, Community Marches, Elder events, family fun days, cultural workshops, community dinners, youth activities, and community engagement events. Kidz Vs Copz Basketball Tournament – An annual youth engagement event that strengthens relationships between young people, police, and the wider community through sport, teamwork, and positive role modelling. National Reconciliation Week Events – Delivering community activities that promote reconciliation, cultural awareness, and understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents. Aunties Place Youth Programs – Hosting private youth events and culturally safe gatherings that provide mentoring, support, and positive social engagement opportunities for Aboriginal young people. Weekly Youth Programs – Delivering ongoing activities including boxing, art workshops, makeup lessons, cultural activities, leadership development, and wellbeing programs that encourage participation, confidence, and healthy lifestyles. Aunties Place Playgroup – Facilitating a weekly Friday playgroup that provides a safe and welcoming environment for parents, carers, and young children to connect, learn, and participate in early childhood development activities. Through these activities, GAPAC continues to strengthen community connections, promote cultural pride, support youth development, and create inclusive opportunities for Aboriginal

	families across Palmerston.
What are the intended objectives of this activity, and how will you evaluate its success?	The Palmerston NAIDOC Week 2026 activities aim to: Celebrate and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, history, and achievements. Strengthen community connections between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents. Increase cultural awareness, understanding, and respect within the Palmerston community. Provide inclusive and accessible opportunities for families, Elders, young people, and people living with disability or neurodiversity to participate in community events. Support community wellbeing, cultural pride, and social inclusion. Create positive opportunities for intergenerational learning, engagement, and community participation. Evaluation of Success The success of the project will be measured through: Attendance numbers across the Flag Raising Ceremony, NeuroDeadly Event, and Family Fun Day. Participant feedback collected through conversations, photos, and social media engagement. The number of community organisations, service providers, and volunteers involved. Increased participation from Aboriginal families, young people, Elders, and the broader Palmerston community. Positive community feedback regarding cultural celebration, inclusion, and community connection. Social media reach, event promotion outcomes, and community engagement statistics.

	A final project review will be completed by the GAPAC Board and event organisers to assess outcomes, participant satisfaction, and opportunities for future improvement.
Date	5th July 2026 - 12 July 2026
Venue	Palmerston City; Goyder Square, Memorial Park, Joan Fejo Park, Rydges Palmerston, Gray community Hall, Aunties Place, Terrace Gardens Aged Care, SWELL
Time	10am
Expected number of attendees	1000 - 1500
Target audience	Whole Community; including Elders, Families, Youth, Children & Neurodiverse
Total activity cost	$45500
Amount requested through the Community funding program	$6435
Is the amount requested excluding GST?	Yes
Value of other funding sources	$39065
City of Palmerston's support will be publicly acknowledged in the following ways:	Social media post, Promotional material, Speeches

Australian Government
Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION
OF AN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CORPORATION



This is to record that

GRASSROOTS ACTION PALMERSTON ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

INDIGENOUS CORPORATION NUMBER: 9719

is a corporation registered under the
Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006.

The date of registration is 1 April 202201 April 2022

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
REGISTRAR OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CORPORATIONS
AUSTRALIA

Roseanne Mirto
Delegate of the Registrar of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporations

Certificate issued under section 32-1(c)

CORPORATIONS (ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER) ACT 2006

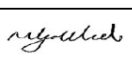
Level 2, 338 Pitt Street,
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 1300 249 268

Certificate of Currency

Public & Products Liability

This Certificate:

- has been issued on behalf of your insurer by BizCover Pty Ltd, please contact BizCover for any enquiries
- is issued for informational purposes only, it does not form part of the Policy terms and conditions
- does not amend, extend or alter the coverage afforded by the policy listed;
- is only a summary of the cover provided. For full particulars, reference must be made to the current policy wording & schedule;
- In the case of inconsistency between this Certificate and the Policy Schedule, the Policy Schedule shall prevail.
- is current only at the date of issue.

Name Of Insured	Grassroots Action Palmerston Aboriginal Corporation (ABN: 20991845957)
Policy Number	LCS017124781-8120
Insurance Period	4.00pm Local Standard Time on 25 Aug 2025 to 4.00pm Local Standard Time on 25 Aug 2026
Interest Insured	Public Liability
Insured Address	30 MAHONY CCT, DRIVER, NT, 0830
Sum Insured	**Public & Products Liability:** $20,000,000
Interested Party	None Noted
Insurer/Underwriter	AAI Limited ABN 48 005 297 807 trading as VERO Insurance
Signature	
Name of Signatory	Michael Gottlieb (BizCover)
Capacity/Title	Director
Date of Issue	28 Aug 2025

Please note

- This Certificate is issued subject to the policy's terms and conditions and by reference to the insured's declaration. The information set out in this Certificate is accurate as at the date of signature and there is no obligation imposed on the signatory to advise of any alterations.
- The issue of this Certificate imparts no obligation on the insurer to notify any party relying on it should the policy later be cancelled or altered for any reason.
- This Certificate is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the certificate holder.

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

COUNCIL POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy outlines City of Palmerston Community Funding Program and specifies the types of funding available for organisations, community groups, and individuals within Palmerston.

PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to supporting initiatives which benefit the Palmerston community through:

- Open and transparent governance, as well as ensuring Council is financially sustainable.
- Achieving the Outcomes of Council's Community Plan.
- Developing vibrant, engaged and more resilient communities.
- Distributing funds in an equitable, transparent, and sustainable manner.

DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
Community Grant	Council provides financial assistance to organisations that are executing projects or activities that offer benefit to the Palmerston community.
Environmental Initiatives	Council provides financial assistance to community organisations, schools or businesses to implement projects of activities that support waste reduction, water or energy efficiency opportunities or rehabilitation of the environment.
Representation Support	Council provides financial assistance to individuals, groups, or teams representing Palmerston locally, nationally or internationally.
Annual School Awards	Council provides financial assistance to Palmerston Schools toward student awards.
Graffiti removal	Council will support graffiti removal by offering financial assistance.
Auspice	An auspice is an organisation that manages grant funding on your behalf. This arrangement is often required when smaller unincorporated organisations do not meet eligibility requirements, a larger nonprofit group may choose to provide support.

TERM	DEFINITION
Acquittal	An acquittal is a written report submitted after the funded project is complete. It details how the recipient administered the relevant funds and met the project outcomes.

POLICY STATEMENT

1 Funding

1.1 Funding requests must be made via the application process, by completing the relevant webforms on City of Palmerston's website.

1.2 Funding requests must provide a clear benefit to Palmerston and relate Palmerston's Community Plan, Municipal Plan and/or associated frameworks or strategies.

1.3 All requests for funding are subject to eligibility criteria.

1.4 The success of applications is determined by their relevance and value to the Palmerston community.

1.5 Community groups, incorporations and not for profit organisations are eligible to apply for Community Grants and Team Representation.

1.6 Requests from commercial entities will be considered for Environmental Initiatives.

1.7 Individuals will be considered for Representation Support.

1.8 Financial support is limited to one successful application per financial year.

1.9 A funding application for funds greater than $10,000, requires the organisation to provide its most recent audited financials.

1.10 The successful applicant must sign a funding agreement and return it to City of Palmerston before funds are disbursed.

1.11 Successful Grant recipients will be required to complete an acquittal of funds within three (3) months of completion of the activity or project on the acquittal form provided by City of Palmerston.

1.12 Incomplete applications will not be progressed, any application that remains incomplete after a 6-month period will be deemed as withdrawn.

1.13 Funding requirements are detailed in the Community Funding Program Guidelines and available on City of Palmerston's website.

2 Funding Categories

2.1 Grant funding is available from $500 to over $10,000.

2.2 Environmental Initiatives are available for up to $20,000, with applicants providing a financial contribution that matches the requested grant amount. Environmental Initiatives require no financial contribution for non-profit organisations and Palmerston-based schools, while all other entities will be required to match the financial amount requested.

2.3 Individual Representation Support is $250 per eligible applicant.

2.4 Team Representation Support available for up to $2,000 per eligible team.

2.5 Annual School Awards $100 per Palmerston based School.

2.6 Graffiti Removal up to $500.

3 Funding Decisions

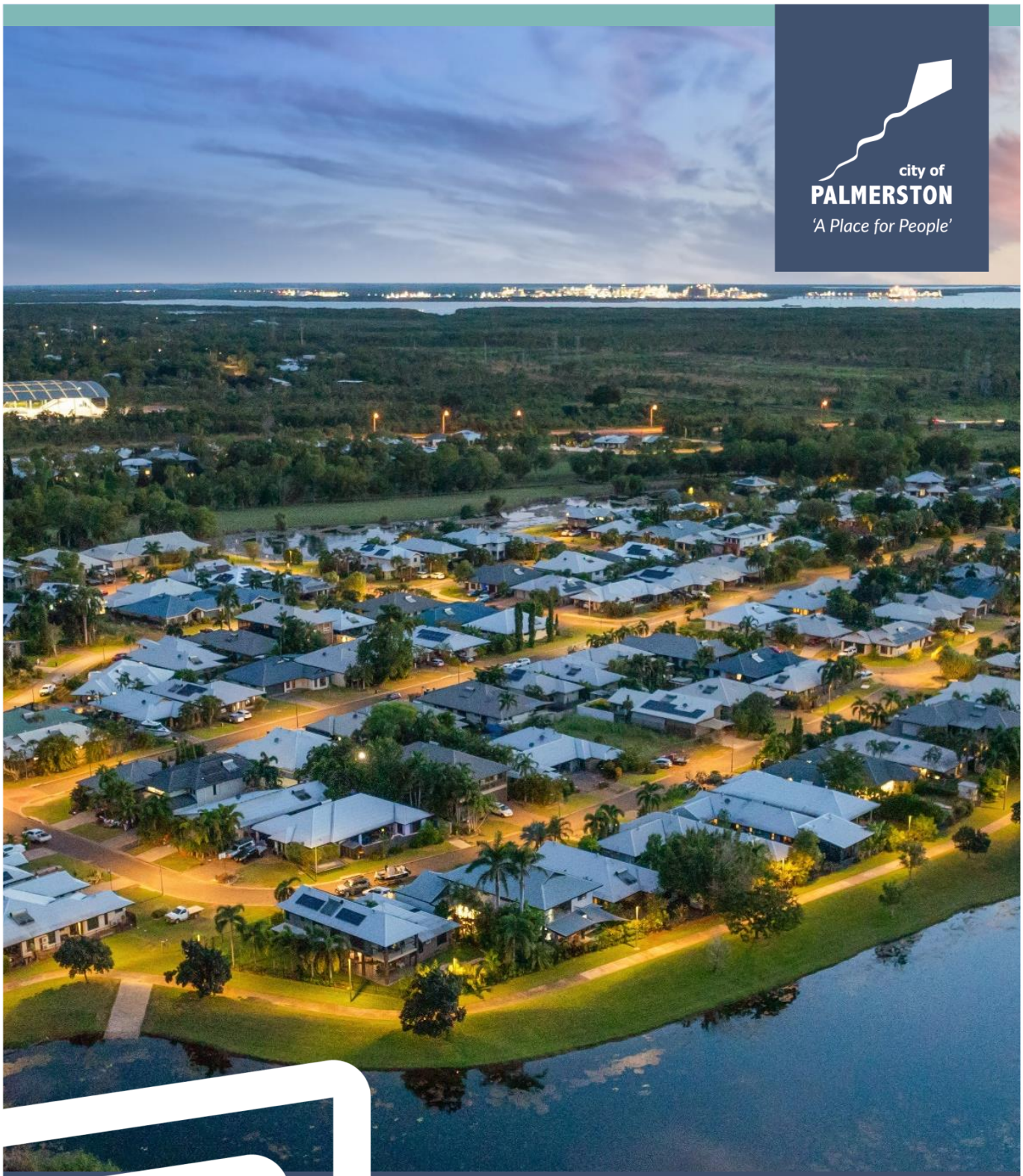
3.1 A Council decision is not required for Individual Representation Support.
3.2 A Council decision is not required for requests for funding of $2,000 and under.
3.3 Requests for funding over $2,000 will be presented to Council for decision.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- City of Palmerston Community Funding Program Guidelines.

POLICY DETAILS

OWNER	Chief Executive Officer	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	[Responsible Officer]
APPROVAL DATE	4 March 2025	NEXT REVIEW DUE	3 March 2029
RECORDS NUMBER	626921	COUNCIL DECISION	10/1776



city of
PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM
GUIDELINES

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COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

The Community Funding Program (CFP) Guidelines outline the administration of the CFP including the eligibility, application and assessment process.

The Guidelines support City of Palmerston's Community Funding Policy and Sponsorship Policy.

City of Palmerston actively supports initiatives which benefit the Palmerston community and support delivery of the Community Plan. The CFP provides funding to support community initiatives through the following funding opportunities:

- Grants
- Sponsorship
- Environment and Sustainability Initiatives
- Representation Support
- Annual School Awards
- Graffiti Removal

Applications are open all year round and are limited to one successful application per individual, business or organisation per financial year.

CFP Principles

- Open and transparent governance, as well as ensuring Council is financially sustainable.
- Achieving the Outcomes of Council's Community Plan.
- Developing vibrant, engaged and more resilient communities.
- Distributing funds in an equitable, transparent, and sustainable manner.

Application Process

- Requests for funding under the CFP are to be made via City of Palmerston's website. Webforms are available on the CFP webpage.
- Application must be completed in full, including provision of supporting documentation.
- Once a complete application is received, it will be assessed by City of Palmerston to determine if it is eligible, suitable, and viable to fund.
- Depending on the complexity of the application and the amount requested, this process may take up to six (6) weeks.
- City of Palmerston will notify applicants on the outcome of their application via email.
- Successful applicants will receive a letter of outcome and a funding agreement, which must be signed and returned to City of Palmerston.
- Funds will be released once all documentation has been signed and returned.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Aim

To encourage and support new projects and activities that build on social cohesion for the Palmerston community.

Available Funding

- $500 and over.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.

Supporting Documentation

All grant applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances.
- Minutes of the Committee meeting that document the decision to apply for CFP funding.
- A detailed budget, including all income and expenditure including in-kind contributions.
- Copies of quotations for all products and services listed in the budget.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

Each application is considered against the Community Grants Assessment Criteria below:

1. Community benefit
2. Value for money
3. Capacity to deliver and previous experience
4. Promotion and acknowledgement
5. Risk management
6. Project sustainability.

Further details about the assessment criteria are provided on page 9.

Acquittal

All grant recipients are required to provide a grant acquittal once their activity is complete. What is required as part of the acquittal will depend on the value of funding provided. Grant acquittals are due within three (3) months of project completion.

- All grant recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post.
- For grants under $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report. No financial acquittal report is required.
- For grants over $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report and a financial report.
- Acquittal outcome reports are to be submitted on the form provided and include photos of the activity or project.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Aim

To support environmental initiatives that demonstrate impact in one or more actions within the City of Palmerston Sustainability Strategy.

Available funding

- $20,000 or under.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.
- No financial contribution is required for not-for-profit organisations; all other entities will be required to make a 50% financial contribution.

Supporting Documentation

All environmental initiative applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of currency for applicable insurances.
- Minutes of the Committee meeting that document the decision to apply for CFP funding.
- A detailed budget, including all income and expenditure including in-kind contributions.
- Copies of quotations for all products and services listed in the budget.
- Details of alternate funding sources to a minimum of 50% of the total activity costs to demonstrate financial commitment.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

All environment and sustainability initiative applications are assessed based on community impact and environmental merit, and alignment to City of Palmerston's Sustainability Strategy.

Acquittal

All environment and sustainability initiative grant recipients are required to provide a grant acquittal once their activity is complete. What is required as part of the acquittal will depend on the value of funding provided. Grant acquittals are due within three (3) months of project completion.

- All grant recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post.
- For grants under $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report. No financial acquittal report is required.
- For grants over $2,000, the acquittal must include an outcomes report and a financial report.
- Acquittal outcome reports are to be submitted on the form provided and include photos of the activity or project.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

SPONSORSHIP

Aim

To support events, initiatives, or projects that provide significant recognition, foster economic development, and promote growth within the City of Palmerston.

Available funding

- $500 and over.

Eligibility

- Applicants are a registered community, not-for-profit or incorporated organisation.
- An unincorporated organisation can have their application supported by an auspice organisation, provided they are an incorporated community group or not-for-profit organisation.
- Requests from commercial entities will generally not be considered, unless deemed to have merit by the Chief Executive Officer and subsequently presented to Council for consideration.

Supporting Documentation

All sponsorship applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- A copy of the sponsorship package outlining the levels and categories of sponsorship.
- Evidence of registration as a community group, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence of appropriate Certificate of Currency for applicable insurances.

In addition to the above, any grant applications for amounts over $10,000 are also required to provide:

- A copy of the organisation's most recent audited financial statement.

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

Assessment

Each sponsorship application is assessed based on community impact, overall merit, and alignment to City of Palmerston strategies.

Acquittal

All sponsorship recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity as per the sponsorship package level and provide proof of acknowledgement. There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

There may be progress reporting requirements for multi-year grant agreements. Specific details will be included in the funding agreement.

REPRESENTATION SUPPORT

Aim

To support opportunities where Palmerston residents can represent the community within the Northern Territory, nationally or internationally.

Available funding

- $250 per individual and per team member.
- Up to $2,000 (Minimum of 8 team members).

Eligibility

- Applicants must be Palmerston residents.
- Teams must be Palmerston based.

Supporting Documentation

All individual representation support applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- 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 undertaking the representation, e.g. travel costs, registration fees, uniform costs.

All team representation support applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- 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 undertaking the representation, e.g. travel costs, registration fees, uniform costs.
- List of team members noting which are Palmerston based.

Assessment

Each representation support application is assessed based on eligibility.

Acquittal

All representation support recipients are required to acknowledge City of Palmerston's support for their activity and provide proof of acknowledgement. For example, this may include a screenshot of a social media post. No acquittal outcomes report is required, although City of Palmerston appreciate receiving an update from recipients.

OTHER FUNDING

Graffiti Removal

City of Palmerston will support initiatives for graffiti removal requested by community organisations.

Up to $500 is available.

All graffiti removal applications are required to provide the following supporting documentation:

- A signed declaration of consent from the owner of the property/infrastructure to remove the graffiti.
- Proof of registration as a community, not-for-profit, or incorporated body.
- Evidence from a Palmerston business to support indicative costs for materials.

Proof of removal of the graffiti is required within three months of project completion. For example, this may include photos of the location before and after the graffiti was removed.

Annual School Awards

City of Palmerston provides $100 per annum to schools within the Palmerston Local Government Area for the purpose of a “City of Palmerston Community Service Award”.

Schools will be contacted with application details annually in July.

GRANT ASSESSMENT

Each application will be marked against the assessment criteria with the total score being out of 25. Applications which receive a score lower than 10 will be deemed not to meet the criteria.

Appendix A – Community Grants Assessment Criteria

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
Community benefit	Project outcomes and their alignment to the City of Palmerston Community Plan and strategies.
Value for money	Level of co-contribution, other funding sources, in-kind support or specialist knowledge or skills offered by the applicant.
Capacity	Relevant experience of the applicant in performing similar or comparable projects. Level of detail in the project plan.
Promotion and acknowledgement	Clear plan for the acknowledgement of City of Palmerston's contributions.
Risk Management	Level of risk associated with the project, and how any risk has been proactively managed.

Appendix B – Scoring Matrix

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
5	Requirements are addressed to a very high standard in all areas. Response demonstrates superior capability, capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
4	Requirements are addressed to a high standard in all areas. Response demonstrates very good capability, capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
3	Requirements are addressed to a good standard in all areas. Response demonstrates fair capability capacity and experience relevant in similar project delivery.
2	Requirements are addressed to an acceptable standard. Response demonstrates acceptable capability, capacity and experience similar project delivery.
1	Requirements are not fully met. Response demonstrates marginal capability, capacity and experience, relevant to project delivery.
0	Requirements are not met. Response does not demonstrate capability, capacity and experience, relevant to project delivery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What will not be considered for funding?

1. Activities outside the Palmerston municipality.
2. Ongoing or general operating costs such as salaries, electricity, rent payments, insurance, uniforms etc.
3. Requests for reimbursement of funds already spent.
4. Activities that are the core responsibility of other levels of government.
5. Activities that duplicate other local service responses.
6. Activities whose predominate purpose is fundraising.
7. Activities where there is no expressed consent from the landowners.
8. Activities run in Palmerston Schools that do not provide broader community benefit.
9. Community initiatives or events that generate financial profits for commercial companies or individuals.
10. Alcohol or gambling related activities.
11. Travel costs including accommodation and flights (excluding for representation support).
12. Prize money, prizes or trophies, competitions (excluding for annual school awards).
13. Payment of debts and loans.
14. Activities which are considered to be a requirement under an existing agreement with another organisation.
15. School Excursions.

Where can I acknowledge council's support?

Acknowledgements can be posted on social media platforms, in public newsletters or on your organisation's website. If using City of Palmerston's logo, please ensure you use the correct image which will be sent to successful applicants who require it.

City of Palmerston can be tagged in socials using:

- If you require further support or information, please contact our Marketing and Communications team at marcomms@palmerston.nt.gov.au

What is an Auspice Organisation?

- An auspice organisation can assist smaller unincorporated groups with grant funding.
- An eligible organisation agrees to apply for and manage a grant on behalf of another group.
- The auspice organisation accepts responsibility for the legal and financial requirements of the project along with acquittal requirements.

Where can I find copies of Council's publications?

Click HERE to access a list of City of Palmerston's publications.

Who can I ask for help with my application?

If you require further support or information, please contact our Community Funding Program team at grants@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.6
Report Title:	New Council Strategy - Communication and Engagement Strategy
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Marketing and Communications Manager, Taylor Revitt
Approver:	General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight

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 draft Communication and Engagement Strategy for the purpose of undertaking targeted stakeholder consultation.

Key messages

- The Communication and Engagement Strategy consolidates the current Communications Strategy and Social Media Strategy into a standalone comprehensive document and was developed to replace them both.
- The Strategy recognises that communication, engagement, marketing, media and public relations are interconnected functions and should be guided under one strategic direction.
- The Strategy provides consistent standard practices, principles, approaches and performance measures across all communication activities.
- Consultation with the community and communications, engagement and other related industry professionals will be undertaken during July 2026 to seek specialist feedback and inform the final Strategy for endorsement by Council by September 2026.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled New Council Strategy - Communication and Engagement Strategy be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorses the draft Communication and Engagement Strategy provided in **Attachment 12.1.6.1** for consultation.

3. THAT a further report on the Communication and Engagement Strategy is presented to an Ordinary Council Meeting by September 2026.

Background

City of Palmerston currently utilises a number of standalone communication related strategies and policies including the Communication Strategy, Social Media Strategy, Community Engagement Policy and Media Policy. While these documents have supported communication activities across the organisation to date, there is significant overlap between the functions and objectives of each document.

Communication, engagement, marketing, media and public relations are interconnected functions, often delivered simultaneously across projects and organisational activities. Maintaining separate strategies has created duplication and reduced clarity around how these functions collectively support organisational priorities and community outcomes.

The rapidly evolving marketing and communications landscape requires Council to maintain a flexible, agile and integrated approach to communication activities.

The Communication Strategy was originally adopted by Council in July 2022 and established the strategic foundation for how City of Palmerston communicates with the community across a range of channels and platforms. The Strategy aligned communication activities to the Community Plan outcomes and focussed on improving brand awareness, community engagement, media presence and accessibility of information.

The Strategy also recognised the importance of maintaining relevant, timely and accessible communication within an evolving communications environment.

Since adoption, several actions identified within the Communication Strategy have been completed or progressed including:

- Launch of Council's new website and associated customer usability improvements;
- Rollout of refreshed branding across signage and Council documentation;
- Increased use of digital communication methods and environmentally sustainable practices;
- Increased earned media exposure and improved media relationships;
- Continued growth across social media platforms and engagement levels;
- Increased use of community engagement activities and alignment with engagement principal standards; and
- Ongoing accessibility and inclusivity improvements across communication channels.

The Social Media Strategy was developed to support Council's growing digital communication presence and provides a consistent and community-focused approach to social media management. It aligns closely with the Communication Strategy and recognises social media as one of Council's primary communication channels to engage with the Palmerston community.

The focus is on delivering engaging, informative and accessible content, maintaining consistent posting and engagement practices, improving audience growth and leveraging emerging social media trends and functionality.

Recent achievements and actions delivered under the Social Media Strategy include:

- Growth of 9.7% across Council's existing social media platforms;
- Increased content interactions, reach and engagement across Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn;
- Expanded use of video and event-based content;
- Increased use of subtitles and accessible content practices;
- Continued use of local imagery and community-focused storytelling;
- Use of analytics and reporting to support content planning and optimisation; and
- Increased use of paid and organic campaign activity to support events and community awareness campaigns.

Both strategies have continued to support positive communication outcomes for Council and remain relevant in guiding communication activities. However, the development of the draft Communication and Engagement Strategy provides an opportunity to consolidate these standalone documents into one coordinated, organisation-wide framework.

As the draft Communication and Engagement Strategy is intended to replace the standalone Communication Strategy and Social Media Strategy, no additional future action items were developed under the existing strategies outside of ongoing activities and actions already in progress. Future actions and continuous improvement initiatives will instead be guided through the implementation plan associated with the proposed new Strategy.

Discussion

The draft Communication and Engagement Strategy has been designed to provide both strategic direction and organisational guidance for communication and engagement activities across Council.

Bringing the existing documents into one strategy creates a clearer understanding across the organisation of how communication functions operate collectively and support organisational outcomes. It also provides greater consistency in messaging, planning, delivery and evaluation.

The Strategy outlines overarching communication principles including consistency, timeliness, accessibility, transparency and purpose-driven communication. These principles are intended to guide all communication activities delivered across Council regardless of project, campaign or organisational area.

The Strategy also embeds sustainability, accessibility and inclusion considerations across communication and engagement activities. This includes prioritising digital-first communication methods where appropriate, improving accessibility of information and ensuring communication approaches remain inclusive and adaptable to the diverse needs of the Palmerston community.

The implementation plan will remain flexible and responsive to Council priorities and emerging organisational needs.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Executive Manager People, Customer and Communication

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

- True North Strategic Communication

True North Strategic Communication were engaged to undertake desktop research and provide strategic insights, benchmarking and supporting information to inform the development of the Strategy within a local government context.

The draft Communication and Engagement Strategy will be subject to community and stakeholder consultation during July 2026. Consultation will be undertaken over a two-week period and will focus on communication, engagement, marketing and media professionals with relevant experience in local government and related sectors as well as the general community. Feedback will be sought through direct engagement with identified stakeholders and will be used to inform any final amendments to the Strategy prior to being presented back to Council for endorsement by September 2026.

Policy implications

The Strategy supports the implementation of existing Council policies including the Community Engagement Policy and Media Policy by providing a coordinated strategy for communication, engagement, marketing and media activities.

Budget and resource implications

The Strategy will primarily be implemented through existing operational resources.

Some initiatives identified within the implementation plan may require future budget consideration through standard operational planning and budget processes.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

Effective communication and engagement play a significant role in managing organisational reputation, community trust and risks.

The Strategy supports a more coordinated and proactive approach to issues management, communication planning and community engagement, reducing the risk of inconsistent messaging, misinformation or reactive communication practices.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

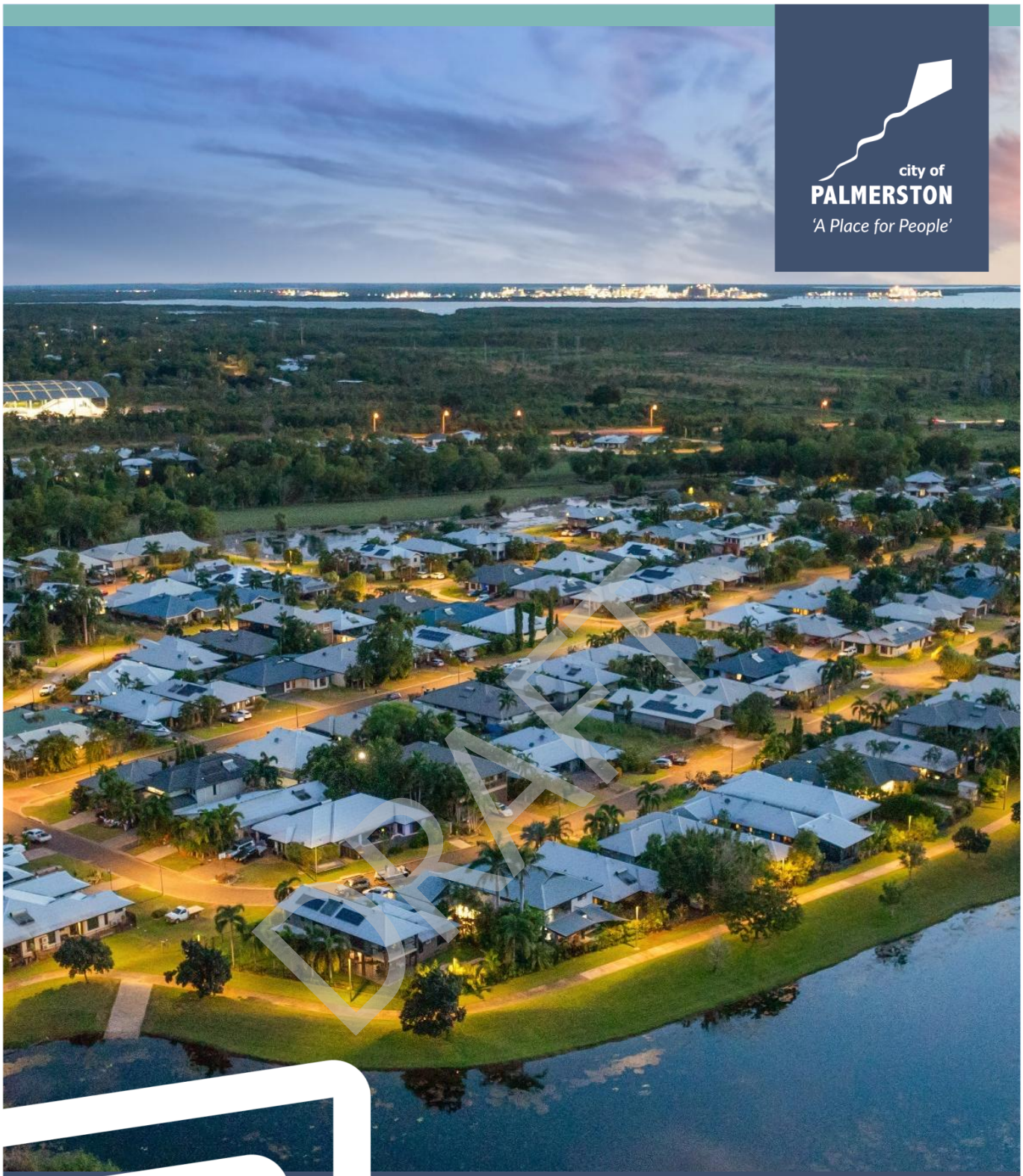
- Communication Strategy
- Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework
- Social Media Strategy 2022-2023
- Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026
- Community Engagement Policy
- Media Policy
- Community Plan

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. DRAFT - Communication and engagement strategy [**12.1.6.1** - 22 pages]



CITY OF PALMERSTON

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

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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.

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COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

City of Palmerston is committed to embracing diversity and eliminating all forms of discrimination within our facilities and welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or faith.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

City of Palmerston's Communication and Engagement Strategy provides a strategic framework to guide how Council communicates, engages and builds relationships with the community, stakeholders, businesses and visitors. The strategy supports Council's vision of being 'A Place for People' and aligns with the Community Plan, Municipal Plan and Council's broader strategic priorities.

The strategy recognises the important role communication and engagement play in adopting trust, strengthening community connections, supporting transparency and encouraging meaningful participation in Council initiatives and decision making. As the Northern Territory's second largest and fastest-growing city, Palmerston's communication and engagement approach must continue to evolve to meet the needs of a diverse, connected and growing community.

The strategy establishes a coordinated and community-focused approach across key areas including:

- public relations and media
- external communication
- marketing
- issues management
- community engagement

It outlines the principles, tools, tactics and performance measures that will guide communication and engagement activities across the organisation. The strategy also reinforces the importance of accessibility, inclusion, transparency and consistency across all communication channels and engagement activities.

A strong emphasis is placed on:

- clear and accessible communication
- timely and accurate information sharing
- meaningful and inclusive engagement
- proactive and coordinated communication
- digital-first and multi-channel approaches
- continuous improvement through monitoring, evaluation and community feedback

The strategy is supported by overarching key messages, tone of voice guidance and stakeholder analysis to ensure communication reflects Council's identity, values and community expectations.

By implementing this strategy, City of Palmerston aims to strengthen community awareness, increase participation and engagement, support informed decision making and continue building a connected, resilient and future-focused city.

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BACKGROUND

A Place for People
City of Palmerston is guided by its vision as 'A Place for People' and its mission 'to place people at the centre of all we do and deliver, by providing excellent services to our community'. To help achieve this vision and mission, City of Palmerston developed a Community Plan in consultation with the Palmerston Community. The plan outlines six key outcomes. These outcomes serve as the communication content pillars and guide the focus of Council communications.

Family and community	Palmerston is a safe and family friendly community where everyone belongs.
Vibrant economy	Palmerston is a destination city for employment. It is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow
Cultural diversity	In Palmerston, we celebrate our cultures in a way that values our diversity.
A future focus	Palmerston is an innovative city that sustains itself through the challenges of the future.
Environmental sustainability	Palmerston is an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.
Governance	Council is trusted by the community and invests in things that the public value.

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Accessible communication

City of Palmerston is committed to providing accessible ways for the community to give feedback and receive information. Council will continue to ensure there is open access through a range of communication channels that meet the identified needs of the community.

Sustainability

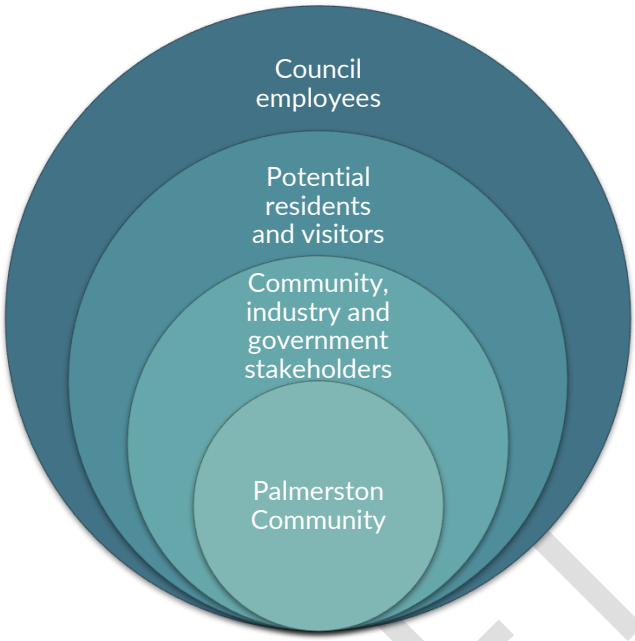
City of Palmerston is committed to actively managing and reducing its environmental footprint through sustainable practices, responsible resource use and long-term planning that supports the wellbeing of our environment and community.

Printed materials should be used selectively and purposefully, prioritising audiences with limited digital or to high traffic community areas. Digital channels will be the primary method of distribution, with print used to support and extend reach.

Audience

The primary audience for this strategy is the Palmerston Community, who actively participate in community life, need to be kept well-informed and be given opportunities to provide feedback. Council must also consider industry and government stakeholders as partners for collaboration and contribution to community outcomes. Visitors and potential residents are considered for their impact

on growth, while council employees are integral to the success of the strategy through their execution of effective communication.



Demographic snapshot

2021 Census data shows that City of Palmerston is home to young, busy, working families who are focused on building their future. With a median age of 31 and high rates of employment, most households are juggling work, children and daily commitments. They will likely need information that is quick to find, easy to understand and accessible. They embrace mobile-friendly platforms like Facebook.

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Median age 31

76% live in a family household

22% born overseas

89.1% are employed part or full time

PURPOSE

The purpose of this communication and engagement strategy is to strengthen the relationship between City of Palmerston and its community by guiding clear, consistent and community-centred communication that builds engagement and trust.

The objectives to achieve this are:

- ensure all communication and engagement activities are guided by a strategic approach that supports clear, accessible and meaningful interactions with the community
- explore innovative and inclusive ways to communicate and engage with the community
- demonstrate progress against Council's strategic goals and build community trust through open and transparent communication
- deliver clear, consistent messaging across all communication and engagement materials so the community receives accurate and timely information.

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MASTER NARRATIVE

Master narrative

Palmerston is a place where people belong, businesses thrive, culture is celebrated and the environment is valued. Guided by its vision as 'A Place for People', City of Palmerston is committed to delivering services, infrastructure and programs that enhance liveability, support families and strengthen local business.

As the Northern Territory's second largest and fastest-growing city, Palmerston plays a vital role in the region's economic, social and environmental future. Council works in partnership with residents, businesses, industry and government to ensure growth is sustainable, inclusive and aligned with community expectations. This includes investing in green spaces, improving connectivity and accessibility, supporting local industry, promoting cultural diversity and embedding sustainability across all operations.

City of Palmerston models responsible governance, transparent communication, community engagement and sustainable environmental management. Through strategic planning, evidence-based decision-making and a commitment to innovation, Council is helping shape a resilient and future-focused city that can respond to challenges and embrace new opportunities.

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Overarching key messages

Who we are

- City of Palmerston is a welcoming, vibrant, family-friendly city that fosters diversity and unity.
- We strive to create a community where everyone belongs and everyone feels safe.
- Our vision as 'A Place for People' guides every decision we make.
- City of Palmerston plays a key role in the region's future as the second largest and fastest-growing city in the Northern Territory.
- We value strong families, connected communities and a safe, inclusive city.
- We nurture a vibrant local economy where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow.
- We believe cultural diversity is a strength that enriches our community.
- We invest in and take care of our natural environment.
- City of Palmerston is committed to being an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.

Leadership and governance

- Council is committed to transparent, accountable and accessible decision-making
- We plan for the future through responsible governance and long-term strategic planning.
- We invest in what the community values including safety, liveability, sustainability and economic opportunity.
- We engage early, listen actively and provide clear feedback on how community input shapes decisions.

- We engage with the community in ways that are inclusive, transparent, innovative and accountable.
- We empower residents to participate in shaping their city, from sustainability initiatives to planning decisions.
- City of Palmerston responds to issues with accuracy, transparency and timeliness, ensuring the community receives clear and reliable information.

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COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

This strategy builds on the foundations of the work already achieved and sets out the next, more detailed phase of Council's communication and engagement approach. It provides a framework for how City of Palmerston will inform, connect and engage with the community across the following areas:



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The following strategic principles underpin all communication and engagement activities delivered under this strategy ensuring the objectives and overarching goal are achieved:

- *Consistency* – Ensure messaging, tone and information are consistent across all channels.
- *Clear and transparent information* – Provide clear and transparent information about decisions, processes and outcomes so stakeholders and community members can understand what is happening and why.
- *Timeliness* – Share information early where possible and at appropriate stages of a process so community members have meaningful opportunities to understand and respond.
- *Inclusivity and accessibility* – Communicate in plain English and ensure information is accessible to diverse audiences.
- *Purpose-driven communication* – Align communication and engagement activities with organisational goals, priorities and desired outcomes.

One of the key measures of Council's reputation and community sentiment is the Net Promoter Score (NPS), captured through the annual community satisfaction survey. Residents are asked how likely they are to recommend living in Palmerston on a scale from 0 to 10, with responses grouped as detractors, passives and promoters. While NPS is not a standalone measure of success, it provides a useful indicator of how the community experiences Council's communication, engagement and broader service delivery.

This strategy uses NPS as an overarching indicator of how communication, engagement and marketing efforts are influencing community perception over time. By delivering communication

that is clear, timely, consistent and accessible and by ensuring engagement activities are purposeful and transparent, City of Palmerston aims to strengthen trust, improve understanding and increase the proportion of passive and promoter responses over time.



*In 2025 Council's Net Promoter Score was -6, with 30% detractors, 45% passive, 24% promoters.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEDIA

City of Palmerston's approach to public relations and media focusses on strengthening relationships and building trust through the media. The strategy prioritises proactive storytelling and clear narratives and ensures all media interactions are consistent, timely and aligned to the six Outcomes.

To help achieve an increase in share of voice in the media, the following approaches will be considered;

- Create a proactive schedule of stories aligning to the six outcomes
- Supporting media material: develop material, where necessary, to support proactive media relations
- Accessible Image Library that can be utilised by marketing and media platforms
- Improved quarterly media monitoring to track coverage, identify emerging issues and reporting on insights.
- Develop media protocols and implement training.
- Improve sponsorship agreements to leverage from joint marketing opportunities.
- Improve consistent response times to media through priority actioning adhering to the Customer Service Charter.

Tools and Tactics

The following tools and tactics are some examples of what can be used to support achieve the outcomes:

- Media release
- Media alert
- Event
- Fact sheet
- FAQs
- Holding statement
- Talking points

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KPIs

KPI	MEASURE
Proactive stories pitched	Minimum of three proactive media opportunities, pitches or story leads distributed per quarter aligned to Community Plan outcomes.
Media mentions	26 mentions across radio, print, online and TV each quarter including sponsorships/partnerships

COMMUNICATING WITH THE COMMUNITY

The timely, accurate and consistent sharing of information between City of Palmerston and the community is key to achieve the overall goal of the strategy. Specifically, the types of communication we refer to includes service updates, project information, public notices and general announcements, keeping the community connected and informed of Council's activities and programs.

Communication can be strengthened through adopting a clear and coordinated approach. Communications should prioritise accessibility and transparency, ensuring all information is aligned with Council's content pillars, is easy to understand and available to all community members. Where possible, digital communication methods should be prioritised to adhere to City of Palmerston's commitment to environmental sustainability.

To help achieve the goal and objectives of this strategy, the following approaches will be considered;

- Strategically plan and prepare communication through comprehensive investigation, aligning to the principles, tailoring messaging if required, identifying target stakeholders developing clear, concise and accessible information.
- Distribute information across appropriate channels, either physical or digital, using a coordinated multi-channel approach to maximise reach and accessibility.
- Review outcomes to evaluate the effectiveness of communication and refine future communication approaches for continuous improvement.

Tools and Tactics

The following tools and tactics are some examples on how to support this approach.

- Website
- Mobile app
- Chatbot
- QR codes
- Social media
- eNewsletters
- Flyers/printed materials
- Innovative trials
- Fact sheets
- FAQs
- Letters/notices
- Community noticeboards
- Video inductions
- SMS

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KPIs

KPI	MEASURE
Information reach and engagement	Maintain consistent year on year reach across Council communication channels including website, social media, e-Newsletters and mobile app
eNewsletter performance	20% open rates of eNewsletters
Overall social media audience growth and engagement	Increase total social media followers year on year
Communication preferences aligned	Distribution of communication methods and improved alignment with community preferred communication methods as per community satisfaction survey

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MARKETING

Marketing plays a key role in shaping how the community experiences and engages with Council and its programs and initiatives. City of Palmerston should adopt a strategic, insight driven marketing approach that strengthens community awareness, encourages participation and reinforces trust.

Council's marketing efforts should ensure content is community centred and has a positive outcomes focus. Campaigns should be designed to be accessible and inclusive ensuring all community members, regardless of background, ability or location, can engage.

Council should adopt an integrated, multi-channel approach for its marketing activities and campaigns, selecting channels based on audience needs, accessibility and campaign objectives. A tailored, multi-channel approach will allow Council to connect with the community by delivering transparent, inclusive and accessible information. Council will use a mix of owned, earned and paid channels to ensure widespread and inclusive reach across its community. This includes:

- Owned channels – controlled by Council
- Earned channels – indirectly controlled by Council
- paid channels – advertising and promotion

A streamlined, consistent approach to marketing activities should be followed, as shown below.

1. **Plan:** Define objectives, identify target audiences and align with Council priorities. Ensure inclusion and accessibility are considered from the beginning.
2. **Develop:** Create clear, audience focused messaging that aligns with Council's tone of voice and overarching key messaging. Develop campaign materials that reflect Council's brand and values.
3. **Deliver:** Implement campaigns across selected channels using a digital-first, multi-channel approach to maximise reach and adhere to Council's commitment to sustainability.
4. **Monitor:** Track performance of campaigns in real time (where possible) and adjust activities to improve effectiveness.
5. **Evaluate:** Measure results against KPIs and capture insights and feedback to inform future campaigns.

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Tools and Tactics

OWNED CHANNELS	EARNED CHANNELS	PAID CHANNELS
• Website • Social media (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn) • eNewsletters • SMS notifications • Council publications • Signs and digital screens	• Media coverage (newspaper, radio and TV) • Partnerships with local organisations, schools or businesses • Social media sharing and engagement from community	• Social media advertising • Print advertising • Radio advertising • Signage/banners/bus shelters • Sponsored content • Partnerships

Council should adopt an integrated, multi-channel approach for its marketing activities and campaigns, selecting channels based on audience needs, accessibility and campaign objectives. A tailored, multi-channel approach will allow Council to connect with the community by delivering transparent, inclusive and accessible information.

KPIs

KPI	MEASURE
Campaign reach	Achieve campaign reach targets set based on campaign objectives, audience and budget.
Conversion rate	Monitor people taking a desired action such as registrations, survey completion or bookings *depending on campaign
Brand awareness	Increase in recognition or awareness of Council and its initiatives

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ISSUES MANAGEMENT

City of Palmerston is committed to providing timely, accurate and coordinated communication during issues, incidents and emergencies that may impact the community, Council operations or Council's reputation.

Issues management is a proactive approach focused on identifying and addressing emerging concerns before they escalate. There is a coordinated response used during significant incidents or emergencies that require urgent communication and community updates.

Council will adopt a consistent and transparent approach to issues management and communication by:

- Proactively developing risk assessments and mitigation tactics as well as drafting issues management communications for planned initiatives
- monitoring emerging issues and community concerns
- identify delegations/spokespeople for issues that may arise
- providing timely and accurate information
- communicating clearly and consistently across channels
- supporting community safety and awareness
- coordinating communication internally and externally
- responding appropriately based on the level of impact and risk.

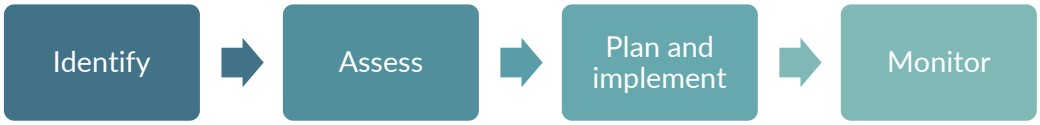
Communication responses may include updates through:

- Council website
- social media
- media statements and interviews
- direct stakeholder communication
- SMS or emergency notifications where appropriate
- community updates and public notices.

Council will continue to review and refine its issues management approach to support continuous improvement and community confidence.

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Issues Management Framework



- Identify - Identify risks associated with initiatives or activities through risk assessments, including drafting communications to use in the event of an emergency. Monitor emerging issues, risks and community concerns through media, social media, operational updates and stakeholder feedback.
- Assess - Assess the potential impact, level of risk, stakeholder interest and likelihood of escalation.

- Plan and implement - Provide coordinated, accurate and timely communication using appropriate channels and messaging.
- Monitor and review - Continue monitoring community response and emerging information to adapt communication as required and support continuous improvement.

During issues, incidents and emergencies, Council's communication aims to deliver timely updates, creating community awareness and understanding with clear and accessible information, ensuring consistent messages across spokespeople and platforms and capturing lessons learned to strengthen future responses.

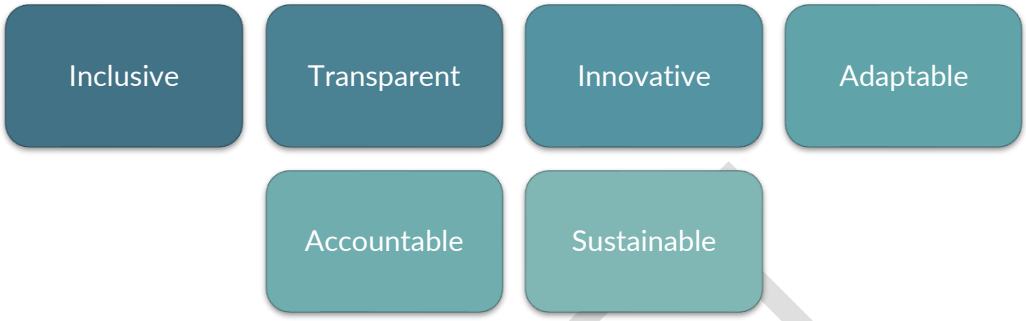
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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

City of Palmerston is committed to open, accessible and accountable decision-making informed by consultation with the Palmerston community.

Community engagement activities are guided by Council's Community Engagement Council Policy and the Engagement Institute (formerly International Association of Public Participation [IAP2]) Spectrum of Public Participation.

Council's key principles for community engagement are:



A planned and consistent approach to community engagement ensures activities are accessible, culturally appropriate and tailored to the needs of the diverse community of Palmerston. Engagement should be meaningful and inclusive, creating genuine opportunities for the community to contribute to decision making, while being transparent about the aspects that can and cannot be influenced. A strong focus should be placed on closing the feedback loop, so participants understand how their input has informed decisions. The table below sets out the levels of engagement and influence in decision making. They are not mutually exclusive and, in many cases, Council will use a combination of techniques suited to the project or activity and stakeholders involved.

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	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Goal	To provide balanced and objective information in a timely manner.	To obtain feedback on issues, alternatives and decisions.	To work with stakeholders to ensure concerns and aspirations are considered and understood.	To partner with stakeholders in each aspect of decision making.	To place final decision making in the hands of the stakeholder.
Council's role	We will keep you informed.	We will explore options by listening and acknowledging your feedback.	We will work with you to ensure your concerns and aspirations are directly reported in the decisions made.	We will look to you for advice and innovation and incorporate this in decision making as much as possible.	We will ensure information and tools are available for you to meaningfully participate.
Community's role	Keep in touch.	Contribute ideas and feedback.	Share ideas, concerns and aspirations.	Work together to develop solutions.	Collaborate with Council to implement the agreed decision.
Example situations/projects	Routine Council maintenance upgrades.	Changes to Council by-laws.	Designing a new local park or playground.	Developing long-term strategic plans.	Deciding on a controversial local issue.
Example tools	• Fact sheets • Flyers • Posters • Social media • Website • Letterbox drops.	• Surveys • Public information/drop in sessions • Written submissions • Email and phone.	• Workshops • Digital engagement.	• Workshops • Working groups.	• Citizens jury • Citizens panel.

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Community engagement activities should remain flexible unless there is a statutory requirement that applies. Engagements should be purpose driven, as opposed to meeting minimum engagement periods or prescribed actions. The focus will be on obtaining a balanced, unbiased view from the community and providing this feedback to Council to support informed decision making.

Community engagement activities will identify the purpose, level of engagement and target audiences, ensuring engagement aligns with the project objectives and community needs. Methods will be selected to suit the community and context, supported by clear, accessible information. Activities should use a mix of in-person and digital approaches to maximise reach and inclusion, keeping the above principles top of mind. Feedback should be considered alongside technical, financial, legislative and operational requirements to inform decision making, with outcomes communicated back to the community to close the feedback loop.

Tools and Tactics

The following tools and tactics are some examples on how to support this approach.

- Community consultation
- Stakeholder meetings
- Workshops
- Pop up stalls
- Town Hall meetings
- Online surveys
- Interactive platforms
- Focus groups
- Community partnerships
- Visual engagement materials
- Conversation Café
- Consultation database

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KPIs

KPI	MEASURE
Participation levels	Number of participants engaged through consultation activities, reported quarterly
Quality of feedback	Collect relevant and constructive feedback that supports informed decision making
Consultation database	Establish a growing database of community wishing to engage regularly on consultations

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.7
Report Title:	Regional Capitals Australia - Renewal of Membership
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Support Officer, Pania Withnall
Approver:	Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Walsh

Community plan

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

Purpose

This report provides Council with an update on the 2025–2026 activities of Regional Capitals Australia and seeks approval for the renewal of Council's membership for 2026–2027, with the Mayor continuing as Council's representative.

Key messages

- Regional Capitals Australia (RCA) is a federal advocacy organisation with a 14-year history of championing the needs of regional cities on the national policy and funding agenda.
- RCA notes that within the halls of Federal Parliament, the term 'regional capital' has become synonymous with regional cities that are not only highly liveable and productive but also experiencing a new wave of growth.
- Being recognised as a regional capital signifies playing a key role in the nation's broader population shift toward regionalism.
- Currently, RCA's membership comprises 21 Councils from across Australia. The City of Palmerston is the only Council in the Northern Territory with membership in RCA.
- This report provides an overview of RCA's activities in 2025–2026 and seeks Council approval to renew membership for the 2026–2027 period.
- Renewing RCA membership will enable City of Palmerston to continue advocating for Council's priorities at the national level through a united voice, while also benefiting from shared experiences, knowledge exchange, and collaborative advocacy with other regional capital cities.

- The 2026–2027 membership fee has not yet been confirmed but is expected to be approximately $11,000 (including GST), based on previous years.
- Should membership be renewed, Council's representatives on RCA would remain the Mayor supported by the CEO.
- It is recommended that Council approve the renewal of RCA membership when due, in order to continue promoting and advocating for the interests of the City of Palmerston and shared issues alongside other regional capital members.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Regional Capitals Australia - Renewal of Membership be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorses City of Palmerston renewing Regional Capitals Australia membership for 2026-2027 with the Mayor as Council's representative.

3. THAT the Mayor be authorised to travel within Australia for Regional Capitals Australia business whilst City of Palmerston is a member of Regional Capitals Australia.

4. THAT a Report on continued City of Palmerston membership for Regional Capitals Australia in 2027-2028 be provided to Council for consideration once due.

Background

Regional Capitals Australia (RCA) is a pre-eminent regional federal advocacy organisation with a 14-year history of putting the needs of regional cities on the national policy and funding agenda.

RCA states that in the halls of Federal Parliament, the term 'regional capital' has become synonymous with regional cities that are not only highly liveable and productive but are also experiencing a new wave of growth.

RCA mission states: To provide a national alliance that champions maximum growth and prosperity for Australia's regional capital cities.

RCA vision states: To see Australia's regional capital cities attain the investment needed to reach their full social and economic potential.

More information on RCA and the various policy, advocacy and report work they have one can be found at https://www.regionalcapitalsaustralia.org/

RCA membership currently consists of 21 Councils from around Australia. City of Palmerston (CoP) is currently the only member of RCA from the Northern Territory, and the Mayor has been appointed to the Board as the Northern Territory Regional Representative.

CoP has and continues to proactively advocate for our community directly and through various groups with the Australian and Northern Territory Government.

CoP has been successful in many areas it has advocated for including delivery of projects and programs. Membership with RCA provides further opportunities for CoP to advocate on national and local issues for our community.

At the 1st Ordinary Council Meeting of 4 June 2024 Council made the following decisions:

13.1.2 Invitation to Join Regional Capitals Australia

1. *THAT Report entitled Invitation to Join Regional Capitals Australia be received and noted.*

2. *THAT Council endorses City of Palmerston joining Regional Capitals Australia for 2024-2025 with the Mayor as Council's representative.*

3. *THAT Council seek to become a Board Member of Regional Capitals Australia.*

4. *THAT the Mayor be authorised to travel within Australia for Regional Capitals Australia business while City of Palmerston is a member of Regional Capitals Australia.*

5. *THAT a report on the 2024-2025 Regional Capitals Australia activities and City of Palmerston membership for 2024-2025 be provided to Council at the First Ordinary Meeting in May 2025.*

CARRIED 10/1369 – 4/06/2024

This report provides an update on activities undertaken for 2025-2026 and seeks approval to renew membership with RCA for 2026-2027.

Discussion

This report provides an overview of the key activities and advocacy efforts undertaken by Regional Capitals Australia (RCA) from May 2025 to April 2026. As a member of RCA, the City of Palmerston (CoP) has benefited or has the possibility to benefit where relevant from these initiatives.

RCA holds regular Board meetings (typically monthly), as well as an Annual General Meeting (AGM) each year. These meetings bring together elected representatives from member councils and typically cover strategic updates, policy discussions and positioning, advocacy planning, financial reporting, and membership engagement.

As CoP's representative, Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell plays a key role at these meetings by:

- Contributing Palmerston's experience to national discussions (e.g., housing pressures, infrastructure needs);
- Advocating for Northern Territory-specific perspectives to ensure they are represented in RCA's national advocacy;
- Participating in policy-setting and decision-making processes at the Board level.

Over the past 12 months, Regional Capitals Australia (RCA) has delivered a coordinated program of governance, advocacy and strategic planning on behalf of member councils, including regular board meetings, a national planning workshop and a federal delegation program.

Key activities included endorsing and progressing national advocacy priorities through submissions to major federal inquiries, including skilled migration, local government funding sustainability, productivity and regional airfares; preparing the 2026–27 Pre-Budget Submission; and maintaining engagement with Commonwealth agencies and stakeholders, including NBN and the Australian Airports Association, to advance infrastructure and connectivity outcomes.

RCA has also undertaken strategic planning to refine its mandate, prioritise advocacy in a constrained funding environment, and identify system-level reforms likely to affect regional capitals over the next 12–18 months. These activities directly benefit Council by strengthening a unified national voice for regional centres, influencing federal policy and funding decisions, and facilitating collaboration, intelligence sharing and collective advocacy on issues affecting regional growth, liveability and economic resilience.

In October 2025, the Mayor participated in a series of meetings in Canberra as part of the RCA delegation, aimed at advancing policy priorities following the 2025 Federal Election. These meetings included discussions with:

- Mr Jaime Chaffey MP - Deputy Chair of Standing Committee on Primary Industries Member for Parkes.
- Mr Ben Small MP, Deputy Chair of Standing Committee on Procedure; and Member for Forrest.
- Mr Tony Mahar - Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner.
- Ms Sybilla Grady & Ms Natalie Heazlewood from the Australian Airports Association.
- Mr Luke Gosling OAM MP, Special Envoy for Defence, Veteran's Affairs & Northern Australia and Federal Member for Solomon.
- The Honourable Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government and Federal Member for Ballarat.
- Chief of Staff to Assistant Minister McBride MP, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health.
- Chief of Staff to Minister O'Neil MP, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Cities.

RCA continues to facilitate valuable connections among local governments facing similar challenges, fostering collaboration and the sharing of ideas.

RCA's policy priorities for 2026 will be to use the pre-election platform to continue advocate for:

- A national population plan that recognises and plans for the growth of regional capital cities;
- Regional migration settings that enable regional capitals to sustainably grow;
- Housing enabling infrastructure and a housing innovation fund to enable our member cities to address their housing crisis;
- Annual allocations to each regional council to support the delivery of community infrastructure;
- Topping up the regional airports program and resolving airport security arrangements to allow for a more equitable system that reflects the risk environment;
- More support for regional arts and culture activities in regional capitals; and
- Better planning and access to funding for water infrastructure to support industry and population growth.

Continued engagement with RCA ensures that the City of Palmerston remains informed, well-represented, and positioned at the forefront of regional development initiatives across Australia.

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

The annual membership fee for RCA has been incorporated within the operational budget.

If CoP remains as a Board Member this will involve three (3) face-to-face meetings in Canberra including advocacy work with Government and up to six virtual meetings. Attendance to these meetings is normally by the Mayor and the CEO where available. It is acknowledged that CoP may not be able to attend all meetings depending on timing and other factors.

There will be some travel involved for the Mayor accompanied by the CEO or Deputy CEO, which will be accommodated from within the operational budget programs.

In addition to RCA meeting and advocacy, CoP will seek opportunities with any travel to Canberra for the Mayor to advocate for Palmerston with Government and Opposition members on a direct and individual basis for the Palmerston community.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

Failure to participate in such collectives may result in the City of Palmerston (CoP) missing valuable opportunities for community development and broader progress.

Membership in the Regional Capitals Alliance (RCA) offers CoP an additional platform to advocate for Palmerston, including pursuing partnerships with the Australian Government to help deliver on the objectives outlined in the Community Plan. A lack of advocacy could lead to missed opportunities to serve our community and secure sustainable financial partnerships.

CoP also benefits from the ability to network and collaborate with similar local government bodies, enabling shared support and collective outcomes. Additionally, the work undertaken by RCA can inform and strengthen future CoP plans and strategies.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

CoP strategies, plans, and frameworks (e.g. environmental sustainability frameworks, playground, creative industries, etc) will inform CoP engagement with RCA and advocacy work.

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

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.8
Report Title:	Adoption of the 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Manager Organisational Performance, Penny Hart
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearon

Community plan

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

Purpose

This Report seeks Council approval for the adoption of the 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget and declaration of the Rates and Charges for the 2026-27 financial year.

Key messages

- Council is required to prepare an annual Budget for adoption for a particular year on or before 30 June in the previous financial year.
- Prior to the adoption of the budget, the Chief Executive Officer must check all available records and certify in writing to Council that the assessment record is complete.
- Council's annual Municipal Plan outlines the service delivery plan and allocated budget for the forthcoming year.
- Council's budget 2026-27 includes:
  - $46.79 million operating revenue including $31.12 million in rates revenue
  - $54 million in operating expenses.
  - $9.42 million in Capital Works.
  - $888,192 in Capital Grants.
  - $3 million in borrowings.
- Free parking, free facility hire for community groups and free entry to SWELL.
- The rating strategy includes:

- 4.9% increase to the Rate on the Dollar (RID) for Residential and Residential Marlow Lagoon properties.
- 5.9% increase to the Rate on the Dollar (RID) for Commercial properties.
- 7% increase to the Rate on the Dollar (RID) for Industrial properties.

- The 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget was open for public consultation for a period of 28 days commencing on 8 April 2026 and closing on 6 May 2026.
- Eight public feedback submissions were received and considered by Council on 2 June 2026.
- Feedback from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development has been incorporated into the final plan.
- Minor administrative updates, for example grammatical errors, were identified and have been incorporated into the plan.
- An amendment was made to Materials and Contractor expenditure in the 2026-27 budget to incorporate Council-endorsed ongoing new initiatives of $63,600.
- The final 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget is now presented to Council for adoption.
- Council must declare its Rates and Charges on or before 30 June each year and in line with the Local *Government Act 2019* (NT) (the Act).
- An early-bird incentive draw will be offered to a total of $3,000 with two successful ratepayers, being natural persons, business owners or sports groups winning $1,500 each.
- The Declaration of Rates and Charges also sets out the due dates for the payment of rates, in full and in instalments and also provides the interest rate to be applied to overdue rates, which is 11.4%.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Adoption of 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget be received and noted.

2. THAT the Chief Executive Officer's Certificate of Assessment in accordance with Section 29(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* being **Attachment 12.1.8.1** to report entitled Adoption of 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget be received and noted.

3. THAT in accordance with Section 35(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) Council adopts the 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget at **Attachment 12.1.8.2** to report entitled Adoption of 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget.

4. THAT Council provides the adopted City of Palmerston 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development in accordance with Section 35 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) before 30 June 2026.

5. THAT Council provides a copy of the adopted City of Palmerston 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget to the Minister for Local Government.

6. THAT Council adopts **Attachment 12.1.8.3** to report entitled Adoption of 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget as its Declaration of Rates and Charges 2026-27.

7. THAT Council notes the Declaration of Rates and Charges 2026-27 will be placed on the website advising residents of the Rates and Charges for 2026-27.

Background

Pursuant to the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) (the Act) Council is required to prepare an annual Budget for adoption for a particular year on or before 30 June in the previous financial year.

Council engaged in a series of budget workshops from November 2025 to April 2026 to discuss the components of the proposed Municipal Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Budget for the fiscal year 2026-27. Feedback from the workshops was integrated into the draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget.

The draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget was presented to Council on 7 April 2026 and adopted for public consultation for a period of 28 days until 6 May 2026:

> ***26.1.4 Draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget***
>
> *1. THAT Report entitled Draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget be received and noted.*
>
> *2. THAT Council endorse the draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget **Attachment 26.1.4.1** to report entitled Draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget for public consultation.*
>
> *3. THAT feedback from the public consultation on the draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan be presented to Council at the 1st Ordinary Council Meeting on 2 June 2026.*
>
> *4. THAT the decisions relating to Report entitled Draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget be moved into open following the draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan media release.*
>
> ***CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0329 – 7/04/2026***

Feedback received during the consultation period was presented to the 1st Ordinary Council Meeting of 2 June 2026:

> ***12.1.4 2026-27 Municipal Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation***
>
> 1. *THAT Report entitled 2026-27 Municipal Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation be received and noted.*
>
> 2. *THAT Council notes the feedback received from the community and thanks respondents for their contributions.*
>
> 3. *THAT Council notes that the feedback from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development will be included in the final 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget.*
>
> 4. *THAT Council notes that the 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget will be presented for adoption at the 16 June 2026 meeting.*
>
> ***CARRIED (8/0) – 11/0411 – 2/06/2026***

This report presents the final Municipal Plan and Budget, incorporating feedback.

In addition, under Section 237 of the Act, Council is required to declare its Rates and Charges each year on or before 30 June, and within 21 days of the declaration, publish a notice on its website.

Council included the proposed rates and charges for public consultation for a period of 28 days in the Draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan.

Discussion

Certification of Assessment Record

Prior to adoption of the budget, Regulation 29 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (the Regulations) requires that the CEO must:

1. Check all available records to ensure that all rateable land is recorded in the assessment record; and
2. Certify, in writing, to Council that, to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief, the assessment record is a comprehensive record of all rateable land within the area.

To ensure that the rates revenue projections are reliable, Council is required to check all available records to ensure all rateable land is recorded in the assessment record. The check was conducted for the 2026-27 rates modelling and included assessment with NT Integrated Land Information Systems and a reconciliation against the NT Valuer Generals Valuation Roll.

The certification at **Attachment 12.1.8.1** is compliant with Regulation 29 of the Regulations. The signed copy is presented to Council as per the legislative requirements.

Municipal Plan

The 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget at **Attachment 12.1.8.2** reflects Council's overarching Community Plan, aligning with its six defined outcomes. These outcomes serve as the framework for performance and service plans, guiding Council's activities for the upcoming 2026-27 fiscal year. Progress towards these objectives will be tracked and reported in the subsequent Annual Report for 2026-27.

The structure of the 2026-27 budget adheres to the guidelines outlined in the Act. It integrates operational and capital income and expenditure within the income statement, providing a comprehensive view of Council's overall financial capacity.

The Municipal Plan covers the following key areas:

- CEO and Mayor's messages outlining the content of the plan.
- Summary of the key rates information for 2026-27.
- Information about Elected Members and their allowances.
- Council's staffing structure and plan.
- Council's performance measures, informed by community feedback obtained from the Community Satisfaction Survey.
- The program, project and service delivery plan.
- Opportunities and challenges faced by Council.
- Information about the rating strategy, fees and charges, and Council’s policies relating to rate concessions and financial hardship.
- The Financial Statements.

Updates to the Municipal Plan

The following amendments were made to the final version of the Municipal Plan:

- Administrative corrections including grammar, spelling and photo caption references.
- Public consultation information updated on page 5.
- Community Plan Health Check information updated on page 20.
- Two Internet links were updated in the document based on feedback from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

Following the consultation period and subsequent review of the Municipal Plan, it was identified that two ongoing Council-endorsed initiatives had not been administratively captured in the draft budget and therefore required inclusion. These comprise $21,600 for offsite backup services and $52,000 for Aquatic Centre other structure renewals (including a $42,000 increase, with $10,000 treated as business-as-usual expenditure). Both initiatives were endorsed by Council at the 3 March 2026 meeting and have now been incorporated into the 2026–27 budget.

2026-27 Budget

The budget is presented as balanced, ensuring continuity in delivering services to the Palmerston community. It acknowledges Council's present and future financial capabilities to sustain quality service provision, facility maintenance, infrastructure development and the initiation of new projects aligned with the objectives of the Community Plan.

The 2026-27 Budget includes:

- $46.79 million operating revenue including $31.12 million in rates revenue
- $54 million in operating expenses
- $9.42 million in Capital Works.
- $0.89 million in Capital Grants
- $3 million in borrowings.

Noteworthy aspects of the budget are highlighted below.

Rates

- Residential rate on the UCV is increasing by 4.9% and the minimum rate for residentials will increase by $71.50.
- Commercial rate on the UCV is increasing by 5.9% and the minimum rate for commercial ratepayers will increase by $87.45.
- Industrial rate on the UCV is increasing by 7% and the minimum rate for industrial ratepayers will increase by $87.45.

Charges

$9.44 million will be generated for waste charges. The Waste Service Charge for customers with a regular waste service will be charged at $631 per household which is a $19 increase from prior years. Increases to the Waste Service Charge are based on contractual increases.

$1.13 million will be generated from statutory charges and user charges and fees, which includes changes to fees and charges such as animal registrations and renewals, infringements (animal, parking, public place), license fees, private works, planning and development fees, lease income, library fees, and hall and facility hire.

General

Initiatives such as free parking in the City Centre and entry to SWELL will continue. Operational Grant revenue and contributions total $3.86 million, including Federal Assistance Grants. Employee expenses amount to $13.34 million, which includes 103.35 FTEs, employee related insurance and Fringe Benefit Tax.

Capital program

Capital expenditure of $9.42 million is budgeted, with $888,192 funded by external funding, $4.68 million from operational income, $695,000 from reserves, $150,000 from sale of assets, and $3 million from borrowings. The capital program will include:

- Buildings (including Zuccoli Community Hub) - $4.50 million.
- Parks & Reserves - $0.98 million.
- Furniture and Fittings – $0.51 million.
- Laneways and pathways - $0.53 million.
- Roads Capital Program - $2.10 million.
- Public Lighting - $0.19 million.
- Stormwater renewals - $0.21 million.
- Fleet Purchases – $0.41 million.

Pursuant to the Act, Council is required to report on significant capital projects falling into three categories:

- those currently in progress.
- projects extending beyond a single financial year.
- projects slated for completion within the current (2026-27) financial year.

These projects are classified as follows:

- Major projects extending over one year:
  - Zuccoli Community Hub development.
  - Enterprise Resource Planning.
  - SWELL Café/Airconditioning.
  - Solar Panel and Battery Installation - SWELL

- Major projects to be completed in the first quarter of 2028-29:
  - Zuccoli Community Hub – Stage 3 design.

City of Palmerston remains financially robust and viable. Through prudent budgeting, planning, and financial management, Council will uphold the delivery of high-quality services to the community.

Declaration of Rates and Charges

Council is required each year to make a public declaration of its Rates and Charges which is then made available on Council's website and in the local newspaper. It outlines the total rates revenue that is estimated to be collected, what rates Council will charge for different types of properties, the total funds to be collected from the Waste Service Charge and the different Waste Services Charges for differing types of properties.

In accordance with Section 226(1)(b) of the Act, Council will be levying rates according to the zone of a property. Rates will be raised by the application of differential valuation-based charges with differential minimum amounts being payable in application of each of those differential rates as set out in the Declaration of Rates and Charges in respect of the financial year ending 30 June 2027.

This will generate an expected general rate income of $31,116,443.

To enable Council to provide waste management services for the benefit of all residential land within the Municipality and the occupiers of such land, Council intends to raise an amount of $9,439,365 which will be raised by the imposition of the waste charges as set out in the Declaration of Rates and Charges for the financial year ending 30 June 2027.

Council's kerbside collection service charge increased by $19.00 compared to the 2025-26 kerbside collection service charge. For additional waste service charges, refer to the 2026-27 Declaration of Rates.

It is recommended that that declaration at **Attachment 12.1.8.3** is adopted.

Early Bird Draw

The Declaration includes the continuation of Council's incentive in the form of an 'Early Bird Draw' for ratepayers to the value of $3,000. This will consist of two monetary prizes to the value of $1,500 each, for two ratepayers who pay their rates in full by the first instalment deadline of 30 September 2026. This is to encourage the early and full payment of Rates and Charges to City of Palmerston. The terms and conditions for the early bird draw will be available on Council's website from August 2026.

Consultation and marketing

Input from Elected Members and staff was sought during the preparation of the 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget.

The draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget was presented to Council for approval to commence the 28-day period of public consultation from 8 April 2026 to 6 May 2026, which was promoted via Council's social media platforms, website and the NT News.

The rating estimates were also published in the draft.

The draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan was also submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development as part of the consultation period for review to ensure alignment with the provisions of the Act. The Department provided minor feedback in response.

Once adopted Council must publish the budget on the council's website, notify the Department in writing of the adoption of the budget and publish a notice in the newspaper.

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

- Executive Manager Financial Performance.
- Finance & Rates Supervisor.

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

- Mills Oakley.

Policy implications

City of Palmerston's Municipal Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Budget have been developed in accordance with Council's policies and legislative requirements under the Act.

The declaration of rates takes into consideration Council's Rating Policy, which sets the framework for the principles of rating and the methodology that is to be applied when levying rates within the Palmerston municipality.

Budget and resource implications

Council reviewed the draft financial statements during workshops conducted in February, March, and April 2026. Council feedback provided during these sessions on the Long-Term Financial Plan, Municipal Plan and Budget 2026-27 was incorporated into current drafts.

It is imperative for Council to consistently seek the right equilibrium between service provisions, program offerings, and their associated costs to the community.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

Council has developed a Municipal Plan in accordance with the Act.
Section 237 of *the Act* states that Council shall declare its rates on or before 30 June in each year.

In accordance with the *Section 29* of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, the Chief Executive Officer is required to certify to Council that the assessment record is a comprehensive record of all rateable land within the area to their knowledge, information, and belief.

The Declaration of Rates and Charges has been reviewed by Milla Oakley, who have advised that in their opinion it is compliant with the requirements of the Act.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

The Municipal Plan and Budget 2026-27 delivers on City of Palmerston's adopted strategies, framework and plans for the 2026-27 period.

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. Certification of Assessment Records 2026-27 [**12.1.8.1** - 1 page]
2. Municipal Plan 2026-27 [**12.1.8.2** - 60 pages]
3. Declaration of Rates 2026-27 [**12.1.8.3** - 5 pages]

CERTIFICATION OF ASSESSMENT RECORDS

As per Section 29 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

This is to certify that, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the assessment record maintained by Council under section 230 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) is a comprehensive record of all rateable land within the municipality.

Signed: _____ Date: 09.06.2026

Andrew Walsh
Chief Executive Officer
City of Palmerston

city of
PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'



MUNICIPAL PLAN 2026–27



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.

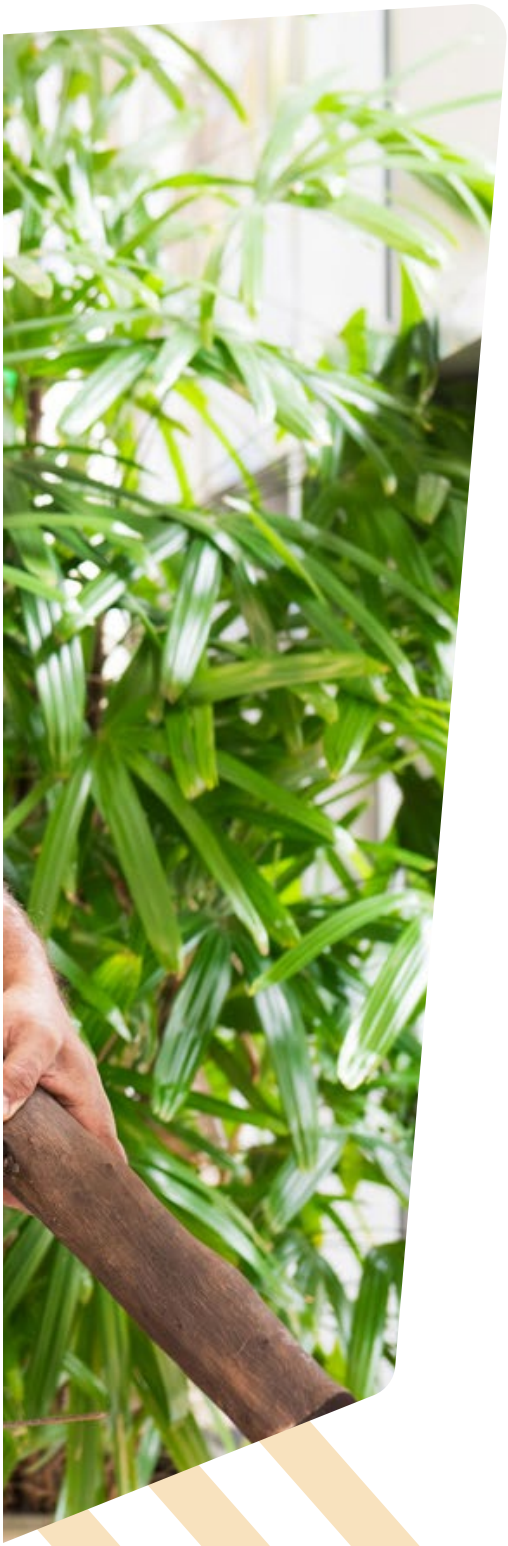
City of Palmerston is committed to embracing diversity and eliminating all forms of discrimination within our facilities and welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or faith.

Pictured: Aboriginal culture Australia Day Recreational Centre January 2026

Pictured front cover: Palmerston family, attending a free event, 2025

Pictured back cover: Weaving International Womens Day March 2026

This document has been printed on recycled material.



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INTRODUCTION

City of Palmerston's Municipal Plan sets out the services, programs and initiatives to be delivered for the Palmerston community in 2026-27. It outlines how resources, including Council rates, fees and charges, will be allocated to provide essential services, deliver community events and projects, protect and enhance our natural environment, and support cultural diversity and a thriving local economy.

Our community is at the heart of everything we do. The Community Plan, created by the people of Palmerston in 2018, promotes a shared vision of Palmerston as 'A Place for People'. This vision continues to guide Council's strategic direction and ensures our work reflects the aspirations and priorities of our community.

As the second largest and fastest growing city in the Northern Territory, Palmerston is a dynamic regional hub with a strong future. Rapid growth brings significant opportunities but also challenges, particularly ensuring planning and decision-making carefully consider social impacts, balances sustainability with progress, supports and attracts local businesses, and makes it easy for the community to engage with Council and participate in decision-making.

Building on the strengths that make Palmerston unique and fostering innovation are essential to achieving our long-term aspirations, where Palmerston is a welcoming, vibrant family city that celebrates diversity, fosters unity and ensures everyone feels safe and included. We look forward to working closely with our community to deliver the outcomes they expect and deserve.

COMMUNITY PLAN OUTCOMES

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

02 **Vibrant economy:** Palmerston is a destination city for employment. It is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and grow.

03 **Cultural diversity:** In Palmerston, we celebrate our cultures in a way that values our diversity.

04 **A Future focus:** Palmerston is an innovative city that sustains itself through the challenges of the future.

05 **Environmental sustainability:** Palmerston is an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.

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

The outcomes include the objectives we need to achieve and the ways we'll measure our success in achieving them.

SNAPSHOT

POPULATION[1]
41 538

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA
72 KM²

GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT[2]
$2.28 B

MEDIAN AGE[2]
31

TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES
$54 M

PLANNING AND REPORTING

Local governments in the Northern Territory undertake planning and reporting activities in line with the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) (Local Government Act) and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (NT) (Local Government Regulations).

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

City of Palmerston undertakes a 28-day consultation period in line with the Local Government Act and Regulations.

1 https://dbr.abs.gov.au/region.html?lyr=lga&rgn=72800

2 https://profile.id.com.au/rda-northern-territory/highlights?WebID=200

3 https://economy.id.com.au/rda-northern-territory/about?WebID=200

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



It is a privilege to serve the Palmerston community as Mayor, and together with the Elected Members of the 11th Council we remain committed to thoughtful, long-term planning for our growing city while continuing to deliver the essential services our community relies on every day.

I am pleased to present City of Palmerston's 2026–27 Municipal Plan, which outlines our ongoing commitment to enhancing community wellbeing, supporting a thriving lifestyle and progressing the priorities set by the people of Palmerston in our Community Plan.

In 2026–27, we will continue building a city where families flourish. This includes finalising a dynamic library makeover and offering a diverse calendar of free, family-friendly events including Live at the Lake, Flicnics, the 10th anniversary of Brekkie in the Park and the much-loved Christmas Wonderland. We will also continue to support the expansion of Palmerston's cultural and music scene, championing major events and our ongoing involvement in the Darwin Festival.

Zuccoli Community Hub is developing as an integrated multipurpose community precinct designed to meet open space, recreation and community needs for the rapidly growing Zuccoli community and City of Palmerston municipality. The Stage 3 design progressing in 2026-27 will consider a playground, entrance to the area, community hall and a second building as a shared technology and community purpose space.

We will continue to champion local businesses through capability-building initiatives, the Palmerston Business Futures Forum and our ongoing commitment to buying local. Council will also maintain strong partnerships with key government and industry organisations while continuing business newsletters, workshops and advocacy support. Additionally, the refurbishment and activation of the library cafe will create a vibrant community hub that boosts activity in the CBD.

In line with our sustainability commitments, SWELL will undergo a major upgrade with solar panels and battery storage, supported by the Australian Government's Community Energy Upgrades Fund. As Council's highest energy-consuming facility, this project will deliver infrastructure upgrades that will significantly reduce energy consumption and help Council meet the objectives of its Sustainability Strategy and the outcomes of the Community Plan.

Community safety remains a priority for us. Our Regulatory Services team will strengthen safety and wellbeing through responsible pet ownership initiatives, proactive engagement and the review of the Palmerston (Public Places) By-laws 2001. We will continue advocating for the funding needed to support safe urban design and city activation.

We are also undertaking a health check of our Community Plan to ensure our activities continue to align with the outcomes our community values most. Your ideas and feedback will help shape the next chapter for Palmerston, guiding our shared vision for the future. Our annual survey shows residents are experiencing improved opportunities to engage in Council decision-making, with more people connecting with us over the past year. This direct feedback informs our planning and will guide our efforts again when the survey returns in late 2026.

In developing this year's budget, we have recognised that rising costs of living continue to place pressure on households and our operational expenses. While we strive to deliver a balanced budget that meets community expectations in services and affordability, we understand that factors beyond Council's control are impacting everyone. These challenges are taken very seriously, and we will be closely monitoring cost pressures, such as fuel-related impacts, to ensure value for the community while re-prioritising non- essential services as required.

I extend my sincere thanks to our community, stakeholders and staff for their continued support and dedication. Together, we look forward to building on our shared vision of Palmerston as 'A Place for People' throughout 2026–27.



Athina Pascoe-Bell
Mayor

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



As CEO, it is a privilege to support a thriving Palmerston and ensure our organisation continues to meet the needs of our growing community. City of Palmerston's 2026–27 Municipal Plan reinforces our commitment to delivering high-quality services, events and programs, maintaining critical infrastructure and supporting the diverse people who call Palmerston home.

In 2026–27, Council will deliver a $54 million operational budget and $9.42 million capital program. Major capital works include the continued delivery of Zuccoli Community Hub Stage through the design of Stage 3, and ongoing improvements to playgrounds, pathways and tree planting. These projects support liveability and wellbeing while strengthening Palmerston's public spaces. Free venue hire for community groups will continue throughout 2026–27, with a shift to not-for-profit fees from January 2027 to support fairer access and better use of shared spaces.

Maintaining and caring for our existing infrastructure also remains central to our work. This includes roads, streetlights, stormwater systems, footpaths, laneways and key community facilities such as the Civic Plaza, Recreation Centre, library and public amenities. We continue to improve the usability and amenity of parks and open spaces through upgrades and maintenance, ensuring our outdoor areas remain safe, welcoming and shaded for all.

Palmerston's annual events calendar will again showcase the rich diversity of our community, offering programs and celebrations for people of all ages and backgrounds. The coming year will also see the implementation of the Library 5-Year Masterplan and continued delivery of the Palmerston Local Economic Plan, supporting local business capability, investment attraction and growth.

Internally, we remain focused on strengthening our workforce. Enhancing recruitment and onboarding processes, supported by actions from our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan and Disability Inclusion Action Plan, will ensure our organisation remains inclusive, culturally safe and capable of delivering high-quality services.

Improving digital inclusion remains a key priority. We are exploring AI-assisted online support to enhance customer experience and expanding self-service functions on our website to streamline processes and reduce administrative workloads. Our commitment to high-quality engagement will continue through activities aligned with our Community Engagement Policy and the new Communications and Engagement Strategy. These efforts will strengthen all Council touchpoints with the community, from content creation and media relations to accessible, easy-to-understand communications in formats that meet community needs.

We remain committed to maintaining service levels and delivering the fundamentals well, even as rising industry costs and broader cost-of-living pressures continue to shape the financial environment in which we operate. Our focus this year is on sustaining the programs, services and events our community values. We have developed the budget using the best information available at the time. Management will closely monitor impacts and report emerging financial pressures through established governance and oversight processes, ensuring we remain transparent, responsible and responsive as we continue to grow as 'A Place for People'.

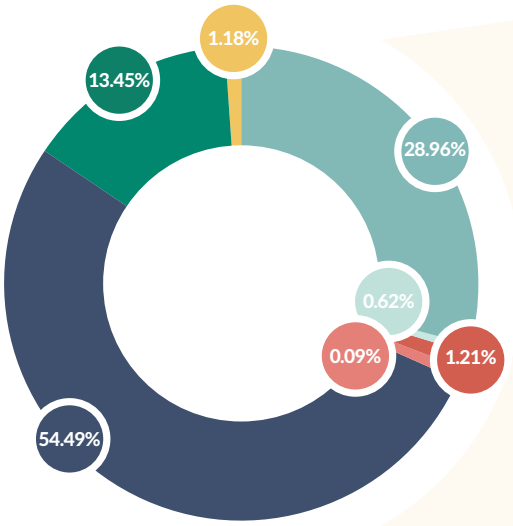
Thank you to our residents, businesses, volunteers and staff for your ongoing support. Together, we look forward to building an even stronger, more connected and more prosperous Palmerston in 2026–27.



Andrew Walsh
Chief Executive Officer

OUR YEAR AHEAD

PERCENTAGE OF RATES SPENT



- Employee costs
- Materials, contracts & other expenses
- Borrowing costs
- Capital Expenditure
- Elected Member Allowances
- Loan Repayments
- Elected Member Expenses

$71.50
INCREASE TO THE RESIDENTIAL MINIMUM RATE

$87.45
INCREASE TO THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL MINIMUM RATE

FREE ENTRY
TO SWELL AND FREE PARKING

$9.42 M
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS SPEND

$2.05 M
ROADS CAPITAL PROGRAM

$565,400
PLAY SPACE RENEWALS AND UPGRADES

$271,474
PATHWAYS AND LANEWAYS

250
NEW TREES

$269,600
SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

ZUCCOLI
COMMUNITY HUB STAGE 3 DESIGN

$51,400
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

LIBRARY
MODERNISATION MAKEOVER

$15,000
CBD SIGNAGE REPLACEMENT

COUNCILLOR
SAFETY & WELLBEING FRAMEWORK

$250,000
COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

MARLOW LAGOON
MASTERPLAN

YOUR RATES

As the overall costs of living and business increase across the country, City of Palmerston and its community have faced the economic reality of rising costs in supplies and services.

While Council aims to mitigate these impacts, the ongoing challenges of economic pressures, supply constraints and general elevated costs of living have contributed to increased costs for contracts, goods and services. Despite this, Council strives to keep the rate increases as minimal as possible, aiming not to place too much financial burden on the community whilst upholding high standards of service delivery.

City of Palmerston applies the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) method as the basis for determining the assessed rates for each property A residential rate is applied to the UCV, also known as rate in the dollar (RID). In 2026-27 the RID will increase for all properties, including residential, commercial and industrial:

- 4.9% increase to the RID for Residential and Residential Marlow Lagoon properties
- 5.9% increase to the RID for Commercial properties
- 7% increase to the RID for all Industrial properties.

Minimum rates for residential properties in Palmerston will increase by $71.50,. This will result in 9,729 properties (68%) of the residential properties remaining on the minimum rate of $1,530.66.

Minimum rates for Commercial properties will increase by $87.45. This will result in 256 properties (53%) remaining on the minimum rate of $1,569.69.

Minimum rates for Industrial properties will increase by $87.45. This will result in 147 properties (30%) remaining on the minimum rate of $1,569.69.

Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) covers a ten-year period and is our principal document for ensuring we remain financially sustainable. The 2026-27 Budget forms the base of the LTFP. The current plan is available at www.palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Rating Zone	Rate on UCV	Minimum Rate	Change
R, RR (Excluding RR in the suburb of Marlow Lagoon) LR, LMR, MR, HR, CL, FD, PS, SP8*07, SP9*07 (<10,000m2), SP9*07 (>20,000m2), SP10*07, SP11*07, and SP1*20	.643173%	$1,530.66	$71.50 increase to the minimum from 2025-26 4.9% increase to the Rate on the UCV
RR in the Suburb of Marlow Lagoon	.528389%	$1,530.66	$71.50 increase to the minimum from 2025-26 4.9% increase to the Rate on the UCV
Industrial+	.623594%	$1,569.69	$87.45 increase to the minimum from 2025-26 7% increase to the Rate on the UCV
All other rateable land	.925919%	$1,569.69	$87.45 increase to the minimum from 2025-26 5.9% increase to the Rate on the UCV

Notes:

*"*20" means from the Northern Territory Planning Scheme 2020.*

*"*07" means from the Northern Territory Planning Scheme 2007.*

+This includes GI, DV and LI from the Industrial category and U from the Utility category.

WASTE CHARGES

Waste Management Charge	2022-23	2023-34	2024-25	2025-26	Budget year 2026-27
Residential Kerbside Collection	$480	$527	$557	$612	$631
Manual Service Collection (<25 units)	$480	$527	$557	$612	$631
Multiple Dwelling (25 units +)**	$240	$264	$279	$308	$320
Upgrade to 240L Annual Service Charge	$149	$167	$174	$179	$188
Additional General Waste Kerbside Bin 120L*	$256	$274	$294	$316	$332
Additional Recycling Kerbside Bin*	$113	$113	$120	$120	$126
Additional General Waste Manual Bin*	$297	$318	$339	$362	$380
Additional Recycling Manual Bin*	$113	$113	$120	$120	$126

These are charged through Fees and Charges, for more information visit www.palmerston.nt.gov.au

***Council declares this charge where the number of residential dwellings exceeds 25 and the property has its own alternative regular waste collection service.*



EARLY BIRD DRAW

Each year, Council runs a draw which gives two lucky ratepayers, who have paid their rates in full by the first instalment date, $1,500 each. Early Bird Draw Terms and Conditions will be available in August 2026 at www.palmerston.nt.gov.au.

OUR COUNCIL

City of Palmerston's 11th Council consists of seven Councillors and the Mayor, with a rotating term of office for the Deputy Mayor which is filled by the Councillors. The 11th Council was elected by residents on 23 August 2025 and sworn in for a four-year term on 9 September 2025.

ELECTED MEMBERS



MAYOR ATHINA PASCOE-BELL

Athina and her husband settled in Palmerston in 2004, choosing Marlow Lagoon as their home. They've built their life there, raising their two teenagers. With 20 years in spatial science, split between private and public sectors in NSW and NT, Athina brings extensive governance and planning expertise. Recently, she completed a Bachelor of Laws at CDU to enhance her contribution to the community. Beyond work, she enjoys outdoor activities with Scouts and indulges her creativity in sewing, crochet and occasional woodwork. Athina prioritises sound decision-making and quality outcomes and is eager to collaborate with diverse community groups within the Palmerston community and beyond.



COUNCILLOR WAYNE BAYLISS

Wayne has served the Northern Territory community for 29 years as a dedicated member of the NT Police Force, predominately in the Territory Intelligence Division and Youth Diversion Unit. Throughout his career he has been recognised for his steady leadership, professionalism and commitment to public safety across the Territory. Wayne has lived in Palmerston since 1996, building both his career and his family within the community. He and his wife Lisa have been married for 27 years and have raised three sons in Palmerston, where the family remains closely connected through schools, sport and long-standing community ties. With nearly three decades of service, Wayne's story reflects loyalty, resilience and a deep commitment to the people and places of the Northern Territory.



COUNCILLOR MARK FRASER

Mark has called Palmerston home for more than 20 years and was inspired to serve on Council by his passion for community involvement and local decision-making. Having raised his family in Rosebery, he is committed to supporting a city that offers strong community connections, accessible public spaces and opportunities for residents of all ages. Mark is focused on sustainable growth that balances liveability with the needs of a rapidly expanding population. He is particularly interested in how new industries and innovation can strengthen Palmerston's future. Mark is dedicated to ensuring Council remains responsive, responsible and guided by the values that make Palmerston 'A Place for People.'



COUNCILLOR DAMIAN HALE

Damian has called the Northern Territory home since 1974, residing in Maningrida, Katherine and Darwin before settling into the suburb of Gunn with his wife, Maria. With prior experience as the Federal Member for Solomon from 2007 to 2010, Damian is well-equipped to advocate for the Palmerston community on significant future matters. Damian was a Premiership winning player and Coach at St Marys Football Club, and is a Life Member of St Marys Football Club and AFLNT. His background includes work with the Australian Workers Union on the INPEX Project, and his current role is Director with Balcor, a local Indigenous-owned and registered NDIS provider.



COUNCILLOR SARAH HENDERSON

Sarah, a dedicated community advocate and entrepreneur, has been an integral part of the Palmerston community for nearly 40 years. Together with her husband, she has raised five children in Palmerston, and now her grandchildren are growing up in this vibrant community. Actively engaged in various Palmerston community groups over the years, Sarah participates in multiple committees and clubs, particularly supporting the seniors in her community. Throughout this term, Sarah is committed to enhancing services, extending support to fellow community members and advancing Palmerston's sustainability objectives.



COUNCILLOR YOLANDA KANYAI

Yolanda has called Palmerston home since 2021 and is an active contributor within the social and community sector. She works closely with community development teams, enhancing growth and reach of human service projects in metropolitan and remote communities. Yolanda brings a combination of lived experience and academic insight to her work. She holds a Graduate Certificate in Society and Individual from Flinders University and a Bachelor of Design from Charles Darwin University. Beyond her professional life, Yolanda is actively involved in the NT football community, supporting development of grassroots participation; while in her personal time, she enjoys indoor recreational activities and DIY crafts.



COUNCILLOR LUCY MORRISON

Lucy has lived in the Northern Territory since 2008, after moving to the Top End from Queensland. With nearly 20 years' experience in the communications and media industry, she has worked as a journalist and other media roles, as well as in public relations. Lucy's local government and NT Government roles and experience provide her deep governmental insight which she uses to help the community navigate the sometimes heavy bureaucracy. Passionate about healthy living and an active lifestyle, she advocates for involvement in sports and community activities. Lucy focuses on park beautification, city greening, lake management and fostering community participation at events and activities.



COUNCILLOR ROB WATERS

Like many new Northern Territorians, Rob and his wife Nichole came to the NT on what was meant to be a six-month contract. They quickly fell in love with the Territory lifestyle and chose to raise their family outside Darwin's city constraints, settling in Gunn for its vibrant surrounds and strong community spirit. With over 40 years in the hospitality sector, living and working across three continents and five countries, Rob has built extensive experience working with diverse colleagues and communities. This has shaped his leadership approach and strengthened his commitment to helping others succeed. Entering Council, Rob brings a practical, balanced perspective with a strong focus on supporting diverse community groups, strengthening small business and delivering responsible fiscal management for the entire electorate.



Pictured: 11th Council inauguration, Gray Community Hall, 2025

ALLOWANCES

Elected Members are provided with financial support in recognition of the significant level of voluntary work required to represent their community. The Northern Territory Remuneration Tribunal reviewed the Local Government Councils and Local Authority Members allowances in 2025. The allowances were revised and on 12 March 2026 the Chief Minister tabled the new Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Councils in the Legislative Assembly. Further information can be found at: https://cmc.nt.gov.au/committees/remuneration-tribunal.

The updated allowances come into effect on 1 July 2026 and are detailed below:

Allowance Type	Mayor	Deputy Mayor	Councillor
Annual Allowance	$26,352.00	$26,352.00	$26,352.00
Additional Allowance	$97,680.00	$17,200.00	-
Extra Meeting Allowance	-	$12,000.00	$12,000.00
Professional Development Allowance	$7,500.00	$7,500.00	$7,500.00
Travel/Vehicle Allowance	-	$10,000.00	$10,000.00
Provision of Motor Vehicle	$25,000.00	-	-
Total	**$156,532.00**	**$73,052.00**	**$55,852.00**

Councillors and the Deputy Mayor are entitled to claim an Extra Meeting Allowance up to a yearly maximum of $12,000. The claimable allowance is:

- $200 for meetings up to 2 hours
- $300 for meetings between 2 and 4 hours
- $500 for meetings over 4 hours (maximum payable for any one day).

Details of other entitlements for Elected Members are outlined in Council's Elected Member Allowances and Expenses Policy available on the website.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pursuant to section 165 of the Local Government Act, Council employs a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and delegates responsibilities to them to undertake the day-to-day management of Council's operations, including the management of staff. The CEO is responsible for the overall administration of Council and works closely with Elected Members to ensure Council's goals and objectives are met.

The CEO is supported in his responsibilities by four General Managers. This group forms Council's Executive Leadership Team, which leads the staff and operates across the five key areas outlined below.



ANDREW WALSH

Chief Executive Officer

Responsibilities include:

- Advocacy
- Business performance and improvement
- Council and committee services
- Executive support
- Office of the Mayor and Elected Members
- Strategic initiatives and partnerships
- Strategic organisational planning
- Strategy and insights



NADINE NILON

Deputy Chief Executive Officer / General Manager Infrastructure

Responsibilities include:

- Building maintenance
- City and statutory planning
- Environmental sustainability
- Infrastructure design and delivery
- Infrastructure maintenance and operations
- Lake management
- Natural environment management
- Outdoor workforce
- Parks and open spaces
- Project management
- Public lighting
- Resilience and disaster management
- Stormwater and transport
- Waste and resource recovery



KONRAD SEIDL

General Manager Community

Responsibilities include:

- Community development
- Community facility management
- Community grants and sponsorship
- Community health and wellbeing
- Community inclusion
- Community networks
- Community safety
- Library services
- Multicultural interests
- Partnerships
- Reconciliation
- Recreation and leisure
- Regulatory services



EMMA BLIGHT

General Manager People and Place

Responsibilities include:

- Arts and culture
- Community engagement
- Community events
- Customer experience
- Economic development
- Marketing and communications
- Organisational culture and development
- Partnerships
- People
- Placemaking
- Safety and wellbeing
- Strategic projects



CHRIS FEARON

General Manager Finance and Governance

Responsibilities include:

- Asset management
- Corporate reporting
- External and internal audit programs
- Financial management
- Fleet management
- Governance
- Information and records management
- Information technology
- Procurement
- Property and commercial
- Risk management

OUR PEOPLE

City of Palmerston is a great place to work, and we want to demonstrate the value people receive through their employment.

Pictured: City of Palmerston staff end of year breakfast, Palmerston Golf Club, 2025.



City of Palmerston is committed to creating a constructive, supportive team environment with core practices of professional development and collaboration.

We are dedicated to having a positive impact on our community through investing in our people, who deliver for Palmerston through the pillars of our Customer Service Charter:

- Make it easy
- Perform with pride
- Listen, learn and act
- Evaluate and improve.

The CEO is ultimately responsible for the employment of all employees, in accordance with Council's approved Staffing Plan. The Staffing Plan for 2026–27 allows for approximately 100 employees who operate under the CEO's direction and are divided into five directorates:

- Office of the Chief Executive Officer
- People and Place
- Community
- Infrastructure
- Finance and Governance.

These positions are the equivalent of 103.35 full-time positions (known as full-time equivalents, or FTEs). The total budget for employee costs for 2026–27 is $13.34 million, which includes wages, superannuation and employee insurance.

City of Palmerston is a great place to work and we want to demonstrate the value people receive through their employment. We provide staff with fair and transparent employment conditions through our Enterprise Agreement. This includes improved recreation leave, options for salary sacrifice and access to employee assistance and wellbeing programs. We're also working on creating a positive and healthy workplace through new ways of working, with a focus on strengthening employee engagement and alignment through avenues beyond traditional terms and conditions. This includes encouraging further collaboration and connection with our people through workplace workshops led by staff and the newly established Employee Consultative Committee.

We will continue strengthening how we attract and retain staff by improving our recruitment and onboarding processes. This includes incorporating actions from our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan and Disability Inclusion Action Plan to ensure our practices are inclusive and culturally safe. Having skilled and capable employees ultimately benefits our community by ensuring we can deliver high-quality services.

In 2026-27 we will also redesign key people and workforce processes to make them more efficient and easier for staff to use. This work focuses on removing unnecessary steps and duplication in our operations so that employees can focus their time on meaningful work that supports organisational goals and the Palmerston community.

> *Investing in our people ensures we can deliver meaningful outcomes for the Palmerston community.*

OUR PERFORMANCE

Council relies on a yearly Community Satisfaction Survey to gain an understanding of the community's satisfaction in relation to the facilities, events and services we provide.

The survey allows us to monitor our performance and identify successful outcomes, community priorities and areas for improvement. It reports on the six key outcome areas of the Community Plan:

- Family and Community
- Vibrant Economy
- Cultural Diversity
- A Future Focus
- Environmental Sustainability
- Governance.

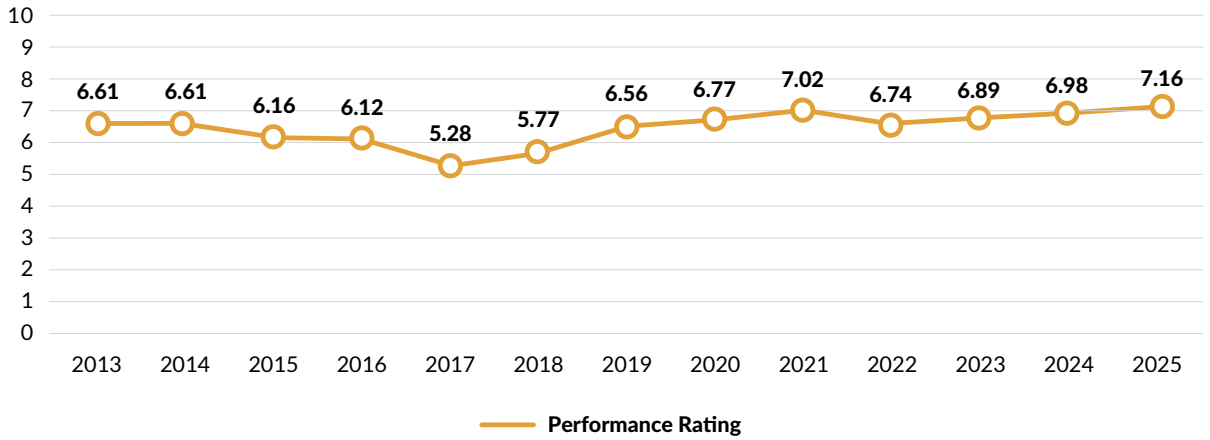
There are a range of indicators under each outcome to measure Council's progress. Many of these indicators are measured and tracked through Council's standard operating processes; however, others rely on the thoughts, perceptions and satisfaction levels of the community, which are measured through the annual survey.

In 2025, we received feedback from 600 residents via telephone and 15 online. The overall average score for the survey increased from 6.95/10 in 2024 to 7.26/10 in 2025, which is an all-time high, indicating a positive result for Council. Overall, residents are experiencing an improvement in their ability to engage with Council decision-making, supported by a growing number of people reaching out to Council over the past year. From the perspective of the community, the most significant Council achievements were the festivals, events and markets put on, improved footpaths and roads, and upgraded swimming facilities.

Last year, Council's Net Promoter Score improved by 2 points from -8 to -6, which is a small but positive shift. The Net Promoter Score is a standardised measure which represents how likely our residents are to recommend living in Palmerston. It can range from –100 (100% detractors) to +100 (100% promoters), with 0 being passive where residents don't promote or detract the area. Among promoters, the most common reasons for recommending City of Palmerston as a place to live included being a nice area in general, a community area with activities for families, proximity to amenities and services, and being relaxed and quiet without crowds.

Crime, safety and antisocial behaviour emerged as the most pressing concerns for the Palmerston community in 2025. In response, Council continues to advocate for residents while delivering programs that positively influence these issues, including youth initiatives, community events, enhanced laneway management and strong collaboration with government and key organisations. At the same time, Council is also navigating growing expectations to support and attract local businesses, advocate for community interests in planning and development, and deliver effective animal management services. These priorities are being addressed through the outcomes and objectives outlined in our Community Plan, which guide our long-term approach to strengthening the wellbeing, safety and prosperity of Palmerston.

OVERALL SCORE TREND



The 2025 average scores for outcomes have continued trending upward. As a result, this year marked a new milestone, achieving the highest average score across the measures of 7.16/10. There were no decreases in any outcome.

Key Area	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change
Family and Community	6.80	7.16	6.89	6.96	7.27	7.43	*+0.16*
Vibrant Economy	6.28	6.55	6.24	6.44	6.44	6.69	*+0.25*
Cultural Diversity	7.21	7.50	7.31	7.39	7.53	7.63	*+0.10*
A Future Focus	6.84	7.02	6.70	6.84	6.82	6.95	*+0.13*
Environmental Sustainability	7.33	7.36	7.08	7.29	7.30	7.52	*+0.22*
Governance	6.17	6.52	6.19	6.43	6.50	6.72	*+0.22*
Net promoter score	-4	-6	-13	-18	-8	-6	+2
Average Performance	**6.77/10**	**7.02/10**	**6.74/10**	**6.89/10**	**6.98/10**	**7.16/10**	***+0.25***

The highest performing services continue to be providing libraries and library services to the community (8.27), kerbside waste collection (8.23), providing and maintaining Archer Waste Management Facility (8.12) and hosting enough quality community events, such as the Palmerston Youth Festival, Christmas Wonderland and FlicNics (8.11).

The lowest scoring measure was supporting and attracting new and existing businesses (6.09). However, this still increased by +0.22 from the previous year, demonstrating a positive shift. Palmerston's Local Economic Plan sets a strong long-term vision for a thriving and resilient Palmerston economy, recognising the key role that business and economic support systems play in our city's success. In 2026-27, we will strengthen our efforts to attract and retain businesses and industries. We will also continue our Community Funding Program, sponsorship for large-scale events and celebrations that highlight the Palmerston area, community safety initiatives and delivery of capital investment programs with ongoing commitment to buy local and supporting the local economy. Together, these actions will help create the vibrant and prosperous local economy envisioned in our Community Plan.

WHAT'S NEXT?

We remain dedicated to ongoing community engagement and gathering meaningful feedback from residents on our services, events and projects. Listening to our community helps us understand what matters most to the people who live, work and spend time in Palmerston. By identifying opportunities for improvement, we can ensure our decisions and future actions continue to shape Palmerston as 'A Place for People', where community needs guide our priorities and everyone feels welcome, safe and supported.

The next survey, scheduled for July 2026, will provide another valuable opportunity for residents to share their experiences and help us plan for an even better Palmerston.

COMMUNITY PLAN HEALTH CHECK

COMMUNITY STARTS WITH A CONVERSATION

In 2018, Council worked with a group of community members to consider the future they wanted for City of Palmerston, agreeing on six core outcomes. These outcomes formed the basis of the Community Plan, which has been the governing document for all of Council's work since.

In 2026 we did a health check on our Community Plan to make sure our activities are aligned with those outcomes. Community engagement was open from 1 April 2026 until 9 May 2026. Feedback was received through an online survey, pop up stalls at the City of Palmerston Library, Palmerston Markets and community events such as the Zuccoli Pump Track opening. Council staff also attended advisory committee and network meetings to consult directly with community and business members who are already engaged with Council through important collaborative processes.

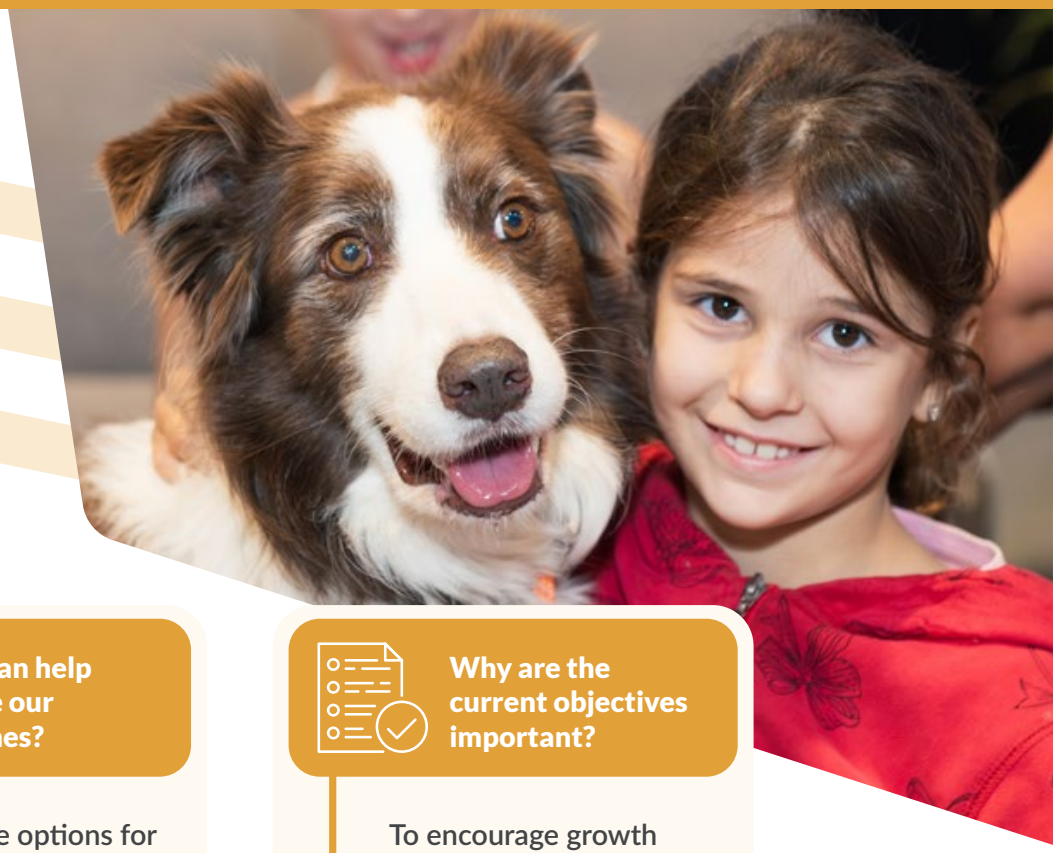
Feedback received from the community was collated and presented to a Community Panel made up of diverse community members on Sunday 17 May 2026, facilitated by independent consultants, DemocracyCo. The panel reflected on the insights from the consultation, considering the current focus of Council and what needs to be addressed to achieve its outcomes. The main part of the day was dedicated to reviewing the existing strategies and those that were suggested by the community, considering the impact, importance, urgency and feasibility of each.

At the end of the day, the Community Panel presented their recommendations to the Mayor and Elected Members. Council will now consider the report and consider how the Community Panel's recommendations can be reflected in future actions and decisions.

WHAT WE'VE HEARD SO FAR

What's going well?

- Council is actively promoting community
- Great family activities that are inclusive and accessible
- Economic engagement and business forums
- Great spaces for gatherings
- Lots of community events
- Awareness about cultural diversity
- Opportunities for all ages
- Maintaining lakes and parks well



What can help achieve our outcomes?

- More diverse options for young people and their families
- Attract major events to Palmerston
- Keep Palmerston safe with more lighting
- Create opportunities to have more business
- Accessibility to information
- Multipurpose facilities
- More wet season activities
- Increase people's connection and participation

Why are the current objectives important?

- To encourage growth in the direction where community spirit is valued and essential
- To bring and keep people in Palmerston
- A beautiful environment makes for happy people
- To make community spaces comfortable for everyone
- Growing and supporting local businesses
- Promotes a feeling of community
- Builds safer communities
- Puts Palmerston front and centre as a family friendly community

01 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

OUTCOME

Palmerston is a safe and family-friendly community where everyone belongs.

OBJECTIVES

- We focus on families
- The wellbeing of our community is a focus for all our work

City of Palmerston remains dedicated to enabling everyone to feel welcome and at home in our city by fostering a sense of safety and inclusivity.



Palmerston is city where people enjoy a high-quality, happy lifestyle. Our community is dedicated to supporting the wellbeing of families and celebrating connection, creating the perfect environment for families to flourish. When people feel safe, supported and inspired, they enjoy every moment Palmerston offers.

Progressing the Zuccoli Community Hub is a key part of supporting the wellbeing of our rapidly growing community, creating a vibrant, multi-purpose precinct that meets the recreation and open space needs of Zuccoli residents and the wider City of Palmerston. Designed to benefit people across Palmerston, the hub is taking shape with the new pump track now open. This facility has been shaped with community input and expert design to create a safe, exciting space for beginner and intermediate BMX riders, mountain bikers and scooter users, complete with lighting, shade and welcoming BBQ areas. Large open green spaces have been reserved for future features including a skate park, sports courts and an outdoor gym, ensuring the precinct continues to evolve as funding becomes available.

We will begin implementing the Palmerston Library 5-Year Master Plan, launching the first stage of an exciting roadmap for the future of our library services. Over the next five years, this plan will enhance accessibility, expand services, embrace new technologies and strengthen community engagement. Through this strategic approach, the library will continue to grow as a vibrant, inclusive hub that supports learning, culture and connection for everyone in our community.

City of Palmerston Library is also getting a major makeover. We're replacing the old, fixed shelving with modern, mobile units that can shift, adapt and open up the space for bigger, better programs, events and community activities. This fresh new layout will build on the flexible children's area introduced in 2024, making it easier than ever to explore, enjoy and care for the collection. Rolling out across 2025-26 and 2026-27, this upgrade will deliver a family friendly, inclusive and future focused library designed to grow with our community. With more usable floor space, improved displays and vibrant modern signage, the library will become an even more welcoming hub of learning, culture and connection.

Pictured left: Zuccoli Pump Track, 2026

Pictured right: Mum and bub Culturefest Goyder Square May 2025





Pictured: Mum and daughter with program Geekfest Day 2 July 2025

"The return of the Palmerston Youth Festival will offer young people inspiring opportunities to build skills, confidence and friendships.

Community events remain a much-loved and essential part of what we offer in Palmerston, bringing people together through fun, connection and shared experiences. Our Easter celebrations will continue to brighten local shopping precincts with lively activations, cheerful roving bunny visits and movie screenings at Event Cinemas. Signature favourites like Live at the Lake, Flicnics and Seniors Day will again form part of our diverse lineup of free, family-friendly outdoor events that encourage relaxed, inclusive community connection. Brekkie in the Park celebrates its 10th anniversary! July 2026 will see the return of the Palmerston Youth Festival, supported by the Northern Territory Government, offering young people inspiring opportunities to build skills, confidence and friendships. Halloween festivities will return bigger and spookier than ever and the year will close with the spectacular Christmas Wonderland in Goyder Square, which draws nearly 20,000 people.

Regulatory Services will strengthen community safety and wellbeing through a renewed focus on responsible pet ownership, updated regulations and proactive community engagement. Key initiatives include re-introducing a desexing program to reduce unwanted animal populations, progressing a temporary cattery and completing a much-needed review of the Public Places By-laws. The team will also deliver a refreshed Animal Management Plan that will be implemented in 2026-27, and continue to build connections through the community ranger engagement program, offering pop-up stalls and discussion opportunities at Council events.

The Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee, established in December 2025 by combining previous committees with shared priorities, strengthens Council's approach to safety and wellbeing while respecting the valuable time of our community members, partners and staff. This unified committee provides strategic advice on a wide range of social, community, animal management and wellbeing matters that influence Palmerston's by-laws, Council services, program development and the priorities of the Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy framework. By helping Council identify and respond to emerging issues, the committee plays a key role in shaping a safer, more connected and inclusive city.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

These measures are indicators of our success in achieving the Family and Community objectives:

- Increased participation in community events, activities and programs
- Increased use of free venue hire
- Improved perception of crime
- Decreased number of infringements issued to members of the public
- Increased compliance in areas such as number of registered dogs and valid licences to keep more than two dogs
- Community feedback on regulatory education and awareness initiatives
- Community satisfaction with the services that are provided by Council and an increase in usage of these services.

Pictured: Dad and daughter in frame Brekkie in the Park Gray Community Hall May 2025



02 VIBRANT ECONOMY

OUTCOME

Palmerston is a destination city for employment. It is a place where businesses are encouraged to set up and to grow.

OBJECTIVES

- Improve Palmerston's image
- Palmerston's economic future is bright

"Our commitment to buying local through our Procurement Policy will remain a key driver of support for small and medium enterprises in Palmerston.



Palmerston is a young, energetic and rapidly growing city. Our thriving economy and business community bring many positives to the people who live here. When local businesses flourish, families flourish too, creating a more liveable city for everyone. Strong job opportunities help people build their futures, put down roots and choose to stay, strengthening the sense of community that makes Palmerston such a great place to call home.

In 2026–27, we will continue to champion local businesses by promoting events, opportunities and initiatives. We'll also strengthen brand visibility across our spaces, continue to facilitate valuable business networking opportunities and actively promote Palmerston as an ideal location for new businesses and industries, in line with the Palmerston Local Economic Plan. Our commitment to buying local through our Procurement Policy will remain a key driver of support for small and medium enterprises in Palmerston.

The Palmerston Business Futures Forum will return in 2026, offering an exciting opportunity to showcase Council's progress and share new business support initiatives. Council continues to deliver the Palmerston Business Newsletter, alongside exploring a series of free networking and collaboration events designed to attract new businesses, help existing businesses grow and innovate, and connect local industry with valuable private-sector support.

A new quarterly Innovation Session will give business owners the chance to learn practical strategies for developing and strengthening their ideas with guidance from experts. Complementing this, Business Blitz sessions will deliver quick, one-hour opportunities for owners to drop in and receive free, expert advice on key business topics. These initiatives help connect local businesses with private-sector expertise and commercial opportunities, attract new enterprises to Palmerston and empower existing businesses to grow, innovate and succeed.

Pictured left: Buffalo Country, Darwin Festival 2025.

Pictured right: SWELL water play, 2025





Strong partnerships and vibrant places are key to driving Palmerston's economic future.

Pictured: Culturefest
Goyder Square May 2025

Strong partnerships will remain central to our economic development efforts, with ongoing engagement with key organisations including the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Trade, Business and Asian Relations, the Darwin Innovation Hub, the Business Enterprise Centre NT, the NT Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Palmerston Regional Business Association and the Industry Skills Advisory Council.

The refurbishment of the library cafe will breathe new life into the area surrounding the library, creating a lively and welcoming space for the whole community. The precinct will gain a vibrant meeting place that enhances the overall experience for library users, residents, local businesses and visitors alike. This transformation directly supports Council's commitment to fostering a vibrant local economy by creating an inviting destination that boosts activity and connection in the heart of Palmerston.

The Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee plays an important role in strengthening Palmerston's economic future by providing Council with informed, strategic advice aligned with the Palmerston Local Economic Plan and its action plan. Through its work, the committee helps identify new opportunities for economic growth, supports improvements to community services and ensures Council initiatives reflect legislative requirements and contemporary business needs. The committee brings together valuable industry perspectives and balanced insights to guide the implementation of key economic priorities.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

These measures are indicators of our success in achieving the Vibrant Economy objectives:

- People of Palmerston choose to shop locally
- Employment rates increase
- Population of Palmerston is growing (families stay)
- Increase in tourists visiting Palmerston
- More funds available for Council to invest in the community
- Increase in businesses located in Palmerston.
- Increase in community satisfaction on brand recognition through the community survey

Pictured: Events sign Live at the Lake June 2025



03 CULTURAL DIVERSITY

OUTCOME

In Palmerston, we celebrate our cultures in a way that values our diversity.

OBJECTIVES

- To celebrate our rich culture and diversity
- Recognise and support diversity through our partnerships and leadership

"Palmerston is strongest when we celebrate our diversity and live in harmony.



Palmerston's rich mosaic of cultures is something we proudly celebrate, knowing our community is strongest when we live in harmony and draw on the diverse experiences, traditions and perspectives that enrich our everyday lives.

Everyone has a role in shaping Palmerston's future, and every individual matters. We are committed to fostering an equitable environment guided by our Community Plan, the Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework and our Disability Inclusion and Access Plan. These foundations ensure all our programs and services are thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of people of all ages, cultures, abilities and backgrounds, creating a welcoming city where everyone can participate and thrive.

The 2026–2028 Disability, Inclusion and Access Plan was developed in partnership with a dedicated working group of people with lived experience and sector experts, ensuring it truly reflects the needs and aspirations of our community. In 2026-27, the plan will continue driving programs, initiatives and infrastructure upgrades that strengthen inclusion across Palmerston. This includes initiatives like the Sunflower Program, which raises awareness of invisible disabilities and helps ensure people who may need extra support, understanding or time when accessing services feel recognised and respected. We will also continue to review communications to ensure inclusive language and accessible messaging is used across Council materials.

The Low Sensory Christmas Wonderland event provides a quieter and more inclusive Christmas experience for children and families who may feel overwhelmed by busy or high-stimulus environments. The event features reduced noise, softer lighting and a calmer atmosphere so that children with sensory sensitivities, including those with autism or other additional needs, can enjoy the magic of Christmas in a safe and welcoming space. This initiative supports inclusion and ensures more families can participate in community celebrations.

Improving digital inclusion remains a priority for us. The library will continue to provide digital literacy assistance, supporting community members to get online and build confidence with technology. The library's digital collections will also continue to grow, with ongoing expansion of the Libby eBook and eAudiobook collection, including Language Other Than English resources, and the addition of PressReader, providing access to thousands of newspapers and magazines from around the world.

Our library is refreshing and rebranding its Home Service to become the Library Outreach Service, reflecting that you don't need to be housebound to access it. Whether you're at home, in hospital, caring for a newborn or living in a residential facility, this service brings books, resources and library programs directly to you. With the support of staff and volunteers, the Outreach Service is a free, fortnightly delivery that makes the library accessible to all, wherever life takes you. This exciting refresh ensures our library continues to connect, support and engage the whole community, no matter their circumstances.

Pictured left: Christmas Wonderland Low Sensory Night December 2025

Pictured right: Crafts - International Women's Day 2026





Creating welcoming spaces that foster connection, creativity and wellbeing is at the heart of our community.

Pictured: Citizenship Ceremony Sept 2025

Launched in 2025, the All in Activities program at the library has been a huge success, providing a relaxed, welcoming space for adults of all ages to engage in arts and crafts, socialise and boost wellbeing. This free weekly program offers self-directed creative activities, with guidance and occasional sessions led by external providers, ensuring everyone can participate at their own pace. By reducing social isolation, fostering creative confidence and encouraging community connections, All in Activities reinforces the library's role as a vibrant, inclusive learning and social space.

Council has proudly adopted its Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan and will now begin implementing it, demonstrating our commitment to taking real, tangible actions toward reconciliation. The plan will guide practical steps to strengthen partnerships, create meaningful opportunities and include reconciliation into everything we do. By actively listening, learning and working together, we can build a more inclusive and connected community for everyone. As implementation progresses, the actions of the Reflect plan will be embedded across Council's work where appropriate, supporting deeper cultural understanding and respectful collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Palmerston's event calendar continues to celebrate the rich diversity of our community through a vibrant mix of programs for people of all ages and backgrounds. NT Youth Week brings young people together and strengthens their connections with local services, while Children's Week shines a spotlight on the rights, talents and contributions of children in line with national recognition and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Each March, International Women's Day honours the achievements of women and promotes gender equality, and in November, International Men's Day recognises the positive contributions of men and boys while raising awareness of their health and wellbeing.

We will continue to support a vibrant cultural and music scene in Palmerston too, with major events set to return and grow in the coming years. At the same time, we continue to champion participation in beloved events like the Darwin Festival, ensuring Palmerston remains a lively, creative and culturally rich destination for residents and visitors alike.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

These measures are indicators of our success in achieving the Cultural Diversity objectives:

- Increased community participation in arts and cultural activities
- Inclusion and accessibility are incorporated into our programming and planning
- Community Funding Program is promoted through a variety of channels to community groups
- Council consults with and includes the needs of all people in our programs and planning using a mechanism we've agreed with those communities
- Increase in Community Funding Program applications from diverse organisations
- Improvement in fostering and promoting arts and culture in our community and awareness and promotion of our local history
- Existing partnerships are inclusive of emerging communities

Pictured: International Women's Day 2026



04 A FUTURE FOCUS

OUTCOME

Palmerston is an innovative city that can sustain itself through the challenges of the future.

OBJECTIVES

- We support and foster innovation
- Infrastructure is fit for purpose

Our ongoing investment in infrastructure supports a safe, welcoming and connected Palmerston for all.



Maintaining and caring for Palmerston's infrastructure is important to ensure it remains safe, reliable and fit for purpose.

This includes upkeep of our roads, streetlights, stormwater systems, footpaths and laneways, as well as the management of key community facilities such as the Civic Plaza, Recreation Centre, library and public amenities. We also deliver a wide range of essential servicing and repair activities from cleaning to graffiti management. These ongoing efforts help keep Palmerston's assets in good condition and support a well-functioning, welcoming city for residents, businesses and visitors.

Council is actively contributing to the development of Palmerston by working closely with developers in ensuring new assets such as stormwater infrastructure, roads, footpaths, playgrounds and community infrastructure is delivered in accordance with required standards to support our newest neighbourhoods. This approach ensures Palmerston's expanding suburbs are fit for purpose, connected and ready to thrive as welcoming places for families. Alongside this work, the new City Centre Parking Policy established a clear framework for future strategies and initiatives to improve, activate and optimise parking in the CBD, helping to create a more accessible and vibrant city centre.

We continue to enhance the quality and usability of parks and public spaces across Palmerston, delivering new facilities and upgrades that make our outdoor areas more enjoyable for all ages. Across Palmerston, standard improvements to roads, lighting and footpaths will be ongoing, including a major road surface upgrade on Temple Terrace, footpath enhancements and lighting upgrades in parts of the CBD. Planning is also underway for the redevelopment of Widdup Park, with concept plans and community consultation exploring opportunities for play and sporting spaces tailored to older children and teenagers, as well as improved access. Additional upgrades include replacing the equipment at Kintore Park and installing a new shade structure at Sister Frederick Mangan Park to improve all-weather access and protect play equipment for the long term.

Council provides a variety of welcoming and versatile venues for hire, including the Recreation Centre, Library Community Room, Durack Community Arts Centre, Gray Community Hall and the Driver Resource Centre. These spaces support a diverse range of activities from fitness classes and cultural workshops to programs and gatherings for seniors, young people and children, helping to foster community participation and make Palmerston an even more family-friendly city. Free venue hire for community groups will continue in 2026-27, with fees for not-for-profit organisations introduced from January 2027. Applying fees to bookings encourages groups to reserve only the time they genuinely need, supporting fairer access, reducing underused time slots and improving overall availability for the broader community.

Pictured left: Marlow Lagoon Basketball Court Mural June 2025

Pictured right: Brekkie in the Park Gray Community Hall Harvest Corner May 2025





Hands-on creative programs are empowering young people to build skills, confidence and explore future pathways.

Pictured: Clean up Australia Day March 2025

The library will once again offer the popular Recording Studio Experience workshops during the school holidays, held in the Gulwa Community Recording Studio for young people aged 12-25. This program gives participants hands-on experience with professional recording equipment and introduces them to key skills such as songwriting, music recording and basic audio production. The workshops are designed to build confidence, spark creativity and strengthen digital capabilities, while also exposing young people to exciting future pathways in the music and media industries.

Information technology and communications (ICT) continue to drive innovation across Council, ensuring our systems remain modern, efficient and fit for purpose. By the start of 2026-27, Council expects to have engaged a new Enterprise Resource Planning provider to streamline core business processes and begun implementation, strengthening our digital foundations for years to come. Public WiFi will continue to be provided across the Palmerston CBD and regional parks, supporting connectivity for residents and visitors. In addition, ICT offsite backups are being enhanced to future-proof Council's records and systems, ensuring security, reliability and resilience as our digital services grow.

We will continue strengthening our connection with the community by building our email database through our media and engagement campaigns and communications, responding directly to Community Satisfaction Survey feedback that residents prefer receiving information by email. Alongside this, we will keep researching and testing new tools and engagement methods to help us reach people more effectively. By using communication data and engagement insights to refine our social media channels, we aim to ensure information is shared clearly, accessibly and in ways that genuinely meet the needs of our community.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

These measures are indicators of our success to achieve the Future Focus objectives:

- Council consults with and includes the needs of all people in its programs and planning using a mechanism it has agreed with those communities
- Increase in site visits to Emergency Dashboard
- Improved condition data and financial valuations of assets
- Council provides a platform that supports and allows for innovation by both staff members and the community
- Optimisation of asset renewal

Pictured: Zuccoli Pump Track
March 2026



05 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

OUTCOME

Palmerston is an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.

OBJECTIVES

- Reduce our footprint on the environment
- Palmerston is a cool, shaded, green city
- Encourage personal action and taking a leadership role

Council is leading by example in reducing our environmental footprint and promoting sustainable practices.



Green spaces bring our community together, encouraging people to enjoy the outdoors, boost their wellbeing and embrace our unique climate.

We are committed to supporting a more sustainable Palmerston by encouraging environmentally responsible behaviours and creating practical opportunities for the community to recycle, reduce waste and explore renewable options.

We continue to provide kerbside recycling services and invest in public waste education through free workshops and community programs, and clear guidance on best-practice waste management informed by recycling audit results. Across all campaigns and initiatives, Council is also reviewing promotional materials to identify opportunities to reduce waste and continue modelling sustainable practices for our community including investigating more sustainable merchandise options and reducing unnecessary printing.

The annual Pre-Cyclone Clean-Up will return ahead of the 2026-27 wet season, giving residents an important opportunity to safely dispose of hard waste that could become a hazard from around their homes. The new resource recovery area and cardboard compactor at Archer Waste Management Facility are now open and operating, with ongoing improvements such as new wayfinding signage to enhance the user experience.

As part of Council's commitment to reducing our environmental footprint and leading by example in sustainable energy use, the SWELL facility will undergo a major upgrade through the installation of solar panels and battery storage jointly funded through the Australian Government's Community Energy Upgrades Fund. This project will significantly cut peak power demand and reduce ongoing electricity costs, while delivering substantial environmental benefits. Once operational, the system is expected to reduce CO_2 emissions by more than 90 tonnes each year, making it one of Council's most impactful emissions-reduction initiatives to date.

Pictured left: Lake harvester

Pictured below: Pre-cyclone cleanup September 2025





A proactive approach helps keep Palmerston clean, accessible and well cared for.

Pictured: Staff at Archer Waste Management Facility, 2025

Council is strengthening its sustainable water management practices through the finalisation of the Irrigation Management Plan, updated irrigation technical specifications and the installation of water sensors to automate lake fills and provide clearer data on groundwater use. These improvements will support more efficient and responsible irrigation across Palmerston's open spaces and help achieve long-term sustainability goals. This work is further supported by the development of the Palmerston Dolostone Aquifer Assessment and Groundwater Use Action Plan, which will guide future groundwater allocations for Council's irrigation systems. The Palmerston lakes will continue to be carefully monitored and maintained under the Lake Management Plan, with ongoing water-quality testing and both mechanical and chemical weed management to ensure the health and resilience of this important urban green infrastructure.

To further demonstrate our commitment to keeping Palmerston a cool, shaded and green city, Council will continue to maintain our open spaces so they remain safe, welcoming and enjoyable for everyone. This includes regular mowing, landscaping, irrigation, caring for park furniture and BBQs, repairing playgrounds and removing litter. We also encourage residents to take personal actions, whether that's looking after their verge or helping keep shared spaces tidy, as we work together to protect and enhance Palmerston's natural environment.

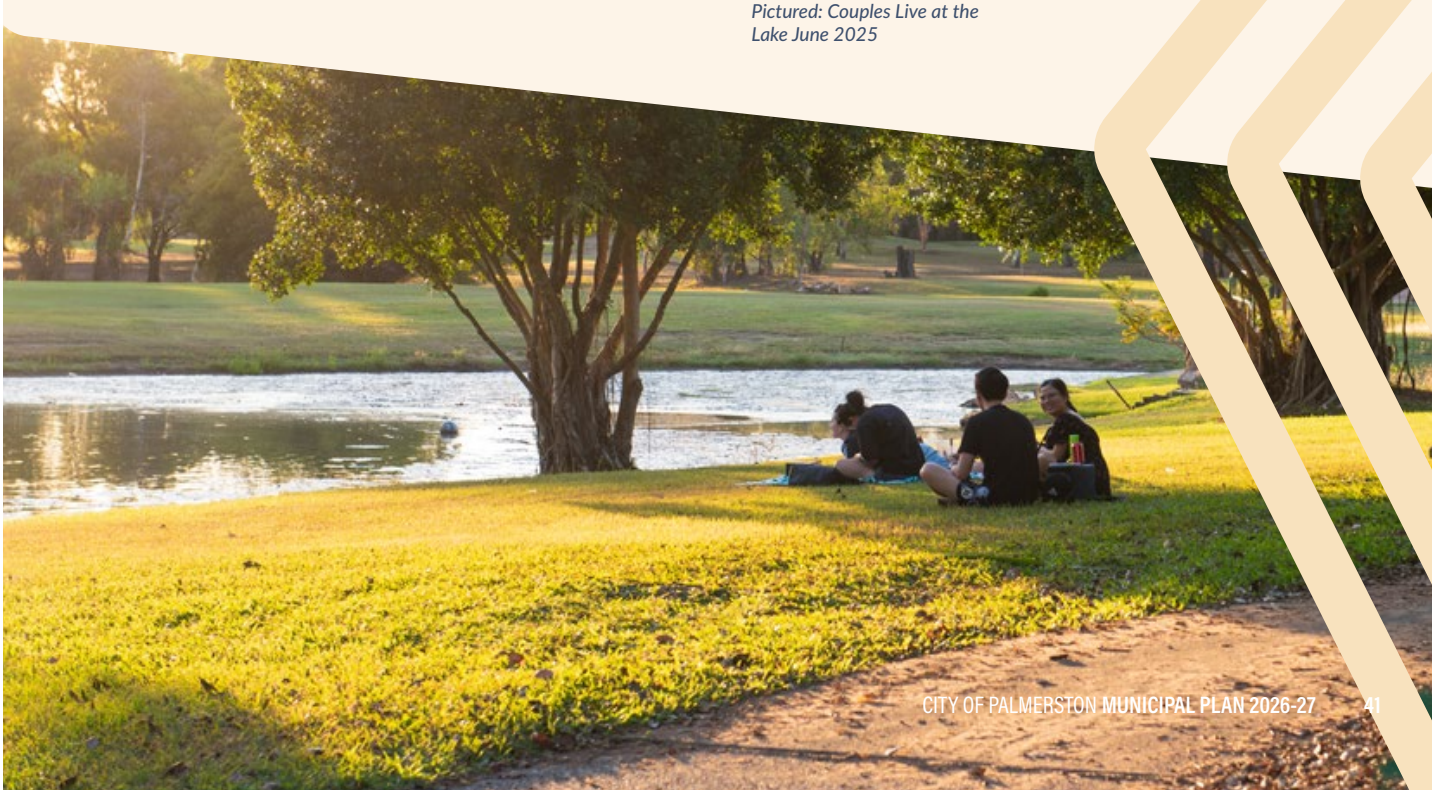
Separately, Council will continue delivering the Long Grass Program through Regulatory Services, ensuring the safety, visual amenity and accessibility of our neighbourhoods. This proactive approach helps maintain community standards while supporting our broader efforts to create a clean, attractive and well-cared-for city.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

These measures are indicators of our success to achieve the Environmental Sustainability objectives:

- Increased level of recycling/ proportion of rubbish recycled
- Decrease in littering
- Increase in canopy coverage (percentage of areas shaded by trees)
- Improved biodiversity outcomes
- Improved community satisfaction in relation to the Palmerston lakes
- Improved vehicle emissions reporting through Council's fuel usage reporting system
- Number of vehicles using the new EV charging station
- Increase the use of Electric Vehicles within the Palmerston municipality
- Decrease in costs associated with printing
- Increase in online services

Pictured: Couples Live at the Lake June 2025



06 GOVERNANCE

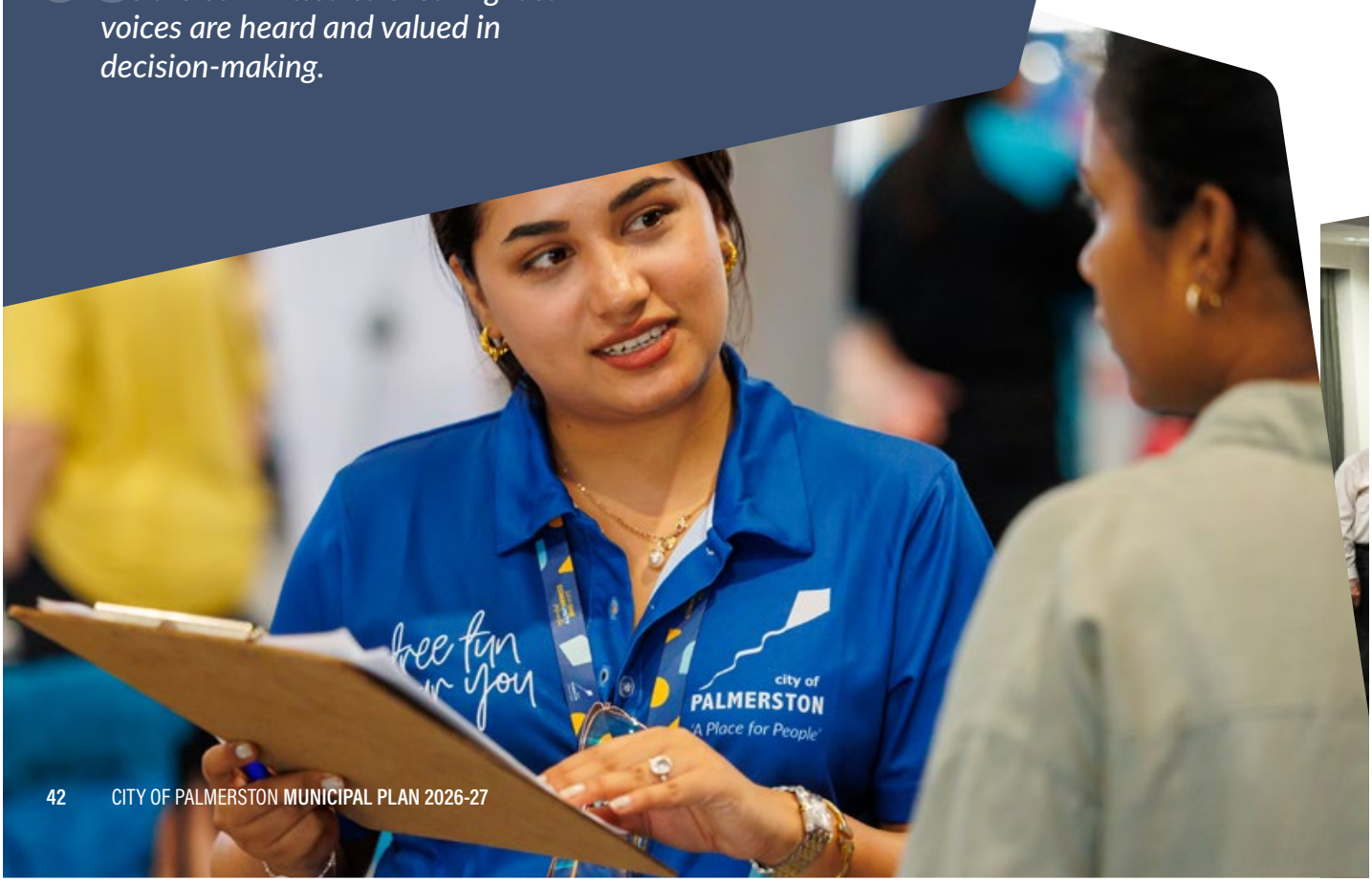
OUTCOME

Our strategies to support achieving this objective are based on using effective, accountable and adaptable processes to deliver on our Community Plan.

OBJECTIVES

- Ensure we have a leading governance model
- Community is at the centre
- Healthy working partnerships

We are committed to ensuring local voices are heard and valued in decision-making.



Council strives to remain closely connected to the community, working in partnership to deliver what people need to support their daily lives.

Strong, modern governance underpins this commitment, ensuring we can effectively deliver on the goals of our Community Plan. This means being effective by doing what we say we will do, being accountable through openness, transparency and regular reporting, and being courageous by embracing new solutions, taking measured risks, adopting emerging technologies and staying flexible and adaptable.

Maintaining and building the trust of our community is incredibly important to Council. We are committed to ensuring our decision-making is open, accessible and transparent. Council meetings are open to the public and community attendance is strongly encouraged. Each Ordinary Council Meeting is preceded by an open public forum at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers at Civic Plaza, which is a relaxed and informal opportunity for residents to speak directly with the Mayor and Elected Members, ask questions and share ideas before formal proceedings begin. To ensure even greater accessibility, Council also holds community council meetings in the suburbs twice a year, bringing decision-makers closer to residents and making it easier for people to participate. Through these forums, Council continues to strengthen its partnership with the community and ensure local voices are heard.

Council is committed to bringing the community into all aspects of its work, encouraging residents to be active participants in Council's business and local decision-making. A key focus for the year ahead is delivering high-quality engagement activities aligned with the Community Engagement Policy and new priorities identified through the Communications and Engagement Strategy. This strategy sets a future-focused direction for how Council communicates and connects with its community, replacing existing communications and social media strategies with one clear, overarching framework. It will strengthen all Council touchpoints, including content creation, engagement practices, newsletters, marketing campaigns, media relations and digital channels, while ensuring communications are accessible, easy to understand and available in formats that meet community needs. Continued improvements to our website will further enhance customer experience, accessibility and usability.

Pictured left: Consultation 2026

Pictured right: Business Workshop October 2025 (Credit Bijay)





Pictured: Business Workshop October 2025

> *Using customer insights helps us better understand and respond to community needs.*

We are continuing to enhance the community's customer experience by investing more time and resources into understanding customer data, allowing us to better support residents and respond to their needs. We are reducing customer wait times through improved internal workflows, including the introduction of interactive voice response and helpful pre-recorded messages on our phone system that provide key information upfront. We are also expanding self-service options on the Council website and exploring new technologies that make it easier and faster for customers to access the services they need.

The Community Funding Program is Council's grant initiative designed to support individuals, groups and organisations to deliver positive, community-focused projects that contribute to Palmerston being a true place for people. To help applicants build confidence and capability, Council will continue offering grant workshops in 2026-27, guiding the community through the funding process and helping them develop strong proposals. Funding opportunities within the program include support for individual and team representation, community grants, environmental initiatives, sponsorships and the Graffiti Removal Grant. Together, these opportunities empower grassroots groups and local associations to deliver meaningful outcomes for the wider community.

Finally, in 2026-27, Council will develop a new Councillor Psychosocial Safety and Wellbeing Framework to better support Elected Members in the demanding environments they operate in. The framework will equip them with the tools, training and support they need to manage these pressures safely and effectively. By strengthening a culture of respect, resilience and wellbeing, the framework will help ensure Elected Members can continue to serve the community with confidence and care.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

These measures are indicators of success for the Governance objectives:

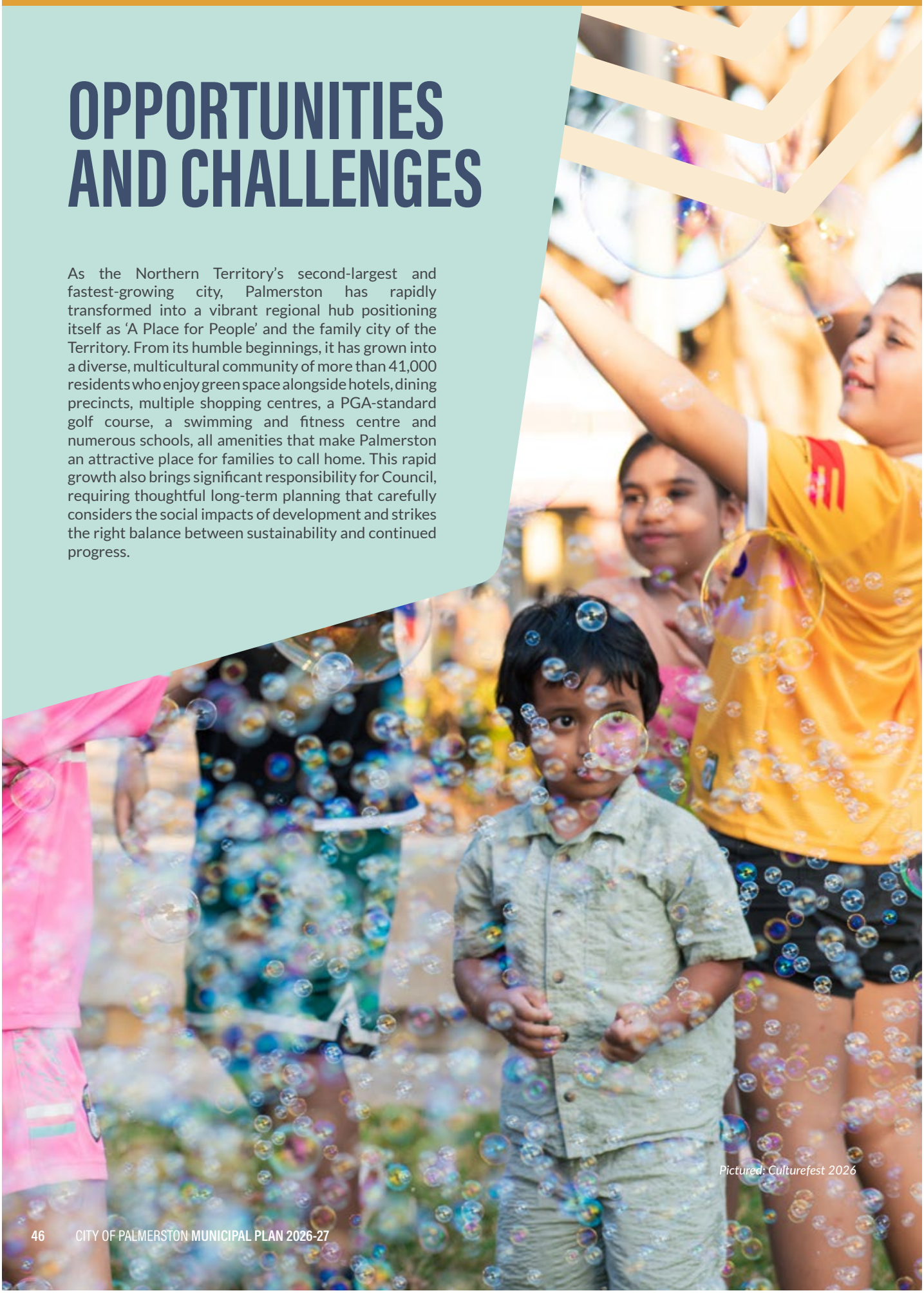
- The community is satisfied that Council values and encourages their participation in Council activities and is committed to delivering the highest possible levels of service and community engagement
- The community is satisfied that Council shows corporate and social responsibility, ensures the sustainability of assets and services, and plans effectively, reporting performance to the community
- The community is satisfied that Council has the right systems and processes in place to deliver services to the community
- Increase in website statistics
- The community is satisfied that Council values its people and the culture of our organisation
- Increase of email distribution list
- Increase in engagement across social media channels
- Increase in community consultation

Pictured: Seniors day Rec Centre August 2025



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

As the Northern Territory's second-largest and fastest-growing city, Palmerston has rapidly transformed into a vibrant regional hub positioning itself as 'A Place for People' and the family city of the Territory. From its humble beginnings, it has grown into a diverse, multicultural community of more than 41,000 residents who enjoy green space alongside hotels, dining precincts, multiple shopping centres, a PGA-standard golf course, a swimming and fitness centre and numerous schools, all amenities that make Palmerston an attractive place for families to call home. This rapid growth also brings significant responsibility for Council, requiring thoughtful long-term planning that carefully considers the social impacts of development and strikes the right balance between sustainability and continued progress.



Pictured: Culturefest 2026

OPPORTUNITIES

Planning for growth, sustainability and regional positioning remains a central priority for the us as we work to accommodate increasing demand on local infrastructure and leverage our strategic location between Darwin and the rural area, close to major health, education and transport assets such as the port, railway, university campus, hospital and police station.

Our strategic planning framework focuses on Palmerston's long-term role in the region, ensuring that growth, environmental responsibility and economic opportunity are considered holistically while strengthening Council's advocacy position with other levels of government. This includes forward-looking governance and growth planning, sustainability initiatives that reduce long-term costs and environmental impact, and efforts to enhance Palmerston's profile as a destination for events, visitors and investment.

Palmerston's proximity to key industry growth sectors makes it an increasingly attractive location for businesses seeking to establish or expand. Council is committed to supporting this through collaborative partnerships, targeted infrastructure investment and strong relationships with the Northern Territory and Australian Governments. As Palmerston continues to grow, we remain focused on creating sustainable economic opportunities that support local enterprises, encourage investment, increase visitation and economic activity, and provide long-term employment prospects for our community.

CHALLENGES

Palmerston's rapid population growth and ongoing development have created a set of challenges for Council, centred on the need to diversify the economy while managing increasing pressure on infrastructure and services.

Competition exists with nearby centres like Darwin and Coolalinga for investment, talent and retail activity. Palmerston's young and fast-growing population intensifies demand for community services and recreational facilities but also amplifies existing concerns about public safety, crime and antisocial behaviour, all issues highlighted by community stakeholders and through the annual Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council continues to advocate for residents and deliver programs that positively influence these concerns, such as youth initiatives, community events, improved laneway management and strong collaboration with government and key organisations, while recognising that immediate crime response and responsibility for core contributing factors sit with the Northern Territory Government.

We work closely with partners including Larrakia Nation, NT Police and the Department of Children and Families to help reduce antisocial behaviour and will continue strengthening these relationships while exploring opportunities to improve existing programs and develop new ones. By implementing recommendations from a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design approach, Council is delivering upgraded LED lighting and the reduction of blackspots across Palmerston. Ongoing collaboration with the Northern Territory Government also enables the delivery of security patrols in the city centre to directly target antisocial behaviour.

Ensuring community safety remains a priority. Council will continue advocating for the funding required to enhance safety through thoughtful design and city activation. Recognising the importance of a safe, vibrant and economically sustainable CBD, Council has long prioritised the revitalisation of the city centre, including Goyder Square, as an area facing challenges with crime, antisocial behaviour and underutilised public spaces, which are issues not unique to Palmerston. This work aligns with the Palmerston Local Economic Plan by providing insights into local business challenges and opportunities.

Finally, ongoing cost of living pressures continue to affect households and place upward pressure on Council's operating costs. While Council remains committed to delivering a balanced budget that aligns with community expectations for service delivery and affordability, we recognise that broader economic factors beyond our control are impacting both residents and operations. We will continue to closely monitor cost drivers in 2026-27, including fuel related impacts.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Pictured: Puppy Live at the Lake June 2025

REVENUE STATEMENT

Council collects revenue from five main sources: general rates and waste management charges provide 87% of Council's revenue; and the remainder is provided by grants, fees and charges and investment income.

In 2026-27 the RID will increase for all properties, including residential, commercial and industrial:

- 4.9% increase to the RID for Residential and Residential Marlow Lagoon properties
- 5.9% increase to the RID for Commercial properties
- 7% increase to the RID for all Industrial properties.

We continue to provide free parking and pool entry at SWELL and will maintain levels of service as we look for opportunities for continuous improvement and efficiency.

VALUATION OF UNIMPROVED CAPITAL VALUES

City of Palmerston uses Unimproved Capital Value as the basis for all land valuations in the Palmerston area to determine the rates assessment. Unimproved Capital Value is the value of the land without any improvements.

The Valuer-General, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, sets the Unimproved Capital values of land. The value of land is reviewed by the Valuer-General every three years to take effect the following financial year. A revaluation occurred in July 2023 and was applied from the 2024-25 financial year.

Council plays no role in the valuation of the Unimproved Capital Value. If a ratepayer is dissatisfied with their valuation, it is a matter to raise with the Valuer-General. Rates must be paid in accordance with rate notices unless otherwise notified by Council.

All land within the Council area is rateable, except for lands specifically exempt (e.g. Crown Land). Where a service that is subject to a service charge is provided to non-rateable land, a service charge is levied against the land.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF RATING POLICY

City of Palmerston is committed to setting rates in a way that is consistent, transparent and fair. When determining rates, Council considers both financial and social impacts to ensure the best outcome for the community. In 2019, Council's Community Reference Group on Rates Strategy confirmed that the rating system should follow three key principles:

- Simple – easy to apply, understand and comply with
- Efficient – practical and cost-effective to administer, while discouraging avoidance of rates
- Equitable – fair and balanced across different types of ratepayers

Council's approach to rates:

- Considers how the rate burden is shared across different property categories
- Minimises any negative impact on economic activity
- Balances fairness by taking into account the benefits received by ratepayers and each ratepayer's ability to pay.

CONCESSIONS

Eligible NT Concession card holders may be entitled to a concession on rates. City of Palmerston receives a list from the Northern Territory Government of all the ratepayers eligible for concession at the time of levying the rates, in which the rebate is deducted and noted on the annual rate notice. If a ratepayer becomes eligible part way through the rating year, they must pay the rates in full to Council and then contact the NT Concession and Recognition Unit to obtain a refund.

Contact details for the NT Concession and Recognition Unit are:

Postal: PO Box 3970 Darwin NT 0801

Telephone: 1800 777 704

Email: ntconcessionandrecognition@nt.gov.au

Website: https://ntconcessions.nt.gov.au

Applications for other concessions on rates and charges will be considered upon application to Council in line with Council's Rate Concession Policy.

LATE PAYMENT OF RATES

Any ratepayer who may, or is likely to, have trouble meeting the standard instalments and due dates can contact City of Palmerston to discuss alternative payment arrangements. It should be noted that interest would still be levied in accordance with the Local Government Act under any payment arrangement. Council's determined interest for late payments will be imposed in accordance with the Local Government Act. Ratepayers can apply for a remission of interest under the Local Government Act provided they agree to a repayment arrangement to the satisfaction of City of Palmerston. Council has determined the interest rate for overdue rates is 11.4% per annum, in line with the Australian Tax Office rates. Pursuant to the Local Government Act, if rates have been in arrears for at least three years, Council may sell the land to recover unpaid rates and associated costs.

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

In times of financial hardship, Council offers a Rate Concession for residential and commercial ratepayers. Financial hardship is defined as a situation where a ratepayer is unable, due to illness, unemployment or other reasonable causes, to discharge their financial obligations towards City of Palmerston.

If you are experiencing any form of hardship that affects payment of rates or other charges applied by Council then we strongly urge you to contact us so that we can discuss options together and/or arrange a suitable payment plan.

City of Palmerston offers additional concessions and property owners can apply for more than one concession at a time. If you have any queries regarding your eligibility for any of the concessions, please contact us on (08) 8935 9961 or email: rates@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

FEES AND CHARGES

Council has made minimal changes to fees and charges for the 2026-27 year, while continuing to offer a wide range of free services such as parking, pool access and facility hire for community groups.

The Schedule of Fees and Charges can be viewed at Council's Civic Plaza, as well as on our website https://palmerston.nt.gov.au/your-services/fees-and-charges.

RATES AND CHARGES

NT Planning Zone		Levied 2025-26	Budget 2026-27	Change
R, RR (Excluding RR in the suburb of Marlow Lagoon) LR, LMR, MR, HR, CL, FD, PS, SP8*07, SP9*07 (<10,000m2), SP9*07 (>20,000m2), SP10*07, SP11*07, and SP1*20	Rate on UCV	0.613130%	0.6431730%	-
	Minimum Rate	$1,459.16	$1,530.66	$71.50
	No of Properties	14,232	14,596	-
	Estimated Income Rates	$23,289,753	$24,469,065	-
RR in the Suburb of Marlow Lagoon	Rate on UCV	0.503708%	0.528389%	-
	Minimum Rate	$1,459.16	$1,530.66	$71.50
	No of Properties	251	251	-
	Estimated Income Rates	$511,583	$533,005	-
Industrial+	Rate on UCV	0.582798%	0.623594%	-
	Minimum Rate	$1,482.24	$1,569.69	$87.45
	No of Properties	496	496	-
	Estimated Income	$2,907,856	$3,072,712	-
All other rateable land	Rate on UCV	0.874333%	0.925919%	-
	Minimum Rate	$1,482.24	$1,569.69	$87.45
	No of Properties	481	481	-
	Estimated Income	$2,687,634	$3,041,662	-

Notes:

*"*20" means from the Northern Territory Planning Scheme 2020.*

*"*07" means from the Northern Territory Planning Scheme 2007.*

+This includes GI, DV and LI from the Industrial category and U from the Utility category.

WASTE SERVICE CHARGE

Council charges a fixed amount for waste management and collection, which is called a Waste Service Charge. Where multiple residential dwellings exist on the allotment of land, the charge is multiplied by the number of residential units on each allotment.

The Waste Service Charge is levied for the provision of a 120 litre twice weekly domestic collection, a fortnightly recycling 240 litre bin, free access to the Archer Waste Management Facility and providing waste management and cleaning services across Palmerston. Commercial use of Archer Recycling Centre and Waste Transfer Station is not supported as there is no direct waste charge against either commercial or industrial properties.

The Waste Service Charge for customers with a regular waste service will be charged at $631 per household, which is a $19 increase from prior years.

WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGE

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-34	2024-25	2025-26	Budget year 2026-27
Residential Kerbside Collection	$480	$480	$527	$557	$612	$631
Manual Service Collection (<25 units)	$480	$480	$527	$557	$612	$631
Multiple Dwelling (25 units +)**	$240	$240	$264	$279	$308	$320
Upgrade to 240L Annual Service Charge	$149	$149	$167	$174	$179	$188
Additional General Waste Kerbside Bin 120L*	$250	$256	$274	$294	$316	$332
Additional Recycling Kerbside Bin*	$110	$113	$113	$120	$120	$126
Additional General Waste Manual Bin*	$290	$297	$318	$339	$362	$380
Additional Recycling Manual Bin*	$110	$113	$113	$120	$120	$126

**These are charged through Fees and Charges, not through Rates. These charges have increased based on contractual costs.*

***Council declares this charge where the number of residential dwellings exceeds 25 and the property has its own alternative regular waste collection service.*

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	2025-26	2026-27
$'000's	**Revised Budget**	**Budget**
Operating Income		
Rates	28,976	31,116
Waste	8,932	9,439
Statutory Charges	109	715
User charges & fees	1,160	414
Interest & investment revenue	1,742	1,192
Other revenues	42	60
Grants & contributions for operating purposes	2,311	3,857
Total Income	**43,272**	**46,794**
Operating Expenditure		
Employee costs	13,547	13,818
Borrowing costs	310	294
Elected Member Allowances	474	576
Elected Member Expenses	383	43
Materials, contracts and other expenses	26,180	26,064
Depreciation	12,306	13,312
Total Expenditure	**53,199**	**54,106**
BUDGET OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	**(9,927)**	**(7,313)**
Add: Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2,776	1,238
Add: Physical resources received free of charge (non-cash)	3,000	3,000
BUDGET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**(4,151)**	**(3,074)**
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (LOSS)	**(4,151)**	**(3,074)**
Add: Depreciation	12,306	13,312
Add: Other non-cash	-	-
Less: Resources free of charge	3,000	3,000
Less: Capital Expenditure	11,400	9,416
Add: Borrowings (Loans advances)	-	3,000
Less: Loan Repayments	512	565
Add: Net Reserve Transfers	6,757	(257)
NET CASH BUDGET SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	**-**	**-**

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING BUDGET

	Current Financial Year (2026-27 Budget)	2027-28 Budget	2028-29 Budget	2029-30 Budget	2030-36 Budget
$'000's					
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
Fleet	411,200	423,947	437,090	450,639	3,012,838
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	3,049,637	3,281,623	3,486,151	4,311,299	32,395,764
Land & Buildings	4,486,455	7,045,225	7,587,713	1,636,312	16,426,173
Other Assets (including furniture & office equipment)	1,007,901	662,796	567,842	173,046	1,156,930
Public Lighting	461,260	565,153	582,673	600,736	4,016,338
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	**9,416,452**	**11,978,744**	**12,661,469**	**7,172,032**	**57,008,044**
FUNDED BY					
Borrowings	3,000,000	-	-	-	-
Capital Grants	888,192	5,823,781	5,823,781	772,295	4,633,770
Operating Income	4,683,260	5,676,963	6,467,688	6,029,737	49,154,274
Sales of Assets (including trade-ins)	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	900,000
Transfers from Cash Reserves	695,000	328,000	220,000	220,000	2,320,000
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	**9,416,452**	**11,978,744**	**12,661,469**	**7,172,032**	**57,008,044**

Pictured: Staff at Brekkie in the Park, 2026



PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS BUDGET

Class of Assets	By Major Capital Project	Total prior year(s) actual (A)	2025-26 Budget (B)	Current Financial Year - 2026-27 Budget (C)	2027-28 Budget (D)	2028-29 Budget (E)	2029-36 Budget (F)	Total Planned Budget (G=A+B+C+D+E+F)	Expected Project Completion Date
Buildings	SWELL Café/Airconditioning			75,000	154,650	500,000	-	729,650	2028-29
	Recreation Centre Air-Con Renewal			500,000	500,000	-	-	1,000,000	2027-28
	Solar Panel and Battery Installation – SWELL		258,400	269,600				528,000	2026-27
	Zuccoli Community Hub		450,000	3,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	-	13,450,000	2028-29
Furniture & Fittings	ERP software	785,633	350,000	350,000	-	-	-	1,485,633	2026-27

ATTACHMENT 12.1.8.2

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Class of Assets	By Capital Project	Current Financial Year - 2026-27 Budget
Buildings	60 Georgina Cres - Building renewal	10,527
	Animal Management Facility	50,000
	Aquatic Centre Capital (SWELL) Renewals	74,250
	Archer Waste Management Facility Renewals	20,000
	Civic Plaza Capital Renewals	184,958
	Depot Capital Renewals	15,158
	Driver Resource Centre Capital Renewals	10,527
	Durack Community Arts Centre Capital Renewals	9,527
	Gray Community Hall Renewals	20,480
	Library Building Capital Renewals	108,952
	Odegaard Drive Building Capital Works	37,125
	Recreation Centre Air-Con Renewal	500,000
	Recreation Centre Capital Renewals	108,952
	Sustainability Programs (Solar Panels & LEDs etc)	269,600
	SWELL Café/Airconditioning	75,000
	Zuccoli Community Hub - Stage 3	3,000,000
Parks & Reserves	Creative Industries	51,400
	Exeloo Renewal	15,000
	Irrigation Refurbishment	214,960
	Marlow Lagoon Masterplan	75,000
	Play Space Renewals	462,600
	Play Space Upgrades	102,800
	Tree planting & Replacement	54,200
Furniture & Fittings	ERP software	350,000
	IT Projects	157,901
Ancillary Roads	Driveway Renewals	54,739
	Laneway Renewals	52,634
	New Driveways - FILOC	200,000
	New Pathways	92,520
	Pathways Renewals	126,321
Roads	All Ability Access	30,840
	Bitumen Reseal & Asphalt Overlay Program	1,540,409
	CBD Parking Signage Renewal	15,000
	Road Reconstruction	450,000
	Road Safety Program	61,680
Public Lighting	Public Lighting Renewals	63,160
	Public Lighting Upgrades (Dark Spots)	128,500
Stormwater	Stormwater Renewals	210,534
Vehicles	Fleet Replacement	411,200

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2025-26	2026-27
$'000's	**Revised Budget**	**Budget**
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,000	4,000
Investments	9,286	9,445
Receivables	2,163	2,339
Total Current Assets	**15,449**	**15,895**
Non-Current Assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	570,938	570,043
Investment property	6,200	6,200
Total Non-Current Assets	**577,138**	**576,243**
TOTAL ASSETS	**592,587**	**592,028**
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Payables	5,173	5,333
Borrowings	520	495
Provisions	1,079	1,111
Total Current Liabilities	**6,771**	**6,939**
Non-Current Liabilities		
Payables	-	-
Borrowings	4,161	6,435
Provisions	2,422	2,495
Total Non-Current Liabilities	**6,583**	**8,930**
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**13,354**	**15,869**
NET ASSETS	**579,233**	**576,159**
EQUITY		
Retained earnings/(accumulated deficit)	230,673	227,343
Other Reserves	8,370	8,627
Revaluation Reserves	340,190	340,190
TOTAL EQUITY	**579,233**	**576,159**

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOW

	2025-26	2026-27
$'000's	**Revised Budget**	**Budget**
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Receipts:		
Rates & annual charges	40,903	40,379
User charges & fees	1,269	1,129
Investment & interest revenue received	1,742	1,192
Grants & contributions	2,311	3,857
Other	42	260
Payments:		
Employee costs	(13,220)	(13,713)
Materials, contracts & other expenses	(30,763)	(26,523)
Finance Payments	(310)	(294)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	**1,974**	**6,289**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Receipts:		
Sale of investment securities	7,568	-
Sale of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	150	150
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets	2,626	888
Payments:		
Purchase of investment securities	-	(159)
Purchase of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	(11,400)	(9,416)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	**(1,056)**	**(8,538)**
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Receipts:		
Proceeds from borrowings & deposits	-	3,000
Payments:		
Repayment of borrowings & advances	(512)	(751)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES	**(512)**	**2,249**
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	406	-
plus: CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS - beginning of year	3,594	4,000
TOTAL CASH AT BANK	**4,000**	**4,000**
plus: INVESTMENTS ON HAND - beginning of year	16,854	9,286
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN INVESTMENTS ON HAND	(7,568)	159
TOTAL INVESTMENTS ON HAND	**9,286**	**9,445**
TOTAL CASH & CASH EQUIVALENT & INVESTMENTS - end of year	**13,286**	**13,445**
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS	**(7,163)**	**159**

FINANCIAL RATIOS

		2025-26	2026-27
	Benchmark	Revised Budget	Budget
Operating ratio			
This ratio measures Council's ability to contain operating expenditure within operating revenue.	Greater than 0%	6.21%	13.45%
Cash Expense Cover Ratio			
This ratio indicates the number of months Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow.	3 months	3.93	3.98
Current Ratio			
This ratio represents Council's ability to meet debt payments as they fall due. It should be noted that Council's externally restricted assets will not be available as operating funds and as such can significantly impact Council's ability to meet its liabilities.	1.5 times	2.28	2.27
Own Revenue			
This ratio measures the level of Council's fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. Council's financial flexibility improves the higher the level of its own source revenue. Own funding/total operating revenue.	Between 60%-75%	95%	92%
Debt Service Cover Ratio			
This ratio measures the availability of cash to service debt including interest, principal, and lease payments.	Greater than 2.0	3.24	7.99
Interest Cover Ratio			
This ratio indicates the extent to which Council can service its interest-bearing debt and take on additional borrowings. It measures the burden of the current interest expense upon Council's operating cash.	Greater than 4.0	27.32	35.88
Asset Sustainability Ratio			
This ratio indicates the extent to which Council is replacing its existing asset base with capital renewals of existing assets.	Between 90%-110%	93%	71%

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

	Cost
Initiatives to commence in 2026-27	
Recreation Centre Airconditioning replacement	$500,000
Aquatic Centre – Other structure	$52,000
Offsite back up	$21,600
CBD Parking Signage Renewal	$15,000
Councillor Psychological Safety and Wellbeing Framework	$10,000
TOTAL	**$598,600**

STATEMENT OF RESERVES

Reserve	Expected opening balance as at 1 July 2026	Budget transfer to reserves	Budget transfer from reserves	Projected reserve balance as at 30 June 2027
$'000				
Internally restricted				
Election reserves	-	88	-	88
Disaster recovery	-	-	-	-
Waste	2,229	-	(192)	2,036
Developer Funds In Lieu Of Construction	2,566	522	(250)	2,838
Major initiative	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted	-	-	-	-
Working Capital	3,576	514	(425)	3,665
TOTAL	**8,370**	**1,124**	**(867)**	**8,627**



Pictured: Youth Festival team Geekfest Day 2 July 2025



city of
PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrance
08 8935 9922
palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au
palmerston.nt.gov.au

2026-27 DECLARATION OF RATES

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 241 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) (the Act), that the following rates and charges were declared by City of Palmerston at the 2nd Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 June 2026, pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Act in respect of the financial year ending 30 June 2027.

RATES

City of Palmerston (Council) makes the following declaration of rates pursuant to Chapter 11 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) (the Act).

1) Council, in accordance with section 227 of the Act, adopts the unimproved capital value as the basis for determining the assessed value of allotments within the Palmerston local government area (the Municipality).
2) Council, in accordance with section 237 of the Act declares that it intends to raise, for general purposes by way of rates, an amount of $31,116,443 which will be raised by the application of differential valuation-based charges (differential rates) with differential minimum amounts (minimum amounts) being payable in application of each of those differential rates for the financial year ending 30 June 2027.
3) Council declares the following differential rates with minimum amounts being payable in application of each of those differential rates:
    a. With respect to all rateable land within that part of the Municipality zoned R, RR (excluding RR properties located in the suburb of Marlow Lagoon), LR, LMR, MR, HR, CL, FD, PS, SP8*07, SP10*07, SP11*07 and SP1*20 under the NT Planning Scheme, a differential rate of 0.643173% of the assessed value of such land, with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate being $1,530.66 multiplied by either:
        i. the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (as described in section 226(5) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
        ii. the number one,

    whichever is greater.

b. With respect to all rateable land within that part of the Municipality zoned RR in the suburb of Marlow Lagoon under the NT Planning Scheme, a differential rate of 0.528389% of the assessed value of such land, with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate being $1,530.66 multiplied by either:
    i. the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (as described in section 226(5) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
    ii. the number one,

    whichever is greater.

c. With respect to those classes of rateable land within the Municipality zoned SP9*07 with a parcel area less than 10,000m² a differential rate of 0.643173% of the assessed value of such land, with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate being $1,530.66 multiplied by either:
    i. the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (as described in section 226(5) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
    ii. the number one,

    whichever is the greater.

d. With respect to those classes of rateable land within the Municipality zoned SP9*07 with a parcel area greater than 20,000m², a differential rate of 0.643173% of the assessed value of such land, with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate being $1,530.66 multiplied by either:
    i. the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (as described in section 226(5) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
    ii. the number one,

    whichever is the greater.

e. With respect to those classes of rateable land within the Municipality zoned GI, DV, U and LI under the NT Planning Scheme, a differential rate of 0.623594% of the assessed value of such land, with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate being $1,569.69 multiplied by either:
    i. the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (as described in section 226(5) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
    ii. the number one,

    whichever is greater.

f. With respect to all other rateable land within the Municipality, a differential rate of 0.925919% of the assessed value of such land, with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate being $1,569.69 multiplied by either:

i. the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (as described in section 226(5) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
ii. the number one,

whichever is greater.

CHARGES

4) In accordance with section 239 of the Act, Council declares that for the purpose of provision of waste management services which Council provides for the benefit of all residential land within the Municipality and the occupiers of such land, it intends to raise an amount of $9,439,365 which will be raised by the imposition of the following charges for the financial year ending 30 June 2027.

For the purposes of this paragraph 4:

"allotment" has the meaning set out in section 225 of the Act.

"residential dwelling" means a dwelling house, flat or other substantially self-contained residential unit or building on residential land used or capable of being used for residential purposes and includes a unit within the meaning of the *Unit Titles Act 1975* and the *Unit Title Schemes Act 2009*.

"residential land" means land used or capable of being used for residential purposes (but does not include land on which there is no residential dwelling).

a. THAT Council declares a charge of $631 per annum per residential dwelling in respect of which waste management services are provided to, or which Council is willing and able to provide to, within the Municipality other than a residential dwelling as described in paragraph b. below. The waste management services are:
    i. for single residential dwellings and multiple residential dwellings with three (3) or less dwellings per allotment:
        A. a kerbside general waste collection service of two (2) garbage collection visits per week, collecting waste contained in a maximum of one (1) 120 litre general waste mobile bin per visit; and
        B. a kerbside recycling collection service of one (1) collection visit per fortnight, collecting recyclable materials contained in a maximum of one (1) 240 litre recycling mobile bin per visit.
    ii. for multiple residential dwellings with four (4) or more dwellings per allotment:
        A. a general waste collection service of four (4) garbage collection visits per week, collecting waste contained in a maximum of one (1) 240 litre mobile bin per four (4) dwellings on each garbage collection visit; and
        B. a recycling collection service of one (1) collection visit per week, collecting recycled materials contained in a maximum of one (1) 240 litre recycling mobile bin per two (2) dwellings on each recycling collection visit.

In respect of the garbage and recycling collection services to these allotments, a dedicated onsite waste and recycling bin storage enclosure must be provided by the occupiers of the allotment in a form that complies with Council's requirements from time to time in respect of such enclosures;

iii. one pre-cyclone season hard waste collection as scheduled by Council;
iv. access to the Archer Waste Management Facility for the disposal of items accepted at the facility;
v. maintenance and replacement of waste management infrastructure and facilities as determined by Council;
vi. waste reduction and environmental programs and projects as determined by Council; and
vii. public litter collection & street sweeping as determined by Council.

b. THAT Council declares a charge of $320 per annum per residential dwelling in respect of which properties where the number of residential dwellings exceeds 25 and the property has its own alternative regular waste collection service arrangements that are approved by Council and meet the requirements of By-law 26 of the Palmerston (Public Places) By-laws 2001 and such other requirements that Council may determine from time to time in respect of such services. The services are:

i. one pre-cyclone season hard waste collection as scheduled by Council;
ii. access to the Archer Waste Management Facility for the disposal of items accepted at the facility;
iii. maintenance and replacement of waste management infrastructure and facilities as determined by Council;
iv. waste reduction and environmental programs and projects as determined by Council; and
v. public litter collection & street sweeping as determined by Council.

RELEVANT INTEREST RATE

5) In accordance with sections 241 and 245 of the Act, the relevant interest rate for the late payment of rates and charges is fixed at the rate of 11.4% per annum and is to be calculated on a daily basis.

PAYMENT

6)

a. In accordance with sections 241 and 244 of the Act, the due date for payment of rates and charges is 30 September 2026. However, Council will allow rates and charges declared under this declaration to be paid by four (4) approximately equal instalments by the following due dates, namely:
   - First Instalment, 30 September 2026
   - Second Instalment, 30 November 2026
   - Third Instalment, 30 January 2027
   - Fourth Instalment, 30 March 2027

Instalments falling due on a weekend or public holiday may be paid by the following business day without incurring a penalty.

b. THAT in accordance with sections 241 and 243 of the Act, a benefit will be offered to each ratepayer who pays the full balance of notified annual rates and charges on or by 30 September 2026. The benefit is that the ratepayer's name will be included in a draw to be known as the 'Early Bird Draw'. A cash prize of $1,500 will be given to two successful recipients as a result of the draw, being a total of $3,000. The draw will be carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions available on Council's website.

Andrew Walsh

Chief Executive Officer

Notes:

*"*__20__" means from the Northern Territory Planning Scheme 2020.*

*"*__07__" means from the Northern Territory Planning Scheme 2007.*

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.9
Report Title:	Adoption of 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Manager Financial Performance, Jeffrey Guilas
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearn

Community plan

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

Purpose

This report seeks Council's adoption of the City of Palmerston 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan following public consultation.

Key messages

- Council has prepared a 10-year Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP), which includes the draft 2026-27 budget and covers the period from 2027-2028 to 2035-36. This exceeds our legislative requirements to have a LTFP for a period of at least four fiscal years.
- The LTFP model uses a range of assumptions on delivering current service levels into the future.
- The LTFP delivers capital spend of $98.24 million over the course of the 10-year plan. This plan includes capital renewal and programs and strategic projects like Zuccoli Community Hub and Animal Management Facility, alongside other community-focused initiatives.
- Council is and will continue to be financially sustainable based on the LTFP.
- Council has completed 28 days of public consultation with minor administrative amendments to the LTFP presented at the 2 June 2026 ordinary council meeting.

- An amendment was made to Materials and Contractor expenditure in the 2026-27 budget and for the period 2027-28 to 2025-36 to incorporate Council endorsed ongoing new initiatives of $63,600 that had been inadvertently omitted from the draft LTFP.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Adoption of 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan be received and noted.

2. THAT Council adopts City of Palmerston's Long Term Financial Plan 2027-2036 at Attachment 12.1.9.1 to Report entitled Adoption of 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan incorporating the minor amendments.

3. THAT Council provide the adopted Long Term Financial Plan 2027-2036 to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development in accordance with Section 200 (4) of the Local Government Act 2019 before 30 June 2026 with a copy also provided to the Minister for Local Government.

Background

At the 1st Ordinary Council Meeting of 2 June 2026, Council made the following decisions:

12.1.9 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation

Moved: ***Councillor Hale***
Seconded: ***Councillor Henderson***

1. THAT Report entitled 2027-2036 Draft Long Term Financial Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation be received and noted.

2. THAT Council note the outcomes of the public consultation on the draft 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan.

3. THAT Council note the minor administrative amendments to the draft 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan.

4. THAT the 2027-2036 Long Term Financial Plan be presented at the 16 June 2026 Ordinary meeting for adoption and delivery to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development in accordance with Section 200 (4) of the Local Government Act 2019 before the 30 June 2025 with a copy also provided to the Minister for Local Government.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0416 – 2/06/2026

Following the review of the LTFP after the consultation period, it was identified that two Council-endorsed ongoing new initiatives being $21,600 for offsite back-up and $52,000 for Aquatic Centre other structure renewals ($42,000 represents the required increase, as $10,000 is considered BAU)—were inadvertently omitted from the draft 2026–27 budget

and the 2028–2036 forecast. Both new initiatives were approved by Council for inclusion at the 3 March 2026 Council meeting.

At the 1st Ordinary Confidential Council Meeting of 3 March 2026, Council made the following decisions

26.1.2 2026-27 Budget Development - Workshop 3

3. THAT Council endorses the inclusion of the following for the purposes of developing the draft consolidated 2026/27 budget and balancing the budget;

i. Model the waste management budget as presented in Report entitled 2026-27 Budget Development - Workshop 3 with a net deficit of $192,208 to be funded from the waste management reserve.

ii. Capital Program (Option 2) - $9.41 million, $695K funded through reserve ($425K Working capital, $250K FILOC, $20K Waste Reserve) and $888K funded through grants, including new initiatives of $500K Recreation Centre Aircon upgrade and $15K CBD signage replacement.

iii. Operational new initiatives - $52K Aquatic Centre – other structure, $21.6K Offsite back up, $10K Councillor Psychosocial Safety and Wellbeing Framework.

iv. 2.5% vacancy rate for employee expenses.

v. Restructure the remaining FILOC Loan repayments for Making the Switch and SWELL, roll into one loan and spread the repayments evenly over four years commencing 2026/27.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0279 – 3/03/2026

These changes have now been incorporated into the final draft of the 2026-27 Municipal Plan (MP) and 2027-2036 LTFP.

It is recommended that Council adopts the final draft of 2027-36 LTFP and provide the adopted plan to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development before 30 June 2026 with a copy also provided to the Minister of Local Government.

Discussion

The draft LTFP covers a ten-year period from 2026-2027 to 2035-2036. The LTFP is used to recognise the Council's current and future financial capacity to continue delivering services and provide facilities and infrastructure to the community while commencing new initiatives and projects to achieve the outcomes set out in the Council's Community Plan.

The draft LTFP includes:

- Planning assumptions used to develop the plan
- Projected income and expenditure
- Statement of financial position
- Statement of Cashflows
- Financial ratios

Council utilises this ten-year financial forecast to quantify the available cash flow for financial sustainability, ensure Council can both fund its services and asset replacements, thereby positioning itself for future opportunities. As a result, the organisation itself is strong and financially viable. Through prudent, responsible budgeting, planning and financial management; council will be able to continue to build its Reserves, continue to deliver services to the community and replace and renew assets now and into the future, ensuring the same level of services and delivering outcomes set out in the Council's Community Plan.

The draft 2027–2036 LTFP was released for a 28-day public consultation period commencing on 8 April 2026. No submissions were received during this period.

Council endorsed the draft 2027-2036 LTFP for adoption incorporating the minor administrative amendments at the 2 June 2026 Council Meeting.

Following the review of the LTFP after the consultation period, it was identified that two Council-endorsed ongoing new initiatives—$21,600 for offsite back-up and $52,000 for Aquatic Centre other structure renewals ($42,000 represents the required increase, as $10,000 is considered BAU)—were omitted from the draft 2026–27 budget and the 2027–2036 LTFP.

The inclusion of these new initiatives results in an increase of $63,600 in materials and contractor expense. This has led to the following changes in the 2026–27 budget and 2028–2036 forecast:

Table 1: Changes to 2026-27 budget

Accounts	**Previous draft budget**	**Amended draft budget**
Statement of Comprehensive Income		
Materials and contractors	26,001	26,064
Total expenditure	54,043	54,106
Budget operating surplus /(deficit)	(7,249)	(7,313)
Total comprehensive income / (loss)	(3,011)	(3,074)
Net Reserve Transfers	(321)	(257)
Statement of Financial Position		
Investments	9,509	9,445
Total current assets	15,849	15,785
Total assets	592,091	592,028
Net assets	576,223	576,159
Other reserves	8,691	8,627
Total equity	576,223	576,159
Statement of Cashflow		
Materials, contracts & other expenses	(26,459)	(26,523)
Net cash provided (or used in) operating activities	6,352	6,289
Net Purchase of investment securities	(223)	(159)
Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities	(8,601)	(8,538)
Net increase/(decrease) in investment on hand	223	159

Total investments on hand	9,509	9,445
Total cash and cash equivalents & investments - end of year	13,509	13,445
Net increase /(decrease) in cash, cash equivalents and investments	223	159
Financial Ratios		
Operating ratio	13.58%	13.45%
Cash expense cover ratio	4.01	3.98
Current ratio	2.28	2.27
Debt service cover ratio	8.07	7.99
Interest cover ratio	36.10	35.88

The increase of $63,600 in materials and contractor expenses has a flow-on impact on total expenditure, total budgeted profit and loss, and net reserve transfer in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The increase in expenditure affects cash flow, resulting in changes to the Cashflow Statement and the Statement of Financial Position. In addition, the inclusion has a minor impact on the financial ratios.

These changes have been incorporated into the final draft of the 2026-27 MP. A separate report will be presented for the adoption of the 2026-27 MP.

The two new initiatives incorporated to the 2026-27 budget are ongoing and therefore have a flow-on impact on the following years projections. The affected items for the 2027–2028 to 2035–2036 period are presented in **Attachment 12.1.9.1.**

The amendments have resulted in minor changes to the 10-year average financial ratios, as outlined in Table 2 below.

Table 2: 10-Year average financial ratios

Financial ratios	Previous draft LTFP	Amended draft LTFP
Operating ratio	19%	17%
Cash expense cover ratio	5.2	5.08
Current ratio	2.83	2.78
Debt service cover ratio	11.27	11.17
Interest cover ratio	73.54	73.11

The remaining 10-year average financial ratios are unchanged as a result of the amendments.

These changes have been incorporated into the final draft of the 2027-2036 LTFP. The final draft is presented in **Attachment 12.1.9.2.**

The capital budget rollover request from the 2025–26 to 2026–27 budget will be presented in a separate report. Accordingly, the capital budget rollover amount is not included in the draft 2026–27 budget or the draft 2027–2036 Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP).

Consultation and marketing

Council has undertaken public consultation for 28 days. Public consultation on the Draft Long Term Financial Plan resulted in no public submissions being received during the consultation period.

Policy implications

City of Palmerston's Municipal Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Budget have been developed in accordance with Council's policies and legislative requirements under the Local Government Act 2019.

Budget and resource implications

The LTFP models an improving operating financial position for the City of Palmerston over the planning period. LTFP forecasts a capital expenditure of $98.24 million over the term of this plan.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

The Local Government Act 2019 requires Council to prepare and maintain a LTFP and must be presented in line with the issued Guidelines. The plan must cover a minimum period of four years; however, many of the Council's decisions have impacts that go well beyond this time horizon. As a result, City of Palmerston has developed a 10-year financial plan.

Stakeholders must understand the financial implications arising from Council's decisions and ensure the financial sustainability of City of Palmerston.

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

The delivery of the actions and projects within the Long Term Financial Plan will improve the wellbeing of our community and deliver several improved environmental outcomes.

Long Term Financial Plan delivers on the City of Palmerston Strategies, Framework and Plans for the 2027-36 period.

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. Affected items for 2028-2036 period [**12.1.9.1** - 1 page]
2. COP Long Term Financial Plan 2027-36 [**12.1.9.2** - 26 pages]

INCOME STATEMENT									
	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2032-2033	2033-2034	2034-2035	2035-2036
$'000's	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Materials, contracts and other expenses	27,350	28,860	30,062	31,267	32,576	33,744	35,069	36,457	37,911
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	***56,162***	***58,414***	***60,712***	***62,395***	***64,592***	***66,602***	***69,153***	***71,093***	***73,061***
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	***(6,953)***	***(6,434)***	***(6,191)***	***(5,172)***	***(4,537)***	***(3,574)***	***(2,961)***	***(1,539)***	***90***
BUDGET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	***2,221***	***2,740***	***(2,069)***	***(1,049)***	***(415)***	***549***	***1,161***	***2,583***	***4,212***
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (LOSS)	***2,221***	***2,740***	***(2,069)***	***(1,049)***	***(415)***	***549***	***1,161***	***2,583***	***4,212***
Add: Net Reserve Transfers	***(376)***	***(523)***	***(1,505)***	***(1,316)***	***(1,392)***	***(2,533)***	***(3,772)***	***(5,814)***	***(7,163)***
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION									
Investments	10,037	10,703	12,371	13,852	15,410	18,113	22,055	28,041	35,373
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	***16,498***	***17,302***	***19,097***	***20,713***	***22,413***	***25,264***	***29,366***	***35,519***	***43,032***
TOTAL ASSETS	***594,092***	***596,605***	***594,304***	***593,016***	***592,355***	***592,650***	***593,549***	***595,861***	***599,792***
NET ASSETS	**578,444**	**581,184**	**579,116**	**578,067**	**577,652**	**578,200**	**579,361**	**581,944**	**586,157**
Other Reserves	9,067	9,589	11,094	12,410	13,802	16,334	20,106	25,920	33,083
TOTAL EQUITY	***578,444***	***581,184***	***579,115***	***578,066***	***577,651***	***578,200***	***579,361***	***581,944***	***586,156***
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS									
Materials, contracts & other expenses	(27,822)	(29,347)	(30,914)	(31,795)	(33,121)	(34,306)	(35,998)	(37,065)	(38,538)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	**7,028**	**7,862**	**8,441**	**9,836**	**10,902**	**12,240**	**13,244**	**15,059**	**16,687**
Net Purchase of investment securities	(528)	(666)	(1,668)	(1,480)	(1,559)	(2,702)	(3,943)	(5,986)	(7,333)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	***(6,533)***	***(7,354)***	***(7,918)***	***(9,297)***	***(10,348)***	***(11,669)***	***(12,654)***	***(14,450)***	***(16,058)***
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN INVESTMENTS ON HAND	528	666	1,668	1,480	1,559	2,702	3,943	5,986	7,333
Total Investments on Hand	***10,037***	***10,703***	***12,371***	***13,852***	***15,410***	***18,113***	***22,055***	***28,041***	***35,373***
TOTAL CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS - end of year	***14,037***	***14,703***	***16,371***	***17,852***	***19,410***	***22,113***	***26,055***	***32,041***	***39,373***
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS	***528***	***666***	***1,668***	***1,480***	***1,559***	***2,702***	***3,943***	***5,986***	***7,333***

city of
PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'



LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2027–36



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.

City of Palmerston is committed to embracing diversity and eliminating all forms of discrimination within our facilities and welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or faith.

Pictured: Aboriginal culture Australia Day Recreational Centre January 2026

Pictured front cover: Zuccoli Pump Track March 2026

Pictured back cover: Marlow Lagoon Basketball Court Mural June 2025

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FOREWORD

City of Palmerston is pleased to present the Long-Term Financial Plan 2027 to 2036.

The plan spans from financial year 2026-27 to 2035-36, acknowledging Council's present and prospective financial capabilities. It is designed to sustain the provision of community services, deliver essential facilities and infrastructure to the community, and initiate projects aligned with the objectives outlined in the Community Plan.

This Long-Term Financial Plan (the Plan) has been prepared with the base year being 2026-27.

The Plan is supported by financial modelling to project City of Palmerston's fiscal outlook for the coming decade. This not only forecasts revenue streams and expenses but assists with decision-making to best achieve Council's corporate objectives and asset management needs whilst considering its long-term financial challenges.

Our plan includes:

- Planning assumptions used to develop details
- Projected income and expenditure
- Statement of financial position
- Statement of cash flows
- Planned capital projects
- Financial ratios.

The fundamental assumptions detailed in the plan include CPI forecasts, anticipated interest rates, employee award adjustments, estimated loan repayments, and other specific income and expenses. Given the complexity of financial forecasting over a decade, these assumptions are subject to inevitable fluctuations. The Plan undergoes frequent monitoring and revision to adapt to evolving circumstances.

Modelling has indicated that rate increases for residential will remain same to previous models, with a slight increase for commercial and industrial properties. This is required to maintain existing service levels for the community while fulfilling outcomes identified in the Community Plan for Palmerston. The 2027-36 plan maintains existing service levels and free initiatives such as free pool entry, community events, facility hire for community groups and parking. The decisions made in this Plan have been assessed for their long-term impact with a focus on ensuring long-term financial sustainability.

This Plan forecasts the delivery of major projects with support of grant funding, such as the Zuccoli Community Hub. In this Plan, City of Palmerston proposes acquiring loans of up to $3 million to finance this project. This means that residents will bear the cost of the construction of the facilities as they utilise them.

With this financing model, Council ensures that financial reserve balances remain healthy and continue to increase within the 10-year timeframe to ensure the cost of asset renewal can be met into the future as our City ages.

City of Palmerston's Long-Term Financial Plan aims to:

- Set out the assumptions upon which Council's financial plans and budgets have been structured
- identify some Key Performance Indicators upon which Council can benchmark its financial performance
- set the framework so that the impact of future policy decisions can be identified
- evaluate the impact of future scenarios upon Council's financial position
- provide a basis for future informed decision making
- identify issues which impact upon the financial sustainability of Council including known opportunities and threats; and
- achieve a balanced budget on a funding basis, acknowledging that continued service delivery and asset renewals are current priorities.

The Long-Term Financial Plan model and assumptions were provided to Peel Valentine Whitehead (PVW) Partners Pty Ltd to provide advice on the succinctness of the model and assumptions used. Although no assurance or opinions can be issued under this type of engagement, the advice received was that PVW Partners were satisfied with the material functionality of the Plan.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) (the Act) mandates that Council formulate and maintain a Long Term Financial Plan. While the Act stipulates a minimum coverage period of four years, the ramifications of many Council decisions extend far beyond this timeframe. Recognising this, Council has crafted a 10-year plan to provide ratepayers with a comprehensive understanding of the financial consequences stemming from its decisions and to safeguard City of Palmerston's financial sustainability.

"This plan ensures long-term financial sustainability while continuing to deliver for our community.

BACKGROUND

PALMERSTON

Palmerston is a young and modern municipality.

It has a median age of 31 and many families call it home. The second-largest city in the Northern Territory, it is a regional hub with a promising future. Centrally located between Darwin and its rural area, Palmerston is conveniently close to major health, education and transport infrastructure, such as the port and railway, a university campus and a modern hospital and police station.

Rapid population growth coupled with a young demographic presents Council with the challenge of growing and renewing essential family infrastructure and activities for Palmerston and its surrounding communities. Palmerston experiences annual population growth, supported by an array of lifestyle amenities. These include multiple shopping centres, a PGA tournament-standard golf course, conservation areas, recreational facilities and a thriving education sector, catering to families choosing to make our city their home.

NORTHERN TERRITORY ECONOMY

The Northern Territory economy is highly dependent on the government sector, mining and tourism.

This dependence makes it highly prone to volatility, particularly once large capital projects wind down.

Department of Treasury and Finance 2025-26 Mid-Year report provides an update of the Northern Territory Government fiscal and economic outlook, including forecast of average growth in the following key economic indicators over the three-year period from 2026–27 to 2028–29.

Key Economic Forecast (%)

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Gross state product[1]	7.1	1.3	3
Employment[1]	1.2	1.6	1.6
Population[2]	1.1	1.2	1.2
Consumer price index[2]	2.4	2.5	2.5
Wage price index[1]	3.1	3.2	3.3

1 Year average percentage change

2 June quarter compared with June quarter the previous year

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

City of Palmerston, though relatively young, experiences robust growth in population and infrastructure, with developers contributing millions of dollars' worth of infrastructure annually.

While the infrastructure remains relatively new, short to medium-term maintenance works are necessary to uphold its satisfactory condition. However, in the future, significant asset replacement will pose a substantial expense for us. We diligently pursue the targets outlined in its asset management plans to ensure long-term infrastructure stability.

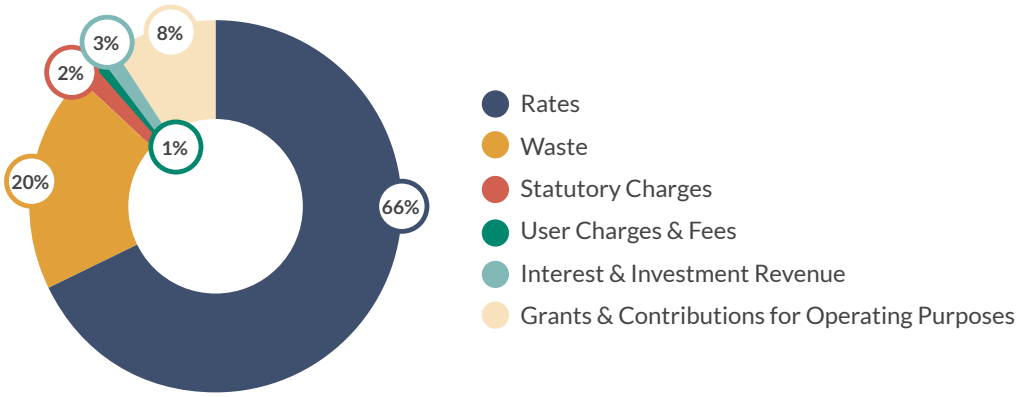
In our commitment to enhancing the city's amenity and liveability, City of Palmerston continues to undertake major projects such as the construction of the Zuccoli Community Hub, a revitalised Driver Community Centre, and a masterplan developed for Marlow Lagoon. All of these projects have had, or will have, extensive community consultation as they are developed.

Recent investments include the transformation of the Palmerston pool into the modern and dynamic Swimming, Wellness, Entertainment, Leisure and Lifestyle facility, the upgrade of the Durack Community Arts Centre and the award-winning Gray Community Hall. These efforts align with City of Palmerston's commitment to ensuring that community facilities meet the evolving needs of the local community while ensuring long-term infrastructure stability.

City of Palmerston's financial reserves, while low, are deemed adequate to sustain ongoing operations without compromising service levels. Council has a strategy in place to rebuild reserve balances over the life of the Plan, ensuring adequate liquidity and resilience to support ongoing service delivery and future capital commitments.

Nearly 87% of operational revenues are currently derived from annual rates and waste charges, providing us with a stable revenue base and reducing reliance on external factors beyond our control. City of Palmerston remains proactive in identifying additional revenue sources and advocating for grants from funding bodies.

OPERATING REVENUE SOURCE BY TYPE 2026-27



MEASURING PERFORMANCE

City of Palmerston will continue to track and evaluate its financial performance using standard financial indicators, which include:

- **Operating Ratio:** This assesses City of Palmerston's ability to keep its operating expenses within its operating revenue. The benchmark for this ratio is greater than 0%.
- **Cash Expense Ratio:** This liquidity measure indicates the number of months City of Palmerston can sustain immediate expenses without additional cash flow. The benchmark for this ratio is greater than three months.
- **Current Ratio:** This indicates City of Palmerston's ability to meet debt repayments as they become due. It's important to note that externally restricted assets are not available as operating funds, potentially impacting City of Palmerston's ability to meet liabilities. The minimum benchmark is greater than 1.5.
- **Rates Coverage Ratio:** This measures fiscal flexibility by assessing the degree of reliance on external funding sources like operating grants and contributions for day-to-day operations. The benchmark for this ratio is between 60 – 75%.
- **Debt Service Cover Ratio:** This gauges the availability of operating cash to service debt, including interest, principal, and lease payments. The benchmark for this ratio is greater than 2.
- **Interest Cover Ratio:** This indicates City of Palmerston's capacity to service interest-bearing debt and take on additional borrowing, measuring the burden of current interest expense on operating cash. The minimum benchmark for this ratio is greater than 4.
- **Asset Sustainability Ratio:** This forecasts the extent to which City of Palmerston will increase or replace its asset base. A ratio of one or higher indicates the asset base is being replenished at a rate equal to or higher than asset consumption. A ratio less than one may suggest a deteriorating asset base.

Ratio	Benchmark	Ten-Year Average
Operating Ratio	Greater than 0%	17%
Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 3 months	5.08
Current Ratio	Greater than 1.5 times	2.78
Rates Coverage Ratio	Between 60%-75%	92%
Debt Service Ratio	Greater than 2 times	11.17
Interest Cover Ratio	Greater than 4 times	73.11
Asset Sustainability Ratio	Between 90%-110%	67%

FUTURE FINANCIAL POSITION

The Long Term Financial Plan projects an enhanced financial outlook for City of Palmerston over the planning period.

The medium term strategy is to continue to maintain the same service levels for the provision of community infrastructure, events and programs. In the longer term Council is looking to increasing the financial reserves to enable strategic reinvestment into capital projects such as infrastructure renewals and strategic projects,

However, ongoing cost of living pressures continue to affect households and place upward pressure on Council's operating costs. While Council remains committed to aligning with community expectations for service delivery and affordability, broader economic factors beyond City of Palmerston's control are impacting both residents and operations.

Operational revenues are currently derived from annual rates and waste charges, to enable City of Palmerston to continue to meet its long-term strategy, City of Palmerston must factor increases in its rate revenue over the 10 years. Modelling has indicated that rate increases from 2027-28 for residential and commercial will remain same to previous models of 4.9% for residential and commercial for two years with subsequent years a modest increase to all categories of 3.9%. For 2027-28 and 2028-29 there will be slight increase for industrial properties of 7% and 6% in the "rate in the dollar". This is required to maintain existing service levels for the community while fulfilling outcomes identified in the City of Palmerston Community Plan. The rates projections also include an anticipated property growth of 1.5%.

While the Plan sees a budgeted operating deficit, this is largely due to depreciation, which is non-cash. Taking depreciation into consideration, City of Palmerston derives a cash surplus year on year which is being reinvested back into capital projects or the financial reserves.

The building of healthy reserves gives City of Palmerston the flexibility to respond to unprecedented cost increases, which has been experienced in recent years and is beyond our control.

FINANCIAL RESERVES

A financial strategy for Council is to maintain Financial Reserves and is documented in the Financial Reserve policy.

The strategy for the 2027-36 Long Term Financial Plan is to ensure that the working capital reserve, asset renewal reserve and major initiative reserves to levels are considered appropriate for Council's long-term sustainability as summarised below. This is consistent with the financial reserve policy.

- **Working capital reserve:** this plan aims to reach and maintain a $5 million minimum balance, increasing to $10 million. Having funds available in this reserve reduces the risk of service levels or other specific reserves needing to be impacted where unforeseen funds are required.
- **Asset Renewal Reserve:** this reserve is projected to increase from a nil balance to $3 million. This enables Council greater flexibility where unforeseen asset replacement is required that can't be managed within existing programs or would result in an impact on service levels.
- **Major Initiatives Reserve:** this reserve was last used for SWELL and is intended to fund major capital projects that have been identified by Council. This plan increases this reserve to enable significant projects to be able to be delivered without the reliance on borrowing and/or grants, or in support of alternative funding sources.

MAJOR INITIATIVES, REPAIRS, AND ASSETS

The Plan anticipates a capital expenditure of $98.24 million over 10 years, aimed at delivering new and contemporary facilities for the community.

This includes capital renewal and programs and strategic projects like Zuccoli Community Hub, Marlow Lagoon and the SWELL café, alongside other community-focused initiatives. These projects are expected to attract funding from the Commonwealth and Territory Governments. In addition to replacing and renewing assets related to infrastructure such as roads, pathways, parks, public lighting, buildings, stormwater and fleet, it remains imperative to uphold the satisfactory condition of assets within Palmerston.

Due to the continued success of Palmerston Youth Festival, Darwin Festival in Palmerston and the Darwin Symphony Orchestra concerts in Palmerston, Council has factored in funds for community events in the future, which will be informed by community consultation.

The Plan assumes that the existing service standards will remain unchanged, City of Palmerston has based its future estimates for repairs and maintenance on this consistency, while also factoring in CPI increases in alignment with City of Palmerston's asset management plans.





INCOME STATEMENT

$'000	2025-2026 Revised Budget	2026-2027 Budget	2027-2028 Forecast	2028-2029 Forecast	2029-2030 Forecast	2030-2031 Forecast	2031-2032 Forecast	2032-2033 Forecast	2033-2034 Forecast	2034-2035 Forecast	2035-2036 Forecast
Operating Income											
Rates	28,976	31,116	33,195	35,382	37,313	39,350	41,498	43,763	46,151	48,671	51,327
Waste	8,932	9,439	9,817	10,210	10,618	11,043	11,484	11,944	12,422	12,918	13,435
Statutory Charges	109	715	737	760	783	807	833	858	885	912	941
User charges & fees	1,160	414	427	440	454	468	483	498	513	529	545
Interest & investment revenue	1,742	1,192	992	1,020	1,052	1,119	1,180	1,245	1,349	1,498	1,719
Other revenues	42	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	77	79
Grants & contributions for operating purposes	2,311	3,857	3,977	4,100	4,228	4,359	4,494	4,633	4,777	4,925	5,078
TOTAL INCOME	**43,272**	**46,794**	**49,207**	**51,976**	**54,514**	**57,214**	**60,041**	**63,012**	**66,172**	**69,530**	**73,124**
Operating Expenditure											
Employee benefits & costs	13,547	13,818	14,179	14,604	15,043	15,494	15,960	16,439	16,932	17,441	17,964
Borrowing costs	310	294	368	340	311	282	252	220	188	155	121
Elected Member Allowances	474	576	593	612	631	650	671	691	713	735	758
Elected Member Expenses	383	43	44	46	397	59	61	63	415	78	80
Materials, contracts and other expenses	26,180	26,064	27,416	28,930	30,135	31,343	32,655	33,827	35,156	36,548	38,006
Depreciation	12,306	13,312	13,628	13,952	14,268	14,643	15,072	15,445	15,835	16,227	16,227
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**53,199**	**54,106**	**56,228**	**58,484**	**60,785**	**62,472**	**64,671**	**66,686**	**69,240**	**71,184**	**73,157**
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**(9,927)**	**(7,313)**	**(7,021)**	**(6,508)**	**(6,271)**	**(5,258)**	**(4,630)**	**(3,673)**	**(3,068)**	**(1,654)**	**(33)**
Add: Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2,776	1,238	6,174	6,174	1,122	1,122	1,122	1,122	1,122	1,122	1,122
Add: Physical resources received free of charge (non-cash)	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
BUDGET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**(4,151)**	**(3,074)**	**2,153**	**2,666**	**(2,149)**	**(1,135)**	**(508)**	**449**	**1,054**	**2,469**	**4,089**
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (LOSS)	**(4,151)**	**(3,074)**	**2,153**	**2,666**	**(2,149)**	**(1,135)**	**(508)**	**449**	**1,054**	**2,469**	**4,089**
Add: Depreciation	12,306	13,312	13,628	13,952	14,268	14,643	15,072	15,445	15,835	16,227	16,227
Add: Other non-cash											
Less: Resources free of charge	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Less: Capital Expenditure	11,400	9,416	11,979	12,661	7,172	8,739	9,711	9,889	9,634	9,387	9,647
Add: Borrowings (Loans advances)		3,000		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Loan Repayments	512	565	495	508	523	538	555	572	590	609	629
Add: Net Reserve Transfers	6,757	(257)	(307)	(449)	(1,425)	(1,230)	(1,299)	(2,433)	(3,665)	(5,699)	(7,040)
NET CASH BUDGET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

$'000	2025-2026 Revised Budget	2026-2027 Budget	2027-2028 Forecast	2028-2029 Forecast	2029-2030 Forecast	2030-2031 Forecast	2031-2032 Forecast	2032-2033 Forecast	2033-2034 Forecast	2034-2035 Forecast	2035-2036 Forecast
Assets											
Current Assets											
Cash & cash equivalents	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Investments	9,286	9,445	9,905	10,497	12,085	13,480	14,946	17,548	21,384	27,255	34,465
Receivables	2,163	2,339	2,459	2,598	2,725	2,860	3,001	3,150	3,308	3,475	3,655
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	**15,450**	**15,785**	**16,365**	**17,096**	**18,811**	**20,340**	**21,948**	**24,699**	**28,694**	**34,733**	**42,123**
Non-Current Assets											
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	570,938	570,043	571,394	573,103	569,007	566,103	563,742	561,186	557,984	554,142	550,560
Investment property	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200
Work in progress	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	**577,138**	**576,243**	**577,594**	**579,303**	**575,207**	**572,303**	**569,942**	**567,386**	**564,184**	**560,342**	**556,760**
TOTAL ASSETS	**592,588**	**592,028**	**593,959**	**596,399**	**594,018**	**592,644**	**591,890**	**592,085**	**592,877**	**595,075**	**598,883**
Liabilities											
Current Liabilities											
Payables	5,173	5,333	5,499	5,669	5,845	6,026	6,213	6,405	6,604	6,809	7,020
Unearned Grant Income (AASB1058)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	520	495	508	523	538	555	572	590	609	629	6,187
Provisions	1,079	1,111	1,144	1,179	1,214	1,250	1,288	1,327	1,366	1,407	1,450
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	**6,771**	**6,939**	**7,151**	**7,371**	**7,597**	**7,831**	**8,072**	**8,322**	**8,579**	**8,845**	**14,657**
Non-Current Liabilities											
Payables	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Borrowings	4,161	6,435	5,927	5,404	4,866	4,311	3,739	3,150	2,540	1,911	(4,276)
Provisions	2,422	2,495	2,569	2,646	2,726	2,808	2,892	2,979	3,068	3,160	3,255
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	**6,583**	**8,930**	**8,496**	**8,050**	**7,592**	**7,119**	**6,631**	**6,128**	**5,608**	**5,071**	**(1,021)**
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**13,354**	**15,869**	**15,647**	**15,421**	**15,189**	**14,950**	**14,704**	**14,450**	**14,188**	**13,917**	**13,635**
NET ASSETS	**579,234**	**576,159**	**578,312**	**580,978**	**578,829**	**577,694**	**577,186**	**577,635**	**578,690**	**581,158**	**585,247**
Equity											
Retained earnings/ (accumulated deficit)	230,673	227,342	229,187	231,405	227,831	225,466	223,660	221,676	219,065	215,834	212,883
Other Reserves	8,370	8,627	8,934	9,382	10,807	12,037	13,336	15,768	19,433	25,132	32,172
Revaluation reserves	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190	340,190
TOTAL EQUITY	**579,233**	**576,159**	**578,311**	**580,977**	**578,829**	**577,694**	**577,186**	**577,635**	**578,689**	**581,158**	**585,247**

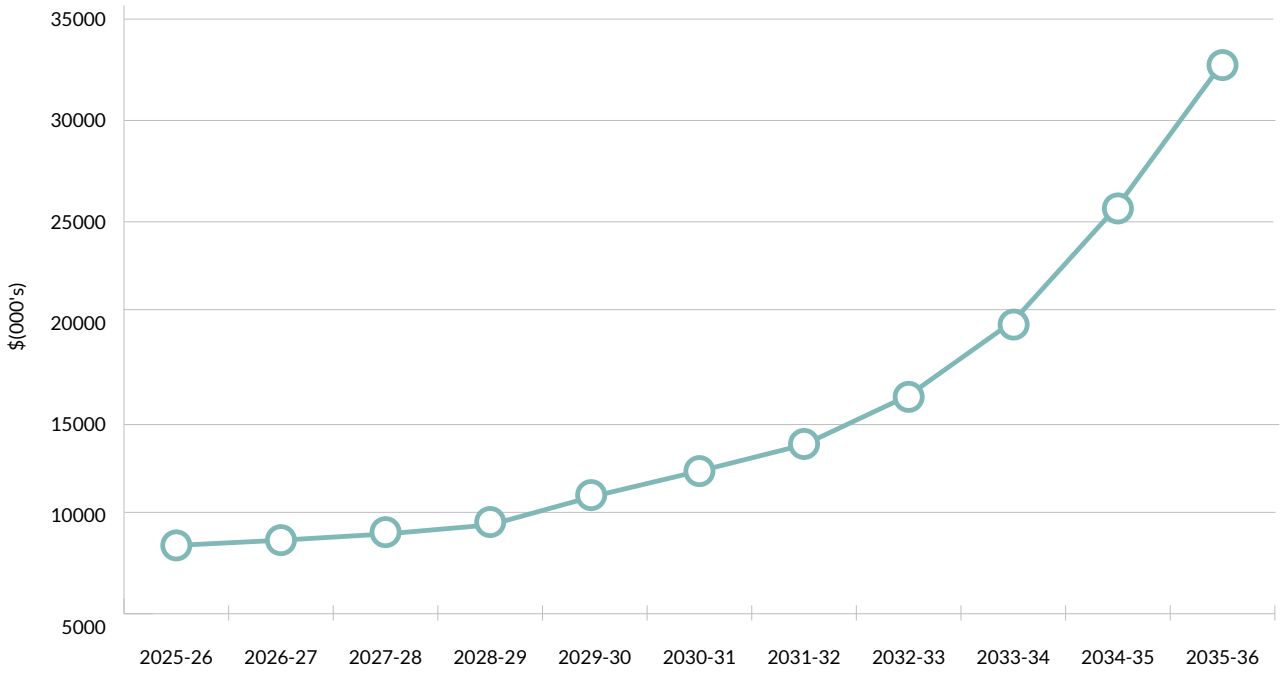
STATEMENT OF CASHFLOW

	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2032-2033	2033-2034	2034-2035	2035-2036
$'000	Revised Budget	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Cash Flows from Operating Activities											
Receipts											
Rates & waste charges	40,903	40,379	42,892	45,453	47,804	50,257	52,840	55,558	58,415	61,421	64,583
User charges & fees	1,269	1,129	1,164	1,200	1,237	1,276	1,315	1,356	1,398	1,441	1,486
Investment & interest revenue received	1,742	1,192	992	1,020	1,052	1,119	1,180	1,245	1,349	1,498	1,719
Grants & contributions	2,311	3,857	3,977	4,100	4,228	4,359	4,494	4,633	4,777	4,925	5,078
Other	42	260	262	264	266	268	270	272	274	277	279
Payments											
Employee benefits & costs	(13,220)	(13,713)	(14,070)	(14,493)	(14,928)	(15,376)	(15,838)	(16,313)	(16,803)	(17,308)	(17,827)
Materials, contracts & other expenses	(30,763)	(26,523)	(27,889)	(29,417)	(30,987)	(31,871)	(33,200)	(34,389)	(36,085)	(37,156)	(38,633)
Finance Payments	(310)	(294)	(368)	(340)	(311)	(282)	(252)	(220)	(188)	(155)	(121)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	**1,974**	**6,289**	**6,959**	**7,788**	**8,361**	**9,750**	**10,810**	**12,141**	**13,138**	**14,945**	**16,564**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities											
Receipts											
Sale of investment securities	7,568	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sale of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets	2,626	888	5,824	5,824	772	772	772	772	772	772	772
Payments											
Purchase of investment securities	-	(159)	(460)	(592)	(1,588)	(1,394)	(1,466)	(2,603)	(3,836)	(5,871)	(7,210)
Purchase of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	(11,400)	(9,416)	(11,979)	(12,661)	(7,172)	(8,739)	(9,711)	(9,889)	(9,634)	(9,387)	(9,647)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	**(1,056)**	**(8,538)**	**(6,465)**	**(7,280)**	**(7,838)**	**(9,211)**	**(10,255)**	**(11,569)**	**(12,548)**	**(14,336)**	**(15,935)**
Cash Flows from Financing Activities											
Receipts											
Proceeds from borrowings & advances	-	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments											
Repayment of borrowing & advances	(512)	(751)	(495)	(508)	(523)	(538)	(555)	(572)	(590)	(609)	(629)
NET CASH PROVIDED (OR USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES	**(512)**	**2,249**	**(495)**	**(508)**	**(523)**	**(538)**	**(555)**	**(572)**	**(590)**	**(609)**	**(629)**
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS	406	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
plus: CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS - beginning of year	3,594	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Total Cash at Bank	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**4,000**
plus: INVESTMENTS ON HAND - beginning of year	16,854	9,286	9,445	9,905	10,497	12,085	13,480	14,946	17,548	21,384	27,255
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN INVESTMENTS ON HAND	(7,568)	159	460	592	1,588	1,394	1,466	2,603	3,836	5,871	7,210
Total Investments on Hand	**9,286**	**9,445**	**9,905**	**10,497**	**12,085**	**13,480**	**14,946**	**17,548**	**21,384**	**27,255**	**34,465**
TOTAL CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS - end of year	**13,286**	**13,445**	**13,905**	**14,497**	**16,085**	**17,480**	**18,946**	**21,548**	**25,384**	**31,255**	**38,465**
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS	**(7,163)**	**159**	**460**	**592**	**1,588**	**1,394**	**1,466**	**2,603**	**3,836**	**5,871**	**7,210**

FINANCIAL RATIOS

	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2032-2033	2033-2034	2034-2035	2035-2036
$'000	Revised Budget	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Operating ratio											
This ratio measures Council's ability to contain operating expenditure within operating revenue	6.21%	13.45%	14.17%	14.98%	15.24%	16.90%	17.81%	19.03%	19.58%	21.18%	22.31%
Benchmark - Greater than 0%	*(operating revenue excl. capital grants and contributions - operating expenses) / operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions*										
Cash Expense Cover Ratio											
This ratio indicates the number of months Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow	3.93	3.98	3.95	3.94	4.18	4.41	4.61	5.07	5.72	6.84	8.13
Benchmark - Greater than 3.0 months	*(current year's cash and cash equivalents / (total expenses - depreciation - interest costs) * 12*										
Current Ratio											
This ratio represents Council's ability to meet debt payments as they fall due. It should be noted that Council's externally restricted assets will not be available as operating funds and as such can significantly impact Council's ability to meet its liabilities	2.28	2.27	2.29	2.32	2.48	2.60	2.72	2.97	3.34	3.93	2.87
Benchmark - Greater than 1.5	*current assets / current liabilities*										
Own Revenue											
This ratio measures the level of Council's fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. Council's financial flexibility improves the higher the level of its own source revenue	95%	92%	92%	92%	92%	92%	93%	93%	93%	93%	93%
Benchmark - Greater than 60%< 75%											
Own funding / total operating revenue	*Total income less Grants/total income*										
Debt Service Cover Ratio											
This ratio measures the availability of cash to service debt including interest, principal, and lease payments	3.24	7.99	7.96	9.03	9.78	11.56	12.98	14.80	16.25	18.78	2.59
Benchmark - Greater than 2.0	*operating result before interest and depreciation (EBITDA) / principal repayments +borrowing interest costs*										
Interest Cover Ratio											
This ratio indicates the extent to which Council can service its interest bearing debt and take on additional borrowings. It measures the burden of the current interest expense upon Council's operating cash	27.32	35.88	43.90	49.95	39.97	48.95	58.81	73.11	90.68	121.43	168.41
Benchmark - Greater than 4.0	*operating result before interest and depreciation (EBITDA) / interest expense*										
Asset Sustainability Ratio											
This ratio indicates the extent to which Council is replacing its existing asset base with capital renewals of existing asseets						67%					
Benchmark -between 90%-110%	*Capital Expenditure / Depreciation*										

FORECASTED RESERVE BALANCE (COMPOUNDING)



ASSUMPTIONS

This Long-Term Financial Plan has been prepared on the basis that Council will continue to deliver the same level of service to the community as it is currently providing. The Plan also includes the following specific assumptions in relation to expected revenues and expenses.

GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS

Item	Budget Assumptions 2026-27	Forecast Assumptions 2027-2036	Comment
Residential Growth	1.5 per cent	1.5 per cent	The Dept. of Treasury (DTF) projects growth of 1.7% for Greater Darwin and 2.4% for Palmerston (2026–2031), and 1.7% and 2.0% respectively (2031–2036). This plan adopts a conservative 1.5% growth rate.
CPI	3.1 per cent	3.1 per cent	This assumption is consistent with the RBA's target cash rate band of 2-3%.

REVENUE ASSUMPTIONS

Item	Budget Assumptions 2026-27	Forecast Assumptions 2027-2036	Comment
Rate Increase	4.9 per cent, (Residential), 5.9 per cent (Commercial and Industrial), 7 per cent (Industrial RID)	Mix 4.9 and 3.9 percent	This is the required amount that Council will need to raise rates to ensure that the Council is sustainable and is able to renew its current asset base.
Statutory Charges	CPI	CPI	Statutory Charges are not forecast to in-crease in-line with CPI.
User Fees & Charges (excluding waste)	CPI	CPI	All user fees and charges are expected to increase in-line with CPI.
Waste Charge	CPI	4 – 5 per cent	Charges are based on income required to provide services based on expected expenditure.
Investment Interest	4 per cent	3.5 per cent	Interest is calculated on the forecast cash and investment balances reflecting stable investment rates.
Interest on overdue rates	11.4 per cent	11.4 per cent	Interest is calculated on the overdue outstanding rates balance.
Other Revenues	As estimated	CPI	Other revenues consist of program fees and sundry income items.
Operating Grants	As estimated	CPI	Operating grants include the financial assistance grant and the operating subsidy for the library from the NTG.

EXPENSE ASSUMPTIONS

Item	Budget Assumptions 2026-27	Forecast Assumptions 2027-36	Comment
Employee Costs excluding Superannuation	103.35 FTE including consideration of the EA negotiations plus a 2.5% vacancy rate applied. This also includes other allowances, insurance and FBT costs relating to employees.		
Superannuation	12 per cent	12 per cent	The Superannuation Guarantee rate is 12% of an employee's Ordinary Time Earnings (OTE).
Borrowing Costs	2.78 – 5.5 per cent	2.78 – 5.5 per cent	Based on approved borrowings.
Materials, contracts, and other expenses	CPI	CPI and 1.5% growth	An average annual increase in materials and contractor costs is anticipated, comprising 1.5 per cent growth plus CPI. The additional 1.5 per cent reflects the increasing costs associated with delivering Council services.
Depreciation	Depreciation is based on current depreciation rates of between 0% and 33.33% and useful lives of between 4 and 100 years across asset classes.		

CAPITAL ASSUMPTIONS

Item	Budget Assumptions 2026-27	Forecast Assumptions 2027-36	Comment
Capital Income	$4.2 million	$51.44 million	Included as detailed in the 10 years capital work program.
Capital Expenditure	$9.4 million	$98.24 million	Included as detailed in the 10 years capital work program.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Council applies a fixed Waste Service Charge per residential dwelling. For properties with multiple dwellings on a single allotment, the charge is multiplied by the number of units.

This charge covers the standard domestic waste services: general waste and recyclables collection, free access to the Archer Waste Management Facility, and overall waste and city cleaning services. Commercial and industrial properties are not charged directly and cannot use the Archer Recycling Centre and Waste Transfer Station.

WASTE SERVICE CHARGES

Waste Charges contribute to 20% of Council's overall revenue.

The total waste charges included in the 2026-27 budget is $9.44 million. The annual growth to this revenue is modelled on the increased costs to the operating and capital expenditure, offset by the amount funded through the Waste Management Reserves.

The assumptions for waste charges are based on the required revenue to provide ongoing services based on the expected costs. These increases are projected to be;

- 4% in 2027-28 and the following years

WASTE OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

The Waste expenditure budget contributes to 22.9% of Council's overall operating expenditure (excluding depreciation).

The 2026-27 operating expenditure of $9.34 million forms the basis of the LTFP and is projected to increase by the following:

- 6.1% in 2027-28
- 4.5% in 2028-29
- 3.2% annually from 2029-30 through to 2035–36.

Capital expenditure of $20,000 per year for the period from 2026-27 to 2035-36. This is funded through Waste Management Reserves.

Loan repayment of $269,615, for the Archer Landfill Rehabilitation, is factored in 2026-27. The loan repayment will be partially funded from the Waste Management Reserve. The loan concludes in the 2026-27 financial year.

A significant aspect of waste expenditure assumptions is the increase of waste disposal costs, which make up approximately 25% of waste management costs. Disposal costs are dependent on the charges at the Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility which is managed by City of Darwin and has increases nominated in the City of Darwin Long Term Financial Plan (2023-33) to be 15% in 2026-27, 10% in 2027-28 and 2028-29 and 5% in future years. This has a material impact on Council's waste expenditure and the subsequent waste charge.

WASTE MANAGEMENT INCOME STATEMENT

	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2032-2033	2033-2034	2034-2035	2035-2036
$'000	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Operating Income											
Waste	8,971	9,439	9,817	10,210	10,618	11,043	11,484	11,944	12,422	12,918	13,435
TOTAL INCOME	**8,971**	**9,439**	**9,817**	**10,210**	**10,618**	**11,043**	**11,484**	**11,944**	**12,422**	**12,918**	**13,435**
Operating Expenditure											
Employee benefits & costs	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222	222
Borrowing costs	12	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials, contracts and other expenses	8,759	9,115	9,688	10,136	10,468	10,811	11,166	11,534	11,913	12,306	12,712
Expenses previously treated as Capital (Tree Planting/ Building Maint)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation, amortisation & Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**8,993**	**9,342**	**9,915**	**10,358**	**10,690**	**11,033**	**11,388**	**11,756**	**12,135**	**12,528**	**12,934**
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**(22)**	**97**	**(98)**	**(148)**	**(72)**	**10**	**96**	**188**	**286**	**391**	**501**
BUDGET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	**(22)**	**97**	**(98)**	**(148)**	**(72)**	**10**	**96**	**188**	**286**	**391**	**501**
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (LOSS)	**(22)**	**97**	**(98)**	**(148)**	**(72)**	**10**	**96**	**188**	**286**	**391**	**501**
Less: Capital Expenditure	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Less: Loan Repayments	262	270	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Net Reserve Transfers	304	192	118	168	92	10	(76)	(168)	(266)	(371)	(481)
NET CASH BUDGET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**

PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS BUDGET

Class of Assets / Major Project	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Grand Total	Completion Date
60 Georgina Cres - Building renewal	10,527	10,853	11,189	11,536	11,894	12,263	12,643	13,035	13,439	13,855	121,234	On-going
All Ability Access	30,840	63,592	65,563	67,596	69,691	71,852	74,079	76,376	78,743	81,184	679,517	On-going
Animal Management Facility	50,000	350,000	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	900,000	2028-2029
Aquatic Centre Capital (SWELL) Renewals	74,250	76,552	78,925	81,372	83,894	86,495	89,176	91,941	94,791	97,730	855,126	On-going
Archer Waste Management Facility Renewals	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	200,000	On-going
Bitumen Reseal & Asphalt Overlay Program	1,540,409	1,619,040	1,657,643	1,645,957	1,686,991	1,729,296	1,772,913	1,817,882	1,864,246	1,912,046	17,246,423	On-going
CBD and Parking Renewal	-	-	150,000	154,950	160,063	165,345	170,802	176,438	182,261	188,275	1,348,135	On-going
CBD Parking Signage Renewal	15,000	15,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000	2027-2028
Civic Plaza Capital Renewals	184,958	190,691	196,603	202,698	208,981	215,460	222,139	229,025	236,125	243,445	2,130,124	On-going
Creative Industries	51,400	105,987	109,272	112,660	116,152	119,753	123,465	127,293	131,239	135,307	1,132,529	On-going
Depot Capital Renewals	15,158	15,628	16,113	16,612	17,127	17,658	18,206	18,770	19,352	19,952	174,577	On-going
Driver Resource Centre Capital Renewals	10,527	10,853	11,189	11,536	11,894	12,263	12,643	13,035	13,439	13,855	121,234	On-going
Driveway Renewals	54,739	56,436	58,185	59,989	61,849	63,766	65,743	67,781	69,882	72,048	630,418	On-going
Durack Community Arts Centre Capital Renewals	9,527	9,822	10,126	10,440	10,764	11,098	11,442	11,796	12,162	12,539	109,717	On-going
ERP software	350,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350,000	2026-27
Exeloo Renewal	15,000	15,465	15,944	16,439	16,948	17,474	18,015	18,574	19,150	19,743	172,752	On-going
Fleet Replacement	411,200	423,947	437,090	450,639	464,609	479,012	493,861	509,171	524,955	541,229	4,735,714	On-going
Gray Community Hall Renewals	20,480	21,115	21,769	22,444	23,140	23,857	24,597	25,359	26,146	26,956	235,864	On-going
Irrigation Refurbishment	214,960	221,624	228,494	235,577	242,880	250,410	258,172	266,176	274,427	282,934	2,475,655	On-going
IT Projects	157,901	162,796	167,842	173,046	178,410	183,941	189,643	195,522	201,583	207,832	1,818,514	On-going
Laneway Renewals	52,634	54,265	55,947	57,682	59,470	61,314	63,214	65,174	67,194	69,277	606,171	On-going
Library Air-Con Renewals	-	-	400,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400,000	2028-2029
Library Building Capital Renewals	108,952	112,329	115,811	119,401	123,103	126,919	130,854	134,910	139,092	143,404	1,254,775	On-going

PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS BUDGET (CONT.)

Class of Assets / Major Project	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Grand Total	Completion Date
Marlow Lagoon Masterplan	75,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75,000	2026-2027
Marlow Lagoon Upgrades (master-plan implementation)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	500,000	-	-	1,500,000	2033-2034
New Driveways - FILOC	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	2,000,000	On-going
New Pathways	92,520	190,776	196,690	202,788	209,074	215,555	222,238	229,127	236,230	243,553	2,038,551	On-going
Odegaard Drive Building Capital Works	37,125	38,276	39,462	40,686	41,947	43,247	44,588	45,970	47,395	48,865	427,562	On-going
Pathways Renewals	126,321	130,237	134,274	138,436	142,728	147,152	151,714	156,417	161,266	166,266	1,454,811	On-going
Play Space Renewals	462,600	476,941	491,726	506,969	522,685	538,889	555,594	572,818	590,575	608,883	5,327,679	On-going
Play Space Upgrades	102,800	211,974	218,545	225,320	232,305	239,506	246,931	254,586	262,478	270,615	2,265,057	On-going
Public Lighting Renewals	63,160	65,118	67,137	69,218	71,364	73,576	75,857	78,209	80,633	83,133	727,406	On-going
Public Lighting Upgrades (Dark Spots)	128,500	264,967	273,181	281,650	290,381	299,383	308,663	318,232	328,097	338,268	2,831,321	On-going
Recreation Centre Air-Con Renewal	500,000	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	2027-2028
Recreation Centre Capital Renewals	108,952	112,329	115,811	119,401	123,103	126,919	130,854	134,910	139,092	143,404	1,254,775	On-going
Renewal growth and asset sustainability	-	-	-	800,000	1,200,000	-	2,000,000	2,062,000	2,125,922	2,191,826	10,379,748	On-going
Road Reconstruction	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	4,500,000	On-going
Road Safety Program	61,680	63,592	65,563	67,596	69,691	71,852	74,079	76,376	78,743	81,184	710,357	On-going
Stormwater Renewals	210,534	217,061	223,790	230,727	237,880	245,254	252,857	260,696	268,777	277,109	2,424,686	On-going
Strategic Project	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	3,000,000	-	-	-	-	4,000,000	2031-2032
Sustainability Programs (Solar Panels & LEDs etc)	269,600	235,068	242,355	249,868	257,614	265,600	273,834	282,323	291,075	300,098	2,667,434	On-going
SWELL Café/Airconditioning	75,000	154,650	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	729,650	2028-2029
Tree Planting & Replacement	54,200	111,760	115,225	118,797	122,480	126,277	130,191	134,227	138,388	142,678	1,194,223	On-going
Zuccoli Community Hub	3,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,000,000	2028-2029
Grand Total	**9,416,452**	**11,978,744**	**12,661,469**	**7,172,032**	**8,739,113**	**9,711,385**	**9,889,007**	**9,634,147**	**9,386,897**	**9,647,494**	**98,236,741**	

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY ASSET CLASS

ASSET CLASS	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Grand Total
Fleet	411,200	423,947	437,090	450,639	464,609	479,012	493,861	509,171	524,955	541,229	4,735,714
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, parks furniture)	3,510,897	3,846,776	4,068,824	4,912,035	5,409,676	4,310,355	6,414,166	6,583,206	6,757,497	6,937,202	52,750,634
Lands & Buildings	4,486,455	7,045,225	7,587,713	1,636,312	2,686,418	4,738,077	2,791,337	2,346,249	1,902,862	1,961,231	37,181,878
Other Assets (including furniture & office equip)	1,007,901	662,796	567,842	173,046	178,410	183,941	189,643	195,522	201,583	207,832	3,568,514
Grand Total	**9,416,452**	**11,978,744**	**12,661,469**	**7,172,032**	**8,739,113**	**9,711,385**	**9,889,007**	**9,634,147**	**9,386,897**	**9,647,494**	**98,236,741**

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY FUNDING SOURCE

FUNDING SOURCE	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Grand Total
Operating Income	4,683,260	5,676,963	6,467,688	6,029,737	7,596,818	8,569,090	7,746,712	8,491,852	8,244,602	8,505,199	72,011,922
Sale of Assets	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	1,500,000
Transfers from Cash Reserves	695,000	328,000	220,000	220,000	220,000	220,000	1,220,000	220,000	220,000	220,000	3,783,000
Borrowings	3,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000,000
Capital Grants	888,192	5,823,781	5,823,781	772,295	772,295	772,295	772,295	772,295	772,295	772,295	17,941,819
Grand Total	**9,416,452**	**11,978,744**	**12,661,469**	**7,172,032**	**8,739,113**	**9,711,385**	**9,889,007**	**9,634,147**	**9,386,897**	**9,647,494**	**98,236,741**





CONCLUSION

Financial sustainability ensures that City of Palmerston can adequately finance its services and ensure asset replacement at a rate aligned with their deterioration.

Council upholds a commitment to long-term financial sustainability and intergenerational equity, advocating for each generation to contribute proportionately rather than relying on accumulated assets, thereby burdening future generations with the responsibility of infrastructure replacement without adequate funding.

While City of Palmerston currently maintains relatively low unrestricted reserves, the organisation remains robust and financially viable. Through prudent and responsible budgeting, planning, and financial management practices, City of Palmerston aims to bolster its reserves over the ten years to, sustain quality service delivery to the community, and effectively replace and renew assets both presently and in the future.



city of
PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrance
08 8935 9922
palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au
palmerston.nt.gov.au

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.10
Report Title:	2025-26 Capital Budget Roll Over
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Manager Financial Performance, Jeffrey Guilas
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearon

Community plan

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

Purpose

This Report seeks Council approval to transfer funds from the 2025-26 unexpended capital budget into the 2026-27 capital budget.

Key messages

- Council's revised capital budget for 2025-26 was $11.22 million with several projects scheduled to be delivered within the 2026 dry season.
- As part of the 2025-26 end-of-year process, the capital expenditure projects have been reviewed to identify unexpended budgets that require rollover into the 2026-27 financial year.
- The criteria used to identify the projects to be rolled over include projects that are funded by grants, projects that are in progress where a contract has been awarded and works are underway, or projects where they are considered to be of significant value to the community.
- The total value of capital funds recommended to be rolled over into the 2026-27 financial year is $2.63 million.
- Where the source of funding is through Council contribution, the budget to be rolled over for these projects will be transferred to Unexpended Capital Works Reserve ($1.73 million) and Waste Reserves ($0.05 million) and the grant funded projects that are incomplete at the end of the financial year where grant funds have been received will remain a grants liability as at 30 June 2026.

- Effective 1 July 2026, for the Council contribution amounts, $1.73 million will be transferred out of Unexpended Capital Works Reserve and $0.05 million from Waste Reserve. The grant funded component of $0.86 million, will be recognised as income once it meets the income recognition criteria. A corresponding increase will also be recognised in the Capital Expenditure budget for 2026-27.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled 2025-26 Capital Budget Roll Over be received and noted.

2. THAT Council adopts the capital works rollover movements of $2,631,536.65 as identified in Table 1 "2026-27 Capital Budget Rollover" contained in the Report entitled 2025-26 Capital Budget Roll Over, from the 2025-26 financial year to the 2026-27 financial year.

3. THAT Council adopts the following capital works rollover movements effective as at 30 June 2026:
   a. $1,727,369.77 transferred to Unexpended Capital Works Reserve.
   b. $48,013.88 transferred to Waste Reserve.
   c. $856,153.00 will remain in Grants Liability.

4. THAT Council adopts the capital works rollover movements and associated expenditure effective as at 1 July 2026 of:
   a. $1,727,369.77 transferred from Unexpended Capital Works Reserve.
   b. $48,013.88 transferred from Waste Reserve.
   c. $856,153.00 will be recognised as Capital income once the income recognition criteria is met, reducing the Unexpended Grants Liability.

Background

The revised capital budget for 2025-26 is $11.22 million with several projects scheduled to be delivered within the 2026 dry season.

As of 31 May 2026, there are a small number of projects not completed for a variety of reasons which require rollover to the 2026-27 budget to enable their completion. Section 204 of the *Local Government Act 2019* states that Council must not allocate money unless a provision for the allocation is made in the budget for the relevant financial year. However, Section 204(2)-(4) provides for exceptions, although it must still be subsequently authorised by a Council resolution.

As part of the year-end process, staff have reviewed the capital expenditure and projects to identify works that are required to be rolled over into the 2026-27 financial year to allow for completion. Reasons identified for budget rollover include:

- Grant funded project timing, including projects commenced in 2025-26 but not required to be delivered until 2026-27. These projects may be fully or partially grant funded.
- Delayed projects due to unforeseen circumstances, such as contractor availability, budget constraints (i.e. tenders over available budget) or internal resource constraints.

- Significant projects requiring multi-year staging and delivery, or where not rolling over funds would significantly impact future program delivery.

This report provides Council with a list of projects that have been identified as capital rollovers for 2026-27.

Discussion

As at 10 June, 54% ($6.06 million) of capital funds have been expended, with a further 31% ($3.48 million) committed through contracts for works that have commenced, or will commence, before 30 June 2026.

The projects that have commenced or have purchase orders pending rollover approval are outlined below;

Zuccoli Community Hub - Stage 3 Design

- Rollover request - $272,348.36
- Design is underway and will be complete for this stage by the end of 2026

Recreation Centre Renewal – Air Conditioner Unit Replacement (AC1)

- Rollover request - $115,480.00
- Contractor engaged in March 2026 with parts delivery underway
- Works to be complete by August 2026

Library Building Capital Works – Shelving Project

- Rollover request - $17,802.76
- Stage 1 completed, remaining funding will be utilised to complete Stage 2 by August 2026.

Dark Spots (street lighting) upgrade

- Rollover request - $227,842.75
- Three projects remain to be completed, being Palmerston Circuit, Rosebery Park and Sanctuary Lakes.
- All projects have designs completed and orders are being raised with Council's period contractor.

Black Spots - Yarrawonga Road

- Rollover request - $275,268.50
- Delays due to wet season and then contractor availability, works on track to commence by July.
- Grant funded project.

Archer Waste Management Facility – CCTV System Upgrade

- Rollover request - $48,013.88

- Procurement process is underway with RFQ expected to be awarded on the 19th of June and works to commence from the following week. Works expected to take up to one month, this will be confirmed upon receipt of RFQ responses.
- Waste management reserve funded project.

SWELL – Solar Panel and battery installation

- Rollover request - $250,748.00
- This project is budgeted over 2025-26 and 2026-27 and is approximately 50% grant funded.
- Tender has been advertised and is currently under assessment.

Woodroffe Park Upgrades

- Rollover request - $592,690.00
- Procurement is substantially complete with over $0.45 million committed and remaining funds for bike track, landscaping and pathway works.
- Completion expected by August 2026.
- Grant funded project.

IT – ERP Review

- Rollover request - $430,916.80
- Multi-year project, with a further $350,000 allocated in 2026-27.
- Regular updates provided in the monthly Major Capital report to Council and to the Risk Management and Audit Committee.

Dog Pound Project

- Rollover request - $366,082.10
- Contract is awarded; work is underway completion expected by August.

Marlow Lagoon Masterplan

- Rollover request - $34,343.50
- A rollover of the allocated capital budget is requested to align funding with a revised project delivery schedule reflecting early community consultation undertaken to inform project planning to ensure community feedback is incorporated into the final project scope.

The total value of projects recommended to be rolled over into the 2026-27 financial year to enable their completion is $2.63 million; of these projects $0.86 million are grant funds, and $1.77 million are Council funds.

Where the source of funding is through Council contribution, the budgets to be rolled over will be transferred to the Unexpended Capital Works Reserves and Waste Reserve. The grant funded portions will remain in grants liability effective as at 30 June 2026.

Effective 1 July 2026, the budgets funded by Council contribution will then be transferred out of the reserves with a corresponding increase to the Capital Expenditure budget. The

grant funded component will be recognised as income with a corresponding increase to the Capital Expenditure budget.

The funding for the projects will be recognised in financial statements as at 30 June 2026 as follows:

- Unexpended Capital Works Reserve – for Council's own contribution to the project and where the grant funds are yet to be received.
- Unexpended Grants Liability – for projects funded through a grant and the funds are sitting in the bank account.

The table below summarises the projects, rollover amounts and allocation of reserve or grant funding that align with the recommended movements.

Table 1: 2025-26 Capital Rollover

PROJECTS	2025-26 ROLLOVER AMOUNT (A=B+C+D)	GRANT LIABILITY (B)	WASTE RESERVE (C)	UNEXPENDED CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE (D)
Zuccoli Community Hub	272,348.36			272,348.36
Recreation Centre Renewal	115,480.00			115,480.00
Library Building Capital Works	17,802.76			17,802.76
Dark Spots (Street Lighting) Upgrades	227,842.75			227,842.75
Black Spot - Yarrawonga Road	275,268.50	112,715.00		162,553.50
CCTV System Upgrade – Archer Waste Management Facility	48,013.88		48,013.88	
SWELL - Solar panel and battery installation	250,748.00	150,748.00		100,000.00
Woodroffe Park Upgrades	592,690.00	592,690.00		
IT - ERP Review	430,916.80			430,916.80
Dog Pound Project	366,082.10			366,082.10
Marlow Lagoon Masterplan	34,343.50			34,343.50
Total	**2,631,536.65**	**856,153.00**	**48,013.88**	**1,727,369.77**

The proposed rollover of $2.63 million will have a material impact on the 2026-27 Budget.

For the 2026-27 financial year, the capital works budget will increase from $9.42 million to $12.05 million. Amendment to the 2026-27 Budget and 2027-2036 LTFP will be included in the first budget review for 2026-27.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Executive Leadership Team
- Senior Leadership Team
- Project Officers

Policy implications

All reserve movements require a decision of Council as per Council Policy *FIN19 – Reserves*.

Budget and resource implications

Although the proposed rollover has a material impact on the 22026–27 capital budget, it does not affect the overall bottom line, as funding is already allocated to all projects. The associated budget and resource movements are detailed in the body of this report.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

The proposed rollover relates to timing adjustment for funded projects to enable delivery into the next financial year. Failure to approve the rollover may create delivery constraints and increase the risk of non-compliance with grant agreement requirements. Approval of the rollover will allow continuity of delivery across financial years and ensure that next year's capital budget is appropriately adjusted to reflect the completion of contracted works.

While there have been delays in some of the projects, a portion are funded by grants, and Council has an obligation to meet the terms and conditions of the agreements including milestones. An assessment of these conditions has been undertaken, and Council are meeting these obligations.

This report is required to ensure that that Council is in compliant with the following provisions of the *Local Government Act 2019*:

5. Section 204(1) prohibits Council from allocating money unless there is budget provided; however, Section 204(2)-(4) provides for when there are exceptions, although it must still be authorised by a Council resolution.
6. Section 11 requires a Council resolution to take effect a transfer to or from council reserves.

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.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Municipal Plan
- Asset Management 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

Nil

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.11
Report Title:	Risk Management and Audit Committee Open Minutes 26 May 2026
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Assistant to General Manager Finance and Governance, Kaitlyn William
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearon

Community plan

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

Purpose

This Report seeks Council approval of the recommendation from the Risk Management & Audit Committee meeting held on Tuesday 26 May 2026.

Key messages

- The Risk Management & Audit Committee met on Tuesday 26 May 2026.
- The Risk Management & Audit Committee agenda and unconfirmed minutes from this meeting are available for viewing on the Council website.
- The Risk Management & Audit Committee reviewed no Action reports and made one recommendation to Council in General Business.
- Council approval is sought to endorse the recommendation from the Risk Management & Audit Committee meeting held on Tuesday 26 May 2026.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Risk Management and Audit Committee Open Minutes 26 May 2026 be received and noted.

2. THAT the Unconfirmed Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting minutes provided at **Attachment 12.1.11.1** to report entitled Risk Management and Audit Committee Open Minutes 26 May 2026 be received and noted.

3. THAT Council adopts the recommendation from the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting held Tuesday, 26 May 2026, as follows:
    a. THAT a Report is presented to Council to review the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting schedule for 2026 including an additional 2 meetings.

Background

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

As per the *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 to monitor 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 & Audit Committee meeting was held on Tuesday 26 May 2026 with the unconfirmed minutes provided as **Attachment 12.1.11.1.**

The Agenda of the Risk Management & Audit Committee meeting can be located on the Council website.

The Risk Management & Audit Committee provided one recommendation to Council. This recommendation was in relation to a report being presented to Council to review the Risk Management & Audit Committee Meeting Schedule for 2026 including 2 additional meetings.

If endorsed by Council, officers will prepare a report to be provided at the 1st Ordinary Council Meeting of 7 July 2026.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Executive Manager Organisational Performance.

Policy implications

This report pertains to the Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

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:

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

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. 20260526 - UNCONFIRMED Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes - 26 May 2026 [**12.1.11.1** - 9 pages]

MINUTES

RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 26 MAY 2026

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

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting held in Council Chambers Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston on Tuesday, 26 May 2026 at 5:00pm.

PRESENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Clare Milikins, Independent Member (Chair) Craig Kirby, Independent Member *(Via Audio/ Audiovisual)* David Ray, Independent Member Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell Deputy Mayor Wayne Bayliss 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, Becky Saywell Executive Manager Financial Performance, Jeffrey Guilas IT and Asset Manager, Glen Collins Minute Secretary, Kaitlyn William Executive Support officer, Pania Withnall Governance Lead, Angie Torr
GUEST	Melia Barrie
GALLERY	Nil members of the public Nil members of Staff

UNCONFIRMED

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 5.01pm.

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Apologies

Nil

3.2 Leave of absence previously granted

Nil

4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING PREVIOUSLY GRANTED

THAT it be noted the following Committee Members have previously been granted attendance via Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing for this meeting:

Craig Kirby

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

5.1 Committee members

Nil

5.2 Staff

Nil

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of minutes

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **David Ray**

THAT the Minutes of the Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting held on 26 February 2026 pages 360 to 366 be confirmed.

CARRIED (6/0) - RMA11/036 – 26/05/2026

6.2 Business arising from previous meeting

Nil

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

8 VERBAL UPDATE

8.1 Mayoral Update

Moved: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**
Seconded: **David Ray**

THAT the verbal report provided by Mayor Pascoe-Bell regarding Mayoral update be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - RMA11/037 – 26/05/2026

8.2 Chief Executive Officer Update

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

THAT the verbal report provided by Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Walsh regarding Chief Executive Officer update be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - RMA11/038 – 26/05/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials:

9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

9.1 Moving confidential items into open

Nil

9.2 Moving open items into confidential

Nil

9.3 Confidential items

Moved: **David Ray**
Seconded: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**

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 *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.1.2	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.1.3	Constitutional Arrangements Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government*

UNCONFIRMED

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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.1.4	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.1.5	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.1.6	Council Project Initiative	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.2.1	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, which states a

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

		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.
19.2.2	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(i) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.
19.2.3	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
19.2.4	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and section 51(1)(c)(iii) of the *Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

CARRIED (6/0) - RMA11/039 – 26/05/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

10 OFFICER REPORTS

10.1 Action reports

Nil

10.2 Receive and note reports

10.2.1 Action Report

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**

THAT Report entitled Action Report be received and noted.

CARRIED (6/0) - RMA11/040 – 26/05/2026

11 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 Information

Nil

11.2 Correspondence

Nil

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 Additional Risk Management & Audit Committee meetings

Moved: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**
Seconded: **Clare Milikins**

THAT the Risk Management & Audit Committee recommend to Council:
a. THAT a report is presented to Council to review the Risk Management & Audit Committee meeting schedule for 2026 including an additional 2 meetings.

CARRIED (6/0) - RMA11/041 – 26/05/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

13 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

THAT the next Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting be held on Tuesday, 25 August 2026 at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston, subject to Council endorsement.

CARRIED (6/0) - RMA11/042 – 26/05/2026

14 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Moved: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**
Seconded: **Clare Milikins**

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) - RMA11/043 – 26/05/2026

The open section of the meeting closed at 5:19pm for the discussion of confidential matters.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.05pm.

UNCONFIRMED

Chair

Print Name

Date

Initials:

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.1.12
Report Title:	Council Policy Review - Elected Member Allowances and Expenses
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Governance Lead, Angie Torr
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearon

Community plan

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

Purpose

This report presents a review of the Elected Members Allowances and Expenses Policy for Council endorsement.

Key messages

- The Northern Territory Remuneration Tribunal has released Determination 1 of 2026 relating to allowances and expenses payable to local government officials.
- The Determination sets out the allowances and expenses payable to Elected Members, the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor including the extra meeting allowance and professional development allowance.
- The Determination comes into effect on 1 July 2026.
- Council's current Elected Member Allowances Policy was last reviewed at the 7 October 2025 meeting.
- The new determination has triggered a policy review due to increases in allowance values as well as other minor amendments.
- The policy has been amended to reflect the full value of allowances available to Elected Members to increase transparency and accountability of Elected Members.
- Other minor grammatical amendments have been made throughout the policy to increase its readability.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Council Policy Review - Elected Member Allowances and Expenses be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse the amended Elected Members Allowances and Expenses Policy as at **Attachment 12.1.12.3** to Report entitled Council Policy Review - Elected Member Allowances and Expenses.

Background

Council's current Elected Member Allowances and Expenses Policy is at **Attachment 12.1.12.1**.

The policy sets out the different remuneration, allowances and benefits Elected Members are entitled to as part of their role with Council. The policy has been reviewed to reflect the new Determination and to ensure Elected Members are aware of the amendments.

The Northern Territory Remuneration Tribunal has released Report and Determination 1 of 2026 relating to allowances payable to Members of Local Government Councils. The Determination was made under the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006* (NT) and applies from 1 July 2026, which has triggered a review of Council's Elected Member Allowances and Expenses Policy.

The Determination establishes the annual allowances payable to Councillors, Deputy Principal Members and Principal Members, together with provisions relating to Extra Meeting and Activity Allowances and Professional Development Allowances.

At the 1st Ordinary Council Meeting of 7 October 2025 Council made the following decisions:

12.1.1 Elected Member Allowances Policy

1. THAT Report entitled Elected Members Allowances Policy be received and noted.

*2. THAT Council endorse the amended Elected Member Allowances and Expenses Policy at **Attachment 12.1.1.3** to Report entitled Elected Members Allowances Policy.*

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/31 – 7/10/2025

Discussion

A review of Council's Elected Member Allowances and Expenses Policy has been undertaken against the 2026 Determination and associated Departmental guidance documents from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

The review identified that the policy framework remains largely consistent with the legislative requirements and intent of the Determination. However, several amendments are required to ensure the policy accurately reflects the updated allowance provisions and operational requirements.

The key changes introduced by the Tribunal include:

- An increase in the Professional Development Allowance to $7,500 per financial year;
- a 3% increase to Councillors' Allowances;
- an increase in the Mayoral Allowance; and
- an increase in the Extra Meeting and Activity Allowance cap to $12,000 per financial year.

The updated policy as at **Attachment 12.1.12.2** also incorporates additional clarification regarding:

- Eligibility for Extra Meeting and Activity Allowances;
- condensing the Extra Meeting and Activity Allowance section to make the intent clearer and remove duplication between original sections 2.1 and 2.2;
- travel time eligibility for qualifying travel exceeding 50 kilometres from home base;
- use and carry-forward provisions for Professional Development Allowances; and
- clarification regarding reimbursement of Information Technology equipment.

Including the prescribed allowance limits within the policy provides clarity and transparency for Elected Members, staff and the community regarding the entitlements available under the Northern Territory Remuneration Tribunal Determination. Clearly documenting the applicable limits also assists with consistent administration, financial governance and compliance by ensuring allowance claims are assessed against an established and publicly accessible framework.

Incorporating the allowance limits into the policy further reduces the risk of misinterpretation or inconsistent application of entitlements and ensures Council's policy remains aligned with current legislative and Tribunal requirements. Including the carry forward provision of 50% of Professional Development Allowance provides clarity to Elected Members on what entitlements will be available to them year to year.

Several minor drafting and administrative amendments have also been made to the policy to improve clarity, consistency and alignment with the Determination and current governance practices.

The proposed amendments do not create any additional discretionary allowances outside those permitted under the Determination and associated legislation.

It is recommended that Council endorse the amended policy at **Attachment 12.1.12.3**.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Executive Leadership Team
- Executive Manager Financial Performance.
- Finance & Payroll Supervisor.
- Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer.

Policy implications

Adoption of the revised Elected Member Allowances and Expenses Policy will ensure Council's policy framework remains compliant, transparent and aligned with current legislative and Tribunal requirements.

Failure to update the policy may result in:

- Inconsistencies between Council policy and the 2026 Determination;
- ambiguity regarding allowance administration and eligibility; and
- increased governance and compliance risk, although minimal.

Budget and resource implications

Elected Member allowances are paid in accordance with the Determination of the Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal. Payment of the allowances is considered in budget development each year. The updated allowances established by the Tribunal will result in increased expenditure within Council's Elected Member budget allocation from 1 July 2026.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

There is minimal risk to Council if the amendment is not included in the policy; however, amending the policy will provide clarity to Elected Members on the position of remuneration, allowances and expenses and assist staff with the administration of the policy.

This report relates to:

- *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006* (NT);
- *Local Government Act 2019* (NT); and
- Northern Territory Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 1 of 2026.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks

6. **Governance**
   Failure to effectively govern.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- Governance 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

1. Current policy [**12.1.12.1** - 6 pages]
2. Tracked Changes [**12.1.12.2** - 7 pages]
3. Amended policy [**12.1.12.3** - 6 pages]

ELECTED MEMBER ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

city of PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

COUNCIL POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy sets out Elected Members allowances and expenses payable to provide necessary support to effectively carry out their roles in Council. This policy covers allowances, benefits, and support to be provided to Elected Members.

PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to providing payment or reimbursement of allowances and expenses to Elected Members to carry out their official duties in an accountable, transparent manner that ensures the proper use of Council resources in the most efficient and cost-effective way.

The policy should allow for Elected Members to receive adequate and reasonable expenses and facilities to enable them to carry out their civic duties as elected representatives of their local communities and encourage members of the community to seek election as an Elected Member.

DEFINITIONS

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

TERM	DEFINITION
Allowances	Allowances provided in compensation to Elected Members in consideration and recognition of the time and effort spent in their roles on Council.
Elected Member	Individuals elected to Council. For the purposes of this policy, Elected Member refers to Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor.
Mayor	Is the Principal Member.
Deputy Mayor	Is the Council appointed Deputy Principal Member.
Ordinary Elected Member	An Elected Member other than the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or, during the relevant period, an acting Mayor.

TERM	DEFINITION
Determination	Most recent Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils.
Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility	While inclusion, diversity and accessibility are often referred to in the context of people with lived experience of disability, these principles apply to many different groups within society, including Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people; people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds, including newly arrived refugees and migrants; people who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA+); older people, children and young people; people with a disability; people experiencing homelessness; people experiencing mental illness; people who are socio-economically disadvantaged and people experiencing gender inequality.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Elected Member Allowances

1.1. Allowances are paid in accordance with the Determination of the Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal.

1.2. Allowances (apart from Professional Development Allowance) are to be paid from 1 July each year on a monthly basis in arrears by electronic funds transfer to the Elected Member's nominated account.

1.3. Where an Elected Member is acting as Mayor in the absence of the Mayor the acting Mayor will be paid 100% of the Mayoral Allowance for that period.

2. Extra Meeting and Activity Allowance

2.1. For Ordinary Elected Members and Deputy Mayor this allowance may be paid by attending the following types of unpaid meetings (alternate members are only paid if the appointed member is not in attendance):

(a) Council Committee Meetings;

(b) Special Meetings of Council;

(c) Special Meetings of Council Committees;

(d) Council Advisory/Networking Group Meetings;

(e) Council workshops or briefings;

(f) Meetings of external agencies or organisations to which Council has formally appointed an Elected Member to represent the Council; and

(g) Meetings of the Australian Local Government Association and Local Government Association of the Northern Territory where the Elected Member is a delegate of the Council.

2.2. For Ordinary Elected Members and Deputy Mayor this allowance may be paid by attending the following types of unpaid activities (alternate members are only paid if the appointed member is not in attendance):

(a) Attendance at any functions representing the Mayor on official Council duties: and

(b) Attendance at functions as an invited representative of Council and with Council's approval and clause 4.2.3.

2.3. Council approval is provided for Deputy Mayor and Ordinary Elected Members to attend the following functions as invited representatives of the Council:

(a) Civic events or functions convened by Council

(b) Functions where Council has secured tickets.

(c) External events where invited due to elected position therefore representing the Council.

2.4. Claims forms are to be submitted no later than the first week of the following month. Late claims will be paid the following month.

2.5. Extra Meeting and Activity Allowance claims for the financial year must be submitted by the last payment run for the end of financial year.

3. Professional Development Allowance

3.1. May be applied for on Council's approved form and submitted to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for approval.

3.2. May be expended in relation to attending or undertaking the following types of conference and training:

(a) Couse study or other training course relevant to perform as an Elected Member;

(b) A conference, seminar, symposium, expo or other similar event on a topic or function directly related to local government, Council services, Council vision or duties relevant to being an Elected Member; or

(c) Training, mediation or counselling recommended or ordered as part of a decision relating to a Code of Conduct complaint.

3.3. Access to reimbursement is subject to:

(a) Being an Elected Member at the time when a claim for reimbursement is made; and

(b) Any changes in the maximum amount of professional development allowance available in the future financial year(s).

4. Elected Member Travel

4.1. Air travel is to be by reasonable means available, taking into consideration flight times, flight duration and dates available and shall not include business or first class. If air travel is required, it will be booked and paid by the Council.

4.2. Accommodation is to be by reasonable means available and will be booked and paid by the Council.

4.3. An Elected Member required to travel for Council business by Council resolution, is entitled to payment or reimbursement for reasonable expenses for necessary travel and accommodation.

4.4. Council will pay in advance any registration fees, accommodation deposits and airline tickets for approved Elected Member travel. Where this is not possible, a reimbursement equivalent to the fees or expenses will be paid subject to the provision of receipts.

4.5. Should car hire be required, any traffic infringement notices and fines are the individual responsibility of the driver of the vehicle.

4.6. Elected Members may be accompanied by a spouse or partner subject to Council not incurring any additional expense.

4.7. Meals and incidentals are to be in accordance with the ATO taxation determination. Meal allowances are not to be paid when the meal is included in the cost of the meeting, conference, or other event.

4.8. All non-essential additional expenses such as telephone calls, room service or mini-bar supplies are the responsibility of the Elected Member. In the instance where there are no other options, exceptions may be applied to the CEO for approval.

4.9. Where travel arrangements need to be changed or cancelled, the Elected Member must inform the CEO in writing as soon as possible to minimise any financial loss to Council.

4.10. The CEO is to report any non-attendance at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

5. Information Technology Capital Entitlement

5.1. Over the term of the Council term, each Elected Member is entitled to claim an Information Technology Capital Entitlement up to the value of $2000 excluding GST to purchase equipment to carry out official duties (e.g. laptop, computer).

5.2. Reimbursement will occur from Council once a paid tax invoice has been received.

6. Ticket Events Entitlement

6.1. Council will pay the costs of approved ticketed functions which relate to Council business for Elected Members.

6.2. Approved ticket events are those jointly approved by the Mayor and CEO or by Council resolution.

7. Carer Expenses Entitlement

7.1. Childcare and carer services can be claimed where the care is reasonably required for an Elected Member to perform their role.

7.2. Elected Members who are the principal carer of a child or other elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family member will be entitled to reimbursement of carer's actual expenses or a maximum of $30 per hour whichever is the lesser for attendance at official business.

7.3. Childcare expenses may be claimed for children up to and including the age of 14 years.

7.4. In the event of caring for an adult person, councillors will need to provide suitable evidence to the CEO that reimbursement is applicable. This may take the form of advice from a medical practitioner.

7.5. All claims for carers and childcare must be submitted on the appropriate reimbursement claim form with sufficient evidence from the provider or a statutory declaration from the Elected Member.

7.6. Reimbursement will occur on completion of relevant form and will not occur where carer is a relative or a business that the Elected member has some form of interest.

8. Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility

8.1. The Council will meet reasonable additional expenses to assist an Elected Member with to perform their duties as an Elected Member in accordance with legislation, where the Elected Member requires assistance as it relates to Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility principles and matters.

9. Council Resources

9.1. The following will be provided to Elected Members to assist in carrying out official duties:

(a) A Council email address with calendar facility. An Elected Member's calendar shall be available to other Elected Members and staff in order to facilitate the smooth running of Council operations and as a record of their activities relating to undertaking official duties;

(b) Name badge;

(c) Electronic Business Cards and/or Business Cards;

(d) An Elected Members Portal with dedicated access to Council business papers;

(e) Through the CEO, Council staff will provide basic IT support including access to relevant systems and email accounts but will not be responsible for privately owned IT equipment;

(f) Council will provide postage for official correspondence through its internal mail services. Bulk mailing will not be provided;

(g) Elected Members wishing to use Council resources, such for photocopying and printing, must arrange for the use of these resources through the CEO. Council resources may not be used for personal documents or for circulars, publications or election material;

(h) Elected members shall not use Council facilities, resources (including staff) for personal reasons including furtherance of their political career.

(i) A framed Certificate of Service will be presented in Council meeting for Elected Members achieving 10 years of service, with subsequent certificates presented at five yearly intervals.

10. Mayoral Benefits

10.1. The Mayor is entitled to the following additional benefits to assist them in undertaking official duties:

(a) Provision and maintenance of Mayoral Robes and Chain of Office;

(b) Mobile phone and suitable telecommunication plan;

(c) An office;

(d) Administrative assistance for official use;

(e) Provision and use of official Mayoral stationery; and

(f) Reimbursement for costs associated with attendance and participation at official functions where Council is represented.

10.2. The Mayor is entitled to the provision of a motor vehicle by Council and the provision of such motor vehicle will be provided at the discretion of the Mayor for the full term of the Council by either:

10.3. Use of a dedicated fully maintained vehicle (including fuel) provide by Council for official and private use within the Northern Territory. The type of vehicle will be equivalent to City of Palmerston executive fleet and approved by the CEO: or

10.4. A Vehicle Allowance as specified by the Determination.

11. Insurance

11.1. Elected Members will receive the benefit of insurance cover subject to the wording, limits, excesses and terms and conditions specified in Council's insurance policies for the following:

(a) Personal Accident;

(b) Professional Indemnity and Public Liability;

(c) Motor Vehicle (limited); and

(d) Councillors and Officers Liability.

12. Official Management

12.1. Under section 318 of the Act, the Minister may place a Council under official management by Gazette notice due to deficiencies in its affairs, resulting in the suspension of all Council members who, during the suspension, are not entitled to remuneration, allowances, expenses or benefits, which will resume upon reinstatement of the Council.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Community Plan
- Code of Conduct for Elected Members and Committee Members
- Council Policy Breach of Code of Conduct by Elected Member

REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 2019* (NT).
- Determination of Allowance for Members of Local Council, Northern Territory Of Australia Remuneration Tribunal.

POLICY DETAILS

OWNER	CEO	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	General Manager Finance and Governance
APPROVAL DATE	07/10/2025	NEXT REVIEW DUE	08/10/2029
RECORDS NUMBER	544031	COUNCIL DECISION	11/31

ELECTED MEMBER ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

~~COUNCIL~~COUNCIL POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy sets out ~~Elected Members~~ allowances and expenses payable to Elected Members to provide the necessary support to effectively carry out their roles ~~in~~for Council. ~~This policy covers allowances, benefits, and support to be provided to Elected Members.~~

PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to providing payment or reimbursement of allowances and expenses to Elected Members ~~to carry out their official duties~~ in an accountable, transparent manner that ensures the proper use of Council resources in the most efficient and cost-effective way.

The policy ~~should allow for~~provides that Elected Members ~~to~~will receive adequate and reasonable expenses and facilities to enable them to carry out their civic duties as elected representatives of their local ~~communities and encourage members of the community to seek election as an Elected Member~~community.

DEFINITIONS

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

TERM	DEFINITION
Allowances	Allowances or expenses provided in compensation to Elected Members in consideration and recognition of the time and effort spent in their roles ~~on~~for Council.
Deputy Mayor	Is the Council appointed Deputy Principal Member at the time.
Determination	Most recent Determination of Allowances for Members of Local
Elected Member	Individuals elected to Council. For the purposes of this policy, Elected Member refers to Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor.
~~Mayor~~	~~Is the Principal Member.~~

TERM	DEFINITION
~~Deputy Mayor~~	~~Is the Council appointed Deputy Principal Member.~~
~~Ordinary Elected Member~~	~~An Elected Member other than the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or, during the relevant period, an acting Mayor.~~
~~Determination~~	~~Most recent Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils.~~
Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility	While inclusion, diversity and accessibility are often referred to in the context of people with lived experience of disability, these principles apply to many different groups within society, including Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people; people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds, including newly arrived refugees and migrants; people who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA+); older people, children and young people; people with a disability; people experiencing homelessness; people experiencing mental illness; people who are socio-economically disadvantaged and people experiencing gender inequality.
Mayor	Is the Principal Member.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Elected Member ~~Allowances~~ Aallowances

1.1. Allowances are paid in accordance with the Determination of the Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal.

~~1.1.~~1.2. Allowance figures are published annually in the Municipal Plan.

~~1.2.~~1.3. Allowances (apart from Professional Development Allowance) are to be paid from 1 July each year, on a monthly basis, in arrears by electronic funds transfer to the Elected ~~Member's~~Member's nominated bank account.

~~1.3.~~1.4. Where an Elected Member is acting as Mayor, in the absence of the Mayor, the acting Mayor will be paid 100% of the Mayoral Allowance for that period.

2. Extra Meeting/ ~~and~~ Activity Allowance

2.1. ~~For Ordinary~~The Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance is capped to $12,000 per annum, per Elected Member.

2.2. ~~The Mayor is not eligible to claim Extra Meeting Allowance.~~ Eligibility for the allowance is based on the capacity in which an Elected Member is attending a meeting or activity:

2.2.1. Where a formal role, official representation or appointment to a position exists, a meeting or activity is eligible.

2.2.2. General attendance or community participation in a meeting or activity is not eligible.

2.3. The Mayor is not eligible to claim Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance.

2.4. Alternate members are only paid if the appointed member is not in attendance at a meeting or activity.

2.1.2.5. For Elected Members and Deputy Mayor, this allowance may be paid by attending the following types of eligibleunpaid meetings or activities (alternate members are only paid if the appointed member is not in attendance):

(a) Council Committee Meetings;

(b) Special Meetings of Council;

(c) Special Meetings of Council Committees;

(d) Council Advisory/Networking Group Meetings;

(e) Council workshops or briefings;

(f) Meetings of external agencies or organisations to which Council has formally appointed an Elected Member to represent the Council; and

(g) Meetings of the Australian Local Government Association and Local Government Association of the Northern Territory where the Elected Member is a delegate of the Council;.

2.2. For Ordinary Elected Members and the Deputy Mayor, this allowance may be paid by attending the following types of eligibleunpaid activities (alternate members are only paid if the appointed member is not in attendance):

(h) Attendance at any functions representing the Mayor on official Council duties:; and

(i) Attendance at functions where there is a formal Council role, representation or official invitation or appointment. as an invited representative of Council and with Council's approval and clause 2.3.

2.3. Council approval is provided for the Deputy Mayor and Ordinary Elected Members to attend the following functions as invited representatives of the Council:

(a) Civic events or functions convened by Council;

(b) Functions where Council has secured tickets.; and

(c) External events where Elected Members have been invited due to the elected position therefore representing the Council.

2.4.2.6. Claims forms are tomust be submitted no later than the first week of the following month. Late claims proceeding the event. Claim forms received after this time will be paidprocessed in the following month.

2.5.2.7. Extra Meeting/Activity and Activity Allowance claims for the financial year must be submitted by the last payment run for the end of financial year.

3. Professional Development Allowance

3.1. MayElected Members may apply for a Professional Development Allowance.

3.1.3.2. Applications must be applied formade on Council's approved form and submitted to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for approval.

3.3. MayThe maximum allowance claimable for professional development is $7,500.

3.4. Elected Members may carry forward 50% of the Professional Development Allowance allocation into the next financial year.

3.2.3.5. The Professional Development Allowance may be expendedused in relation to attending conferences or undertaking the following types of conference and training:

(a) Couse study or other Mandatory Elected Member training as determined by the Local Government Act 2016 (NT) (the Act);

(d)(b) A course or other relevant training or study to perform as aid performing the role of an Elected Member;

~~(e)~~(c) A conference, seminar, symposium, expo or other similar event on a topic or function directly related to local government, Council services, Council vision or duties relevant to being an Elected Member; or

~~(f)~~(d) Training, mediation or counselling recommended or ordered as part of a decision relating to a Code of Conduct complaint.

~~3.3.~~3.6. Access to reimbursement is subject to:

(a) Being an Elected Member at the time when a claim for reimbursement is made; and

(b) Any changes in the maximum amount of ~~professional development allowance~~Professional Development Allowance available in the future financial year(s).

4. Elected Member Travel

4.1. Elected Members and the Mayor may be required to travel for Council business, by Council resolution or otherwise.

~~4.1.~~4.2. Air travel ~~is to~~must be ~~by~~ reasonable ~~means available~~, taking into consideration flight times, fare costs, flight duration ~~and,~~ dates available and ~~shall~~will not include premium economy, business or first ~~-~~class fares. If air travel is required, it will be booked and paid for by ~~the~~ Council.

~~4.2.~~4.3. Accommodation ~~is to~~must be ~~by~~ reasonable ~~means available~~, taking into consideration costs, location and room type. If accommodation is required, it will be booked and paid for by ~~the~~ Council.

~~4.3.~~4.4. An Elected Member required to travel for Council business by Council resolution, ~~is~~may be entitled to payment or reimbursement for reasonable expenses ~~for necessary~~accrued during the travel ~~and accommodation. .~~

4.5. Council will pay ~~in advance any registration fees, accommodation deposits and airline tickets~~ for ~~approved~~ travel where travel exceeds 50 kilometres from the Elected ~~Member travel. Where this is~~Member's home base (100 kilometre round trip).

~~4.4.~~4.6. Travel does not ~~possible, a reimbursement equivalent to the fees or expenses will be paid subject to~~count towards the ~~provision of receipts~~Elected Member's annual cap.

~~4.5.~~4.7. ~~Should~~If a car hire ~~be~~is required, any traffic infringement notices and fines are the individual responsibility of the driver of the vehicle.

~~4.6.~~4.8. Elected Members may be accompanied by a spouse or partner subject to Council not incurring any additional expense.

~~4.7.~~4.9. Meals and incidentals are to be in accordance with the ATO taxation determination. Meal allowances ~~are~~will not ~~to~~ be paid when the meal is included in the cost of the meeting, conference, or other event.

~~4.8.~~4.10. All non-essential additional expenses such as telephone calls, room service or mini-bar supplies are the responsibility of the Elected Member. In the instance where there are no other options, exceptions may be applied to the CEO for ~~approval.~~ consideration.

~~4.9.~~4.11. Where travel arrangements need to be changed or cancelled, the Elected Member must inform the CEO in writing as soon as possible to minimise any financial loss to Council.

~~4.10.~~4.12. The CEO ~~is to~~will report any non-attendance at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

5. Information Technology Capital Entitlement

5.1. ~~Over the term of the Council term, each~~ Elected ~~Member is~~Members are entitled to claim an Information Technology Capital Entitlement up to the value of $2,000, excluding GST, to purchase equipment to carry out their official duties (e.g. laptop, computer~~). —~~), once per Council term.

5.2. This entitlement constitutes reimbursement of equipment costs and is not an additional allowance.

~~5.2.~~5.3. Reimbursement will occur from Council once a paid tax invoice has been received.

~~6. Ticket Events~~Carer Expense Entitlement

~~6.1. Council will pay the costs of approved ticketed functions which relate to Council business for Elected Members.~~

~~6.2. Approved ticket events are those jointly approved by the Mayor and CEO or by Council resolution.~~

~~7.~~ 6. ~~Carer Expenses Entitlement~~

~~7.1.~~6.1. Childcare and carer services can be claimed by an Elected Member where the care is reasonably required for ~~an~~the Elected Member to perform their role~~.~~ and duties.

~~7.2.~~6.2. Elected Members who are the principal carer of a child or other elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family member will be entitled to reimbursement of carer's ~~actual~~ expenses ~~or~~to a maximum of $30 per hour ~~whichever is the lesser for attendance at official business~~.

~~7.3.~~6.3. Childcare expenses may be claimed for children up to and including ~~the age of~~ 14 years~~.~~ of age.

~~7.4.~~6.4. In the event of caring for an adult person, councillors will need to provide suitable evidence to the CEO that reimbursement is applicable. This may take the form of advice from a medical practitioner.

~~7.5.~~6.5. All claims for carers and childcare must be submitted on the appropriate reimbursement claim form with sufficient evidence from the provider or a statutory declaration from the Elected Member.

~~7.6.~~6.6. Reimbursement will occur on completion of relevant form and will not occur where carer is a relative or a business that the Elected ~~member~~Member has some form of interest.

~~8.~~ 7. Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility

~~8.1.~~7.1. The Council will meet reasonable additional expenses to assist an Elected Member ~~with~~ to perform their duties as an Elected Member in accordance with legislation, where the Elected Member requires assistance as it relates to Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility principles and matters.

~~9.~~ 8. Council Resources

~~9.1.~~8.1. The following resources will be provided to Elected Members to assist them in carrying out their official duties:

(a) A Council email address with calendar facility. An Elected Member's calendar shall be available to other Elected Members and staff in order to facilitate the smooth running of Council operations and as a record of their activities relating to undertaking official duties;

(b) Name badge;

(c) Electronic Business Cards and/or Business Cards;

(d) An Elected Members Portal with dedicated access to Council business papers;

(e) Through the CEO, Council staff will provide basic IT support including access to relevant systems and email accounts but will not be responsible for privately owned IT equipment;

(f) Council will provide postage for official correspondence through its internal mail services. Bulk mailing will not be provided;

(g) Elected Members wishing to use Council resources, such for photocopying and printing, must arrange for the use of these resources through the CEO. Council resources may not be used for personal documents or for circulars, publications or election material;

(h) Elected members shall not use Council facilities, resources (including staff) for personal reasons including furtherance of their political career.

(i) A framed Certificate of Service will be presented in Council meeting for Elected Members achieving 10 years of service, with subsequent certificates presented at five yearly intervals.

~~10.~~ 9. Mayoral Benefits

~~10.1.~~9.1. The Mayor is entitled to the following additional benefits to assist them in undertaking official duties:

(a) Provision and maintenance of Mayoral Robes and Chain of Office;

(b) Mobile phone and suitable telecommunication plan;

(c) An office;

(d) Administrative assistance for official use;

(e) Provision and use of official Mayoral stationery; and

(f) Reimbursement for costs associated with attendance and participation at official functions where Council is represented.

~~10.2.~~9.2. The Mayor is entitled to the provision of a motor vehicle by Council and the provision of such motor vehicle will be provided at the discretion of the Mayor for the full term of the Council by either:

(a) Use of a dedicated fully maintained vehicle (including fuel) ~~provide~~provided by Council for official and private use within the Northern Territory. The type of vehicle will be equivalent to City of Palmerston executive fleet and approved by the CEO~~:~~; or

(b) A Vehicle Allowance as specified by the Determination.

~~11.~~ 10. Insurance

~~11.1.~~10.1. Elected Members will receive the benefit of insurance cover subject to the wording, limits, excesses and terms and conditions specified in Council's insurance policies for the following:

(a) Personal Accident;

(b) Professional Indemnity and Public Liability;

(c) Motor Vehicle (limited); and

(d) Councillors and Officers Liability.

~~12.~~ 11. Official Management

~~12.1.~~11.1. Under section 318 of the Act, the Minister may place a Council under official management by Gazette notice due to deficiencies in its affairs, resulting in the suspension of all Council members who, during the suspension, are not entitled to remuneration, allowances, expenses or benefits, which will resume upon reinstatement of the Council~~.~~

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Community Plan
- Code of Conduct for Elected Members and Committee Members
- ~~Council Policy~~ Breach of Code of Conduct by Elected Member Policy
- Municipal Plan
- Elected Member Attendance at Events, Forums and Conferences Policy

REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

- ~~*Local Government Act 2019* (NT).~~
- ~~Determination of Allowance for Members of Local Council,~~
- *Local Government Act 2019 (NT).*
- Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal – Determination N~~n~~o.1 of 2026.
- Remuneration Tribunal.

POLICY DETAILS

OWNER	Chief Executive Officer	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	General Manager Finance and Governance
APPROVAL DATE	[Approval Date]	NEXT REVIEW DUE	[Next Review Due]
RECORDS NUMBER	544031	COUNCIL DECISION	[Council Decision]

ELECTED MEMBER ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

COUNCIL POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy sets out allowances and expenses payable to Elected Members to provide the necessary support to effectively carry out their roles for Council.

PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to providing payment or reimbursement of allowances and expenses to Elected Members in an accountable, transparent manner that ensures the proper use of Council resources in the most efficient and cost-effective way. The policy provides that Elected Members will receive adequate and reasonable expenses and facilities to enable them to carry out their civic duties as elected representatives of their local community.

DEFINITIONS

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

TERM	DEFINITION
Allowances	Allowances or expenses provided in compensation to Elected Members in consideration and recognition of the time and effort spent in their roles for Council.
Deputy Mayor	Is the Council appointed Deputy Principal Member at the time.
Determination	Most recent Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Councils.
Elected Member	Individuals elected to Council. For the purposes of this policy, Elected Member refers to Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor.

TERM	DEFINITION
Inclusion, Diversity and Accessibility	While inclusion, diversity and accessibility are often referred to in the context of people with lived experience of disability, these principles apply to many different groups within society, including Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people; people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds, including newly arrived refugees and migrants; people who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA+); older people, children and young people; people with a disability; people experiencing homelessness; people experiencing mental illness; people who are socio-economically disadvantaged and people experiencing gender inequality.
Mayor	Is the Principal Member.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Elected Member Allowances

1.1. Allowances are paid in accordance with the Determination of the Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal.

1.2. Allowance figures are published annually in the Municipal Plan.

1.3. Allowances (apart from Professional Development Allowance) are to be paid from 1 July each year, on a monthly basis, in arrears by electronic funds transfer to the Elected Member's nominated bank account.

1.4. Where an Elected Member is acting as Mayor, in the absence of the Mayor, the acting Mayor will be paid 100% of the Mayoral Allowance for that period.

2. Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance

2.1. The Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance is capped to $12,000 per annum, per Elected Member.

2.2. Eligibility for the allowance is based on the capacity in which an Elected Member is attending a meeting or activity:

2.2.1. Where a formal role, official representation or appointment to a position exists, a meeting or activity is eligible.

2.2.2. General attendance or community participation in a meeting or activity is not eligible.

2.3. The Mayor is not eligible to claim Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance.

2.4. Alternate members are only paid if the appointed member is not in attendance at a meeting or activity.

2.5. For Elected Members and Deputy Mayor, this allowance may be paid by attending the following types of eligible meetings or activities:

(a) Council Committee Meetings;

(b) Special Meetings of Council;

(c) Special Meetings of Council Committees;

(d) Council Advisory/Networking Group Meetings;

(e) Council workshops or briefings;

(f) Meetings of external agencies or organisations to which Council has formally appointed an Elected Member to represent the Council;

(g) Meetings of the Australian Local Government Association and Local Government Association of the Northern Territory where the Elected Member is a delegate of the Council;

(h) Attendance at functions representing the Mayor on official Council duties; and

(i) Attendance at functions where there is a formal Council role, representation or official invitation or appointment.

2.6. Claims forms must be submitted no later than the first week of the following month proceeding the event. Claim forms received after this time will be processed in the following month.

2.7. Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance claims for the financial year must be submitted by the last payment run for the end of financial year.

3. Professional Development Allowance

3.1. Elected Members may apply for a Professional Development Allowance.

3.2. Applications must be made on Council's approved form and submitted to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for approval.

3.3. The maximum allowance claimable for professional development is $7,500.

3.4. Elected Members may carry forward 50% of the Professional Development Allowance allocation into the next financial year.

3.5. The Professional Development Allowance may be used in relation to attending conferences or undertaking the following training:

(a) Mandatory Elected Member training as determined by the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) (the Act);

(b) A course or other relevant training or study to aid performing the role of an Elected Member;

(c) A conference, seminar, symposium, expo or other similar event on a topic or function directly related to local government, Council services, Council vision or duties relevant to being an Elected Member; or

(d) Training, mediation or counselling recommended or ordered as part of a decision relating to a Code of Conduct complaint.

3.6. Access to reimbursement is subject to:

(a) Being an Elected Member at the time when a claim for reimbursement is made; and

(b) Any changes in the maximum amount of Professional Development Allowance available in the future financial year(s).

4. Elected Member Travel

4.1. Elected Members and the Mayor may be required to travel for Council business, by Council resolution or otherwise.

4.2. Air travel must be reasonable, taking into consideration flight times, fare costs, flight duration, dates available and will not include premium economy, business or first-class fares. If air travel is required, it will be booked and paid for by Council.

4.3. Accommodation must be reasonable, taking into consideration costs, location and room type. If accommodation is required, it will be booked and paid for by Council.

4.4. An Elected Member required to travel for Council business by Council resolution, may be entitled to payment or reimbursement for reasonable expenses accrued during the travel.

4.5. Council will pay for travel where travel exceeds 50 kilometres from the Elected Member's home base (100 kilometre round trip).

4.6. Travel does not count towards the Elected Member's annual cap.

4.7. If a car hire is required, any traffic infringement notices and fines are the individual responsibility of the driver of the vehicle.

4.8. Elected Members may be accompanied by a spouse or partner subject to Council not incurring any additional expense.

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11.1. Under section 318 of the Act, the Minister may place a Council under official management by Gazette notice due to deficiencies in its affairs, resulting in the suspension of all Council members who, during the suspension, are not entitled to remuneration, allowances, expenses or benefits, which will resume upon reinstatement of the Council

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REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

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- Remuneration Tribunal.

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OWNER	Chief Executive Officer	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	General Manager Finance and Governance
APPROVAL DATE	[Approval Date]	NEXT REVIEW DUE	[Next Review Due]
RECORDS NUMBER	544031	COUNCIL DECISION	[Council Decision]

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.2.1
Report Title:	Major Capital Projects Update
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
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:
  - Zuccoli Community Hub.
  - Enterprise Resource Planning Project (ERP).
- Updates on additional relevant projects are also provided within this report, these include:
  - Woodroffe Park Upgrade.
  - Library Café.
  - SWELL solar and battery project.
  - Road reseal program.
  - Animal Management Facility

Recommendation

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

Background

Council has a (revised) $11.40M Capital Works Program in 2025/26. 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:

- Zuccoli Community Hub **Attachment 12.2.1.1.**
- Enterprise Resource Planning Project (ERP) **Attachment 12.2.1.2.**

Council is also progressing additional capital projects and programs, with recent progress on key projects summarised below.

Woodroffe Park Upgrade

Council has awarded two (2) construction contracts relating to the Woodroffe Park Upgrade;

- Refurbishment and installation of play equipment, and installation of shade structures – $346,526.
- Supply and installation of the shelter and park furniture - $105,542.

Long lead time materials, including the play equipment have been ordered by Contractors.

The procurement of upgrading the bike track and water supply for the shelter and irrigation refurbishment is currently underway. All works are expected to be completed by August. This project has a total budget of $600,000 and is 100% funded by the Northern Territory Government.

Library Café

Work on the Library Café refurbishment is nearing completion. Unexpected delays with the power connection to the tenancy have resulted in practical completion not being achieved as planned, however the tenant has been able to access the space and commence preparations for opening. Completion, with formal handover to the tenant, is anticipated to occur mid-June.

SWELL solar and battery project

A tender is under assessment for the design and construction of a solar and battery system at SWELL. The objective is to reduce operational costs by generating and storing energy. Expected award is in June, and work is expected to be completed by December. The project

is part funded by a $264,000 grant from the Australian Government's Community Energy Upgrades Fund Round 2.

Road Reseal Program

The road reseal program is ongoing with the following roads resealed and line marking underway:

- Temple Terrace – various.
- Shearwater Drive, Bakewell.
- Bagshaw Crescent, Gray.
- Kriewaldt Circuit, Driver.
- Priest Circuit, Gray.
- Rosebery Drive, Rosebery.

Work will continue at the following locations until June:

- Flynn Circuit & Cabrini Street roundabout, Bellamack.
- Lorna Lim Terrace & Hang Gong Avenue roundabout, Driver.

Animal Management Facility

A contractor has mobilised to site for the construction on the next stage of the animal management facility. This stage includes 16 new pens. Work is expected to be completed by August.

Consultation and marketing

Consultation occurs as relevant to each project and its status.

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. Zuccoli Community Hub [**12.2.1.1** - 3 pages]
2. Enterprise Resource Planning Project (ER P) [**12.2.1.2** - 2 pages]

ZUCCOLI COMMUNITY HUB

JUNE 2026 UPDATE

city of PALMERSTON
'A Place for People'

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Summary:

The Zuccoli Community Hub 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 Masterplan and Stage 1 are complete, with the Dog Park and Public Toilet open to the public. This report focusses on the current activities: the Stage 2 Pump Track, and the design of Stage 3.

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

Total budget and funding:

Stage	Prior Year Costs	Current FY Budget	Total Budget to Date	Current FY Actuals	Current FY Commitment	Remaining Budget
Masterplan	$113,062	$0	$113,062	$0	$0	$0
Stage 1 - Dog Park	$1,467,166	$0	$1,467,166	$0	$0	$0
Stage 2 - Design	$135,285	$54,945	$190,230	$54,945	$0	$0
Stage 2 - Civil	$676,905	$125,118	$802,023	$125,118	$0	-$0
Stage 2 - Walkway, Seating, BBQ	$426,996	$43,945	$470,941	$43,945	$0	-$0
Stage 2 - Pump Track	$0	$1,175,592	$1,175,592	$1,173,383	$1,148	$1,060
Stage 3 - Design	$0	$450,000	$450,000	$178,026	$272,348	-$375
TOTAL	**$2,819,414**	**$1,849,600**	**$4,568,264**	**$1,575,417**	**$375,326**	**$685**

External Funding Sources (Stage 2):

- $250,000 Northern Territory Government– Immediate Priority Grant (Pump Track).
- $411,889 LRCI Phase IV.

Anticipated completion date:

- Stage 3 design – 2026.

STATUS UPDATE

Current Contracts:

Activity	Status	Awarded contract value	Approved variations	Approved claims	Amount to claim
Stage 2 Pump Track Construction	Awarded	$928,623	$215,950	$1,063,804	$80,770
Stage 3 Design	Awarded	$450,000	-	$177,651	$272,348
TOTAL		**$1,394,554**	**$215,950**	**$1,257,386**	**$353,118**

Works to date summary:

Stage 2

Stage 2 includes the recreational facilities of the Zuccoli Community Hub and is being constructed in smaller stages as funding is available. A component of the walking trails and pathways, shade structure, and civil works were completed by mid-2025 as previously reported. The track was formally opened to the public on 4 March 2026.

There is currently no funding available for the remaining Stage 2 works, including the skate park, multi-purpose court, exercise equipment and elevated walkway.

Progress in the past month:

- Installation and energisation of lights to the pump track.

The timing and extent of light at the pump track is being evaluated to ensure that the lights provide suitable nighttime activation of the facility, while minimising impacts on nearby residents.

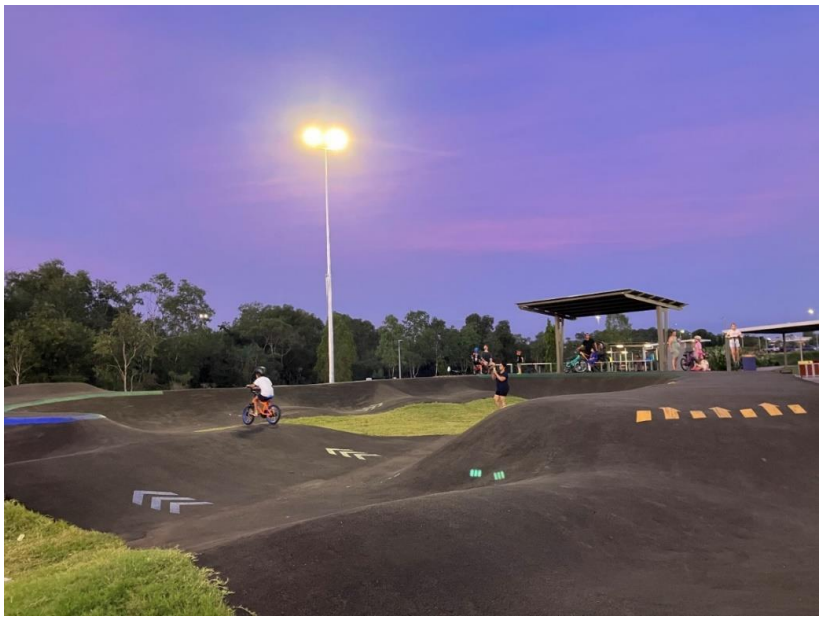


Figure 1: Pump track nighttime use – 27 May 2026

Stage 3

Stage 3 incorporates all remaining elements of the site, with a focus on the community facilities, including the community hall, technology and community programs building, events space, covered entrance, gardens and carpark. This financial year, the design of these elements is being undertaken.

Progress in the past month:

- Community engagement on concept design of Stage 3. Outcomes of the community engagement are provided in a separate report.
- Progression of borrowing process for portion of funds relating to the buildings.
- Progression of grant documentation for portion of funds relating to the buildings.



Figure 2: Zuccoli Community hub - concept image

Upcoming works:

Work progressing in the next month includes:

- Stage 3:
  - Commencement of preliminary design phase of building elements.
  - Progression of processes obtaining funding for building elements.

Project risks:

Stage 3:
Global events have the potential to impact construction costs through:

- Cost of fuel on elements like transport of materials.
- Availability of certain materials.

ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING PROJECT

JUNE 2026 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/Procurement Management Support – Corporate Strategic Systems (CSS)

STATUS UPDATE

Percentage complete:

25%

Actual costs to date (consultancy):

- FY24 - $282,900.
- FY25 - $494,784.
- FY26 - $192,750.
- Total to date $970,434.

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) project. CoP have engaged Corporate Strategic Systems (CSS) for the procurement stage of the project. An internal Project Control Group (PCG) has been established to provide direction and governance for the project.

An initial two-stage tender process was initiated with legal and probity support. The Expression of Interest (EOI) phase ran from 9 April to 21 May 2025. After evaluation, no submissions were progressed, and the CEO disbanded the tender panel.

In conjunction with CSS, a revised procurement process is now underway including consideration of a best of breed selection process with focus on solutions for high-risk areas.

The full tender process commenced on 5 November 2025, supported by legal and probity advice, with submissions closing 8 December 2025.

Responses to the Tender were received and are now being evaluated by the Tender Assessment Panel. The assessment process consists of three (3) stages, and assessment is currently underway.

Completed activities:

- Tender submissions closed 8 December 2025.

Upcoming activities:

- Finalise tender assessment.

Project risks:

The project is currently tracking 19 risks.

The top three (3) 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.

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.2.2
Report Title:	Financial Report for the Month of May 2026
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Manager Financial Performance, Jeffrey Guilas
Approver:	General Manager Finance and Governance, Chris Fearon

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 May 2026.

Key messages

- This report presents the May 2026 financial report and is representative of the year-to-date income and expenditure as at 31 May 2026.
- The financial health check ratios indicate that overall Council is in a positive financial position.
- The revised budget for 2025/26 reflects the original budget published in the 2025/26 Municipal Plan, the 2025/26 first budget review, which includes the capital budget rolled over from 2024/25, and the 2025/26 Second budget review.
- Operating income is $43.61 million or 101% of the revised annual budget of $43.27 million.
- Operating expenditure is $43.60 million or 82% of the revised annual budget of $53.20 million.
- Operating surplus (excluding depreciation) is at $11.28 million.
- Capital income is $1.30 million or 23% of the revised annual budget of $5.78 million.
- Capital income includes capital grants income which is 36% of budget and is recognised when grant obligations are met, which is generally when capital expenditure is incurred.

- Capital expenditure is $5.90 million or 52% of the revised annual budget of $11.40 million. There is a further $3.63 million in commitments where works have commenced or are awaiting payment, combined equates to 84% of the revised annual budget.
- The total cash and cash investments were $22.29 million, which includes $17.45 million in term deposits in various banking institutions with less than 12 months to maturity, and $4.84 million in our general trading account.
- Rates debt receivables are $3.02 million, which includes:
  - Debt for 2025/26 of $2.06 million, which is all now overdue with the final rates instalment being due on 30 March 2026.
  - $507,370 remains outstanding for 2024/25.
  - $463,172 of accumulated unpaid rates from prior years (2023/24 and prior).
- Total payments to creditors in May 2026 amounted to $5.50 million, of which $5.02 million (91.29%) 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 no contract variations during May 2026 that met the criteria under Regulation 42 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.

Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Financial Report for the Month of May 2026 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.
- the approved first budget review 2025/26.
- the approved second budget review 2025/26.

Year-to-date actuals (YTD Actuals) is the actual income and expenditure from 1 July 2025 to the current reporting date, 31 May 2026.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following:

- Dashboard report found at **Attachment 12.2.2.1** 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 included at **Attachment 12.2.2.2** presenting the financial position of Council as at 31 May 2026.

Discussion

Financial Health

The financial health check ratios provide Council with a quick snapshot of its financial position.

- The May 2026 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 excluding depreciation divided by operating income) of 30% is above the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) of 0%, noting this will reduce closer to the KPI when expenditure increases.
- The debt service ratio (net operating income divided by debt repayments plus interest) for May 2026 is 3.54 indicating that the Council has sufficient capacity to meet its loan obligations and is in line with the KPI ratio of 2 times.
- Rates collection currently sits at 95% of total rates revenue which is in line to the the KPI of 95% of rates revenue. The fourth and final instalment was due on 30 March 2026 and debt collection activities will increase to collect the remaining 5% of rates debt.
- The current ratio (Current Assets divided by Current Liability) is 4.43 for May 2026 which demonstrates that Council has enough resources to meet its short-term obligations and is in line with the KPI of 1.5.

Operating Overview

The dashboard provides an overview of Council's operating income and expenditure for 2025/26 as of 31 May 2026. Refer to **Attachment 12.2.2.1.**

Total operating income as of 31 May 2026 is $43.61 million, which is 101% of the revised annual budget of $43.27 million.

Total operating expenditure as of 31 May 2026 is $43.60 million, this mainly consists of the following:

- $11.49 million employee costs.
- $11.34 million materials and contractors.
- $11.28 million depreciation (non-cash).
- $1.20 million other expenses such as program running cost and training costs.
- $2.10 million in utilities.
- $0.86 million in insurance expenses.

- $1.64 million professional services such as external consultants and management fee for Odegaard.
- $1.16 million software, hardware, stationery, and subscriptions.

The $5.09 million underspend in operating expenditure is largely due to invoices that are yet to be received and some invoices yet to be approved for services received in May.

Capital Overview

The dashboard provides an overview of Council's capital expenditure for 2025/26 as per **Attachment 12.2.2.1.**

Capital Expenditures

The 2025/26 revised capital expenditure annual budget is $11.40 million. This includes $5.10 million capital budget from last financial year that was rolled over to the current financial year, $0.34 million from the 2025/26 first budget review and a reduction of $0.64 million from 2025/26 second budget review, mainly due to Cyclone Fina clean up expenditure.

The pie chart in the dashboard as per **Attachment 12.2.2.1** shows that out of the $11.40 million capital expenditure budget, the actual capital expenditure is $5.90 million which is 52% of the budget.

In addition to the $5.90 million actual expenditure, there is a further $3.63 million in commitments where works have commenced and/or are awaiting invoices for payment, with a portion of committed expenditure will be proposed for roll-over to the next financial year. The current expenditure combined with the commitments presents 84% of expenditure against the revised annual budget.

Capital Funding

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

Total budgeted capital income of $5.78 million includes grant funding of $2.43 million, non-cash gifted assets of $3 million, developer contributions of $0.20 million, and $0.15 million sale of fleet.

The table following provides a breakdown of the budgeted capital grants income for 2025/26 (A), and the grants that have been recognised as income (B). The table also provides an overview of the grants that have been received (C) and grants 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 2025/26	TOTAL BUDGETED GRANT INCOME FOR 2025-26 (A)	GRANT RECOGNISED AS INCOME (B)	GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED TO DATE (C)	GRANT FUNDS YET TO BE RECEIVED (A-C = D)
Pump Parks/skate parks Zuccoli	$0.19M	$0.19M	$0.19M	
Library Capital Works	$0.03M		$0.03M	
SWELL Basketball Court Shade Structure	$0.09M	$0.07M	$0.09M	
Reseal Program	$0.21M		$0.21M	
Road Reconstruction (R2R)	$0.45M		$0.45M	
Black Spot - Bonson Terrace	$0.04M	$0.04M		$0.04M
Black Spot - Yarrawonga Road	$0.11M			$0.11M
Hobart Park Exeloo and Park Upgrade	$0.37M	$0.36M	$0.36M	$0.01M
21/22 Custom Animal Holding Pens (LG IP Grant)	$0.02M	$0.02M	$0.02M	
Water Aquifer Prevention Strategy	$0.10M	$0.10M	$0.10M	
Archer Recycling Modernisation Project	$0.03M	$0.03M	$0.03M	
Lakebed Aerators	$0.03M	$0.03M	$0.03M	
Woodroffe Park Upgrades	$0.60M	$0.01M	$0.60M	
Solar Panel and battery Installation-SWELL	$0.16M	$0.01M	$0.08M	$0.08M
Total	**$2.43M**	**$0.86M**	**$2.19M**	**$0.24M**

Cash and Investments

Trading Account: $4.84 million.
Investments: $17.45 million.
Annual Budgeted interest revenue: $1.26 million
Year to Date interest revenue: $1.52 million.

CASH AT BANK AND INVESTMENTS				
DURATION	NO.	VALUE ($) (In millions)	% OF TOTAL PORTFOLIO	LIMIT
Cash at bank	1	$4.84	NA	NA
<12 months	10	$17.45	100%	100%
Total	11	$22.29	100%	100%

The investment portfolio is compliant with the Council Investments Policy.

- As of 31 May 2026, the Council held $17.45 million in term deposits across two financial institutions.
- Cash held by Council in the National Australia Bank (NAB) trading account as of 31 May 2026 was $4.84 million earning 4.45% 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 12.2.2.2.**

Receivables

Council has $4.99 million in Receivables, which is made up of the following.

- $3.28 million in Rates including rates levied during 2025/26 and receivables from infringements. Further explanation of the breakdown is detailed below in rates and charges.
- $1.71 million other receivables mainly including:
  - $0.40 million sundry debtors.
  - $0.48 million grants receivable.
  - $0.33 million GST receivable.
  - $0.36 million accrued interest receivables for Term Deposits.
  - $0.14 million other.

Rates and charges

- The dashboard at **Attachment 12.2.2.1** highlights the rates levied for the 2025-26 financial year are $37.78 million, of which $35.72 million (95%) has already been collected and debt collection activities will increase to collect the remaining of $2.06 million (5%) of rates debt.
- Item 2.4 Debtors Control at **Attachment 12.2.2.2** provides for the summary of the breakdown of outstanding rates.
- Rates overdue as at May 2026 is $3.02 million.
  - $2.06 million is overdue for 2025-26 rates.
  - $0.5 million overdue rates from 2024-25 which is 1% of the total 2024-25 rates revenue.
  - $0.46 million overdue rates from 2023-24 and prior years.
- 310 properties have outstanding rates for 2024-25 and prior.
- 12,983 Ratepayers have paid their 2025-26 rates in full.

- Total of 597 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 167 properties for debts from 2023-2024 and earlier.
- 18 Financial Hardship applications have been approved for the 2025/26 financial year. 16 are from the 2024-25 financial year and 2 are new applications.
- A balance of $1.79 million 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.

Infringements

- Total infringements outstanding is $255,501 as of 31 May 2026, this consists of:
  - Animals $232,787.
  - Public Places $6,607.
  - Parking $16,106.
- The graph in the dashboard at **Attachment 12.2.2.1** shows the total infringements issued, payment received, amount sent to Fines Recovery Unit for collection and any outstanding infringements from 1st July 2025 until 31 May 2026. Please refer to Debtor report 2.4 for further breakdown.
- Total Animal infringements issued for 2025-26 as of 31 May 2026 after adjusting the withdrawn and written off infringement is $112,098 and collected is $26,928.
- Parking infringements issued for 2025-26 as of 31 May 2026 after adjusting the withdrawn and written off infringements is $4,438, out of which $3,173 has been collected.
- Total Public Places infringements issued as of 31 May 2026 after adjusting the withdrawn and written off infringement is $684 and out of which $300 has been collected.

Sundry Debtors

Sundry Debtors as of 31 May 2026 is $0.40 million as presented in **Attachment 12.2.2.2**. This balance mainly includes $75,000 that is expected to be received from Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet and $168,894 from Belgravia Health. 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 May 2026 amounted to $5.50 million, of which $5.02 million (91.29%) were paid to local suppliers. **Attachment 12.2.2.2**. 2.5 Creditor accounts paid shows the breakdown of the payments made.

Borrowings

Total external borrowings of $4.62 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 of 31 May 2026 being $0.29 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 as of 31 May 2026 of $4.33 million. This is a 20-year loan with current variable interest rate of 5.47% 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 $2.63 million Year-to-Date (YTD) in Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) tax to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The PAYG withholding tax is reported to the Australian Taxation Office on a fortnightly basis by Council.
- The Business Activity Statement (BAS) balance for the month ended 30 April 2026 has been finalised and lodged in May 2026 as a Goods Services Tax refund of $201,195. ATO refund was received in NAB on 25 May. The May 2026 BAS will be finalised and lodged in June 2026.
- Council has the required insurances to manage the current risk exposure.

Contract Variations

There were no contract variations during May 2026 that met the criteria under Regulation 42 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

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.

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 [**12.2.2.1** - 2 pages]
2. EOM MAY 2026 [**12.2.2.2** - 26 pages]

As at 31 May 2026

DASHBOARD

Financial Health Ratios	MP KPI	As at May 26	Status
Operating Surplus Ratio	> 0%	30%	This will reduce closer to the KPI when expenditure increases.
Debt Service Ratio	> 2.0	3.54	
Rates Collection	>95%	95%	
Current Ratio	> 1.5	4.43	While this demonstrates that Council has enough resources to meet its short-term obligations, it is signifcantly higher than KPI of 1.5. This will decrease once expenditure increases and rates debt are collected.

$11.28 M
Operating Surplus (excluding Depn)
Annual Budget is at $2.38 M

$1.3 M
Capital Income
Annual Budget is at $5.78 M

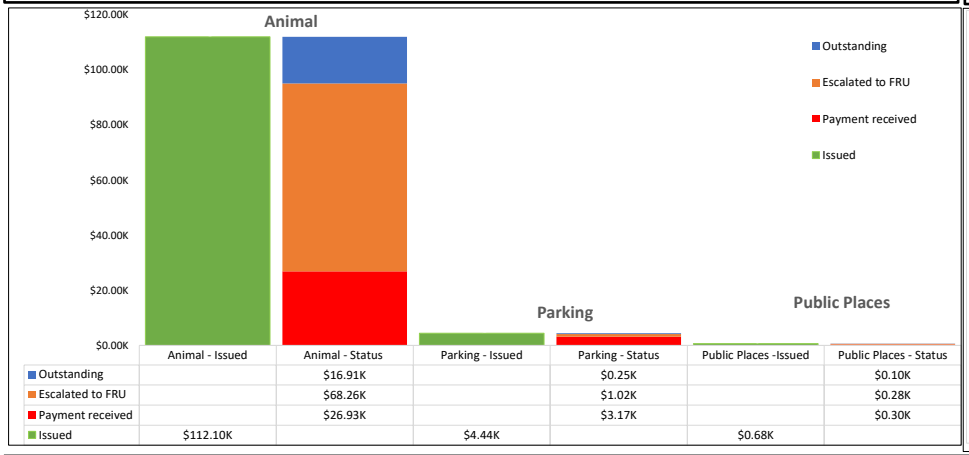
$5.9 M
Capital Expenditure
Annual Budget is at $11.4 M

$22.29 M
Cash Held

Legends

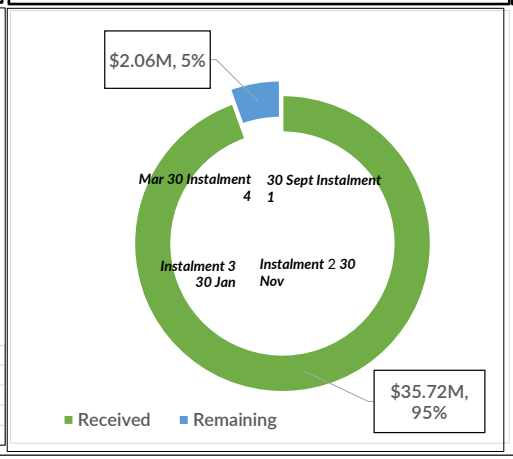
On Track | Explanation Required | Off Track

Infringements Issued from 1 July 2025 to May 2026 and status

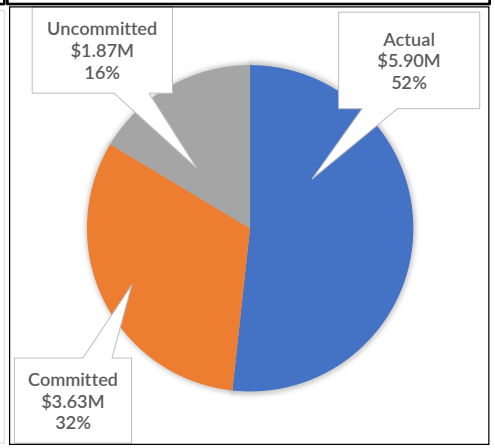


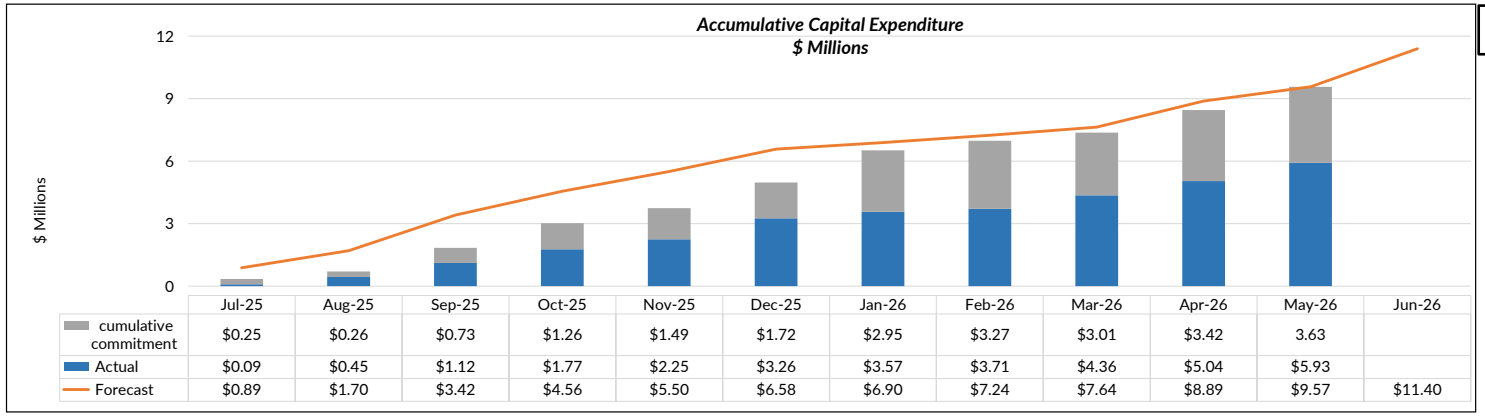
	Animal - Issued	Animal - Status	Parking - Issued	Parking - Status	Public Places -Issued	Public Places - Status
Outstanding		$16.91K		$0.25K		$0.10K
Escalated to FRU		$68.26K		$1.02K		$0.28K
Payment received		$26.93K		$3.17K		$0.30K
Issued	$112.10K		$4.44K		$0.68K	

Rates & Charges Collected

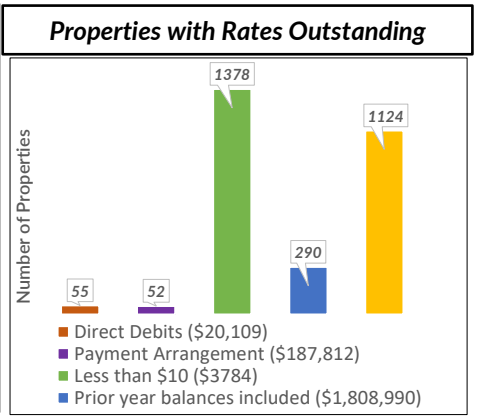


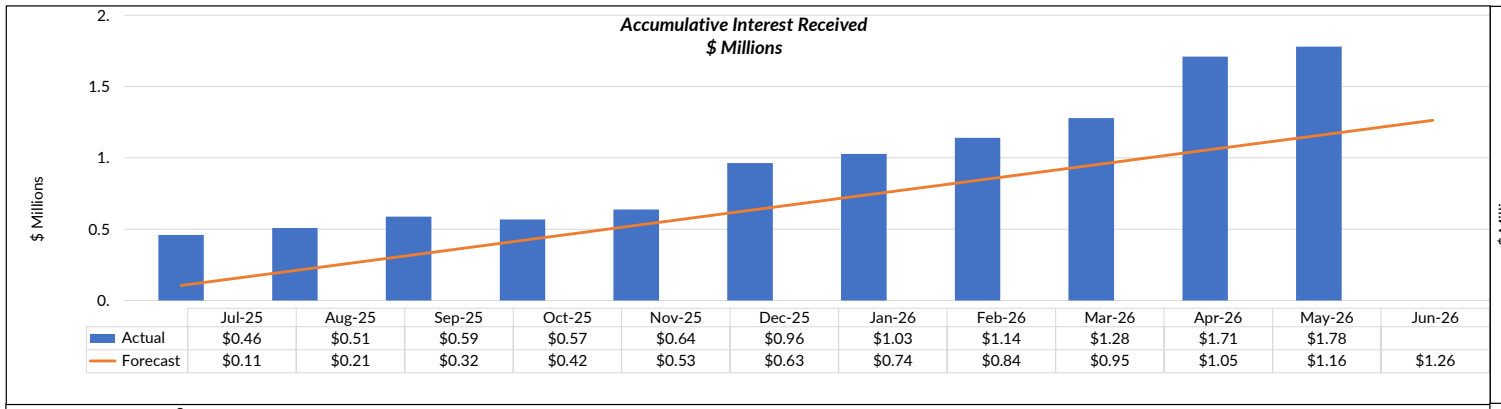
Capital Expenditure



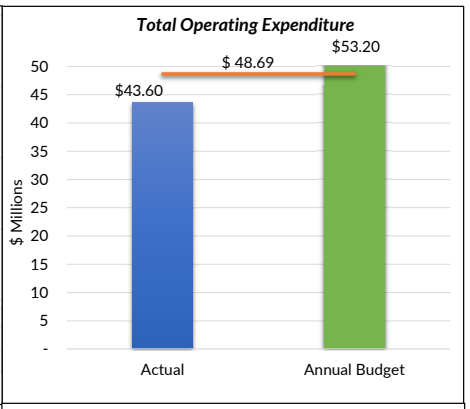


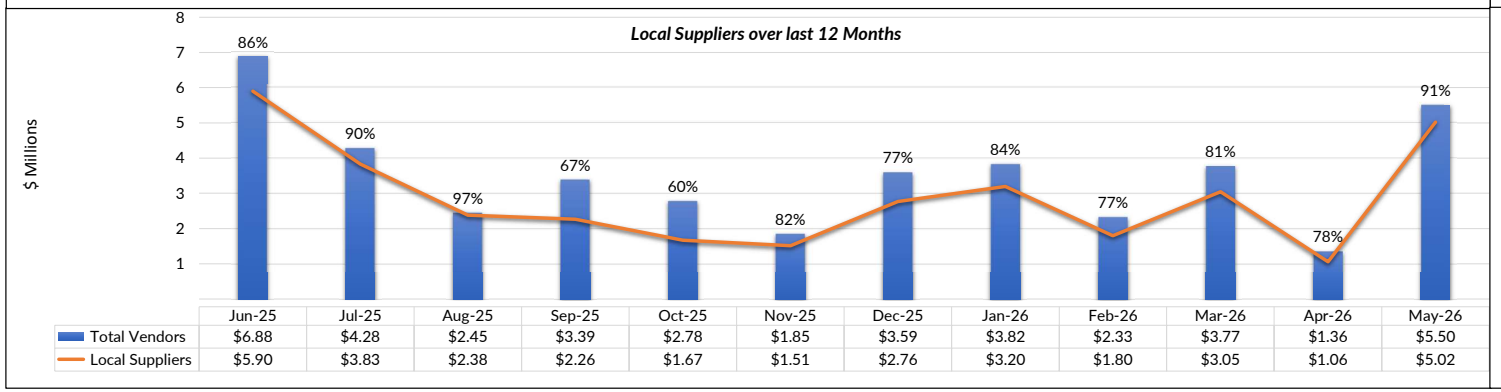
	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26
cumulative commitment	$0.25	$0.26	$0.73	$1.26	$1.49	$1.72	$2.95	$3.27	$3.01	$3.42	3.63	
Actual	$0.09	$0.45	$1.12	$1.77	$2.25	$3.26	$3.57	$3.71	$4.36	$5.04	$5.93	
Forecast	$0.89	$1.70	$3.42	$4.56	$5.50	$6.58	$6.90	$7.24	$7.64	$8.89	$9.57	$11.40



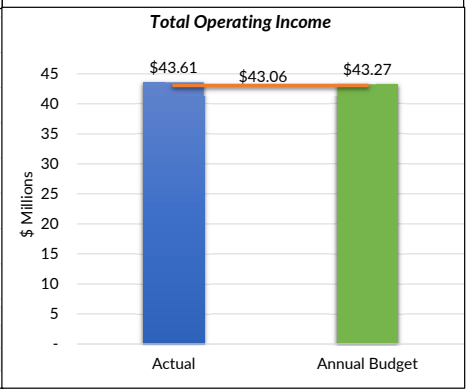


	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26
Actual	$0.46	$0.51	$0.59	$0.57	$0.64	$0.96	$1.03	$1.14	$1.28	$1.71	$1.78	
Forecast	$0.11	$0.21	$0.32	$0.42	$0.53	$0.63	$0.74	$0.84	$0.95	$1.05	$1.16	$1.26





	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26
Total Vendors	$6.88	$4.28	$2.45	$3.39	$2.78	$1.85	$3.59	$3.82	$2.33	$3.77	$1.36	$5.50
Local Suppliers	$5.90	$3.83	$2.38	$2.26	$1.67	$1.51	$2.76	$3.20	$1.80	$3.05	$1.06	$5.02



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORTS

MAY 2026

- 1. Executive Summary
- 2. Financial Results

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May 2026

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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 May 2026 best reflects the financial affairs of the Council.



Andrew Walsh
Chief Executive Officer

Section 2
Financial Results
31 May 2026
91.67%

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
Operating Income						
Rates	28,976,123	28,711,079	99%	28,971,123	99%	
Charge	8,932,422	9,066,697	102%	8,932,422	102%	
Fees & Charges	1,262,419	1,311,741	104%	1,201,713	109%	
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	2,310,947	2,446,573	106%	2,310,947	106%	
Interest & Investment Revenue	1,741,911	1,961,318	113%	1,598,719	123%	1
Other Income	48,583	110,521	227%	45,336	244%	2
Operating Income	***43,272,405***	***43,607,929***	***101%***	***43,060,260***	***101%***	
Operating Expenditure						
Employee Costs	-13,496,550	-11,495,259	85%	-12,242,914	94%	
Materials & Contractors	-16,074,524	-11,343,836	71%	-14,935,915	76%	3
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	-12,306,000	-11,280,500	92%	-11,280,500	100%	
Elected Members Allowances	-523,612	-449,254	86%	-484,570	93%	
Elected Members Expenses	-383,370	-347,850	91%	-380,800	91%	
Professional Services	-2,353,415	-1,640,366	70%	-2,084,282	79%	4
Auditor's Remuneration	-55,886	-200	0%	0	0%	
Utilities	-2,427,946	-2,100,069	86%	-2,271,948	92%	
Legal Expenses	-315,700	-282,058	89%	-289,405	97%	
Telephone & Other Communication Charges	-212,778	-206,662	97%	-203,532	102%	
Donations, Sponsorships & Grants	-255,000	-175,728	69%	-214,000	82%	5
Software, Hardware, Stationery, Subscriptions	-1,352,464	-1,155,321	85%	-1,290,872	89%	6
Insurance	-769,519	-865,006	112%	-767,254	113%	7
Borrowing Costs	-309,806	-262,827	85%	-283,989	93%	
Other Expenses	-2,362,303	-1,999,162	85%	-1,958,239	102%	
Operating Expenditure	***-53,198,873***	***-43,604,098***	***82%***	***-48,688,218***	***90%***	
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	***-9,926,468***	***3,831***		***-5,627,958***		
Capital Income						
Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets	150,000	178,860	119%	150,000	119%	8
Developer Contributions	200,000	256,355	128%	100,000	256%	9
Asset Income	3,000,000	0	0%	0	0%	
Grants received	2,426,169	867,398	36%	1,929,194	45%	10
Capital Income	***5,776,169***	***1,302,612***	***23%***	***2,179,194***	***60%***	
Net SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) transferred to Equity Statement	***-4,150,299***	***1,306,443***		***-3,448,764***		

Section 2
Financial Results

Executive Summary as at
% of year passed

31 May 2026
91.67%

1.2 - Executive Summary

Description	Annual Budget $	YTD Actual $	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
Asset Purchase	-5,087,111	-3,205,940	63%	-4,248,459	75%	11
Asset Upgrade	-6,313,358	-2,692,289	43%	-5,316,658	51%	11
Capital Expenditure	***-11,400,469***	***-5,898,229***	***52%***	***-9,565,117***	***62%***	
Less Non-Cash Expenditure	-12,306,000	-11,280,500	92%	-11,280,500	100%	
Plus Gifted Assets	3,000,000	0	0%	0	0%	
NET CAPITAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	***-6,244,767***	***6,688,714***	***0***	***-1,733,380***		
Less Repayment of Borrowings	-512,203	-441,252	86%	-469,519	94%	
Reserve Movement	6,756,968	0	0%	0	0%	12
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	***-***	***6,247,462***		***-2,202,900***		

Notes
The variance is due to the following:
1. Higher interest income received than expected
2. Receipt of insurance claims for Tom price park
3. Invoices related to waste management, mowing, vegetation, security, cleaning and maintenance yet to be received and processed
4. Invoices mainly relating to counselling, training, consulting, playground audits and other consultant fees yet to be received and processed
5. Donation, sponsorships and grants payments dependent on the timing of applications from the community. The savings in certain areas were adjusted in the third budget review and will be reflected next month
6. Expenditure related to some software licenses yet to be processed
7. Higher than expected insurance premiums paid
8. Due to higher than anticipated sales revenue received from the disposal of Council vehicles
9. Funds in lieu of construction received is more than expected
10. Capital grant funds are linked to capital expenditure. Refer to note 10 and 1.3 capital expenditure section
11. Some of the projects are completed and some are underway, with invoices for the expenditure yet to be received and processed. Refer to 1.3 Capital expenditure for more details
12. Actual Reserves Movement will be recognised as part of end of year process

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results

Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

1.3 - Operating Income

Description	Annual Budget $	YTD Actuals $	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
Office of the Chief Executive						
Office of the CEO	532,608	598,483	112%	532,608	112%	1
Office of the Chief Executive	***532,608***	***598,483***	***112%***	***532,608***	***112%***	
People and Place						
City Activation	300,000	300,295	100%	300,000	100%	
People and Place	***300,000***	***300,295***	***100%***	***300,000***	***100%***	
Finance & Governance						
Governance	0	52,341	o%	0	o%	2
GM Finance & Governance	70,000	76,638	109%	64,167	119%	3
Financial Services	1,095,618	1,257,431	115%	1,004,311	125%	4
Rates	29,193,496	29,079,426	100%	29,171,298	100%	
Finance & Governance	***30,359,114***	***30,465,836***	***100%***	***30,239,776***	***101%***	
Community						
Library Services	778,094	770,101	99%	772,712	100%	
Senior Citizens	2,000	2,000	100%	2,000	100%	
Animal Management	426,750	419,303	98%	413,598	101%	
Parking & Other Ranger Services	42,223	21,831	52%	39,506	55%	5
Community	***1,249,067***	***1,213,235***	***97%***	***1,227,816***	***99%***	
Infrastructure						
Aquatic Centre	260,000	358,382	138%	260,000	138%	6
Civic Centre	166,587	154,094	93%	153,982	100%	
Gray Community Hall	10,000	9,376	94%	8,750	107%	
GM Infrastructure	0	0	o%	0	o%	
Private Works	50,000	59,920	120%	45,833	131%	7
Recreation Centre	18,000	12,926	72%	16,500	78%	8
Roads & Transport	657,527	727,115	111%	657,527	111%	1
Subdivisional Works	115,000	55,293	48%	105,417	52%	9
Waste Management	8,971,382	9,104,990	101%	8,968,135	102%	
Odegaard Drive Investment Property	478,920	436,907	91%	440,066	99%	
Durack Heights Community Centre	4,200	11,077	264%	3,850	288%	10
Goyder Square	100,000	100,000	100%	100,000	100%	
Infrastructure	***10,831,616***	***11,030,079***	***102%***	***10,760,061***	***103%***	
OPERATING INCOME	***43,272,405***	***43,607,929***	***101%***	***43,060,260***	***101%***	

Notes
The variance is due to the following:
1. Financial Assistance Grant income exceeded budget as the final grant allocation received was higher than anticipated
2. Income from Insurance claim refund for Tom price park
3. Higher rental income than expected
4. Higher interest income received than expected
5. Income from long grass slashing and parking infringement is less than expected year to date
6. Higher income from SWELL operations. The SWELL income budget was revised in the third budget review and will be reflected next month.
7. Higher than expected year to date income from permit works on council reserves
8. Less than expected Private or Government paid bookings at Recreation Centre
9. Income from completed subdivisional works is lower than expected mainly due to delay in constructions
10. Higher income year to date from facility hire than anticipated

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results
31 May 2026
91.67%

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*
Office of the Chief Executive						
Councillors	-906,982	-797,104	88%	-865,370	92%	
Office of the CEO	-955,426	-890,914	93%	-879,641	101%	
Office of the Chief Executive	***-1,862,408***	***-1,688,018***	***91%***	***-1,745,010***	***97%***	
People & Place						
GM People & Place	-618,498	-402,064	65%	-554,363	73%	1
Customer Experience	-370,789	-351,400	95%	-332,794	106%	
People and Customer	-1,078,948	-801,380	74%	-988,150	81%	2
Public Relations and Communications	-848,857	-682,795	80%	-761,396	90%	
Arts & Culture	-60,000	-5,420	9%	-55,000	10%	3
City Activation	-1,797,105	-1,526,771	85%	-1,418,197	108%	
People & Place	***-4,774,196***	***-3,769,829***	***79%***	***-4,109,900***	***92%***	
Finance & Governance						
GM Finance & Governance	-586,379	-472,445	81%	-516,690	91%	
Records Management	-328,604	-287,785	88%	-297,322	97%	
Financial Services	-13,895,795	-12,549,878	90%	-12,682,928	99%	
Rates	-105,700	-70,996	67%	-78,617	90%	
Governance	-1,535,389	-1,336,405	87%	-1,473,229	91%	
Information Technology	-2,037,998	-1,811,248	89%	-1,900,372	95%	
Fleet	-259,925	-128,737	50%	-243,502	53%	4
Finance & Governance	***-18,749,789***	***-16,657,494***	***89%***	***-17,192,659***	***97%***	
Community						
Community Development	-954,652	-684,977	72%	-846,905	81%	5
Diversity and Inclusion Activities	-34,000	-27,492	81%	-34,000	81%	6
Families & Children	-23,500	-21,169	90%	-23,500	90%	
Health and Wellbeing Services	-12,000	-6,274	52%	-12,000	52%	7
Library Services	-1,718,709	-1,432,904	83%	-1,559,228	92%	
Senior Citizens	-10,000	-9,635	96%	-10,000	96%	
Youth Services	-27,000	-18,689	69%	-25,000	75%	8
GM Community	-365,108	-348,234	95%	-334,350	104%	
Safe Communities	-20,000	-11,923	60%	-20,000	60%	8
Animal Management	-83,750	-91,117	109%	-79,324	115%	9
Parking & Other Ranger Services	-1,058,681	-976,266	92%	-954,898	102%	
Community	***-4,307,400***	***-3,628,677***	***84%***	***-3,899,205***	***93%***	
Infrastructure						
Aquatic Centre	-1,556,350	-1,522,633	98%	-1,432,988	106%	
Civic Centre	-271,256	-237,490	88%	-245,714	97%	
Depot	-82,093	-68,183	83%	-75,240	91%	
Driver Resource Centre	-36,894	-27,820	75%	-33,805	82%	10
Emergency Operations	-1,481,180	-949,446	64%	-1,481,180	64%	11
Gray Community Hall	-106,716	-91,857	86%	-99,971	92%	

Section 2
Financial Results
31 May 2026
91.67%

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	-1,321,700	91%	-1,324,339	100%	
Open Space	-5,877,484	-3,976,381	68%	-5,373,487	74%	12
Private Works	-116,481	-107,902	93%	-104,986	103%	
Recreation Centre	-347,299	-331,173	95%	-318,368	104%	
Roads & Transport	-1,658,552	-1,453,324	88%	-1,521,808	95%	
Stormwater Infrastructure	-174,177	-217,384	125%	-168,000	129%	13
Street Lighting	-884,675	-938,573	106%	-857,266	109%	
Subdivisional Works	-25,000	-10,764	43%	-12,500	86%	14
Waste Management	-8,974,044	-6,234,484	69%	-8,269,184	75%	15
Odegaard Drive Investment Property	-123,003	-104,011	85%	-113,468	92%	
Durack Heights Community Centre	-79,644	-72,097	91%	-74,150	97%	
Goyder Square	-255,204	-194,859	76%	-234,991	83%	15
Infrastructure	***-23,505,080***	***-17,860,080***	***76%***	***-21,741,444***	***82%***	
OPERATING EXPENDITURE	***-53,198,873***	***-43,604,098***	***82%***	***-48,688,218***	***90%***	

Notes
The variance is due to following:

1. One of the positions remained vacant for a period but has since been filled. The budget was revised in the third budget review and will be reflected next month
2. Lower year to date expenditure on recruitment and consultant cost
3. Arts and Culture programs and events are expected to be expended in June
4. Lower than expected cost on motor vehicle fuel, services and parts. The savings were adjusted in the third budget review and will be reflected next month
5. Subscription and membership invoices are due to be paid in June, and grant payments dependent on the timing of applications from the community. The savings were adjusted in third budget review and will be reflected next month
6. Funds are expected to be allocated toward the installation of tactile markers at the pedestrian crossing between the Recreation Centre and the Library
7. Expenditure related to Hooked on Palmerston is expected in June
8. Expenditure related to program running cost for youth services and safe communities are expected in June.
9. More than expected animal management expenditure due to extension of animal impounding period, this will be adjusted within the underspend on other areas within the directorate
10. Awaiting invoices for cleaning and building maintenance expenditure
11. More expenses related to Cyclone Fina to be received and processed. Remaining funds to be utilised for green waste processing
12. Underspend in employee costs due to vacant positions during the period
13. Stormwater maintenance costs are higher than budgeted due to critical repair and investigative works undertaken during the heavy wet season. The budget was revised in the third budget review and will be reflected next month
14. More consultancy related expenditure is expected in June
15. Invoices from contractors is expected to be processed in June

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results

Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at
% of year passed

31 May 2026
91.67%

1.3 - Capital Income

Description	Annual Budget $	YTD Actuals $	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
Office of the Chief Executive						
Office of the Chief Executive	***0***	***0***	***o%***	***0***	***o%***	
People & Place						
People & Place	***0***	***0***	***o%***	***0***	***o%***	
Finance & Governance						
Financial Services	3,000,000	580	0%	0	o%	
Fleet	150,000	178,280	119%	150,000	119%	1
Finance & Governance	***3,150,000***	***178,860***	***6%***	***150,000***	***119%***	
Community & Culture						
Library Services	32,458	1,515	5%	29,172	5%	2
Animal Management	19,580	19,580	100%	19,580	100%	
Community & Culture	***52,038***	***21,095***	***41%***	***48,752***	***43%***	
Infrastructure						
Aquatic Centre	2,892	2,892	100%	2,892	100%	
Gray Community Hall	0	448	o%	0	o%	
GM Infrastructure	100,000	100,000	100%	100,000	100%	
Open Space	1,277,498	674,848	53%	783,808	86%	2
Roads & Transport	808,864	37,995	5%	808,864	5%	2
Street Lighting	158,400	3,225	2%	158,400	2%	2
Subdivisional Works	200,000	256,355	128%	100,000	256%	3
Waste Management	26,478	26,478	100%	26,478	100%	
Goyder Square	0	418	o%	0	o%	
Infrastructure	***2,574,132***	***1,102,658***	***43%***	***1,980,442***	***56%***	
CAPITAL INCOME	***5,776,169***	***1,302,612***	***23%***	***2,179,194***	***60%***	

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

Notes

1. Due to higher than anticipated sales revenue received from the disposal of Council vehicles
2. Variance is due to unspent grant funds not yet recognised as income. The budget for Roads and subdivisional works were adjusted in third budget review and will be reflected next month
3. More income from Funds in lieu of construction than planned



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Section 2
Financial Results
Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

1.3 - Capital Expenditure

	Annual Budget $	YTD Actuals $	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
Office of the Chief Executive						
Office of the Chief Executive	***0***	***0***	***o%***	***0***	***o%***	
People & Place						
Arts & Culture	-90,000	-41,370	46%	-80,909	51%	1
People & Place	***-90,000***	***-41,370***	***46%***	***-80,909***	***51%***	
Finance & Governance						
Information Technology	-817,967	-253,060	31%	-736,406	34%	2
Fleet	-417,377	-351,008	84%	-417,377	84%	3
Finance & Governance	***-1,235,344***	***-604,068***	***49%***	***-1,153,783***	***52%***	
Community & Culture						
Library Services	-477,760	-98,444	21%	-474,474	21%	4
Animal Management	-19,580	-19,394	99%	-19,580	99%	
Community & Culture	***-497,340***	***-117,838***	***24%***	***-494,054***	***24%***	
Infrastructure						
Aquatic Centre	-46,114	-26,573	58%	-39,886	67%	5
Civic Centre	-125,000	-83,368	67%	-80,080	104%	
Depot	-366,715	-27,275	7%	-350,000	8%	6
GM Infrastructure	-1,084,366	-304,916	28%	-1,014,366	30%	7
Open Space	-3,330,148	-2,770,956	83%	-2,576,693	108%	
Recreation Centre	-90,984	-130	0%	-90,984	0%	
Roads & Transport	-2,593,510	-624,312	24%	-1,828,949	34%	8
Stormwater Infrastructure	-110,329	-89,396	81%	-89,248	100%	
Street Lighting	-858,017	-283,439	33%	-841,577	34%	9
Waste Management	-972,602	-924,588	95%	-924,588	100%	
Infrastructure	***-9,577,785***	***-5,134,953***	***54%***	***-7,836,370***	***66%***	
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	***-11,400,469***	***-5,898,229***	***52%***	***-9,565,117***	***62%***	

Notes
The variance is due to the following:

1. The underspend relates to savings in arts and culture related expenditure and this has been adjusted in third budget review, will be reflected next month
2. Tender assessment in progress for Enterprise resource planning project, professional services has been invoiced. Program to be developed for other IT projects
3. Awaiting delivery of vehicles and invoice of further 1 vehicles yet to be processed. The savings were adjusted in third budget review and will be reflected next month
4. Order for library shelving has been placed and construction of library café underway
5. Program to be developed for the remaining funds
6. Tender for the dog pound project has been awarded, expenses yet to incur and work for incubators renewals yet to commence
7. Design works has commenced for the Zuccoli Community Hub and undergoing community engagement , and the Water Aquifer Project document is completed and rest of the funds to be utilised for lake refill and monitoring program
8. Most of the projects has been completed with awaiting invoices, while others are underway with invoices expected to be processed in June
9. Tender under assessment for solar panel and battery installation for SWELL with expenditure expected to rolled over to next financial year

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results
Capital Expenditure & Funding as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

1.4 - Capital Expenditure & Funding

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	*Annual Budget*	*Actuals*
Land & Buildings	4,771,367	2,595,937
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	4,670,074	2,397,896
Fleet	436,957	370,402
Other Assets (including furniture & office equip)	817,967	253,060
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	***11,400,469***	***5,898,229***
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY:	***Annual Budget***	***Actuals***
Operating Income	3,762,477	1,782,639
Capital Grants	2,426,169	867,398
Transfers from Cash Reserves	5,211,822	3,248,193
Borrowings	0	0
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	***11,400,469***	***5,898,229***

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Section 2
Financial Results

Balance Sheet as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.1 - Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet	YTD	
Assets		
Current Assets:		
Cash & cash equivalents		
Cash on Hand	1,355	Petty Cash
Tied Funds	4,842,898	Tied funds equals restricted reserve and unearned Grant income
Investments		
Tied Funds	5,999,853	Tied funds equals restricted reserve and unearned Grant income
Untied Funds	11,445,619	
Receivables		
Rates and Charges	3,277,575	
Other Receivables	1,708,612	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	27,275,912	
Non-Current Assets:		
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	553,481,479	
Investment property	6,200,000	
Work in progress	4,081,242	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	563,762,721	
TOTAL ASSETS	***591,038,633***	
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities:		
Payables	3,830,524	
Unearned Grant Income (AASB1058)	710,978	Unearned grant income
Borrowings	619,205	
Provisions	998,605	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,159,311	
Non-Current Liabilities:		
Borrowings	4,005,827	
Provisions	2,039,030	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,044,857	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	***12,204,168***	
NET ASSETS	***578,834,465***	
Equity		
Accumulated Surplus	237,994,770	
Profit & Loss - current Year	- 4,551,067	
Net Reserves	5,197,648	
Working Capital Reserve	4,995,227	
Net Transfers to & from Reserves	- 9,929,352	
Unexpended Grant reserve	1,430,338	Externally restricted reserve
Election Reserve	200,000	Internally restricted reserve
Disaster reserve	500,000	Internally restricted reserve
Unexpended Capital works	2,424,098	Internally restricted reserve
Developer Funded reserve	2,137,942	Internally restricted reserve
Waste Reserve	3,439,396	Internally restricted reserve
Revaluation reserves	340,193,113	
TOTAL EQUITY	***578,834,465***	

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results
Statement of Reserves as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.2 - Statement of Reserves - Budget Movements 2025/26

OTHER RESERVES	Opening Balance $ 01/07/2025	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 YTD 2025/26 $
Externally Restricted Reserves								
Unexpended Grants Reserve	1,430,338	-	-	(1,430,338)	-	-	-	-
Externally Restricted Reserves	***1,430,338***	***-***	***-***	***(1,430,338)***	***-***	***-***	***-***	***-***
Internally Restricted Reserves								
Election Expenses Reserve	200,000	-	(200,000)	-	-	-	-	-
Disaster Recovery Reserve	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	(500,000)	-
Unexpended Capital Works Reserve	2,424,098	-	-	-	(2,424,098)	-	-	-
Developer Funds In Lieu Of Construction	2,137,942	627,871	(200,000)	-	-	-	-	2,565,813
Waste Management Reserve	3,439,396	-	(284,743)	-	(926,124)	-	-	2,228,529
Asset Renewal Reserve	-							-
Major Initiatives Reserve	-							-
Internally Restricted Reserves	***8,701,436***	***627,871***	***(684,743)***	***-***	***(3,350,222)***	***-***	***(500,000)***	***4,794,342***
Unrestricted Reserves								
Working Capital Reserve	4,995,227	80,462	(1,150,000)		(350,000)	-	-	3,575,689
Unrestricted Reserves	***4,995,227***	***80,462***	***(1,150,000)***	***-***	***(350,000)***	***-***	***-***	***3,575,689***
TOTAL RESERVES	***15,127,000***	***708,333***	***(1,834,743)***	***(1,430,338)***	***(3,700,222)***	***-***	***(500,000)***	***8,370,031***

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results

Investments Management Report as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.3 - Investment Management Report

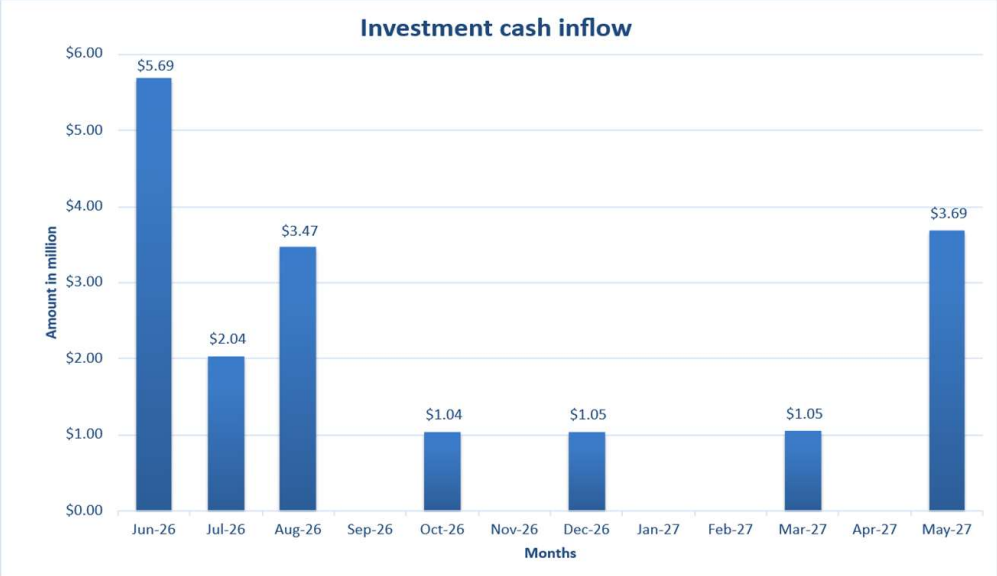
COUNTERPARTY	RATING	AMOUNT	INTEREST RATE	MATURITY DATE	DAYS TO MATURITY	INSTITUTION TOTALS
CBA	S&P A1+	$ 3,370,472	4.38%	August 3, 2026	64	
CBA	S&P A1+	$ 2,000,000	4.35%	June 23, 2026	23	$ 5,370,472.32
NAB	S&P A1+	$ 1,000,000	4.20%	October 9, 2026	131	
NAB	S&P A1+	$ 1,575,000	4.25%	June 3, 2026	3	
NAB	S&P A1+	$ 1,000,000	4.60%	July 24, 2026	54	
NAB	S&P A1+	$ 2,000,000	4.30%	June 22, 2026	22	
NAB	S&P A1+	$ 1,000,000	4.50%	December 24, 2026	207	
NAB	S&P A1+	$ 1,000,000	5.00%	July 23, 2026	53	
NAB	S&P A1+	$ 1,000,000	5.35%	March 24, 2027	297	$ 8,575,000.00
AMP	BBB+	$ 3,500,000	5.35%	May 3, 2027	337	$ 3,500,000.00
		$ 17,445,472			***119***	

Investment Distribution by Credit Rating		
Credit Rating	*% of Portfolio*	*Counterparty Limit*
A1 & A1+	80%	100%
BBB+	20%	60%
A3	0%	40%

Investment Distribution by Individual institution		
ADI	*% of Total*	*Max Individual limit*
National Australian Bank (NAB)	49%	60%
Commonwealth Bank (CBA)	31%	60%
AMP Bank Limited	20%	40%

Interest Income Year to Date	*Amount*
Total Year to Date Interest on Cash at Bank	$ 319,465
Total Year to Date Investment Earnings	$ 887,781
Total Year to Date Interest from internal loan	$ 32,515
Total Year to Date interest penalty income	$ 284,652
Total YTD Interest Income	***$ 1,524,411***

Cash at bank & Investments	*Amount*
Trading Account	$ 4,842,898
Short Term Investment	$ 17,445,472
Petty Cash	$ 1,355
Total Funds	***$ 22,289,725***



PROPERTY INVESTMENT						
PROPERTY ADDRESS	*VALUATION BASIS*	*VALUE*	*INCOME YTD*	*EXPENSE YTD*	*NET PROFIT YTD*	*COMPARITIVE YTD YIELD AT CASH RATE OF 4.35%*
48 Odegaard Drive, Rosebery	Fair Value	$ 6,200,000	$ 436,907	$ 104,011	$ 332,896	$ 247,533

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results
Debtor Control Accounts as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.4 Debtor Control Accounts

RATES OVERDUE FOR THE CURRENT YEAR (Including interest)

Report Month	*Debtor Rates & Charges*	*Current year Outstanding*	Outstanding % of CY Rates	*Current year overdue*	*Overdue % CY Rates*	*Total outstanding interest for all years*	*Payments Received in Advance*
May-26	*$2,057,426*	*$0*	*0%*	*$2,057,426*	5.4%	*$919*	$1,793,601
May-25	*$1,685,186*		*0%*				$1,822,789

RATES OVERDUE BY YEARS

	Total	*2024-2025*	*2023-24*	*2022-23*	*2021-22*	*2020-2021*	*2019-20*	*2018 & Prior*
Rates and Charges Overdue Amount (Incl. Interest)	***$970,542***	$507,370	$249,327	$120,298	$52,795	$19,928	$10,183	$10,640
	100%	52.3%	25.7%	12.4%	5.4%	2.1%	1.0%	1.1%
Number Of Properties (Cumulative)	310	310	162	71	37	17	8	10

INFRINGEMENTS DUE BY YEARS

	Total	*2026*	*2025*	*2024*	*2023*	*2022*	*2021*	*2020 & Prior*
Animal Infringements	***232,787***	85,170	59,215	24,396	23,602	19,715	14,947	5,742
Public Places	***6,607***	384	2,967	139	1,632	1,485		
Parking Infringements	***16,106***	1,264	3,410	3,796	1,752	2,302	1,575	2,007
Net Balance on Infringement Debts	***255,501***	86,818	65,592	28,331	26,986	23,502	16,522	7,749
	100%	34.0%	25.7%	11.1%	10.6%	9.2%	6.5%	3.0%
Number of Infringments	***1,406***	218	291	272	223	193	137	72

SUMMARY OF INFRINGEMENTS AS PER CATEGORY

From 1/07/25 to 31/5/26	*Total issued*	*Variation*	*Withdrawn/ Written off*	*Total issued after adjustment*	*Payment received*	*Escalated to Fines Recovery unit*	*Outstanding*	*Total received plus Outstanding*
Animal Infringements	113,123	8,019	(9,044)	***112,098***	26,928	68,261	16,909	***112,098***
Parking Infringements	3,425	1,323	(310)	***4,438***	3173	1,018	247	***4,438***
Public Places	900	84	(300)	***684***	300	284	100	***684***
TOTAL	***117,448***	***9,426***	***(9,654)***	***117,220***	***30,401***	***69,563***	***17,256***	***117,220***

SUNDRY DEBTORS:

Total	*30 Days*	*30- 60 days*	*60-90 days*	*90 days and over*
$400,670	***$89,751***	$5,015	$4,620	$301,284

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SECTION 2
Financial Results
Creditor Accounts Paid 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.5 - Creditor Accounts Paid

Vendor Number	*Creditor Name*	*Creditor Payment Type*	*Amount $*	*Notes*
4256	AMP Bank	Investment	3,500,000.00	
549	City of Darwin	General Creditors	765,309.18	
V01904	Veolia Environmental Service (Australia) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	744,374.77	
3438	NT Shade & Canvas Pty Ltd	General Creditors	446,430.72	
2	Australian Taxation Office - PAYG	General Creditors	351,756.00	
V00295	Jacana Energy	Utilities	337,833.36	
5104	JLM Contracting Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	287,556.70	
V00318	QuickSuper Clearing House	Superannuation	265,402.50	
V00860	Costojic Pty Ltd	General Creditors	210,529.30	
V05688	Allan King & Sons Construction Pty Ltd	General Creditors	203,648.80	
639	Cleanaway Pty Ltd.	General Creditors	193,396.22	
1607	Sterling NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	138,515.23	
V06156	Mode Design Corp. Pty Ltd	General Creditors	97,708.41	
54	Powerwater	Utilities	95,681.07	
V01814	N and M Klidaras Nominees Pty Ltd T/A Vrahos Contr	General Creditors	69,478.20	
3936	Arafura Tree Services and Consulting	General Creditors	67,883.60	
V00582	Ezko Commecial Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	66,683.06	
V03073	Programmed Property Services	General Creditors	62,877.97	
V03609	VTG Waste & Recycling Pty Ltd	General Creditors	60,358.27	
V06091	Hawkins & Clements Pty Ltd	General Creditors	53,381.24	
V04381	Telstra Limited	General Creditors	52,728.95	
V02474	HMG - Heath Motor Group Pty Ltd (Isuzu)	General Creditors	43,692.09	
87	Industrial Power Sweeping Services Pty	General Creditors	38,756.01	
V04498	HCS Constructions NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	35,347.40	
5640	Think Water - Winnellie & Virginia	General Creditors	33,383.02	
V02162	RMI Security - Conigrave Pty Ltd	General Creditors	31,998.21	
V04904	Tropical Tree Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	31,135.94	
V06266	TAS Inflatable Fun Park	General Creditors	27,500.00	
2587	Top End RACE	General Creditors	26,531.64	
V05599	Venture Housing Company Limited	General Creditors	26,107.85	
479	JLT Risk Solutions Pty Ltd	General Creditors	25,700.42	
5254	True North	General Creditors	25,700.40	
V00592	Dreamedia	General Creditors	22,162.25	
V01789	Next Energy Lighting Pty Ltd	General Creditors	20,133.30	
V01115	Aerosail Engineered Fabric Structures Pty Ltd	General Creditors	19,803.00	
V00600	Boog Air Pty Ltd T/a Great Northern Airconditioning & Mechanical Services	General Creditors	17,998.20	
V05981	Hydrilla Pty Ltd	General Creditors	17,369.00	
V06134	Jesse Bell Art	General Creditors	17,000.00	
V04317	Randstad Pty Ltd	General Creditors	16,968.01	
V06130	Save a Paw NT Inc	General Creditors	16,600.00	
V02534	Water Dynamics Pty Limited	General Creditors	13,773.03	
V05105	Litchfield Welding	General Creditors	12,782.00	
V05234	Mills Oakley	General Creditors	11,985.50	
V00399	Palmerston & Regional Basketball Assoc (PARBA)	General Creditors	11,752.00	
V05558	CDM Smith Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	10,655.70	
V03611	Northern Lights NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	10,563.30	
V02309	Mousellis and Sons Pty Ltd	General Creditors	10,314.27	
V00074	Trafficwerx NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	9,971.50	
V01118	Wilson Security Pty Ltd	General Creditors	8,770.96	
V04561	Pete's Glass and Aluminium	General Creditors	8,641.90	
V03776	Business Fuel Cards Pty Ltd	General Creditors	8,633.93	
V00228	Outback Tree Service	General Creditors	8,332.50	

5615	EcOz Environmental Consulting	General Creditors	8,024.86	
V02814	Agon Environmental Pty Ltd	General Creditors	7,500.63	
V04167	All About Party Hire	General Creditors	7,445.00	
V03425	CSS Services Pty Ltd ITF Corporate Stategic System Trust	General Creditors	7,260.00	
V04789	ACECOM NT PTY LTD T/A ACECOM FIRE & SECURITY	General Creditors	7,216.68	
V06059	Australian Environmental Auditors Pty Ltd	General Creditors	7,213.25	
5387	Odd Job Bob - Darren John Fillmore	General Creditors	7,017.45	
V04812	RingCentral Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	7,010.69	
V03973	AANT Salary Packaging	General Creditors	6,824.83	
V01584	Salary Packaging Australia	General Creditors	6,503.02	
4190	National Australia Bank - Corporate Credit Cards	General Creditors	6,345.63	
V05726	Neptune NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	6,101.70	
5	Australia Post	General Creditors	5,570.26	
V06196	Top End Garage Doors & Gates	General Creditors	5,285.50	
36	DLK Security Pty Ltd Trading As Darwin Lock & Key	General Creditors	5,100.00	
V02432	E3 Pro Pty Ltd	General Creditors	5,008.34	
V06292	Select Events Darwin PTY Ltd	General Creditors	4,885.00	
3504	Raeco International Pty Ltd	General Creditors	4,867.23	
4735	Palmerston and Rural Party Hire	General Creditors	4,855.10	
5114	S.E. Rentals Pty Ltd	General Creditors	4,661.80	
V01600	Property Council of Australia	General Creditors	4,635.00	
V06145	By Ash Brand Studio	General Creditors	4,125.00	
4007	The Ark Animal Hospital Pty Ltd	General Creditors	4,117.56	
V04051	[redacted]	General Creditors	4,050.00	
V04853	[redacted]	General Creditors	4,000.00	1
V05606	Home Grown Lawn Mowing	General Creditors	3,990.00	
V03767	WRM Water & Environment Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,918.75	
V00385	Automobile Association of Northern Territory -AANT	General Creditors	3,906.00	
V04802	AHG Building Contractors Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,841.40	
53	Eggins Electrical	General Creditors	3,829.05	
V06334	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	3,740.99	1
V06321	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	3,740.00	1
3099	Iron Mountain Australia Pty Ltd	General Creditors	3,380.47	
V04258	L H & P Gouldson Partnership	General Creditors	3,380.00	
V04798	Australian Radio Network Pty Limited	General Creditors	3,190.00	
4221	Institute of Public Works Engineering - IPWEA	General Creditors	3,069.00	
V04917	OverDrive Australia	General Creditors	2,923.83	
4730	Sign City (NT) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,717.00	
4561	Bendesigns	General Creditors	2,716.45	
V06197	Qalmolmi Arts	General Creditors	2,327.00	
V01936	Arjays Sales & Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,281.05	
V01387	[redacted]	General Creditors	2,231.71	1
V06326	Local Government Jobs	General Creditors	2,200.00	
V05682	Open Circle Training	General Creditors	2,155.00	
V03685	Peel Valentine Whitehead Partners Pty Ltd	General Creditors	2,145.00	
4029	Totally Workwear Palmerston	General Creditors	2,084.20	
3313	Zip Print	General Creditors	2,043.80	
V06318	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	2,042.60	1
V03847	Satellite City BMX Club	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	2,000.00	
V06345	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	2,000.00	1
V05720	T&E Group Pty Ltd T/As Tin Car Detailing	General Creditors	1,980.00	
V06374	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	1,954.84	1
V00099	Palmerston Lions NT	General Creditors	1,900.00	
4482	Harvey Norman AV/IT Superstore Darwin	General Creditors	1,860.00	
3683	Area9 IT Solutions	General Creditors	1,782.00	
V04590	Pump Works Pty Ltd T/A Pump 365	General Creditors	1,782.00	
V02306	Well Done International Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,736.61	
V06352	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	1,650.00	1

353	Otis	General Creditors	1,585.10	
256	The Bookshop Darwin	General Creditors	1,565.49	
V03800	Endorsed Enterprises (Tennis Palmerston)	General Creditors	1,540.00	
V05231	NT Defenders	General Creditors	1,520.01	
V06294	Rentokil Initial Pty Ltd T/A Outback Pest Co	General Creditors	1,518.00	
V00368	iWater NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,501.50	
V00555	Rydges Palmerston	General Creditors	1,500.00	
V04847	Bucher Municipal Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,456.28	
V00873	Australia Day Council of SA	General Creditors	1,442.00	
V05232	[redacted]	General Creditors	1,438.00	1
2977	Optic Security Group NT	General Creditors	1,412.69	
V01595	[redacted]	General Creditors	1,320.84	1
V01420	CENTRELINK (PAYROLL)	General Creditors	1,277.14	
V00475	Outback Batteries Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,240.00	
V04876	Rachaels Designacake	General Creditors	1,232.00	
V05757	CJD Equipment	General Creditors	1,224.54	
V00474	Lane Communications	General Creditors	1,202.30	
V00542	Industry Health Solutions	General Creditors	1,155.00	
V00193	Amcom Pty Ltd Acc no CN5439	General Creditors	1,085.70	
V06355	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	1,039.85	1
V06203	Australian Vaccine Services	General Creditors	1,038.68	
3879	Litchfield Council	General Creditors	1,013.00	
V05762	Wild Creative Pty Ltd	General Creditors	1,001.00	
V05712	Henna Heritage by Sinthiya Shahjahan	General Creditors	1,000.00	
V00730	Tip Top Circus Entertainment	General Creditors	935.00	
V01106	Darwin Toilet Hire	General Creditors	935.00	
V04923	Garrards Pty Ltd	General Creditors	918.85	
V00271	NTIT (Fuji Xerox Business Centre NT)	General Creditors	898.64	
V06354	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	896.84	1
V00200	Red Earth Automotive Pty Ltd	General Creditors	889.70	
V00073	Off the Leash	General Creditors	858.00	
V06102	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	849.36	1
V06364	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	794.23	1
V04624	[redacted]	General Creditors	760.00	
V02275	[redacted]	General Creditors	750.00	
V05100	Just Peachy Productions	General Creditors	750.00	
V06359	Palmerston Boxing Academy	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	750.00	
V05199	ByProgress Pty Ltd t/as Giggling Geckos Amusements & Hire	General Creditors	731.50	
2294	Modern Teaching Aids Pty Ltd	General Creditors	702.00	
V01397	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	660.00	1
V06157	Club Assist	General Creditors	656.00	
V03569	JB Hi-Fi Group Pty Ltd	General Creditors	646.95	
V01517	Australia Wide Taxation & Payroll Training	General Creditors	645.00	
V05618	Chocolate Events	General Creditors	643.00	
V05772	CRC NT PTY LTD	General Creditors	629.75	
272	City Wreckers	General Creditors	616.00	
V05109	Fresh Point Co Parap	General Creditors	614.00	
V05654	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	613.43	1
V02030	JAC Traders Pty Ltd T/a Brandit NT	General Creditors	600.38	
V04642	Patel Distributors	General Creditors	600.00	
V06297	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	592.26	1
V06234	Cussen Co Pty Ltd.	General Creditors	561.00	
V06333	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	559.00	1
V03684	Territory Traffic Surveys	General Creditors	550.00	
V06331	[redacted]	General Creditors	550.00	
V01664	BCA Engineers Pty Ltd	General Creditors	539.55	
V05222	[redacted]	General Creditors	528.00	
V06341	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	520.07	1

V06285	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	518.00	1
V06296	[redacted]	MyPalmerston	518.00	
V06314	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	518.00	1
2186	Optus Billing Services Pty Ltd	General Creditors	480.00	
399	St John Ambulance (NT) Incorporated	General Creditors	467.50	
V00443	Forecast Machinery	General Creditors	462.00	
V06311	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	457.19	1
V06343	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	448.84	1
V06353	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	443.20	1
V00682	Leigh Dyson Plumbing	General Creditors	418.00	
V00022	Officeworks	General Creditors	417.95	
V06289	Latinas Foreva Dance Club	General Creditors	400.00	
712	Paradise Landscaping (NT) Pty Ltd	General Creditors	396.00	
4528	Miranda's Armed Security Officers Pty	General Creditors	385.00	
4398	Quality Indoor Plants Hire	General Creditors	384.50	
3428	Bunnings Group Limited	General Creditors	344.25	
V06295	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	340.00	1
V03971	Darwin Catering Company	General Creditors	335.00	
566	Stickers & Stuff	General Creditors	322.00	
V06373	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	322.00	1
18	Integrated Land Information System	General Creditors	310.50	
V03834	Tabellarius Pty LTd TA Pack & Send	General Creditors	300.00	
V05093	Darwin RexYu Photography	General Creditors	300.00	
V06305	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	300.00	1
V06337	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	300.00	1
V06324	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	298.93	1
V06245	Love & Frosting Cupcakes	General Creditors	295.00	
V05354	Cleaner The Crow Cleaning Service P/L	General Creditors	286.00	
V06246	Soccajoeys Northern Territory	General Creditors	286.00	
V06336	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	275.76	1
V04964	L and J Arnott Investments Pty Ltd T/A Power Clean NT	General Creditors	275.00	
35	WINC Australia Pty Limited	General Creditors	266.90	
123	Kerry's Automotive Group - KAP Motors Pty Ltd	General Creditors	260.00	
V03746	Kim Koole Music	General Creditors	250.00	
V04549	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V04602	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V04677	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V05056	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V05784	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V06303	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V06307	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	250.00	1
V06330	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	250.00	1
V06357	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V06369	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V06370	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V06371	[redacted]	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	250.00	1
V06332	Berry Springs Mechanical	General Creditors	249.00	
V00202	Central Business Equipment	General Creditors	242.00	
V00250	Ward Keller	General Creditors	242.00	
V01158	The Tamil Society	Grants, Sponsorships, Donations & Prizes	200.00	
V02977	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	200.00	1
V03503	Macondo Colombian Dance Group - Angela Rueda	General Creditors	200.00	
V03799	Pilates with Alex Hurt	General Creditors	200.00	
V05725	Evies Entertainment	General Creditors	200.00	
V05813	[redacted]	General Creditors	200.00	
V06238	[redacted]	General Creditors	200.00	
V06253	Chowdhury Md Sadaruddin	General Creditors	200.00	
V06260	All Things Diesel NT Pty Ltd	General Creditors	200.00	

V06268	MIchelle Anne Murphy & Robert Francis Murphy	General Creditors	200.00	
V06282	Lay Properties Pty Ltd	General Creditors	200.00	
V06291	Afro House United	General Creditors	200.00	
V06308	Divine Steps	General Creditors	200.00	
V06344	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	177.62	1
V06315	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	155.00	1
V02869	Tamsten Pty Ltd T/A Palmerston Veterinary Hospital	General Creditors	153.90	
V05400	FIRSTAIDPRO AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD	General Creditors	135.00	
V06001	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	99.40	1
V03853	Service Air	General Creditors	97.55	
5508	Open Systems Technology Pty Ltd - CouncilFirst	General Creditors	81.40	
V03032	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	70.00	1
V00075	Mercury Group of Companies Pty Ltd (T/A Fit2Work)	General Creditors	61.60	
V06319	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	60.00	1
V05652	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	55.00	1
V06338	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	55.00	1
V05661	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	50.00	1
V06309	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	50.00	1
V06310	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	50.00	1
V01938	Windcave Pty Limited	General Creditors	49.50	
161	Australian Institute of Management	General Creditors	49.00	
3788	HPA Incorporated	General Creditors	44.00	
V02545	Amazon Web Services Inc	General Creditors	37.79	
V02167	Sanity Music Stores Pty Ltd	General Creditors	24.99	
30	Colemans Printing Pty Ltd	General Creditors	20.90	
V05705	Central Animal Records	General Creditors	17.91	
V06306	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	17.60	1
V05990	[redacted]	Elected Members	16.00	1
V00599	[redacted]	Elected Members	12.41	1
V06322	[redacted]	Refunds & Reimbursements	5.00	1
			8,999,133.88	

Investments	3,500,000.00
Total Creditor Payments (excludes investments placed)	5,499,133.88
Total Payments made to Local suppliers this month	***5,020,321.27***
Percentage of this month's payments made to local suppliers	***91.29%***

Notes
1. Names redacted to de-identify personal details

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SECTION 2
Financial Results

Creditor Accounts Outstanding as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.6 - Creditor Accounts Outstanding

Creditor No.	Creditor Name	Amount $	Notes
30	Colemans Printing Pty Ltd	20.90	1
4190	National Australia Bank - Corporate Credit Cards	18,230.88	1

Notes
1. Invoice to be processed and paid in June
2. Please note that NAB credit relates to credit card end of Month automatic payments waiting for invoices to be entered after reconciliation are completed

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Section 2
Financial Results
Commercial Leases as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.7 - Commercial Leases

Description	Revised Annual Budget $	YTD Actuals $	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
Income						
Library Services	12,000	0	0%	0	o%	1
GM Finance & Governance	70,000	76,638	109%	64,167	119%	2
Civic Centre	166,587	154,094	93%	152,705	101%	
Income	***248,587***	***230,732***	***93%***	***216,872***	***106%***	
Expenditure						
GM Finance & Governance	-12,000	-11,369	95%	-11,000	103%	
Expenditure	***-12,000***	***-11,369***	***95%***	***-11,000***	***103%***	
Profit/(Loss)	***236,587***	***219,363***		***205,872***		

Notes
1. The Library Café has been leased and is currently on rent abatement, this will be considered as part of third budget review
2. Due to higher rental income than expected

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Section 2
Financial Results

Council Loans as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

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
Project Cost taken from FILOC	***3,337,849***
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)
Loan Balance at 1/07/2025	***1,833,114***
Expected Repayments 2025/26	(357,004)
Expected Loan Balance as at 30/06/2026	***1,476,111***

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 31/05/2026*
1,833,114	*-357,004*	*-326,964*	*-35,154*	*32,515*	*1,506,151*

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

SWELL Loan (FILOC)			
Principal as of 1/7/2025	*Principal Loan Repayments for 2025-26*	*Principal Loan Repayments YTD*	*Loan balance as of 31/05/2026*
240,000	*-80,000*	*-73,333*	*166,667*

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 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.8 - Council Loans

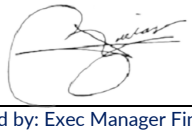
EXTERNAL LOANS

Archer Landfill Rehabilitation Balances (NAB)	
Total Loan Amount	***1,960,000***
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)
Loan Balance at 1/07/2025	***531,624***
Expected Repayments 2025/26	(262,201)
Expected Loan Balance as at 30/06/2026	***269,423***

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 31/05/2026***
531,624	***-262,201***	***-240,118***	***-12,172***	***11,390***	***291,505***
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)	
Total Loan Amount	***5,000,000***
Repayments 2023/24	***-187,500***
Repayments 2024/25	***-250,000***
Loan Balance at 01/07/2025	***4,562,500***
Expected Repayments 2025/26	***-250,000***
Expected Loan Balance as at 30/06/2026	***4,312,500***

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 31/05/2026***
4,562,500	***-250,000***	***-229,167***	***-263,362***	***218,922***	***4,333,333***
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 June quarter 2026 quarter is 5.47%					



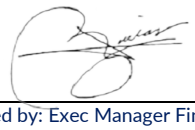
Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results
Elected Member Expenses 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.9 - Elected Member Expenses

Description	Revised Annual Budget $	YTD Actuals $	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	Notes
Operating Expenditure						
Superannuation	-49,507	-46,293	94%	-45,381	102%	
Mayoral Allowance	-121,264	-110,965	92%	-111,159	100%	
Mayor Vehicle Allowance	-25,000	-22,876	92%	-22,917	100%	
Mayoral Professional Dev Allowance	-5,000	-3,441	69%	-5,000	69%	1
Deputy Mayoral Allowance	-17,200	-11,780	68%	-15,767	75%	2
Elected Members Councillor Allowances	-179,095	-154,058	86%	-164,170	94%	
Elected Members Professional Dev Allowance	-30,000	-10,323	34%	-27,000	38%	1
Elected Members Meeting Allowance	-70,000	-64,600	92%	-69,130	93%	
Information Technology Capital Entitlement	-16,000	-6,045	38%	-13,500	45%	3
Acting Mayor Allowance	-10,546	-18,874	179%	-10,546	179%	2
Contractors	-350,000	-312,209	89%	-350,000	89%	5
Printing & Photocopying Costs	-1,000	-50	5%	-960	5%	6
Other Sundry Expenses	-6,578	-5,412	82%	-4,343	125%	7
Food & Catering Costs	-9,000	-9,246	103%	-8,705	106%	
Course Seminar & Conference Registration	-10,557	-12,730	121%	-10,557	121%	4
Air Travel	-3,093	-4,847	157%	-3,093	157%	4
Travel Accommodation	-2,111	-2,721	129%	-2,111	129%	4
Travel Related Costs Other	-1,031	-635	62%	-1,031	62%	4
Operating Expenditure	***-906,982***	***-797,104***	***88%***	***-865,370***	***92%***	

Notes
The variance is due to following:
1. Professional development fees lower year to date
2. Deputy Mayor acting on Mayor's role
3. IT-related expenses are incurred based on the requirements of Elected Members
4. Expenditure for these budget lines is dependent on the timing of seminars/conferences attended and travel undertaken
5. Invoice for election expenses received less than budgeted, this will be considered as part of third budget review
6. Lower than expected expenditure in printing and photocopying and this will be utilised to offset overspending in other areas.
7. Cashflowing of expenditure, expenditure is within the annual budget



Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

Section 2
Financial Results

CEO Credit Card Transactions as at 31 May 2026
% of year passed 91.67%

2.10 - CEO Credit Card Transactions

Cardholder Name: Andrew Walsh
Cardholder Position: CEO
Period 01/05/2026 to 30/05/2026

Transaction Date	*Amount $*	*Supplier's Name*	*Reason for the Transaction*
No transactions on this period			
Total	*$* -		

Cardholder Name: Nadine Nilon
Cardholder Position: Acting CEO
Period 25/05/2026

Transaction Date	*Amount $*	*Supplier's Name*	*Reason for the Transaction*
No transactions on this period			
Total	*$* -		

Approved by: Exec Manager Financial Performance

COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

Agenda Item:	12.2.3
Report Title:	Marlow Lagoon Recreation Facility Masterplan Workshop - 3 June 2026
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 16 June 2026
Author:	Executive Assistant to General Manager People & Place, Emily Dehne
Approver:	General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight

Community plan

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

Purpose

This Report provides Council with an overview of the discussions from the Marlow Lagoon Recreation Facility Masterplan Workshop that occurred on 3 June 2026.

Key messages

- Funding for the development of a Marlow Lagoon Recreation Facility Masterplan is included in the operational budget of 2025-26.
- Marlow Lagoon offers a range of open space and amenities with future opportunities for a growing community.
- There are some planning zone restrictions which will need to be considered in the concept stages.
- Community engagement will inform the development of an initial masterplan and provide Council with a clear, community informed direction for the future of the Marlow Lagoon Recreation Facility.

Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Marlow Lagoon Recreation Facility Masterplan Workshop - 3 June 2026 be received and noted.

Background

As identified in the 2024-25 planning process, investigations into the future of Marlow Lagoon will commence with comprehensive community engagement. This engagement will inform key considerations for the development of a Masterplan, which will also support future funding advocacy.

Marlow Lagoon is one of Council's largest recreation facilities and currently includes a large dog park, basketball half-court, accessible playground, shared areas, picnic and BBQ facilities, toilets and land-based fishing.

The area is well used by the community and visitors from across the greater Darwin region. While it offers significant open space and valuable amenities, parts of the site are ageing and there are emerging issues including anti-social behaviour, vandalism and public safety risks.

The site includes a range of planning zones, including Community Purpose, Outdoor Recreation and Public Open Space, which guides development and what those relevant development requirements are such as parking, height limits and setbacks. Other site constraints, include easements, open drains, potential biting insects, stormwater management, access, waste, ongoing maintenance and public safety, will also need to be considered in the early concept stages.

Discussion

Community consultation will be the first step, providing guidance toward developing the masterplan. The engagement will focus on gathering ideas from a broad range of stakeholders, while making it clear that the masterplan is a high-level strategic framework rather than a detailed design.

The consultation is proposed over four weeks commencing on 13 July 2026 and will seek input from local residents, site users, representative groups, government agencies, environmental stakeholders and people from diverse demographic and cultural backgrounds.

The Council workshop provided TrueNorth (the consultant) with help in identifying any gaps in the proposed approach, with a particular focus on stakeholder engagement and insight into Council's expectations for the future of Marlow Lagoon.

Ideas and feedback gathered through the community engagement will inform the development of an initial masterplan and provide Council with a clear, community informed direction for the future of the Marlow Lagoon Recreation Facility.

Feedback received during the Council Workshop will be integrated with community engagement outcomes and incorporated into the development of the draft Marlow Lagoon Recreation Facility Masterplan.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Planning and Development Manager
- Marketing and Communications Manager

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

- True North Strategic Communications delivered the workshop and have developed a consultation strategy. They will be rolling out the consultation in its entirety and delivering progress updates and an overall report at the conclusion. This report will feed into the brief for the development of the masterplan.

Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

Budget and resource implications

Budget for initial planning has been included in the 2025-26 operational capital works budget and will be expended this financial year.

Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

4. **Inclusion, Diversity and Access**
   Failure to balance meeting needs of Palmerston's cultural mosaic.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

There are no strategy, framework or plan implications for this Report at this stage however during consultation the following strategies and plans will be considered and incorporated:

- Communication Strategy
- Disability Inclusion Access Plan 2022-2025
- Inclusive, Diverse and Accessible Policy Framework
- Palmerston Play Space Strategy 2022

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

13 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 Information

13.2 Correspondence

13.2.1 Local Government Association of the Northern Territory call for nominations - NT Liveability Framework Working Group

1. THAT correspondence dated 5 June 2026 entitled Local Government Association of the Northern Territory call for nominations - NT Liveability Framework Working Group be received and noted.

2. THAT Council nominate _____ to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory for the position of Local Government Representative on the NT Liveability Framework Working Group.

From: LGANT CEO
Sent: Fri, 5 Jun 2026 06:54:32 +0000
To: **Mayors and Presidents; **Council CEOs
Cc: LGANT CEO; Mary Watson; **Council CEO EAs
Subject: Call for nominations - NT Liveability Framework Working Group
Attachments: 20260605, DOC001, RDANT Liveability Framework Working Group, FINAL, V1.pdf, LGANT Representative Nomination Form - NT Liveability Framework Working Group.pdf

Good afternoon Mayors, Presidents and CEOs,

LGANT has been invited by the Chair of RDA NT to nominate a local government representative to join the **Northern Territory Liveability Framework Working Group**. Please find the draft Working Group Terms of Reference attached.

Role and Purpose
The NT Liveability Framework Working Group will provide strategic advice, cross-sector input and partnership coordination to support RDA NT in scoping and designing a Territory-wide Liveability Framework during the initial scoping phase commencing in 2026.

The Working Group will:

- Provide expert input on liveability definitions, priorities and contexts across the Northern Territory
- Co-design the purpose, scope, principles and structure of the Liveability Framework
- Identify data sources, evidence gaps and measurement approaches
- Advise on pilot location selection and criteria
- Support partnership development and stakeholder engagement
- Review and endorse the Scoping and Work Program Report for presentation to the RDA NT Committee
- Champion the Framework within their organisations and networks

The Working Group will comprise 10-14 members using a mixed membership model combining core (appointed) members from key system organisations and additional members selected via Expression of Interest.

Nominee
Nominees can be elected members or council staff and must meet the selection criteria:

- Sector and geographic diversity (coverage of remote, regional, urban contexts)
- Expertise in liveability-related areas (housing, services, workforce, community development, planning)
- Authority to represent organisation and contribute meaningfully
- Commitment to attend meetings and contribute between sessions
- Understanding of First Nations partnership and place-based approaches

Meetings
The Working Group will meet 2 times in September-October 2026 (2 hours each, in Darwin or online) with light preparation between meetings. The Working Group may meet up to 4-5 times total if the project proceeds to design phase. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed and refined at the first meeting to ensure members have ownership of the ways of working.

If interested, please send **completed nomination forms to ceo@lgant.asn.au by CoB 22 June 2026**. Apologies for the tight timeframe, we have requested an extension.

If you would like more information, please contact Katrina Kawaljenko, Chief Executive Officer, RDA NT at ceo@rdant.com.au.

Kind regards,

Mary Watson | CEO
Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
t: (08) 8944 9694 | **m:** 0417 864 183
e: mary.watson@lgant.asn.au | **w:** www.lgant.asn.au
21 Parap Road, Parap NT 0820 | PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804

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We are local. We connect.

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

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An Australian Government Initiative

Regional Development Australia

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Liveability Working Group Draft Terms of Reference

Important note: These Terms of Reference are provided as a draft for initial operation and will be reviewed and refined by the Working Group at its first meeting. This ensures members have ownership of the ways of working while maintaining the overall parameters endorsed by the RDA NT Committee.

5 June 2026

1. Purpose

The Northern Territory Liveability Framework Working Group will provide strategic advice, cross-sector input and partnership coordination to support RDA NT in scoping and designing a Territory-wide Liveability Framework during the initial scoping phase commencing in 2026

2. Role and Responsibilities

The Working Group will:

- Provide expert input on liveability definitions, priorities and contexts across the Northern Territory
- Co-design the purpose, scope, principles and structure of the Liveability Framework
- Identify data sources, evidence gaps and measurement approaches
- Advise on pilot location selection and criteria
- Support partnership development and stakeholder engagement
- Review and endorse the Scoping and Work Program Report for presentation to the RDA NT Committee
- Champion the Framework within their organisations and networks

The Working Group will NOT:

- Make funding decisions or allocate resources
- Replace existing governance structures or agency responsibilities
- Operate as a delivery body - RDA NT leads coordination and implementation

3. Membership

The Working Group will comprise 10-14 members using a mixed membership model combining core (appointed) members from key system organisations and additional members selected via Expression of Interest.

3.1 Core (Appointed) Members

The following organisations will be invited to nominate a representative with appropriate authority and expertise:

- Northern Territory Government: Department of Sport and Recreation, Chief Minister and Cabinet, Treasury or Infrastructure/Planning (3 members)
- Commonwealth Government: Regional development or relevant program area (1 member)
- Local Government Association NT (LGANT) (1 member)
- Land Councils: Northern Land Council and/or Central Land Council (at least 1 member, up to 2)
- First Nations peak body: APO NT, AHNT or equivalent Aboriginal peak organisation (1 member)

Core members provide system-level coordination, policy alignment and government partnership. Total core members: 7-9.

3.2 Additional Members (Expression of Interest)

4-6 additional members will be selected via Expression of Interest to ensure diversity of perspective, regional representation and sector expertise. EOI members will be drawn from:

- Smaller regional and remote councils
- Aboriginal community-controlled organisations
- Housing and community services sector
- Workforce, education and training organisations
- Business, industry and tourism
- Research institutions and planning/liveability experts

Target composition: 1-2 business/industry; 1 ACCO or First Nations organisation; 1 housing/community services; 1 regional/remote council; 1 research/planning expert.

Selection Criteria (for all members)

- Sector and geographic diversity (coverage of remote, regional, urban contexts)
- Expertise in liveability-related areas (housing, services, workforce, community development, planning)
- Authority to represent organisation and contribute meaningfully
- Commitment to attend meetings and contribute between sessions
- Understanding of First Nations partnership and place-based approaches
- For EOI members: ability to think systemically beyond own organisation's immediate interests

4. Chair and Secretariat

- Chair: RDA NT Chair (or nominee)
- Secretariat: RDA NT CEO (meeting coordination, papers, minutes, follow-up)

5. Meeting Schedule and Time Commitment

- Duration: September-October 2026 for the initial scoping phase (with potential to continue into 2026-27 depending on funding and progress).
- Meetings: Minimum 2 meetings in September-October 2026; up to 4-5 meetings total if project proceeds to design phase
- Format: In-person (Darwin preferred) or hybrid/online where needed to enable remote participation
- Duration per meeting: 2 hours
- Preparation: Members expected to review papers (typically 5-10 pages) 1 week before meetings
- Between meetings: Light contributions (e.g., providing data sources, reviewing draft materials, consulting within organisations)

6. Decision-Making

The Working Group operates as an advisory body. Decisions will be made by consensus wherever possible. Where consensus cannot be reached, RDA NT will document different perspectives and present options to the RDA NT Committee for final decision.

Key outputs requiring working group endorsement before going to RDA NT Committee:

- Purpose, scope and principles of the Liveability Framework
- Staged work program and governance approach
- Pilot location criteria and shortlist

7. Conflicts of Interest

Members must declare any real, potential or perceived conflicts of interest at the start of their appointment and at each meeting. Where conflicts arise (e.g., in pilot location selection affecting member organisations), members will be asked to step out of that discussion.

8. Confidentiality and Communication

Working Group discussions and draft materials are confidential until formally released by RDA NT. Members may consult within their organisations but should not share draft documents externally. All public communications about the Framework will be coordinated by RDA NT.

9. Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed by the Working Group at its first meeting and may be amended by agreement. The Working Group's role and membership will be reviewed in late 2026 based on progress and next steps.

Endorsed by RDA NT Committee 11 May 2026

DRAFT

PROCEDURES FOR LGANT REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

Background

Section 18 of LGANT's Governance Charter states:

1. From time to time the Association will be called to nominate delegates to external committees established by other spheres of Government under legislation.
2. The Board shall determine the membership of such committees in accordance with LGANT policy.
3. The Board will call for nominations to external committees as they arise.
4. Potential nominees will be supplied with a nomination pack and must complete the 'External Committee' nomination form.
5. The Board reserves the right to disregard a nomination if the 'External Committee' nomination form is not completed satisfactorily.

Nominations

Once the LGANT Board endorse a nomination, LGANT will advise the relevant committee.

The LGANT Board may remove its endorsement of a representative on a committee if that representative fails to deliver regular reports to LGANT, fails to consult with other councils, or misses committee meetings without just cause.

Representatives

LGANT committee representatives are required to represent the local government sector rather than their individual council during committee proceedings.

LGANT representatives are required to provide LGANT with regular reports. These reports include, but are not limited to, reports to the Board and to members at the General Meeting in April and November each year. These reports should include updates on current key issues, how representatives are ensuring input and feedback from other councils, as well as any other noteworthy items.

Sitting fees

LGANT does not pay representatives a sitting fee or travel related expenses for committee representation. Such fees, if any, will be administered by the secretariat managing the respective committee eg. the NTG.

NOMINATION FORM

NT LIVEABILITY FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP

LGANT Nominations Close 22 June 2026

Council Name:

1. Agreement to be nominated

I,_____ agree to be nominated as a member
(Name in full)

of the ***(NT LIVEABILITY FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP)***.

I recognise and understand that as the LGANT representative I am:

- required to represent the sector, rather than my individual council, and
- provide regular reports to LGANT including written reports to the LGANT General Meetings and to the LGANT Board as requested.

I acknowledge that representation on this committee does not entitle me to sitting fees or travel related expense reimbursement from LGANT.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

2. Council confirmation of nomination

I,_____ the Chief Executive Officer

hereby confirm that _____

was approved by resolution of Council to be nominated as a member of the ***(NT LIVEABILITY FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP)*** at a meeting held on / /

Signature: _____ Date: _____

3. Nominee's contact details

Email address: _____

Mobile: _____

4. Nominee information

The following information is required to enable the LGANT Board to make an informed decision. If you would like to submit further information, please attach it to this form.

4.1 What is your current council position? _____

4.2 How long have you held your current council position? _____

4.3 Please list your educational qualifications:

_____

_____

_____

_____

4.4 Explain what skills and experience you have that are relevant to this committee:

☐ Sector and geographic diversity (coverage of remote, regional, urban contexts)

☐ Expertise in liveability-related areas (housing, services, workforce, community development, planning)

☐ Authority to represent organisation and contribute meaningfully

☐ Commitment to attend meetings and contribute between sessions

☐ Understanding of First Nations partnership and place-based approaches

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

4.5 Apart from your current position what other local government experience do you have relevant to this committee?

_____

_____

_____

_____


LGANT
Local Government Association
Northern Territory

14 REPORT OF DELEGATES

15 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

17 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 7 July 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

18 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.

19 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

MINUTES

1st ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2026

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

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of Council Meeting held in Council Chambers Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston on Tuesday 2 June 2026 at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS	Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell (Chair) Deputy Mayor Wayne Bayliss Councillor Damian Hale Councillor Lucy Morrison Councillor Mark Fraser Councillor Rob Waters Councillor Sarah Henderson Councillor Yolanda Kanyai
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 General Manager People and Place, Emma Blight Minute Secretary, Pania Withnall
GUEST	Chris Fearon
GALLERY	Nil members of the public 4 members of staff

UNCONFIRMED

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

Nil

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4.1 Elected members

Nil

4.2 Staff

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Kanyai**

THAT the Declaration of Interest received from Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Walsh for Item 12.1.5 Council Committee Memberships Annual Review - 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 be received and noted.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0403 – 2/06/2026

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of minutes

Moved: **Councillor Waters**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

1. THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 May 2026 pages 12146 to 12156 be confirmed with the following amendment:
   a. Amend item 15, recommendation 2 to include *"investigate the need to establish a standalone Youth Advisory Committee"* in the question.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0404 – 2/06/2026

Initials: _____

UNCONFIRMED

5.2 Business arising from previous meeting

Nil

6 MAYORAL REPORT

Nil

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

Nil

9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

9.1 Moving confidential items into open

9.1.1 Darwin Festival 2026

Moved: **Councillor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

1. THAT Report entitled Darwin Festival 2026 be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorses Option 2, a three-year agreement at a value of $150,000 per year at the same service levels as previous years.

3. THAT the Council Decision relating to the Report entitled Darwin Festival 2026 be moved to the Open Minutes following official announcement by Darwin Festival of their calendar of events.

CARRIED (7/0) - 11/0261 – 17/02/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials:

9.1.2 Leave of Absence Requests

Moved: **Councillor Hale**
Seconded: **Councillor Waters**

1. THAT the leave of absence request received from Councillor Morrison for 21 May 2026 to 24 May 2026 inclusive, for the reason of holiday, be approved.

4. THAT each decision be moved to the Open Minutes at expiry of the leave of absence.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0397 – 19/05/2026

9.1.3 Community Satisfaction Survey 2026

Moved: **Councillor Fraser**
Seconded: **Councillor Hale**

1. THAT Report entitled Community Satisfaction Survey 2026 be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse the Community Satisfaction Survey 2026 questions at **Attachment 26.1.2.1.**

3. THAT this decision be moved into the Open Minutes of the 2 June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0427 – 2/06/2026

9.2 Moving open items into confidential

Nil

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

9.3 Confidential items

Moved: **Councillor Morrison**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

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
26.1.1	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
26.1.2	Council Performance, Service Delivery and Budget Review	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government (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 that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0405 – 2/06/2026

10 PETITIONS

Nil

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

11.1 Recognition of Former Mayor Annette Burke

Moved: **Councillor Morrison**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

1. THAT the Notice of Motion received from Councillor Morrison, entitled 11.1 Recognition of Former Mayor Annette Burke be received and noted.

2. THAT Council acknowledges the significant contribution of former Mayor Annette Burke to the City of Palmerston and the local community.

3. THAT Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to investigate and report back to Council on appropriate options to recognise and honour former Mayor Annette Burke, including (but not limited to) the future naming of a park or open space.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0406 – 2/06/2026

12 OFFICER REPORTS

12.1 Action reports

12.1.1 Council Policy Review - Rating

Moved: **Councillor Hale**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

1. THAT Report entitled Council Policy Review - Rating be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse the amended Rating Policy at **Attachment 12.1.1.3** to Report entitled Council Policy Review - Rating.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0407 – 2/06/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

12.1.2 Council Policy Review - Lighting up Palmerston

Moved: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

1. THAT Report entitled Council Policy Review - Lighting up Palmerston be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse the amended Light Up Palmerston Policy at **Attachment 12.1.2.3,** with the following amendments:
   a. Clause 1.1 is amended to include the significance at the end of the sentence after international.
   b. Clause 1.2 is updated from "*political party campaigns*" to "*political campaigns*", and
   c. Clause 1.3 is updated to remove "*and would only be permitted by exception*".

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0408 – 2/06/2026

12.1.3 Community Funding Program - Precious Plastic Palmerston

Moved: **Mayor Pascoe-Bell**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

1. THAT Report entitled Community Funding Program - Precious Plastic Palmerston be received and noted.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0409 – 2/06/2026

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **Councillor Kanyai**

2. THAT Council endorse full funding at a cost of $2,975 to Precious Plastic Palmerston to establish a community plastic micro-workstation in Palmerston through the Community Funding Program, subject to Precious Plastic Palmerston being auspiced by an established organisation.

CARRIED (5/3) - 11/0410 – 2/06/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

12.1.4 2026-27 Municipal Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation

Moved: Councillor Henderson
Seconded: Councillor Kanyai

1. THAT Report entitled 2026-27 Municipal Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation be received and noted.

2. THAT Council notes the feedback received from the community and thanks respondents for their contributions.

3. THAT Council notes that the feedback from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development will be included in the final 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget.

4. THAT Council notes that the 2026-27 Municipal Plan and Budget will be presented for adoption at the 16 June 2026 meeting.

CARRIED (8/0) – 11/0411 – 2/06/2026

Chief Executive Officer declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting at 5:59pm.

Deputy Chief Executive Officer, General Manager People and Place, General Manager Community, Acting General Manager Finance and Governance, Guest and all staff left the meeting at 5:59pm.

12.1.5 Council Committee Memberships Annual Review - 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027

Moved: Councillor Henderson
Seconded: Councillor Kanyai

1. THAT Report entitled Council Committee Memberships Annual Review - 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 be received and noted.

2. THAT Council make the following appointments to the Administrative Review Committee:
   a. THAT the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and Councillor Morrison be appointed to the Administrative Review Committee for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.
   b. THAT the Mayor remains as Chair of the Administrative Review Committee for the Term of the 11th Council.
   c. THAT all other Councillors be appointed as alternative members to the Administrative Review Committee for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

Initials: _____

UNCONFIRMED

3. THAT Council make the following appointments to the Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee:
   a. THAT Council note the Mayor is a member of the Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee pursuant to section 59(1)(e) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) and holds the position of Chairperson.
   b. THAT Councillor Hale and Councillor Henderson be appointed to the Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.
   c. THAT all other Councillors be appointed as alternate members to the Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

4. THAT Council make the following appointments to the Risk Management and Audit Committee:
   a. THAT the Mayor, Councillor Bayliss and Councillor Henderson be appointed to the Risk Management and Audit Committee for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.
   b. THAT Council note that the Chair of the Risk Management and Audit Committee is held by an Independent Member, appointed by Council.
   c. THAT all other Councillors be appointed as alternate members to the Risk Management and Audit Committee for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.
   d. THAT Council note the current appointed Independent Members of the Risk Management and Audit Committee are:
      i. Chairperson – Ms Clare Milikins.
      ii. Independent Member – Mr Craig Kirby.
      iii. Independent Member – Ms Melia Barrie.

5. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to External Organisations and/or Committees:
   a. THAT Council notes the Mayor remains as Council's delegated representative and the Deputy Mayor as alternate member, to Regional Capitals Australia for the 11th Council Term.
   b. THAT Council notes the Mayor remains as Council's delegated representative and the Deputy Mayor as alternate member, to the Top End Regional Organisation of Council for the 11th Council Term.
   c. THAT the Mayor, Councillor Fraser and Councillor Henderson be appointed as Council's delegated representatives to the Local Government Association of the

Initials: _____

UNCONFIRMED

Norther Territory, with all other Councillors appointed as alternate members for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

d. THAT Councillor Waters be appointed as Council's delegate to the Palmerston Regional Business Association with all other Councillors appointed as alternate members for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

e. THAT Councillor Waters be appointed as Council's representative to Tourism Top End with Councillor Kanyai appointed as alternate member for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

6. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the Palmerston Advisory Committees for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027:

a. THAT Councillor Morrison be appointed as Chair of the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee.

b. THAT Councillor Bayliss and Councillor Kanyai be appointed as members to the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee.

c. THAT Councillor Hale be appointed as Chair of the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee.

d. THAT Councillor Fraser be appointed as member to the Vibrant Economy Advisory Committee.

7. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the Palmerston Networks for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027:

a. Councillor Kanyai as Chair of the Palmerston Child and Youth Network.

b. Councillor Henderson as Chair of the Palmerston Safety Network.

c. Councillor Henderson as Chair of the Palmerston Seniors Network.

8. THAT Council notes, no appointment can be made to the following external committees, as appointment are made by the applicable agencies:

a. Palmerston Division of the Development Consent Authority (DCA).

b. Minister's Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs (MACMA).

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0412 – 2/06/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, General Manager People and Place, General Manager Community, Acting General Manager Finance and Governance, Guest and all staff returned to the meeting at 6:13pm.

12.1.6 2025-26 Third Budget Review

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Waters**

1. THAT Report entitled 2025-26 Third Budget Review be received and noted.

2. THAT Council adopts the Third Budget Review 2025-2026, pursuant to Division 4 (9) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (NT) as presented in **Attachment 12.1.6.1**, **Attachment 12.1.6.2** and **Attachment 12.1.6.3** of Report entitled 2025-26 Third Budget Review.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0413 – 2/06/2026

12.1.7 Invitation to Join the Australian Local Government Women's Association of the Northern Territory

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **Councillor Hale**

1. THAT Report entitled Invitation to Join the Australian Local Government Women's Association of the Northern Territory be received and noted.

2. THAT Council accepts the invitation to join the Australian Local Government Women's Association subject to budget allocation.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0414 – 2/06/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

12.1.8 Domestic Waste Collection Service Levels

Moved: Councillor Waters
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Bayliss

1. THAT Report entitled Domestic Waste Collection Service Levels be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse the following service levels for the Domestic Waste Collection and Recycling tender;
   a. 120L general waste collected twice per week for single dwellings.
   b. 240L recycling collected once per fortnight for single dwellings.
   c. 240L general waste collected three (3) times per week for multiple unit dwellings (1 x bin per 4 units).
   d. 240L recycling collected once per week for multiple unit dwellings (1 x bin per 2 units).

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0415 – 2/06/2026

12.1.9 2027-36 Long Term Financial Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation

Moved: Councillor Hale
Seconded: Councillor Henderson

1. THAT Report entitled 2027-36 Long Term Financial Plan - Feedback from Public Consultation be received and noted.

2. THAT Council note the outcomes of the public consultation on the draft 2027-2036 Long-Term Financial Plan.

3. THAT Council note the minor administrative amendments on the draft 2027-2036 Long-Term Financial Plan presented at **Attachment 12.1.9.1.**

4. THAT the 2027-2036 Long-Term Financial Plan be presented at the 16 June 2026 Ordinary meeting for adoption and delivery to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development in accordance with Section 200 (4) of the *Local Government Act 2019* before 30 June 2026 with a copy also provided to the Minister for Local Government.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0416 – 2/06/2026

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

12.2 Receive and note reports

12.2.1 Palmerston Local Economic Plan Annual Update 2026

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Kanyai**

THAT Report entitled Palmerston Local Economic Plan Annual Update 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0417 – 2/06/2026

12.2.2 Local Government Act Amendments 2026 - Tranche 2

Moved: **Councillor Kanyai**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

THAT Report entitled Local Government Act Amendments 2026 - Tranche 2 be received and noted.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0418 – 2/06/2026

13 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 Information

13.1.1 Draft Ministerial Guideline - Code of Conduct Framework

Moved: **Councillor Kanyai**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

1. THAT information entitled Draft Ministerial Guideline - Code of Conduct Framework be received and noted.

2. THAT the Mayor write to the Minister for Local Government to provide feedback on the Draft Ministerial Guideline.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0419 – 2/06/2026

13.2 Correspondence

Nil

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: _____

14 REPORT OF DELEGATES

Moved: **Councillor Kanyai**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

THAT the verbal report provided by Councillor Kanyai regarding Tourism Top End Meeting be received and noted.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0420 – 2/06/2026

15 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Moved: **Councillor Morrison**
Seconded: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**

1. THAT the question asked by Councillor Henderson regarding topsoil and seed program, and the response provided by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer be received and noted.

2. THAT the question asked by Councillor Waters regarding Elected Members Market stall, a composting bin and giveaways, and the response provided by the Chief Executive Officer be received and noted.

3. THAT the question asked by Councillor Henderson regarding Elected Members Market Stall and giving away trees, and the response provided by the Chief Executive Officer be received and noted.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0421 – 2/06/2026

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

17 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Moved: **Deputy Mayor Bayliss**
Seconded: **Councillor Henderson**

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED (8/0) - 11/0422 – 2/06/2026

Initials: _____

UNCONFIRMED

18 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Moved: **Councillor Henderson**
Seconded: **Councillor Kanyai**

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 (8/0) - 11/0423 – 2/06/2026

The open section of the meeting closed at 6:38pm for the discussion of confidential matters.

Deputy Mayor Bayliss, Councillor Hale and Councillor Waters left the meeting at 6:39pm.

19 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

Nil

Councillor Hale returned to the meeting at 6:40pm.
Deputy Mayor Bayliss returned to the meeting at 6:41pm.
Councillor Waters returned to the meeting at 6:42pm.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7:21pm.

UNCONFIRMED

Chair

Print Name

Initials:

Date

UNCONFIRMED

Initials: