

AGENDA



COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELLNESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

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

NADINE NILON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2 OPENING OF MEETING

3 APOLOGIES

4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING

4.1 Request for audio/audiovisual conferencing

4.2 Audio/Audiovisual conferencing previously granted

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

5.1 Committee members

5.2 Staff

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee Meeting held on 23 June 2026 pages 7 to 12 be confirmed.

6.2 Business arising from previous meeting

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

8.1 Moving confidential items into open

8.2 Moving open items into confidential

8.3 Confidential items

NIL

9 OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL REPORT

Committee Meeting

Agenda Item:	9.1.1
Report Title:	Harvest Corner Community Garden
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 22 September 2026
Author:	Community Connections Officer, Tree Gillam
Approver:	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl

Community plan

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

Purpose

This Report provides the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee with stakeholder feedback and future management options for Harvest Corner Community Garden and seeks feedback prior to a Report being presented to Council.

Key messages

- The current agreement with STEPS, Life Without Barriers and Helping People Achieve (the management group) ends on 29 January 2027.
- Harvest Corner Community Garden continues to provide community benefit through sustainability, community engagement, education and activation opportunities adjacent to Gray Community Hall.
- The management groups feedback and operational experience indicate the site requires significant ongoing maintenance, coordination and operational oversight to remain sustainable and functional as a community asset.
- An Expression of Interest process is proposed to identify a suitable community organisation or organisations interested in managing and continuing the community garden, subject to entering into a new three-year agreement with Council.
- In the event that no suitable community organisation or organisations are identified through the Expression of Interest process, it is proposed that the site transition from a community garden to a Council-maintained open space area, which would become accessible to Hall users.

Recommendation

1. THAT the report entitled Harvest Corner Community Garden be received and noted.
2. THAT the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee provide feedback on the proposed steps on the future management for Harvest Corner Community Garden from the 29 January 2027.

Background

Community gardens have a long history of supporting local communities through food production, education, social connection and environmental sustainability. While originally established to supplement household food supplies, contemporary community gardens are now widely recognised as shared community spaces that foster social inclusion, skill development, wellbeing and community connection.

Research across Australia indicates that the most successful and sustainable community gardens are those that combine food production with broader community outcomes, supported by strong governance arrangements, active participation, dedicated volunteers or coordinators, and access to ongoing resources and infrastructure. Key success factors consistently include demonstrated community demand, clear management responsibilities and sustained local engagement.

Harvest Corner Community Garden (the garden), located adjacent to Gray Community Hall on the corner of Essington Avenue and Wright Crescent, was established in 2013 to provide a shared gardening space for the Palmerston community.

The objective of the garden was to create an inclusive space where community members can connect with each other and nature, participate in gardening activities, and develop skills that support health, wellbeing and community connection.

At the 2nd Ordinary Council Meeting of 15 August 2023 Council made the following decisions:

13.1.2 Harvest Corner, Gray Community Garden

1. *THAT Report entitled Harvest Corner, Gray Community Garden be received and noted.*
2. *THAT Council endorse the continuation of Harvest Corner, as a community garden to be provided to the Palmerston community.*
3. *THAT Council endorses that a public expression of interest process is undertaken for the Harvest Corner Community Garden management and operations by a third party under agreement with Council as outlined in the report, including the provision of a one-off established fund of \$20,000 and free use of the area under a Terms of Agreement operation for a period of three years.*

CARRIED 10/961 – 15/08/2023



In February 2024, STEPS, Life Without Barriers and Helping People Achieve entered into a three-year agreement with City of Palmerston for the management and activation of Harvest Corner.

Under the agreement, Council provided a one-off establishment fund of \$20,000 to support the ongoing operation and activation of the site, including gardening equipment and materials, irrigation replacement, community workshops, programs and community events. The agreement focused on maintaining a well presented and active shared community space, including regular community use and activation activities, rather than operating as a traditional membership or individual plot-based community garden model.

Discussion

Future Management Options

The garden has continued to provide positive community benefits through sustainability education, community engagement and partnership-based activities since Council endorsed the continuation of the garden model in 2023. It is proposed that the community garden model continue, subject to an appropriate community organisation or organisations expressing interest in managing and maintaining the site. Where a suitable organisation is identified, a new three-year agreement will be established to provide a clear framework for the ongoing management, maintenance and use of the garden, while supporting the continuation of its community and sustainability outcomes.

If an appropriate community organisation or organisations cannot be identified to undertake the ongoing management and maintenance of the community garden, it is proposed the site would transition to a Council-maintained open space area.

Ongoing mowing and general maintenance can be incorporated into the existing landscaping contract, ensuring the area remains well maintained and suitable for regular use. The open space can also provide a flexible area for larger community events, gatherings and activities, including markets, festivals, workshops and other Council or community-led events. Retaining the site as open space provides greater flexibility in how the area can be utilised, while reducing the ongoing maintenance requirements associated with a dedicated community garden.

Management group feedback

As part of future planning for the Garden beyond the current agreement period ending 29 January 2027, feedback from current management group was requested on the operational and maintenance requirements associated with managing the space.

This feedback has informed the operational considerations outlined within this report. Feedback received identified that ongoing operation of the site requires regular structured maintenance and operational oversight, including:

- mowing and vegetation management;
- irrigation maintenance;
- trimming, planting and weed management;
- regular green waste removal; and

- monitoring and responding to vandalism, theft, damage, anti-social behaviour and hazardous waste materials, including broken glass, drug paraphernalia and human waste.

Management requirements extend beyond physical garden maintenance and include significant administration, governance and coordination responsibilities. Stakeholders estimated that ongoing administration, stakeholder communication, reporting, financial management, volunteer coordination and governance activities require approximately 3–6 hours per week, in addition to garden maintenance, working bees and operational activities. Combined operational and administrative requirements were estimated at approximately 8–14 hours per week, with substantially higher commitments required during community events, major maintenance projects and grant-funded activities.

Ongoing challenges associated with vandalism, irrigation damage, site security, volunteer capacity and long-term operational sustainability have impacted the management group. It was highlighted that the ongoing operation of the Garden relies on a combination of funded activities and significant in-kind contributions from partner organisations, volunteers and community stakeholders. While the establishment funding has supported infrastructure, equipment, maintenance and community activation activities, governance, administration, coordination, reporting, volunteer management and partnership engagement functions are largely absorbed within existing organisational resources.

As a result, financial expenditure alone may not fully reflect the total level of resourcing required to operate and maintain the garden as an active community asset.

The management group feedback highlighted that the long-term sustainability of the Garden relies heavily on volunteer contributions, in-kind support and organisational goodwill. Stakeholders noted that without these contributions the current model would be difficult to sustain within existing funding arrangements. Feedback also identified a need for dedicated coordination resources, clear governance arrangements and sustainable operational funding to support the garden's continued success as a community asset. All feedback provided will be considered when developing a new agreement,

Historically the Garden has been referred to as a community garden, however the site has not traditionally operated under a typical community garden model involving individual plots, memberships or community-led governance structures. Instead, the space has primarily functioned as a curated shared community space supported through partnerships, programs, workshops and community engagement activities.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee provide feedback on the proposed steps to enable the future management of the Community Garden:

Step 1: External Management via Expression of Interest (EOI)

Council undertake a public EOI process seeking a community organisation/s to manage the garden under a new agreement arrangement for three (3) years. The EOI advertised publicly from November 1 -December 10.

Should the EOI fail to attract a suitable management group it is recommended that Step 2 would occur.

Step 2: An open space-maintained area

Council transitions the site from a community garden to a Council-maintained open space area, which will continue to be accessible to Hall users.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Executive Manager Environment
- Community Connection Officer
- Community Services Lead
- Community Services Manager

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

- STEPS
- Life Without Barriers
- HPA (no feedback received at time of report)

Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

Budget and resource implications

The ongoing maintenance and landscaping costs associated with the site will be accommodated within Council's existing operational expenditure.

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.
- 2. Financial Sustainability**
Failure of Council to be financially sustainable to deliver key services and infrastructure for the community.
- 4. Inclusion, Diversity and Access**
Failure to balance meeting needs of Palmerston's cultural mosaic.
- 5. Infrastructure**
Failure to plan, deliver and maintain fit for purpose infrastructure.
- 7. Environmental Sustainability**
Failure of Council to clearly articulate, plan for and deliver prudent and responsible environmental ambitions.



Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026](#)

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

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Meeting

Agenda Item:	9.1.2
Report Title:	Youth Engagement
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 22 September 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 provides an update on current youth engagement strategies undertaken by Council and requests feedback from the Committee prior to the report being presented to Council.

Key messages

- City of Palmerston has established strong reciprocal relationships with numerous youth service organisations across Palmerston and Darwin.
- Council works with organisations that provide established opportunities for youth participation and advocacy.
- City of Palmerston engages young people through a variety of existing mechanisms, including partnerships with schools, youth service providers, community organisations, events and targeted surveys.
- 181 Palmerston young people were asked how they would like Council to engage with them.
- The findings demonstrate a preference for engagement opportunities that are accessible, flexible and require a low level of ongoing commitment.

Recommendation

1. THAT Report entitled Youth Engagement be received and noted.

- 
2. THAT the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee provide feedback on the following areas relating to City of Palmerston's youth engagement:
 - a. The suitability of Council's current Youth Engagement approach as outlined in this report entitled Youth Engagement.
 - b. Feedback on engagement options available being face to face, informal youth group or formal committee.
 - c. Other ideas or identified gaps pertaining to youth engagement in Palmerston.

Background

City of Palmerston engages young people through a variety of existing mechanisms, including its Community Networks, partnerships with schools, youth service providers, community organisations, events and targeted surveys. These methods provide opportunities for a youth voice and to capture a broad range of perspectives across different settings and demographics.

Examples of recent engagements include the redesign of the Youth Info. Map, Palmerston Youth Festival survey, Youth Week and park redevelopment.

Youth engagement is a key component of inclusive and effective local government decision-making. Councils across Australia use a range of models to ensure that young people have opportunities to contribute to the development of policies, programs and services that affect them.

In recent years, there has been a shift in how young people prefer to engage with government and community organisations. Traditional structures such as formal Youth Advisory Committees are increasingly complemented or replaced by more flexible, issue-based and short-term engagement approaches. These approaches are generally more accessible to a broader range of young people who may have competing commitments such as school, employment, sport, and other activities.

Discussion

Youth Engagement and Voice

Young people in Palmerston have many opportunities to participate in community life, provide feedback and contribute their perspectives on matters that affect them. The City of Palmerston has established connections with a range of government, community and youth-focused organisations, providing multiple pathways for young people to have their voices heard.

These pathways include opportunities for young people to engage directly with Council, through established youth organisations, service providers and Northern Territory Government initiatives. Council facilitates Community Networks and maintains ongoing relationships and regular discussions with key stakeholders, including the Northern Territory Government, The Y, Youth Drop-In Sports (YDIS) and other youth-focused organisations. These relationships provide Council with opportunities to understand



emerging issues, identify the priorities of young people and connect with different cohorts within the community.

At a Territory level, the Northern Territory Youth Round Table provides young people aged 15 to 25 with opportunities to contribute to government decision-making and policy development through workshops, consultations, meetings with Ministers and community-based projects. The program currently includes four young people from Palmerston, providing a direct pathway for Palmerston young people to contribute to broader Territory policy discussions.

The Northern Territory Youth Week Ambassador Program, delivered by the Office of Youth Affairs, provides another pathway for young people aged 15 to 25 to develop leadership skills, participate in community life and represent the views of young people. In 2026, two Youth Week Ambassadors represented the Palmerston and Rural region. One of the Ambassadors also contributed to the City of Palmerston's Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group as a youth representative, providing a direct link between youth leadership and Council's decision-making processes.

Council works with local organisations that provide established opportunities for youth participation and advocacy. Headspace Palmerston's Youth Reference Group provides young people with opportunities to contribute to discussions about youth mental health services, accessibility and community wellbeing. Multicultural Youth Northern Territory (MyNT) provides opportunities for young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds to participate in forums, consultations and community engagement activities, supporting diverse youth perspectives to be represented.

Youth Drop-In Sports (YDIS) provides an informal and accessible environment for young people to participate in basketball at the Palmerston Recreation Centre. The program also provides opportunities for Council staff to build relationships directly with young people and, through regular discussions with the YDIS Coordinator, gain an understanding of emerging trends, including their interests, needs and preferences. Similarly, the Palmerston Youth Centre (PYC) provides a youth-focused environment where young people can participate in activities, connect with youth workers and access information and support. Y Up Top provides further opportunities for youth participation and represents an additional pathway for Council to reach a broad and diverse range of young people.

Together, these relationships provide Council with a network of established youth engagement pathways. They enable youth perspectives to be raised through a range of settings and provide opportunities for Council to engage with young people in ways that are accessible, informal and responsive to the needs of the community.

Understanding Young People's Engagement Preferences

While Council has a range of established pathways for youth voice, Council undertook targeted engagement to understand how young people themselves would like to engage with Council and whether there was a need for a more formal youth engagement mechanism.

Face-to-face engagement was intentionally used to capture the views and experiences of young people directly within community settings, rather than relying solely on online



consultation. This approach enabled Council officers to engage directly with young people, clarify questions where required and hear their views in an informal and accessible environment.

As part of the 2026 Palmerston Youth Festival, Council conducted a face-to-face survey over four days to understand how young people would like to engage with Council in the future. A total of 126 young people participated.

When asked about their preferred method of engagement with Council, 63 respondents selected a Youth Group, making this the most preferred option. A further eight respondents selected a Youth Advisory Committee, while 55 respondents indicated that no formal youth engagement group was required.

The results demonstrate a clear preference for an informal Youth Group over a formal Youth Advisory Committee. The number of respondents who indicated that no formal group was required was significantly higher than those who supported a Youth Advisory Committee.

To ensure the findings were not limited to young people attending the Youth Festival, Council undertook a further Youth Engagement Preference Survey with young people accessing City of Palmerston Library services and Youth Drop-In Sports (YDIS) programs. This provided an opportunity to engage with a different cohort of young people through established Council programs and facilities. A total of 51 responses were received.

The findings further demonstrate a preference for engagement opportunities that are accessible, flexible and require a low level of ongoing commitment. Online surveys and social media were the most preferred methods for having a voice heard, selected by 53 per cent of respondents. This was followed by youth events and one-off consultations at 22 per cent, and engagement through schools or youth services at 18 per cent.

Only a small proportion of respondents preferred a more formal structure, with 6 per cent selecting a Council Youth Action Group and 2 per cent selecting a Youth Advisory Committee.

The consistency between the two engagement activities indicates that young people are generally more supportive of opportunities to participate when and where it is convenient for them, rather than committing to an ongoing formal advisory structure. The findings also reinforce the value of Council's existing approach of engaging through events, programs, facilities, youth organisations, schools, service providers and direct consultation.

Feedback sought from Committee

City of Palmerston continues to leverage off established relationships with community services providers engaged with young people in Palmerston. By utilising existing youth groups and youth programs, Council can ensure that young people are consulted as required youth participation is inclusive, accessible, and meaningful, while also remaining adaptable to changing preferences and participation styles among young people in Palmerston. This recommendation aligns with Council's current organisational resourcing.

Feedback is sought from the Committee on the following areas:

- The suitability of Council's current Youth Engagement approach as outlined in this report.
- Feedback on engagement options available being face to face, informal youth group or formal committee.
- Other ideas or identified gaps pertaining to youth engagement in Palmerston.

The feedback will be incorporated into a report to Council in October 2026 relating to youth engagement.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Community Connections Officers.

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

- Office of Youth Affairs, Department of People, Sport and Culture.
- City of Darwin Youth Programs Team.
- Litchfield Council Community Participation Team.
- Katherine Council Events and Communication Team.
- Alice Springs Community Development Team.
- Headspace Community Engagement Team.

Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

Budget and resource implications

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

Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

4. Inclusion, Diversity and Access

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

Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

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

Council officer conflict of interest declaration

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



Attachments

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Meeting

Agenda Item:	9.2.1
Report Title:	Community Update
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 22 September 2026
Author:	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl
Approver:	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl

Community plan

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

Purpose

This report provides the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee with an update on some of the recent and current programs, initiatives and activities being delivered across the Community Directorate.

Key messages

- The Community Directorate consists of Community Services, Regulatory Services, and Library Services.
- Key outcomes for the period included the conclusion of the Brekkie in the Park series for 2026, the Seniors Fortnight Morning Tea, Council's adoption of the Animal Management Plan, and Library improvements, support, access and inclusion.
- This report provides a summary of highlights and outcomes for the period of July to September 2026.

Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Community Update be received and noted.

Background

The Community Directorate consists of Community Services, Regulatory Services, and Library Services. These departments work collaboratively to deliver essential services, programs, and initiatives that enhance community wellbeing, promote safety and compliance, support lifelong learning, and foster a connected and vibrant community.

Discussion

The Community Directorate has had a productive quarter, delivering a range of events, programs, and services that foster community engagement and networking opportunities. Initiatives and highlights of services delivered from July to September 2026 are detailed below:

Seniors Fortnight Andrews Sisters High Tea

As part of Seniors Fortnight, Seniors Day was held at the Palmerston Recreation Centre on 12 August 2026, with 150 seniors attending the event. The program featured live entertainment from the Andrews Sisters Tribute Show and a sit-down afternoon tea. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with participants highlighting the quality of the entertainment, catering, service and venue layout. The event provided an opportunity for seniors to socialise and connect with others in the community, supporting Council's commitment to social inclusion, community connection and wellbeing for older residents.



Andrews Sisters Tribute Show



Participants enjoying the music



Venue

Brekkie in the Park – Joan Fejo Park

The final event in the 2026 Brekkie in the Park series was held at Joan Fejo Park, Rosebery, from 8.00am to 10.00am, attracting approximately 800 attendees.

The event featured a range of activities and entertainment, including Pilates, a petting zoo, Indigenous arts, Soccajoeys and AFL NT activities. Library staff hosted Storytime, Palmerston Lions Club provided a free community breakfast, and a Coffee Van was available for attendees wishing to purchase refreshments.

Community engagement was a key focus of the event. Rangers recorded 120 community interactions and distributed 12 desexing vouchers and 18 microchipping vouchers. The Sustainability team engaged with 20 community members and distributed entries for a compost bin raffle, while Neighbourhood Watch recorded 64 community engagements.

An unexpected visit from Community Police was a welcome addition to the event, providing further opportunities for positive community engagement. Children were able to interact with officers and explore the police vehicles.



Joan Fejo Park hosting Brekkie in the Park

Animal Management Plan (AMP)

Community consultation was undertaken between 17 June and 6 July 2026. A targeted consultation approach was adopted, recognising the extensive consultation previously undertaken during development of the City of Palmerston (Animal Management) By-Laws 2024. Four submissions were received, with overall support expressed for the Draft Animal Management Plan.

The Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2030 was endorsed by Council at the 18 August 2026 Council Meeting. The Plan is now published and available to the community on City of Palmerston website.

Library Services

Access and inclusion

Library Services has continued to improve access to library services and technology for the community. A high-contrast keyboard and TrackMouse have been installed on the library's



accessible public computer, providing alternative input options for customers who may experience difficulty using standard computer equipment.

A Book a Librarian service is now available, allowing members of the community to book a planned one-on-one session of up to one hour with a library staff member for assistance with everyday technology, information and digital services. This provides customers with dedicated time to work through their needs without the interruption that can occur when seeking ad hoc assistance from staff while other customers are being served. Support can include accessing email and resetting passwords, using government and community websites, managing files and cloud storage, connecting devices to Wi-Fi, installing apps, and developing basic skills in Microsoft Word, online shopping, social media and online banking. The service is designed to help customers build their own skills and confidence.

Community engagement and outreach

The Home Library Service has been rebranded and promoted as Library 2 You, with new flyers being distributed throughout the community to promote this valuable and currently underutilised service. Library 2 You is a fortnightly delivery service that brings library resources directly to customers in their homes, residential facilities or hospital.

Activation of the library space during the Friday Night Markets has continued, with activities including DJ Charlie workshops, live music and Level Up Gaming. These activities provide opportunities for young people and families to engage with the library in a relaxed community setting, supporting the library's role as a safe and welcoming place for connection and participation. Providing activities and opportunities for young people to gather and participate aims to encourage positive use of public spaces and reduce antisocial behaviour.

Consultation and marketing

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

- Community Services Manager
- Regulatory Services Manager
- Library Services Manager

Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

Budget and resource implications

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

Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

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



Strategies, framework and plans implications

There are no strategy, framework or plan implications for this Report.

Council officer conflict of interest declaration

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

Attachments

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Meeting

Agenda Item:	9.2.2
Report Title:	Network Update
Meeting Date:	Tuesday 22 September 2026
Author:	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl
Approver:	General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl

Community plan

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

Purpose

This report provides the Community Safety and Wellbeing Advisory Committee with an update from the three (3) Network meetings held this quarter.

Key messages

- City of Palmerston facilitates three (3) Community Networks that provide a forum for collaboration, information sharing and consultation between community members, organisations, service providers and Council.
- This report provides the Committee with a quarterly update of the Palmerston Child and Youth Network, the Palmerston Seniors Network, and the Palmerston Safe Communities Network.

Recommendation

THAT Report entitled Network Update be received and noted.

Background

Community Networks provide a forum for collaboration, information sharing and consultation between community members, organisations, service providers and Council. The Networks support Advisory Committees by identifying emerging community issues and providing insights that inform advice and recommendations to Council.

City of Palmerston has the following three (3) Community Networks which are Chaired by Councillors:

- Palmerston Child and Youth Network
- Palmerston Seniors Network
- Palmerston Safe Communities Network

Key discussions and updates from the August 2026 network meetings are provided below.

Discussion

The Community Network meetings were held in August 2026, with the following updates provided.

Palmerston Child and Youth Network (PCYN)

The PCYN meeting was held on Tuesday 4 August 2026 the meeting was chaired by the Acting Manager Community Services as the Councillor was unavailable.

Updates were provided by City of Palmerston followed by member updates from a range of organisations.

There were no discussions held within the network outside of the organisation updates.

A [Trello Board](#) remains available for agency sharing of youth-related information (ages 12–25).

The next PCYN meeting will be held on 3 November 2026.

Palmerston Seniors Network (PSN)

The PSN meeting was held on Tuesday, 25 August 2026, chaired by Councillor Henderson.

Updates were provided by City of Palmerston, followed by member updates from a range of organisations.

Discussions included:

- Looking into the viability for a Trello Board for the Seniors.
- Increasing stakeholder engagement to run stalls at the Library Info Hub.

The next PSN meeting will be held on 10 November 2026.

Palmerston Safe Communities Network (PSCN)

The PSCN meeting of 2026 was held on Tuesday, 18 August 2026, chaired by Councillor Henderson.

Updates were provided by City of Palmerston, followed by member updates.

Discussions included:

- Operation Ventura;

- Rough sleeping in the CBD and Gunn escarpment areas;
- Incidents of rock throwing and bus vandalism;
- Update on the review of the Public Places By-Law; and
- Ranger engagement with micro-chipping and desexing incentives.

The next PSCN meeting will be held on 17 November 2026.

Consultation and marketing

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

Policy implications

There are no policy implications for this Report.

Budget and resource implications

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

Risk, legal and legislative implications

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

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

This report aligns with the City of Palmerston Strategic Risk Framework by supporting effective governance, inclusive community engagement and collaboration with stakeholders to identify and respond to emerging community safety and wellbeing issues.

Strategies, framework and plans implications

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

- [Disability Inclusion Access Plan 2022-2025](#)

Council officer conflict of interest declaration

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

Attachments

Nil



10 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Information

10.2 Correspondence

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

12 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

THAT the next Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee Meeting be held on Tuesday, 1 December 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING

MINUTES



COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELLNESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2026

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

Council business papers can be viewed on City of Palmerston's website palmerston.nt.gov.au

Minutes of Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee Meeting
held in Council Chambers
Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston
on 23 June at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Councillor Sarah Henderson (Chair)
Peter Fletcher, Department of Children and Families Representative
Superintendent Katrina Hatzismalis, Northern Territory Police Representative
Sakeasi Tawaketini, Community Organisations Representative
Lindsey Anne Louise Newman, Community Member

STAFF

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Nadine Nilon
General Manager Community, Konrad Seidl
Minute Secretary, Tonisha Nykamp

GALLERY

1 Member of Staff

Initials: _____

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

2 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:33 PM.

3 APOLOGIES

Moved: Sakeasi Tawaketini

Seconded: Peter Fletcher

1. THAT the apology received from Mayor Athina Pascoe - Bell for 23 June 2026 be received and noted.
2. THAT the apology received from Councillor Yolanda Kanyai for 23 June 2026 be received and noted.
3. THAT the apology received from Deputy Mayor Wayne Bayliss for 23 June 2026 be received and noted.
4. THAT the apology received from Sheryl Sephton for 23 June 2026 be received and noted.
5. THAT the apology received from Councillor Lucy Morrison for 23 June 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/08 - 23/06/2026

4 AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING

4.1 Request for audio/audiovisual conferencing

Nil

4.2 Audio/Audiovisual conferencing previously granted

Nil

Initials: _____

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

5.1 Committee members

Nil

5.2 Staff

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of minutes

Moved: Peter Fletcher

Seconded: Sakeasi Tawaketini

THAT the Minutes of the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee Meeting held on 24 March 2026 pages 1 to 6 be confirmed.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/09 – 23/06/2026

6.2 Business arising from previous meeting

Nil

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

8.1 Moving confidential items into open

Nil

8.2 Moving open items into confidential

Nil

8.3 Confidential items

Nil

Initials: _____

9 OFFICER REPORTS

9.1 Action reports

9.1.1 Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2026 to 2028 – Community Consultation

Moved: Lindsey Newman
Seconded: Peter Fletcher

THAT Report entitled Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2026 to 2028 – Community Consultation be received and noted.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/10 – 23/06/2026

9.1.1 Disability Inclusion and Access Plan 2026 to 2028 – Community Consultation

Moved: Lindsey Newman
Seconded: Katrina Hatzismalis

THAT the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee provides the following feedback on the draft Disability Inclusion and Access Plan:

- a. recommend to consult broadly.
- b. supportive of the HR & employment component.
- c. suggested dashboard on website.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/11 – 23/06/2026

9.2 Receive and note reports

9.2.1 Animal Management Plan - Community Consultation

Moved: Sakeasi Tawaketini
Seconded: Peter Fletcher

THAT Report entitled Animal Management Plan - Community Consultation be received and noted.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/12 – 23/06/2026

Initials: _____

9.2.2 Community Update

Moved: Councillor Henderson
 Seconded: Sakeasi Tawaketini

THAT Report entitled Community Update be received and noted.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/13 - 23/06/2026

10 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE**10.1 Information**

Nil

10.2 Correspondence

Nil

11 GENERAL BUSINESS**11.1 Updates from committee members**

Moved: Peter Fletcher
 Seconded: Lindsey Newman

1. THAT Superintendent Katie Hatzismalis provided an update on Operation Ventura.
2. THAT Peter Fletcher provided an update on Children & Families activities and Operation Ventura.
3. THAT Lindsey Newman provided an update on seeing some issues in the suburb of Durack and spoke of the reporting platform for volatile substances which can be found on the Amity website.
4. THAT Councillor Sarah Henderson spoke of the closing of bus and taxi ranks including the impact that this is having on seniors and community members with disabilities.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/14 - 23/06/2026

Initials: _____

12 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved: Peter Fletcher
Seconded: Sakeasi Tawaketini

THAT the next Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 22 September 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/15 - 23/06/2026

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING

Moved: Lindsey Newman
Seconded: Peter Fletcher

THAT the meeting of the Community Safety and Wellness Advisory Committee held in Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, Palmerston on 23 June 2026 closed at 6:11pm.

CARRIED (5/0) - CSWAC11/16 - 23/06/2026

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6:11pm.

Chair

Print Name

Date

Initials: