

CITY OF PALMERSTON

**Notice of Council Meeting
To be held in Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, Palmerston
On Tuesday, 2 June 2015 at 6:30pm**

AGENDA

Audio Disclaimer

An audio recording of this meeting is being made for minute taking purposes as authorised by City of Palmerston Policy MEE3 Recording of Meetings, available on Council's Website.

1. PRESENT

2. APOLOGIES

ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held Tuesday, 19 May 2015 pages 7964 to 7967 be confirmed.
2. THAT the minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday, 19 May 2015 pages 7968 to 7977 be confirmed.
3. THAT the minutes of the Confidential Council Meeting held Tuesday, 19 May 2015 pages 179 to 180 be confirmed.
4. THAT the minutes of the Confidential Council Meeting held Tuesday, 19 May 2015 pages 181 to 182 be confirmed.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

M8-11

5. REPORT OF DELEGATES

6. QUESTIONS (WITHOUT DEBATE) FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

7. QUESTIONS (WITHOUT DEBATE) FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN

8. PETITIONS

9. DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

9.1 Palmerston Magpies Sports Club Sponsorship Proposal

Shannon Masters, President and Tyson Holt, Treasurer of the Palmerston Magpies Inc will present a sponsorship proposal

9.2 Development Proposal – 10026 and 9635 Town of Palmerston

Carlo Randazzo, Director Randazzo Properties Pty Ltd; Brad Cunningham, Town Planner Northern Planning Consultants; and Colin Browne, Architect Jackmen Gooden Architects will present to Council regarding details of proposed developments at lot 10026 and 9635 Town of Palmerston (15 The Boulevard and 1 Palmerston Circuit, Palmerston City)

10. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

11. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 Governance and Organisation

Nil

11.2 Economic Development and Infrastructure

Nil

11.3 Community Culture and Environment

Nil

12. INFORMATION AGENDA

12.1 Items for Exclusion

12.2 Receipt of Information Reports

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information items contained within the Information Agenda, be received.

12.3 Officer Reports

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| 12.3.1 | Action Report | 8/0669 |
| 12.3.2 | LGANT Executive Minutes – 19 May 2015 | 8/0676 |

13. DEBATE AGENDA

13.1 Officer Reports

| | | |
|--------|--|--------|
| 13.1.1 | Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy | 8/0670 |
| 13.1.2 | Local Government Elected Member Service Awards | 8/0672 |
| 13.1.3 | New Financial Policy FIN25 Rating Policy | 8/0673 |
| 13.1.4 | Draft Municipal Plan 2015/2020 | 8/0674 |
| 13.1.5 | Extension Public Liability Cover | 8/0675 |
| 13.1.6 | 2015 LGMA International Mentor Program | 8/0677 |
| 13.1.7 | Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants | 8/0678 |
| 13.1.8 | Fees and Charges 2015/2016 | 8/0671 |

14. CORRESPONDENCE

14.1 Local Government (Electoral) Regulations Amendments

15. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

At the invitation of the Chair

16. OTHER BUSINESS – ALDERMAN REPORTS

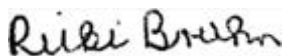
By-law 14(8) provides that the Chairman must not accept a motion without notice if the effect of the motion would, if carried, be to incur expenditure in excess of \$1,000 unless

- a) the motion relates to the subject matter of a committee's or sub committee's recommendations (as the case may be, or an officer's report that is listed for consideration on the business paper; or*
- b) the matter is urgent*

17. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil

18. CLOSURE



Ricki Bruhn
Chief Executive Officer

Any member of Council who may have a conflict of interest, or a possible conflict of interest in regard to any item of business to be discussed at a Council meeting or a Committee meeting should declare that conflict of interest to enable Council to manage the conflict and resolve it in accordance with its obligations under the Local Government Act and its policies regarding the same.

ITEM NO. 4 **Mayor's Report**
FROM: **Ian Abbott**
REPORT NUMBER: **M8-11**
MEETING DATE: **2 June 2015**

Summary:

My report provides Council with an update on recent meetings or events of interest to Elected Members.

General:

Wednesday 13 May 2015

1.30pm – Attended an interview with a Palmerston Senior College student.

5.00pm – Attended the 2015-2016 Sport and Recreation Budget Presentation

Thursday 14 May 2015

9.30am – Attended the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee meeting

9.50am – Scheduled interview with Territory FM

- Flicnics
- Picnics in the Park

5.00pm – Attended the 2015 Scholarship Ceremony and Reception for the City of Palmerston Conservation and Land Management Scholarship presentation

Friday 15 May 2015

2.00pm – Meeting with Ben Blyton, President of the Palmerston Rugby Union Club, regarding work being undertaken on the Moulden School Oval

Monday 18 May 2015

8.30am – Attended a catch up meeting with the Deputy Mayor

2.00pm – Attended a catch up meeting with Lia Finocchiaro and Nathan Barrett

5.00pm – Attended the Internal Audit Committee meeting

Tuesday 19 May 2015

6.00pm – Chaired the Special Council meeting

6.30pm – Chaired the Regular Council meeting

Wednesday 20 May 2015

9.00am – Scheduled interview with Grassroots ABC

- Goyder Square Stage 2
- City of Palmerston banner/political involvement at events
- Picnic in the Park

3.00pm – TV interview with Channel 9

- Goyder Square

5.30pm – Attended the 2015 Investiture and Graduation Ceremony for St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc

Thursday 21 May 2015

8.00am – Attended the Principals meeting at Rosebery Middle School

10.45am – Scheduled interview with Territory FM

- Goyder Square Stage 2
- Picnic in the Park

Sunday 24 May 2015

6.30pm – Attended the Silver Jubilee Parish Mass and Celebration at MacKillop Catholic College

Tuesday 26 May 2015

6.00pm – Conducted the Citizenship Ceremony in Council Chambers

Future Schedule:

Nil

Invitations:

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receives Report Number M8-11.

Recommending Officer:

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ian Abbott on telephone (08) 8935 9911 or email ian.abbott@palmerston.nt.gov.au

Schedule of Attachments:

Nil

**APPLICATION FOR A DEPUTATION TO THE
CITY OF PALMERSTON**

Name: Shannon Masters

Organisation: Palmerston Magpies Inc

Contact Tel: 0407 910 199

Contact Email: president@palmerstonmagpies.com.au

Presentation topic: Palmerston Magpies Sports Club Sponsorship Proposal

Date of Request: 19th May 2015

Meeting date requested: 2nd June 2015

Time requested (length): 20 Minutes
Up to 20 minutes


Names of those making the address:


- 1) Mr Shannon Masters
Title: President
Organisation: Palmerston Magpies Inc
- 2) Mr Tyson Holt
Title: Treasurer
Organisation: Palmerston Magpies Inc

Purpose of the deputation: Sponsorship Proposal Presentation

A copy of the presentation is required on application.

*Please forward this application to: Mr Ricki Bruhn Chief Executive Officer
City of Palmerston, PO Box 1, PALMERSTON NT 0831
Fax No: (08) 89259900 Email: emily.fanning@palmerston.nt.gov.au
For any enquiries please call (08) 89359902*


.....
Approved (Chief Executive Officer)


.....
Approved (Mayor of Palmerston)

**APPLICATION FOR A DEPUTATION TO THE
CITY OF PALMERSTON**

Name: Carlo Randazzo (assisted by Brad Cunningham and Colin Browne)

Organisation: Randazzo Properties Pty Ltd (assisted by Northern Planning Consultants and Jackman Gooden Architects)

Contact Tel: c/- Brad Cunningham – 0427 796 140.....

Contact Email: c/- bradcunnington@gmail.com

Presentation topic: Development proposal – 10026 and 9635 town of Palmerston

Date of Request: 25 May 2015 (initial request on 14 May 2015)

Meeting date requested: 2 June 2015.....

Time requested (length): 20 minutes

Up to 20 minutes

Names of those making the address:

- 1) Carlo Randazzo
- Title: Director
- Organisation: Randazzo Properties Pty Ltd.....
- 2) Brad Cunningham and Colin Browne (assisting only)
- Title: Town Planner / Architect.....
- Organisation: Northern Planning Consultants and Jackman Gooden Architects

Purpose of the deputation: Presentation to Council regarding details of proposed development at lots 10026 and 9635 Town of Palmerston (15 The Boulevard and 1 Palmerston Circuit, Palmerston City).....

A copy of the presentation is required on application.

*Please forward this application to: Mr Ricki Bruhn Chief Executive Officer
City of Palmerston, PO Box 1, PALMERSTON NT 0831
Fax No: (08) 89359900 Email: emily.fanning@palmerston.nt.gov.au
For any enquiries please call (08) 89359902*

.....*Ricki Bruhn*.....
Approved (Chief Executive Officer)

.....*[Signature]*.....
Approved (Mayor of Palmerston)

FROM: Chief Executive Officer
REPORT NUMBER: 8/0669
MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

We value our people, and the culture of our organisation. We are committed to continuous improvement

Provided with this report are individual action items outstanding from previous Council Meetings:

| Dec # | Task Date | Matter | Action | Update |
|--------|------------|---|--|---|
| 8/0787 | 17/09/2013 | Real Housing for Growth Project | Design and project management contract awarded to Thinc. Agreement to lease with the CEO Department of Housing has been executed. | Elected member site inspection 30 May CEO Housing has agreed an extension of time for practical completion until 9 June 2015 |
| 8/0847 | 19/11/2013 | TC Zone Land | Discuss with NT Government on acquiring the Tourist Commercial (TC) Zone land – Part Lot 8405 | Letter received 9 April 2014 advising investigations are currently being undertaken to inform the potential release of this site including servicing and development options. |
| 8/0879 | 11/12/2013 | Development of Lot 10029 and Part Lot 9608 | Expression of Interest for the development of Lot 10029 and Part Lot 9608 be prepared for Council approval. | Letters sent to developers requesting reasons for not responding to the EOI and any suggestions for an amended process. No responses received. |
| 8/0899 | 14/01/2014 | Expression of Interest – Development of Lot 10024 and Part Lot 9609 | An EOI to be brought to Council for the development of Lot 10024 and part Lot 9609 with the purpose being for the provision of public car parking combined with a mixed use development comprising of retail, commercial or residential. | Matter referred to EDI Committee 12 March 2015. |
| 8/0949 | 18/02/2014 | Car Parking Contribution Plan Update | Matter on the table | |

| | | | | |
|--------|------------|--|---|--|
| 8/1126 | 17/06/2014 | Reconstruct Radford Road | Council to enter into a memorandum of understanding regarding the use of any contractor security held by LDC. | Construction work in progress. |
| 8/1235 | 02/09/2014 | Palmerston Sporting Grounds | CEO to seek further clarification from the NT Government on their proposal to transfer ownership and management of sporting facilities in Palmerston. | Meeting with Minister held 30 March 2015. Invitation was extended to attend a function for further discussion in April. |
| 8/1290 | 7/10/2014 | Quarterly Meetings with NT Government Senior Ministers | Mayor and the chairs or delegate of the three Standing Committees be established to meet with senior Ministers of the NT Government on a quarterly basis to seek financial support and provide updates on projects and initiatives associated with the Palmerston City Centre Master Plan. | Meeting held with Minister Chandler, Lia Finnochiaro and executives from the Departments of Transport and Infrastructure on 8 May 2015. Minister Tollner was an apology. |
| 8/1354 | 09/12/2014 | Draft Palmerston City Centre Master Plan 2014 and associated documents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy to be presented to and considered by the City of Palmerston's Car Parking Committee. - Final documents and application submission to amend the NT Planning Scheme be submitted to Council for endorsement at the Council meeting scheduled 17 February 2015. - Mayor to forward a letter to the Minister for Lands and Planning to inform the NT Government of the public consultation process for the Draft City Centre Master Plan "package", prior to lodgement of the formal rezoning application with the Minister in 2015. - | Council has adopted the Palmerston City Centre MP and associated documents with the exception of the Carparking strategy. Once the Carparking strategy has been to the Car Parking Advisory Group comments will be incorporated into the Palmerston City Centre Planning Frameworks and the document will be submitted to the Minister |
| 8/1378 | 13/01/2015 | Amendments to Palmerston Eastern Suburbs planning principles and plan | Council to write a letter to the Department for Lands and Planning requesting a review of the Palmerston Eastern Suburbs Area Plan and Planning Principles. | Letter forwarded on 26 February and response received on 19 March. |
| 8/1419 | 17/02/2015 | Draft Proposed Amendments to NT Planning Scheme, Palmerston | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Palmerston City Centre Master Plan 2015 and the Palmerston City Centre Planning Framework report | Consultation with the Carparking Advisory Group members completed 14/4. Report to be presented to the June EDI meeting. |

| | | | | |
|--------|------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| | | City Centre Master Plan 2015, Draft Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy and Draft Palmerston City Centre Public Realm and Subdivision Great Streets Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - be forwarded to the Minister for Lands and Planning, The draft Car Parking Strategy be amended based on the outcome of deliberations by the City of Palmerston's Car Parking Advisory Group, prior to the submission to the Minister for Lands and Planning | |
| 8/1434 | 03/03/2015 | Small lot subdivisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council approach the Shadow Minister for Lands and Planning requesting a meeting in regards to small lot subdivisions | Meeting to be rescheduled. |
| 8/1506 | 05/05/2015 | Infrastructure Funding | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop to be held to enable elected members to discuss future infrastructure projects and how to fund these projects | |
| 8/1523 | 19/05/2015 | Road from Durack Drive/Flack Road to New entrance of Archer Waste Transfer Station | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council write to the Director Land Administration seeking consent to open the section of road and road reserve from Durack Drive/Flack Road to the New entrance of Archer Waste Transfer Station. | |

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0669.

Recommending Officer: Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer on telephone (08) 8935 9902 or email ricki.bruhn@palmerston.nt.gov.au

ITEM NO. 12.3.2 **LGANT Executive Minutes – 19 May 2015**

FROM: Chief Executive Officer

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0676

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.3 People

We value our people, and the culture of our organisation. We are committed to continuous improvement and innovation whilst seeking to reduce the costs of Council services through increased efficiency

Summary:

At the General Meeting of LGANT in March 2010, it was agreed that draft minutes of each Executive Meeting be made available for Council's information.

General:

The LGANT Executive Meeting draft meeting minutes will be sent out approximately on a monthly basis.

The draft minutes of the Executive Meeting held Tuesday, 19 May 2015 are attached for information.

Financial Implications:

Nil

Policy / Legislation:

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0676.

Recommending Officer: Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer on telephone (08) 8935 9902 or email ricki.bruhn@palmerston.nt.gov.au

Schedule of Attachments:

Attachment A: LGANT Executive Meeting Draft Minutes – 19 May 2015

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**MINUTES OF THE LGANT EXECUTIVE MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY 19 MAY 2015 IN THE LGANT OFFICE
COMMENCING AT 8:20 AM**

1. PERSONS PRESENT AT THE MEETING OR ON THE TELEPHONE

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Mayor Damien Ryan | President |
| Alderman Jeanette Anictomatis | Vice-President – Municipal (<i>telephone</i>) |
| President Barb Shaw | Executive – Regional & Shires (<i>telephone</i>) |
| Mayor Lothar Siebert | Executive – Regional & Shires (<i>8:50am</i>) |
| Alderman Bob Elix | Executive – Municipal |
| Councillor Greg Sharman | Executive – Regional & Shires (<i>telephone</i>) |
| IN ATTENDANCE: | |
| Tony Tapsell | LGANT CEO |
| Danielle Lee-Ryder | LGANT |
| Peter McLinden | LGANT |
| David Jan | LGANT |
| Elaine McLeod | LGANT |
| Mark Hagger | LGANT (<i>Item 6.3 only</i>) |
| Damien Mulvena | Jardine Lloyd Thompson (<i>Item 6.3 only</i>) |
| Craig Harms | Jardine Lloyd Thompson (<i>Item 6.3 only</i>) (<i>telephone</i>) |
| Camden Smith | Department of Health (<i>Item 7.6 only</i>) |

2. APOLOGIES FROM MEMBERS WHO WERE ABSENT FROM THE MEETING

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mayor Fay Miller | Executive – Municipal |
| Mayor Tony Jack | Vice-President – Regional & Shires |

RESOLUTION

That members:

1. accept the acknowledgements from members that they are unable to attend the meeting
2. approve the applications from members for leave of absence from the meeting.

Moved: President Shaw

Seconded: Councillor Sharman

Carried

3. NOTIFICATION OF CONFLICT(S) OF INTERESTS

The President indicated that at this stage the Alice Springs Town Council was renewing its insurance and would not form part of the JLT scheme. He asked members whether they thought he might have a conflict of interest in the matter but they did not believe it to be the case.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLUTION

THAT the minutes of the previous Executive meetings held on Wednesday 1 May 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Moved: Councillor Sharman

Seconded: Alderman Elix

Carried

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

5. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA AND NOTIFICATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

RESOLUTION

THAT the papers as circulated be received for consideration at the meeting.

Moved: Alderman Anictomatis

Seconded: Councillor Sharman

Carried

6. DECISIONS THE EXECUTIVE IS BEING ASKED TO MAKE THIS MEETING

6.1 LGANT Financial Reports for 31 March 2015 and 30 April 2015

Recent History

This report is made up of:

1. Debtors trial balance, breakup and ledger
2. Statement of cash flows to
3. Statement of financial position
4. Monthly function report
5. Bank statements
6. Explanation of ratios
7. List of Payments
8. Credit Card Payments

Discussion

Members noted the reports and asked that council areas be mentioned with roads expenditure in future reports.

Members heard that LGANT has not altered its budget to cater for the increases in revenue as a result of the Local Government Excellence program. This will be rectified before the next meeting.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and adopts the financial reports for 31 March 2015 and 30 April 2015.

Moved: Alderman Elix

Seconded: Councillor Sharman

Carried

6.2 LGANT Communications Strategy

Recent History

- Discussion at the Executive Meeting (10 March 2015) that LGANT will revamp its communications strategy.
- Business paper (1 May 2015) on the development of the LGANT Communications Strategy.

Discussion

Members discussed the draft communications strategy and there was agreement that the wider community should be the main target for LGANT communications.

Members felt it was important for the home page on the LGANT website to be updated regularly to highlight what councils are doing.

Digital pamphlets/fact sheets promoting various aspects of local government are being designed by LGANT for council use members were told.

It was agreed to lay this issue on the table for further discussion at the next meeting. LGANT will circulate the updated communications strategy before then showing how the successes will be measured and evaluated.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

6.3 Establishment of an Insurance Scheme Within the NT

Recent History

- Finance Reference Group meeting 17/10/14 resolution – *That the Finance Reference Group asks Jardine Lloyd Thompson (JLT) to develop a proposal for local government councils in the Northern Territory.*
- Letter of authority for provision of date from JLT 4/12/14.
- Jardine Discretionary Trust Proposal – Modelling and Preliminary Pricing received 13/02/15.
- Finance Reference Group meeting 24-25/02/15 resolution – *That the Finance Reference Group resolves that the JLT be asked to:*
 - *file further indicative information in relation to costs for each council*
 - *that it be emailed to councils as soon as possible*
 - *that FRG members respond in time for the presentation to the CEO's Forum should the majority be in favour of that option.*

Discussion

Mark Hagger (LGANT), Damien Mulvena and Craig Harms (by telephone) from Jardine Lloyd Thompson (JLT) joined the meeting at 9:00am.

Members were given a briefing by JLT and discussed the details of the insurance scheme at length.

Members were told that JLT currently works with 14 councils and that the renewal period for most councils is 30 June 2015.

There are nine councils ready to go with the insurance scheme at this stage and three others may go ahead members heard.

Mark Hagger, Damien Mulvena and Craig Harms left the meeting at 9:40am.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive gives in principle support to the establishment of an insurance scheme for local government in the Northern Territory.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

7. REPORTS ON ACTIONS REQUIRED TO BE DONE FROM THE LAST MEETING

7.1 Local Government Long Service Awards

Recent History

- General meeting resolution – *That delegates endorse the development of a series of local government service awards for the Northern Territory* 6/11/14.
- Executive meeting 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- Guidelines document completed 11/03/15.

Future Action

Promote awards to member councils.

Discussion

Members discussed whether elected members of an association council prior to 2008 should qualify for a local government long service award and it was agreed that their nominations would be accepted during this year only. Each council's CEO will be responsible for putting forward nominations from their respective councils.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

7.2 Cultural Advisory Committee

Recent History

- General meeting resolution – *That delegates endorse the establishment of a LGANT Indigenous Reference Group with the terms of reference and membership be referred to the next LGANT general meeting 16/04/15.*

Future Action

Present a report at the next Executive meeting in June 2015.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

7.3 Natural Disaster Relief Recovery Arrangement (NDRRA)

Recent History

- Executive meeting resolution – *That the Executive approves the NDRRA submission for LGANT over its managed local road network 1/05/15.*

Future Action

Purchase orders have been raised to remove trees and rehabilitate damaged road network. Wait for NDRRA approval and funding.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

7.4 Local Government Excellence – Project Update

Recent History

1st progress report submitted to the Department of Local Government 15/01/15.

Future Action

Provide progress reports six monthly.

Discussion

Members asked that they be given a monthly report on what work LGANT has been doing with councils.

7.5 LGANT's Local Government Directory 2015/2016

Recent History

- LGANT commenced work on the next edition of the Local Government Directory in March 2015.
- The expected publication and distribution of the Directory is on or before 1/07/15.

Future Action

Distribute directory once published by Colemans and load onto the LGANT website.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

7.6 Morgues in Remote Communities

Recent History

- Executive meeting 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- Letter to Minister Elferink 13/03/15.
- Response from Minister 7/04/15.
- Department of Health representative, Camden Smith will be present at the meeting to go over some of the research that has been done to date.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Future Action

Provide input to any proposals that come forward from the government.

Discussion

Camden Smith, Acting Project Officer, Remote Morgues Project, Department of Health joined the meeting at 9:40am.

Camden Smith addressed the meeting and members heard the following:

- The role of the Department of Health in regards to remote morgues has been determined by the NT Government to be that of policy development.
- The Department wants to develop some structure on how morgues operate and how they will be funded and managed into the future.
- The Department is establishing a working party (which will include local government representatives) to examine the best way to operate morgues going forward.
- It is important that local government and local authorities are involved in these discussions.
- The Department would like to establish an understanding of the linkages that exist between communities that have morgues and communities they service that don't have morgues.
- The NT Government has indicated it is not its responsibility to fund morgues. Members expressed their concerns over the financial capabilities of remote councils to run morgues.
- Ten of the sixteen operation morgues in the NT sit on Department of Health land and electricity costs are currently met by the Department.

LGANT will provide the Department of Health with a list of council meeting dates for the councils that have morgues.

The President extended an invitation to Camden Smith to attend the general meeting in November 2015.

7.7 Proposed Change to LGANT's Constitution

Recent History

- Meeting with Mayor Lothar Siebert and CEO Brian Hylands 22/08/14.
- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive endorses the proposed changes to LGANT's constitution being put to the November 2014 general meeting* 16/09/14.
- Motion deferred at general meeting 7/11/14.
- Executive meetings 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- General meeting resolution 16/04/15 approves creation of additional Executive position.

Future Action

Amend LGANT constitution and place on LGANT website. Call for nominations for the vacant position and put nominations before a meeting of the LGANT Executive. Advise member councils and candidates of the Executive's decision. Provide information to new Executive member.

Discussion

Members agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

7.8 LGANT's Local Government Directory 2015/2016

Recent History

- Release of Federal Budget on 13/05/14.
- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates call upon councils:*
 - (a) *to support the campaign to restore the indexation of the Financial Assistance Grants by highlighting to Federal politicians:*
 - *the absolute need for the Grants*
 - *the losses resulting from the Grants not being indexed*
 - (b) *to agree to work with LGANT to document the many reforms and activities which demonstrate improvements and efficiencies councils are undertaking* 6/11/14.
- Executive meeting 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates revoke the current LGANT policy 3.3(a) 16/04/15.*
- Email (attached) to CEOs requesting notice of resolutions 12/05/15.
- The resolution that councils have been asked to mirror includes:

That the Council:

1. *Acknowledges the importance of federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants program for the continued delivery of councils services and infrastructure;*
2. *Acknowledges that the council will receive \$X.Y million in 2014 - 15; and*
3. *Will ensure that this federal funding, and other funding provided by the Federal Government under relevant grant programs, is appropriately identified as Commonwealth grant funding in council publications, including annual reports.*

Future Action

Continue to pursue with councils their work on getting resolutions passed about FAGs and in identifying case studies and projects that FAGs are used for.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on actions to be done from the last meeting.

Moved :

Seconded:

Carried

8. BUSINESS WHICH ONLY REQUIRES THE EXECUTIVE TO RECEIVE AND NOTE INFORMATION

8.1 Management and Administration Fees Applied to Government Grants

Recent History

- Executive meetings 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- FRG meeting 17/10/14; 24-25/02/15.
- FRG meeting recommends changes to LGANT's policy 24-25/02/15.
- General meeting 3/04/14; 7/11/14; 16/04/15.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on Management and Administration Fees Applied to Government Grants.

Moved : Alderman Anictomatis

Seconded: Alderman Elix

Carried

8.2 2015/16 LGANT Budget Submission

Recent History

- Finance Reference Group meeting 17/10/14.
- General meeting resolution 16/11/15 – *THAT delegates endorse the draft 2015/16 LGANT Budget Submission to the Northern Territory Government.*
- Letter from Department confirming receipt of submission 6/01/15.
- Executive meetings 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- CEO attended budget lock-up 28/04/15, the same day the budget was adopted.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

Discussion

Members noted the report.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the 2015/16 LGANT Budget Submission.

Moved: President Shaw

Seconded: Councillor Sharman

Carried

8.3 Outcomes from Governance Reference Group 20 March 2015

Recent History

Governance Reference Group meeting – Alice Springs 30/05/15.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the outcomes of the Governance Reference Group meeting on 30 March 2015.

Moved: Alderman Elix

Seconded: Mayor Siebert

Carried

8.4 LGMA National Congress and Indigenous Employment and Leadership in the Local Government Roundtable

Recent History

- No recent history.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on LGANT's attendance at the LGMA National Congress and Indigenous Employment and Leadership in Local Government Roundtable.

Moved: Alderman Anictomatis

Seconded: President Shaw

Carried

8.5 WALGA MOU Quarterly Report (Jan-Mar 2015)

Recent History

November 2015 LGANT AGM – Presentation of the Annual Report including 2013-2014 statistics.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and notes the quarterly report on work performed by WALGA Workplace Solutions through the LGANT/WALGA MOU.

Moved: Councillor Sharman
Seconded: Alderman Anictomatis
Carried

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

10. BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING THAT IS NOT YET FINISHED

10.1 Administration & Legislation Advisory Committee

Short Term History

- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates receive and note the report 11/05/12.*
- General meeting 11/11/13; 3/04/14; 6/11/14.
- Executive meeting 22/12/14; 6/02/15; 10/03/15.
- The ALAC Chair wrote to the Minister on conditionally rateable land 12/05/14.
- Response from the Department 20/05/14 indicating the matter is being considered.
- ALAC meetings 31/10/14, 13/02/15.
- Action items include:
 - legislative reviews, *Local Government Act, Information Act, Cemeteries Act*
 - disciplinary committees, by-laws, member allowances, morgues, statutory immunity for road authorities

Future Action

Provide progress reports.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.2 The Transfer of Local Roads from the NT Government to Local Government

Short Term History

- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive receive and note the report on the transfer of local roads from the NT Government to Local Government 1/10/13.*
- LGANT met with Department officers 12/11/14 to discuss the Partnership Board.
- A draft set of principles covering the transfer were to be forwarded to LGANT at the end of last month but did not arrive.
- Executive meeting 22/12/14; 6/02/15; 10/03/15.
- Business papers to the FRG (24-25/02/15), ETIRG (26-27/02/15) and CEO Forum (15/04/15)
- Department of Transport CEO delivered presentation at the General Meeting in Tennant Creek 16/04/15 calling on councils to put forward proposals.

Future Action

LGANT to draft letter to the Department regarding the status of the Roads Partnership Board.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

10.3 Public Library Funding Agreement

Short Term History

- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive receive and note the report on Public Library Funding Agreement 22/06/14.*
- Executive meetings 22/12/14; 6/02/15; 10/03/15.
- The library funding agreements that expired on 1/07/14 have been effectively 'rolled over' for 2014/15.
- Letters from Minister Conlan were sent to councils on 10/07/14.
- Meeting with Director Patrick Gregory 22/07/14.
- The strategic plan for libraries was released on 12/04/15.

Future Action

Review the strategic plan once received.

Discussion

Members noted the report including that the strategic plan is now available online.

10.4 White paper on the Reform of the Federation

Short Term History

- Email from ALGA National Policy Director 30/06/14.
- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive receive and note the report on the White Paper on the Reform of the Federation 29/07/14.*
- Release of Issue Paper 1 on 2/09/14.
- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates call upon councils to answer some questions in the issues papers and to provide input to LGANT on the Green Paper on the Reform of Federation 6/11/14.*
- Executive meeting 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- ALGA meetings 19-20/2/15 and 26/03/15.
- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates endorse providing data if it is required 16/04/15.*

Future Action

Complete a submission on the 'Green Paper' once it is released.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.5 Green Paper for Developing Northern Australia

Short Term History

- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive agree to LGANT lodging a submission on the Green Paper for Developing Northern Australia 26/06/14.*
- Final submission sent 7/08/14.
- Executive meetings: 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.

Future Action

Provide progress reports.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.6 Land Development in the Northern Territory

Short Term History

- Meeting with Department of Lands, Planning and the Environment 5/03/14.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates call on councils to commit to examining proposals to do with land subdivisions from the Department of Lands, Planning and the Environment* 3/04/14.
- Meetings of the reference group 29/05/14; 26/06/14; 6/08/14.
- Draft Subdivision Guidelines tabled at the CEO Forum 19/08/14.
- CEO teleconference 9/09/14.
- ETIRG meeting 12/09/14.
- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive receive and note the report on land development in the Northern Territory* 16/09/14.
- Executive meetings 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- General meeting 6/11/14; 16/04/15.
- Director Land and Economic Development spoke at the ETIRG meeting 26/03/15.
- NTG Budget has identified funding to continue this work.

Future Action

Await further confirmation from Department of Planning as to the status of Guidelines.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.7 Street Lighting Charges

Short Term History

- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive receive and note the report on street lighting charges* 16/09/14.
- Executive meeting 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- Legal advice received and amendments to the SLA completed 14/11/14.
- Councils now have a service level agreement they can use for negotiating with Power and Water for streetlights.
- This and the industry work LGANT cost \$81 000.
- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates endorse councils conducting an audit of their street lights to assist them to:*
 - *be better informed on the benefit or not of owning street light assets*
 - *enable them to develop a policy position about the Power and Water Corporation's capital charge* 6/11/14.
- Email Power and Water Corporation regarding capital charge and meeting to discuss.
- Met with Power and Water John Baskerville 23/03/15.
- Letter sent 9/04/15 to Minister for Essential Services regarding SLA for OMR and 1 December 2015 for capital charge.
- Power and Water to speak to all municipal councils individually.

Future Action

Monitor with councils their progressions with negotiations. Awaiting response to letter send 9/04/15.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.8 National State of the Assets Report 2014

Short Term History

- 2010 the Local Roads Funding Gap Report.
- 2012/13 data collection undertaken.
- 2013 State of Assets Report launched at the 2013 Road Congress in Alice Springs.
- 2014 appointment of consultants Jeff Rorda and Associates.
- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive supports ALGA and promote participation of member councils in the "National State of Assets Report 2014"* 16/09/14.
- Executive meetings 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- Report launched at the "Local Government Roads and Transport Congress" in Tamworth.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

- LGANT Newsletter article with ALGA web address for report.
- ALGA President spoke to the Executive on the initiative 1/05/15.

Future Action

Continue to encourage members to participate in this body of work.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.9 Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Short Term History

- Evidence provided at inquiry hearing in Darwin 20/8/14.
- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive endorse the referendum matter being put to the November 2014 general meeting for resolution as LGANT policy and request councils consider passing a resolution in favour of the referendum* 16/9/14.
- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates approve the draft resolution and LGANT policy on the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution* 6/11/13.
- Executive meeting 22/12/14; 6/02/15; 10/03/15.
- Email to Tim Gartrell, Campaign Manager, Recognise.

Future Action

Follow up with councils if they have passed resolutions. Update LGANT policy statements.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.10 Review of LGANT's Climate Change Policies

Short Term History

- NCCARF Forum 30/09/14 (LGANT represented by City of Palmerston Environment and Climate Change Strategic Planner).
- General meeting resolution – *THAT delegates endorse LGANT developing new policies on climate change and adaptation* 6/11/14.
- Contact WALGA regarding work they have done on policies around climate change.
- Executive meeting 22/12/14; 6/02/15; 10/03/15.
- Draft policy developed and presented at the ETIRG meeting 26 March 2015 adopted for forwarding to General Meeting in Tennant Creek.
- Draft policies tabled at Tennant Creek meeting with comments from councils required to be with LGANT before November 2015.

Future Action

Paper with policies to be tabled at the general meeting in November 2015.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.11 2013-14 Local Government National Report

Short Term History

- Letter from Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development requesting input to the report 12/11/14.
- Executive resolution – *THAT the Executive agree to provide input to the submission following its circulation* 2/12/14.
- Submission sent 16/01/15.
- Executive meeting 6/02/15; 10/03/15; 1/05/15.

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Future Action

View report on its release.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.12 *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act*

Short Term History

- Executive approves draft submission on the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act* ('the Act') 19/02/13.
- Preliminary report issued November 2013.
- Final report issued July 2014.
- NT Cabinet approved the report's recommendations between July and December 2014.
- Legislation is being introduced in the current sittings of Parliament.

Future Action

Provide advice on the legislation once enacted.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.13 Arts and Cultural Policy Reference Group

Short Term History

- Email received from Arts NT, Department of Arts and Museums 28/11/14.
- Expression of interest sent online from the LGANT CEO 2/12/14.

Future Action

Await advice on nomination.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.14 Review of the *Local Government Act*

Short Term History

- Letter from Executive Director, David Willing of the Department of Local Government and Regions ('the Department') to the LGANT CEO:
 - giving notice of the review of the *Local Government Act* ('the Act')
 - requesting representation from LGANT to a working party by 30 January 2015
 - asking for submissions to the review to be in by 30 April 2015.
- All Executive members provided out-of-session endorsement by 23 January 2015 of the LGANT CEO as the LGANT representative on the working party.
- Executive meeting 10/03/15.
- Letters received from Department appointing LGANT President as Chair and CEO to the working group 19/03/15.
- Submission sent 29/04/15.

Future Action

Report outcomes from the working party on its work on the review.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

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10.15 Establishment of New Licensing Authority

Short Term History

- Letter to the LGANT President 10/04/14 advising proposed new Licensing Authority.
- Anna McGill, from the Department of Business addressed the Executive meeting on the proposed new legislation on 3/06/14.
- The Executive approved the draft submission on Licensing Authority arrangements at its meeting on 26/06/14.
- A submission was sent to Minister Tollner on 30/06/14.
- Legislation (*Licensing Director-General Bill*) introduced to Parliament in week of 27/10/14.
- Letter signed on behalf of Department of Business CEO to LGANT CEO on 28/10/14 offering information sessions in 2015 on the new legislation.
- Executive meeting update provided on 2/12/14.
- Anna McGill given council meeting dates on 20/02/15.

Future Action

Obtain information agreed to be supplied from Anna McGill.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.16 Belyuen, Coomalie, Wagait Local Government Advisory Group

Short Term History

- Meeting of the Advisory Group 2/03/15.
- Progress report provided at Executive meeting 10/03/15.
- Executive meeting 1/05/15.
- The next meeting of the working group is scheduled for 9/06/15.

Future Action

Continue to provide progress reports.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.17 Darwin and Katherine Flood Mitigation Committees

Short Term History

- Executive meeting 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- Email sent to Department regarding release of final report.
- NTG budget allocated funds for both Katherine and Darwin mitigation project. Katherine included \$7.6M to move the Ambulance Centre from flood prone areas.
- Email forwarded to Department regarding release of final report which was to be after the NT Budget.

Future Action

Await final report.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

10.18 National Procurement Network Meeting Report

Short Term History

- Local Government National Procurement Network (NPN) charter was agreed to in 1998 with all local government associations (LGAs) being signatories.
- LGANT signed an MOU with Local Buy in Queensland in 2008 which was renewed in 2010.
- The NPN Charter was reviewed and adopted by LGAs in 2011.
- In 2012, legislative changes were introduced to the *NT Local Government (Accounting) Regulations* to allow collective procurement to occur.
- Procurement is identified as an activity within the Local Government Excellence initiative LGANT is funded for by the Department of Local Government and Community Services.
- LGANT actively participates in NPN meetings where possible.
- Through NPN, LGNSW will provide training in May 2015 for member council staff on basic procurement processes.
- NPN meeting in Melbourne 26-27/02/15.

Future Action

Next meeting in Adelaide in June 2015.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.19 Draft Submission on the *Cemeteries Act*

Short Term History

- In December 2012, the Department of Local Government and Regions (the Department) released a public discussion paper, *Review of the Cemeteries Act*.
- In February 2013, the LGANT submission on the review was sent to the Department.
- Review in abeyance from March 2013 to November 2014 while the Department completed further research as well as undertaking consultations with stakeholders.
- Letter from the Department of Local Government and Regions to LGANT President on inviting LGANT to lodge another submission on the review of the *Cemeteries Act* 27/11/14.
- Email and draft submission forwarded to members on 29/01/15.
- Business Paper to Executive on 6/02/15.
- Executive meeting 10/03/15; 1/05/15.

Future Action

Monitor development of legislation once it is known.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

10.20 2015-2016 LGANT Strategic Plan and Annual Priorities

Short Term History

- Strategic planning meeting 22/02/14.
- General meeting 3-4/04/2014.
- Executive meeting 3/06/14.
- Executive resolution: *THAT the Executive endorse the 2015/16 annual priorities as presented with the 2014-2019 LGANT Strategic Plan* 6/02/15.
- Executive meeting 10/03/15; 1/05/15.
- Included as an agenda item at LGANT general meeting 16/04/15.

Future Action

No further action.

Discussion

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Members noted the report.

**10.21 Prospective Councillor Workshops
Short Term History**

- Email to councils requesting motions 13/01/15.
- Reminder email to councils 3/03/15.
- Email from Barkly Regional Council 4/03/15.

Future Action

Review materials for workshops.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

**10.22 Disciplinary Committee Process
Short Term History**

- Email to councils requesting motions 13/01/15.
- Reminder email to councils 3/03/15.
- Email from Barkly Regional Council 4/03/15.
- General meeting resolution - *THAT delegates endorse LGANT, through the review committee and ALAC, working with the Department of Local Government to develop an enhanced disciplinary proceedings model which includes the current committee process augmented by the inclusion of other options for councils to legally pursue based on the severity of the dispute* 16/04/15.

Future Action

Action general meeting resolution.

Discussion

Members noted the report.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive receives and notes the reports on business from previous meetings that is not yet finished.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Mayor Siebert
Carried

11. BUSINESS NOT YET FINISHED BUT INACTIVE

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive accepts the business not yet finished but inactive.

Moved: Councillor Sharman
Seconded: President Shaw
Carried

12. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

12.1 *Has there been any feedback from government regarding development of consent authority?*

Members were told there has been no information received to date. LGANT will follow up on this matter.

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12.2 *Could LGANT organise a meeting with Minister Truss during the NGA?*

Members heard that the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is setting up a meeting with the Minister for the ALGA Board after the NGA conference.

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

13.1 Regularity in Executive Meeting Times

Members requested that a firm Executive meeting schedule be planned ahead and adhered to. LGANT will send out a fixed schedule of meeting times and dates for the next six months.

14. COMPLETED BUSINESS

Members were told that Nominations to the NT Weeds Advisory Committee will be removed from completed business and put back on the agenda as the Minister has not appointed anyone as yet.

RESOLUTION

THAT the Executive approves the removal of items of completed business from the agenda for the next meeting excluding Nominations to the NT Weeds Advisory Committee.

Moved: Alderman Elix

Seconded: Councillor Sharman

Carried

15. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

16. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the LGANT Executive will be on Tuesday 23 June 2015 at 9:30am in the LGANT Boardroom.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11:05pm.

ITEM NO. 13.1.1 **Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy**

FROM: Director of Technical Services

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0670

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

2. Economic Development

2.3 City Planning

2.3 We are committed to effective and responsible city planning which balances and meets both residential and commercial needs in our community

Summary:

Council has developed a very innovative parking strategy for its City Centre. The document has been presented to the members of the Carparking Advisory Group and is discussed in detail in this report.

The report recommends that Council endorse the Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy with the inclusion of Lot 1219 (Oasis Shopping Centre) and the proposed commercial development lots in Maluka View.

General:

As part of a suite of City Centre strategic planning documents Council has developed a Parking Strategy. Key elements of the strategy are:

- Recognise parking as an independent land use with a financial value that can be delivered in different ways, facilitating the unbundling of the hidden costs of parking;
- Set 'minimum to maximum' parking rates for different uses, thereby allowing a market responsive approach to parking based on user demand;
- Enable the City of Palmerston to be a provider of parking within the city centre with a variety of benefits, including reducing developer costs in the City Centre;
- Reduce city centre traffic congestion and improve retail trade by establishing a differential price system for new on-street parking and structured parking over time;
- Encourage employees to use sustainable transport through Employee Cash-Out Scheme;
- The use of in-lieu cash payments and / or a 'special levy' as a source for the City of Palmerston (COP) revenue to fund parking and other civic infrastructure over time.

The strategy proposes a significant change in two key areas. The first of these is Parking Control. Rather than providing for the maximum parking need, calculated for every use individually, the strategy introduces a parking minimum to maximum. This concept is aimed at allowing the market to dictate the required parking. To explain this concept the following example is provided.

A Medical Clinic “use” requires 4 bays for every consulting room as a minimum. An applicant can provide more than 4, subject to approval by the DCA. They can also provide less than 4, at the discretion of the DCA, with the number of waived bays being either paid for through a onetime payment of a contribution or waived outright with no payment. The new requirement is the provision of a minimum of 2 bays and a maximum of 4.

Councils letter of response to the planning application would state that Council supports the provision of 2 bays on the development site and that it recommends no more than 4 bays be provided.

The second key area of change is in the payment for non-provided bays. Where a developer does not provide the required level of parking rather than Council receiving a contribution under the carparking contribution plan it is proposed that an annual rate would be paid under section 156 of the Local Government Act.

The use of the alternate method of funding carparking provision in the City Centre by Council is expected to reduce the upfront cost of development and be responsive to the change in parking demand overtime. As the objectives of the strategy are met and carparking demand reduces in the City Centre the special rate can also be reduced.

Scope of the Strategy

Currently the City Centre is bounded by Roystonea Ave, Rolyat Street and Chung Wah Ave. The Oasis Shopping Centre and the Commercial component of the Maluka development are not included in the area and hence are not expected to be subjected to the future City Centre Levy.

Council has discussed the effects that fringe commercial developments can have on the City Centre in the past. Fringe commercial developments can also suffer from spill over of City Centre parking demand leaving them struggling to provide for their customers without the support of Council. Council may wish to consider whether the inclusion of the fringe commercial properties in the parking strategy would be beneficial.

City of Palmerston City Centre Car Parking Advisory Group

The draft City Centre Parking Strategy has been circulated to the members of the Car Parking Advisory Group. The following comments were received.

1. An alternate means to a one-off contribution plan for providing funding for public parking is required.
2. If Council is to provide parking in multi storey carparks and charge a minimum hourly/daily rate then it is effectively subsidising parking. Private developments can not compete with Council's subsidised bays therefore Council should consider subsidising the parking provided by private development.
3. Rather than build a dedicated multistorey carpark Council could consider purchasing floors of parking in new developments or enter into a long term lease.

Financial Implications:

Council has yet to set an amount for the proposed City Centre levy.

Legislation / Policy:

Local Government Act.

The City Centre Parking Strategy would become a policy document.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receive Report Number 8/0670.
2. THAT Council endorse the Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy with the inclusion of Lot 1219 (Oasis Shopping Centre) and the proposed commercial development lots in Maluka View.

Recommending Officer: Mark Spangler, Director of Technical Services

Any queries on this report may be directed to Mark Spangler, Director of Technical Services on telephone (08) 8935 9958 or email mark.spangler@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Schedule of Attachments:

Attachment A: Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy



PALMERSTON CITY CENTRE PARKING STRATEGY

February 2015





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‘If you plan cities for cars and traffic, you get cars and traffic. If you plan for people and places, you get people and places.’

Fred Kent, Project for Public Spaces

Introduction

The Northern Territory Planning Scheme requires the provision of sufficient off-street car parking for development sites, subject to conditions. The car parking rates identified in the Scheme establish minimum parking rates for different uses.

Historically, the car parking provided under the original planning approvals for Palmerston City Centre did not meet the provisions under the Planning Scheme. Concessions were granted for pioneering projects with the intent that parking structures would be provided at a later date to meet user demand.

Today the above process has resulted in a vehicle dependent pattern of development where the major identity of the city centre is a sea of free parking. Driving is a necessity and walking, cycling or catching public transport into the city centre is often not viable. Although not always readily apparent, issues associated with this model include:

- Free parking affects travel choices, encouraging employees to drive to work;
- Minimum parking rates satisfy the peak event demand, resulting in an oversupply of parking;
- The hidden costs of parking are bundled into the cost of property, rent and services which often raises the cost of living;
- Parking is a by-product of statutory planning, rather than being a strategic lever it can use over time.

Given the vision for the Palmerston City Centre and its evolution from a vehicle orientated city centre into a city for people, the master planning process has identified the opportunity to implement a progressive parking strategy that is informed by best practice tailored to the Northern Territory.

Key elements of the strategy include:

- Recognise parking as an independent land use with a financial value that can be delivered in different ways, facilitating the unbundling of the hidden costs of parking;
- Set 'minimum to maximum' parking rates for different uses, thereby allowing a market responsive approach to parking based on user demand;
- Enable the City of Palmerston to be a provider of parking within the city centre with a variety of benefits, including reducing developer costs in the City Centre;
- Reduce city centre traffic congestion and improve retail trade by establishing a differential pricing system for new on-street parking and structured parking over time;
- Encourage employees to use sustainable transport through an Employee Cash-Out Scheme;
- The use of in-lieu cash payments and / or a 'special levy' as a source for the City of Palmerston (COP) revenue to fund parking and other civic infrastructure over time.

Whilst still providing for adequate parking that is critical in the City Centre over the short to medium term, it is anticipated the above elements will bring a number of benefits to Palmerston City Centre over the long term. These include reduced traffic and congestion, improved public transport, strong local economy and economic resilience. The balance of this report outlines the Strategy.



Conventional Parking, Costs and Issues

- 1.1 The problem
- 1.2 The high cost of minimum parking requirements
- 1.3 Minimum parking costs raise house costs and reduce urban density
- 1.4 The inequality of free parking
- 1.5 An innovative parking solution
- 1.6 Key Lessons and Insights

1.1 Overview

‘Rather than parking working in the service of cities, cities have been working in the service of parking, almost entirely to their detriment’ (Speck, 2012 p. 116)

Car parking is an end of trip facility for the private car. However, excessive car parking, particularly free parking, combined with the ease of travel afforded by private car travel, inevitably results in increased vehicular movements.

The current response to this issue is to widen roads to facilitate easier travel by private cars and then provide more car parking to accommodate the ever growing vehicle movements.

However, in reality, as Shoup (1997) articulates, the provision of additional parking is ‘a fertility drug for cars.’ Shoup (1997, p.3-4) goes on to explain:

‘Understanding the problem as too few parking spaces, planners require developers to provide more parking. But if the problem is too many cars rather than too few parking spaces, minimum parking requirements make the original problem even worse. The problem, however, is neither a shortage of parking nor an excess of cars. I will argue the fundamental problem is free parking.’

Currently, the number of parking bays required for individual developments is calculated by identifying the peak demand generated by the proposed land use.

Conventional approaches to parking require minimum numbers of bays to be provided according to land use and the scale of individual developments and does not take into account on street parking. Further conventional parking standards are not based on shared parking arrangements which reflect the differing parking requirements and times of different uses.

This approach results in an over supply of free well located parking, increased private car travel and consequently more congested roads. In addition, minimum parking requirements linked to individual developments, have resulted in a range of unforeseen consequences including higher cost of housing and goods and reduced urban densities leading to urban sprawl. Transportation and land use today would look very different if parking had always been priced to cover its costs



Car parking surrounding the water tower



Car parking dominates streetscapes



Car parking sits in front of retail



More public space is given to cars than to pedestrians

1.2 The high cost of minimum parking requirements

‘Because (parking) is so plentiful and often free to use, it is easy to imagine that it costs very little. But this is not the case’ (Speck 2012, p.16)

In most cases, parking is provided by, and initially paid for, by the developer. The developer then passes these costs on to the purchaser/tenant/customer through higher housing, rental and retail costs and consumer goods as the cost is diffused through the economy. Unknowingly, we are all paying for parking when we purchase a coffee, or go out to dinner, even if we did not drive or do not own a car. Speck (2012, p.118) describes the situation:

‘Nobody can opt out of paying for parking. People who walk, bike, or take transit are bankrolling those who drive. In doing so, they are making driving cheaper and thus more prevalent, which in turn undermines the quality of walking, biking and transit.’

Wherever there is well located, accessible free parking, even in cities with high residential densities and efficient public transport systems, people are more inclined to drive.

Over and above incentivising people to drive, the excessive parking requirements ultimately impact on the ability to create lively city centres. Examples of this include:

- The “Pensacola Parking Syndrome” – is a term that has been coined in reference to Pensacola, an historic town in Florida where sadly, the heritage fabric of the town, has been largely destroyed and replaced with unattractive parking facilities required to support new development. The end result is the degradation of the city centre environment reducing the number of visitors and causing a disconnect between the supply and demand of parking. Australian examples include locating parking stations
- on the beachside of foreshore roads such as Cottesloe, City and Scarborough Beaches in Perth, Western Australia which impact on the amenity and attraction of the beach.
- Excessive minimum parking requirements can have a significant impact on the viability of development proposals and at worst can lead to unsightly vacant sites. More creative approaches to parking include reducing minimum parking rates through shared parking arrangements that reflect the different parking demands of different uses at different times.
- The ability to expand existing uses within a city centre can be compromised by the inability to physically provide the additional parking required on-site, or the prohibitive cost of providing cash in lieu of parking. For example a café may wish to expand by providing outdoor dining which would increase the vitality of the public realm and particularly the night time economy. Additional car parking requirements enforced for this expanded use may result in the outdoor dining being unfeasible.
- The requirement to provide a specified number of car bays per residential apartment, irrespective of location, can increase housing costs by up to 20%. A study in Oakland, USA found that by requiring even one parking space per home increased housing costs by 18% and reduced density by 30% (Speck, 2012, p. 124).

CASE STUDY - COFFS HARBOUR

Coffs Harbour is a coastal town in New South Wales that is similar to Palmerston in many ways. Constrained by car dominance, a lack of funding, and limited public transport, accessing Coffs Harbour City Centre for locals and large numbers of visitors is becoming increasingly challenging. The Coffs Harbour City Centre Master Plan 2031 was prepared to establish the preconditions to attract new investors and stimulate economic activity with a focus on place capital.

In March 2013 Council adopted the Master Plan including 10 city wide strategies and 12 projects. These ranged from the immediate actions, such as an improved city park (under construction), to game changers for the city centre, such as a new cultural building and convention centre. In June, IPART approved the special rate application providing an additional \$8M in funding to be delivered over the next eight years.

Of particular relevance is the innovative solution that was proposed for parking within the City. Whilst Council had budgeted \$8m for public car parks over the next ten years, there was no budget for cultural infrastructure.

Through an integrated strategy optimising existing parking infrastructure by introducing angle parking on wide streets, timed parking and improving the function and spaces of existing car parks, and by applying a modal split of 10% to sustainable transport it was discovered that only \$3m would be required to satisfy the future parking demand. The surplus of \$5m within the original \$8m budget has been reallocated towards a new cultural building in the city's centre.



1.3 Minimum parking requirements raise housing costs and reduce urban density

‘Parking requirements make higher densities impossible without multilevel parking garages... the high cost of parking is the reason why almost every new suburban building is either less than three stories tall or more than ten stories tall, only a tower can pay for a parking garage’ (Duany, Plater-Zyberk & Speck, 2000, p. 207)

Excessive parking requirements limit development potential. The area required to satisfy parking standards, on small sites in particular, often exceeds the commercial or retail floorspace, impacting on the feasibility of development proposals. This in turn can limit the range of uses that are financially able to locate within city centres, reducing the diversity of uses necessary to support a viable city centre.

Alternatively, providing parking in shared public facilities enables the more effective use of floorspace for other uses that actively contribute to the city centre. By reducing the area dedicated to parking a more compact city centre can be created. This increases the desirability and ability for people to walk and cycle, further decreasing the demand for car parking.

Adopting a shared parking approach between residential and other uses, particularly in a city centre, is a more efficient use of land. It reflects the differing peak parking demand periods of different uses and reduces the overall amount of parking required. In addition, consolidating parking in a smaller number of larger shared public facilities is more cost effective than constructing multiple smaller car parks.



Cities for cars - parking centric design with surface car parks, blank walls

Cities for people - human centric design, car parking is located off-site with ground floors and the public domain activated

1.4 The inequality of free parking

If parking is 'free' or underpriced, who is paying?

Parking is based on an unequal pricing structure. Consumers bear the cost of parking even if they are not using the facility as the cost of parking is passed onto consumers in the form of higher prices.

Whilst, the majority of travel is undertaken by cars, a significant proportion of people also walk, cycle and take public transport. Providing 'free' parking and passing on the costs to all does not represent an equal environment for all users with those using sustainable transport modes also indirectly funding the cost of parking for those who continue to choose to drive. Car travel inevitably leads to road network congestion creating greater delays for private vehicles and road based public transport vehicles. Rather than looking to reduce congestion by providing facilities to accommodate active travel options such as cycle lanes and public transport the more typical response is to merely widen the road to allow for even more cars to travel freely.

This creates further inequity between private motor vehicles and more sustainable travel options. Although public transport, and other sustainable travel modes, have the capacity to carry greater numbers of passengers, the vast majority of road space is dedicated to private vehicles.



Conventional parking models penalise the 21st century citizen who walks, bikes and users public transport

1.5 An innovative parking solution

“Parking, like roadway capacity, is what economists refer to as a free good. Most people who use it do not pay its full cost, as a result, it is overused and subject to shortages. When parking is provided – especially on street – it should vary in price around the clock proportionate to demand.” Duany, Lydon and Speck, 2010

Overview

An occupancy of 85% is considered optimal for managing car parking demands within city centres. Catering for 85th percentile of parking utilisation is widely accepted as an appropriate benchmark. Utilisation above 85% is likely to result in changed driver behaviour, including increased vehicle circulation, tailgating pedestrians and double parking.

The 85th percentile provides adequate levels of parking except for the 5-6 busiest weeks of the year which is approximately four weeks at Christmas and New Year, and about two weeks around Easter and Mothers Day.

The additional demand experienced at these two peak periods can be accommodated by:

- Educating the community that longer walking distances may be required and over flow parking may extend beyond the city centre into adjoining residential areas
- Changing travel habits to including the use of alternative transport modes, increased car occupancies and peak spreading

While parking may be constrained at peak times, planning to the 85th percentile reduces the amount of car spaces required. In addition, there are a range of other approaches to parking that not only reduce the “hidden” costs of parking, but enable parking costs to be more equitably and sustainably shared through smarter pricing strategies designed to influence behaviour change and reduce parking demand.

Pricing parking

Providing free car parking leads to an expectation that it will always be free. However, most ‘free’ services tend to be overused

and reinforce existing behaviour patterns. Developing a tailored pricing strategy for parking can be a catalyst for change and crucial to the management of parking assets.

Enabling the use of on street parking

On-street parking should be taken into account when calculating parking supply. Requiring all parking to be provided on site duplicates parking supply, increases development costs and lessens the ability to create a compact walkable city centre. In addition, introducing parking meters on centrally located street parking bays will result in more people using the spaces for shorter periods of time, supporting local businesses and facilitating convenient access for people willing to pay a premium.

Decoupling parking

Traditionally, car parking controls require parking to be provided on site. A more sustainable model now widely used, involves locating parking on sites away from the primary land use largely in shared parking structures. This is a more cost effective way of providing parking, increases pedestrian movement and results in a finer grain more compact urban form.

Car parks on the periphery

Locating shared car parks on the periphery of a city centre frees up high value land within the centre to be used for the highest and best use whilst supporting an active and attractive streetscape. Further, encouraging people to walk from the edge of a city centre to their destination activates the streets, supports the local businesses and improves the vibrancy and safety of a centre.



111 Lincoln Road, Miami - hybrid parking structure with retail and cultural spaces

1.6 Key lessons and Insights

14 Insights Towards A Strategic Parking Strategy

- Well located parking contributes to the success of centres providing an important facility for many visitors and shoppers
- Minimum parking requirements hide the cost of parking by bundling it into higher housing prices, higher consumer prices, lower urban density, and lower land values. Everyone pays for free parking
- The space requirements and cost of providing parking can limit the development potential and feasibility of a site and increase development costs
- Parking is a cost to developers that is passed onto the consumers through higher prices
- Parking standards are typically based on the peak demand resulting in a surplus of free spaces promoting the dominance of the car as the preferred mode of travel
- Minimum parking requirements can inflate parking supply which leads to increased demand, which is then used to inform future parking needs
- Free parking changes the character of the urban environment by encouraging sprawl and reducing the ability to create vibrant centres
- Minimum parking requirements are a “one size fits all” approach based on a range of assumptions that are not tailored to reflect locational characteristics, proximity to public transport, affordability, and other matters that can influence parking demand
- Poorly designed and configured out parking can detract from the streetscape and activation of a city centre
- The sharing of parking facilities between different uses is a proven method of managing parking requirements, for example at the St Margarets Car Park in Bourke Street Sydney
- Providing well designed car parks around the periphery of a city centre with clear and safe walking links to key destinations can enhance the vibrancy of a centre and provide a more economic efficient model
- The cost of free parking is not borne equitably, as it is ultimately paid by everyone, even those who do not use it
- There is an opportunity to utilise existing on street parking to reduce parking requirements on individual developments and to introduce a “user pays” system for the convenience
- Parking should be priced to reflect the level of convenience it offers to encourage turnover and support the local businesses

**“Minimum parking requirements have severed the link between the cost of providing parking and the price that motorists pay for it...(they) work against almost every goal of urban planners – except the goal of preventing parking spillover. They increase the cost of urban development, degrade urban design, burden enterprise, promote automobile dependency, and encourage urban sprawl.”
(Shoup, 1997, p. 16)**



Palmerston City Centre Master Plan

- 2.1 Vision and objectives**
- 2.2 Development capacity and parking**
- 2.3 Alternative parking models costs and benefits**
- 2.4 Towards a 21st Century Palmerston Parking Strategy**

2.1 City Centre Master Plan

A key objective of the Palmerston City Centre Master Plan is to develop a strategic parking strategy to bring a range of benefits to the city centre. By unbundling the hidden costs of parking and removing the requirement to provide all parking on-site the type of development the city can attract can be diversified, creating city revenue, and a lever to accelerate a shift to sustainable transport.

3.1 Vision

“Palmerston will be a vibrant, tropical city of opportunities.

The city will foster a sense of community in a clean, safe, friendly and sustainable environment that supports and nurtures the lifestyle of residents, workers and visitors.

It will create a vibrant, tropical and lush place that connects a mix of commercial, retail, community, residential and open space, and creates a unique identity; facilitated by authentic city streets that supports a variety of activities, events, informal gathering spaces and entertainment; sustained by safe and convenient public transport and pedestrian links to the wider community.”

3.2 Mission

The vision will be achieved using the following mission:

“To manage and promote diversity, a unique way of life and opportunity, through innovation and excellent experiences.”



Strategy statement

The vision and mission will be achieved through improvements to economic, cultural and ecological opportunities. City of Palmerston will work on creating an involved and supportive community, promoting investment, ensuring

accessibility and capitalising on our natural advantages with an emphasis on sustainability. This will be achieved by addressing the following values:

COMMUNITY VALUES

> Leadership

We will provide clear direction and inspire people to achieve their full potential.

> Teamwork

We will encourage cooperation and teamwork within and between our employees and our community stakeholders.

> Integrity

To act in an honest, professional, accountable and transparent manner.

> Innovation

We will encourage creativity, innovation and initiative to achieve CoP's vision.

> Encourage

Community growth and development.

> Contribute

To the efficient and effective management of the environment, community and economy for present and future generations.

Objectives

The objectives developed to support the vision and mission to be implemented within the Palmerston City Centre Master Plan are:

- 1** To ensure that the City Centre is sustainable and self sufficient. This will be achieved through:
 - > Creation of a sustainable and self-sufficient city centre by creating jobs, promoting public transport use and development opportunities which are commercially feasible;
 - > Reuse existing infrastructure (including parks, circulation aisles, landscaping etc) to limit unnecessary costs in delivering the vision.
- 2** To be responsive and adaptable to the changing environment. This will be achieved through:
 - > Create a robust and adaptable master plan framework which can respond to the changing and fluctuating economic conditions and provide opportunities for a range of development types.
- 3** To facilitate the integration of the diverse and mix of uses with convenient public transport and pedestrian/cycle routes. This will be achieved through:
 - > Improving urban mobility and accessibility by focusing on the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, public transport users and drivers – in that order;
 - > Increased safe, intimate connectivity through landscaped wildlife / green corridors;
 - > Improvement to existing services, facilities and amenities to encourage urban living to support commercial viability;
 - > Creation of pedestrian and cycle pathways and links to the current networks.
- 4** To ensure that Palmerston City Centre remains accessible for vehicles, cycles and pedestrians, including accessibility for disabled persons. This will be achieved through:
 - > Management of traffic along Roystonea Avenue;
 - > Allowing for access points into the town centre at least every 200m;
 - > Develop a strategic parking strategy to bring a range of benefits to the city centre.
- 5** To facilitate the creation of the Palmerston City Centre as a 'place'. This will be achieved through:
 - > Use a place-led approach to the design of streets, public places, precincts and activities, such as markets to create a city centre first and foremost for people;
 - > Ensuring connectivity across the City Centre and providing legible and good way finding;
 - > Integrate a diversity of uses with a quality public realm for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users;
 - > Creation of special places and unique areas for public art where people can relax, or enjoy more active spaces for cultural and social recreation;
 - > Creation of a public square and meeting place to relax, meet, or celebrate.
- 6** To ensure good built form outcomes and the relationship with the public realm through the inclusion of design guidelines. This will be achieved through:
 - > Development of built form guidelines to support the Master Plan;
 - > Development of a car parking strategy to support the Master Plan.

The creation of a Master Plan that adequately meets the objectives will guide growth in Palmerston in a positive direction and create a more sustainable and liveable city over time.

2.2 Development Capacity and Parking

The proposed master plan provides a robust framework able to accommodate a substantial increase to the floor space.

Under the vision and design guidelines for the city centre, the master plan envisages a 'High Low City' density model focuses on creating a fine grain, human scale city where taller towers are evenly distributed to create optimised view sharing and solar amenity.

The majority of streets are defined by buildings ranging between 5 to 12 storeys. Within this framework, the 'High Low City' model distributes taller towers on a block-by-block basis where new towers are located in response to any existing towers to create an open skyline, optimise solar amenity and view sharing.

Under the modelled scenario, the development capacity of the city centre is approximately 500,000m² of floor space with the assumed split:

Residential GFA

300,000m² or approximately 3000 dwellings / 7,200 residents

Non-Residential GFA

200,000m²

Based on the above development capacity and current Northern Territory Parking Rates, in parallel with new development approximately 18,000 car parking spaces (450,000m²) would have to be provided by the private sector at a total cost of approximately \$468 million (average \$26,000 per parking space, on site above ground).

Given the current city centre has a total land area of approximately 32.2ha, attempting to provide 45 hectares of parking would result in a city design driven by parking, not people.

Over the life of the City Centre Master Plan between 10,282 and 20,564 parking spaces may be required by the proposed minimum to maximum parking rates.

There is an opportunity for CoP and the NT Government to provide 6,301 spaces over the staged construction of stand alone parking garages.

Further, within a mixed-use city centre the potential also exists to acknowledge the opportunity for shared parking between different uses with a shared parking discount of 30% a generally accepted rate.

Applying this rate to the city centre, the total amount of required parking has the potential to be reduced to between 7,197 - 14,395 car parking spaces. The total cost of providing this amount of parking is approximately \$187 million (average \$26,000 per parking space).

Based on the above analysis, it is evident that the development capacity of the city centre can generate a huge difference in the amount of parking provided dependent on the model used.

The next section outlines the alternate models.

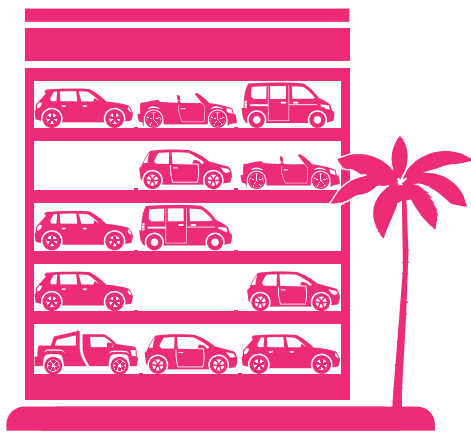
PALMERSTON PARKING STRATEGY

IT IS EXPECTED
BETWEEN
**10,282 &
20,564**

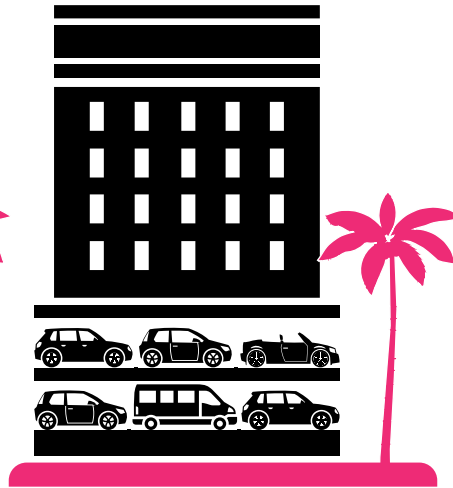
Parking spaces may be required to reflect the proposed minimum to maximum parking rates



PARKING SPACE COSTS:



Efficient above
ground garage
\$18,000
per space



On site above
ground podium
\$26,000
per space



On site
basement
\$35,000
per space

At \$18,000/space, government owned
land could produce garages for:

2,653-3,716
spaces City Of Palmerston

\$67m

3 Key Opportunities for parking garages:

Stage 1: 443 Spaces
\$8 million

Stage 2: 2076 Spaces
\$37 million

Stage 3: 1197 Spaces
\$22 million

Total: \$67 million

Parking rate comparison

The following parking rates provide a comparison of the car parking minimums and maximums in city centres around Australia. Car parking rates are moving from being controlled by minimum standards to maximum standards in city centres to create more active, vibrant and attractive city centres.

Sydney and Melbourne cap the provision of parking for apartments to between 0.3 - 1 car space per unit. The provision of parking for commercial and retail development is also decreasing. Brisbane restricts car parking to a maximum of one space every 200m² of retail or commercial development.

This is important to Palmerston as it is now being nationally recognised that to create functional and attractive city centres with economically feasible development, onerous and unnecessary car parking minimums need to be replaced by parking maximums. Parking maximums have the ability to influence a decrease in the expensive create of parking that is underutilised, taking up prime location within city centres.

| | DARWIN | SYDNEY | MELBOURNE | BRISBANE | GOLD COAST |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------|------------------------|--|
| RESIDENTIAL | Average 1.5/ dw (min) | 0.3/ 1 bd unit (max) 0.7/ 2 bd unit (max) | 1/ 1-2 bd dw (max) | Average 1.25/ dw (min) | 1/ 1 bd unit (min) 2/ 2 bd unit (min) |
| RETAIL | 1/ 33sqm (min) | 1/ 60sqm (max) | 1/ 25sqm (max) | 1/ 200sqm (max) | 1/ 15 sqm (min) |
| COMMERCIAL | 1/ 33sqm (min) | 1/ 175sqm (max) | 1/ 28sqm (max) | 1/ 200sqm (max) | 1/ 25sqm (min) |



Palmerston City Centre Master Plan - Overview of development capacity

2.3 An alternative parking model

This strategy proposes an alternative to conventional parking to provide a more equitable and cost efficient outcome

Conventional parking models require that car parking is estimated for each land use and site separately and provided for on site. This requires the construction of costly podium or underground car parking within a development. The construction of these car parks, in some cases, may limit the development potential of a site and result in undesired outcomes including:

- Inactive street frontage due to ground floor car parking (unless it is sleeved)
- Greater urban sprawl as car parking takes up considerable floorspace that could be used for residential or commercial development
- Sterilizes some sites that are not able to satisfy additional parking requirements alongside parking requirements
- Increases construction costs to developers which they pass on to buyer and tenants, which then converts to higher housing prices, consumer goods and services

The alternative model proposes multi-storey car parks located on the periphery of the city centre to facilitate the construction of space and cost efficient parking.

The construction of up to 3 multi-storey car parks will provide efficiencies in construction whilst enabling parking to be shared across residential and commercial uses at different times of the day reducing parking demand.

Developers can financially contribute towards the construction of multi-storey car parks at a reduced rate per car space as the construction and land costs are significantly reduced.



Conventional Parking Model



Progressive Parking Model



Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy

- 3.1 Overview
- 3.2 Parking Strategies
- 3.3 Parking Calculator

3.2 Parking Strategies

The following strategies support the development of an innovative 21st Century parking model for the Palmerston City Centre

Sustainable Growth and Resilience

Principles

- Gradually replace surface car parks in the centre with multi-storey car parks around the edges
- Shift from inefficient private multi-storey car parks that are shared across residential, retail and commercial uses

The proposed parking model provides the basis of how a change in parking provision can result in a more sustainable and resilient city. By reducing the amount of surface car parks in the city centre, the land can be used more efficiently for a variety of land uses to create an active and vibrant city centre.

The construction of a handful of public multi-storey car parks will use resources more efficiently. Developers can have the option to construct required parking on site, or pay a contribution at a levy at a cheaper rate than the cost of providing parking on site. This levy will contribute to the cost of the construction and maintenance of the multi-storey car parks. The levy is able to be collected at a lower rate due to the cost efficiencies achieved by consolidating the required parking on sites at the periphery of the city centre.

The contributions model or levy provides for the sustaining of the quality of the city centre as contributions collected can be used for city improvements after the public multi-storey car parks are built.

Strategic Relation of Anchors and Parking

Principles

- Shift from a car park city centre, to a city centre for people
- Maximise street activity by separating anchors and parking
- Create a high quality public realm along key pedestrian routes
- Provide vehicle access and loading along secondary pedestrian routes

The strategic location of the public multi-storey car parks at the periphery of the city centre results in the creation of active pedestrian streets between the car parks and key destinations. Creating a walkable distance between the car parks and key anchors will maximise street activity, improve safety and support local ground floor retail and commercial developments with passing foot traffic.

To support these walking routes improving the public domain in these locations will be prioritised. These walking streets will discourage vehicle access, with loading docks and bays to be located along secondary pedestrian routes.

3.2 Parking Strategies

Sustainable Transport

Principles

- Promote walking and cycling
- Accelerate a modal shift towards sustainable transport
- Ensure sustainable transport is user friendly and that wayfinding is clear for all

An acceleration of a modal shift towards active transport, including the use of public transport, cycling and walking will be influenced by the following:

- Improve public realm to encourage walking by improving safety and a sense of security, lighting, footpaths, surveillance and activation of street
- Encourage cycling by providing cycling infrastructure, encourage end of trip facilities, and the promotion of cycling routes
- Encourage employers within the city centre to create work travel plans and/ or incentives to encourage the utilisation of active transport for journeys to work
- Support the introduction of additional bus services to support growth and a modal shift away from car dominance

Multi-storey car parks

Principles

- Design multi-storey car parks as people places
- Activate the ground floor of car parks
- Promote events and other activities
- Design for long term adaptability to other uses, such as residential

Support the development of the city centre as a people place by providing multi-storey car parks that are safe, interesting and convenient to use. Consider supplying car park users with incentives to encourage their use such as free water in summer, reusable shopping bags to borrow, daily newspapers, car washing etc. Ensure the design of car parks engage with the streetscape and are open to the street with good surveillance, minimising blank walls.

In addition, ensure the adaptability of multi-storey car for potential future uses, such as residential apartments. Providing structures that have the capacity for adaptation is an important measure to accommodate the growth and change of the city centre over time. Technological change may also see the introduction of new features, functions and conveniences within car parking structure.

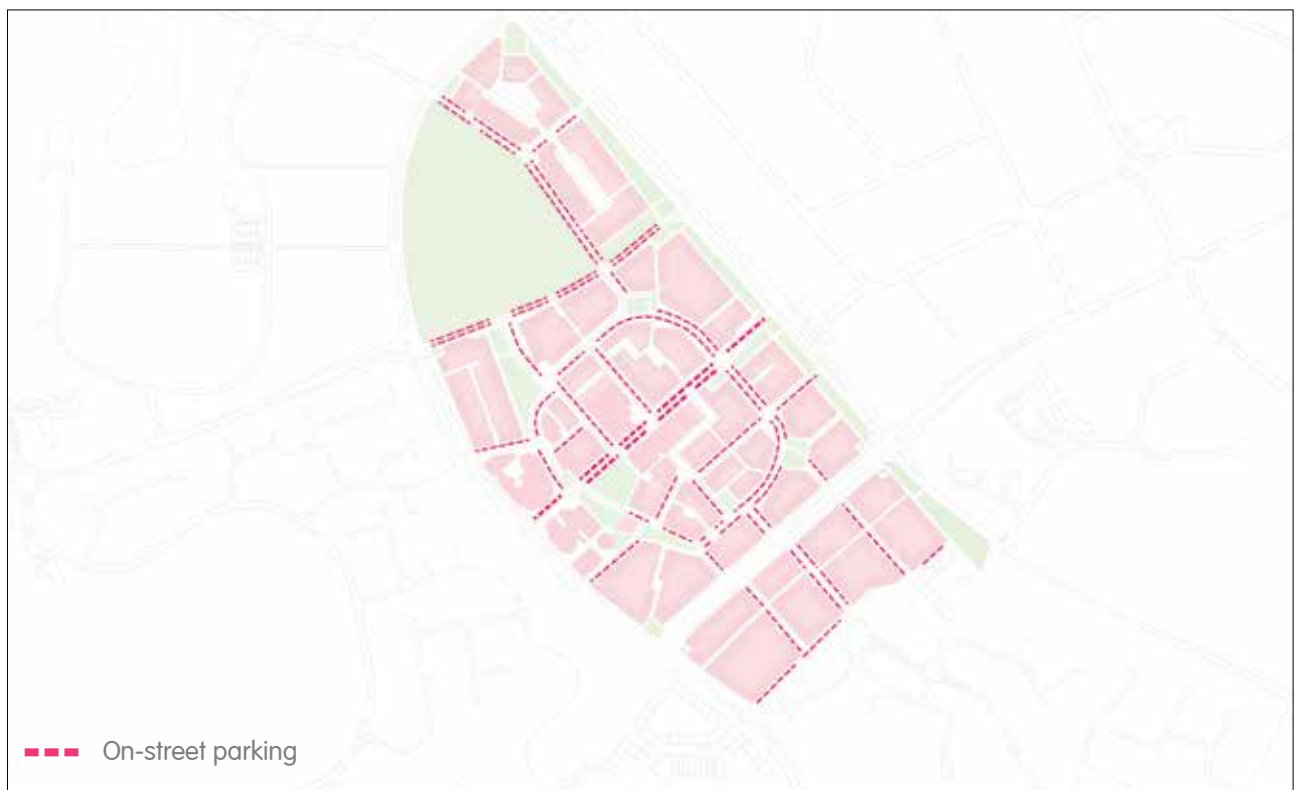
3.2 Parking Strategies

On-street Parking

Principles

- Utilise on-street parking
- Price the most proximate and sought after on street parking at the highest rate

On-street parking around key destinations should be utilised to provide convenient and accessible parking with a high turnover rate. On-street parking plays an important role in the function of a city centre, enabling direct and fast access for quick trips and errands removing the need to park at a multi-storey station. On-street parking should be timed, and priced at key destinations to facilitate quick turn over.



Smart Parking

Principles

- Use demand-responsive pricing to free up parking on each block to reduce circling and double parking
- Design multi-storey car parks to adapt to technological change

Smart parking involves utilising 'smart' thinking to facilitate improved results in parking efficiency, convenience and function. A key part of smart parking is using demand-responsive pricing. This approach ensures high turn over and encourages people to consider alternative modes of transport or park further away from destinations if time allows.

This results in an improved user experience for on-street car parks in front of key destinations which become available more readily in addition to encouraging people to either park at the periphery of the city where it is free or significantly cheaper, or utilise active transport.

3.2 Parking Strategies

Parking Controls

Principles

- Provide market-responsive parking controls
- Improve housing and lifestyle affordability, by reducing the requirement to own a car

Currently, the Northern Territory Planning Scheme sets the minimum car parking requirements for various land uses across the Northern Territory that apply to Palmerston City Centre. The following minimum parking requirements are proposed to amend to the proposed minimum to maximum requirements. Rather than providing for the absolute maximum parking need calculated for every use individually, introducing parking minimum to maximums will allow the market to dictate the required parking.

| | Existing requirement (minimum) | New requirement (minimum to maximum) |
|---|--|--|
| Home based visitor accommodation | 1 for every guest room plus 2 for the dwelling | 0.5-1 for every guest room plus 1-2 for the dwelling |
| Child care centre | 1 for every employee plus 1 for every 20 children | 0.5-1 per employee |
| Community centre | 5 for every 100m ² of net floor area | 2.5-5 for every 100m ² of net floor area |
| Education establishment | For a primary school or secondary school: 1 for every classroom plus 2 additional spaces plus an area for setting down and picking up passengers For a tertiary education establishment: 1 for every classroom plus 1 for every 6 students plus 2 additional spaces For a kindergarden: see child care centre For other education establishments: 1 for every 100m ² of net floor area, 1 for every 100m ² of net floor area other than offices plus 4 for every 100m ² of net floor area of office plus 1 for every 250m ² used as outdoor storage | For a primary school or secondary school: 0.5-1 for every classroom plus 1-2 additional spaces plus an area for setting down and picking up passengers For a tertiary education establishment: 0.5-1 for every classroom plus 0.5-1 for every 6 students plus 1-2 additional spaces For a kindergarden: see child care centre For other education establishments: 0.5-1 for every 100m ² of net floor area, 0.5-1 for every 100m ² of net floor area other than offices plus 2-4 for every 100m ² of net floor area of office plus 0.5-1 for every 250m ² used as outdoor storage |
| Home based child care centre | 1 for every non-resident employee in addition to those spaces required for the dwelling | 0.5-1 for every non-resident employee in addition to those spaces required for the dwelling |
| Hostel | 1 for every 5 persons plus 1 for every staff member plus 1 | 1 for every 5-10 persons plus 0.5-1 for every staff member |
| Hotel | 16 for every 100m ² net floor area used as a lounge bar or beer garden plus 50 for every 100m ² net floor area used as a bar plus 10 for a drive in bottle shop plus 1 for every guest suite or bedroom plus 3 for every 100m ² used for dining | 8-16 for every 100m ² net floor area used as a lounge bar or beer garden plus 25-50 for every 100m ² net floor area used as a bar plus 5-10 for a drive in bottle shop plus 0.5-1 for every guest suite or bedroom plus 1.5-3 for every 100m ² used for dining |
| Independent unit | 1 per bedroom to a maximum of 2 | 1-2 per unit |
| Leisure and recreation | Indoor spectator facilities including cinema or theatre 1 for every 4 seats Racquet court games 4 for every court plus for indoor spectator facilities (if any) 1 for every 4 seats Lawn bowls 20 spaces per green Golf Course 4 per hole plus 5 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a club house otherwise than specified above, 10 for every 100m ² of net floor area plus requirement for indoor spectator facilities (if any) for every 4 seats | Indoor spectator facilities including cinema or theatre 0.5-1 for every 4 seats Racquet court games 2-4 for every court plus for indoor spectator facilities (if any) 0.5-1 for every 4 seats Lawn bowls 10-20 spaces per green Golf Course 2-4 per hole plus 2.5-5 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a club house otherwise than specified above, 5-10 for every 100m ² of net floor area plus 0.5-1 for every 4 seats in indoor spectator facilities (if any). |

| | Existing requirement (minimum) | New requirement (minimum to maximum) |
|---|---|---|
| Licensed club | 10 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a lounge area or beer garden plus 20 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a bar plus 3 for every 100m ² of net floor area used for dining | 5-10 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a lounge bar or beer garden plus 10 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a bar plus 1.5-3 for every 100m ² used for dining |
| Medical clinic | 4 for every consulting room | 2-4 for every consulting room |
| Medical consulting rooms | 3 for every consulting room plus 1 additional space (in addition to the 2 spaces required for the dwelling) | 1.5-3 for every consulting room plus 1-2 additional spaces (in addition to the 1-2 spaces required for the dwelling) |
| Motel | 1 for every guest suite or bedroom plus 16 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a lounge bar or beer garden plus 3 for every 100m ² of net floor area used for dining | 0.5-1 for every guest suite or bedroom plus 8-16 for every 100m ² of net floor area used as a lounge bar or beer garden plus 1.5-3 for every 100m ² of net floor area used for dining |
| Motor body works | 6 for every 100m ² of net floor area | 3-6 for every 100m ² of net floor area |
| Motor repair station | 6 for every 100m ² of net floor area | 3-6 for every 100m ² of net floor area |
| Multiple dwellings | 2 per dwelling | 1-2 per dwelling |
| Office (not elsewhere referred to in this table) | 2.5 for every 100m ² of net floor area | 2.5-6 for every 100m ² of net floor area |
| Passenger terminal | 5 for every 100m ² of net floor area or as many car spaces as can be provided on 25% of the site area whichever results in the greater number of spaces (calculated exclusive of areas used for taxi stands or bus loading purposes) | 2-5 for every 100m ² of net floor area or as many car spaces as can be provided on 25% of the site area whichever results in the greater number of spaces (calculated exclusive of areas used for taxi stands or bus loading purposes) |
| Place of worship | 5 for every 100m ² of net floor area | 2-5 for every 100m ² of net floor area |
| Plant nursery | 2 for every 100m ² of net floor area plus 1 for every 250m ² used as outdoor nursery | 1-2 for every 100m ² of net floor area plus 0.5-1 for every 250m ² used as outdoor nursery |
| Restaurant | 6 for every 100m ² of net floor area and any alfresco dining areas plus 10 for drive through (if any) for cars being served or awaiting service | 3-6 for every 100m ² of net floor area and any alfresco dining areas plus 5-10 for drive through (if any) for cars being served or awaiting service |
| Service station | 2 for every 100m ² of net floor area or 5 whichever is the greater (not including parking serving bowsters) | 1-2 for every 100m ² of net floor area or 2.5-5 whichever is the greater (not including parking serving bowsters) |
| Serviced apartments | 1 for every dwelling plus 3 for every 100m ² of net floor area not within a dwelling | 0.5-1 for every dwelling plus 1.5-3 for every 100m ² of net floor area not within a dwelling |
| Shop | 6 for every 100m ² of net floor area | 3-6 for every 100m ² of net floor area |
| Showroom sales | 4 for every 100m ² of net floor area plus 1 for every 250m ² used as outdoor storage | 2-4 for every 100m ² of net floor area plus 0.5-1 for every 250m ² used as outdoor storage |
| Supporting accommodation | 1 for every 4 beds plus 4 for every 100m ² of net floor area used for administrative purposes | 0.5-1 for every 4 beds plus 2-4 for every 100m ² of net floor area used for administrative purposes |
| Vehicle sales and hire | 4 for every 100m ² of net floor area of office plus 1 for every 200m ² used for vehicle display | 2-4 for every 100m ² of net floor area of office plus 0.5-1 for every 200m ² used for vehicle display |
| Veterinary clinic | 4 for every 100m ² of net floor area | 2-4 for every 100m ² of net floor area |

3.3 Innovations in Car Park Funding

There are two basic models for the COP to consider in terms of the innovative funding of car parking in the Palmerston City Centre being:

- 1) Upfront Developer Payment
- 2) Special Levy

Upfront Developer Payment

Rather than satisfying their car parking requirements on-site at a certain cost per space, under this model the developer pays the COP a cash-in-lieu parking contribution for the parking. The cash-in-lieu payment, however is reliant on the Consent Authority to determine what amount of car parking spaces should be paid for. The funds collected is then used by the CoP to provide a parking structure in the city centre. Given the economics of building consolidated and efficient parking structures, the cash in lieu rate should cost developers less money than providing parking on-site.

As illustrated opposite, the upfront developer payment would facilitate the delivery of car spaces in parking garages at a rate of approximately \$18,000 (or agreed cost) per space. This would be more economically efficient than developers providing car parking within their developments with the likely cost of \$26,000 per space. In lieu of constructing parking on site, developers would pay \$18,000 per required space. This option has the potential to save \$30 million in the construction of car parking to developers influencing the reduction in flow on costs to the sales price and rent of the developments. This option also leverages capital from developers to CoP to fund the construction of the parking garages.

This financial benefit, coupled with the fact the developer can now utilise podium floor space for a 'higher and better use', creates a strong incentive for the developer to invest in the city centre.

As the market demand for parking goes down because of anticipated improvements in public transport and opportunity to live and work in the city centre, the cash in lieu contribution can be adjusted by CoP in a car parking contributions. Further, during a construction downturn the contribution can be further adjusted to increase

the viability of developing in the city centre compared to other markets.

An additional benefit of this model is the developer pays the money upfront, thereby limiting the amount of capital the COP needs to contribute to the parking structures.

Special Levy

Rather than relying on developer cash-in-lieu contributions, under this model the CoP imposes a levy under Section 157 of the Local Government Act 2011 and collects monies for the particular purpose of car parking or public realm. The CoP can fund the construction of the monies collected under this levy.

Under this model, the city centre is designated as a 'special district' and all land owners who demand a parking space are charged the levy to recoup the cost.

Although this model may require upfront capital by the COP, there are a number of long term benefits for the city centre including:-

- > The COP can monitor actual parking demand versus supply in real time. If surplus parking spaces exist, these spaces can be utilized before new spaces are constructed;
- > If the demand for parking infrastructure declines over time, the COP can use the Special Levy to fund other infrastructure required within the city centre, such as public realm improvements or cultural buildings;
- > If an over-supply of parking spaces exist in the city centre, the COP can convert a unnecessary parking structure into a higher and better use.

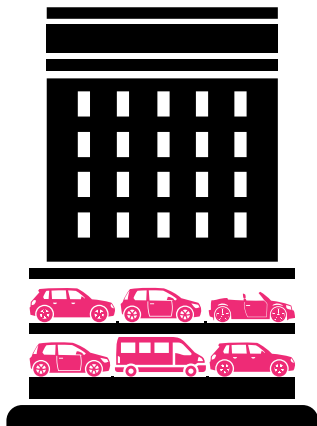
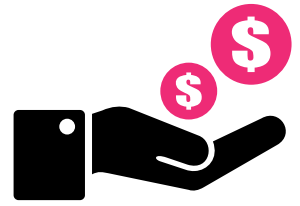
FUNDING OPTIONS

UPFRONT DEVELOPER PAYMENT



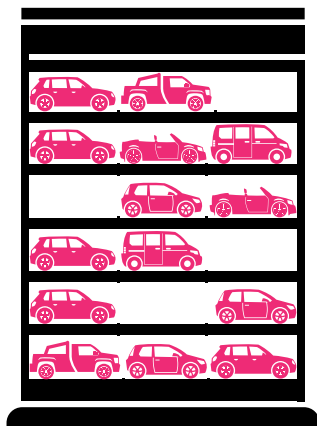
OR

SPECIAL LEVY



Rather than providing CoP parking spaces on site for **\$97mil**

\$26,000
per space

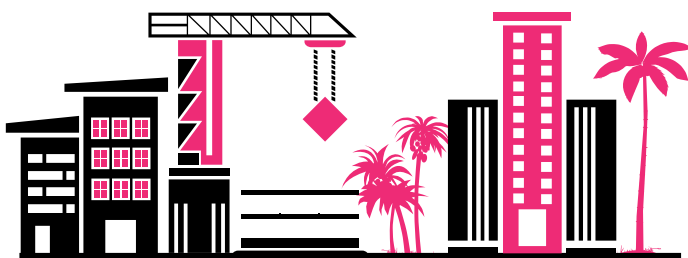


We can deliver 4 CoP owned parking garages for **\$67mil**

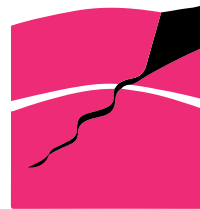
\$18,000*
per space

SAVING \$30m

Developers would pay **\$18,000*** per space to Council to fund the construction of the **parking garages** and **support city improvements**



*Or agreed cost

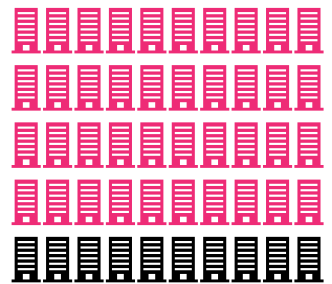


CoP to **fund parking garages** and recover costs through a **special levy**

High Growth:
\$67m divided by
4000 Apartments



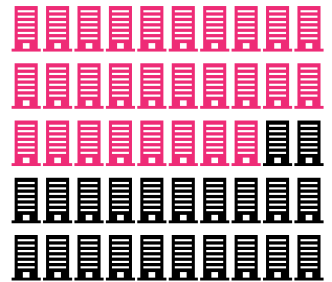
\$16,750
= \$1000/pa for 17 years



Medium Growth
\$67m divided by
2800 Apartments



\$23,930
= \$1000/pa for 24 years



This option is vulnerable if the city centre grows slower than anticipated

This option creates the conditions to support the oversupply of parking. In addition, it does not allow for people who do not drive to opt out of paying for parking.

CASE STUDY - GOYDER SQUARE

With the redevelopment of Goyder Square and the surrounding open space there is the opportunity to create an efficient parking garage on the existing surface car park off Chung Wah Terrace. The existing at grade car park can be dedicated to open space and a new street with between 350 - 500 spaces provided within a stacked parking garage providing significantly more parking than what is existing in addition to providing a more vibrant and activated city centre.



New 5-7 storey parking garage

Recommendations

- It is recommended that City of Palmerston Council adopt the philosophy and principles of the Parking Strategy alongside the Palmerston City Centre Master Plan and Palmerston City Centre Great Streets Strategy as a different approach to the traditional delivery of car parking
- This Strategy has outlined two models for the delivery of the strategy: Upfront development contribution; and a special levy. Based on the potential renewal benefits of each option it would appear that the special levy under the Local Government Act is the most appropriate mechanism deliver the principles and desired outcomes of this Strategy
- It is recommended that the parking rates under the Planning Act (NT) are amended to reflect the minimum to maximums proposed within this Strategy
- Notwithstanding all of the above, it is recommended that Council gains independent urban economics advice to inform Council of the economic implications of both models



References

Speck, J 1997, 'The high cost of free parking', *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, vol. 17, pp.3-20.

Speck, J 2012, *Walkable City*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York, NY.

Duany A, Plater-Zyberk, E & Speck, J 2000, *Suburban Nation: The rise of sprawl and the decline of the American dream*, North Point Press, New York, NY.

Duany A, Lydon, M & Speck, J 2010 *The Smart Growth Manual*, McGraw-Hill, New York, NY.

ITEM NO. 13.1.2 **Local Government Elected Member Service Awards**

FROM: Chief Executive Officer

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0672

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.2 Service

4.2 We value and encourage participation in Council activities by the community, and are committed to delivering the highest possible levels of service and community engagement

Summary:

The Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) has established Local Government Elected Member Service Awards which are open to current and former Elected Members who have served 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30+ years for any Northern Territory local government body.

Background:

These Awards were agreed to at a LGANT General Meeting held in April 2015 and councils are now being encouraged to lodge nominations prior to the closing date of 1 October 2015.

General:

All councils in the Northern Territory are being encouraged to participate in this initiative with the initial awards being presented at the next LGANT Annual General Meeting which is scheduled to be held at the City of Darwin on 13 November 2015.

A copy of the application form is provided as Attachment A

Financial Implications:

Nil

Policy / Legislation:

LGANT Policy

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0672.
2. THAT the Chief Executive Officer arrange for nominations to be completed for Elected Members who qualify for these Awards.

Recommending Officer: Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer on telephone (08) 8935 9902 or email ricki.bruhn@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Schedule of Attachments:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Attachment A | LGANT Elected Member Service Award Application |
|--------------|--|



Local Government Association of the Northern Territory

ELECTED MEMBER SERVICE AWARDS

Applicant's name: _____

The Elected Member Service Awards are open to current and former elected members who have served 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30+ years for any Northern Territory local government body.

Please tick which award is sought:

- ☐ Elected Member Service Award - 10 years
- ☐ Elected Member Service Award - 15 years
- ☐ Elected Member Service Award - 20 years
- ☐ Elected Member Service Award - 25 years
- ☐ Elected Member Service Award - 30+ years

Length of service

Please indicate the length of service as an elected member. If service has not been continuous indicate the previous periods of service. If it has been for more than one council (including community government councils prior to 2008), please specify each council to the relevant period.

| | Name of council | Month/year elected | Month/year term concluded |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |

If more space is required please provide the information on a separate piece of paper and have it certified.

Biography

Please provide a short biography on the applicant to be used for promotional purposes.

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Certification

This form must be certified to be correct by the Chief Executive Officer of the council to which the applicant is or was elected. In the event the applicant has served another council not previously affiliated with the current one, the Chief Executive Officer should seek written confirmation from an appropriate source prior to certifying the information on this form.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Chief Executive Officer)

Completed application forms can be scanned and emailed to danielle.lee-ryder@lgant.asn.au or posted to Elected Member Service Award, Local Government Association NT, PO Box 2017, Parap NT 0804.

Applications close: 1 October



Local Government Association of the Northern Territory

ELECTED MEMBER SERVICE AWARDS GUIDELINE

Introduction

LGANT is committed to recognising and awarding long term contributions of Elected Members to the local government sector and their communities. Long Service Awards will be presented to Elected Members in recognition of having served 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30+ years for any Northern Territory local government body. This document outlines who is eligible for a Long Service Award, what the award is and how it will be presented.

Guidelines

Eligibility

Current and former Elected Members who have completed 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30+ years of service. Service does not need to be continuous and includes elected members on community government councils prior to 2008.

Applications

Elected Members can be nominated by their Council or themselves by submitting the Elected Members form which is available at www.lgant.asn.au.

The form must be must be certified to be correct by the Chief Executive Officer of the council to which the applicant is or was elected. In the event the applicant served on another council not previously affiliated with the current one, the Chief Executive Officer should seek written confirmation from an appropriate source prior to certifying the information on this form.

Completed application forms can be scanned and emailed to danielle.lee-ryder@lgant.asn.au or posted to Elected Member Service Award, Local Government Association NT, PO Box 2017, Parap NT 0804. Applications need to be submitted by at least one month prior to the LGANT Annual General Meeting each November.

Nature of the Award

The award will be in form of a quality certificate of appreciation detailing the length of service.

Award presentation

The Elected Member Long Service Award will be presented at the November LGANT Annual General Meeting each year. Presentation of the Awards will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and promoted via LGANT's communications.

ITEM NO. 13.1.3

New Financial Policy FIN25 Rating Policy

FROM: Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0673

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.1 Responsibility

4.1 We are committed to corporate and social responsibility, the sustainability of Council assets and services, and the effective planning and reporting of Council performance to the community

Summary:

The report presents a new financial policy, FIN 25 Rating Policy, for Council's consideration and approval. FIN25 Rating Policy is designed to facilitate accountability and transparency around City of Palmerston's rating structure.

Background:

Council is faced with balancing its service levels, the needs and expectations of the community and setting appropriate rates levels to adequately resource its service delivery requirements and responsibilities.

This year Council has decided to change the residential rating structure from the current flat rate (whereby all residential properties pay the same amount) to a differential rate based on the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) of the land and the setting of a minimum rate amount payable by way of rates. Differential rates better reflect a property owner's ability to pay the rates levied but can also be tailored to support other key objectives like economic development or recognise the value of specific land use sectors.

Whilst a Rating Policy is not specifically required under the Local Government Act this Rating Policy will be used for the purpose of supplementing information contained within the annual budget to ensure compliance with section 127(2) (d and e) of the Act.

General:

FIN25 – Rating Policy sets out the basis for setting Council rates and defines Council's approach to a rateable allotment. Land use and zoning are categorised to create transparency around Council's rating structure. Finally this policy sets out Council's rating categories as current in the 2015-2016 draft budget.

Financial Implications:

Nil

Policy / Legislation:

Northern Territory Local Government Act

RECOMMENDATION

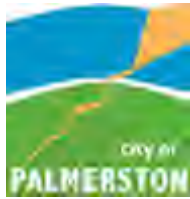
1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0673.
2. THAT Council approves FIN25 Rating Policy

Recommending Officer: Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services.

Any queries on this report may be directed to Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone 89359922 or email jan.peters@palmerston.nt.gov.au .

Schedule of Attachments:

Attachment A - Draft FIN25 Rating Policy



| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Rating Policy | | |
| Type: | Council Policy | | |
| Owner: | Chief Executive Officer | | |
| Responsible Officer: | Finance Manager | | |
| Approval Date: | [Approval Date] | Next Review Date: | [Next Review] |

1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline Council's approach towards rating its community and to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act Northern Territory (the Act).

2 Principles

City of Palmerston is committed to accountability and transparency in the rating structure. City of Palmerston is distributing the rate responsibility equitably across the community. The Rating structure is consistent with Council's strategic, corporate and financial directions and budgetary requirements.

3 Definitions

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

| Term | Definition |
|--------------------|---|
| The Act | Local Government Act Northern Territory |
| NT Planning Scheme | Northern Territory Planning Scheme |

4 Policy Statement

4.1 Basis for Rates

- 4.1.1 Council applies rates on the basis of land use.
- 4.1.2 Where Council is not aware of the Use of the Land it will deem the Use in line with the Zoning of the land under the NT Planning Scheme.
- 4.1.3 Council, pursuant to Section 149 of the Act, adopts the Unimproved Capital Value method as the basis for determining the assessed value of allotments within the Municipality. The Unimproved Capital Value of land is set by the NT Valuer General.
- 4.1.4 In accordance with section 148(1) of the Local Government Act rates are based on differential valuation-based charges calculated as a proportion of the assessed value of each allotment.
- 4.1.5 The Valuation-based charge may be subject to a specified minimum amount.

4.2 Rateable Allotments

- 4.2.1 An allotment is a parcel or part of a parcel of land for which Council makes a separate assessment of rates.
- 4.2.2 For the purpose of residential rates, allotment means a residential part, unit, dwelling house, flat or other substantially self-contained residential unit or building.
- 4.2.3 If a parcel is divided into separate allotments that are adapted for separate rating, a minimum charge will be multiplied by the numbers of separate allotments.

4.3 Land Use for Rating Purpose

4.3.1 The following table outlines the Land Use for all Rating Categories:

| Rating Category | Land Use |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Residential | Caretakers Residence |
| | Group Home |
| | Homes Based Child Care Centre |
| | Home Based Contracting |
| | Home Based Visitor Accommodation |
| | Home Occupation |
| | Independent Unit |
| | Multiple Dwellings |
| | Single Dwelling |
| Commercial | Animal Boarding |
| | Business Sign |
| | Caravan Park |
| | Car Park |
| | Child Care Centre |
| | Fuel Depot |
| | Hostel |
| | Hotel |
| | Leisure and Recreation |
| | Licensed Club |
| | Medical Clinic |
| | Medical Consulting Rooms |
| | Motel |
| | Office |
| | Promotional Sign |
| | Passenger Terminal |
| | Restaurant |
| | Retail Agricultural Stall |
| | Service Station |
| | Shop |
| | Showroom Sales |
| | Supporting Accommodation |
| | Vehicle Sales and Hire |
| | Veterinary Clinic |
| | Warehouse |
| Industrial | Abattoir |
| | General Industry |
| | Light Industry |
| | Motor Body Works |
| | Motor Repair Station |
| | Recycling Depot |
| | Rural Industry |
| | Transport Terminal |
| Vacant | Vacant Land |

- 4.3.2 Where Council is not aware of the Use of the Land the Rating Category for rateable land is determined by the Zoning of the land under the NT Planning Scheme:

| Rating Category | Zoning |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Residential | Single Dwelling Residential (SD) |
| | Multiple Dwelling Residential (MD) |
| | Medium Density Residential (MR) |
| | High Density Residential (HR) |
| | Community Living (CL) |
| | Rural (R) |
| | Rural Residential (RR) |
| | Rural Living (RL) |
| Commercial | Central Business (CB) |
| | Commercial (C) |
| | Caravan Park (CV) |
| | Service Commercial (SC) |
| | Tourist Commercial (TC) |
| Industrial | Light Industry (LI) |
| | General Industry (GI) |
| | Development (D) |
| Vacant Land | Public Open Space (PS) |
| | Organised Recreation (OR) |
| | Horticulture (H) |
| | Agriculture (A) |
| | Community Purposes (CP) |
| | Conservation (CN) |
| | Heritage (HT) |
| | Restricted Development (RD) |
| | Water Management (WM) |
| | Future Development (FD) |
| | Township (T) |
| | Specific Use(SP) |
| | Main Road (M) |
| | Proposed Main Road (PM) |
| | Railway (RW) |
| | Utilities (U) |

- 4.3.3 If a ratepayer believes that a particular property has been wrongly classified by the Council as to its land use, then the ratepayer may object in writing to the Council within 60 days of being notified. The objection must set out the basis for the objection and details of the land use that, in the opinion of the ratepayer, should be attributed to that property. Council will decide over the objection. Lodgement of an objection does not change the due date for the payment of rates.

4.4 Rating Categories

4.1 Residential Use

With respect to all rateable land with a Residential Land Use, a differential rate of 0.42500% of the assessed value of such land with minimum amounts being payable in the application of that differential rate being \$1,177 multiplied by:

- a) the number of separate residential parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (pursuant to section 148 (4) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
- b) the number1,
whichever is greater.

4.2 Commercial Use

With respect to all rateable land with a Commercial Land Use, a differential rate of 0.724116% of the assessed value of such land with minimum amounts being payable in the application of that differential rate being \$1,177.00 multiplied by:

- a) the number of separate commercial parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (pursuant to section 148 (4) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
- b) the number1,
whichever is greater.

4.3 Industrial Use

With respect to all rateable land with a Industrial Land Use, a differential rate of 0.176123% of the assessed value of such land with minimum allotments being payable in the amounts of that differential rate being \$1,177.00 multiplied by:

- a) the number of separate industrial parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (pursuant to section 148 (4) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
- b) the number1,
whichever is greater.

4.4 Vacant Land

With respect to all rateable vacant land, a differential rate of 0.42500% of the assessed value of such land with minimum amounts being payable in the application of that differential rate being \$1,177.00 multiplied by:

- a) the number of separate vacant land parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use (pursuant to section 148 (4) of the Act) on each allotment of land; or
- b) the number1,
whichever is greater.

5 Associated Documents

5.1 City of Palmerston Policies

6 References and Related Legislation

- 6.1 Northern Territory Local Government Act
- 6.2 Northern Territory Local Government (Administration) Regulations
- 6.3 Northern Territory Local Government (Accounting) Regulations
- 6.4 Australian Accounting Standards
- 6.5 Ministerial Guidelines
- 6.6 Northern Territory Planning Scheme

ITEM NO. 13.1.4

Draft Municipal Plan 2015/2020

FROM: Acting Director Corporate and Community Services

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0674

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.1 Responsibility

We are committed to corporate and social responsibility, the sustainability of Council assets and services, and the effective planning and reporting of Council performance to the community

Summary:

This Report proposes adoption of the Draft Municipal Plan 2015/2020 to enable Council to release the Plan and invite written submissions from the community.

Background:

The requirement for a Municipal Plan is contained within Sections 22 – 24 of the *Local Government Act* as follows:

22 Municipal, Regional or shire plan

- (1) *Each council must have a plan for its area.*
- (2) *The plan for a municipal council is called the municipal plan, for a regional council, the regional plan, and for a shire council, the shire plan.*
- (3) *A council's municipal, regional or shire plan:*
 - (a) *must be accessible on the council's website; and*
 - (b) *must be available for inspection at the council's public office; and*
 - (c) *must be available for purchase at a fee fixed by the council from the council's public office.*

23 Contents of municipal, regional or shire plan

- (1) *A municipal, regional or shire plan:*
 - (a) *must contain:*
 - (i) *a service delivery plan for the period to which the municipal, regional or shire plan relates; and*
 - (ii) *the council's budget; and*
 - (b) *must contain, or incorporate by reference:*
 - (i) *any long-term, community or strategic plan adopted by the council or a local authority or local board and relevant to the period to which the municipal, regional or shire plan relates; and*
 - (ii) *the council's long-term financial plan; and*
 - (c) *must contain, or incorporate by reference, the council's most recent assessment of:*
 - (i) *the adequacy of constitutional arrangements presently in*

force for the council under this Act and, in particular, whether they provide the most effective possible representation for the area; and

- (ii) the opportunities and challenges for local government service delivery in the council's area; and*
 - (iii) possible changes to the administrative and regulatory framework for delivering local government services in the council's area over the period to which the plan relates; and*
 - (iv) whether possibilities exist for improving local government service delivery by cooperation with other councils, or with government agencies or other organisations; and*
 - (d) must define indicators for judging the standard of its performance.*
- (2) A council must make or revise an assessment of the matters mentioned in subsection (1)(c) at least once in the council's term and, until the council makes or revises the assessment, the municipal, regional or shire plan is to include the assessment (if any) made during the previous term of the council.*
- (3) A municipal, regional or shire plan incorporates a plan or assessment by reference if it refers to the plan or assessment and includes a link or reference to a webpage on which the plan or assessment is accessible.*

24 *Annual review of municipal, regional or shire plan*

- (1) A council must adopt its municipal, regional or shire plan (or revisions to its municipal, regional or shire plan) between 1 April and 31 July in each year and forward a copy of the plan (or the revised plan) to the Agency by the latter date.*
- (2) Before the council adopts its municipal, regional or shire plan (or revisions to its municipal, regional or shire plan) for a particular year, the council must:*
- (a) prepare a draft of the plan (incorporating any proposed revisions); and*
 - (b) make the draft plan accessible on the council's website and make copies available for public inspection at the council's public offices; and*
 - (c) publish a notice on its website and in a newspaper circulating generally in the area inviting written submissions on the draft plan within a period (at least 21 days) from the date of the notice; and*
 - (d) consider the submissions made in response to the invitation and make any revisions to the draft the council considers appropriate in the light of the submissions.*
- (3) Although the council's budget forms part of its municipal, regional or shire plan, this section does not apply to the adoption of the budget or of amendments to it.*
- (4) The adoption of a budget, or of amendments to it, operates to amend the municipal, regional or shire plan so that it conforms with the most recent text of the council's budget.*

Please note 24(3) and 24(4) above with reference to the Annual Budget.

Financial Implications:

Funds for advertising in the NT News and Palmerston Sun are within the current budget.

Legislation / Policy:

As per Sections 22-24 of the *Local Government Act*, indicated above.

RECOMMENDATION

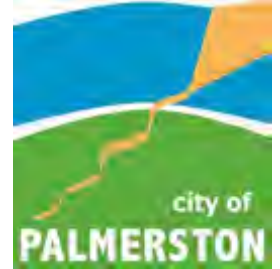
1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0674.
2. THAT Council receives and notes the Draft Municipal Plan 2015/2020 as prepared;
3. THAT the Draft Municipal Plan 2015/2020 is released for public consultation and a further report is prepared at the expiration of the statutory 21 day public consultation period for Council.

Recommending Officer: Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services

Any queries on this report may be directed to Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone (08) 89359976 or email jan.peters@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Schedule of Attachments:

Attachment A: Draft Municipal Plan 2015/2020



Municipal Plan 2015-20



City of Palmerston

Telephone: (08) 8935 9922
Facsimile: (08) 8935 9900
Email: palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au
Internet: www.palmerston.nt.gov.au

Civic Plaza
1 Chung Wah Terrace
Palmerston NT 0830

Public Consultation and Review

The Draft 2015/2016 City of Palmerston Municipal Plan is to be exhibited for public consultation for a minimum 21 days as prescribed by Section 24(2)(c) of the Local Government Act. This consultation process commences on Wednesday 3 June 2015 and concludes at 5:00pm on Thursday 25 June 2015.

Public feedback will be considered and presented with the final Municipal Plan for adoption at a Special Meeting of the City of Palmerston to be held on Tuesday 30 June 2015.

Members of the public may submit feedback via:

- Email palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au
- In writing to the Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 1 Palmerston NT 0831
- Online feedback form – go to *Contact Us* on Council's website www.palmerston.nt.gov.au

This consultation is a public process and all feedback will be published on Council's website as part of the 30 June 2015 Special Meeting of Council.



City of Palmerston **Municipal Plan 2015-2020**

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Message from the Mayor



Government and Community Services. Council has resolved to seek the Minister's consent to:-

- Increase the number of elected representatives (not counting the Mayor) from six to eight;
- Change the title of Elected Members from Alderman to Councillor;
- Pursue changes to Council's municipal boundaries.

With the future development of areas such as Berrimah Farm and Holtze for mixed use purposes, the City of Palmerston feels it is best placed to deliver municipal services to these areas which currently sit outside our boundaries. It is anticipated a decision on these requests will be made later in the year.

Palmerston continues to be identified as the 'growth centre' of the Top End and 2015/2016 will see this growth expand to include iconic developments such as the Gateway Shopping Centre, Boulevard Plaza and the new Palmerston Hotel. The commencement of the much anticipated Palmerston Regional Hospital and the accelerated growth in our new suburbs will continue to change the landscape in Palmerston.

Council is contributing towards this changing landscape by using a portion of our cash reserves to deliver signature projects in our Central Business District to benefit the wider community. Stage 1 of The Boulevard Redevelopment has now been completed and works will commence shortly on the exciting Goyder Square Stage 2 Redevelopment. Whilst it was Councils intention to complete the balance of The Boulevard project during 2015/2016, our inability to attract financial support from the NT Government and Australian Government has resulted in this project being deferred until funds can be made available.

These signature projects were developed from our City Centre Master Plan and Council has determined that it is better to utilise our cash reserves on key CBD projects than to leave significant cash funds invested at low rates. The actual funds spent or committed to these CBD projects is now approaching \$11m.

Council continues to work with the many developers who are facilitating the growth in Palmerston to ensure the best possible outcomes for current and future generations of Palmerstonians. The provision of well-developed open space areas incorporating parks, playgrounds and walking paths to contribute to the public amenity within our suburbs. In terms of stormwater treatment, Council is working with several developers to implement 'lake systems' within these new suburbs to improve the visual amenity of these areas.

Council has completed its '*Review of Constitutional Arrangements*' in accordance with the Local Government Act and this has been submitted to the Minister for Local

On 11 September 2013, the City of Palmerston proudly became the first council in the Northern Territory to sign up as an official Refugee Council of Australia "Refugee Welcome Zone". Refugees settling in Palmerston will be welcomed to their new home with open arms. Council is committed to playing an important role in helping refugees to integrate into our society through a number of community programs and initiatives.

The budget for 2015/2016 provides a good mix of services and capital improvements coupled with a commitment to reinstate the previous Archer Landfill Site to the satisfaction of the Environment Protection Authority. Whilst there are many more projects that Council would like to include in the budget, we are mindful of the cost of living pressures facing our ratepayers.

I also take this opportunity to thank the NT Government for the recurrent funding that is made available to the well utilised Palmerston Library and for the financial contributions made to many of our community development programs in Palmerston. I also thank the Australia Government for their ongoing Financial Assistance Grants, Black Spot Road Funding and for the 100% increase in our 'Roads to Recovery' funding allocation for 2015/2016. Without this funding, the standard of our infrastructure would decline along with the quality of our services.

As we continue towards a prosperous future, I believe the residents are at the heart of our City, and I'm looking forward to continuing to work with you as we deliver on our vision to create a "City of Opportunity".

**Ian Abbott JP
Mayor**

Message from the CEO



The 2015 / 2016 financial year promises to be an exciting one for Palmerston with several key developments about to commence and others close to being completed. The combined value of these projects is close to \$1 billion and includes:-

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| - Gateway Shopping Centre | \$300m |
| - Palmerston Regional Hospital | \$150m |
| - Boulevard Plaza | \$200m |
| - Palmerston Hotel | \$ 50m |
| - Tiger Brennan Drive Duplication | \$ 88m |
| - Woolworths Bakewell | \$ 20m |
| - Bellamack Special School | \$ 21m |

Add to this the ongoing residential developments in Durack Heights, Johnston, Zuccoli and other industrial and commercial developments in Palmerston and it promises to be another exceptional year for growth.

The latest population growth figures for the Northern Territory from the Australian Bureau of Statistics states *"Palmerston recorded the largest growth in 2013/2014, increasing by 1,700 people to reach 33,900"*. If this rate of growth continues, it is likely we will reach 40,000 residents before 2020.

Council has remained focused on implementing major projects contained within its City Centre Master Plan and 2015/2016 will see the completion of Goyder Square Stage 2 at a cost of \$5m. Whilst this construction during the dry season will inconvenience the Palmerston & Rural Markets during 2015, it will provide a permanent and much better site for future markets.

As anticipated, Council has been served with a Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN) by the Environment Protection Authority over the previous Archer Landfill Site. This PAN requires Council to take a series of actions to manage landfill gases, leachate and rehabilitation / aftercare of the site. It is estimated these works will cost \$4m to complete.

To fund this expenditure, Council is seeking to take out a loan over eight years with repayments being met from a \$50

increase in the annual Waste Service Charge. This increase will also be applied to offset a 13.8% increase for council waste delivered to the Shoal Bay Waste Facility.

The draft budget for 2015/2016 provides for total expenditure of \$35m with almost \$10m of this allocated to Capital Works. These Capital Works are spread across buildings, parks & gardens, playgrounds, roads, stormwater drainage and waste management. This is a necessary commitment to putting money back into the community, while focusing on the ongoing sustainability of Council's assets and key infrastructure.

Council is seeking to implement changes in the way it generates its rating income, in particular from residential properties. Council has previously applied a 'flat residential rate' throughout the Municipality with all residential properties paying the same amount (\$1,155 for 2014/2015) no matter what their Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) is. It is proposed to replace this flat rate with a minimum rate using the UCV of each property as the determining factor. It is anticipated that 90% of residential properties in Palmerston will pay the minimum rate of \$1,177 in 2015/2016 – an increase of \$22 or 1.9% from the previous year. If the UCV of a property exceeds \$277,000, these properties will be levied rates above the minimum rate.

With a workforce of only 72 FTE's, Council is able to provide a full range of services for its residents, including the maintenance of infrastructure which is currently valued at \$300m. The maintenance of our extensive stormwater drainage systems has been a key focus for council with additional staff resources being allocated to the maintenance of these assets.

Again this year we have utilised the services of Roy Morgan to survey residents on our performance, with the results detailed within the Municipal Plan. While we're proud of strong results in areas like city planning and waste collection, we recognize there are still key outcomes for which we can improve.

The planned new developments as part of our City Centre Master Plan will invite new commercial and retail businesses back into the heart of our city, while residential opportunities will aim to make city living an affordable reality for Territorians.

I look forward to continuing to work with Council and the Palmerston community on achieving our ambitious goals for the City's future.

Ricki Bruhn
Chief Executive Officer



City of Palmerston Municipal Plan 2015-2020

Introduction

The Municipal Plan provides the City of Palmerston's strategies over the next five years. This is Council's third annual revision of its Municipal Plan, outlining priorities and directions for the next five years 2015 – 2020.

This Plan stresses cultural vitality, economic prosperity, environmental sustainability and social equality - the Plan's strategic directions focus on four key areas:

- **Community & Cultural Wellbeing:** This key area covers activities of Council devoted to the wellbeing of our community, including arts and culture, libraries, health and safety, sports and recreation, parks and gardens and family.
- **Economic Development:** Strategies, programs, support and advocacy initiatives related to the economic vitality of our city are found in this area, including city planning, support for local businesses and tourism, and government liaison.
- **Environment & Infrastructure:** Roads and transport, drainage, bridges, developer liaison, waste management and Council services related to streetscaping and sustainability are found in this key area.
- **Governance & Organisation:** Ensuring your Council is run in an efficient, responsible and sustainable manner means that your rates are used in the most appropriate manner. This key area includes responsibility and accountability, finance, human resources, information technology, and a host of continuous improvement and performance measurement initiatives.

This revision of the Municipal Plan follows a number of significant changes introduced in 2012, both in the manner in which our service delivery strategies are articulated, but also in the manner in which Council approaches governance and transparency.

In addition to outlining our strategies, the Municipal Plan provides the City of Palmerston's **Annual Business Plan 2015/16**, broken down into the categories of **People, Systems and Processes, Assets, Service Delivery and Risk**. The **Annual Budget 2015/16** then outlines how Council intends to finance its operations in a prudent and responsible manner.

The plan was first introduced in 2012, and is a dynamic, working document that will be continuously reviewed and updated to reflect the views of residents over coming years.



City of Palmerston **Municipal Plan 2015-2020**

Vision and Mission

Our Vision: “City of Opportunity”

Our Mission: Building a Better Palmerston

Our Values: We are committed to:

- Community Involvement and Teamwork
- Commitment and accountability
- Sustainability and self sufficiency
- Support for diversity
- Respect for culture
- A culture of continuous improvement



City of Palmerston Municipal Plan 2015-2020

Who We Are

Palmerston, located 21km south of Darwin, commenced development in 1982 and continues to be one of Australia's fastest growing cities. Palmerston was declared a city on 2 August 2000. The latest Australian Bureau of Statistics population data indicates the population of Palmerston has reached 33,900 as at June 2014.

With an average age of 28, Palmerston's growing population is primarily made up of families. Around 25.8% of the population is under 15 years of age with only 4.1% of the population over 65 years of age. Palmerston has two major shopping complexes (with a further two under construction), various sporting clubs, restaurants, Quest Serviced Apartments, tavern, skate park, cinema and smaller shops.

The City itself has 12 suburbs already developed - Driver, Gray, Bellamack, Johnston, Woodroffe, Moulden, Durack, Farrar, Gunn, Rosebery, Bakewell, and Marlow Lagoon. The new suburb of Zuccoli is now under construction, along with the new area of Durack Heights. Once these final suburbs have been completed and in-fill opportunities realised, it is estimated the population of Palmerston will be close to 50,000 residents. Although Palmerston is mainly residential, it also has two light industrial areas - Pinelands and Yarrowonga.

The City's tropical environment is perfect for outdoor living. Palmerston has a wide range of sporting groups. The Palmerston Swimming and Fitness Centre is the home of the swimming pool and offers a gym, aerobics and swimming, as well as martial arts classes. A multipurpose recreation

centre is also located in the City Centre near the Public Library. A new water park operated by the NT Government off University Avenue opened in 2012.

Palmerston has over 100 parks, many with playgrounds, shelters and barbecues. Marlow Lagoon is a large recreation area where community and private events are often held.

On Friday nights during the Dry Season, Palmerston's Friday night markets come alive in the City Centre. The markets boast a wide array of delicious international food, as well as craft, fruit and vegetables, and gift items for sale, activities for the kids, and entertainment for the whole family.



Palmerston is a vibrant community of families – from young to old. Truly, Palmerston is a City of Opportunity!



Strategic Planning Framework

The Municipal Plan plays the leading role in Council's Strategic Planning Framework, guiding all other planning and reporting activities. It is based on four **Strategic Focus** areas which cover the services and responsibilities of Council: Community & Cultural Wellbeing; Economic Development; Environment & Infrastructure; Governance & Organisation.



1. Community & Cultural Wellbeing



Focus: Council responsibility
Focus: Community support



1.1 Healthy Communities

We are committed to providing quality health and family support services to our community

- ✓ Healthy Lifestyle Programs
- ✓ COPAL (Childhood Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle) Programs
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Families, Youth and Seniors
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Medical Facilities and Services
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Disability Access

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Healthy Communities | 98.99 | 98.81 | 97.73 | ↔ |



1.2 Safe Communities

We are committed to ensuring the safety and security of our community

- ✓ Animal Management
- ✓ Cyclone, Disaster and Emergency Management
- ✓ Regulatory Services
- ✓ Street Lighting
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Emergency Services
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Crime Prevention and Law Enforcement
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Injury Prevention

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Safe Communities | 78.24 | 80.28 | 84.93 | ✓ |



1.3 Arts and Culture

We are committed to the fostering and promotion of arts and culture within our community, the awareness and promotion of our local history, and advocacy for increased cultural resources

- ✓ Library Programs and Services
- ✓ Events
- ✓ Public Artwork
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Arts and Culture Programs
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Community Groups, Events and Attractions

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Arts and Culture | 90.47 | 86.63 | 111.91 | ✓ |



1.4 Recreation

We are committed to providing quality recreation and sporting facilities, parks, gardens, playgrounds and open spaces for the benefit of our community

- ✓ Sporting, Recreational and Leisure Facilities and Programs
- ✓ Walking and Cycling Infrastructure
- ✓ Parks, Gardens and Playgrounds
- ✓ Streetscapes and Open Spaces
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Increased Recreational Infrastructure

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Recreation | 119.13 | 118.18 | 114.69 | ↔ |

2. Economic Development



Focus: Council responsibility
Focus: Community support



2.1 Tourism

We are committed to supporting tourism throughout our region

- ✓ Town and Business Signage
- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Support & Advocacy: Tourism Organisations and Operators
- ✓ Support & Advocacy: Government Initiatives

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Tourism (new indicator) | - | - | 85.75 | - |



2.2 Local Business and Industry

We are committed to ensuring local businesses and industry receive the support they need in order to grow and prosper within our region

- ✓ Transport Infrastructure
- ✓ Local Purchasing and Procurement
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Government Funding and Initiatives
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Training and Employment Initiatives
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Industry Organisations

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Local Business and Industry (new indicator) | 85.63 | 85.53 | 85.54 | ✓ |



2.3 City Planning

We are committed to effective and responsible city planning which balances and meets both residential and commercial needs in our community

- ✓ City of Palmerston CBD Master Plan Implementation
- ✓ Public Land Use
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: NT Government Planning and Development Control

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|-------------------------------|------|------|-------|-------|
| City Planning (new indicator) | - | - | 89.41 | - |



3. Environment & Infrastructure



Focus: Council responsibility
Focus: Community support



3.1 Environmental Sustainability

We are committed to actively protecting and enhancing the environmental assets and infrastructure of the City of Palmerston, while supporting local businesses and industry in sustainable land use

- ✓ Climate Change Impact Reduction
- ✓ Greenhouse Emissions Measurement and Reduction
- ✓ Energy and Water Resource Management Initiatives
- ✓ Support & Advocacy: Planning and Development Controls
- ✓ Support & Advocacy: Community Action, Education and Organisations
- ✓ Support & Advocacy: Conservation and Biodiversity

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Environmental Sustainability | 95.98 | 95.19 | 96.93 | ✓ |



3.2 Assets and Infrastructure

We are committed to maintaining and developing community assets and infrastructure which meet the needs of our community

- ✓ Roads, Bridges, Footpaths and Car Parking
- ✓ Council Buildings and Facilities
- ✓ Stormwater Infrastructure
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Traffic Management and Road Safety
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Territory and Federal Infrastructure and Land

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Assets and Infrastructure | 106.65 | 107.89 | 107.75 | ↔ |



3.3 Waste

We are committed to providing comprehensive and effective waste management services to our community

- ✓ Kerbside Waste Collection and Recycling
- ✓ Hard and Green Waste Facilities
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Recycling, re-use and minimisation
- ✓ Support and Advocacy: Education initiatives

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Waste Collection & Disposal | 129.69 | 129.94 | 133.40 | ✓ |



4. Governance & Organisation



Focus: Council responsibility
Focus: Community support



4.1 Responsibility

We are committed to corporate and social responsibility, the sustainability of Council assets and services, and the effective planning and reporting of Council performance to the community

- ✓ Elected Member Accountability to the Community
- ✓ Governance, Strategy, Legislation and Policy
- ✓ Business Planning and Performance Reporting Frameworks
- ✓ Financial Sustainability and Asset Management
- ✓ Risk Management and Workplace Health and Safety

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Responsibility | 81.78 | 84.03 | 80.93 | ✗ |



4.2 Service

We value and encourage participation in Council activities by the community, and are committed to delivering the highest possible levels of service and community engagement

- ✓ Customer Service Standards
- ✓ Community Engagement and Voter Participation
- ✓ Governance and Participation on Council Advisory Groups
- ✓ Open Government and Transparency Initiatives

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Service | 82.02 | 82.34 | 82.00 | ↔ |



4.3 People

We value our people, and the culture of our organisation. We are committed to continuous improvement and innovation whilst seeking to reduce the costs of Council services through increased efficiency

- ✓ Human Resources and Workforce Development
- ✓ Training and Development of Elected Members
- ✓ Cost Reduction and Efficiency Initiatives
- ✓ Continuous Improvement, Benchmarking, Research and Innovation

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| People | 94.09 | 94.51 | 94.38 | ↔ |



4.4 Systems

We are committed to ensuring the systems and processes of Council support the organisation in delivering the best possible services to the community

- ✓ Internal Business Processes and Service Levels
- ✓ Financial and Administrative Services
- ✓ Information and Communication Technology Services

| Key Performance Indicator | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Trend |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Systems | 89.64 | 92.26 | 92.69 | ✓ |



Measuring Performance: Understanding Council's Municipal Plan



How We Measure Performance



Primary Performance Indicators: Community Satisfaction Survey

Council is very aware performance is 'in the eye of the beholder', and the satisfaction of the community is the primary measure of performance. No matter how well we think we are doing, it is the community's opinion which matters most.

For this reason, wherever possible there is a survey score for a particular service or activity tied to each Outcome. The survey is carried out annually by Roy Morgan Research on behalf of Council beginning in 2012 and the scores are used to determine overall performance of Council with regards to a particular Outcome. With roughly 400 telephone interviews conducted to provide a cross section of ages and suburbs, Council has no ability to influence the analysis of community satisfaction, thus providing an objective outcome the community can rely on. **Scores of 100 indicate the community is "satisfied" with the performance of Council.**

The next Roy Morgan survey is scheduled to commence in June 2015 with the subsequent data to be included in the City of Palmerston's Annual Report at the end of 2015.

The survey was adjusted in 2014 to more closely align with the Municipal Plan. In some cases, it has been as simple as recalculating responses in past surveys into the corresponding Municipal Plan outcome area – in some cases it has meant asking new questions in the survey. Where the survey area includes new components, this is identified. These improvements have allowed us to more closely focus on Economic Development in particular. Sadly, it does mean in some instances we have lost the trend over the past three years, but anticipate the added focus on these areas will provide better indication of Community Satisfaction in these areas in the future.



Secondary Performance Indicators: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

A large set of KPIs are monitored and reported on internally and included in the Annual Report, helping track specific aspects of its services and activities. This includes financial indicators, asset management indicators, and so on. Each area of the Municipal Plan has a suite of these KPIs, which are regularly adjusted and reviewed. These KPIs help Council adjust priorities and resources over time to ensure the community satisfaction measured by the Primary Performance Indicators above is appropriately reflected.



Interested in learning more about the City of Palmerston's Municipal Plan?

The public is strongly encouraged to provide feedback regarding this plan. The success of this plan is reliant on it matching the needs and addressing the concerns of the community! Email us at palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au, or call 08 8935 9922.



Annual Business Plan 2015/16

The Annual Business Plan 2015/16 outlines service delivery plans in line with Council strategy for the coming year, as well as a number of items required under Northern Territory Government legislation. These include:

- An assessment of the adequacy of constitutional arrangements presently in force for the Council under the Local Government Act and in particular, whether they provide the most effective possible representation for the area;
- An assessment of the opportunities and challenges for service delivery in the City of Palmerston;
- Any changes to the administrative and regulatory framework for delivering Council services in the area;
- An assessment of whether possibilities exist for improving Local Government service delivery by cooperation with other councils, or with government agencies or other organisations;
- A set of financial indicators for judging the standard of Council's performance, which complement the Community Satisfaction survey indicators.

Further information is available on Council's website at www.palmerston.nt.gov.au.

The Annual Business Plan is set out in five key areas:

People

A description of the governance structure of Council, the roles and responsibilities of Aldermen, Deputy Mayor, and Mayor, and a review of the system of representation in place for the City of Palmerston are all found here. This section also provides a description of allowances provided to Elected Members, a description of the role of the CEO, and a brief description of Council's organisational structure.

Systems & Processes

Running a Council effectively means ensuring the systems and processes used by staff are reviewed, documented, amended and maintained. The City of Palmerston is dedicated to continuously improving its systems.

Assets

Council is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of a significant amount of community assets – parks, playgrounds, community halls, stormwater infrastructure etc. This section details Council's capital works budget and works program for 2015/2016.

Service Delivery

From libraries and pools to irrigating parks and cleaning up after cyclones, a modern city in the Northern Territory offers a wide number of services. This area of the plan provides information regarding budgets for service delivery across Council activities.

Risk

The City of Palmerston is faced with a number of opportunities and challenges moving into the future. This section details some of these, with a particular focus on financial sustainability and its effect on rating strategies for the 2015/16 year. This section also provides the impact of the 2015/16 budget on Council's financial performance indicators.



City of Palmerston Municipal Plan 2015-2020

People

Our Council

Shown in the photograph above are, from left to right: (back) Alderman Andrew Byrne, Alderman Paul Bunker, Alderman Heather Malone and Alderman Geoff Carter, and (front) Deputy Mayor Sue McKinnon, Mayor Ian Abbott and Alderman Seranna Shutt.

In accordance with the Local Government Act, Council is made up of seven Elected Members: a Principal Member holding the title of Mayor, and six elected members holding the title of Alderman. Each year, Council elects one Alderman to serve as Deputy Mayor for a term of 12 months. At the Council Meeting held on 7 April 2015, Alderman Sue McKinnon was appointed as Deputy Mayor for a 12 month term commencing 11 April 2015. The City of Palmerston operates under a single (or 'no wards') system with each of the seven elected members representing the entire city. **With 18,465 electors as at 2015, this makes a ratio of 1 elected member for every 3,078 electors.**

Council recognises one of the major advantages of the ward system is the guarantee wards receive distinct representation on Council, due to the rapid population growth continuing to occur in the city, Council continues to consider dividing the city into wards as impractical. As the city develops, the potential for large swings in representation quotas makes ensuring an equal distribution of voting quotas extremely difficult.

Council completed its 'Review of Constitutional Arrangements' in February 2015 and has forwarded the final report to the Minister for Local Government and Community Services. Council has resolved to seek the Minister's consent to:-

- Increase the number of elected representatives (not counting the Mayor) from six to eight;
- Change the title of the Elected Members from Alderman to Councillor;
- Pursue changes to Council's municipal boundaries.

With the future development of areas such as Berrimah Farm and Holtze for predominantly residential purposes, the City of Palmerston feels it is best placed to deliver municipal services to these areas which currently sit outside our boundaries. It is anticipated a decision on these requests will be made later this year.

Elected Members are provided with financial support in recognition of the significant amount of work required in representing their community. This is shown in the following table and conforms to Ministerial Guidelines for the setting of Council Member Allowances:

| Allowance Description | Mayor | Deputy Mayor | Alderman |
|---|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Annual Base Allowance | \$84,888.10 | \$31,389.30 | \$15,267.46 |
| Annual Electoral Allowance | \$22,342.74 | \$5,586.86 | \$5,586.86 |
| Totals | \$107,230.84 | \$36,976.16 | \$20,854.32 |
| Annual Professional Development Allowance | \$3,635.50 | \$3,635.50 | \$3,635.50 |

Council resolved on 19 May 2015 that these allowances be increased to the maximum allowable as set out in the Ministerial Guidelines. All other Elected Member benefits and entitlements are outlined in Council Policy EM02 'Elected Members Benefits and Support Policy'.

As per the Local Government Act, Council employs a Chief Executive Officer and delegates a number of authorities under the Act to carry out the day to day functions of Council. The CEO is responsible for the overall administration of Council affairs, and works closely with Elected Members to ensure Council goals and objectives are met. Approximately 72 staff members operate under the CEO's direction, divided amongst the Corporate and Community Services and the Technical Services departments.

Systems & Processes

We are committed to improvement!

Council continues to work on improving our internal processes and systems. We understand the importance of being able to carry out effective and efficient council operations and the need to ensure our community members receive quality services, consistently and repeatedly.



We've made some improvements, and know that we need to continually review and keep improving. Below are a few of the areas we are focused on for the 2015/16 year.

Council Systems

At the beginning of the financial year, Council rolled out their new software system which handles customer requests, general ledger, property and animal infringements, contract management and purchasing. This system has dramatically improved our procurement authorisation processes as well as our ability to record customer requests, respond efficiently, and follow their progress through to completion. Another surprising improvement from the new system has been the resulting paper free environment.

www.facebook.com/PalmerstonNT

Council's Facebook page has continued to grow in popularity and this may be due to the increased communications/posts and increased number of Council initiatives promoted through the page. Our Facebook page now has over 9,000 followers and has begun to be the portal for residents seeking information on what is happening in and around Palmerston and to be updated on Council business.

Council installed the large format television screen in Goyder Square in November 2014 and has a new media projects officer working closely with community groups, not-for-profit organisations and clubs to produce promotional pieces and showcase community interest short films. We believe that together with the re-development of Goyder Square in the later part of 2015, this will become a crowning achievement for the CBD of our city!

Environmental Initiatives

Council's Sustainability Strategy continues to deliver more effectively the requirements of Council's operations and to support the actions required by the community for the city's natural and built environment. Developed with a holistic view of sustainability and climate change in mind, actions continue to be embedded across all operational areas.

Outsourced IT Management Services

From July 2014 Council changed from an internal Information Technology (IT) management approach with three IT staff to the outsourcing of Council's IT management services. The new approach has resulted in having a whole pool of IT engineers available with the skill sets and experience necessary to appropriately manage Council's network and infrastructure, and ensure we can continue to operate with minimal down time.

What do you think?

There are many ways to measure performance in an organisation. The City of Palmerston firmly believes the most effective method in Local Government is to ask its constituents – our community.

As described in the "Measuring Our Performance" area found earlier in the Municipal Plan, from 2012 Council has employed Roy Morgan Research to carry out an independent, objective study of community satisfaction, using the same survey other councils have been employing for years in other states.

This community consultation allows Council to not only understand how well we are meeting the needs of our community, it also helps us compare our community's satisfaction with that of other Councils to understand what they may be doing better. The survey is carried out annually, and as we analyse the results it will become instrumental in helping the City of Palmerston provide the best possible services to the community – in the community's opinion!



City of Palmerston Municipal Plan 2015-2020

Assets

Council has a Long Term Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan which is regularly monitored and updated. This plan lays out the strategies for maintaining and developing existing assets, and for providing new assets which meet the needs of the community.

Council reviews and updates these plans regularly, assessing asset life cycles, safety, sustainability and levels of service. The financial implications for managing these assets inform Council's Long Term Financial Plan, as per Council's Business Planning Framework.

Whilst there will always be community demand for the provision of new and upgraded assets, it is imperative priority is given to the replacement and renewal of existing assets before considering the construction or purchase of new assets.

Additionally, with finite financial resources, it is also important Council gives consideration to the disposal of surplus or non-performing assets – thereby releasing financial resources to more appropriate asset management activities.

| Capital Income | Budget 2014/15 | Budget 2015/16 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Grants, Subsidies, Contributions | \$547,977 | \$1,838,000 |
| Profit on Sale of Assets | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | \$547,977 | \$1,838,000 |

The breakdown of Council's Capital Works Program for 2015/16 can be found below.

| Capital Expenditure | Description | Budget 2015/16 |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Carparks | Reseal Memorial Park Carpark and Fiveash Lane – 3,700m2 | \$42,439 |
| Facilities & Structures | Civic Centre building alterations to increase administration area adjacent to Rangers | \$80,000 |
| | Replace approximately one third of the roof structure on the Civic Centre Building | \$500,000 |
| | Replace carpet in Rangers section | \$5,500 |
| | Air-conditioning upgrade in the Library Building | \$25,000 |
| | Improve drainage at the front of Gray Community Hall | \$10,000 |
| | Paint exterior of Driver Resource Centre | \$5,000 |
| | Upgrade to toilets at Driver Resource Centre | \$15,000 |
| | Air-conditioning upgrade at the Palmerston Swimming & Fitness Centre | \$40,000 |
| | Renovate one gazebo at Marlow Lagoon Recreational Area | \$50,000 |
| Parks & Reserves | Upgrade 40 existing park lights to LED style | \$50,000 |
| | New playground structures to be determined by Council | \$165,750 |
| | Refurbishment of existing playground equipment | \$75,000 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------|
| | Replace BBQ's in Parks | \$20,000 |
| | Replace seating in Parks and Playgrounds | \$10,000 |
| | Commence replacing irrigation networks | \$200,000 |
| | Replace outdated irrigation controllers | \$70,000 |
| | Install lightning protection to irrigation controllers | \$10,000 |
| | Upgrade switchboards for pumps and bores | \$20,000 |
| | Replace irrigation cabinets | \$10,000 |
| | Replace pine bollards with round steel powder coated bollards in Marlow Lagoon Reserve | \$22,200 |
| | Renew Marlow Lagoon pathways | \$90,000 |
| | Renew covered picnic areas | \$20,000 |
| | Replace trees removed under Council's tree removal program | \$20,000 |
| | Replace footbridge in Marlow Lagoon | \$40,000 |
| Ancillary Road Structures | Driveway Replacements | \$30,000 |
| | Footpath Replacements (includes open space) | \$60,000 |
| | Road signage replacement | \$15,000 |
| | Cycle path replacement | \$60,000 |
| | Road bridges/Culvert audit | \$10,000 |
| Traffic | Electronic Radar Trailer to monitor speed of vehicles | \$15,000 |
| Roads | Line marking carparks | \$10,000 |
| | New roundabout – Temple Terrace/Emery Avenue (Blackspot Funding) | \$750,000 |
| | Road resealing program | \$400,000 |
| | Disability access within parks, roads and the CBD | \$50,000 |
| Stormwater Drainage | New culvert safety structures | \$40,000 |
| | Baban Place stormwater drainage upgrade | \$900,000 |
| Waste Management | Archer Landfill Site – Rehabilitation in accordance with Pollution Abatement Notice received from the Environment Protection Authority | \$4,000,000 |
| | New Archer Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Centre – Access Road and services | \$1,400,000 |
| | Replace street/park litter bins | \$12,000 |
| Plant & Machinery | Various plant purchases | \$250,000 |
| Information Technology | Various capital purchases | \$70,000 |
| Total | | \$9,667,889 |



City of Palmerston Municipal Plan 2015-2020

Service Delivery

Council provides a wide variety of services to the community. Services are delivered through three sections with the City of Palmerston being: Technical Services, Community Services and Corporate Services. The majority of council services fall within one of the following three categories:

Ongoing delivery of existing programs and services

Existing services that residents of Palmerston can continue to enjoy and expect in 2015/16 include the Palmerston Library services, community events such as the Palmerston Flicnics, Picnic in the Parks, youth events and senior's week activities. The Community Garden, Palmerston Men's Shed and healthy active lifestyle programs, including the walking programs and exercise station, will continue to be supported by Council.

A large component of Council service delivery is the ongoing maintenance and management of the city's recreation and leisure facilities, community halls and parks and gardens. Council has ownership and responsibility for over 100 parks which are connected or surrounded by over 110km of footpaths and over 40km of bike paths. Each year Council officers and contractors work hard to maintain these facilities along with the ongoing management of Palmerston's numerous waterways and lakes which require weed harvesting on a regular cycle.

Our waste management services extend past the well-known kerbside rubbish collections to include street cleaning, recycling programs, waste transfer and the annual big cyclone clean up.

Our Rangers respond to customer requests and complaints in relation to barking dogs and dog attacks as well as working hard to reunite lost dogs with their owners on a daily basis. Council also issues disability parking permits to provide easier access for residents in need.

Graffiti management, traffic management, signage controls, driveways and verges reimbursements are all part of the long list of ongoing existing services that Council will continue to offer in 2015/2016.

Capital renewal and replacement of existing assets

With the development of new suburbs and with the increasing age of older suburbs, Council is required to invest in the ongoing renewal and replacement of roads and footpaths, stormwater drainage and council facilities. A detailed listing of capital projects has been included under the "Assets" section of the Municipal Plan with the majority of these projects falling under the category of capital renewal and replacement.

New initiative or the introduction of new or upgraded assets and services

New initiatives include grant funded projects such as Baban Place stormwater drainage and a new roundabout for the Temple Terrace / Emery Avenue intersection. New playground structures have been included at a cost of \$165,750 and a new access road (including services) in to the Archer Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Centre has been included for \$1.4m.

The following section describes the operating revenue and expenditure for activities and planned costs of the service programs, works and new initiatives proposed for 2015/16.

Operating Revenue 2015/16

This Budget provides an increase from \$26.5 to \$28.4m, in operating revenue, or 7.1%, over the 2014/15 Revised Annual Budget.

| \$M | % | Type | Description |
|------|-----|--|---|
| 24 | 85 | General Rates & Charges | General rates and waste charges on properties, including residential, commercial and industrial |
| 2.2 | 7 | Grants and Subsidies | Council seeks to attract as much grant funding as possible from other tiers of government, thereby reducing reliance on other revenue streams |
| 0.9 | 3 | Statutory Fees & Charges | Fees and charges received by Council for regulatory functions undertaken, such as animal management and parking infringements |
| 0.4 | 2 | User Fees & Charges | Fees and charges received by Council for various services provided by Council |
| 0.9 | 3 | Investments, Reimbursements & Other Income | Interest received on Council investments, internal cash reserves and deposits, reimbursement for work undertaken, and other income |
| 28.4 | 100 | | |

Operating Expenditure 2015/16

This Budget provides an increase from \$32.8m to \$33.2m in operating expenditure, or 1.38%, over the 2014/15 Revised Annual Budget.

| \$M | % | Type | Description |
|------|-----|---|---|
| 14.9 | 45 | Contractual Expenditure | All contracted works, including parks, gardens, building, roads, irrigations, maintenance, etc |
| 6.9 | 21 | Employee Costs | All labour related expenses such as wages and salaries, allowances, leave entitlements, and employer superannuation |
| 8 | 24 | Depreciation | Annual consumption of Council's fixed assets (e.g. infrastructure, equipment, buildings, etc) over their useful lives |
| 2.2 | 7 | Utilities | Power, water and telecommunications |
| 1.2 | 3 | Materials and Other Expenses | Includes expenses not separately classified above such as insurances, postage, government levies, and contributions and donations |
| 33.2 | 100 | <i>Note: Depreciation is removed to reflect actual expenditure elsewhere in this document</i> | |



Operating Budget 2015/16 by Service Delivery

Community Recreation and Amenities

| | 2014/15 Revised Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Effective provision, management and maintenance of recreational facilities and amenities to the community, such as car parks, public conveniences, parks, gardens and reserves, indoor and outdoor sports facilities and swimming pools, as well as removal of graffiti and repair of vandalism. | \$5,364,379 | \$5,406,947 |

Library Services

| | 2014/15 Original Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Provide effective delivery of library services to the community, including the management of Council's local history collection, acquire and manage high quality book stock and reference material, upgrading facilities where appropriate, provide public internet access, and initiatives to increase library usage. | \$1,236,029 | \$1,201,302 |

Environmental Services & Waste Management

| | 2014/15 Original Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Support and advocate activities and initiatives promoting environmental awareness and education in the community. Support for initiatives encouraging the use of renewable energy. Provide effective collection and disposal of domestic waste and green waste, collect recyclable litter, and administer the Archer Waste Transfer Station. | \$5,409,123 | \$5,564,551 |

Community Support

| | 2014/15 Original Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Provision of advocacy, activities, programs and initiatives in support of the community, including Healthy lifestyle, youth multicultural and seniors programs. Facilitation of community engagement through advisory groups, networks and committees. Community support is also provided via community events such as Australia Day celebrations, Carols, citizenship ceremonies, and the administering of the Community Grants Scheme. | \$882,445 | \$759,792 |

Governance

| | 2014/15 Original Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Effectively provide appropriate support services and governance training to Elected Members, conduct civic receptions, promote and support voter participation, conduct Council elections every four years, conduct Council meetings, benchmarking activities, disaster recovery, ensure legislative compliance and good governance, corporate planning and reporting, performance management, WHS and risk management. | \$391,107 | \$362,740 |

Roads and Infrastructure

| | 2014/15 Original Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Provide and effectively manage Council infrastructure assets such as bridges, bike and footpaths, kerbing, roadside verges, sealed roads, stormwater infrastructure, floodplain management, street lighting, lawns and trees etc. Maintain Council plant and machinery, carry out construction and maintenance activities of assets. | \$3,740,851 | \$3,707,519 |

Regulatory Services

| | 2014/15 Original Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Administer by-laws, support emergency services, provide effective control and regulation of dogs, infringements. | \$731,798 | \$717,145 |

Council Administration

| | 2014/15 Original Budget | 2015/16 Budget |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Activities | | |
| Provide Council operations with effective administrative and support services, including financial management, public relations, customer services, plant management, human resources, training and development, information technology, payroll, workplace health and safety, rates administration, and records management. | \$6,557,094 | \$5,916,368 |



Risk

Opportunities and Challenges

Residential Development

The Northern Territory Government is focused on reducing the cost of land to enable first home-buyers to enter the property market. This is particularly the case in the new suburb of Zuccoli where stages of the development are being zoned MD (Multiple Dwelling) to accommodate for smaller building allotments right down to 300m².

Whilst Council has supported small lot integrated developments in Durack Heights and Stage 1 of Zuccoli, the concentration of small lots between 300m² – 599m² throughout Stage 2 and possibly Stages 3 and 4 of Zuccoli are a concern to Council. The ability to adequately service these new subdivisions is a key consideration, along with the provision of open space and social infrastructure to ensure good public amenity for residents.

Council is engaging with all current developers to ensure the capture and treatment of stormwater can be used to enhance open space areas and to provide a cost effective solution to developers.

Municipal Waste Management

Waste management continues to be a major expense item within the Council Budget – but Community Survey results continue to identify the services being offered to residents to be exceptional. The service consists of a domestic collection service of twice weekly 120lt bin collection and fortnightly 240lt recycling collection service. This will continue, and additional options for increased services and bin capacities will be brought in over the coming year. The development of a new Waste Transfer and Recycling Centre at Archer will come at a considerable cost to Council, however the staging of these works over some years will ensure a smooth transition to the new site.

As anticipated, Council has been served with a Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN) by the Environment Protection Authority over the previous Archer landfill site. This PAN requires Council to take a series of actions to manage landfill gases, leachate and rehabilitation/aftercare of the site. It is estimated these works will cost \$4m to complete. To fund this expenditure, Council is seeking to take out a loan over eight years with repayments being met from a \$50 increase in the annual Waste Service Charge. This increase will also be applied to offset a 13.8% increase for Council waste delivered to the Shoal Bay Waste Facility.

Transport Strategy

A large proportion of our community commute daily for employment and the congestion along the two major roads in and out of Darwin continues to escalate.

It is pleasing to see the progress being made on the duplication of the Tiger Brennan Freeway which will substantially reduce the traffic congestion being experienced by Palmerston residents. Council continues to meet with staff from the Department of Transport to put forward cases for the upgrade of Temple Terrace and Roystonea Avenue to accommodate a rapidly growing population.

Public transport networks and route management needs to be further refined in order to promote increased usage in and out of Darwin. In addition, transport issues are being addressed through supporting economic development activities which allows residents to both live and work within the City.

Budget Cuts

Council's budget continues to be impacted by the Federal Government's decision to freeze our annual Financial Assistance Grants at 2013/2014 levels. On a positive note, the doubling of our "Roads to Recovery" allocation for the 2015/2016 financial year has been a godsend as this will provide extra funding to maintain our growing road networks.

The drop in official interest rates is a good outcome for homeowners and business operators, however it does

impact on our ability to generate revenue through the investment of our surplus funds. To offset this, a new income stream has been created through the leasing of our Biripa Court unit complex to the Department of Housing through its Real Housing for Growth program. This will also provide an opportunity for Palmerston residents to access subsidised rental housing.

Council continues to investigate development opportunities over its extensive land portfolio to create new income streams which can take the pressure off increasing Council rates.

Climate change

Climate change continues to be a high priority issue for the Council. Severe cyclones are a reality within our region, and although the Council has a strong environmental track record there is much more to do. We urge residents to participate in our annual pre cyclone season clean up to ensure Palmerston stays beautiful and safe during the Wet season.

More widely, global warming, rising sea levels, water quality and energy consumption are priority issues for Local Government. Council will take into consideration all climate change requirements in its risk management framework.

Development of the City Centre

Council has commenced the revitalisation of our City Centre with the completion of the Stage 1 redevelopment of both Goyder Square and The Boulevard. The large screen TV has also been installed in Goyder Square with numerous community and not-for-profit groups taking the opportunity to utilise this resource to get their message out to the Palmerston community.

Council has remained focused on implementing major projects contained within its City Centre Master Plan and 2015/2016 will see the completion of Goyder Square Stage 2 at a cost of \$5m. Whilst this construction during the dry season will inconvenience the Palmerston & Rural Markets during 2015, it will provide a permanent and much better site for future markets. The actual funds spent or committed to these CBD projects is now approaching \$11m.

With Council only having limited finances, the future implementation of our City Centre Master Plan will be heavily reliant on our ability to attract funding from both the Northern Territory Government and the Federal Government. Whilst we have been active in completing grant applications, our inability to secure grant funding has resulted in the deferral of the Stage 2 Boulevard project. Your Council has been working for quite some time to turn the tide, and develop a CBD worthy of a City. As our City adds residential suburbs at a dizzying rate, Council has put into motion plans for infrastructure improvements in the CBD to attract business and retail and enhance the 'liveability' of the CBD.

Collaboration

The City of Palmerston has committed to the following in order to promote and facilitate collaboration with other Councils and other levels of government:

- Committed to the regular and ongoing dialogue to consider issues with senior executives and Ministers of the NT Government. These high level discussions continue to address common issues with common solutions;

- Maintain membership of LGANT (Local Government Association Northern Territory) and to actively participate in all reference groups and forums created through LGANT;
- Jointly participate in TOPROC (Top End Regional Organisation of Councils), with the City of Darwin, Litchfield Shire, Belyuen Shire, Wagait Shire and the Coomalie Community Government Council to consider Top End issues and collaboration between those Councils;
- Attend ALGA (Australian Local Government Association) meetings and functions to consider and seek solutions to Local Government issues;
- Regularly hold meetings with government representatives, attend briefings and discussions in regard to NT Local Government and wider government issues.
- Regularly and actively participate in sector wide advocacy for topics such as PowerWater charges, animal management and medical facilities on behalf of the City.

Financial Sustainability

Intergenerational Equity

The City of Palmerston is committed to the principles of financial sustainability and ensuring each generation 'pays their way', rather than any generation 'living off their assets' and leaving it to future generations to address the issue of repairing worn out infrastructure. Such issues are frequently referred to as 'intergenerational equity'.

With community infrastructure such as roads, footpaths, and stormwater drainage comprising a major proportion of Council's balance sheets, it is important Council implement appropriate strategies towards the effective upkeep of such assets – so the maintenance and renewal of such assets is fairly and equitably funded from current ratepayers (i.e. general rate income) and future ratepayers (long term loan borrowings).

Given the importance of ensuring financial sustainability of Council operations in the longer term, it is a legislative requirement that Council adopt Long Term Financial Plans as part of future planning. The Long Term Financial Plan is designed as a 'high-level' summarised document towards the future planning of Council's financial operations – particularly in relation to key components such as rate movements, service levels, major infrastructure asset replacement/renewal, loan indebtedness and internal cash reserves. Council conducts an annual review of its long term financial plan.

Rates

Council must raise revenue each year sufficient for the purpose of governance, city administration and to provide for appropriate programs and services for the community. Rates constitute a system of taxation on the community for local government purposes (generally based on the value of land). Although ratepayers receive benefits from paying rates, these benefits should not necessarily be to the extent of the individual tax (rates) paid. Benefits are consumed in different quantities and types over the life cycle of the ratepayer.

Council's practices and decisions regarding rating are underpinned by:

- Accountability, transparency and simplicity;
- Efficiency, effectiveness and timeliness;
- Equitable distribution of the rate burden across the community;
- Consistency with Council's strategic, corporate and financial directions and budgetary requirements and compliance with the requirements and intent of relevant legislation and accepted professional conventions and ethics.

Council is faced with balancing its service levels, the needs and expectations of the community and setting appropriate tax levels to adequately resource its roles and responsibilities. In setting its charges for the financial year, the Council needs to give primary consideration to the following:

- The current Municipal Plan;
- The current economic and legislative climate;
- The specific issues faced by our community;
- The budget for the relevant financial year;
- The impact of charges on the community, including personal incomes and business activities;
- The broad principle of achieving equity in the distribution of the rate and charges burden;
- Minimising the level of general rates required by levying fees and charges for goods and services where ever possible;
- Setting and applying fees and charges fairly and equitably to recover the full cost of operation or providing; and
- Investigation of alternative sources of revenue to reduce Council's reliance upon rate revenue.

As part of the financial planning and budget processes, the rate revenue required to meet expenditure needs is calculated taking into account other sources of revenue. The structure of the rating system is then determined by considering how the rates are levied between, and within, various categories of ratepayers.

General rates and waste management charges are expected to account for 85% of Council's operating revenue in 2015/16. The rating structure is comprised of three key elements. These are:

- Commercial and Industrial property values, which generally reflect capacity to pay;
- User pays component to reflect usage of the waste management service provided by Council; and
- Residential property values (with minimum rate) to generally reflect a property owners capacity to pay.

Striking a proper balance between these elements provides equity in the distribution of the rate burden across ratepayers.

Method Used To Value Land

The City of Palmerston uses Unimproved Capital Value, Section 149(1) of the Act, as a basis for all land valuations in the City of Palmerston Council area. Unimproved Capital Value is the value of the land without any improvements. Council considers that this method of valuing land provides the fairest method of distributing the rate burden across all ratepayers.

All land within the Council area, except for lands specifically exempt (e.g. Crown Land, Council owned land) is ratable. Where a service that is subject to a service

charge is provided to non-ratable land, a service charge is levied against the land.

The total unimproved capital value for the City in relation to the 2015/16 year is \$3,141,021,756 less non ratable of \$279,744,250 leaving the total ratable value of \$2,861,277,506.

The Valuer-General sets the Unimproved Capital Values of land. If a ratepayer is dissatisfied with the valuation contact can be made to the Valuer-General. Contact details for the Valuer General are:

3rd Floor, AANT Building, 81 Smith Street, Darwin NT 0801
Mail: GPO Box 4346, Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: (08) 8982 5700
Facsimile: (08) 8981 1414

The City of Palmerston has no role in this process. Rates must be paid in accordance with rate notices unless otherwise notified by Council.

General Rates

Council utilises a series of rating methods.

Council has decided to change the residential rating structure (including units and vacant residential land) from a current flat rate to a differential rate based on the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) of the land.

If there is more than one residential unit/dwelling on a land parcel and such residential units do not have their own individual assessment (strata title), Council will apply multiple dwelling rating principles as a means of equitable distribution of the rate burden across the community.

A differential valuation based charge calculated as a proportion of the assessed value of each allotment with a minimum rate of \$1,177 will apply.

Council has also decided that it will no longer differentiate for self-storage units or sports clubs. For storage sheds the differential Industrial Rate will apply. For sporting clubs the differential Commercial Rate will apply.

Where there are sporting bodies within the Council area occupying or owning land which is ratable, these may apply to Council for a Public Benefit Concession as per Section 167 of the Act.

Minimum Rate and Fixed Charge

Council has determined minimum rates will be applied within the municipal boundary in order that all ratable assessments make a reasonable contribution to maintaining the services and infrastructure of each property. The City of Palmerston has applied a minimum rate to these assessments in previous years.

The primary reason for imposing a minimum rate is to ensure all these ratable properties make a reasonable contribution to the cost of administering Council activities and maintaining the services and physical infrastructure that supports each property. A minimum rate has the effect of reducing the rate in the dollar required to be applied to valuations on properties that exceed the minimum rate.

More details regarding Council's rating decisions for the 2015/16 budget are included on the next page:

| Rating Zone | | Budget 2014/15 | Budget 2015/16 | Change |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Residential | Minimum Rate on UCV value up to \$277,000 | \$1,155 | \$1,177 | \$22.00 / 1.9% |
| | Waste Charge | \$435 | \$485 | \$50.00 / 11.49% |
| | Total Residential Rate | \$1,590 | \$1,662 | \$72.00 / 4.53% |
| | Rate on UCV value exceeding \$277,000 | \$1,155 | 0.425000 | Variable |
| | Total Residential Rate | \$1,590 | Variable | Variable |
| | UCV | \$2,322,385,837 | \$2,428,779,337 | \$106,393,500 |
| | No of Properties | 12,082 | 12,582 | 500 |
| | Estimated Income Rates | \$14,697,317 | \$16,169,128 | \$1,471,811 |
| | Estimated Income Waste Charge | \$5,168,218 | \$5,771,500 | \$603,282 |
| Commercial | Rate on UCV | 0.710615% | 0.724116% | 1.9% |
| | Minimum Rate | \$1,155 | \$1,177 | \$22 |
| | UCV | \$213,475,000 | \$220,387,000 | \$6,912,000 |
| | No of Properties | 299 | 299 | 0 |
| | Estimated Income | \$1,587,284 | \$1,711,721 | \$124,437 |
| Industrial | Rate on UCV | 0.172839% | 0.176123% | 1.9% |
| | Minimum Rate | \$1,155 | \$1,177 | \$22 |
| | UCV | \$193,455,000 | \$195,200,000 | \$1,745,000 |
| | No of Properties | 214 | 268 | 54 |
| | Estimated Income | \$405,529 | \$487,604 | \$82,075 |

Waste Service Charge

The Council charges a fixed amount for the waste collection service as an annual charge for each allotment of land or where multiple residential units exist on the allotment of land, then the fee times the number of residential units on each allotment.

Where the Council provides, or is willing and able to provide a waste disposal service to land within the Municipal Boundary, pursuant to Section 157 of the Act, the Council will charge a fixed rate for the service as an annual charge for each parcel of land. Where multiple residential units exist on a parcel of land, the fee times the number of residential units on each parcel will be multiplied to give the annual charge.

The Waste Management charge has increased from \$435 to \$485. This increase relates to the Pollution Abatement Notice for 240 Elrondie Avenue as well as an increase in Shoal Bay charges and provision for the CPI Increase. Vacant allotments are not provided or charged a waste management charge. The Waste Management charge is levied for the provision of a 120 litre, twice weekly domestic collection and a fortnightly recycling 240 litre bin and free access to the Waste Management Facility for residential purposes. Commercial use of the Waste Management Facility is not supported as there is no direct waste charge against either commercial or industrial properties. The waste management fee amount is calculated on the basis of matching the service delivery costs of providing the waste collection and disposal services to occupied residential properties.

Pensioner Concessions

Eligible pensioners may be entitled to a concession on rates. City of Palmerston receives a listing from Territory

Health Services of all the ratepayers eligible for concession at the time of levying the rates.

The rebate is deducted from the rate notice. If a pensioner becomes eligible part way through the rating year they must pay the rates in full to Council and then contact Territory Health Services to obtain a refund.

Contact details for Territory Health Services are:
Postal Address: GPO Box 40596 CASUARINA NT 0811
Telephone: (08) 8999 2400 Facsimile: (08) 8999 2700

Payment of Rates

Payment of rates is either by single instalment or four approximately equal amounts in the months of September, November, January and March. The dates and conditions are printed on the rate notice.

Rates may be paid by any of the following methods:

- mail, using cheque or credit card;
- BPAY through your financial institution;
- internet, using Council's online services;
- direct debit from a nominated savings or cheque account;
- In person at the Civic Centre, using cash, EFTPOS, or cheque;
- Centrepay through regular deductions from Centrelink payment.

Concessions

Application for concessions of rates and charges will be considered under the provisions of the discretionary concessions of rates and charges provisions of the Local Government Act, Chapter 11, and Part 11.8.

Late Payment of Rates

Any ratepayer who may, or is likely to, experience difficulty with meeting the standard instalments and due dates can contact the Council to discuss alternative payment arrangements. It should be noted interest would still be levied in accordance with the Act under any payment arrangement.

Council has determined penalties for late payments will be imposed in accordance with the provisions of Section 162 of the Local Government Act. These provisions are the only provisions available to Council to ensure all ratepayers pay promptly. Section 162 of the Act provides that the Council may determine a penalty for the late payment of rates and charges which are to be calculated on a daily basis. Council has determined that the penalty interest rate will remain at 18%.

Should a ratepayer default in payment, all remaining instalments become due and payable. Interest therefore accrues on the total amount of the unpaid rates and not merely the amount of the instalment.

Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates

Pursuant to Part 11.9 of the Act, if rates have been in arrears for at least three years, Council may sell the land.

Fees and Charges

The schedule of fees and charges can be viewed at the City of Palmerston Civic Centre, as well as on Council's website: www.palmerston.nt.gov.au

Community Support

Council will promote community efforts that enhance and provide revenue alternatives to community taxing through rates for the City of Palmerston.

Council will fulfill its responsibilities on matters relating to rating in accordance with relevant legislation, standards, agreements and codes, including:

- Providing payment of rates in instalments,
- Providing for the application of rebates and remissions, and
- Levying fines and interest for late payment of rates.

Council will act as an advocate to attract or attain alternative revenue sources for the City of Palmerston.

Council will continue to act as an advocate for the achievement of more adequate levels and more equitable distributions of Territory and Federal grant funding to Local Government.

Council will act as advocate on behalf of the community and Local Government sector with regard to legislative and policy matters pertaining to rating and other revenue raising powers.

Council will have regard to relevant legislation and any other legal requirement in determining the terms and conditions under which it will make available any information contained in its databases and other records.

Council will be mindful of the various demographic, social, cultural, and economic attributes of the local community when preparing or distributing information.

Council will seek to provide quality rating information from its databases, in a timely, accessible and user friendly manner. Council will seek to provide rating decisions and fees and charges information in an efficient, effective and timely manner, in accordance with resource availability.



As part of Council's continuous process improvement, all aspects of this policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that the underlying principles as set out herein are best achieved.



City of Palmerston **Municipal Plan 2015-2020**

Annual Budget 2015/16

Budget Summary

| | Revised 2015 Budget | Budget 2016 | Increase % |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Operating Revenue | 26,535,898 | 28,420,520 | 7.10% |
| Capital Revenue | 678,281 | 36,838,000 | 5331.08% |
| Total Revenue | 27,214,179 | 65,258,520 | 139.80% |
| Operating Expenditure | 32,809,694 | 33,262,316 | 1.38% |
| Capital Expenditure | 20,910,120 | 9,667,889 | -53.76% |
| Total Expenditure | 53,719,814 | 42,930,205 | -20.08% |
| Less Depreciation | 6,838,796 | 8,062,100 | 17.89% |
| Less Gifted Assets | | 35,000,000 | |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit) | (19,666,839) | (4,609,584) | -76.56% |
| Transfers to Reserves | 4,819,629 | 690,416 | -85.67% |
| Transfers from Reserves | 24,486,468 | 1,300,000 | -94.69% |
| Budget Balance | - | (4,000,000) | |
| Borrowing | | 4,000,000 | |
| Balance Surplus / Deficit | | - | |

City of Palmerston's Budget Summary shows the Operating Revenue expected to be derived from sources relating to Council's everyday business operations and Capital Revenue to be received for works on infrastructure assets. Furthermore it outlines the Operating Expenditure to be utilised for Council's business operations (including depreciation) and capital expenditure for major works on infrastructure. City of Palmerston shows a balanced budget less depreciation and movements from reserves to mainly fund capital works.

Operating Income

| Department | Division | Budget 2015 | Budget 2016 |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Governance | | 718,385 | 690,000 |
| | Office of the CEO | 718,385 | 690,000 |
| Corporate Services | | 18,074,325 | 18,937,852 |
| | Finance | 914,908 | 400,000 |
| | Office of the Director Corporate and Community Services | 3,383 | - |
| | Rates | 16,909,234 | 18,351,252 |
| | Civic Centre | 246,800 | 186,600 |
| Community Services | | 852,210 | 767,773 |
| | Arts & Culture | - | 12,000 |
| | Community Development | 640 | - |
| | Events Promotion | 51,000 | 21,000 |
| | Families & Children | 100,000 | - |
| | Health & Wellbeing Services | 1,909 | - |
| | Library Services | 693,161 | 729,273 |
| | Senior Citizens | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| | Youth Services | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Technical Services | | 6,890,977 | 8,024,895 |
| | Animal Management | 388,100 | 399,000 |
| | Aquatic Centre | 84,000 | 95,300 |
| | Driver Resource Centre | 8,000 | 7,500 |
| | Gray Community Hall | 23,000 | 16,000 |
| | Office of the Director Technical Services | 115,754 | 49,250 |
| | Parking & Other Ranger Services | 134,956 | 171,185 |
| | Roads & Transport | 814,391 | 795,000 |
| | Stormwater Infrastructure | 9,335 | 4,000 |
| | Subdivisional Works | 178,000 | 180,000 |
| | Waste Management | 4,951,416 | 5,771,500 |
| | Private Works | 84,025 | 90,000 |
| | Birripa Court Investment Property | 100,000 | 446,160 |
| Grand Total | | 26,535,898 | 28,420,520 |

Capital Income

| Department | Division | Budget 2015 | Budget 2016 |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Corporate Services | | 9,091 | 0 |
| | Sales of Assets | 9,091 | 0 |
| Technical Services | | 669,190 | 36,838,000 |
| | Roads & Transport | 269,190 | 1,438,000 |
| | Subdivisional Works and Planning | 400,000 | 400,000 |
| | Physical Resources Received Free | - | 35,000,000 |
| Grand Total | | 678,281 | 36,838,000 |

Operating Expenditure

| Department | Division | Budget 2015 | Budget 2016 |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Governance | | 1,426,526 | 1,123,876 |
| | Elected Members | 326,107 | 320,740 |
| | Office of the CEO | 996,067 | 689,986 |
| | Public Relations and Communications | 104,352 | 113,150 |
| Corporate Services | | 11,073,226 | 12,041,248 |
| | Financial Services | 1,128,740 | 1,141,467 |
| | Information Technology | 1,004,736 | 1,090,264 |
| | Office of the Director Corporate & Community Services | 7,414,163 | 8,488,694 |
| | Rates | 323,798 | 101,000 |
| | Records Management | 215,736 | 339,365 |
| | Civic Centre | 472,097 | 380,872 |
| | Customer Services | 199,359 | 227,737 |
| | Human Resources | 314,597 | 271,849 |
| Community Services | | 3,144,167 | 2,900,104 |
| | Arts & Culture | 77,330 | 140,000 |
| | Community Development | 1,025,693 | 939,010 |
| | Events Promotion | 373,000 | 309,000 |
| | Families & Children | 331,115 | 237,292 |
| | Health & Wellbeing Services | 65,000 | 42,000 |
| | Library Services | 1,236,029 | 1,201,302 |
| | Senior Citizens | 10,000 | 9,500 |
| | Youth Services | 26,000 | 22,000 |
| Technical Services | | 17,165,775 | 17,197,088 |
| | Animal Management | 129,972 | 79,080 |
| | Aquatic Centre | 405,280 | 328,200 |
| | Archer Sports Club | 42,367 | 12,910 |
| | Depot | 79,210 | 87,277 |
| | Gray Community Hall | 115,577 | 108,975 |
| | Office of the Director Technical Services | 1,694,342 | 1,452,956 |
| | Open Space | 4,594,456 | 4,746,932 |
| | Parking & Other Ranger Services | 731,798 | 717,145 |
| | Recreation Centre | 206,700 | 209,930 |
| | Roads & Transport | 1,990,641 | 2,057,719 |
| | Stormwater Infrastructure | 251,000 | 241,000 |
| | Subdivisional Works | 120,000 | 80,000 |
| | Waste Management | 5,409,123 | 5,564,551 |
| | Emergency Operations | 95,310 | 99,917 |
| | Private Works | 80,000 | 80,023 |
| | Street Lighting | 1,220,000 | 1,161,500 |
| | Birriipa Court Investment Property | 0 | 168,974 |
| Grand Total | | 32,809,694 | 33,262,316 |

Capital Expenditure

| Department | Division | Budget 2015 | Budget 2016 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Community Services | | 24,870 | 0 |
| | Community & Social Development | 18,670 | 0 |
| | Libraries | 6,200 | 0 |
| Corporate Services | | 197,667 | 320,000 |
| | Information Technology | 22,667 | 70,000 |
| | Management Corporate Service Office | 175,000 | 250,000 |
| Technical Services | | 20,687,583 | 9,347,889 |
| | Aquatic Centre | 91,463 | 0 |
| | Civic Centre | 10,000 | 730,500 |
| | Driver Resource Centre | 10,000 | 0 |
| | Gray Community Hall | 4,800 | 0 |
| | Building Capital Works | 6,851,112 | 0 |
| | Open Space Capital Works | 6,597,037 | 822,950 |
| | Roads, Bridges, Footpaths | 6,721,171 | 1,442,439 |
| | Footpaths & Cycle Ways Capital Works | 180,000 | 0 |
| | Stormwater Infrastructure | 120,000 | 940,000 |
| | Waste Management | 102,000 | 5,412,000 |
| Grand Total | | 20,910,120 | 9,667,889 |

Council Reserves

| | Balance | TO RESERVES | FROM RESERVES | Balance |
|---|-------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | as at | | | as at |
| | 01/07/2015 | | | 30/06/2016 |
| Asset Related Reserves | | | | |
| Property Reserve | 1,531,345 | - | - | 1,531,345 |
| Plant and Equipment Reserve | 1,147,493 | - | - | 1,147,493 |
| Infrastructure Reserve | 4,953,259 | 290,416 | 1,300,000 | 3,943,675 |
| | 7,632,097 | 290,416 | 1,300,000 | 6,622,513 |
| Other Reserves | | | | |
| Election Expenses Reserve | 150,000 | - | - | 150,000 |
| Disaster Recovery Reserve | 500,000 | - | - | 500,000 |
| Strategic Initiatives Reserve | 500,000 | - | - | 500,000 |
| Unexpended Grants Reserve | 169,854 | - | - | 169,854 |
| Developer funds in lieu of construction | 4,325,967 | 400,000 | - | 4,725,967 |
| Community Grants Reserve | 107,343 | - | - | 107,343 |
| | 5,753,164 | 400,000 | - | 6,153,164 |
| Total Reserve Funds | 13,385,261 | 690,416 | 1,300,000 | 12,775,677 |

Long-term Financial Plan 2013/19

This Long Term Financial Plan is prepared in accordance with section 126 of the Local Government Act. It details the expected activities commencing in the 2015/16 year and concluding in the 2024/25 year.

Major Initiatives

The plan includes:

- Allowing for a growth in the rate base of approximately 5% per annum up to and including the 2017/2018 financial year. For the 2018/2019 financial year onwards, this has been reduced to 3.5%
- Increasing the existing number of staffing positions within the organisation with the ability to change functions should specific needs be identified
- Continuing to maintain an extensive array of parks and reserves as irrigated and well maintained public spaces
- Ensuring that properties leased by Council maintain commercial returns
- Ensuring the Council's IT system remains secure and up to date
- Maintain the extensive playgrounds that are established (and being established) throughout the City
- Continue to maintain the primary buildings of Council – Civic Centre, Recreation Centre and Public Library
- To achieve the outcomes as identified with the Council's Municipal Plan

Management of Infrastructure

The Council currently manages an inventory of assets to the value of approximately \$295 million. These assets include land and buildings, roads, bridges, kerbing and

footpaths, parks, gardens and irrigation systems, plant and furniture and library materials.

The major buildings including the Civic Centre, Recreation Centre and Public Library are all buildings that are owned and operated by Council apart from the Recreation Centre, which is entirely leased and the lower level of the Civic Centre and café at the Library are also leased. The rental return received from the buildings is anticipated to generally meet the maintenance requirements of these buildings.

Council maintains an extensive network of roads, which will require additional resources into the future with age and also maintaining where there have been ongoing issues with various sections. This plan anticipates an increase in road resealing and the need to repair specific sections of roads.

Footpath repair is also an issue for Council where they have been installed and now extensive building activity is occurring and causing damage to these areas through the movement of heavy transport.

Although nearly all maintenance activities are currently undertaken by the private sector, as Council maintains only a day labour workforce, tasked with smaller maintenance type activity across specific areas including the CBD.

Cleaning operations will continue to be undertaken by the private sector by way of period contracts. Other assumptions are included below:

| Item | Years | Increment | Years | Increment |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Profit And Loss Statement | | | | |
| Rates Income | 2016-2018 | 5% | 2019-2025 | 3.5% |
| Statutory Charges Income | 2016-2018 | 2% | 2019-2025 | 1% |
| User Charges Incomes | 2016-2018 | 1% | 2019-2025 | 2% |
| Grants income | 2016-2019 | 0% | 2019-2025 | 0% |
| Investment Income | 2016-2019 | 3% | 2019-2025 | 3% |
| Other Income | 2016-2019 | 1% | 2019-2025 | 1% |
| Employee Cost | 2016-2019 | 4% | 2019-2025 | 4% |
| Professional Services | 2016-2019 | 2% | 2019-2025 | 1% |
| Insurance | 2016-2019 | 3% | 2019-2025 | 2% |
| Utilities | 2016-2019 | 5% | 2019-2025 | 3% |
| Materials & Contracts | 2016-2019 | 3% | 2019-2025 | 3.5% |
| Elected Member Allowance | 2016-2019 | 2% | 2019-2025 | 2% |
| Other Expenses | 2016-2019 | 2% | 2019-2025 | 2% |

| | ACTUAL 2014 | Reviewed Budget 2015 | DRAFT Budget 2016 | PLAN 2017 | PLAN 2018 | PLAN 2019 | PLAN 2020 | PLAN 2021 | PLAN 2022 | PLAN 2023 | PLAN 2024 | PLAN 2025 |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ASSETS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 32,606,050 | 13,699,224 | 9,073,432 | 5,868,437 | (3,674) | 3,620 | 1,066,391 | 2,257,110 | 4,035,038 | 5,526,825 | 7,074,589 | 8,860,170 |
| Trade & other receivables | 1,336,123 | 1,464,076 | 1,575,427 | 1,666,085 | 1,739,189 | 1,812,333 | 1,888,736 | 1,968,841 | 2,054,478 | 2,146,799 | 2,246,345 | 2,352,361 |
| Other financial assets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Non-current Assets held for Sale | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Current Assets | 33,942,173 | 15,163,300 | 10,648,858 | 7,534,522 | 1,735,515 | 1,815,953 | 2,955,127 | 4,225,951 | 6,089,516 | 7,673,624 | 9,320,934 | 11,212,532 |
| Non-current Assets | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Financial Assets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Investment Property | 0 | 6,600,000 | 6,864,000 | 7,138,560 | 7,424,102 | 7,721,067 | 8,029,909 | 8,351,106 | 8,685,150 | 9,032,556 | 9,393,858 | 9,769,612 |
| Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 295,410,008 | 333,587,370 | 371,274,459 | 401,712,869 | 431,375,950 | 452,439,439 | 469,017,079 | 460,161,467 | 451,047,442 | 442,576,446 | 434,394,436 | 426,804,564 |
| Other Non-current Assets | 1,568,038 | 1,500,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| Total Non-current Assets | 296,978,046 | 341,687,370 | 378,338,459 | 409,051,429 | 439,000,052 | 460,360,505 | 477,246,988 | 468,712,572 | 459,932,591 | 451,809,001 | 443,988,294 | 436,774,176 |
| Total Assets | 330,920,219 | 356,850,669 | 388,987,317 | 416,585,951 | 440,735,567 | 462,176,458 | 480,202,115 | 472,938,523 | 466,022,107 | 459,482,625 | 453,309,227 | 447,986,708 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trade & Other Payables | 2,868,081 | 3,105,046 | 3,232,189 | 3,329,641 | 3,457,380 | 3,526,987 | 3,587,516 | 3,648,411 | 3,705,238 | 3,766,959 | 3,830,205 | 3,898,092 |
| Borrowings | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Provisions | 519,254 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 |
| Other Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Liabilities relating to Non-current Assets held for Sale | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Current Liabilities | 3,387,335 | 3,605,046 | 3,732,189 | 3,829,641 | 3,957,380 | 4,026,987 | 4,087,516 | 4,148,411 | 4,205,238 | 4,266,959 | 4,330,205 | 4,398,092 |
| Non-current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trade & Other Payables | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Borrowings | 0 | 0 | 4,000,000 | 3,600,834 | 3,179,714 | 2,735,432 | 2,266,715 | 1,772,218 | 1,250,524 | 700,137 | 119,479 | (0) |
| Provisions | 327,229 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 |
| Other Non-current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Non-current Liabilities | 327,229 | 300,000 | 4,300,000 | 3,900,834 | 3,479,714 | 3,035,432 | 2,566,715 | 2,072,218 | 1,550,524 | 1,000,137 | 419,479 | 300,000 |
| Total Liabilities | 3,714,564 | 3,905,046 | 8,032,189 | 7,730,475 | 7,437,094 | 7,062,419 | 6,654,230 | 6,220,630 | 5,755,762 | 5,267,096 | 4,749,684 | 4,698,092 |
| NET ASSETS | 327,205,655 | 352,945,623 | 380,955,128 | 408,855,476 | 433,298,473 | 455,114,040 | 473,547,884 | 466,717,893 | 460,266,345 | 454,215,530 | 448,559,543 | 443,288,615 |
| EQUITY | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Accumulated Surplus | 70,707,330 | 115,312,442 | 147,947,740 | 179,053,082 | 209,368,191 | 231,176,463 | 248,547,536 | 240,526,826 | 232,297,350 | 224,754,748 | 217,550,998 | 210,494,488 |
| Asset Revaluation Reserves | 223,446,225 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 | 223,487,907 |
| Other Reserves | 33,052,100 | 14,145,274 | 9,519,482 | 6,314,487 | 442,376 | 449,670 | 1,512,441 | 2,703,160 | 4,481,088 | 5,972,875 | 7,520,639 | 9,306,220 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | 327,205,655 | 352,945,623 | 380,955,128 | 408,855,476 | 433,298,473 | 455,114,040 | 473,547,884 | 466,717,893 | 460,266,345 | 454,215,530 | 448,559,543 | 443,288,615 |

| | ACTUAL 2014 | Reviewed Budget 2015 | DRAFT Budget 2016 | PLAN 2017 | PLAN 2018 | PLAN 2019 | PLAN 2020 | PLAN 2021 | PLAN 2022 | PLAN 2023 | PLAN 2024 | PLAN 2025 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Receipts</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates - general & other | 20,236,357 | 21,820,144 | 24,086,452 | 25,290,775 | 26,555,313 | 27,484,749 | 28,446,716 | 29,442,351 | 30,472,833 | 31,539,382 | 32,643,260 | 33,785,774 |
| Fees & other charges | 1,153,718 | 1,260,514 | 1,262,289 | 1,283,426 | 1,304,944 | 1,322,185 | 1,339,683 | 1,357,440 | 1,375,463 | 1,393,755 | 1,412,321 | 1,431,164 |
| Investment receipts | 1,289,100 | 881,640 | 761,544 | 571,339 | 409,316 | 406,415 | 432,443 | 462,414 | 508,788 | 565,501 | 627,016 | 681,697 |
| Grants utilised for operating purposes | 2,184,695 | 2,636,493 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 |
| Other operating receipts | 254,776 | 209,153 | 47,711 | 48,188 | 48,670 | 49,157 | 49,649 | 50,145 | 50,647 | 51,153 | 51,665 | 52,181 |
| <u>Payments</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee Costs | (5,900,143) | (6,164,272) | (6,624,802) | (6,889,794) | (7,165,386) | (7,452,001) | (7,750,081) | (8,060,085) | (8,382,488) | (8,717,787) | (9,066,499) | (9,429,159) |
| Contractual services & materials | (15,776,227) | (16,369,211) | (15,572,656) | (16,073,224) | (16,590,834) | (17,124,145) | (17,675,286) | (18,244,863) | (18,833,504) | (19,441,856) | (20,070,590) | (20,720,399) |
| Other operating payments | (461,225) | (3,403,041) | (3,015,960) | (3,076,280) | (3,137,805) | (3,200,561) | (3,264,573) | (3,329,864) | (3,396,461) | (3,464,391) | (3,533,678) | (3,604,352) |
| Finance payments | (125,152) | 0 | (18,333) | (220,000) | (198,046) | (174,884) | (150,449) | (124,669) | (97,472) | (68,779) | (38,508) | (6,571) |
| Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities | 2,855,899 | 871,421 | 3,477,418 | 3,485,603 | 3,777,346 | 3,862,088 | 3,979,274 | 4,104,042 | 4,248,979 | 4,408,151 | 4,576,159 | 4,741,509 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Receipts</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets | | 269,190 | 1,438,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| Sale of replaced assets | 64,379 | 9,091 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| <u>Payments</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets | (4,075,750) | (20,056,528) | (9,571,210) | (6,571,432) | (9,508,337) | (3,690,511) | (2,727,787) | (2,698,827) | (2,229,356) | (2,645,977) | (2,727,737) | (3,116,449) |
| Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities | (4,011,371) | (19,778,247) | (8,103,210) | (6,291,432) | (9,228,337) | (3,410,511) | (2,447,787) | (2,418,827) | (1,949,356) | (2,365,977) | (2,447,737) | (2,836,449) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Receipts</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Proceeds from Borrowings | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <u>Payments</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Repayments of Borrowings | | | 0 | (399,166) | (421,120) | (444,282) | (468,717) | (494,497) | (521,694) | (550,387) | (580,658) | (119,479) |
| Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities | 0 | 0 | 0 | (399,166) | (421,120) | (444,282) | (468,717) | (494,497) | (521,694) | (550,387) | (580,658) | (119,479) |
| Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held | (1,155,472) | (18,906,826) | (4,625,792) | (3,204,994) | (5,872,112) | 7,295 | 1,062,771 | 1,190,719 | 1,777,929 | 1,491,787 | 1,547,764 | 1,785,582 |
| Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period | 33,761,522 | 32,606,050 | 13,699,224 | 9,073,432 | 5,868,437 | (3,674) | 3,620 | 1,066,391 | 2,257,110 | 4,035,038 | 5,526,825 | 7,074,589 |
| Cash & cash equivalents at end of period | 32,606,050 | 13,699,224 | 9,073,432 | 5,868,437 | (3,674) | 3,620 | 1,066,391 | 2,257,110 | 4,035,038 | 5,526,825 | 7,074,589 | 8,860,170 |

| | ACTUAL 2014 | Reviewed Budget 2015 | DRAFT Budget 2016 | PLAN 2017 | PLAN 2018 | PLAN 2019 | PLAN 2020 | PLAN 2021 | PLAN 2022 | PLAN 2023 | PLAN 2024 | PLAN 2025 |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| INCOME | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates | 20,084,089 | 21,820,144 | 24,086,452 | 25,290,775 | 26,555,313 | 27,484,749 | 28,446,716 | 29,442,351 | 30,472,833 | 31,539,382 | 32,643,260 | 33,785,774 |
| Statutory charges | 208,728 | 792,481 | 868,750 | 886,125 | 903,848 | 912,886 | 922,015 | 931,235 | 940,547 | 949,953 | 959,452 | 969,047 |
| User charges | 1,006,790 | 493,758 | 419,300 | 423,493 | 427,728 | 436,282 | 445,008 | 453,908 | 462,986 | 472,246 | 481,691 | 491,325 |
| Grants, subsidies and contributions | 2,184,520 | 2,636,493 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 | 2,551,173 |
| Investment income | 1,469,573 | 979,600 | 846,160 | 634,821 | 454,795 | 451,572 | 480,492 | 513,794 | 565,320 | 628,334 | 696,684 | 757,441 |
| Other income | 189,596 | 213,421 | 48,685 | 49,172 | 49,664 | 50,160 | 50,662 | 51,168 | 51,680 | 52,197 | 52,719 | 53,246 |
| Total Income | 25,143,296 | 26,935,898 | 28,820,520 | 29,835,559 | 30,942,521 | 31,886,823 | 32,896,066 | 33,943,629 | 35,044,540 | 36,193,285 | 37,384,980 | 38,608,007 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee costs | (5,843,212) | (6,164,272) | (6,624,802) | (6,889,794) | (7,165,386) | (7,452,001) | (7,750,081) | (8,060,085) | (8,382,488) | (8,717,787) | (9,066,499) | (9,429,159) |
| Professional Services | (1,081,727) | (1,610,305) | (909,980) | (928,180) | (946,743) | (956,211) | (965,773) | (975,430) | (985,185) | (995,037) | (1,004,987) | (1,015,037) |
| Insurance | (413,025) | (434,314) | (433,900) | (446,917) | (460,325) | (469,531) | (478,922) | (488,500) | (498,270) | (508,235) | (518,400) | (528,768) |
| Utilities | (1,651,906) | (2,139,640) | (2,262,846) | (2,375,988) | (2,494,788) | (2,569,631) | (2,646,720) | (2,726,122) | (2,807,906) | (2,892,143) | (2,978,907) | (3,068,274) |
| Materials & Contractors | (11,085,102) | (11,913,837) | (11,689,041) | (12,039,712) | (12,400,903) | (12,834,935) | (13,284,158) | (13,749,103) | (14,230,322) | (14,728,383) | (15,243,876) | (15,777,412) |
| Depreciation, amortisation & impairment | (6,851,839) | (6,838,796) | (8,062,100) | (9,049,400) | (9,791,300) | (10,514,300) | (11,027,700) | (11,431,700) | (11,215,900) | (10,993,700) | (10,787,300) | (10,587,800) |
| Elected Members Allowances | (232,852) | (271,116) | (276,889) | (282,427) | (288,075) | (293,837) | (299,714) | (305,708) | (311,822) | (318,058) | (324,420) | (330,908) |
| Other Expenses | (2,565,576) | (3,437,415) | (3,046,425) | (3,107,353) | (3,169,500) | (3,232,890) | (3,297,548) | (3,363,499) | (3,430,769) | (3,499,384) | (3,569,372) | (3,640,759) |
| Finance Charges | 0 | 0 | (18,333) | (220,000) | (198,046) | (174,884) | (150,449) | (124,669) | (97,472) | (68,779) | (38,508) | (6,571) |
| Total Expenses | (29,725,239) | (32,809,694) | (33,324,316) | (35,339,771) | (36,915,066) | (38,498,220) | (39,901,064) | (41,224,816) | (41,960,133) | (42,721,507) | (43,532,269) | (44,384,689) |
| OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | (4,581,943) | (5,873,796) | (4,503,795) | (5,504,212) | (5,972,545) | (6,611,397) | (7,004,998) | (7,281,187) | (6,915,593) | (6,528,222) | (6,147,289) | (5,776,682) |
| Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets | (67,424) | 9,091 | (62,000) | 264,000 | 274,560 | 285,542 | 296,964 | 308,843 | 321,196 | 334,044 | 347,406 | 361,302 |
| Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets | 0 | 269,190 | 1,438,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| Physical resources received free of charge | 2,837,402 | 30,700,000 | 35,000,000 | 33,000,000 | 30,000,000 | 28,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) transferred to Equity Statement | (1,811,965) | 25,104,485 | 31,872,205 | 28,009,788 | 24,552,015 | 21,924,145 | 18,541,966 | (6,722,344) | (6,344,396) | (5,944,177) | (5,549,883) | (5,165,380) |
| Other Comprehensive Income | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment | 15,725,967 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Other Comprehensive Income | 15,725,967 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) | 13,914,002 | 25,104,485 | 31,872,205 | 28,009,788 | 24,552,015 | 21,924,145 | 18,541,966 | (6,722,344) | (6,344,396) | (5,944,177) | (5,549,883) | (5,165,380) |

ITEM NO. 13.1.5 Extension Public Liability Cover

FROM: Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services
REPORT NUMBER: 8/0675
MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.1 Responsibility

4.1 We are committed to corporate and social responsibility, the sustainability of Council assets and services, and the effective planning and reporting of Council performance to the community

Summary:

City of Palmerston has undertaken a review of the current insurance program. The recommendations from this review are outlined in this report. Furthermore Council needs to extend their Public Liability Cover which is expiring 30 June 2015.

Background:

At the meeting on the 17 March 2015, Council decided to engage a consultant for the review of the current insurance cover (8/1441 – 17/03/2015). The review has been undertaken by the LMI Group (LMI) and has been presented to senior management. The current Public Liability Insurance cover is provided to Council over the broker Jardine Lloyd Thompson Pty Ltd (JLT) with coverage of \$300,000,000 for any one occurrence. LMI has reviewed the cover and wording and suggested the following items:

| Item | LMI Comments |
|---|---|
| Limits of Liability a) Public Liability (excluding Products) \$300,000,000 Any One Occurrence (b) Products Liability \$300,000,000 Any One Occurrence and in the aggregate any one Period of Protection (c) Professional Indemnity \$300,000,000 Any One Claim and in the aggregate any one Period of Protection | Based on the most likely type of claims and in view of the level of major awards, LMI is of the opinion that the current Limits of Liability are adequate. Even in the improbable scenario of CoP being held responsible for a bushfire which destroys homes and other assets owned by the public and/or business, the Public Liability \$300,000,000 Limit of Liability is nonetheless adequate. The Products Liability and Professional Indemnity Limits of Liability are automatically reinstated upon notification of a claim to the Insurer. |
| Sub Limits of Liability Property of others in CoP's physical & legal control where coverage shall only apply to such damage in excess of the first \$500,000 (net of the deductible). | LMI advises that the Sub-Limits of Liability are in line with current market practices. It is important to note that the cover is only for building works up to \$1,000,000 in value. Works valued higher than this |

| | |
|--|--|
| Covering CoP's building work up to \$1,000,000 in value. | need to be discussed in advance with your insurance broker. |
| Deductibles (a) Public Liability \$5,000 (b) Products Liability \$5,000 (c) Professional Indemnity \$5,000 inclusive of all Law Costs and Defences | LMI advises that the deductibles are in line with current market levels. It is important to keep deductibles as low as economically possible to avoid potential below-deductible WorkCover recovery claims costs which come out of CoP's pocket. |
| Policy Wording – Overview JLT Local Government Broad Form Liability Wording. | LMI advises this policy wording is suitable for CoP. It has been specially written to cover the liabilities of Local Governments. |
| “Claims Preparation Costs: This endorsement extends to indemnify the Insured for: such reasonable professional fees payable by the Insured to their advisers (including fees of accountants, loss adjusters and/or legal representatives appointed by the Insured) and such other reasonable expenses necessarily incurred by the Insured and not otherwise recoverable, for preparation of claims and proving the loss under the policy and the Insurer(s) shall indemnify the Insured for such reasonable fees and expenses.” | LMI recommends that the policy be extended to include CoP's Claim Preparation Costs up to a minimum Sub-Limit of \$250,000. |
| “NOMINATED LOSS ADJUSTER It is agreed that whenever a professional loss adjuster's services are required, the Insurer(s) will appoint..... to assess and report on the Insured's claim”. | LMI recommends that the policy be extended to include Endorsement ADJSTXB4 LMI believe that despite reforms to the Insurance contracts Act, some loss assessors / adjusters / insurers are not acting with utmost good faith when dealing with claims. As a result LMI recommends that a nominated adjuster be appointed. |
| “Law and Jurisdiction: This policy is governed by the law of the Northern Territory and the Parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts in Darwin. A Party will not object to that forum for any reason”. | LMI recommends that the policy should contain a Law and Jurisdiction clause. This will ensure that court cases are heard in the N.T. and not in some other state, territory or country that might suit the claimant and not CoP. |

The review conducted outlines in more detail that some of the wording in the current cover is a valuable extension of other standard covers.

Furthermore LMI has reviewed the possibility of self-insurance. The suggestions have been to start increasing deductibles on other insurance covers at this stage to see the impact on the premiums.

With current conversations going on around self-insurance in the Local Government Sector, senior management would suggest that Council considers to continue the current cover for a further 12 months and investigates further in that area during that time.

LMI has reviewed the Expression of Interest responses received earlier this year and has stated the following:

“Whilst all three brokers have experienced and qualified personnel, local offices and backgrounds in Local Government insurance, JLT are the undisputed leaders in this field in Australia. The quality of their EOI indicates this and LMI have therefore concentrated on their submission”

With Brokerage Services being a Professional Service Council does not have to go through a tender process and can award an extension via council decision.

Financial Implications:

A quotation has to be sought from JLT including the suggested changes to wording (see above).

Policy / Legislation:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCOUNTING) REGULATIONS

Part 13 Quotations and tenders

Division 1 General requirements

30 Quotations and tenders not required in certain circumstances

(1) Quotations or tenders are not required:

(a) for the provision of supplies consisting of, or related to:

(i) the purchase of land; or

(ii) a consultancy or other professional services; or

(iii) travel and accommodation; or

(b) if the Minister dispenses, in a particular case, with the requirement to call for quotations or tenders; or

(c) if the supplies are to be provided under a contract entered into before the commencement of these Regulations.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0675.
2. THAT Council approves the current Public Liability cover through Jardine Lloyd Thompson with mentioned adjustments to be renewed for a further twelve months.

Recommending Officer: Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services.

Any queries on this report may be directed to Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone 89359922 or email jan.peters@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Schedule of Attachments:

Nil

ITEM NO. 13.1.6 **2015 LGMA International Mentor Program**

FROM: Chief Executive Officer

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0677

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.1 Responsibility

4.1 We are committed to corporate and social responsibility, the sustainability of Council assets and services, and the effective planning and reporting of Council performance to the community

Summary:

Deputy Mayor McKinnon is seeking to participate in the 2015 Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA) International Mentor Program. The LGMA International Mentor Program has been developed to help young people in Nepal and Cambodia build a bright future and learn about business, management, government and leadership from experienced local government professionals in Australia.

Background:

The goals of the LGMA International Mentor Program include:-

- To provide a sound basis for mentees' learning as they develop themselves, their community and their country;
- To enable mentors and mentees to learn from each other, through regular, frequent communication;
- To build the capability of mentees to plan, deliver and evaluate community or workplace projects;
- To strengthen mentees' ability to plan for a strong, healthy and productive future;
- To provide a network that will enable continued exchange among participants.

General:

The three locations selected for the 2015 program include Kathmandu in Nepal, Siem Reap and Phnom Penh in Cambodia. The program commences on 1 July 2015 and is completed on 30 November 2015.

This program requires time commitments from each mentor and Deputy Mayor McKinnon has indicated she is prepared to meet these commitments to participate in the program.

Financial Implications:

The program does require a financial contribution of \$250 to assist with the administration of the program and to meet in-country training and delivery costs.

Policy / Legislation:

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0677.
2. THAT Council endorse Deputy Mayor McKinnon's application to be a mentor for the LGMA International Mentor Program 2015 and funds the cost of \$250 to participate in the program.

Recommending Officer: Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer on telephone (08) 8935 9902 or email ricki.bruhn@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Schedule of Attachments:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Attachment A | LGMA International Mentor Program 2015 |
|--------------|--|



LGMA International Mentor Program



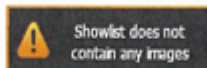
Username

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[Forgot login?](#)

Menu



Home

Login

Username

Remember me ☐

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Program Registration

If you are interested in becoming a program mentee or a program mentor, please proceed below:

Mentee Registration

Mentor Registration

[Contact Us](#) for more information

LGMA International Mentor Program 2015

Program Vision

Strong links between countries based on learning and development

Program Mission

To create a strong foundation for life-long learning that comes from positive experiences

Program Values

Commitment

Honesty

Curiosity

Trust

Program Goals

1. To provide a sound basis for mentees' learning as they develop themselves, their community and their country
2. To enable mentors and mentees to learn from each other, through regular, frequent communication
3. To build the capability of mentees to plan, deliver and evaluate community or workplace projects

4. To strengthen mentees' ability to plan for a strong, healthy and productive future
5. To provide a network that will enable continued exchange among participants

2012 Mentee **Ms Kimnang Seng**, Cambodia, mentored by Peta Silbersher, Stonnington City Council, Melbourne, described her gains:

"I can share my knowledge with a person who is a different nationality. I learned a lot about new things that I never knew before. I have more confidence now. I know how I need to prepare before I decide to do something. I know clearly about myself now."

Kimnang is now a 'local mentor' working with the Siem Reap mentees and a founding member of the Cambodian Mentoring Association. Photographed with Siem Reap coordinator, Mr Darun, who is the Convenor of the Cambodian Mentoring Association.



Registering for the 2015 program

The 2015 program is open for registration by mentees and mentors. Registration for mentees will close 30 April 2015.

3 locations are included in the program for 2015 - **Kathmandu** in Nepal and **Siem Reap** and **Phnom Penh** in Cambodia.

The Mentor Program involves a **mentee**, the learner, less experienced young person from Nepal or Cambodia, being paired with a **mentor**, an Australian local government or community development professional. They then communicate regularly and frequently (at least two times each week) to help the mentee to grow and develop and to conduct their Mentee's Project in their community. The program begins 1 July 2015 and will end by 30 November 2015.

There is no cost to take part for the mentees, however mentors are asked to contribute \$250 through their organisation to help with administration and coordination costs.

Expressing interest

Mentees from each of the countries can **express interest via this website** (use the **Register** button on the home page). It is recommended that mentees read the rest of the information on this website before registering, so that they know what will be expected of them.

After a discussion/interview with the local, in-country program coordinators, 10-12 mentees from each location will then be selected from their Registration or Expression of Interest to take part in the program.

Mentors will then be paired with mentees, depending on the roles of the partners and the nature of the mentee's projects. Mentees and Mentors are able to choose their partner from the summary of selected Mentors and Mentees which will appear on this website.

"The program offered me a great opportunity to reflect on myself and to motivate me to be the best I can be. It also allowed me to get glimpse of the challenges one faces when working in a third-world developing culture. Katie Xiao, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Vic.

How does the program work?

Successful mentor partnerships in past programs have been the result of two people who are very enthusiastic, have enough time to work with their partner, are passionate about improvement (self and community) and are willing to learn about the other person and their culture.

Both mentors and mentees should think very carefully about what taking part in the program will involve for them.

Mentees must be very keen, and **be prepared to work hard** with their mentor to develop themselves and to conduct their project.

Mentors must be sure that they **have enough time** to give to their mentee enough time. Writing and reading of emails or messages may take up to 45 minutes per week for both mentors and mentees, depending on the discussions and the stage of the program.

For more details see "The Process" below.

Mentees are supported in their location by a group of 'local mentors' who maintain close contact with them from the orientation session through the program to the end of the program. L to R photos below: Hirakaji (Kathmandu local mentor) works with Jibesh, Prabin and Uma at their orientation. Socheat (Siem Reap local mentor) coaching Sam Oth at the Siem Reap Mid-program review. Former mentee Vengly speaks to mentees Sony and Channara at the 2014 orientation in Phnom Penh.



The process of registering to take part in the program

1. Anyone interested in expressing interest or registering to be a Mentor or a Mentee in the 2015 program may register using the **Register** Tab. For more information about the program or to send any queries, please send an email via the 'Contact Us' tab and your enquiry will be answered. Registration will be made via the **Register** tab.
- Mentors please note that you are asked to make a contribution through your council, of \$250, which will assist with administration of the program and meet in-country training and delivery costs. Mentors will be invoiced at the commencement of the program.
2. Mentees' information will be passed on to the in-country coordinator, who will contact them to arrange a time to meet and discuss their participation in the program. Possible mentees must have a very good idea of **why they are taking part in the program** and **what their project will be** (see below).
3. Mentors will be contacted directly by the Australian program manager to confirm details and provide information if required.
4. Final selection of both mentees and mentors will be made and confirmed with participants by mid May 2014. Each of the 5 locations will be limited to a maximum of 12 mentees, so it will be competitive to get into the program.
5. After mentees have been informed that they have been successful in their application, they then must develop a **Project Brief**, with support from the Program Director and local coordinators and local mentors.
6. From this Project Brief a **Project Plan** will be developed and prepared immediately before the mentees' program orientation.
7. Mentees **must** take part in a **compulsory** face-to-face, full day **Mentees' Orientation Workshop** in each of the 3 locations. This is essential and mentees will not be able to take part in the program without having attended this workshop.



Siem Reap (left) and Kathmandu (centre) and Phnom Penh (right, with Louise Coventry, Cord Cambodia) - 2014 mentees during their Orientation Workshop

8. Mentors are briefed and provided with Awareness and Preparation material before the program.
9. The 2015 program begins 1 July. Mentors and mentees are expected to **communicate at least twice each week** during the following 5 months. This communication will be about planning and delivering the mentee's project, as well as mentees developing themselves and learning from their mentors. This personal development aspect of the program is very important for mentees and mentors.



Phnom Penh 2014 mentees take a well-earned lunch break during their Orientation Workshop



Siem Reap 2014 mentees and the 'local mentors' who supporting them during the Orientation Workshop and during the course of the program

10. The Program ends 1 November 2015. A compulsory half day **Review and Evaluation Workshop** for mentees will be held in each location. Mentees **must** attend this workshop.

"It's definitely a two-way learning experience and I would fully recommend people getting involved." Rachel Paterson, City of Playford, SA.

What will the program involve for a mentee?

Mentees must have good English language capability and good access to online communication.

Mentees must have decided on a "Project" that they will plan, deliver and evaluate during the course of the 5 month program. There is a small amount available for mentees to access, if their project is selected from the group. More details will be provided when mentees are confirmed.

Most importantly mentees must be very **COMMITTED** to the program. In other words, they will be expected to communicate at least two times each week with their mentor - this might be by email, Skype, Facebook message, Skype, phone call etc.

Mentees must be sure that they will **not** want to leave the program before it ends in November 2015 or lose good communication with their mentor.

Program partners



LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
MANAGERS
AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL OFFICE

LGMA (Local Government Managers Australia) is the host organisation. LGMA is a not-for-profit professional association for employees in the local government sector in Australia.



Safe Nepal is a not-for-profit organisation in Nepal that works to improve the safety and health of young people in Nepal. Safe Nepal coordinates the Kathmandu and Pokhara programs.

Cord Cambodia is a capacity building organisation that works in Cambodia. Cord Cambodia is the coordinator of the Phnom Penh program.



The **Cambodian Mentoring Association** is a facilitating association of young people in Cambodia whose members work in a variety of industries. The association is the coordinator of the Siem Reap and Phnom Penh programs as required.



Coaching and Mentoring International is a facilitating consultancy based in Melbourne, Australia and manages the mentor program on behalf of the LGMA.

Program Sponsors



Datacom is a global IT and business solutions organisation that works closely in the local government sector in Australia and New Zealand. Datacom is committed to being a long-term partner and is focused on the developmental aspects of the International Mentor Program.



Insync Surveys is an Australian survey company that works throughout the world on assisting organisations, particularly local governments, to better understand their culture, employees and opportunities for development and improvement.

Discuss this article in the forums (1 replies).

Connect with Us:



LGMA - providing wonderful mentors

LGMA (Local Government Managers Australia) is the professional association for all Australian employees working in local government. In Australia there are three tiers of government - national, state and local. Our mentors are generally people who have been working in local government for some time and are very experienced in their work, which ranges from engineers, nurses, environmental professionals, librarians, IT professionals, accountants, human resources professionals, strategic planners, governance officers and town planners.

As the focus of local government is to help develop the local community, our mentors understand how this can be done and are able to help mentees meet some of the challenges they face. Mentors are also well experienced in managing projects of all different sizes and types, so can provide support to mentees as they conduct their projects in their own locations. LGMA is proud to support the International Mentor Program.

[Visit our website](#)

What does a Mentor do?

A mentor is someone who gives **suggestions, advice** to a less experienced person (the mentee) to help them **think about things in a different way**. In many countries Mentor Programs are being set up to help young people **make decisions** about their **career** and **learn about the world** in new and exciting ways. The young person can learn from their mentor by asking questions, listening to what they have said, thinking about what they have suggested and sharing ideas.

Our mentors are also able to help their mentees plan their **projects**, think about it in different ways, develop the best **plan** for the project, give guidance to the mentees during the project and finally, to help the mentees **evaluate** the project's success.

[More About the Program](#)

ITEM NO. 13.1.7 **Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants**

FROM: Chief Executive Officer

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0678

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

3. Environment & Infrastructure

3.2 Assets and Infrastructure

3.2 We are committed to maintaining and developing community assets and infrastructure which meet the needs of our community

Summary:

Through the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT), councils are being requested to formally recognise the funding they receive through the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) program. This is to assist in building a national case for indexation to be restored to these funding allocations.

Background:

The Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants are a vital component of the revenue base for all councils in Australia and this year, councils will receive \$2.3 billion from the Australian Government under this important program.

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and the State / Territory Local Government Associations are seeking the support of Councils for advocacy to have the Federal Government reverse the decision to freeze the indexation of FAGs.

For the 2014/2015 financial year, the City of Palmerston received a total amount of \$1,487,638 from the Commonwealth FAGs program. This untied grant funding comprises two components, a general purpose allocation of \$691,350 and a roads allocation of \$796,288. The loss of indexation on this funding (based on a 3% CPI increase) for the 2014/2015 year has cost council \$44,629 – this will escalate over the next two years while the freeze on indexation continues.

General:

While the FAGs are paid through each State's / Territory Local Government Grants Commission, the funding originates with the

Commonwealth and it is important it is recognised as such. The City of Palmerston and every other council in Australia, have been asked to pass a resolution acknowledging the importance of the Commonwealth's Financial Assistance Grants in assisting Council to provide important community infrastructure.

Council is also being asked to acknowledge the receipt of Financial Assistance Grants from the Commonwealth in media releases and council publications, including our Annual Report and to highlight to the media a council project costing a similar amount to the Financial Assistance Grants received by Council. This is to identify the importance and impact of the grants so the contributions can be better appreciated.

Financial Implications:

A freeze on indexation of the Commonwealth Financial Assistant Grants will continue for the 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 financial years.

Policy / Legislation:

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0678.
2. THAT Council acknowledges the importance of federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants program for the continued delivery of council's services and infrastructure;
3. THAT Council acknowledges it received \$ 1,487,638 in the 2014 / 2015 financial year and;
4. THAT Council ensures that this federal funding and other funding provided by the Federal Government under relevant grant programs, is appropriately identified as Commonwealth grant funding in council publications, including the Annual Report

Recommending Officer: Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer on telephone (08) 8935 9902 or email ricki.bruhn@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Schedule of Attachments:

Nil

ITEM NO. 13.1.8 Fees and Charges 2015/2016

FROM: A/Director Corporate and Community Services

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0671

MEETING DATE: 2 June 2015

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.3 People

We value our people, and the culture of our organisation. We are committed to continuous improvement and innovation whilst seeking to reduce the costs of Council services through increased efficiency

Summary:

This report contains details of draft Fees and Charges for financial year 2015/2016 for Council's consideration.

Background:

In a workshop in February 2015 Elected Members reviewed fees and charges for the 2015/2016 financial year.

General:

If approved by Council, the Fees and Charges for financial year 2015/2016 will be adopted as part of the Municipal Plan and published on Council's internet page.

After review, the proposed changes are;

- Aged & Disability Pensioner Fee (for additional dog) decrease from \$35.00 to \$10.00
- Rates – changes from “flat residential rate” to a UCV based residential rate with a minimum rate as listed in the attached schedule.
- Permanent Disability & Temporary Disability permits reduced from \$6.00 to nil.
- Waste Management charge increased from \$435.00 to \$485.00 per allotment.
- When bin reported stolen with NT Police nil fee added.

Please note rates and waste management charge are subject to formal adoption by Council.

Financial Implications:

If adopted, these fees and charges will replace the 2014/2015 fees and charges.

Policy / Legislation:

Council is required to set fees and charges annually.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0671.
2. THAT Council adopts the schedule of Fees and Charges for 2015/2016.

Recommending Officer: Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services

Any queries on this report may be directed to Jan Peters, Acting Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone 89359976 or email jan.peters@palmerston.nt.gov.au

Schedule of Attachments:

Attachment: Fees and Charges Schedule 2015/2016



| Category | Service Description | Unit of Measure | 2015 Fee \$ | 2016 Fee \$ | GST |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| ADMINISTRATION | Annual Report | | | | |
| | Copy (Black and White) | per copy | Nil for ratepayer | Nil for ratepayer | incl. GST |
| | Perusal of report in Council offices | | Nil | Nil | incl. GST |
| | Municipal Plan | | | | |
| | Copy (Black and White) | per copy | Nil for ratepayer | Nil for ratepayer | incl. GST |
| | Perusal of report in Council offices | | Nil | Nil | incl. GST |
| | Cheques Dishonoured | | | | |
| | At first presentation | per cheque | 55.00 | 55.00 | incl. GST |
| | At second presentation | per cheque | 55.00 | 55.00 | incl. GST |
| | Freedom of Information | | | | |
| | Information Act Fees & Charges | | As prescribed | As prescribed | - |
| | Sale of By-Laws | | | | |
| | Copy (Black and White) | per page | 0.60 | NIL | incl. GST |
| | Tenders | | | | |
| | Copy (Black and White) | per copy | Nil | Nil | incl. GST |
| ANIMAL | Dog Registration Fees | | | | |
| | <u>Dogs under 3 months of age</u> | per dog | 10.00 | 10.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Entire Dogs</u> | | | | |
| | Full Fee | per dog | 100.00 | 100.00 | excl. GST |
| | Discounted Fee (From 1 st February) | per dog | 60.00 | 60.00 | excl. GST |
| | Discounted Fee (From 1 st May) | per dog | 40.00 | 40.00 | excl. GST |
| | Aged & Disability Pensioner Fee (for first dog) | per dog | 50.00 | 50.00 | excl. GST |
| | Aged & Disability Pensioner Fee (for additional dog) | per dog | 50.00 | 50.00 | excl. GST |
| | Aged & Disability Pensioner Fee (for additional dog - From 1st May) | per dog | 25.00 | 25.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>De-sexed Dog</u> | | | | |
| | Full Fee | per dog | 40.00 | 40.00 | excl. GST |
| | Discounted Fee (From 1 st February) | per dog | 25.00 | 25.00 | excl. GST |
| | Discounted Fee (From 1 st May) | per dog | 20.00 | 20.00 | excl. GST |
| | Aged & Disability Pensioner Fee (for first dog) | per dog | 10.00 | 10.00 | excl. GST |
| | Aged & Disability Pensioner Fee (for additional dog) | per dog | 35.00 | 10.00 | excl. GST |
| | Aged & Disability Pensioner Fee (for additional dog - From 1st May) | per dog | 15.00 | 15.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Trained Dogs for the Blind and Hearing Impaired</u> | per dog | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| | <u>Northern Australian Canine Assoc COB Holder</u> | per dog | 60.00 | 60.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Tag Replacement</u> | | 10.00 | 10.00 | incl. GST |
| | Impound Fees | | | | |
| | Fee for unregistered dog | per dog | 205.00 | 205.00 | excl. GST |
| | Fee for registered dog | per dog | 140.00 | 140.00 | excl. GST |
| | Additional Fee for dog impounded out of hours | per dog | 85.00 | 85.00 | excl. GST |
| | Daily charge after day one | per day | 55.00 | 55.00 | excl. GST |
| | Dog Licence | | | | |
| | Licence Application including one site inspection (non refundable) | per application | 155.00 | 155.00 | excl. GST |
| | Site Inspections | per inspection | 115.00 | 115.00 | excl. GST |
| | Licence – Full yearly | per Licence | 215.00 | 215.00 | excl. GST |
| | Licence – Half yearly February – July | per Licence | 120.00 | 120.00 | excl. GST |
| | Barking Collars | | | | |
| | Citronella Barking Collars | per collar/ per month | 40.00 | 40.00 | incl. GST |
| | Refundable Deposit | per collar | 50.00 | 50.00 | excl. GST |
| | Citronella Canisters | per canister | 35.00 | 35.00 | incl. GST |
| | Animal Traps | | | | |
| | Hire animal traps - First month | per month, per trap | Nil | Nil | incl. GST |
| | Hire animal traps -from the second month | per month, per trap | 30.00 | 30.00 | incl. GST |
| | Refundable Deposit | per trap | 100.00 | 100.00 | excl. GST |



| Category | Service Description | Unit of Measure | 2015 Fee \$ | 2016 Fee \$ | GST |
|---|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Building Construction Applications | Access and Stormwater | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 65.00 | 65.00 | excl. GST |
| | Inspection Fee | per inspection | 115.00 | 115.00 | excl. GST |
| | Unit Title Scheme Clearances | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 65.00 | 65.00 | excl. GST |
| | Inspection Fee | per inspection | 115.00 | 115.00 | excl. GST |
| COMMUNITY FACILITIES | Gray Community Hall | | | | |
| | <u>Private/Business</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 200.00 | 200.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 120.00 | 120.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 40.00 | 40.00 | incl. GST |
| | <u>Not-for-profit</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 100.00 | 100.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 60.00 | 60.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 20.00 | 20.00 | incl. GST |
| | Booking Deposit - Refundable | per usage | 125.00 | 125.00 | excl. GST |
| | Additional Cleaning (if required) | per usage | At cost of cleaning plus GST | At cost of cleaning plus GST | incl. GST |
| | Driver Family Resource Centre | | | | |
| | <u>Private/Business</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 175.00 | 175.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 105.00 | 105.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 35.00 | 35.00 | incl. GST |
| | <u>Not-for-profit</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 87.50 | 87.50 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 52.50 | 52.50 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 17.50 | 17.50 | incl. GST |
| | Booking Deposit - Refundable | per usage | 125.00 | 125.00 | excl. GST |
| | Additional Cleaning (if required) | per usage | At cost of cleaning plus GST | At cost of cleaning plus GST | incl. GST |
| | Library Training Room | | | | |
| | <u>Private/Business</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 175.00 | 175.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 105.00 | 105.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 35.00 | 35.00 | incl. GST |
| | <u>Not-for-profit</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 87.50 | 87.50 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 52.50 | 52.50 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 17.50 | 17.50 | incl. GST |
| | Booking Deposit - Refundable | per usage | 125.00 | 125.00 | excl. GST |
| | Additional Cleaning (if required) | per usage | At cost of cleaning plus GST | At cost of cleaning plus GST | incl. GST |
| | Laptop Hire | per laptop / per session | 25.00 | 25.00 | incl. GST |
| | Digital projector | per session | 25.00 | 25.00 | incl. GST |
| | TV Hire | per session | 25.00 | 25.00 | incl. GST |
| | Library Community Room (incl. Kitchenette) | | | | |
| | <u>Private/Business</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 175.00 | 175.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 105.00 | 105.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 35.00 | 35.00 | incl. GST |
| | <u>Not-for-profit</u> | | | | |
| | Rent | per day | 87.50 | 87.50 | incl. GST |
| | Rent (4 hours) | per half-day | 52.50 | 52.50 | incl. GST |
| | Rent | per hour | 17.50 | 17.50 | incl. GST |
| | Booking Deposit - Refundable | per usage | 125.00 | 125.00 | excl. GST |
| | Additional Cleaning (if required) | per usage | At cost of cleaning plus GST | At cost of cleaning plus GST | incl. GST |
| CREMATION COSTS CHILDREN | Infant subsidy to Thorak Cemetery | | | | |
| | <i>This subsidy is applicable for the burial or cremation costs of children up to the age of two years (including stillborn children), with the following conditions:</i> | | | | |
| | - parent or legal guardian is a resident within the municipality of Palmerston | | | | |
| | - subsidy is available up to a maximum of 50% of the interment cost or 50 % of the cremation cost (not both) or a maximum of \$900.00 (whichever is the lesser value) | | | | |
| | - subsidy will only be paid to individual residents (not to organisation or government agencies carrying out the interments or cremations for children in their care) | | | | |
| | - individuals have to proof residency with photo identification with a current address shown | | | | |



| Category | Service Description | Unit of Measure | 2015 Fee \$ | 2016 Fee \$ | GST |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|--|-----------|
| LIBRARY SERVICES | Non Territory Resident Borrower | | | | |
| | Refundable Deposit - plus | per resident | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Non-refundable Administration Fee | per resident | 15.00 | 15.00 | incl. GST |
| | Lost Borrower card replacement | per card | 2.50 | 2.50 | incl. GST |
| | Photocopying and printing black and white | | | | |
| | A4 single | per page | 0.30 | 0.30 | incl. GST |
| | A4 double | per page | 0.60 | 0.60 | incl. GST |
| | A3 single | per page | 0.50 | 0.50 | incl. GST |
| | A3 double | per page | 1.00 | 1.00 | incl. GST |
| | Photocopying and printing colours | | | | |
| | A4 single | per page | 1.50 | 1.50 | incl. GST |
| | A4 double | per page | 3.00 | 3.00 | incl. GST |
| | A3 single | per page | 3.00 | 3.00 | incl. GST |
| | A3 double | per page | 6.00 | 6.00 | incl. GST |
| | PC Usage (internet hire and personal usage) | | | | |
| | 15 min | | 1.00 | 1.00 | incl. GST |
| | Fax Service | | | | |
| | - 1 st page | | 3.00 | 3.00 | incl. GST |
| | - 2 nd page onwards | | 1.00 | 1.00 | incl. GST |
| | Receive incoming fax | per page | 1.00 | 1.00 | incl. GST |
| | Inter Library Loan (if charged by host library) | per loan | as charged by host library | as charged by host library | excl. GST |
| | Replacement of Lost or Damaged items | | | | |
| | Replacement of any library resources | per item | At replacement cost of item plus \$2 administration charge plus GST | At replacement cost of item plus \$2 administration charge plus GST | incl. GST |
| | Laminating Service | | | | |
| | A3 | per sheet | 8.00 | 8.00 | incl. GST |
| | A4 | per sheet | 6.00 | 6.00 | incl. GST |
| | Wallet size | per sheet | 5.00 | 5.00 | incl. GST |
| | Binding | | | | |
| | 1-40 pages | per binding | 5.00 | 5.00 | incl. GST |
| | 40-100 pages | per binding | 7.00 | 7.00 | incl. GST |
| | 100-190 pages | per binding | 10.00 | 10.00 | incl. GST |
| | Library Bags | | | | |
| | Calico | per bag | 5.00 | 5.00 | incl. GST |
| OUTDOOR DINING LICENCE | Outdoor Dining Licence | | | | |
| | Outdoor Dining Licence (Class 1) <i>Class 1: Up to 4 tables / 8 Seats (whichever is the lesser)</i> | per annum | 25.00 | 25.00 | excl. GST |
| | Outdoor Dining Licence (Class 2) <i>Class 2: All other applications (with or without a Licence to Serve Alcohol)</i> | per square meter per annum | 177.00 | 177.00 | excl. GST |
| PROPERTY | Damage or Destruction to any Council Property Damage or destruction to any property of Council will be recovered from the responsible person. This could be either the holder of the permit/licence, the hirer or any other liable person causing damage. | per damaged asset | Cost for replacement or reinstatement to Council plus 15% administrative charge plus GST | Cost for replacement or reinstatement to Council plus 15% administrative charge plus GST | incl. GST |
| PUBLIC PLACES | Public Open Spaces and Parks All deposits shall be lodged with proof of public liability insurance | | | | |
| | Private and Non-for Profit Community Groups | | | | |
| | Key Deposit - Refundable | per key | 60.00 | 60.00 | excl. GST |
| | Cleaning Deposit – Refundable | per usage | NIL | Nil | excl. GST |
| | Charity Stalls | | | | |
| | Additional Cleaning (if required) | per usage | At cost of cleaning plus GST | At cost of cleaning plus GST | incl. GST |
| | Commercial Use | | | | |
| | Key Deposit - Refundable | per key | 60.00 | 60.00 | excl. GST |
| | Cleaning Deposit – Refundable | per usage | 150.00 | 150.00 | excl. GST |
| | Additional Cleaning (if required) | per usage | At cost of cleaning plus GST | At cost of cleaning plus GST | incl. GST |



| Category | Service Description | Unit of Measure | 2015 Fee \$ | 2016 Fee \$ | GST |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| RATES | Rates | | | | |
| | Residential Rates (UCV) | per allotment | | 0.42500% | excl. GST |
| | Minimum Residential Rate | per allotment | 1,155.00 | 1,177.00 | excl. GST |
| | Commercial Rates (UCV) | per allotment | 0.71062% | 0.724116% | excl. GST |
| | Minimum Commercial Rates | per allotment | 1,155.00 | 1,177.00 | excl. GST |
| | Industrial Rates (UCV) | per allotment | 0.17284% | 0.176123% | excl. GST |
| | Minimum Industrial Rates | per allotment | 1,155.00 | 1,177.00 | excl. GST |
| | Storage Sheds Rates (UCV) | per allotment | 0.42525% | 0.433327% | excl. GST |
| | Minimum Storage Sheds | per allotment | 315.00 | 400.00 | excl. GST |
| | Penalty Interest for late payment of rates and charges | on rates arrears | 18% per annum | 18% per annum | excl. GST |
| | Rate Book Inspection Fee | | | | |
| | Perusal at Council office | | Nil | | |
| | Written extract | per assessment | 50.00 | 50.00 | excl. GST |
| | Reprint of original Rates notice | | | | |
| | <u>Residential Zoning</u> | | | | |
| | Current Rating Year | per notice | 13.00 | 13.00 | incl. GST |
| | Prior Rating Years | per notice | 25.00 | 25.00 | incl. GST |
| | <u>Other Zonings</u> | | | | |
| | Current Rating Year | per notice | 25.00 | 25.00 | incl. GST |
| | Prior Rating Years | per notice | 50.00 | 50.00 | incl. GST |
| | Rate Debt Collection Fee | | | | |
| REGULATORY SERVICE | Letter of demand | per letter | \$20.00 plus postage | \$20.00 plus postage | incl. GST |
| | Field Call | per Field Call | 110.00 | Charge of external contractor | incl. GST |
| | Statement of Claim | per Statement of claim | 110.00 | Charge of external contractor | incl. GST |
| | Additional court Costs may apply and are determined by the courts | | | | - |
| | Disability Permits | | | | |
| | Permanent Disability (renewable every 3 years) | per permit | 6.00 | NIL | excl. GST |
| | Temporary Disability (time limited) | per permit | 6.00 | NIL | excl. GST |
| | Shopping Trolley | | | | |
| | Shopping Trolley Release Fee | per trolley | Cost to recover plus GST | Cost to recover plus GST | incl. GST |
| | Long Grass | | | | |
| SIGNAGE | Standard and/or <1200sq m blocks | per block | 350.00 | 350.00 | excl. GST |
| | Non standard and/or >1200sq m blocks | per block | By quotation | By quotation | excl. GST |
| | Block Inspection fee | per inspection | 115.00 | 115.00 | excl. GST |
| | Signage in Public Space and on Private Land | | | | |
| | <u>Animated Signs</u> | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | 240.00 | 240.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Signage on Private Land</u> | | | | |
| | Banners for temporary advertising on private land for maximum 2 weeks | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Banners, Balloons, Blimps and kites on private land | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Signs on private land viewable from a public place | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Banners/Signs on Council Land</u> | | | | |
| | Weekly fee for Commercial Use | per banner/sign | 75.00 | 75.00 | excl. GST |
| | Weekly fee for Non-for-profit organisations | per banner/sign | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Banner on street light poles</u> | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Weekly fee | per banner | 5.00 | 5.00 | excl. GST |
| | Erection and removal of Banners | per banner | at cost for council plus 15% plus GST | at cost for council plus 15% plus GST | incl. GST |
| | <u>Signs overhanging a public place</u> | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | 125.00 | 125.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Permanent signs on road</u> | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | 125.00 | 125.00 | excl. GST |



| Category | Service Description | Unit of Measure | 2015 Fee \$ | 2016 Fee \$ | GST |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|--|--|-----------|
| SIGNAGE | <u>Removable signs on public land (A Frame)</u> | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | 25.00 | 25.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Other Signage in Open Space</u> | | | | |
| | Bunting | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Murals | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Flags | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Event Signage | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Blue Finger Signs (refer below) | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>General Service and Community Groups</u> (churches, self help groups, childcare centres, schools, public sporting facilities) | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| | Cost of erection | per sign | 50% of cost plus GST | 50% of cost plus GST | incl. GST |
| | <u>Emergency Services</u> (fire brigade, ambulance, etc.) | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| | Cost of erection | per sign | Nil | Nil | incl. GST |
| | <u>Business Groups</u> (Shopping Centres, home businesses, vet clinics, medical/dental clinics, commercial childcare, private sporting clubs and community clubs) | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| | Cost of erection | per sign | 20% of cost plus GST | 20% of cost plus GST | incl. GST |
| | <u>Real Estate Signs on fences</u> | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| | Annual Fee | per sign | 135.00 | 135.00 | excl. GST |
| | <u>Advertising on fences</u> | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 45.00 | 45.00 | excl. GST |
| SUBDIVISION | Subdivision Approval Relative to Council area of responsibility roads, footpaths, bicycle tracks etc | | | | |
| | 1. At time of submission of plans for approval | per approval | 0.75% of construction cost of all assets handed to Council | 0.75% of construction cost of all assets handed to Council | excl. GST |
| | 2. Prior to practical completion / on-maintenance | per approval | 0.75% of construction cost of all assets handed to Council | 0.75% of construction cost of all assets handed to Council | excl. GST |
| VEHICLE CROSSOVER | Vehicle crossover (Reinforced) | | | | |
| | 100 mm Standard | per m2 | 80.00 | 80.00 | incl. GST |
| | 150 mm Commercial | per m2 | 90.00 | 90.00 | incl. GST |
| | 200 mm Industrial | per m2 | 105.00 | 105.00 | incl. GST |
| | Footpaths - 100mm (Reinforced) | per m2 | 80.00 | 80.00 | incl. GST |
| WASTE | Waste Management Charge(Section 157 of LGA 279) | | | | |
| | Residential Kerbside Collection | per allotment | 435.00 | 485.00 | excl. GST |
| | Exchange to 240l general waste bin on off fee (non-refundable) | per bin | 10.00 | 10.00 | excl. GST |
| | additional annual service cost | per bin | 143.00 | 143.00 | excl. GST |
| | Stolen bin replacement 120l general waste bin | per bin | 60.00 | 60.00 | excl. GST |
| | 240l general waste bin | per bin | 70.00 | 70.00 | excl. GST |
| | 120l recycle bin | per bin | 70.00 | 70.00 | excl. GST |
| | When bin reported stolen with NT Police | per bin | Nil | Nil | excl. GST |
| WORK ON COUNCIL RESERVES | Work on Council Reserves all applications shall be lodged with proof of public liability insurance Amount of inspections required will be verified after lodgement of application depending on works | | | | |
| | Application Fee | per application | 65.00 | 65.00 | excl. GST |
| | Inspection Fee | per inspection | 115.00 | 115.00 | excl. GST |
| | Hoarding Fee | per m2 per week | 2.60 | 2.60 | excl. GST |
| | Car bay hire | per bay per week | 55.00 | 55.00 | excl. GST |
| | <i>Private waste bins and containers on road reserves</i> maximum of 4 day period | per application | 28.00 | 28.00 | excl. GST |
| | | | | | |

Subject to formal adoption by Council



OUR REF: LEG0020

Mr Ian Abbott
Mayor
City of Palmerston
PO BOX 1
PALMERSTON NT 0831

Dear Mr Abbott

RE: Local Government (Electoral) Regulations Amendments

I am writing in regard to the recent Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2015, which provided changes to the *Local Government Act* and Local Government (Electoral) Regulations to modernise the administration of local government elections.

I note that the recent amendments provide councils with the options of conducting by-elections themselves or engaging the services of an alternative electoral service provider to that of the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC).

Whilst Councils have this option, I am hopeful that they will continue to utilise the services of the NTEC for the conduct of by-elections. This will ensure Councils maintain a level of independence, a clear separation of power from the administrative and political arm of Councils and receive the necessary electoral expertise. In addition, the NTEC has purchased specialised software to conduct proportional voting counts for local government elections and will continue to provide a detailed by-election plan with financial estimates to enable Councils to make a fully informed decision about the conduct of their by-elections.

The Commission has been delivering electoral services to Local Government Authorities for many years, and I am optimistic that this partnership will continue. I will be writing to you later this year regarding planning, costs and other associated matters concerning the 2017 Local Government General Election. I am keen to seek input from Council on electoral services to be provided at that election.

Should you have any queries regarding the recent electoral amendments to the *Local Government Act* and/or the 2017 Local Government General Election please call me on 8999 5000 or email iain.loganathan@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Iain Loganathan
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER
18 May 2015

cc: Mr Ricki Bruhn
Chief Executive Officer, City of Palmerston