

AGENDA 2nd Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday 15 August 2023

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

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

LUCCIO CERCARELLI

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

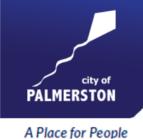


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- 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
- 2 OPENING OF MEETING
- 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
 - 3.1 Apologies
 - 3.2 Leave of Absence Previously Granted
 - 3.3 Leave of Absence Request
- 4 REQUEST FOR AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING
- 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST
 - 5.1 Elected Members
 - 5.2 Staff
- 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
 - 6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1 August 2023 pages 11093 to 11099 be confirmed.

- 6.2 Business Arising from Previous Meeting
- 7 MAYORAL REPORT
- 8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS
- 9 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)
- 10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS
 - 10.1 Moving Confidential Items into Open
 - 10.2 Moving Open Items into Confidential
 - 10.3 Confidential Items

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

Item	Confidential Category			Confidential Clause
25.1.1	Review of Confidential			This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section
	Matters			99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and
				section 51(1)(d) of the Local Government (General)
				Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the
				public only so much of its meeting as comprises the



		receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.
25.1.2	Council Property Agreements and Contracts	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
25.1.3	Rate Concession Assessment	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer. This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(d) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.
25.1.4	Council Property Agreements and Contracts	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.
25.2.1	Council Property Agreements and Contracts	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.
26.2.1	Correspondence	This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to,



	information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other
	person.

- 11 PETITIONS
- 12 NOTICES OF MOTION
- 13 OFFICER REPORTS



COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 13.1.1

REPORT TITLE: Archer Waste Management Facility Service Level Review

MEETING DATE: Tuesday 15 August 2023

AUTHOR: Environment Officer, Jelise Camilleri

APPROVER: General Manager of Infrastructure, Nadine Nilon

COMMUNITY PLAN

Environmental Sustainability: Palmerston is an environmentally friendly, liveable city that promotes renewable practices and sustainability.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Report is to seek Council endorsement to proposed service levels for the upcoming Archer Waste Management Facility operational contract.

KEY MESSAGES

- Council operates the Archer Waste Management Facility located on Elrundie Avenue. The purpose of
 the facility is to consolidate and manage recyclables, general waste, and some listed waste types prior
 to further transport to appropriate facilities.
- The Archer Waste Management Facility operational contract has been in place since 2018 and is due to expire on 1 December 2023.
- Council is currently preparing an Archer Waste Management Facility operational contract for the oncoming period and this has triggered a review of current and proposed Archer Waste Management Facility service levels.
- Council consistently receives positive Community Survey results for the Archer Waste Management Facility services, with scores of 7.74 (out of 10) in 2022.
- A review of the service levels has been undertaken and it is proposed the operating hours and access remain the same.
- There are three proposed additions to the materials accepted for separation and processing at the Archer Waste Management Facility. These are clean timber, clean concrete and bricks (residential quantity and origin only) and the establishment of a free reuse and repurpose area for items that are in working or useable condition.

RECOMMENDATION

- THAT Report entitled Archer Waste Management Facility Service Level Review be received and noted.
- 2. THAT Council retains current operating hours, listed waste acceptance, and access for City of Palmerston residents at no additional charge for the disposal of household-generated waste, for the contracted operational services at the Archer Waste Management Facility.



- 3. THAT Council endorses the following amendments and increases of services to be included in the documentation for the Archer Waste Management Facility operations tender;
 - a. Separation and processing of clean timber,
 - b. Separation and processing of clean concrete and bricks (residential quantity and origin only), and
 - c. Establish and maintain a 'Reuse/Repurpose' location on site for reusable items such as bicycles, where these items are available freely to Palmerston residents.

BACKGROUND

Council operates the Archer Waste Management Facility (AWMF) located on Elrundie Avenue. The purpose of the facility is to consolidate and manage recyclables, general waste, and some listed waste types prior to further transport to appropriate facilities. AWMF services are provided free of charge to Palmerston residents only, with the costs covered by Council's Waste Management Charge. Commercial entities are not authorised to utilise the facility.

The current management contract TS2018-06 was established in 2018 for a term of three years which expired on the 1st of December 2021. Council has since applied contract extensions under Section 42 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* for Veolia Environmental Services to continue to operate the AWMF Operations Contract TS2018-06. This current contract extension is now due to expire on the 1 December 2023.

The AWMF is highly utilised by residents with approximately 15,000 vehicles movements each month and is reported on in the annual Community Survey, with the consistently high results. These results, presented in the table below, demonstrate the Community's continued satisfaction for the service.

Table 1 - Community Satisfaction Survey Results

Measure	2019 score	2020 score	2021 score	2022 score
	(/10)	(/10)	(/10)	(/10)
Providing & and maintaining Archer Waste Management Facility	7.78	7.87	7.95	7.74

Council has commenced a project to re-develop the AWMF. The project involves the re-development of the general waste area to improve safety, in particular the risk of fall from heights. The general waste area will also feature a push pit (with roof) which will enable increased separation and recovery of recyclable waste streams. Recovery of such recyclable waste streams from general waste is aligned with CoP's Sustainability Strategy and the waste diversion priority.

A new recycle area will be developed at a location close to the site entry and prior to the general waste area to facilitate improved recycling outcomes. In addition to minimising waste to landfill, increasing the recovery of recyclable materials and diversion of waste from landfill will also mitigate waste disposal charges. Updates on this project are provided to Council in the Monthly Capital Update report.

Council is authorised to store waste at the AWMF under the *NT Waste Management and Pollution Control Act (WMPC Act)* in accordance with Environment Protection Licence (EPL233-02). The Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) authorises storage of select listed waste types. Listed waste refers to materials that are specifically identified and categorised as hazardous or potentially harmful to human health and the environment. These substances are subject to stricter regulations and must be handled, stored, and



disposed of in accordance with specific guidelines to mitigate potential risks. These additional requirements are regulated by the Northern Territory's Environmental Protection Agency (NTEPA).

Table 2 - Listed Wastes Authorised to be Handled at AWMF.

Listed Waste	Collection	Transport	Storage	Treatment	Recycling	Disposal
Lead, lead compounds	×	×	✓	×	×	×
Acidic solutions or acids in solid form	×	×	✓	×	×	×
Waste from the production, formulation and use of inks, dyes, pigments, paints, lacquers, and varnish	×	×	>	×	×	×
Waste mineral oils unfit for their original intended use	×	×	~	×	×	×
Waste mixtures, or waste emulsions, of oil and water or hydrocarbon and water	×	×	√	×	×	×

The Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility (SBWMF) is the only licenced landfill in the Darwin region, operated by the City of Darwin (CoD). As a result, non-recyclable general waste from AWMF is disposed of at SBWMF at commercial rates. CoD waste charges have been increasing each year, with a more than 40% increase over the past 5 years. The 2023/2024 financial year increase has resulted in a further 30% cost increase, with new categories also being implemented.

It is also noted that Council is undertaking a Waste Management Infrastructure Planning project which is strategically looking at the current status and opportunities of waste management across the top end, as part of a broader vision for sustainable development. This project is occurring alongside the Northern Territory Government (NTG) and other top end Councils which aligns with NTG interests across a number of waste management issues. The project has so far delivered two reports.

The first report, titled Waste Demographics and Infrastructure, provided an overview of the current waste materials, waste management infrastructure and market considerations. The second report, titled Waste Management Infrastructure Planning, reviewed and assessed potential technology and infrastructure options having regard to the findings of the first report and proposed preferred waste management technology and infrastructure for each waste type.

The next phase is intended to build on the preliminary assessment through detailed investigations of the preferred waste management technology and infrastructure to support a feasibility assessment and potential development of a business case for a Regional Waste Management Facility (RWMF). The RWMF concept is to incorporate a range of waste diversion, processing and treatment elements, along with emergency waste management, and a landfill (if, and when, required). More recently, the NTG released its draft NT Circular Economy Strategy 2022-2027 which maps out a plan to reduce, reuse and recycle waste into a value resource.

Council is currently developing the AWMF operational contract for the oncoming period. As part of the development of the AWMF operational contract, the service levels are considered to identify



opportunities. This report has been prepared to update Council on the current and proposed service levels for the upcoming AWMF operational contract.

DISCUSSION

The following discussion includes a review of current and proposed service level elements to inform the AWMF operational contract for the oncoming period. Where changes in service level are proposed relevant risks and benefits are reviewed.

Access and Operating Hours

AWMF is currently accessible for domestic residential use only. Waste originating from commercial activities is generally prohibited from the facility, except in cases where special arrangements have been made. These arrangements are primarily established for commercial operators engaged in Council-related projects, aiming to minimise costs for ratepayers by enabling convenient waste disposal at AWMF. Additionally, exceptions exist for not-for-profit organisations that have undergone an application process and can demonstrate a tangible benefit to the residents of Palmerston. Restricting commercial access is due to capacity limits, lack of necessary infrastructure, regulatory restrictions, cost considerations, and differences in residential and commercial waste composition.

AWMF is open daily, including public holidays. The current operating hours are from 8.00am to 6.00pm daily, with the exception of Christmas Day operating hours being 8.00am to 12.00pm.

Opportunity / Change

It is proposed that the current access and opening hours for AWMF are maintained. This is based on a thorough evaluation that determined the existing framework adequately meets the needs of the community, ensuring efficient waste disposal operations without necessitating any modifications.

Materials Accepted

AWMF currently receives the following materials:

- Paper and cardboard
- Plastics
- Glass and aluminium
- General household waste
- Steel and metal
- Furniture and wood
- Batteries (car and home batteries)¹
- Waste Cooking and Motor oil¹
- Paint and paint containers¹
- White goods
- Gas bottles (up to 9kgs).
- Mattresses
- Fluorescent Lights
- Electronic Waste
- Green Waste

Note: ¹ indicates that the material types classed as a listed waste under the Waste Management and Pollution Control (Administration) Regulations 1998 and CoP is authorised to receive such waste under EPL233-02. Operating under the EPL allows for the storage of these listed waste types, subject to regulated conditions.

It is proposed that the above materials continue to be accepted and re-used / recycled where relevant. The exploration of additional recyclable waste streams will be conducted both during the tendering process and in a continuous manner through collaboration with the contracted facility operator. This



proactive approach ensures that new opportunities for recycling are identified as they become available, evaluated, and potentially incorporated into the waste management system, fostering ongoing improvement and sustainability.

It is recommended that the current state for accepting listed waste remain the same. Acceptance of additional listed waste types would require an application to the NTEPA for a variation to the current licence and change the risk profile of AWMF. Additional listed waste materials require implementing appropriate containment measures, adhering to specific storage durations and requirements, following strict handling procedures, additional training for staff, updating the Environmental Management Plan and potential change to the environmental monitoring requirements. Compliance with these regulations ensures safe storage and minimises environmental risks associated with listed waste and are regulated by the NTEPA.

Opportunity/Change Option - Timber

Timber is currently collected and mulched on site with green waste. However, this is not explicitly documented in the current contract. It is proposed that clean timber be included in the tender documentation, with the current practice of being added into mulch retained. Treated timber will continue to be disposed of in general waste. It is proposed that timber would remain free to residents for disposal, and as per current practice the contractor will have ownership over the final product for reuse or sale as it determines.

Whilst this is a current practice, proactive direction by the contracted operator may increase diversion of clean timber from the general waste stream to green waste compared to business as usual. Such proactive direction on behalf of the contractor may result in diversion of timber from general waste to green waste in the order of up to 1 tonne a month (or ~12 tonnes a year). Diversion of timber from general waste may correspondingly reduce SBWMF charges in the order of \$2,280 per year).

Relevant risks/benefits include:

- Careful inspection of timber is required to prevent inclusions of other wastes and treated timber. The charge for contaminated green waste disposal at SBWMF is \$190 per tonne.
- Treated timber may render recycled mulch non-conforming with compost/mulch standards hence it is proposed that the new operational contract specify inspection processes to manage this risk.
- Benefits include increase in waste diversion from landfill and avoidance of waste fees incurred through disposal at Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility (SBWMF).
- There are no EPL impacts for including the acceptance of timber at AWMF and no additional controls are required in regard to the Environmental Management Plan.

Opportunity/Change Option – Concrete and Bricks

There is an opportunity to accept clean concrete and bricks at AWMF. Clean concrete refers to concrete that does not contain reinforcement bars, soil, asbestos or other mineral fibre materials. The current state is that small amounts are accepted as mixed loads of general waste however loads of excessive amounts of concrete and bricks are not accepted.

The benefit is that such materials may be diverted from general waste for crushing and re-use. For example, such materials could be stockpiled until sufficient volume is accumulated for an onsite crushing and processing campaign where product aggregate may be used for subsequent use as road base at AWMF. Alternatively, such materials may be stockpiled for subsequent transport to local concrete processing facilities.



At this time, it is difficult to assess the volume of clean concrete and bricks likely to be received per annum but is assumed to be in the order of 4 tonnes a month (48 tonnes a year). Diversion of such waste from general waste may correspondingly reduce SBWMF charges in the order of \$7,200 per annum.

Clean concrete and bricks would be required to be disposed of into segregated stockpiles not exceeding 100 tonnes. If such material is to be processed on-site such processing may not be economic until a volume in the order of 500 - 1000 tonnes is accumulated. It may for example take in the order of 10 years to accumulate sufficient volume to merit on-site processing and hence transport to local concrete processing facilities may be the most practical and cost-effective solution.

A review of the local market found that clean concrete and bricks are able to be received by a local concrete recycling plant. At current rates, the disposal costs of 48 tonnes (approximately 1 year's accumulation) of clean concrete and brick waste are estimated at \$1,700. Associated transport costs from AWMF to a local processing facility is estimated at \$2000. Hence the cost for transport and disposal of clean concrete and brick waste is estimated at \$3,700.

Should the acceptance of clean concrete and bricks of residential quantity and origin be accepted, the change may be implemented via appropriate inclusion in the AWMF operational contract.

It is proposed that this option is explored further through the tender process.

Relevant risks/benefits include:

- The risk of this change is the in-advertent acceptance of asbestos/mineral fibre waste. In the event of
 asbestos/mineral fibre waste is received, this may contaminate the concrete stockpile and immediate
 area requiring costly remediation and disposal. Despite this, the risk is deemed as low having regard
 that asbestos was phased out during the 1980's and the majority of houses in Palmerston were built
 after 1990.
- For disposal at SBWMF asbestos is charged at \$480 per tonne, contaminated concrete or contaminated construction waste is charged at \$190 per tonne.
- The acceptance of clean concrete and bricks would be free to residents where such material is of domestic origin and quantity (eg. ~200kgs).
- If concrete and brick waste are to be accepted, the operational contract would need to specify inspection processes to manage the contamination risk.
- Benefits associated with the acceptance of clean concrete and bricks is increase in waste diversion from landfill, avoidance of waste fees incurred through disposal at SBWMF and waste reuse/recycling.
- Safe and secure storage areas are also required to manage dust and potential environmental contamination from crushed concrete.
- Health, Safety and Environment measures to be included in relevant plans include dust control
 systems, noise reduction measures, and safety protocols to prevent accidents and ensure workers'
 safety. These requirements are updated and approved as part of the contract.
- No EPL impacts, however asbestos is a listed waste requiring a licence to store and transport.

<u>Items recovered/collected for reuse/repurpose</u>

Current Operational State

Items with perceived value (for example bicycles, barbeques, sporting equipment and furniture) are commonly recovered from the general waste stream and the current AWMF operator provides such materials to Helping People Achieve (HPA) free of charge. HPA then on-sells the items, with the majority of these items sold at the SBWMF Dump Shop and retains the proceeds. HPA is a not-for-profit



organisation that support's local Territorians with disabilities and is directly engaged by the current contractor.

Opportunity/Change

There is an opportunity to formally allocate a dedicated space or facility for items that can be reused/repurposed freely to Palmerston residents as part of the AWMF Upgrade project and specifically require this within the tender documentation as a service to be provided. This aligns with the Council new initiative and the change would benefit Palmerston residents such that items arising from the Palmerston municipality would be more readily accessible and freely available to residents of Palmerston. It is not proposed that this is used as a sales facility, but rather be a time-limited option of products available for re-use and repurposing, which can then be donated by the contractor off site as appropriate (or appropriate alternative).

Relevant risks / benefits include:

- Increasing the number of items stored for reuse may inhibit flow of traffic and increase human movement around the site. This risk can be mitigated with appropriate site selection, adequate signage and road/pathway line markings considered during the AWMF planned upgrades.
- Providing a space for reusable materials aligns with objectives in the Community Plan to provide opportunities for community to recycle and reuse.
- Items recovered would be free to Palmerston residents, with the contract specifying controls around the length of storage time, etc.
- It is preferable to have these items stored in a covered, fenced and lockable area (to be secured after hours to prevent against potential theft). This would require investment in the order of \$50,000.
- This has no EPL impacts, or additional controls needed, other than specifications of management in the contract.

Summary and Next Steps

The discussion above includes a review of current and proposed service level elements to inform the AWMF operational tender documentation.

The review proposes that the current operating hours be retained. Further, access should continue to be free of charge to City of Palmerston residents for household generation waste, with special arrangements for Council-related projects and not-for-profit organisations benefiting the community.

Having regard to material acceptance, it is recommended that the existing materials accepted continues, with increased provisions to access, separate and process clean timber and clean concrete and bricks (residential quantity and origin only). The intent is that these materials would operate similar to the current green-waste disposal, with the contractor being able to determine the appropriate processing and sale (or otherwise) of the product.

The review also identified the opportunity to establish and maintain a 'Reuse/Repurpose' section for reusable items such as bicycles, where these items are available freely to Palmerston residents. This aligns with the Council's new initiative this year to provide a suitable location at AWMF for this purpose.

The proposed service levels will be implemented via appropriate inclusion and specification in the tender documents for the upcoming Archer Waste Management Facility operational contract. The tender process will consider all options presented through the procurement process as relevant. As this will be a long term (likely 8 years) contract, with complex operational requirements, the outcome, and any options if relevant, will be presented to Council as appropriate.



CONSULTATION PROCESS

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

- City Sustainability Manager
- General Manager Infrastructure
- Environment Officer

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

- Veolia General Manager NT, Veolia
- Director, Mokinya Consulting
- Director, Waste & Management Services

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report relates to the operation of the AWMF, including services that relate to waste diversion and resource recovery, and is aligned with the following City of Palmerston Strategies:

- Community Plan (Objective 5.1 strategy Provide opportunities for community to recycle, reuse or repair all type of waste)
- Municipal Plan 2023-2024 (Section 5, Waste Management)
- Sustainability Strategy (Theme 3 Future Focused on Efficiencies)

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Council currently spends in the order of \$1,400,000 annually on the operation of the AWMF. This operational spend includes transport and consignment of recyclable wastes to appropriate receiving facilities both locally and interstate and transport of general waste to SBWMF. Additionally, Council spends in the order of \$500,000 on the disposal of general waste to SBWMF based on 2023/24 cost estimates and \$150/tonne disposal fees. Appropriate provision has been made for the 2023/2024 financial year for the above AWMF operational costs.

The proposed amendments to the service levels are considered to improve the service provided and improve community, waste management and sustainability outcomes. The net cost of the proposed amendments to the service levels are estimated to be in the order of:

- Clean timber estimated saving in operation cost (SBWMF general waste management fees) of \$2,280 per year.
- Clean concrete and bricks estimated increase spend in AWMF operation costs of \$5,700 per year having regard that such is not currently accepted.
- Reuse/Repurpose Facility estimated capital spend of \$50,000 to construct a suitable covered, fenced and lockable facility.

The above changes in operational cost relating to clean timber and clean concrete and bricks are not material and can be managed within current operational budget. However, dependent on the tender process and considerations of potential tenderers, the actual costs and savings are not known.

As is common practice, contracts will be awarded within operational budget, however, in the event of an increase in cost outside of the operational budget this will be presented to Council as required for consideration.

RISK. LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

This Report addresses the following CoP Strategic Risks:



2 Fails to be sustainable into the long term

Context: Optimising the financial, social and environmental sustainability of the City.

AWMF provides an important service for Palmerston residents to access responsible waste disposal and material recovery aligned with Council's Sustainability Strategy objectives.

However, it is noted that the acceptance of additional waste streams such as timber and concrete, bricks/pavers pose both risks and benefits as discussed elsewhere in this report. Benefits include improved waste diversion from landfill, improved re-use and recycling outcomes and associated avoidance in SBMWF waste charges. However, to mitigate contamination risks the AWMF operational contract shall include appropriate controls for inspecting such waste prior to acceptance.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

AWMF provides an important service for Palmerston residents to access responsible waste disposal and material recovery aligned with Council's Sustainability Strategy objectives.

The controlled acceptance of additional waste streams such as timber and concrete, bricks/pavers, will improve both waste diversion from landfill and re-use and recycling outcomes.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 13.1.2

REPORT TITLE: Harvest Corner, Gray Community Garden

MEETING DATE: Tuesday 15 August 2023

AUTHOR: Executive Manager Community and Library Services, Anna Ingram

APPROVER: Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli

COMMUNITY PLAN

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

PURPOSE

This Report seeks to update Council on the dissolution of Gray Community Garden Inc. and seeks Council's direction and endorsement for the future treatment and management of the garden.

KEY MESSAGES

- The vision for Harvest Corner is to provide a shared gardening space for the Palmerston community, that allows members to engage with each other and nature, be active and learn new skills, improving health, wellbeing, and community connectedness.
- Harvest Corner Garden provides a clear environmental benefit to the community through increased greening and cooling of an urban space. It also provides educational opportunities for sustainable living practices.
- The Garden has been operated by Gray Community Garden Inc for a number of years and they recommitted to a lease with Council in 2020.
- On 1 May 2023, Gray Community Garden Inc. advised Council they are dissolving their organisation as a result of dwindling numbers and engagement. Responsibility for the garden transferred back to the City of Palmerston.
- City of Palmerston will provide maintenance activities in the interim until Council resolves the future of the garden.
- Gray Community Garden Inc. received an Environmental Initiatives Grant in August 2021 to the value of \$16,131. On dissolution of the organisation, \$11,222.42 remains unspent from this grant, which will be repaid back to Council under the terms of the funding agreement.
- It is being recommended that given the community benefit, Council continue to provide Harvest Corner as community garden to the Palmerston community.
- This report presents management options for Council's consideration.
- It is being recommended that Council undertake a public expression of interest (EOI) to invite local community organisations to apply for the responsibility of operating and managing the community garden under a third-party agreement with Council.
- It is further recommended that Council offers additional support to ensure the success of potential future operators, including the provision of a one-off establishment fund of \$20,000 and free use of the area under a Terms of Agreement operation for a period of three years.



RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

Harvest Corner Garden (Garden), adjacent to Gray Community Hall on the corner of Essington Avenue and Wright Crescent, was established in 2013.

The vision for Harvest Corner is to provide a shared gardening space for the Palmerston community, that allows members to engage with each other and nature, be active and learn new skills, improving health, wellbeing, and community connectedness. This aligns to City of Palmerston's Community Plan: The wellbeing of our community is a focus for all of our work. Harvest Corner Garden also provides a clear environmental benefit to the community through increased greening and cooling of an urban space. It also provides educational opportunities for sustainable living practices, fostering community engagement, and providing a space for residents to grow their own produce.

In 2014, the organisation Gray Community Garden Inc (GCG) and City of Palmerston (CoP) agreed terms for Gray Community Garden Inc to be the primary occupant of the Garden allowing for garden members to learn new skills, collaborate with and participate in other community-based programs, and increase interactions with other community members. This agreement was subsequently updated and re-agreed in July 2020. The organisation operationally managed the garden, hosting Working Bees on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 8am-10am, and social gatherings on the first Friday of each month from 5pm. Individual plots were available to the community and children were welcome. During their time managing the garden, the organisation also ran gardening and sustainability workshops with the support of Council, to further raise awareness of the benefits of community gardens. Despite these efforts, the organisation reported ongoing dwindling numbers and engagement, resulting in the organisation deciding to dissolve and hand back responsibility to City of Palmerston. At the time of this report, the garden remains closed to the public while options are considered, and while Gray Community Garden Inc. are in the process of removing the last of their equipment/possessions and vacating the garden.

There are several other local community garden organisations in the Northern Territory such as Humpty Doo, Jingili, Karama, Lakeside Drive, and Snake Bean Garden (Botanic Gardens). They operate similarly to Gray Community Garden Inc, using a membership-based model with members having access to individual or group plots. This model is replicated throughout Australia.

Many Councils actively support community gardens by providing grants and resources to help establish and maintain them, as well as organising workshops and training programs for gardeners. Councils work closely with local organisations to promote community engagement and sustainable food production. Other Councils provide support and resources to community garden groups to establish, develop and/or maintain community gardens on Council-owned and other land. For example, Townsville Community Garden was started around 2001 under the auspices of Townsville City Council (TCC), and since 2016 has



been managed by Townsville Community Gardens Inc (TCGI) under a lease arrangement. TCGI is managed by a volunteer committee that is elected annually by garden members and Sunshine Coast Council supports several community gardens across its municipality with similar models and provides funding support options through its grants program.

This Report seeks to update Council on the dissolving of community organisation, Gray Community Garden Inc, and seeks direction and endorsement from Council for the future treatment and management of the garden.

DISCUSSION

Gray Community Garden Inc (GCG) have operationally managed Harvest Corner Garden via a Terms of Agreement signed with Council. On the 1 May 2023 GCG advised Council they were dissolving as an organisation effective 30 June 2023 being **Attachment 13.1.2.1**.

With the organisation's dissolution, direction is being sought from Council regarding the future options for managing and operating Harvest Corner Garden. City of Palmerston has and will continue to manage the Community Garden in the interim until direction is obtained from Council. The garden remains closed to the public.

The following are several options the Council can consider:

Option One: New Third-Party Agreement with Council (Recommended)

It is recommended that Council review and update the existing Terms of Agreement and then release a public Expression of Interest (EOI) to invite new local community organisations to enter a third-party agreement with Council to manage and run the community garden.

In the previous Terms of Agreement with Harvest Corner, City of Palmerston provided the following:

- Key infrastructure including fencing and gates, concrete driveway and pathways, shade structure and shed, will remain an asset of the City of Palmerston and therefore be covered by City of Palmerston Industrial Special Risk Insurance.
- Maintenance of key infrastructure.
- Provision of water to the garden to be used for irrigation
- Twice weekly removal of rubbish via the bins located outside Gray Community Hall. These bins, including standard and recycling, are shared between Gray Community Hall users and Harvest Corner Community Garden.
- Allowing access to the toilets located within Gray Community Hall via a key located in a secure location within the Harvest Corner Community Garden locked shed.

Interested organisations would need to submit their proposals outlining their vision, capabilities, and plans for managing the garden effectively.

Council may need to consider assisting interested community groups with funding and other in-kind support to ensure success of a future operator. Officers recommend Council consider providing one-off establishment funding up to \$20,000, which would need to be funded from the approved 2023/24 budget.

Advantages:

- Strengthens relationships between Council and local community organisations.
- Encourages community development and engagement by allowing a new community organisation to take charge.



- Brings fresh ideas, energy, and expertise from potential new organisations.
- Opportunity for Council to assist with Community Development and potential grant funding through CBS.

Disadvantages:

- Potential uncertainty and delays in identifying a suitable community organisation.
- Council would need to maintain the area in the interim.
- Possibility of the selected organisation lacking the necessary expertise or resources to manage the garden effectively.
- Potential challenges in ensuring equitable access if the organisation's policies differ from Council objectives.
- Additional cost to Council.

Option 2: Council Assume Management (Not Recommended)

Council may assume direct control and management of Harvest Corner Garden and engage in collaboration with community organisations, local schools and interested residents, to be reviewed annually. This option would require careful consideration and further investigation as it does not reflect the intent of a true community garden model, which is community led and run. This option would also need to be costed as it may require additional budget to implement and run. This option may require extra FTE allocation as Council does not currently have the resources to realistically achieve this.

Option 3: Permanently Close Garden (Not Recommended)

Council may remove the garden due to lack of interest from the community and re-landscape the area similarly to the other outdoor areas around Gray Hall. This would then be maintained by Council as part of its regular maintenance program. This option would also need to be costed as it may require additional budget to implement and run. This option may attract significant criticism from the community as it does not align with Council strategies and policies such as the Sustainability Strategy and the Edible Garden Policy.

Proposed Timeline:

Current - Gray Community Garden Inc. removing last of equipment/possessions and vacating garden

Current until new third-party agreement - Maintenance to be managed by Council

End August 2023 - Expression of Interest released

September 2023 - Applications assessed and awarded

September 2023 - New third-party agreement developed and signed

September/October 2023 - Commencement of new agreement and management assumption of new group

Should no EOIs be received, a further report will be presented to Council

CONSULTATION PROCESS

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

- City Sustainability Manager
- Environment Officer

Media will be consulted to assist with communications around the Expression of Interest, as per Council's normal process for public EOIs, including web and social media pages and an advertisement in the newspaper.



POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Provision of Harvest Corner actions and outcomes identified with City of Palmerston Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Gray Community Garden Inc received an Environmental Initiatives Grant in August 2021 to the value of \$16,131. On dissolution of the organisation, \$11,222.42 remains unspent from this grant, which will be repaid back to Council under the terms of the funding agreement.

Remediation of site (comprising site clean-up, installation of irrigation, turf, and new plantings) is anticipated to cost between \$15,000 to \$20,000 which can be funded from 2023/2024 operational and capital budgets.

Should Council consider support including establishment funding up to \$20,000 as well as in-kind support to ensure the success of potential future operators, this would need to be funded from the approved 2023/24 budget.

Alternative options as detailed in this report require further costing by staff and may need to be considered in future budgets as they may have additional costs incurred.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There is a risk to Council that it may not receive any expressions of interest from community groups. This risk would be mitigated by the recommended establishment funding up to \$20,000 and in-kind support provided by Council to ensure the success of potential future operators. Council officers would work on a comprehensive communication plan to ensure the opportunity is widely advertised.

Council risks entering into an agreement with an organisation who do not have the appropriate expertise or capacity to manage/maintain the Garden effectively. A poorly managed garden can negatively impact the organisation's reputation and have wider reputational risk to Council. This risk would be mitigated by City of Palmerston providing community development support to organisations utilising the garden, as well as having clear Terms of Agreement in place.

Terms of Agreement will be reviewed to reflect contemporary practices and Council Decision, along with Council's commitments such as key infrastructure, irrigation, removal of rubbish and access to toilets located with Gray Community Hall. In addition, Community Development Officers will work with the community group to ensure they have the capacity to effectively manage and run the garden, through activation activities, promotion and support with processes and procedures.

A new management group will be sought via a public Expression of Interest process. Should a suitable group not be found, a further report will be presented to Council.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

- 1 Fails to be trusted as a Council Context: Achieving credibility & trust with majority of those within and external to the City.
- 8 Fails to develop effective relationships and manage expectations of relevant parties



Context: Engagement & communication with stakeholders (internal and external to the City).

The CEO has delegation to enter into an agreement with a third party, what is being sought from Council is direction and endorsement of the intent to continue with a community garden as per the recommendation.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Harvest Corner Garden provides a clear environmental benefit to the community through increased greening and cooling of an urban space. It can also provide our community with educational opportunities for sustainable living practices.

For the garden to be managed appropriately, it would require the following considerations:

Maintenance: Adequate watering, proper pruning, pest control, or using correct fertilizers, to ensure good plant health and growth.

Biodiversity: Components of the garden should consider native plants, animals, and beneficial insects, leading to biodiversity and ecological balance.

Educational opportunities: Gardens often serve as valuable educational spaces, providing opportunities for learning about plants, ecosystems, and sustainability.

By ensuring knowledgeable management, the garden can thrive, benefit biodiversity, and provide a positive experience for our community and visitors. The expression of interest (EOI) and Terms of Agreement would be developed to account for these factors in consultation with Council's City Sustainability Team.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. 20230501 - Letter of Dissolution from Gray Community Garden Inc redacted [13.1.2.1 - 1 page]

Gray Community Garden Inc. PO Box 1 Palmerston NT 0831

- a. Cnr Essington Ave and Wright Cres, Gray
- e. graycommunitygarden@gmail.com
- m. 0439 809 038
- w. facebook.com/graycommunitygarden



1 May 2023

Dear Luccio

This letter is to inform you that due to lack of community interest and participation Gray Community Garden Incorporated has decided to dissolve the association as per the attached minutes from our special general meeting held yesterday.

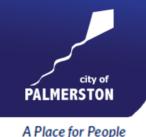
We would like to thank City of Palmerston for all of the amazing support over the past 10 years and hope that the garden can continue on in some way or be taken up by another group at some stage in the future.

Best regards,

Chairperson

'Our vision is that the Harvest Corner Community Garden inspires healthy sustainable growth – in the garden, the gardeners, and the whole community

anc



COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 13.1.3

REPORT TITLE: 2023 Palmerston Youth Festival

MEETING DATE: Tuesday 15 August 2023

AUTHOR: Community Development Officer, Youth Sport and Recreation -

Amanda Stevenson

APPROVER: Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli

COMMUNITY PLAN

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

PURPOSE

This Report provides Council with an overview of the 2023 Palmerston Youth Festival held between 8 and 14 July 2023.

KEY MESSAGES

- City of Palmerston successfully delivered the third Palmerston Youth Festival held between 8 and 14 July 2023, in partnership with the Northern Territory Government (NTG).
- Youth under 25 represent 39% of the Palmerston Community.
- Over 6000 people enjoyed the Festival, which was made up of seven events, (two major and five bespoke), over seven days and included eight competitions worth \$25,000 in prize money with 66 young people sharing this prize pool.
- Geekfest Top End was the most popular drawcard of the Festival with a crowd of over 4000. Over 600 people participated in the immersive experience of the technological highlight "The Cube".
- Events and activities were designed to be free, accessible, inclusive and to cater to a broad range of interests including culture, music, sports, arts, hobbies, and technology.
- The Northern Territory Government, Department of the Chief Minister, and Cabinet committed grant funding of \$300,000 to City of Palmerston, to deliver the Palmerston Youth Festival and have confirmed their partnership for another three years, 2024 2026. City of Palmerston committed \$50,000 towards the festival.
- An extensive media campaign was launched for the Palmerston Youth Festival 2023

RECOMMENDATION

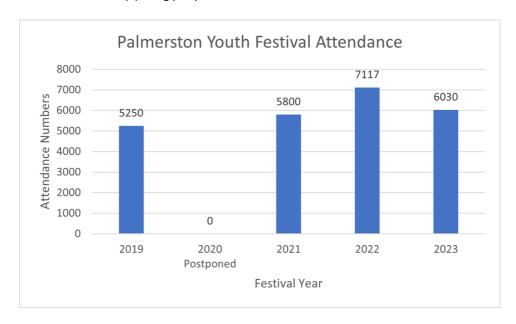
- 1. THAT Report entitled 2023 Palmerston Youth Festival be received and noted.
- 2. THAT the Mayor write to Chief Minister thanking the Northern Territory Government for the ongoing partnership for the delivery of the Palmerston Youth Festival 2023, highlighting this year's success.

BACKGROUND

In November 2018, the Northern Territory Government (NTG) committed \$300,000 per annum grant funding, to coordinate a week-long Palmerston Youth Festival during the July school holidays. The City of Palmerston has successfully delivered three Palmerston Youth Festival's between 2019 to 2022.



Each Festival has delivered two major and five bespoke events, with over 24000 participations/attendances by young people since 2019.



This Report provides Council with an overview of the 2023 Palmerston Youth Festival held between 8 and 14 July 2023.

DISCUSSION

The City of Palmerston organised a diverse program of events for the 2023 Palmerston Youth Festival, spanning seven days from 8 to 14 July. The festival consisted of two major events and five smaller events, all of which were delivered in collaboration with various community organisations and groups. The festival also featured ten competitions, providing an opportunity for 66 young individuals to share in the prize pool.

Festival Highlights:

- The 2023 Palmerston Youth Festival witnessed a high turnout and enthusiastic engagement, with over 6,000 individuals participating and attending the various events and activities held throughout the seven days. This significant attendance highlighted the festival's appeal and its success in attracting and captivating young people from the community.
- The events and activities within the festival were thoughtfully designed to be free, accessible, and inclusive. The program catered to a wide range of interests, including culture, music, sports, arts, food, hobbies, and technology. This diversity ensured that there was something for everyone, allowing participants to explore their passions and engage in activities that resonated with their individual preferences.
- The successful delivery of the Festival was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the City of Palmerston with the Northern Territory Government and several community groups and organisations. These partnerships brought together resources, expertise, and shared visions to create a vibrant and memorable Festival experience for the youth. The strong community involvement and collaboration exemplified the spirit of unity and shared commitment towards empowering and supporting young individuals.



Geekfest Top End 8 July 2023

Geekfest Top End celebrated in 2023 with a grand celebration of geek culture that brought together over 4,000 enthusiastic attendees. The event offered a diverse array of activities and attractions to cater to various interests within the geek community. The standout feature was 'The Cube,' a digital installation by Northern Lights NT, which mesmerized over 600 participants. This interactive artwork provided a unique and immersive experience, captivating the imagination of all who engaged with it.





The Cube

Exhibition Space

Cosplay enthusiasts were treated to a Cosplay parade and competition in the presence of Cosplay Special Guest Danielle Deb, where talented individuals showcased their creativity and craftsmanship by embodying beloved characters from movies, anime, video games, and comics. The Artist Alley created a vibrant marketplace for local and independent artists to display their geek-themed artworks and merchandise, giving attendees an opportunity to discover and support talented creators. Other interactive experiences available on the night included the Escape Room, Library Laser Tag, Silent Disco, K Pop dance session, Coding Club and STEM workshops run by Inspired NT and Charles Darwin University.

The Festival showcased a major Military display with several vehicles on exhibit along the Boulevard, creating an impressive atmosphere. Young people were able to discuss pathway opportunities with Military Personnel. The Darwin Symphony Orchestra (DSO) delivered a workshop and Darth Vader March led by their young artists program and Medieval Land took over the Boulevard with a stunning display.



Winner of Cosplay Opens 2023, Elorah Ryan



Mayor Athina Pasco Bell, Minister Lawler, Councillor Garden, Minister Manison and Councillor Morrison



Youth Pride 9 July 2023

The Youth Pride event, held at the Recreation Centre, created a safe and empowering space for LGBTQAI+ youth to come together, express themselves, and connect with like-minded individuals. With the support of Anna Thompson Lit Larvae coordinator, and Headspace Palmerston, this inclusive celebration aimed to educate the wider community and celebrate the resilience and diversity of LGBTQIA+ youth.





The Hive Exhibition

Eve Lynch

The event drew an enthusiastic crowd of 120 attendees and featured a range of highlights which included performances from Spillett, Eve Lynch, Ace, Shalom, Auntie Crystal Love and a debut performance from Violetta.

The Beach Choir workshop and performance brought a harmonious and uplifting vibe to the event, showcasing the talent and creativity of the participants. Another highlight was the Lit Larvae Exhibition, 'The Hive,' curated by Anna Thompson. This exhibition displayed works from a mentoring program funded by the City of Palmerston, providing local queer arts practitioners with valuable skills development in design, costume, event production, and textiles.





From Left to Right, Beach Choir Practice and Performance

Sportsfest 10 July 2023

Sportsfest offered a range of highlights that kept attendees entertained throughout the day. Clubhouse Territory organised inclusive activities from 12pm to 3pm, providing opportunities for individuals to experience VR sports gaming, participate in the Captain of the Court challenge, and engage in a 3x3 basketball competition.







From Left to Right Participants enjoying Gloves on with Professional Boxer Scott Belshaw and Level Up Gaming

The presence of Matt Flynn, Head Coach of the Darwin Salties NBL1, added a special touch as he shared his journey, inspiring the audience with stories of overcoming adversity and the importance of passion and dedication. The Darwin Salties players interacted with the crowd, commentated the Under 18 games, and captured memorable photos with the winners and runners-up.

The 3x3 basketball competition showcased the skills and teamwork of talented young athletes. Winners and runners-up in the U14 and U18 categories received prizes, acknowledging their achievements and dedication.



Shooting Hoops



Talk by Matt Flynn

Palmy's Got Talent 11 July 2023

Palmy's Got Talent took centre stage at the Durack Community Arts Centre. This exciting new event provided a platform for young individuals in Palmerston and the surrounding areas to demonstrate their skills and entertain a lively crowd.

The skateboard exhibition showcased the impressive skills of young creatives, and the photography exhibition provided a visual attraction, featuring the work of talented local photographers.

The main attraction of the event was the Palmy's Got Talent competition, where young performers took to the stage to showcase their talents. Well-known local acts such as Prayer Corby and Minez, with the PHL the Beat dancers added a connecting element to the performances. Prayer and Minez won Suburban Sounds Selection at the 2022 PYF and returned to perform the song they recorded with Sietta Creative last year as part of their prize. The event welcomed a diverse range of talents, with dance and music being the popular genres of the night. The highlight of the event was the winning performance by Seaning, whose exceptional skills and stage presence entertained the audience.







Skateboard and Photography Exhibition





From Left to right Minez with Talent Show winner Seaning, Bella Marie and Deputy Mayor Everleigh Performance by Minez and PHL the Beat dancers

Rookie Cooks 12 July 2023

Rookie Cooks, a culinary event inspired by the popular TV show "MasterChef," took place at Gray Community Hall, inviting participants to explore their passion for cooking and enhance their culinary skills. In collaboration with The GG Social Club and STEPS Group, this event provided a unique opportunity for aspiring chefs to learn and showcase their talents.













From Left to Right, Prizes Awarded By Minoli, Councillor Morrison and Councillor Henderson. Winners for 2023 Skye Lavelle and Declan Smyth

Participants had the privilege of attending a Masterclass led by Minoli DeSilva, a well-known local chef and ex-MasterChef contestant. DeSilva's expertise and guidance provided a unique learning opportunity for attendees, allowing them to enhance their skills and knowledge in a specific area.

Additionally, the STEPS Group Students organised a taste testing session, offering participants the chance to experience a range of flavours and cultures.

Spray it Loud 13 July 2023

Spray It Loud combined street art, skateboarding, music, and community engagement, showcasing the talent and creativity of the Palmerston community. The support of the Palmerston Skills Centre, alongside the collaboration with CDC Northern Territory (formally Buslink), Build Up Skateboarding, and Intrepid Designers NT, emphasised the commitment to fostering youth development, artistic expression, and community connections.

The day supported artistic skills, with a group of young individuals coming together with Intrepid Designers to paint a coaster bus for CDC Northern Territory. This collaborative art project showcased their creativity, while also providing a vibrant and eye-catching addition to the community. The bus facilitates pickups from the nearby Palmerston high school.



Bus Spray Painting



Build Up assisting new Skaters







Build Up Skateboarding Showing their Skills

The CDC BBQ

Suburban Sounds 14 July 2023

Palmy's Got Talent winner Seaning, and Suburban Sounds Selection winner for 2023, Wickie Rae, made memorable debut performances at the Festival, captivating the audience with their unique musical style and vocals. Nationally renowned performers Juran, Becca Hatch, Kian, and headliner DJ Havana Brown, all took the stage and entertained the crowd. These performances added excitement to the Festival, showcasing the diverse talents and contributions of the performers and creating an engaging experience for all attendees.





From Left to Right International DJ Havana Brown on stage and the crowd cheering







Young People enjoy the Bucking Bull

In addition to the performances, the event offered various entertainment options, including The Warrior inflatable, Bucking Bull, Hoop Shoot, Social Playground photo booth, a glitter station with Yeni, light-up



fairies with Fairy Jill, food vans, stilt walkers, and a circus workshop with Tip Top. These activities provided a multidimensional experience, and fun for all ages.

Media Engagement

City of Palmerston utilised a variety of media outputs to ensure the Palmerston Youth Festival 2023 reached the community. This media coverage is listed below.

- Shopping Centre Digital Promotions
- In Bus Promotions
- · Digital Billboard
- In app Gaming
- Radio and Television
- Newspaper Advertisement
- Facebook and Instagram posts
- Photography and Videography at the Events
- Live Social Media updates at Events
- Printable Program the week's Events

Youth Engagement

Young people actively contributed to the success of the Festival in 2023. Their involvement and support were instrumental in delivering various aspects, including:

A young individual, originally from Palmerston, was specifically selected and brought in from Canberra by E3 Production to take charge of coordinating the light and audio package for Geekfest Top End.

Level Up Gaming, a program designed by and for youth, supported the Geekfest Top End Free Play Gaming Room and organised Esports competitions for games like Super Smash Brothers Ultimate and Just Dance.

The Darwin Symphony Orchestra's Young Artist program provided a platform for young talents to shine. They supported the Darth Vader March workshop and march, enabling young artists to showcase their musical abilities and contribute to the Festival's unique atmosphere.

The GG Social, a social group affiliated with Charles Darwin University (CDU), were involved in organising the Geekfest Top End Escape Room and Chess Tournament, showcasing their organisational and leadership skills. Additionally, they facilitated opportunities for young individuals to engage in tabletop gaming activities and also participated in delivering activities at the Rookie Cooks event.

Lit Larvae participants, with the support of Anna Thompson, were given the opportunity to set up 'The Hive' Exhibition and run workshops during Youth Pride. This not only enabled them to showcase their creative talents but also provided a platform for them to share their experiences and insights through a panel discussion on the outcomes of the program. Young participants were actively engaged in the setup and decoration of the Youth Pride event. This involvement allowed them to take ownership of the event, express their creativity, and create a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for all attendees.

Emerging young MCs were given a platform to showcase their talents at both Geekfest Top End and Palmy's Got Talent. This allowed them to practice skills learnt from City of Palmerston's Emerging MC Workshops and to share their passion for the arts, entertain the audience, and contribute to the vibrant atmosphere of the Festival.



Build Up Skateboarding allowed young mentors to teach their peers how to build skateboards from scratch and provide skateboarding lessons. By involving young individuals as mentors, the Festival fostered a sense of peer-to-peer learning, creating a supportive environment for skill development. CDC Northern Territory actively engaged younger members of their team in cooking the BBQ and playing basketball with attendees at Spray it Loud.

Members of the Youth Media Team supported the Festival by distributing posters to schools and conducting letter drops. Their involvement not only contributed to the Festival's promotion but also empowered them to take an active role in the event's outreach efforts.

Partners and Supporters

Financial Partner:

• Northern Territory Government

Partner:

• Palmerston Regional Basketball Association (PaRBA)

Supporters:

- Geek Culture Collective (GCC)
- Darwin Symphony Orchestra (DSO)
- Defence Recruitment
- Charles Darwin University (CDU) Inspired NT
- The GG Social
- Kaos Horde
- Level Up Esports
- Headspace
- Lit Larve
- Anna Thomson Comedy
- Beach Choir
- Clubhouse Territory
- STEPS Group
- CDC Northern Territory
- Palmerston Youth Skills Centre
- Build Up Skateboarding
- Sietta Creative
- Raiders Rugby Club

CONSULTATION PROCESS

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

- Feedback from event attendees
- Festival Partners
- Youth Working Group
- Geek Culture Collaborative and Geek Squad
- Northern Territory Government, Department of the Chief Minister

A Palmerston Youth Festival Working group was established with young community members being involved at various stages throughout the planning process. The group were consulted on the overall Festival program content and events, promotional activities, and marketing materials. They also volunteered during the Festival this will be a continued partnership in 2024.



Feedback gathered from Councillors Partners and attendees to the Palmerston Youth Festival 2023 will be collated and used to inform decisions for the PYF 2024.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this Report.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Under the funding agreement, the Northern Territory Government grant contribution is \$300,000 per year with City of Palmerston contributing an additional \$50,000 per year. The 2023 budget has been expended and an acquittal is being prepared, to be presented to the Northern Territory Government in November 2023.

City of Palmerston have ensured all funding requirements have been met, including allocating \$25,000 for competitions and prizes, and \$25,000 for partnerships.

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS.

Failure to work in partnership with the NTG as the key stakeholder.

Failure to meet the contract funding requirements and special conditions, may result in withdrawal of funding.

Failure to maintain effective working relationships and manage expectations through the continued development of partnership agreements.

Mitigated risk by consulting with NTG stakeholders throughout the festival planning processes, and key updates are provided to NTG throughout

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

- 1 Fails to be trusted as a Council Context: Achieving credibility & trust with majority of those within and external to the City.
- 8 Fails to develop effective relationships and manage expectations of relevant parties Context: Engagement & communication with stakeholders (internal and external to the City).

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environment sustainability implications for this Report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 13.2.1

REPORT TITLE: Major Capital Projects August 2023 Update

MEETING DATE: Tuesday 15 August 2023

AUTHOR: Executive Manager Projects and Infrastructure Services, Karl Hell

APPROVER: General Manager of Infrastructure, Nadine Nilon

COMMUNITY PLAN

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

PURPOSE

This purpose of this Report is to update Council on Major Capital Projects currently underway.

KEY MESSAGES

- Council has several major capital projects underway that have a planned, or contracted value, greater than \$1 million in value.
- This report provides an update to the status of Major Projects.
- The following projects have updates included as attachments of this report.
 - Driver Community Centre redevelopment
 - Swimming, Wellness, Events, Leisure, Lifestyle (SWELL) Construction
 - Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade
- Planning for Major Projects additional to those listed are also included within this report with updates, these include:
 - Zuccoli Community Hub Future Stages
 - Zuccoli Community Hub Dog Park
 - FiberSense
 - ERP Enterprise Resource Planning Project
- Capital projects occurring with a value less than \$1 million are updated within the infrastructure Directorate quarterly reports, and relevant financial reporting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report entitled Major Capital Projects August 2023 Update be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

Councils Capital Works Program in 2022/23 was over \$27 million in projects, with \$7.5 million allocated for 2023/24. These programs included a broad range of asset renewal programs along with major capital projects from planning and development stages to delivery.

Capital projects are any project where a Council asset is built or renewed. This can include new assets, such as a new shade over a playground, or replacement (also referred to as renewal of assets such as road



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

As there are several major projects underway, with values of over \$1 million each, a monthly update report is prepared to provide Council with regular updates on these significant projects.

DISCUSSION

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

- Swimming, Wellness, Events, Leisure, Lifestyle (SWELL) Construction Attachment 13.2.1.1
- Driver Community Centre **Attachment 13.2.1.2**
- Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade Attachment 13.2.1.3

Council is also progressing the planning for the future proposed major capital works, as summarised below.

Zuccoli Community Hub - Future Stages

The Master Plan for the Zuccoli and surrounds Community Hub incorporates an off-leash dog park, walking trails, a skate park and pump track, a playground, library, community centre and a garden of reflection. The project has an estimate cost of over \$20 million and is anticipated to be delivered over a 5-year period.

The Community Hub will be delivered in multiple stages, the first stage being the Dog Park. The second stage of the Community Hub will be the Skate Park and Pump Track. Prior to works commencing on Stage Two of the Hub, the design of the civil, landscaping, open space structures and related infrastructure (excluding the buildings) will occur. The Geotechnical Investigation has been completed and the request for quotation for the civil design has been released and it is expected to be awarded by the end of August 2023.

Zuccoli Community Hub - Dog Park

The project was launched in June 2022 and will be opened in two stages; Stage 1a includes the Dog Park and Water Play Areas and Stage 1b will include the Exeloo.

Stage 1a has been completed, the occupancy certificate has been issued and the park was opened to the public 15 May 2023. This stage has delivered two enclosed play spaces equipped with water play equipment, digging areas, shade structures, public amenities, landscaped areas, and provisional vehicle parking. Public feedback to date has been overwhelmingly positive and the park is proving popular with the community.

Stage 1b: The Exeloo has been installed on site with final connection works, operational testing, and certification are underway for an August opening.

Fibersense

FiberSense uses underground fibre optic cables and technology to detect vibrations from machinery, vehicles, pedestrians and more. The vibrations are converted into data that City of Palmerston (CoP) will be able to use for planning and improvements to the city. With this level of detail, Council can better plan for future growth and make improvements so that Palmerston continues to be a 'Place for People' by being safe, welcoming, and livable.



A total of 60km of fiber optic cable has been laid throughout Palmerston Central Business District (CBD) and Tiger Brennan Drive. FiberSense has completed 100% of the cable installation and splicing for the project within the road network. CoP is continuing to work with FiberSense in relation to the implementation and usage of the data. A demonstration of the usage of the data is being prepared for the coming months.

ERP - Enterprise Resource Planning Project

To successfully deliver services to the community, along with the internal corporate needs of the organisation, Council requires an effective system/s capable of delivering a prominent level of service. The need for an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Project has been identified to enable a strategic approach to updating Council's systems.

The project has been split into the following stages:

- Gap Analysis identifying business requirements through a Gap Analysis. This was completed in 2022 and will be updated prior to further project development.
- Project Development and Tender Preparation interpretation of gap analysis, with development and issuing of public tender.
- Tender Award and Implementation award of tender(s) for the implementation of system(s), including change management plan development and implementation.

The project overall is expected to cost in the order of \$2 million, including project support (equivalent to one additional staff member), tender preparation, contract award and implementation. Council allocated \$600,000 in 2022/23 for the commencement of the project, with a further \$500,000 allocated in 2023/24.

Engagement of the required resources to support the implementation of the project is underway.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

Consultation with the community and stakeholders is occurring as relevant to each project.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this Report.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The projects are being delivered within the 2023-24 Capital Works Program. Individual budget updates are included with the current project summaries.

RISK. LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There is a risk that failure to deliver on these projects in the time frame specified may result in community dissatisfaction. City of Palmerston is actively working with relevant consultants and contractors to bring these projects to practical completion.

The construction sector is in a rapidly escalating economic phase combined with constrained resources, labour and logistics. This increased the risks associated with costs and delays. These risks are being managed through identification from design analysis, refinement and contractor / program management.

City of Palmerston has several major projects at various stages of development combined with delivery of capital and operational works programs. There is a risk that current Full Time Equivalent (FTE) allocations may not be adequate to successfully deliver the volume of significant projects, continued additional grant funding allocations, and annual programs in line with expectations. To mitigate these risks, a review of



resourcing in the project management team is underway which may result in future requests for additional short-medium term resource allocation.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

6 Fails to deliver the strategic vision for the City
Context: Ensuring vision is delivered effectively & efficiently, progress is measurable & celebrated.

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The benefits of these projects are numerous, including enhancing the amenity of the local area; providing greater health and lifestyle choices, increasing social diversion and youth engagement, local employment opportunities, improved public safety, increased waste recycling, and reducing the effects of heat and climate.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. SWELL Construction Council Update [13.2.1.1 3 pages]
- 2. Driver Community Resource Centre [13.2.1.2 2 pages]
- 3. Archer Waste Management Facility Upgrade Council Update [13.2.1.3 2 pages]



COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.1.1 SWELL CONSTRUCTION

August 2023 Update

Project Overview

Summary: The SWELL project is Palmerston's largest infrastructure project to date and is set to transform the current aging Palmerston Swimming and Fitness Centre into an aquatic and leisure precinct, including a refurbished 50m pool with improved accessibility, heated program pool, an adventure play zone, warm water pool, half basketball court, events area, upgraded amenities and plenty of shade.

Website Link: https://palmerston.nt.gov.au/operations/major-projects/swell-construction

Construction Budget: \$19.4 million

Funding Source(s):

City of Palmerston - \$6.9 million

Australian Government - \$5 million (Building Better Regions Fund)

Northern Territory Government - \$7.5 million (grant)

Completion Date: November 2023

Contractor: Jaytex Construction Pty Ltd

Status Update

Percentage Complete: 56%

Actual Costs to Date (claims approved): \$9,710,095 or 50% of contract sum.

Approved Cost Variations: \$18,805.54 or 0.1%

Works to Date Summary:

Construction works commenced 22 August 2022. The Gym and Youth Centre are remaining operational for most of the construction, refer to upcoming works section for details.

Project works completed to date:

- Demolition and removal of the pump house plantroom, leisure pool, shade structures and 50m pool edge (where the ramp will be installed), redundant underground services.
- Installation of electrical substation, sewer pump station and water main.
- Earth works, site leveling, pool and balance tank excavations and building pad construction.
- Balance tank installation, and pool concrete slabs completed.
- 50m and program pools structurally complete and Mythra systems installed, including the sealing to the walls.
- Plant room structure.
- Underground services.
- Leisure pool detailed excavations and service installations.
- Multipurpose area and plant room structures.
- Columns for the shade structure on the northern side of the 50m pool.
- Ramps and seating ledges for the 50m and Program Pool have been poured.



COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.1.1 SWELL CONSTRUCTION

August 2023 Update

A Place for People



South side columns now stripped to bare concrete 29/07/23



Pouring structure columns on north side of the pool 29/07/23



Pouring shade structure columns on south side of the complex 29/07/23



Main access ramp to Program Pool 29/07/23



Program pool "seat" completed 29/07/23



Access ramp to 50m pool 29/07/23

DOC ID 515490 - MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE - SWELL CONSTRUCTION

PAGE 2



COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.1.1 SWELL CONSTRUCTION

August 2023 Update





Preparing concrete piers south side of 50m pool29/07/23

Pier steel supported on south side of 50m pool 29/07/23

Upcoming Works:

Works are continuing, with key elements underway or nearing completion;

- Commenced piers and columns to support pool shade structure.
- Leisure pool slabs to be poured this month.
- Adventure play substructure, including holding down inserts has commenced.
- Amenities facility structural works and fit out is continuing.
- Plant room equipment to be connected and is being tested.
- Tiling to pool edges are almost complete.
- Filling and compaction to all concourse areas around the water features has commenced.
- Main steel structure for the pool shades is due for commencement this month.

The design of the hall refurbishment and roof replacement has been completed and the tender will be released this month. It is anticipated that the refurbishment and roof replacement works will be completed in conjunction with the SWELL project. The hall refurbishment and roof replacement works will necessitate the temporary closure of the gym and youth centre and Council is actively engaging with the tenants, user groups and stakeholders to facilitate this.

The project remains on track for November 2023 opening, Site works will continue to ramp up over the coming months as the design and construct elements arrive on site. A key milestone was reached with the arrival and installation of the Myrtha Pool System. The footings and hold downs for the Adventure Playground will be completed in this reporting period. The balance of the Adventure Play equipment is on program to be delivered as scheduled.

Project Risks:

Overseas design and manufacture of elements such as the Adventure Play are subject to logistical risk. Design, manufacture, and delivery of these elements is being actively monitored to mitigate this risk.

As the complex elements of the project enter the construction phase there is the possibility of variations due to constructability issues and / or latent conditions. This risk is being mitigated through active design and construction management.



COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.1.2 DRIVER COMMUNITY CENTRE

August 2023 Update

Project Overview

Summary:

The Driver Resource Centre was constructed in the mid 1980's as a Childcare Facility co-located adjacent to Driver Primary School. The existing facility is reaching end of life and requires development to better address the needs of the community.

A public quotation process was undertaken for the provision of Needs Assessment and preliminary design. The contract was awarded to GHD Woodhead in October 2022. GHD have completed the Needs Assessment and the preliminary design for the replacement of the Driver Resource Centre with a modern Community Centre.

Estimated Construction Budget: \$3.0 mil

Design Budget: \$250,000

Contractor: GHD Woodhead for Needs Assessment and Preliminary Design Works.

Status Update

Percentage Complete: 100% of Conceptual Design works completed

Actual Costs to Date (design): \$102,399.50

Works to Date Summary:

The Needs Assessment has been completed and issued to City of Palmerston (CoP). The preliminary design has been provided to CoP and the first and second round review has been undertaken. The Needs Assessment and concept design was presented to Council in July. The cost for the project based on the concept design is estimated at \$3 million.

Key design features include:

- Total internal floor area (including amenities) 353 square metres, with a total internal occupancy of 100 users across three spaces (pods), each with adjacent outdoor space.
 - Pod 1
 - O Usable area 71 square metres
 - Storage 10 square metres
 - o Occupancy 20
 - Pod 2
 - Usable area 80 square metresStorage 9 square metres
 - o Occupancy 30
 - Pod 3
 - O Usable area 111 square metres
 - o Storage 6 square metres
 - Occupancy 50
 - General storage area 14 square metres
 - Kitchen facilities 13 square metres

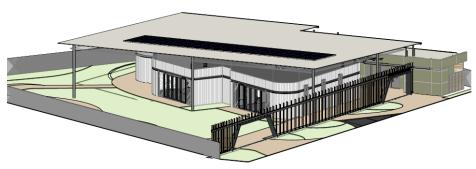


COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.1.2 DRIVER COMMUNITY CENTRE

August 2023 Update

A Place for People





Conceptual Design

Upcoming Works:

Community and stakeholder consultation will occur over the next couple of months. The outcomes of the consultation will be presented to Council in November 2023 to enable final design and costings to occur.

Project Risks:

Currently the project delivery is unfunded, however the project consultation and design is continuing to enable the project to be ready for construction as soon as funding is available.



ARCHER WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

August 2023 Update

A Place for People

Project Overview

Summary: Upgrade of the Archer Waste Management Facility (AWMF) includes design and construction of a new recycling area and general waste push-pit area (with roof).

The general waste area will be re-developed to improve safety, in particular the risk of fall from heights. The general waste area will also feature a push pit (with roof) which will enable separation and recovery of recyclable waste streams including but not limited to scrap metal and timber. Recovery of such recyclable waste streams from general waste is also aligned with the City of Palmerston's Sustainability Strategy and the waste diversion priority. A new more appealing recycle area will be developed at a location close to the site entry and prior to the general waste area to facilitate improved recycling outcomes.

Other ancillary scope items include relocation of the gatehouse, re-seal of road surfaces and other miscellaneous site improvements.

Project Budget: \$1,800,000

Funding Source(s):

Upgrade Works;

- City of Palmerston \$1,200,000
- Northern Territory Government \$400,000 (Priority Infrastructure Fund Grant)

Cardboard Compactor;

- City of Palmerston \$100,000
- Northern Territory Government \$100,000 (NT Recycling Modernisation Grant)

Expected Completion Date:

- Stages 1 & 2 November 2023
- Stages 3 & 4 To be determined

Contractor(s): NA (Contracts yet to be tendered)

Status Update

Percentage Complete: 90% of Pre-Construction Activities

Works to Date Summary:

Works undertaken by CoP to date include design for the relocation of the site compound and widening of a section of the access road to enable the gatehouse relocation.

Investigations to finalise the design concept have been completed. The complexity of the site has required multiple options of design to be considered to ensure that a viable solution is found. The focus of this project is to deliver a fit-for-purpose and safe facility that improves opportunities for recycling, however as the project is not intended to completely redevelop the site for 20+ years which would require significantly more cost and time to develop.



ARCHER WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

August 2023 Update

A Place for People

Additional works undertaken include development of a conceptual Temporary Transfer Station Operation Plan in consultation with the AWMF operator as well as AWMF Upgrade Communications Strategy.

Construction stages have been updated as follows:

- Stage 1 Recycling Facility (including accommodation of cardboard compactor) and upgrade access roads to general waste disposal area.
- Stage 2 Relocate Gatehouse.
- Stage 3 Temporary Facility.
- Stage 4 General Waste Push-Pit (including roof).

Works progressed this month:

- Detailed Design in progress based on revised design concept (now 90% complete for Stages 1 and 2).
- Confirmation of Quantity Survey costings based on Detailed Design for Stages 1 and 2.
- Drafting of tender documentation for Construction Contract (Stages 1 and 2) in progress and due at the end of August 2023.
- Drafting of Contract for Operation of the AWMF in progress.

Upcoming Works:

- Continue to progress Detailed Design in progress based on revised design concept.
- Continue to progress tender documentation for Construction Contract (Stages 1 and 2) and due at the end of August 2023.
- Continue to progress drafting of Contract for Operation of the AWMF.
- Review AWMF Upgrade Communications Strategy based on project construction staging including timing.

Ongoing provision of operation and services during construction is critical and is being prepared for as part of the project.

Key Risks:

The complexity of the site and availability of design, consultant, and internal resources to progress the project has led to delays. This has been compounded with initial estimates of the project design coming in significantly higher, leading to a review of the scope, staging and design of the project.

The key element for the next stage is the tender development and appointment of contractor(s) for Stages 1 and 2. There is a risk that there is limited market interest in the works, similar to the cancelled tender process in 2022 for the design and construct works that did not have any tenderers.

The AWMF is highly utilised by the City of Palmerston residents, the community engagement and consultation are critical to project implementation and success. It is anticipated that the upgraded AWMF will contribute to improved community satisfaction. However, there is a potential risk of community dissatisfaction during the project construction phase.

The final construction phase, comprising Stages 3 and 4, requires a temporary alternative solution for transfer station operations. A Community Engagement and Consultation Strategy has been prepared to mitigate this risk which includes promotion of project outcomes and communication of temporary change in operations.



COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 13.2.2

REPORT TITLE: Community Benefit Scheme - July Update

MEETING DATE: Tuesday 15 August 2023

AUTHOR: Community Development Officer, Kate Townsend

APPROVER: Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli

COMMUNITY PLAN

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

PURPOSE

This Report provides Council with a summary of the Community Benefit Scheme 2023/24 activity to date, highlighting events and activities funded since the beginning of this financial year.

KEY MESSAGES

- City of Palmerston provides funding to eligible individuals and community groups that meet the criteria to assist Council to deliver on City of Palmerston's vision of "A Place for People."
- The Community Benefit Scheme has a budget of \$230,000 for grants, donations, and sponsorships in 2023/24. The Environmental Initiative Grant budget is \$20,000.
- \$111,250 or 48% of the total CBS budget has been committed to benefit the Palmerston Community as at end of July 2023, with \$118,750 remaining to fund future projects and activities.
- In July, Council processed 23 Individual Representation grants to the value of \$5750 which included activities for cricket, netball, rugby union, basketball, tennis, and AFL.
- Two project approvals have been given approval under the Chief Executive Officer's delegation for applications under \$2000, one for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day, and the second for the Forest Parade Primary School, Forrest Farmers Fair.
- No applications have been received for the Environmental Initiative Grants in July.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report entitled Community Benefit Scheme - July Update be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

City of Palmerston (CoP) provides funding through the Community Benefit Scheme (CBS) to eligible community groups and organisation to deliver activities, projects and services that benefit the Palmerston community. CBS funding for organisations includes sponsorships, donations, and grants, with Representation Support (a specific type of donation) also available to individuals. Representation Support assists sportspeople and members of teams who represent Palmerston while competing or participating in activities, as well as other forms of representation.

Council Policy Grants, Donations and Sponsorships provides governance for CBS. Council's Policy requires all requests over \$2,000 to be referred by the Chief Executive Officer to Council with a



recommendation. At the time of writing this Report, \$118,750 of CBS funding remains available in this financial year for future projects and events that benefit the Palmerston community.

This Report entitled (item-title-do-not-remove provides Council with a summary of the Community Benefit Scheme 2022/23 applications to date highlighting requests received since the June report.

DISCUSSION

At the time of writing this report, Council has committed funding to 33 projects or activities which benefit the Palmerston Community to the total value of \$111,250. This represents 48% of the annual CBS budget. In comparison, this time last financial year 29% of the annual budget had been committed. The committed value is predominantly made up of the eight ongoing multiyear Sponsorship agreements that Council entered prior to this financial year. With 11 months still remaining in this financial year, Council may need consider options of what will occur if the full budget is expended before June 30, 2024, to ensure no worthy community organisations or recipients miss out on funding.

CBS Activity July 2023

Allocated funds have distributed across the different categories of CBS as illustrated in the CBS Tracking July 2023/24 graph below.



CBS Tracking July 2023/24

As shown above the breakdown of allocation is as follows:

- Eight multiyear sponsorship arrangements are currently in place that have been previously established.
- Two projects for \$2000 were approved under the CEO's delegation:
- Sponsorship for Forrest Parade Primary School Forrest Farmers Fair to be held on 11 August 2023 at Forrest Parade Primary School



 Grant for Kentish Lifelong Learning and Care – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day to be held on 4 August 2023 at Tiverton Park





Forrest Farmers Fair - Bakewell

Free Event - Tiverton Park Moulden

• 23 Individual Representation support grants were approved under the CEO's Delegation to the value of \$5.750.



One successful representation support grant was awarded to Mariama Little who was selected to represent the Northern Territory at the Southern States Rugby League tournament in Canberra ACT from 11 to 14 July 2023.

Mariama was noted to have scored two try's in the game against Southern Cross Barbarians U16s Girls.

Council supported sixth participants at the Southern States Rugby League tournament, with the U14s boys and U16s boys finishing third in the competition.

Mariama Little, Southern States Rugby

A complete list of Grants, Donations and Sponsorship recipients for July 2023 is listed in attachment 13.2.2.1 to report entitled Community Benefit Scheme - July Update.

Community Engagement

A series of workshops are being planned this year to help upskill community organisations and build capacity to increase confidence applying for public funding. Workshops will include topics on good governance, strategic planning, and application writing. Community organisations are encouraged to



reach out to the Community Development Team if they have any questions or would like support regarding Community Benefit Scheme applications.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Community Development team met with seven community organisations to facilitate applications to the Community Development Scheme, which included explanation of the intentions and purpose of the scheme, essential information required in applications, and the internal processes which occur as well as answering any questions the organisations might have.

Internally, Community Development has met with the CoP Environment Officer within the Infrastructure team to discuss a strategic focus for the grants in alignment with CoP Sustainability Strategy, map out current environmental activities happening across the Top End which can be leveraged on, and opportunities within Palmerston which we can help facilitate.

Further work will be undertaken with the CoP Media team to help share promotional opportunities from recipients on CoP social media platforms to ensure community awareness of the scheme, and the positive outcomes associated with the funding.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this Report.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The CBS budget for the 2023/24 fiscal year for grants, donations and sponsorships is \$230,000.

\$118,750 remains in the Community Benefit Scheme 2023/24 budget for future projects and events.

\$111,250 has been expended, with \$101,500 being committed in Multiyear agreements and \$9,750 in new applications to date.

The Environmental Initiative Grant (EIG) budget for the 2023/24 fiscal year under CBS is \$20,000. No EIG submissions were received in July.

RISK. LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

- 1 Fails to be trusted as a Council
 - Context: Achieving credibility & trust with majority of those within and external to the City.
- 2 Fails to be sustainable into the long term
 - Context: Optimising the financial, social and environmental sustainability of the City.

MOU commitments are not met

Context: Both CoP and funded bodies have commitments to fulfil, failure to do so may result in reduced credibility and trust in the scheme.

CBS budget expended before end of financial year

Context: Budget is currently 48% committed after the first month of the new financial year, plans to increase the budget may be required to ensure all worthwhile applications can be funded.



ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The Environmental Initiative Grant (EIG) aims to support initiatives that promote renewable and sustainable practices to help our community become more environmentally sustainable. This funding is available to community groups and commercial entities to request grant funding.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

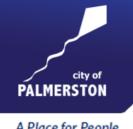
ATTACHMENTS

1. Grants Donations and Sponsorship Recipients July 2023 (4) [13.2.2.1 - 2 pages]

Grants, Donations and Sponsorship Recipients July 2023.

Date	Name	Activity	Туре	Amount
Community Gra	ants			
18/07/2023	Kentish Lifelong Learning and Care	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day	Community	\$2,000.00
			Total	\$2,000.00
Individual Repr	esentation Support			
14/07/2023	Emma Turton	Southern State Rugby Union	Representative	\$250.00
14/07/2023	Maizee Liddicoat	Southern States Rugby Union	Representative	\$250.00
14/07/2023	Kayley Johnson	NT Links Netball	Representative	\$250.00
14/07/2023	Joshitha Kumar	NT School Sports Cricket	Representative	\$250.00
14/07/2023	Prajan Kuma	NT School Sports Cricket	Representative	\$250.00
14/07/2023	Oliver Liddicoar	Southern States Rugby Union	Representative	\$250.00
14/07/2023	Shamah Yak	u16s Basketball Nationals	Representative	\$250.00
14/07/2023	Amber Sharp	Australian Tennis	Representative	\$250.00
19/07/2003	Soriyah Downie	SSA Netball	Representative	\$250.00
19/07/2023	Mariama Little	Southern States Rugby	Representative	\$250.00
19/07/2023	Pania Reid	SSA AFL	Representative	\$250.00
17/07/2023	Sienna Boxall	SSA Netball	Representative	\$250.00
17/07/2023	Jonte Jones	SSA Soccer	Representative	\$250.00
4/07/2023	Lucy McNaught	12 Years Tennis Championship	Representative	\$250.00
17/07/2023	Zanetta Rea	School Sport NT Football	Representative	\$250.00
1/07/2023	Taylah Bodkin	Touch Football Nationals	Representative	\$250.00
17/07/2023	Rose Randal	SSA AFL	Representative	\$250.00
17/07/2023	River Williams	U12G NT AFL	Representative	\$250.00
2/07/2023	Melanie Brookhouse	NT Titans Rugby Southern States	Representative	\$250.00
17/07/2023	Landen Cole	Southern States Rugby U16 Basketball	Representative	\$250.00
2/07/2023	Ryan Carrol	Southern States Rugby	Representative	\$250.00
4/07/2023	Joel Munnich	SSA Touch Footbal U15 Links NT	Representative	\$250.00
17/07/2023	Mady Hayes	Links NT Netballl	Representative	\$250.00
	•		Total	\$5,750.00

Multiyear Sponsorship Agreements					
•	<u> </u>		1 -	4	
19/04/2022	Clubhouse Territory	Multiyear agreement	Sponsorship	\$10,000.00	
6/07/2022	Palmerston Netball	Multiyear agreement	Sponsorship	\$10,000.00	
4/05/2021	Palmerston and Litchfield Seniors	Multiyear agreement	sponsorship	\$20,000.00	
10/08/2022	Palmerston Rovers Football Club	Multiyear agreement Sponsorship		\$10,000.00	
21/02/2023	Palmerston Magpies	Multiyear agreement	Multiyear agreement Sponsorship		
15/11/2023	Palmerston saints	Multiyear agreement Sponsorship		\$1,500.00	
23/05/2023	RSPCA Darwin	Multiyear agreement sponsorship		\$10,000.00	
4/04/2023	Palmerston Golf and Country Club	Multiyear agreement	Sponsorship	\$30,000.00	
			Total	\$101,500.00	
Sponsorship					
25/07/2023	Forrest Parade Primary School	Forrest Farmers Fair	Sponsorship	\$2,000.00	
			Total	\$2,000.00	
Community Be	nefit Scheme			\$111,250.00	
Total Environm	\$0				
Total	\$111,250				
Amount Remai	\$94,750				
Amount Remai	\$20,000				



COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 13.2.3

REPORT TITLE: Finance Report for the Month of July 2023

MEETING DATE: Tuesday 15 August 2023

AUTHOR: Financial Accountant, Sanket Shah

APPROVER: General Manager Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta

COMMUNITY PLAN

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Report is to present to Council the Financial Report as at 31 July 2023.

KEY MESSAGES

- The financial health check ratios indicate that overall, Council is in a positive financial position. The July 2023 ratios are benchmarked against the forecasted ratios as per the Municipal Plan. If the ratio indicates that Council is not on target, a detailed explanation is provided.
- The 2022-23 Financial year adjustments are still underway, therefore, the Balance Sheet accounts are yet to be finalised, and subject to an external audit.
- Total operating income is at 85 percent of the total annual budget. This is due to Council levying the 2023-24 rates and waste charges in July which totalled \$33.2 million, the first instalment is not due until 30 September.
- The Capital Expenditure budget includes Council approved rolled over projects of \$10.9 million as per 3rd budget review council decision 10/836 which increased the total capital budget from \$7.8 million (as per the Municipal Plan) to \$18.7 million.
- Total cash investment is \$24.1million as at 31 July 2023. This includes \$16.5 million in term deposits in various banking institutions with less than 12 months of maturity and \$7.6 million in National Australian Bank that are readily available.
- In the month of July, \$5.7 million (92%) of the \$6.2 million total creditor's payments were paid to local suppliers.
- Council is compliant with its statutory obligations (Pay As You Go Withholdings and Good and Services Tax reporting).
- There are no contract variations in July that met the criteria under Regulation 42.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report entitled Finance Report for the Month of July 2023 be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 - Part 2 (Division 7), the preceding month's Financial Report must be presented to Council. Regulation 17(1) of the General Regulation



requires a monthly report from the Chief Executive Officer to provide the council with the actual income and expenditure for the year to date; the most recently adopted annual budget; and details of any material variances between the most recent actuals and the most recently adopted annual budget.

The information below is provided to assist with the terminology used throughout the Report:

- Revised Annual Budget is the total Budget per the municipal plan for the 2023/24 financial year plus all Budget review movements during the year.
- Year to date Actuals (YTD Actuals) is the actual income and expenditure from 1 July 2023 to the current reporting date, 31 July 2023.
- The forecast amount is the projected budget each month.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following:

- Dashboard report found at **Attachment 13.2.3.1** which is traffic-light reporting system which highlights the current health status and highlights the areas of interest to Council. Any issues would then be reported in detail in the body of the report
- Financial Reports at **Attachment 13.2.3.2** as it presents the financial position of the Council at the end of July 2023, noting that the 2022-23 Financial year adjustments are still underway, therefore, the Balance Sheet accounts are yet to be finalised, and subject to an external audit.

DISCUSSION

.Financial Health Check

- The financial health check ratios provide Council with a quick snapshot of the Council's financial position
- The July 2023 ratios are benchmarked against the forecasted ratios as per the Municipal Plan. If the ratio indicates that Council is not on target, a detailed explanation is provided. The ratio shows Council's ability to monitor the cashflows (in and out) and ensuring that Council has sufficient cash to cover Council's obligations.
- The operating surplus ratio (98%) and debt service ratio (18.44) indicate that we have the capacity to meet our loan obligations and excess capacity for capital expenditure. This is due to the \$33.2 million rates for the whole year that was levied in July. This ratio will decline in the proceeding months.
- Rates collection shows that only 5% of our revenue has been collected, this is due to \$33.2 million rates and charges being levied in July and the first installment not due until 30 September. To date \$1.5 million has been collected.
- The current ratio ratio measures whether Council has enough resources to meet its short-term obligations. As at 31 July 2023 our current assets are only 1.79 times greater than our current liabilities, compared to a 2.74 of our Key Performance Indicators as per the Municipal Plan. This is due to grants remaining in the grant liability as at 31 July that are still to be recognized as income. The assessment of income criteria and meeting grant agreement obligations will be completed as part of the finalisation of the 2022-23 financial year.

Operating Overview

The dashboard provides an overview of Council's operating income and expenditure for 2023-24.

- Total Operating Income as at 31 July is \$33.6 million, which is 85% of the Annual Budget. This is due to rates and waste charges for 2023-24 levied as of July 2023.
- Total Operating Expenditure as at 31 July is \$1.7 milliom which is mainly due to:
 - \$433, 600 Employee Costs
 - \$939,000 Depreciation, amortization, and impairment
 - \$196,000 Other Expenses such as Program Running Cost and training costs



The actual Operating Expenditure is below the forecast for July due to the cash-flowing methodology
used for 2023-24 and monthly accruals of expenditure. The cash-flowing methodology will be
reviewed and updated based on the current and expected future payment pattern.

Capital Overview

The dashboard provides an overview of Council's capital expenditure and grant funding for 2023-24.

Capital Expenditures

The Capital Expenditure budget includes Council approved rolled over projects of \$10.9 million as per 3rd budget review council decision 10/836 which increased the total capital budget from \$7.8 million to \$18.7 million.

Total Capital Expenditure as at 31 July is minus \$502,000 which is a timing issue mainly due to the
reversal of an accrued invoice for the Reseal Program. This expenditure was accrued and recognised
in the previous financial year in line with the Australian Accounting Standard.

Capital Funding

Capital is funded by capital grants, council contributions (operating surplus and financial reserves), and borrowings.

The pie chart below shows that out of the \$18.8 million capital expenditure budget; minus \$502,000 (-3%) is actual expenditure which is due to the reversal of 2023-24 accrued expenditure, \$14.1 million (71%) committed, and \$5.2 million (26%) is uncommitted as at 31 July 2023.

The table below provides a breakdown of the significant grant income expected to be received or recognised as income this financial year.

Capital Project	Total Grant Income	Grant income	Grant income yet
		received to date	to be received
New Pathways	\$0.25M	\$0.25M	-
Tree Planting and replacement	\$0.25M	\$0.25M	-
Roads to Recovery Funds - 2023/24	\$0.41M	-	\$0.41M
LRCI Phase 4	\$0.41M	-	\$0.41M
Public Lighting (Dark Spots)	\$0.25M	\$0.25M	-
Pump/Skate Park Zuccoli	\$0.25M	-	\$0.25M
Aquatic Centre Re-Roof	\$0.20M	-	\$0.20M
Total	\$2.02M	\$0.75M	\$1.27M

- Some of the income has not been received due to the requirement of project completion and final acquittal reports.
- For the grant income that have been received they sit in the grant liability account until the assessment of income criteria has been met such as meeting the grant agreement obligations



Cash Investments

Trading Account: \$4.4million, Professional Fund: \$3.1million

Investments: \$16.5million

Year to Date interest revenue: \$237,000

	Cash at Bank and Investments							
Duration	No.	No. (Million) % of total Portfolio						
On-call	2	\$7.6M	32%	NA				
<12months	15	\$16.5M	68%	100%				
	17	\$24.1M	100%					

The investment portfolio is compliant with the Council Investments Policy.

- As of 31 July 2023, the Council held \$16.5 million in term deposits across five financial institutions.
 Which is lower compared to June 2023 due to the matured investment redeemed to assist with year-end payments.
- Cash held by Council in the trading bank as of 31 July 2023 was \$7.6 million.
- \$3.1 million was held in National Australian Bank Professional account which earns cash interest of 4.25%. Placing funds in this account provides Council the ability to earn comparatively high-interest rates while being able to readily withdraw the funds for expected large payments due to end-of-year invoice payments.
- Performance of our investments against our policy and details on our investments are provided in section 2.2 Investments Management Report: **Attachment 13.2.3.2**

Debtors

Council has \$34 million in Receivables, of which \$33.2 million relates to the 2023-24 rates and waste charges levied.

Rates

The dashboard shows the 2023-24 Rates and Waste Charges issued and collected

- \$33.2 million Rates were levied for 2023-24 with the first installment due on 30 September and the remaining amount due as per the quarterly installments. If first installment is not paid by 30 September, the whole amount becomes due and payable.
- Council has received \$1.8 million rates in advance of which \$1.5 million was recognised as rates payments received for the 1st installment for 2023-24. This is equivalent of 5% of total rates and charges levied. The balance of \$300,000 is sitting in the balance sheet as a liability as it is refundable.
- Ratepayers that pay their rates in full by 30 September are eligible for Early Bird Draw. Two lucky ratepayers will have a chance to win \$1,500 each.
- The overdue rates debts from prior years is \$2.05 million, Council may place an overriding statutory charge on the property where there is an outstanding rate debt owing, which gives Council priority over other registered and unregistered mortgages, charges, and encumbrances except for a previously registered overriding statutory charge. Council currently holds overriding statutory charges over 45 properties where the debts are 2018/19 and prior.

Infringements

- Total infringements outstanding is \$54,000 as at 31 July 2023; this consists of Animal (\$45,000), Public Place (\$3,000), and Parking (\$5,900).
- The graph in the dashboard shows the total issued and collected per type of infringement for the month of July.



Sundry Debtors

Sundry debtor as at 31 July is \$1.4 million, as presented in **Attachment 13.2.3.2**. The majority of it relates to invoices to the Department of Digital Development (\$500,000) for the Fibre Sense Project and Costojic (\$675,000) for the Zuccoli Project. More details are in section 2.4 Debtor Control Account.

Trade Creditors Paid

The trade creditors paid as at 31 July 2023 amounted to \$6.2 million and \$5.8 million (92%) of these payments were paid to local suppliers.

The majority of the payments in July relate to Jaytex for Swimming, Wellness, Events, Leisure and Lifestyle (SWELL) project (\$2.9 million), Fulton Hogan Industries for (\$816,000), Cleanaway invoices (\$389,000), Programmed Property Services (\$116,000), and City of Darwin (\$107,000).



Other Compliance matters

- Council is compliant with payment and reporting of all tax liabilities as outlined below:
- Council has paid \$291,000 in Pay as you go tax. Council pays the Pay-As-You-Go-Withholding tax to the Australian Taxation Office on a fortnightly basis.
- The Business Activity Statement balance for the month ended 30 June 2023 reported on 21 July 2023 as a Goods Services Tax refund of \$921,326.
- Council has all required insurances to manage the current risk exposure.

Contract Variations

Varied contract, after a quotation under regulation 34 has been accepted and the total cost of supplies exceeds \$100,000 but is less than \$150,000.	Varied contract, after a quotation under regulation 34 has been accepted or a public quotation under regulation 35 has been accepted and the total cost of supplies exceeds \$150,000.	Varied contract is entered into after a tender under regulation 36 has been accepted and the total cost of supplies exceeds the original tender cost by more than 10% as per below.
Nil	Nil	Nil



CONSULTATION PROCESS

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

- Finance Team
- Governance and Procurement Officer

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Investments are compliant with the Investment Policy and Financial Reserves are compliant with the Financial Reserve Policy.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

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

RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

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

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

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

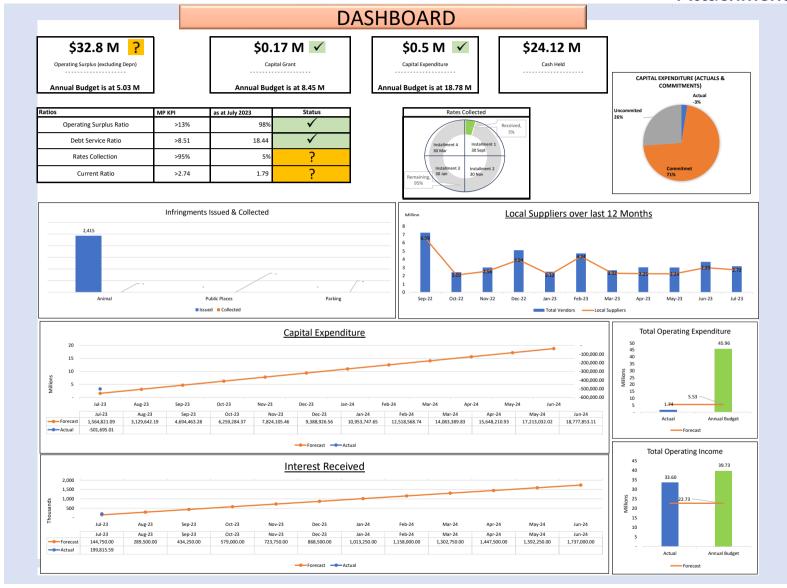
There are no environment sustainability implications for this Report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Dashboard [13.2.3.1 1 page]
- 2. Financial Report July 2023 [13.2.3.2 19 pages]





Financial Management Reports

July 2023

- 1. Executive Summary
- 2. Financial Results

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July 2023

SECTION 1 – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1.1	Certification by Chief Executive Officer
SECTION 2 – FINANCIAL RESULTS	1.2	Executive Summary
	1.3	Budget summary By Directorates
	1.4	Capital Expenditure & Funding
	1.5	Planned Major Capital Works
	2.1	Balance Sheet
	2.2	Investments Management Report
	2.3	Debtor Control Accounts
	2.4	Creditor Accounts Outstanding
	2.5	Council Loans
	2.6	Commercial Leases
	2.7	CEO Credit Card

Certification By Chief Executive Officer

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

- The internal controls implemented by Council are appropriate; and
- The Council's Financial Report for July 2023 best reflects the financial affairs of the Council.

30

Luccio Franco Cercarelli Chief Executive Officer

Section 2 Financial Results

1.2 - Executive Summary as at

31 July 2023

% of year passed

Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget	l .
Operating Income					**	
Rates	25,806,363	25,648,976	99%	22,407,479	114%	
Charge	7,534,269	7,624,338	101%	22,407,479	0%	
Fees & Charges	933,318	87,195	9%	79,713	109%	
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	3,701,048	0/,190	0%	100	0%	
Interest & Investment Revenue	1,737,739	237,137	14%	246,086	96%	
Other Income	15,785	50	0%	1,083	5%	
Operating Income	39,728,522	33,597,696	85%	22,734,461	148%	
Operating Expenditure	371/201322	3313711030	5)//	22,734,401	140%	
Employee Costs	-12,207,233	-433,605	4%	-1,195,189	36%	1
Materials & Contractors	-12,615,298		0%	-1,893,959	0%	
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	-11,270,000	-9,424 -939,167	8%	-938,791	100%	
Elected Members Allowances	-428,200	-939,107	0%	-35,669	1%	
Elected Members Expenses	-39,745	-277	1%	-3,909	7%	
Professional Services	-2,004,589	-31,533	2%	-242,031	13%	
Auditor's Remuneration	-39,848	0	0%	-9,962	0%	
Bad and Doubtful Debts	-39,040	0	0%	-9,902		
Utilities	-2,332,117	8,187	0%	-194,265	-4%	
Legal Expenses	-315,700	-20,200	6%	-194,205	439%	
Telephone & Other Communication Charges	-264,456	-74,167	28%	-10,208	727%	
Donations, Sponsorships & Grants	-255,000	-5,950	2%	-23,529	25%	
Software, Hardware, Stationery, Subscriptions	-1,061,090	-32,986	3%	-23,529	157%	
Insurance	-615,083	4,073	-1%	-615,083	-1%	
Borrowing Costs	-339,165	-7,650	2%	-204,557	4%	
Other Expenses	-2,177,335	-195,770	9%	-141,649	138%	
Operating Expenditure	-45,964,859	-1,738,703	4%	-5,534,451	31%	
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	-6,236,337	31,858,993	4/0	17,200,010	31/0	
Capital Income	-0,230,337	31,050,993		17,200,010		
Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets	200 727	0	0%	24,968	0%	
Developer Contributions	299,737	0	0%	16,660	0%	
Asset Income	3,000,000	0	0%	249,900	0%	
Grants received	4,954,111	169,317	3%	3,098,914	5%	
Capital Income	8,453,848	169,317	2%	3,090,914	5%	
Capital income	0,455,040	109,317	2/0	3,390,442	5/0	
Net SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) transferred to Equity Statement Capital Expenditure	2,217,511	32,028,310		20,590,452		
Land Purchase	0	0	0%	0	0%	
Asset Purchase	-6,674,262	503,315	-8%	-4,024,147	-13%	
Asset Upgrade	-12,103,591	-1,620	0%	-9,079,664	0%	
Capital Expenditure	-18,777,853	501,695	-3%	-13,103,811	-4%	
Less Non-Cash Expenditure	-11,270,000	-939,167	8%	-938,791	100%	
Plus Gifted Assets	3,000,000	0	0%	249,900	0%	
NET CAPITAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	-8,290,342	33,469,172	0/6	8,175,531	U/A	
Borrowings	6,000,000	0	0%	6,000,000	0%	
Less Repayment of Borrowings	-525,906	-60,944	12%	-166,560	37%	
Reserve Movement	2,816,248	-00,944	0%	2,276,172	0%	
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	0	33,408,228	0/6	16,285,143	0,0	

^{1.} The variances between the budgeted YTD and actual YTD are due to the cash flowing of inflows and outflows of resources. The cash flowing methodology will be reviewed and updated based on the expected pattern of receipts and payments for 2023-24.

Approved by:

Acting Financial Controller

Jeffery Guilas

Section 2 Financial Results

1.3 - Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at

31 July 2023

% of year passed

8%

Operating Income

	Operating in				
Description	Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget
			Budget		
Office of the Chief Executive					
Office of the CEO	1,452,176	0	0%	0	0%
Office of the Chief Executive	1,452,176	0	о%	0	о%
Deputy Chief Executive					
Deputy Chief Executive	0	0	о%	0	о%
Finance & Governance					
GM Finance & Governance	73,489	6,321	9%	6,100	104%
Financial Services	1,192,579	185,884	16%	134,546	138%
Rates	25,946,937	25,663,806	99%	22,407,479	115%
Finance & Governance	27,213,005	25,856,011	95%	22,548,126	115%
Community & Culture					
Events Promotion	3,000	0	o%	100	0%
Health and Wellbeing Services	2,785	0	0%	0	o%
Library Services	675,109	4,099	1%	34,303	12%
Senior Citizens	2,048	0	0%	0	o%
Youth Services	300,000	0	0%	0	0%
Animal Management	359,270	10,442	3%	15,734	66%
Parking & Other Ranger Services	121,000	1,242	1%	8,247	15%

Section 2 Financial Results

1.3 - Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at

31 July 2023

% of year passed

8%

Operating Income

Description	Annual Budget	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals
	\$		of Annual		of YTD Budget
			Budget		
Community & Culture	1,463,212	15,783	1%	58,383	27%
Infrastructure					
Civic Centre	148,665	13,187	9%	22,300	59%
Gray Community Hall	-10,000	2,582	-26%	-941	-274%
Private Works	42,805	1,967	5%	429	458%
Recreation Centre	-12,000	2,473	-21%	-1,129	-219%
Roads & Transport	1,247,824	0	0%	0	0%
Subdivisional Works	102,406	44,034	43%	23,820	185%
Waste Management	7,534,269	7,624,338	101%	0	0%
Odegaard Drive Investment Property	446,160	37,323	8%	111,540	33%
Goyder Square	100,000	0	0%	0	0%
Infrastructure	9,600,129	7,725,903	80%	156,019	4952%
	39,728,522	33,597,696	85%	22,762,528	148%

Section 2

Financial Results

1.3 - Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at

31 July 2023

% of year passed

8%

Operating Expenditure

	<u> </u>				
	Annual Budget		% YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals
	\$		of Annual		of YTD Budget
		YTD Actuals \$	Budget		
Office of the Chief Executive					
Councillors	-467,945	-512	0%	-39,578	1%
Office of the CEO	-1,252,641	-40,662	3%	-80,421	51%
Office of the Chief Executive	-1,720,586	-41,174	2%	-119,999	34%
Deputy Chief Executive					
Deputy Chief Executive Officer	-479,735	-15,144	3%	-39,962	38%
Customer Experience	-359,974	-9,673	3%	-29,986	32%
People and Customer	-1,069,464	-37,735	4%	-103,288	37%
Public Relations and Communications	-896,801	-28,084	3%	-50,878	55%
Deputy Chief Executive	-2,805,974	-90,636	3%	-224,113	40%
Finance & Governance					
GM Finance & Governance	-518,046	-15,384	3%	-44,574	35%
Records Management	-399,642	-7,130	2%	-37,620	19%
Financial Services	-12,921,774	-1,009,177	8%	-1,105,335	91%
Rates	-95,700	-1,670	2%	-7,532	22%
Governance	-1,258,293	-8,234	1%	-843,001	1%
Finance & Governance	-15,193,455	-1,041,595	7%	-2,038,062	51%

Section 2

Financial Results

1.3 - Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at

31 July 2023

% of year passed

8%

Operating Expenditure

Operating Expenditure						
	Annual Budget			YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals	
	\$		of Annual		of YTD Budget	
		YTD Actuals \$	Budget			
Community & Culture						
Arts & Culture	-80,547	-4,772	6%	-3,520	136%	
Community Development	-1,151,306	-53,690	5%	-99,071	54%	
Diversity and Inclusion Activities	-36,000	-4,653	13%	-1,573	296%	
Events Promotion	-533,510	-9,175	2%	-23,620	39%	
Families & Children	-47,679	-2,547	5%	-2,053	124%	
Health and Wellbeing Services	-42,000	0	0%	-1,835	0%	
Library Services	-1,513,946	-43,692	3%	-138,160	32%	
Senior Citizens	-6,656	0	0%	-291	0%	
Youth Services	-417,019	-141,168	34%	-59,000	239%	
Director Community & Culture	-566,470	-11,708	2%	-47,187	25%	
Safe Communities	-20,000	202	-1%	-874	-23%	
Animal Management	-166,161	-866	1%	-22,309	4%	
Parking & Other Ranger Services	-1,021,889	-49,741	5%	-85,676	58%	
Community & Culture	-5,603,183	-321,809	6%	-485,171	66%	
Infrastructure						
Information Technology	-1,879,370	-126,591	7%	-97,154	130%	
Aquatic Centre	-661,924	-15,850	2%	-260,854	6%	
Civic Centre	-265,173	-167	0%	-43,025	0%	

Section 2

Financial Results

1.3 - Budget Summary Report By Directorate as at

31 July 2023

% of year passed

8%

Operating Expenditure

Operating Expenditure							
	Annual Budget		% YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals		
	\$		of Annual		of YTD Budget		
		YTD Actuals \$	Budget				
Depot	-74,377	-2,356	3%	-7,902	30%		
Driver Resource Centre	-24,173	-185	1%	-2,679	7%		
Emergency Operations	-10,557	0	0%	-879	0%		
Gray Community Hall	-66,929	-967	1%	-8,679	11%		
Director Infrastructure	-802,929	-20,562	3%	-66,828	31%		
Open Space	-5,406,321	-11,242	0%	-666,754	2%		
Private Works	-105,776	-3,841	4%	-8,811	44%		
Recreation Centre	-292,965	-25,965	9%	-34,061	76%		
Roads & Transport	-1,732,365	2,806	0%	-198,399	-1%		
Stormwater Infrastructure	-169,268	-300	0%	-25,864	1%		
Street Lighting	-1,161,005	0	0%	-114,692	0%		
Subdivisional Works	-20,000	0	0%	-1,666	0%		
Waste Management	-7,296,038	-27,535	0%	-1,094,099	3%		
Odegaard Drive Investment Property	-127,007	-5,008	4%	-25,002	20%		
Durack Heights Community Centre	-33,053	682	-2%	-4,113	-17%		
CBD Car Parking	-63,251	0	0%	-7,278	0%		
Goyder Square	-228,128	-6,534	3%	-23,131	28%		
Fleet	-221,052	127	0%	-16,013	-1%		
Infrastructure	-20,641,661	-243,490	1%	-2,707,883	9%		
	-45,964,859	-1,738,703	4%	-5,575,227	31%		

Section 2 Financial Results

1.4 - Capital Expenditure & Funding

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	Annual Budget	Actuals	
Land & Buildings	\$17,314,333	-\$501,695	
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)			
Fleet	\$363,520	\$0	
Other Assets (including furniture & office equip)	\$1,100,000	\$0	
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	\$18,777,853	-\$501,695	
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY:			
Operating Income	\$13,850,799	\$0	
Capital Grants	\$4,954,111		
Transfers from Cash Reserves	-\$3,527,057	\$0	
Borrowings	\$3,500,000		
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	\$18,777,853	\$0	

Approved by:Acting Financial Controller

Jeffrey Guilas

Financial Results

1.5 - Planned A	1ajor Capita	l Works as at
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31 July 2023

Project Code	Class of Assets	Capital Project (>\$150,000 threshold)	Total Prior Year(s) Actuals \$	Revised Budget 2023-24	23-24YTD Actuals \$	Total Actuals \$	Total Planned Budget ** \$	% Spent	Total Yet to Spend \$ (E = D - C)	Project Status	Expected Project Completion Date
			(A)		(B)	(C = A + B)	(D)				
PRJ10039	Buildings	Reseal Program	\$ 2,646,983	\$ 1,245,393	\$ (493,779)	\$ 2,153,204	\$ 3,892,376	55%	\$ 1,739,172	On going	June 2024
PRJ10167	Buildings	New Pathways	\$ 472,015	\$ 700,440	\$ -	\$ 472,015	\$ 1,172,455	40%	\$ 700,440	On going	June 2024
PRJ10021	Land Improvements	Park Infrastructure Renewal	\$ 120,534	\$ 650,000	\$ -	\$ 120,534	\$ 770,534	16%	\$ 650,000	TBC	June 2024
PRJ10117	Land Improvements	Tree Replacement Program	\$ 172,160	\$ 608,658	\$ -	\$ 172,160	\$ 780,818	22%	\$ 608,658	TBC	June 2024
PRJ10280	IT	IT - ERP Review	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	0%	\$ 1,000,000	RFQ for project Manager	Future Years
PRJ10468	Buildings	LRCI Phase 4 Projects	\$ -	\$ 411,889	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 411,889	0%	\$ 411,889	Report due to council	Future Years
PRJ10068	Fleet & Equipment	Fleet Purchases	\$ 412,214	\$ 363,520	\$ -	\$ 412,214	\$ 775,734	53%	\$ 363,520	Ordered	June 2024
PRJ10378	Buildings	SWELL Secondary Space Upgrade	\$ 74,257	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ 74,257	\$ 424,257	18%	\$ 350,000	Tender	Nov 2023
PRJ10132	Buildings	Aquatic Centre Renewal	\$ 2,330	\$ 479,228	\$ -	\$ 2,330	\$ 481,558	0%	\$ 479,228	Tender	June 2025
PRJ10112	Land Improvements	Irrigation Refurbishment	\$ 196,832	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 196,832	\$ 446,832	44%	\$ 250,000	TBC	June 2024
PRJ10133	Buildings	Vibrant Zuccoli PR6JECT-5 (Zuccoli Community Hub)	\$ -	\$ 4,033,333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,033,333	0%	\$ 4,033,333	TBC	June 2024
PRJ10218	Buildings	21/22 PLU Dark Spots	\$ -	\$ 450,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 450,000	0%	\$ 450,000	On going	June 2024
PRJ10380	Buildings	Pump Parks/skate parks Zuccoli	\$ 14,249	\$ 550,000	\$ -	\$ 14,249	\$ 564,249	3%	\$ 550,000	Civil Tender	June 2024
PRJ10058	Land Improvements	Developer Funded: Driveways	\$ 185,115	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 185,115	\$ 385,115	48%	\$ 200,000	On going	June 2025
PRJ10246	Land Improvements	Road Reconstruction	\$ 391	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 391	\$ 200,391	0%	\$ 200,000	On going	June 2026
PRJ10141	Land Improvements	Stormwater Renewals & Upgrades	\$ 8,529	\$ 184,320	\$ -	\$ 8,529	\$ 192,849	4%		On going	June 2027
PRJ10027	Buildings	Pathway Replacements	\$ 40,431	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 40,431	\$ 190,431	21%	\$ 150,000	On going	June 2028
		· · ·		\$ 11,826,781	\$ (493,779)	\$ 3,852,263	\$ 16,172,823	24%	\$ 12,320,560		

Notes

^{1.} Revised budget for 2023 includes carry forwards where relevant

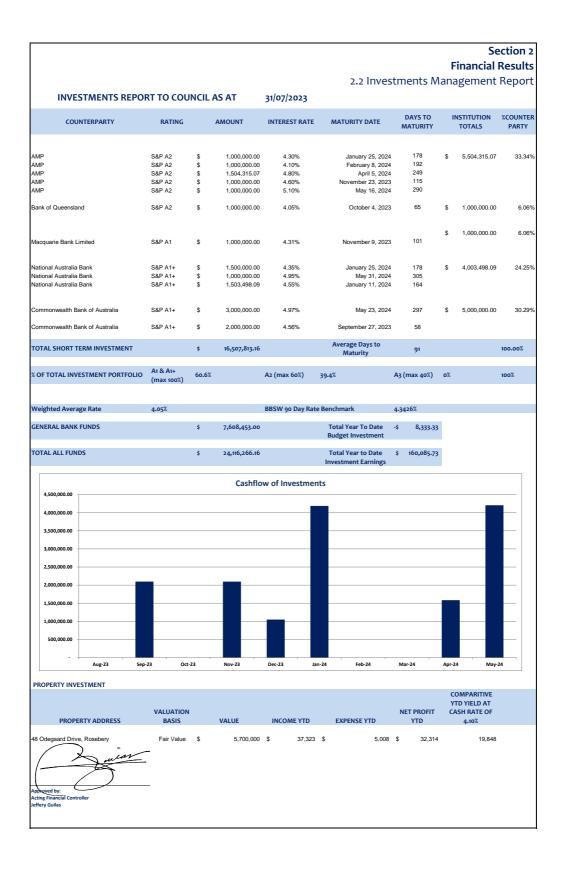
^{2.} YTD actuals in negative due to reversal of expenditures that were accrued /recognised last financial year.

Section 2 **Financial Results**

2.1 - Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet	YTD	31 July 2023 Notes
Assets		Notes ————————————————————————————————————
Current Assets:		
	1,905	Defeate Nate /Investment and Cook in veneut\
Cash & cash equivalents Tied Funds	3,192,048	Refer to Note (Investment and Cash in report)
Untied Funds		
	4,416,405	
Tied Funds	13,507,813	
Untied Funds	3,000,000	
Receivables	34,843,616	Inclusive of Rates and Charges levied in July 2023
Other		
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	58,961,787	
Non-Current Assets:		
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	565,675,257	
Investment property	5,700,000	
Work in progress	2,207,075	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	573,582,331	
TOTAL ASSETS	632,544,118	
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities:		
Payables		Refer to Note (Trade Debtors & Creditors in report)
Unearned Grant Income (AASB1058)		This will be adjusted when the audit process is completed
Borrowings	1,034,846	
Provisions	1,399,970	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	32,908,502	
Non-Current Liabilities:		
Provisions	1,682,527	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,682,527	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	34,591,030	
TO THE ELECTRICAL	3 1,331,030	
NET ASSETS	597,953,089	
Equity		
Accumulated Surplus	224,438,032	
Net Reserves	5,197,648	
Woring Capital Reserve	7,196,362	
Net Transfers to & from Reserves	- 15,185,862	
Unexpended Grant reserve	779,817	
Election Reserve	50,000	
Disaster reserve	500,000	
Unexpended Capital works	5,414,854	
Developer Funded reserve	2,103,712	
Waste Reserve	2,923,900	
Major initiative	1,414,866	
Revaluation reserves	368,317,409	
	1,1 7,100	
TOTAL EQUITY	597,953,089	

Acting Financial Controller Jeffrey Guilas



							Fir	nancial	
		2.3	Debtor Co	ntrol Ac	counts			31 Ju	ıly 202
SUNDRY DEBTORS:									
	BALANC 1,384,324.82 100%		CURREN 1,347,542.38 97.34	14,188.87	2,170.55	90 DAYS & Over 20,423.02			
RATES:									
REPORT MONTH			OVERDUE \$	Payments Received in Advance \$	OVERDUE % OF RATES INCOME				
Jul-23 Jul-22			\$2,058,718 \$1,691,831	\$289,113 \$208,302	6.23% 5.25%				
TOTAL OVERDUE BY YEAR AND NUMBER Year Overdue Amount Cumulative Number Of Properties	R OF PROPERTIES	2024 Charged in 2023/2024 \$26,934 1156	2023 Charged in 2022/2023 \$1,361,843 1188	2022 Charged in 2021/2022 \$413,076 321	2021 Charged in 2020/2021 \$157,195 117	2020 Charged in 2019/2020 \$63,689 46	2019 Charged in 2018/2019 \$26,004 21	2018 Charged in 2017/2018 \$7,245 8	2017 Charged in 2016/2017 \$2,732 3
INFRINGEMENTS:					2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
Animal Infringements				44,962	28,779	10,623	5,560	o	0
Public Places				3,119	1,904	1,080	135	o	0
Parking Infringments				5,897	572	2,165	540	2,580	40
Litter Infringements				0	o	0	o	o	0
Signs				o	o	0	0	o	0
Other Law and Order				o	0	0	0	o	0
Net Balance on Infringement Debts				53,978.00	31,255.00	13,868.00	6,235.00	2,580.00	40.0
Nmber of Infringments				100% 475.00	-			-	
- Jular	-								

SECTION 2

Financial Results

2.4 - Creditor Accounts Outstanding

Creditor No.	Creditor Name	Amount \$
V00318	QuickSuper Clearing House	82,717.13
5525	Easyweb Digital Pty Ltd	66,985.34
3787	Total Event Services T/A Top End Sounds P/L	53,068.40
V01755	Liquid Blu Pty Ltd	32,813.23
54	Powerwater	28,648.95
5508	Open Systems Technology Pty Ltd - CouncilFirst	20,080.81
V04531	Mulga Security Pty Ltd	12,031.93
4221	Institute of Public Works Engineering - IPWEA	8,360.00
V03401	The GG Social Club	6,150.00
V04381	Telstra Limited	5,300.92
V04686	A1 Group NT	4,070.00
V04560	Moo Media Pty Ltd	3,520.00
V03596	Zesty Productions	3,500.00
1607	Sterling NT Pty Ltd	3,002.67
V04317	Randstad Pty Ltd	2,894.07
V03923	Anna Thomson	2,599.50
V03314	Sine Group Pty Ltd	2,550.90
2587	Top End RACE	2,460.26
3189	Seek Limited	2,651.00
53	Eggins Electrical	1,980.00
V04153	Midas Document Management Services	1,921.00
V03609	VTG Waste & Recycling Pty Ltd	1,621.40
4483	Isubscribe Pty Ltd	1,604.58
1	StatewideSuper	1,600.00
V02232	Xavier Beaubois - Amazing Drumming Monkeys	1,540.00
V04657	Asbestos Solution NT Pty Ltd	1,364.00
V00475	Outback Batteries Pty Ltd	1,152.00
5603	Kennards Hire P/L Winnellie	1,128.00
256	The Bookshop Darwin	1,067.04
4735	Palmerston and Rural Party Hire	1,004.00
V03746	Kim Koole Music	700.00
35	WINC Australia Pty Limited	625.27
2186	Optus Billing Services Pty Ltd	540.00
V01106	Darwin Toilet Hire	484.00
V03992	Booktopia Pty Ltd	400.06
185	Bridge Toyota	360.00
V04682	Stephanie Spillett	350.00
4398	Quality Indoor Plants Hire	348.00
V00907	Univets Pty Ltd	347.00
V03971	Darwin Catering Company	305.00
V01584	Salary Packaging Australia	304.10
V04727	Sri Lankan Dance Academy of Darwin	300.00
V04732	Seaning	300.00
V04624	Niesha Korman	281.00
2199	SBA Office National	278.15
4029	Totally Workwear Palmerston	274.00
V03706	Alfiya Pocock	250.00
V04708	Jonte Jones	250.00

SECTION 2

Financial Results

2.4 - Creditor Accounts Outstanding

V04738	Sienna Boxall	250.00
4561	Bendesigns	224.40
V03801	Desmo Lewis	200.00
V04043	Eve Lynch - Favourite Child Productions	200.00
V04741	Ash Dela Cruz	180.00
V01194	Hire A Hubby Darwin	148.50
V04737	Melanie Deering	125.00
251	Territory Party Hire	117.84
V02167	Sanity Music Stores Pty Ltd	102.99
3428	Bunnings Group Limited	62.10
V04742	Kasey Patton	45.00
18	Integrated Land Information System	32.50
4190	National Australia Bank	(35,792.16)*

331,979.88

Approved By: Acting Financial Controller

Jeffery Guilas

^{*}Please note that the NAB negative balance is top up payment to Credit card

Please note that all creditors are outstanding less than 30 days.

COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.3.2

Section 2 **Financial Results**

2.5 - Council Loans

Internal Loan - Making the Switch Balances				
1st Withdrawal June 2019	640,000			
2nd Withdrawal June 2020	2,583,849			
Public lighting officer June 2020	114,000			
Project Cost taken from FILOC	3,337,849			
Repayments 2019/20	(200,000)			
Repayments 2020/21	(313,615)			
Repayments 2021/22	(321,849)			
Repayments 2022/23	(330,299)			
Loan Balance at 1/07/2022	2,172,085			

Internal Loan - Making the Switch	Internal Loan - Making the Switch							
Principal as of 1/7/2023	Principal Loan Repayments for 2023/24	Principal Loan Repayments YTD	Interest for 2023/24	Interest YTD	Loan blance as of 30/06/2024			
2,172,085	-338,971	0	53,187	0	1,833,115			
	(338,971)		53,187		1,833,115			

The above table shows the total loan amount taken from the FILOC Reserve. The interest rate is fixed at 2.60% for the duration of the loan and is paid on a quarterly basis. The loan repayments will end in 2029. The final loan value for this project is \$3,223,849 not including employee costs for the Public Lighting Officer.

External Loan - Archer Landfill Rehabilitation Balances

Loan from NAB				
Total Loan Amount	1,960,000			
Repayments 2019/20	(221,414)			
Repayments 2020/21	(228,223)			
Repayments 2021/22	(234,634)			
Repayments 2022/23	(180,006)			
Loan Balance at 1/07/2023	1,095,723			

	External Loan - Archer Landfill Rehabilitation							
Principal as of 1/7/2023 Principal Loan Repayment For 2023/2024		Principal Loan Repayments YTD	Interest for 2022/2023	Interest YTD	Loan blance as of 30/06/2023			
1,095,723	392,000	60,944	8,356	7,650	703,72			

The External Loan - Archer Landfill Rehabilitation is for a term of 8 years commencing 28 June 2019 and concluding 30 June 2027. The interest rate is fixed at 2.78% for the duration of the loan and is paid on a quarterly basis.

Approved by: Acting Financial Controller Jeffery Guilas

COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.3.2 Section 2 Financial Results

2.6 - Commercial Leases as at 31 July 2023

Commercial Leases

	Revised Annual Budget \$	YTD Actuals \$	% YTD Actuals of Annual Budget	YTD Budget	% YTD Actuals of YTD Budget
Income					
Library Services	33,388	0	0%	50	0%
GM Finance & Governance	73,489	6,321	9%	6,124	103%
Civic Centre	148,665	13,187	9%	12,388	106%
Income	255,542	19,507	8%	18,562	105%
Expenditure					
GM Finance & Governance	-12,463	-1,200	10%	1,200	-100%
Expenditure	-12,463	-1,200	10%	1,200	-100%
Profit/(Loss)	243,079	18,308		19,762	

Approved by: Acting Financial Controller

Jeffrey Guilas

COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 13.2.3.2 Section 2 Financial Results

2.7 - Elected Members and CEO Credit Card Transactions

31 July 2023

Cardholder Name: Luccio Cercareli
Cardholder Position: CEO

Period Jul-23

Transaction Date	Amount \$	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
27/07/2023	25.83	BWTaxi Cairns	Taxi Transport for his LGCOG Cairns
Total	25.83		

Approved by: Acting Financial Controller

Jeffery Guilas



COUNCIL REPORT

2nd Ordinary Council Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 13.2.4

REPORT TITLE: Elected Members - Superannuation

MEETING DATE: Tuesday 15 August 2023

AUTHOR: Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli APPROVER: Chief Executive Officer, Luccio Cercarelli

COMMUNITY PLAN

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

PURPOSE

This Report provides information regarding Elected Members and superannuation entitlements.

KEY MESSAGES

- Elected Members in the Northern Territory are not entitled to the compulsory superannuation guarantee payment as they do not meet the definition of employee for these purposes.
- It has been long debated in Australia that to ensure a functional Local Government, and in recognition of work, that Elected Members should be appropriately remunerated for their time and contribution.
- The law currently sees Elected Members denied a benefit enjoyed by the boarder workforce.
- Payment of superannuation to Elected Members aligns with the objective of superannuation systems being to provide income in retirement to substitute or supplement the age pension.
- Elected Members run complex and challenging businesses in a transparent and accountable environment.
- With appropriate remuneration and superannuation, it is hoped this would lend to greater interest and more nomination to serve on Council, lending to greater diversity of representatives for the community.
- A change of legislation is required for superannuation to be paid under the guarantee system.
- The legislation allows Council by unanimous vote to make payments to itself relating to superannuation.
- The decision would mean Elected Members would then be treated similarly to employees and may be subject to Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG), and Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) where applicable.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report entitled Elected Members - Superannuation be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

As of the 1st July 2023 the Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Council (Determination No 1 of 2023) came into effect.

The determination is silent regarding superannuation and states that:



7. COVERAGE OF COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCE

The Remuneration Tribunal acknowledges that it is important to clearly state what is covered by the Councillor Allowance as there is confusion among Councillors as to the purposes of Allowances.

As such, the Councillor's Allowance is to cover:

- any cost to Councillors of attending meetings and activities of Council where these costs are not reimbursed by Council;
- contribution towards phone and internet usage;
- contribution towards any home office and supplies;
- allowance towards costs incurred in servicing constituents in Ward or Council Area;
 - o including, but not limited to:
 - donations:
 - organisation sponsorship;
 - membership fees;
 - patron expenses; and
 - constituent support.

The Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 specifically excludes a person who holds office as a member of a Local Government Authority or Council from the definition of employee, and therefore is not entitled to the guarantee.

At the 1st Ordinary Council Meeting of 4 October 2022 Council made the following decisions:

Moved: Councillor Hale Seconded: Councillor Fraser

- 1. THAT General Business Item 28 is considered 'confidential' pursuant to 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 as the matter comprises the information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.
- 2. THAT a report be prepared regarding superannuation payments for Elected Members with consideration of but not limited to legal, tax and financial factors no later than the second ordinary council meeting in February 2023.
- 3. THAT this decision be moved to the open section of 4 October 2022 Council Meeting.

CARRIED 10/559 - 4/10/2022

This report provides Council with an update on superannuation and seeks direction.

DISCUSSION

A draft Policy Proposal by the Western Australia Local Government Association (WALGA) entitled Superannuation for Elected Members stated the following:



Elected Members, like all workers, should be entitled to payment of superannuation. Payment of superannuation to Elected Members would address a historical anomaly that has seen Elected Members denied a benefit enjoyed by the broader workforce.

Given community expectations and the time commitment of serving on or leading a Council, many Elected Members are sacrificing opportunities for paid work to serve their community on Council.

As has been well documented through recent Inquiries into Local Government, "the role of a Councillor is challenging. Councillors are responsible for overseeing a complex business – that provides a broad range of functions, manages significant public assets, and employs in some cases hundreds of staff – all in a political and publicly accountable environment."

It is crucial to the functioning of Local Government that Elected Members are appropriately remunerated for their time and contribution.

Payment of superannuation to Elected Members aligns with the objective of the superannuation system, which is "to provide income in retirement to substitute or supplement the Age Pension."²

In addition, it is hoped that payment of superannuation would lead to greater interest and more nominations to serve on Council from women and younger people, leading to greater representation on Councils by people from traditionally underrepresented demographics.

Approvals in other jurisdictions are mixed, however the issue of superannuation entitlements for Elected Members remains the subject of debate in most States and Territories.

The options available to City of Palmerston to introduce superannuation for Elected Members includes:

- Change to Commonwealth legislation.
- Change to Northern Territory legislation.
- Northern Territory Renumeration Tribunal consider of superannuation as part of the allowances.
- City of Palmerston declares itself a "Eligible Local Government Bodies" for the purposes of Superannuation.

The City of Palmerston has previously and continues to advocate for appropriate entitlements for Elected Members including superannuation. However, to date has not been success in having changes to legislation or the remuneration Tribunal recognition and provision of superannuation.

This report explores the alternative option of City of Palmerston declares itself a "Eligible Local Government Bodies" for the purposes of superannuation.

City of Palmerston has sought specialist advice from the law firm Ward Keller and Moore Australia (accounting, tax, and auditing specialist).

Moore Australia also has undertaken work for this issue for Western Australia Elected Members and mutual work with WALGA.

The Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 specifically excludes a person who holds office as a member of a Local Government Authority or council from the definition of employee for these purposes.



The superannuation guarantee scheme requires employers to provide a minimum level of superannuation support for each of their employees.

The term "employee" for these purposes has its ordinary common law meaning but is extended by the *Superannuation Guarantee* (Administration) Act 1992 (SGAA) to expressly cover various other persons.

However, the SGAA specifically excludes a person who holds office as a member of a Local Government Authority council from the definition of employee for these purposes.

Section 12(9) of the SGAA includes the statement when referring to employees:

"However, this rule does not apply to a person in the capacity of the holder of an office as a member of a local government council".

Section 12(9A) then provides:

"Subject to subsection (10), a person who holds office as a member of a local government council is not an employee of the council".

The City of Palmerston is considered a Local Government Council. Therefore, the default position for superannuation guarantee purposes takes on the assumption an elected member is not an employee of a Local Government Authority, and the Local Government Authority is not required to make superannuation guarantee contributions on their behalf.

The requirement for Local Government Authorities to make compulsory superannuation guarantee payments on behalf of councillors or elected members will require a change in the law.

However, under the SGAA, if the Local Government Authority unanimously resolves it is to be treated as an "eligible local governing body", an Elected Member will fall within the definition of employee for these purposes. This essentially also brings the treatment of payments made to Elected Members into the Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) and the Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) system. As a consequence of any such resolution, a Local Government Authority will be required to make superannuation guarantee contributions at the required percentage on behalf of the Elected Member.

This is provided for in the SGAA.

Section 12(10) states:

"A person covered by paragraph 12-45(1)(e) in Schedule 1 to the Taxation Administration Act 1953 (about members of local governing bodies subject to PAYG withholding) is an employee of the body mentioned in that paragraph".

If the Local Government Authority wishes to unanimously elect to enter a resolution, it should give a written notice of the resolution to the Commissioner of Taxation.

Paragraph 12-45(1)(e) in Schedule 1 to the Taxation Administration Act 1953 states:

12-45 Payment to office holder



- (1) An entity must withhold an amount from salary, wages, commission, bonuses or allowances it pays to an individual as:
 - (a) ...; or
 - (b) ...; or
 - (c) ... or
 - (d) ... or
- (e) a member of a * local governing body where there is in effect, in accordance with section 446-5, a unanimous resolution by the body that the remuneration of members of the body be subject to withholding under this Part.

Section 446-5 in Schedule 1 to the Taxation Administration Act 1953 states:

446-5 Requirements for unanimous resolutions by local governing bodies

When section applies

- (1) This section applies to the following unanimous resolutions made by a * local governing body:
- (a) a resolution that the remuneration of members of the body be subject to withholding under Part 2-5 (about Pay As You Go withholding);

(b) ...

This means a Local Government Authority may unanimously resolve to be treated as an "eligible local governing body" by providing written notice to the Commissioner of Taxation under section 446 Schedule 1 of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*. The effect is to capture payments and benefits to Elected Members within the PAYG and FBT provisions. It also means they are subject to the Superannuation Guarantee Charge as employees.

Therefore, the Council may elect to make a valid resolution to be an 'eligible local governing body' and then be subject to City of Palmerston making compulsory superannuation contributions noting the PAYG and FBT requirements for each Elected Member.

Individuals may be impacted differently and should seek their own advice.

In order for a local governing body's resolution to be effective, section 446-5 requires it must:

- be unanimous; and
- specify a day on which the resolution takes effect, which must fall within 28 days of the day after the resolution is made.

In addition, the Commissioner must be given written notice of the resolution within seven (7) days of it being made by the local governing body.

Unless it is cancelled by unanimous resolution, the section 446-5 resolution continues to be in force in spite of a change in the membership of the local governing body.

For local councils which have a section 446-5 resolution in force (meaning no further resolution has been made to cancel the resolution covered by section 446-5), there is also the possibility or risk of non-compliance with other taxation obligations. Allowances paid to councillors of eligible local government



body are taken to be salary and wages subject to PAYG withholding. Certain benefits provided to councillors of eligible local government body would otherwise be excluded from fringe benefit tax may now be exposed to that tax.

A recent example of a Council who has elected to be an eligible local governing body is the City of Sterling in Western Australia who moved a resolution on 4th July 2023.

The financial impact would be that City of Palmerston would pay an estimated \$41,822 in compulsory superannuation payments based on Elected Member allowances. The allowances used to calculate superannuation are Councillors Allowance, Deputy Principal Additional Allowance, Principal Members Additional Allowance and Extra Meeting / Activity Allowance. This would need to be funded from the existing 2023/2024 budget and included in future years.

Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) refers to the regular withholding of income tax instalments, which individuals remit to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) based on their received income. Taxpayers are presented with the choice of either applying for a tax-free threshold on their income or opting not to. Choosing to claim the tax-free threshold results in a lesser amount of tax being withheld from their income, while preceding not to claim the tax-free threshold leads to a higher amount of tax being withheld. This decision determines the proportion of tax that is deducted from individuals' income as part of the PAYG system.

The impact of PAYG and superannuation is estimated as follows:

Principal Member Allowance	Councillor Allowance	Vehicle Allowance	Total	Monthly Payment (pre-tax)	Monthly Superannuation 11%	PAYG tax amount with tax- free threshold	PAYG tax amount no tax-free threshold
\$92,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$139,000.00	\$11,583.33	\$1,274.17	\$3,276.00	\$3,870.00

Dep Princ Men Allow	nber	Councillor Allowance	Extra Meeting/ Activity Allowance	Total	Monthly Payment (pre-tax)	Monthly Superannuation 11%	PAYG tax amount with tax- free threshold	PAYG tax amount no tax-free threshold
\$17,2	00.00	\$22,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$49,200.00	\$4,100.00	\$451.00	\$620.00	\$1,148.00

Councillor Allowance	Extra Meeting/ Activity Allowance	Total	Monthly Payment (pre-tax)	Monthly Superannuation 11%	PAYG tax amount with tax- free threshold	PAYG tax amount no tax-free threshold
\$22,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$32,000.00	\$2,666.67	\$293.33	\$264.00	\$650.00

The Principal Member table above assumes the Mayor takes the vehicle allowance, versus provision of a vehicle by Council.



City of Palmerston may become liable for FBT in respect to any non-cash benefits it provides to its Elected Members unless an exemption applies. It is recommended that the City of Palmerston retain liability for FBT payments rather than attempt to transfer that liability to Elected Members.

If a motion is passed City of Palmerston would authorise PAYG taxation payments and Elected Members would see an appropriate reduction in monthly allowance payments the above is indicative.

The PAYG withholding applies to amounts that become payable after the day on which the resolution takes effect.

Should Council wish to make a valid resolution the following words are suggested and can be moved at the meeting:

THAT the Council resolves to be treated as an eligible local governing body under the *Taxation Administration Act* 1993 and provides written notice to the Commissioner of Taxation under section 446 Schedule 1 of the Taxation Administration Act 1993 to come into effect by 8 September 2023.

THAT the City of Palmerston retains liability for any Fringe Benefits Tax payable because of the Council decision to be an eligible local governing body.

It must be noted that in order to be considered it must be a unanimous decision of Council and it would be suggested that a division be called so that voting is recorded, and evidence of unanimous vote can be provided.

Should Council not wish to become an eligible local governing body but simply continue to advocate for legislative changes this report can simply be received and noted.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

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

General Manager Finance and Governance

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

- Ward Keller
- Moore Australia

No public consultation is required regarding the change to an eligible local governing body.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The current policies may need to be updated to include any change to benefits.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Based on current payments a superannuation guarantee requirement would require an additional \$41,822 to Council members payments. This would be funded within existing budgets and included in future years.

The payment of FBT would not be significant and is within normal operations of the Council.



RISK, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The change to be considered an eligible entity will require a unanimous decision of Council and to remove this provision in the future will also require a unanimous decision.

There is a risk that Elected Members may be criticised for this additional benefit however superannuation is a requirement and benefit available to all employees in Australia.

City of Palmerston and Elected Members will need to adhere to PAYG and FBT requirements and this will impact individual Elected Members differently based on their personal circumstances. Elected Members are encouraged to seek independent advice.

Once the Commissioner is notified of the resolution, the Commissioner must publish notice of the making of the resolution by way of a notifiable instrument and will include the City's name and the date on which such resolution takes effect.

Advice is being sought from our insurers about impact of any decision however it is anticipated not to have any significant impacts and coverage currently available would need to continue.

The Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils (Determination No 1 of 2023) is silent on superannuation therefore any superannuation payments would be in addition to identified allowances.

Independent legal and tax specialist advise was sought in preparing this report.

This Report addresses the following City of Palmerston Strategic Risks:

3. Fails to attract, value, retain and develop the right people with the desired culture Context: Right people at right time and place with right skills, operating consistently in accordance with the desired culture of Collaboration, Accountability, Respect and Valued)

ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environment sustainability implications for this Report.

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



- 14 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE
 - 14.1 Information
 - 14.2 Correspondence
- 15 REPORT OF DELEGATES
- 16 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS
- 17 GENERAL BUSINESS
- 18 NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 5 September 2023 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

THAT pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

20 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON



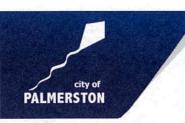
MINUTES

1st Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday 1 August 2023

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

'A Place for People'





Minutes of Council Meeting held in Council Chambers Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston on Tuesday 1 August 2023 at 5:30pm.

PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS Acting Mayor Danielle Eveleigh (Chair)

Councillor Amber Garden Councillor Ben Giesecke Councillor Damian Hale

Councillor Lucy Morrison (via Audio/Audiovisual)

Councillor Sarah Henderson

STAFF Acting Chief Executive Officer, Amelia Vellar

General Manager Infrastructure, Nadine Nilon

General Manager Finance and Governance, Wati Kerta

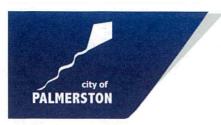
Minute Secretary, Jodi Holden

GALLERY One member of the public

Three members of staff

Initials:

MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 1 AUGUST 2023



1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

2 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5.32pm.

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Apologies

Nil

3.2 Leave of Absence Previously Granted

Moved:

Councillor Garden
Councillor Henderson

Seconded: Co

- 1. THAT it be noted Mayor Pascoe-Bell will be on leave of absence as previously granted on 18 July 2023, for the period of 1 August to 3 August 2023 inclusive.
- 2. THAT it be noted Councillor Fraser will be on leave of absence as previously granted on 18 July 2023, for the period of 1 August to 3 August 2023 inclusive.
- 3. THAT the leave of absence previously granted for Councillor Henderson on 18 July 2023, has been amended to the period of 27 July to 30 July 2023 inclusive.

CARRIED 10/938 - 1/08/2023

3.3 Leave of Absence Request

Moved:

Councillor Hale

Seconded:

Councillor Giesecke

- 1. THAT the leave of absence received from Councillor Giesecke for 7 September to 23 September 2023 inclusive be received and noted.
- 2. THAT the leave of absence received from Councillor Hale for 9 to 11 August 2023 inclusive be received and noted.
- 3. THAT the leave of absence received from Councillor Hale for 15 to 19 August 2023 inclusive be received and noted.
- 4. THAT the leave of absence received from Councillor Giesecke for 3 to 4 August 2023 inclusive be received and noted.

CARRIED 10/939 - 1/08/2023

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MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 1 AUGUST 2023



4 REQUEST FOR AUDIO/AUDIOVISUAL CONFERENCING

Moved: Councillor Henderson Seconded: Councillor Hale

- 1. THAT Council note that Councillor Morrison is attending via Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing who will be physically prevented from attending a meeting on 1 August 2023 due to ill health and approval has been granted by the CEO in accordance with the City of Palmerston Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing Policy.
- THAT Council approve that Councillor Giesecke is attending via Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing who will be physically prevented from attending a meeting on the 19 September 2023.
- 3. THAT Council approve that Councillor Hale is attending via Audio/Audiovisual Conferencing who will be physically prevented from attending a meeting on the 15 August 2023.

CARRIED 10/940 - 1/08/2023

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

5.1 Elected Members

Nil

5.2 Staff

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved:

Councillor Hale

Seconded: C

Councillor Garden

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 July 2023 pages 11080 to 11088 be confirmed.

CARRIED 10/941 - 1/08/2023

6.2 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

Nil

7 MAYORAL REPORT

Moved:

Councillor Henderson

Seconded:

Councillor Morrison

THAT Report entitled Mayoral Update Report - July 2023 be received and noted.

CARRIED 10/942 - 1/08/2023

Initials:

MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 1 AUGUST 2023



8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

Nil

10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

10.1 Moving Confidential Items into Open

Nil

10.2 Moving Open Items into Confidential

Nil

10.3 Confidential Items

Moved: Seconded: Councillor Garden

Councillor Henderson

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

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

CARRIED 10/943 - 1/08/2023

11 PETITIONS

Nil

12 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

Initials:

MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 1 AUGUST 2023



13 OFFICER REPORTS

13.1 Action Reports

13.1.1 Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes - 25 July 2023

Moved:

Councillor Garden

Seconded:

Councillor Henderson

- THAT Report entitled Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes 25 July 2023 be received and noted.
- 2. THAT the unconfirmed Risk Management and Audit Committee minutes provided as **Attachment 13.1.1.1** to report entitled Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes 25 July 2023 be received and noted.

CARRIED 10/944 - 1/08/2023

13.1.2 Community Benefit Scheme - Sponsorship - Riding for the Disabled Association Top End

Moved:

Councillor Morrison

Seconded:

Councillor Hale

- 1. THAT Report entitled Community Benefit Scheme Sponsorship Riding for the Disabled Association Top End be received and noted.
- 2. THAT Council approves a three-year sponsorship agreement funded from the Community Benefit Scheme for Riding for the Disabled Association Top End comprising of a Gold Sponsorship of \$20,000 for 2023/24, and then a Silver Sponsorship being \$15,000 for 2024/25 and 2025/26 for a total sponsorship value of \$50,000 as outlined in **Attachment 13.1.2.1**. to report entitled Community Benefit Scheme Sponsorship Riding for the Disabled Association Top End.

CARRIED 10/945 - 1/08/2023

13.1.3 Community Benefit Scheme - Sponsorship - Palmerston Rugby Union Football Club

Moved:

Councillor Hale

Seconded:

Councillor Garden

- 1. THAT Report entitled Community Benefit Scheme Sponsorship Palmerston Rugby Union Football Club be received and noted.
- 2. THAT Council endorse the sponsorship application of the Palmerston Rugby Union Football Club for \$5,000 annually for three years being 2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26, with a total value of \$15,000, as per **Attachment 13.1.3.1** to Report entitled Community Benefit Scheme Sponsorship Palmerston Rugby Union Football Club to be funded from the Community Benefit Scheme.

CARRIED 10/946 - 1/08/2023

Initials:

MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 1 AUGUST 2023



COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 24.1.1 COUNCIL MINUTES

A Place for People

13.2 Receive and Note Reports

Nil

14 INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

14.1 Information

Nil

14.2 Correspondence

Nil

15 REPORT OF DELEGATES

Moved:

Councillor Henderson

Seconded:

Councillor Morrison

THAT the verbal report received by Councillor Morrison regarding the Tourism Top End general meeting be received and noted.

CARRIED 10/947 - 1/08/2023

16 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Moved:

Councillor Morrison

Seconded:

Councillor Hale

- 1. THAT the question asked by Councillor Morrison regarding watering of plants and irrigation throughout the municipality including the community gardens and the verbal response provided by the General Manager Infrastructure be received and noted.
- 2. THAT the question asked by Councillor Morrison regarding the low water levels in lakes be taken on notice by the General Manager Infrastructure.
- 3. THAT the question asked by Councillor Henderson regarding the disabled toilet at the Men's Shed be taken on notice by the Acting Chief Executive Officer.
- 4. THAT the question asked by Councillor Hale regarding the cleaning regime in the CBD be taken on notice by the General Manager Infrastructure.

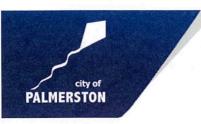
CARRIED 10/948 - 1/08/2023

17 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

Initials:

MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 1 AUGUST 2023



COUNCIL AGENDA Attachment 24.1.1 COUNCIL MINUTES

A Place for People

1	8	NFXT	ORDINARY	COUNCIL	MFFTING

Moved:

Councillor Garden

Seconded:

Councillor Henderson

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 15 August 2023 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza, 1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston.

CARRIED 10/949 - 1/08/2023

19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Moved:

Councillor Hale

Seconded:

Councillor Garden

THAT pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED 10/950 - 1/08/2023

20 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

Nil

The open section of the meeting closed at 6.20pm for the discussion of confidential matters.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.27pm.

Chair	
Print Name	 -
Data	

Initials:

MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 1 AUGUST 2023