Notice of Council Meeting
To be held at the Council Chambers, Civic Plaza
On Tuesday, 6 September 2016 at 6.30pm

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

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

1 PRESENT

2 APOLOGIES

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT the minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday, 16 August 2016 pages 8667 to 8677, be confirmed.

2. THAT the Confidential minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday, 16 August 2016 pages 254 to 256, be confirmed.

4 MAYOR’S REPORT

4.1 Mayor’s Report

5 REPORT OF DELEGATES
6 QUESTIONS (WITHOUT DEBATE) FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

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

8 PETITIONS

9 DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

10 CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

  10.1 Policy for Casual Vacancy on Council
  10.2 Determining Casual Vacancy on Council

11 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

  11.1 Governance and Organisation

      Nil

  11.2 Economic Development and Infrastructure

      Nil

  11.3 Community, Culture and Environment

      Nil

12 INFORMATION AGENDA

  12.1 Items for Exclusion

  12.2 Receipt of Information Reports

      RECOMMENDATION

      THAT the information items contained within the information Agenda, be received.
12.3 Officer Reports

12.3.1 Action Report 8/0965
12.3.2 LGANT Executive Minutes – 16 August 2016 8/0972
12.3.3 Smart Cities 8/0975

13 DEBATE AGENDA

13.1 Officer Reports

13.1.1 Thai Temple and NT Thai Association 8/0966
13.1.2 Alderman Carter – Resignation 8/0967
13.1.3 Library Materials – Stock Write-off 8/0970
13.1.4 Review EM02 Elected Members Benefits and Support Policy 8/0971
13.1.5 City of Palmerston Arts Strategy 8/0974
13.1.6 Proposed Future Multistorey Car Park Lot 10024 and Part Lot 9629 Frances Street, Palmerston City 8/0976

14 CORRESPONDENCE

14.1 Northern Territory Grants Commission Allocations 2016-17

15 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

16 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

At the invitation of the Chair

17 OTHER BUSINESS – ALDERMAN REPORTS

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT pursuant to Section 65 of the Local Government Act, Council orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Corporate and Community Services, Director of Technical Services and Minute Secretary on the basis that Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a manner closed to the public in order to receive, discuss and consider the report and associated documents in relation to confidential agenda item 18.1 Facilities Review and that Council is satisfied that the meeting should be conducted in a place open to the public is outweighed in relation to the matter because receiving, considering and discussing the report and associated documentation involves:

   (c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

   (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

This item is considered confidential pursuant to Regulation 8 (c)(i) of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.

2. THAT Council orders that the minutes from the Confidential Council meeting held on 6 September 2016, in relation to confidential item number 18.1 Facilities Review the report and associated documents remain confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of 12 months from the date of this meeting or a lesser period as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

18.2 Covai Café

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT pursuant to Section 65 of the Local Government Act, Council orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Corporate and Community Services, Director of Technical Services and Minute Secretary on the basis that Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a manner closed to the public in order to receive, discuss and consider the Question in relation to confidential agenda item 18.2 Covai Café and that Council is satisfied that the meeting should be conducted in a place open to the public is outweighed in relation to the matter because receiving, considering and discussing the Question involves:
(c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

(i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

This item is considered confidential pursuant to Regulation 8 (c)(i) of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.

2. THAT Council orders that the minutes from the Confidential Council meeting held on 6 September 2016, in relation to confidential item number 18.2 Covai Café the report and associated documents remain confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of 12 months from the date of this meeting or a lesser period as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

18.3 Repurposing of ISLRIP Funds to Hillson ST and Archer Waste Transfer Station

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT pursuant to Section 65 of the Local Government Act, Council orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Corporate and Community Services, Director of Technical Services and Minute Secretary on the basis that Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a manner closed to the public in order to receive, discuss and consider the Question in relation to confidential agenda item 18.3 Repurposing of ISLRIP Funds to Hillson ST and Archer Waste Transfer Station and that Council is satisfied that the meeting should be conducted in a place open to the public is outweighed in relation to the matter because receiving, considering and discussing the Question involves:

(c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

(i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

This item is considered confidential pursuant to Regulation 8 (c)(i) of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.

2. THAT Council orders that the minutes from the Confidential Council meeting held on 6 September 2016, in relation to confidential item number 18.3 Repurposing of ISLRIP Funds to Hillson ST and Archer Waste Transfer Station the report and associated documents remain confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of 12 months from the date of this meeting or a lesser period as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.
ITEM NUMBER: 4.1  Mayor’s Report
FROM: Ian Abbott
REPORT NUMBER: M8-28
MEETING DATE: 6 September 2016

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

RECOMMENDATION

2. THAT Council note that Mayor Abbott has cancelled his Leave of Absence from Wednesday, 7 September to Sunday, 18 September 2016.

General:

Thursday, 11 August 2016
- Attended the Governance and Organisation Committee Meeting
- Attended the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee
- Radio Interview with Territory FM

Friday, 12 August 2016
- Chaired Top End Regional Organisation of Council (TOPROC) meeting held at Litchfield Council
- Attended the Women’s Festival “Teej” Program Celebration with Nepalese Association of NT

Saturday, 13 August 2016
- Attended Pitch Black Open Day 2016
- Attended as Guest to the NT PGA Championship Tournament Dinner

Sunday, 14 August 2016
- Presented Cheque at the NT PGA Championship

Tuesday, 16 August 2016
- General catch up with Lord Mayor City of Darwin
- Radio Interview with ABC
- Chaired Ordinary Council Meeting
- Attended a Workshop on Smart Cities

Wednesday, 17 August 2016
- Hosted an afternoon tea for visiting exchange students from our Sister City in Japan, Aridagawa.
Thursday, 18 August 2016
- Attended BMD’s Industry Forum and Annual Review Launch Breakfast
- Attended Palmerston Safe Communities Committee Meeting
- Radio Interview with Territory FM
- Attended and donated a book to the Palmerston Senior College at the 50th Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration Service
- Attended the Reception to Acknowledge the service of Vietnam Veterans and to Commemorate The Battle of Long Tan

Friday, 19 August 2016
- Catch up with Alderman McKinnon
- Participated at the Australian Regional & Remote Community Services (ARRCS) Terrace Gardens ‘Turning of the Sod’ Ceremony
- Attended the 71st Indonesian Independence Day Reception

Saturday, 20 August 2016
- Opened The Heights Durack Community Centre Open Day

Sunday – 21 August 2016
- Attended the Closing Ceremony of Seniors Fortnight

Tuesday, 23 August 2016
- Met with Alderman Pascoe-Bell

Wednesday, 24 August 2016
- Radio Interview Grassroots
- Teleconference with The Hon. Gary Nairn Chairman of the NT Planning Commission
- Attended Alderman Carter’s Farewell

Thursday, 25 August 2016
- Participated in Tunes and Tales at the Palmerston Library
- Attended the Palmerston Animal Management Reference Group Meeting

Saturday, 27 August 2016
- Attended NT Officers’ Ball 2016

Monday, 29 August 2016
- Participated in the Seniors Forum
- Met with Deputy Mayor Shutt
- Teleconference with Mayor Damien Ryan

Forwarding Schedule: Nil

Recommending Officer: Ian Abbott, Mayor

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ian Abbott, Mayor on telephone (08) 8935 9902 or email ian.abbott@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Schedule of Attachments: Nil
COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 5 September

TOPIC: Policy for Casual Vacancy on Council

BACKGROUND:

With the departure of Alderman Geoff Carter, Council needs to determine how to do with the casual vacancy on Council. After discussing this with the CEO, it is clear that Council needs to have a policy to provide Council with the opportunity to fill the vacancy.

OBJECTIVE:

According to Section 39 of the Local Government Act, Council "may (in accordance with its policy) co-opt a person to fill the vacancy". We currently have no such policy. I propose that the attached draft policy EM04 Casual Vacancy be adopted in order that Council is able to decide if it wishes to fill the vacancy.

Adopting the policy does not change the fact that Council will still need to determine if it wishes to fill the vacancy, this will still require a Council decision.

NOTICE OF MOTION:

THAT Council adopt EM04 Casual Vacancy Policy.

Signature  

Print Name  

Date  

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

For office use only  

31/08/2016  

Date Received
**1 PURPOSE**

This Council Policy outlines the method by which City of Palmerston deals with casual vacancies on Council.

**2 PRINCIPLES**

Policies of the City of Palmerston are guided by principles of sustainability, good governance, advocacy, regulation and services provision. More guidance is provided in Council and Administrative policies, procedures and guidelines, the Municipal Plan, Asset Management Plans and other relevant documents.

**3 DEFINITIONS**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Casual Vacancy</td>
<td>Where and Elected Member resigns or is terminated from their position on Council, or otherwise ceases to hold office pursuant to Section 39 of the Local Government Act.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4 POLICY STATEMENT**

4.1 Where a Member ceases to hold office and a casual vacancy exists, Council will determine by resolution at the next Ordinary Meeting whether to:

4.1.1 Continue without filling the casual vacancy; or
4.1.2 Co-opt a person to fill the vacancy.

4.2 Where Council resolves to fill the casual vacancy, the manner in which it does so is as follows:

4.2.1 An Expression of Interest shall be prepared and released to the general public for no less than 14 days, requesting responses in writing to the Chief Executive Officer; and
4.2.2 The Expression of Interest will be advertised in the local newspaper and on Council’s website and elsewhere as deemed appropriate by the Chief Executive Officer; and
4.2.3 An information session open to the public will be arranged to assist in informing interested nominees; and
4.2.4 Valid nominations shall consist of that information the nominee sees fit to provide in their application, and must certify that the nominee is either enrolled as an elector in respect of a place of residence within the City of Palmerston, and is not disqualified under Section 37(1) of the Local Government Act, namely the nominee:
   a) Does not hold a judicial office (other than Justice of the Peace); or
   b) Is not bankrupt or subject to a composition or arrangement with creditors under the Bankruptcy Act 1966 (Commonwealth); or
   c) Has not been sentenced to a term of imprisonment (which has not expired) of one year or more; or
   d) Is not an employee of City of Palmerston; or
   e) Is not indebted to Council for rates or surcharge and fails to discharge the debt within 6 months after the debt becomes due and payable; or
   f) Is not certified mentally unfit to carry out the functions of a Member.

4.2.5 All nominations shall be brought to Council following the completion of the 14-day period for a Council decision.

4.3 The eligibility for member for nominations to fill a casual vacancy shall be outlined in Division 3 Terms and Conditions of Membership of the Local Government Act.

5 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Nil

6 REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

6.1 Local Government Act
COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 5 September

TOPIC: Determining Casual Vacancy on Council

BACKGROUND:

According to Section 39 of the Local Government Act, Council “may (in accordance with its policy) co-opt a person to fill the vacancy”. We hopefully now have such a policy, EM04 Casual Vacancy. The policy states that Council will need to make a determination on filling the vacancy left by the departure of Alderman Geoff Carter.

OBJECTIVE:

With 12 months left in this term of Council, it is my belief that the best course of action is to co-opt a person to fill the vacancy. As we are all aware, Council supported the request to the Department of Local Government for 2 additional Alderman because it would assist in good governance, decision making and representation – the very reasons I believe support the filling of this casual vacancy as soon as possible.

I recommend the vacancy be advertised on 10 and 17 September with a closing date of 23 September, and the process laid out in policy EM04 Casual Vacancy be followed.

NOTICE OF MOTION:

THAT in accordance with Section 39 (5) (a) of the Local Government Act, Council elect to co-opt a person to fill the casual vacancy (created by the resignation of Alderman Carter) until the next general election, with expressions of interest to be advertised in the NT News on 10th and 17th September and closing on Friday 23rd September 2016..

Signature

Print Name

Date

31/8/16

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

Date Received: 31/08/2016
ITEM NUMBER: 12.3.1  Action Report

FROM: Chief Executive Officer
REPORT NUMBER: 8/0965
MEETING DATE: 6 September 2016

Summary:

This report outlines individual action items outstanding from previous Council Meetings. Council is asked to receive this report.

RECOMENDATION

THAT the Council receives Report Number 8/0965.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec #</th>
<th>Task Date</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Matter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Update</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/0949</td>
<td>18/2/2014</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>Car Parking Contribution Plan Update</td>
<td>Matter on the table</td>
<td>Workshop on Car Parking to be held on 21 April 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/1126</td>
<td>17/6/2014</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>Reconstruct Radford Road</td>
<td>Council to enter into a memorandum of understanding regarding the use of any contractor security held by LDC.</td>
<td>Scope of works is now complete. Final handover inspection has taken place. We are waiting on asset information and outstanding defects to be attended to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 8/1354 | 9/12/2014 | DTS   | Draft Palmerston City Centre Master Plan 2014 and associated documents | - Draft Palmerston City Centre Parking Strategy to be presented to and considered by the City of Palmerston’s Car Parking Committee.  
- Final documents and application submission to amend the NT Planning Scheme be submitted to Council for endorsement at the Council meeting scheduled 17 February 2015. | Completed. |

Municipal Plan:

4. Governance & Organisation

4.3 People

We value our people, and the culture of our organisation. We are committed to continuous improvement and innovation whilst seeking to reduce the costs of Council services through increased efficiency.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Request/Action</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/1666</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>The Heights Durack Eastern Collector Road</td>
<td>Mayor and CEO to be delegated the ability to apply Council’s seal and to sign all documents for the establishment of a road access easement on Lot 11504, 80 University Avenue, Durack.</td>
<td>Awaiting construction and transfer documents from developer. No further action expected until mid to late 2016.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/1714</td>
<td>20/10/2015</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Joy Anderson Centre</td>
<td>CEO to write to the Dept. of Housing, to seek consideration for the freehold title of the Joy Anderson Centre, to be transferred to the City of Palmerston as a community asset.</td>
<td>Meeting scheduled with CEO Dept. Housing for a briefing on the review of Housing Strategy Friday 2 September 2016.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 8/1776  | 8/12/2015  | DTS       | Goyder Walking Trail | A draft Goyder Walking trail be provided to Council for consideration.                                                                                                                                       | Consultant was commissioned in early June and the study is now being completed over the coming months.  
The completed study will be presented to Council late September 2016. |
<p>|         |            | DTS       | Community Infrastructure Plan | Progress update.                                                                                                                                                                                            | Public consultation has commenced                                      |
| 8/1853  | 1/03/2016  | DCCS      | Operating Costs – Recreation Facilities | Report to be prepared for Council regarding the cost of operating its recreation facilities.                                                                                                                | In current agenda.                                                      |
| 8/1872  | 15/03/2016 | DCCS      | Expression of Interest Community Activities | EOI to be released to the public calling for submissions to host regular or one off community place making activities in Palmerston.                                                                          | Will be prepared for new financial year.                                |
| 8/1929  | 19/04/2016 | DTS       | Broadarrow Circuit Footpath | Council develop a forward works program for the upgrade of footpath standards throughout Palmerston.                                                                                                     | Under development                                                       |
| 8/1980  | 17/05/2016 | DTS       | Goyder Square Operational Costs and Level of Service | Council review the level of service provided in Goyder Square in September 2016 following a dry season operation of the area.                                                                            | Report to October EDI Committee.                                       |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/2005 8/2006</td>
<td>17/05/2016</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>City Centre Improvement Levy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2084</td>
<td>21/06/2016</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>Fencing Playgrounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2126</td>
<td>19/07/2016</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>City Centre Car Parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2130</td>
<td>19/07/2016</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>2016 Compliance Review Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2196</td>
<td>16/08/2016</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>Consent for the consolidation of Lots 8561 and 8570 (over which Council’s drainage easement is registered)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2201</td>
<td>16/08/2016</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td>Concurrent Application (PA2016/0399) to rezone from Zone MD to part Zone MR and part Zone C and develop the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/2203</td>
<td>8/2204</td>
<td>8/2207</td>
<td>Site for 24 x 3 bedroom multiple dwellings and a commercial development comprising restaurants, shops and offices on Lot 10288 (3) Tarakan Court, Johnston.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/08/2016</td>
<td>DTS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stakeholders to be notified of Council’s intention to commence charging for parking within the City Centre via the level 2 consultation process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- preparation of drawings and contract documents for the implementation of paid parking in the city centre commence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- charges be included in the Fees and Charges Register for 2016/17 to be applied at a date determined by Council.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommending Officer:** Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

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

**Schedule of Attachments:**

Nil
ITEM NUMBER: 12.3.2  
LGANT Executive Minutes – 16 August 2016

FROM: Chief Executive Officer

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0972

MEETING DATE: 6 September 2016

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

RECOMMENDATION
THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0972.

General:
The LGANT Executive Meeting draft meeting minutes will be sent out approximately on a monthly basis. The draft minutes of the Executive Meeting held on Tuesday, 16 August 2016 are attached for information.

Financial Implications:
Nil

Legislation/Policy:
Nil

Recommendation Officer: Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

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

Schedule of Attachments:
Attachment: Draft LGANT Executive Meeting Minutes – 16 August 2016
1. **PERSONS PRESENT AT THE MEETING OR ON THE TELEPHONE**

| Mayor Damien Ryan | President (telephone) |
| Alderman Bob Elix | Vice-President – Municipal |
| Mayor Fay Miller | Executive – Municipal |
| Councillor Greg Sharman | Executive – Regional & Shires (telephone) |
| Mayor Lothar Siebert | Executive – Regional & Shires |

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

| Tony Tapsell | LGANT CEO |
| Peter McLinden | LGANT |
| Camden Smith | LGANT |
| Elaine McLeod | LGANT Secretariat |
| CEO Michael Freeman | CouncilBIZ |

2. **APOLOGIES FROM MEMBERS WHO WERE ABSENT FROM THE MEETING**

| President Barb Shaw | Executive – Regional & Shires |
| Mayor Tony Jack | Vice-President – Regional & Shires |
| Alderman Gary Haslett | Executive – Municipal |
| Councillor Kaye Thurlow | Executive – All Councils |

Discussion

Members heard that Tony Jack has resigned from the Roper Gulf Regional Council in order to run in the NT Election. LGANT is to obtain a copy of Mayor Jack's resignation for its records and write a letter to Roper Gulf Regional Council stating that they need to write to LGANT within seven days of the declaration of polls should he wish to be reinstated to the Executive Board.

**ACTION**

1. Obtain a copy of Mayor Jack's resignation from council.
2. Write to Roper Gulf Regional Council regarding reinstatement to the Executive Board.

**RESOLUTION**

That members:

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

**Moved:** Mayor Miller  
**Seconded:** Alderman Elix  
**Carried**

3. **NOTIFICATION OF CONFLICT(S) OF INTERESTS** – Nil
4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLUTION

That the minutes of the previous Executive meeting held on Tuesday 19 July 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Mayor Siebert
Carried

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

RESOLUTION

That the papers as circulated be received for consideration at the meeting and that members agree to the matters to be raised in general business.

Moved: Councillor Sharman
Seconded: Mayor Miller
Carried

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

6.1 LGANT Financial Reports for 31 July 2016

Discussion

A number of items in the financial reports were discussed.

RESOLUTION

That the Executive receives and adopts the financial reports for 31 July 2016.

Moved: Mayor Miller
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

6.2 Local Government Excellence Project

Discussion

This project has to date been looked after by David Jan who, members heard, has moved to Litchfield Council to fill the position of Governance and Risk Advisor. The President congratulated the CEO and his team for the work that has been delivered on this project to date.

Members heard that the Service Level Agreement has been sent to the Department and LGANT will meet with oficers to discuss it shortly.

Members were informed the Department has funded two Institute of Company Directors courses and that it would like LGANT to do more courses in 2017. There was discussion around the importance of running a course early next year and that it would be advantageous for candidates running in the next local government election to attend these courses. Previous courses have produced very good results and members heard it is important for LGANT to continue along this line in the hope that funding for the project will continue.

Members asked that there be an item in the general meeting agenda informing delegates of these courses and encouraging them to attend.
RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive endorsed the service agreement and programme budget for the Local Government Excellence Project.

Moved: Mayor Miller
Seconded: Alderman Elix
Carried

ACTION
3. The Institute of Company Directors courses be included as an item in the general meeting agenda.

6.3 Incorporation of LGANT
Discussion
Members heard that the draft letter has been revised to include a section in the Act that had been missed plus some other references to the Act. The letter will be sent out today.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive endorses the letter to the Department seeking some inclusion of LGANT in the Act.

Moved: Councillor Sharman
Seconded: Mayor Siebert
Carried

ACTION
4. Send letter to the Department of Local Government and Community Services.

6.4 Major Election Commitments
Discussion
Members discussed concerns around possible changes to regional councils should there be a change of government. There has been no response to date from the Leader of the Opposition in regards to LGANT’s election document. LGANT will continue to try and arrange a meeting with the Leader of the Opposition before the election.

Members agreed it is important that the Executive meets with the new Minister for Local Government as soon as possible after the election.

(Executive members, Mayors and Presidents and CEOS were provided with copies of the Labor Party’s response to the LGANT election document which was received at the end of the meeting.)

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive be briefed on the detail of whichever policy is in place for the elected government following the Northern Territory election on 27 August 2016.

Moved: Councillor Sharman
Seconded: Mayor Siebert
Carried

ACTION
5. Arrange meetings with the new Minister for Local Government after the election.

6.5 CouncilBiz Constitution
Discussion
Michael Freeman, General Manager of CouncilBIZ attended the meeting and spoke to members about changes to the CouncilBIZ Constitution. Members were told that CouncilBIZ underwent a compliance review in October 2015. There were 21 findings to come out of the review. Finding number 21 found that CouncilBIZ had not looked at its constitution since it was formed in 2008. As a result CouncilBIZ has gone through the process of developing a new constitution in consultation with member councils. This is now at the stage of going out for a vote from members and this includes LGANT. The voting must be unanimous and if that is the case the constitution will the go to the Minister for endorsement.

Members heard that under the revised constitution:

- one representative will be put forward from each member council – this can be a senior officer or an elected member
- council representatives will appoint a board of six consisting of three members and three people from outside the organisation with relevant expertise
- this board will be charged with developing an annual plan and reporting back to members
- CouncilBIZ will be allowed to provide services to non-member councils in the Northern Territory on a fee-for-service basis
- LGANT will remain a member of CouncilBIZ but is not liable for fees.

Members heard that the General Manager of CouncilBIZ is happy to attend council meetings to explain the revised constitution to elected members upon being invited by council.

When the constitution is finalised it will go out for endorsement to member councils.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive rescinds LGANT’s current policy on CouncilBIZ, develop new policies on shared services and collaboration and endorse the circular resolution from CouncilBIZ.

Moved: Mayor Siebert
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

ACTION
6. Advise CouncilBIZ of resolution on the constitution.
7. Develop draft policies on shared services and collaboration.

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

7.1 NO MORE Campaign
Future Action
Councils to consider endorsing the campaign and hosting a NO MORE event.

Discussion
Members heard that the CEO spoke to Charlie King regarding some concerns raised at a previous Executive meeting about the credibility of some presenters for this campaign. Mr King confirmed whilst some presenters have had problems in the past, these people are turning their lives around and are often the best people to help others dealing with the same problems. Mr King is happy to discuss any issues that people may have in regards to the campaign.

ACTION
8. Executive member, Mayor Siebert, to contact Mr King.

7.2 Review of the Local Government Act
Future Action
Review the matter once the Department releases its next discussion paper.

Discussion
Members discussed the importance of moving forward with the review of the Local Government Act with the new government after the election.

Members heard that the NT Government has just put out a new discussion paper on the Accounting Regulations and that comments are due in by 9 September 2016. The Executive considered comments could be provided to the Department after the NT election.

RESOLUTION
What decision is the Executive being asked to make?
THAT the Executive receives and notes the reports on actions required to be done from the last meeting.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Mayor Miller
Carried

ACTION
9. LGANT to provide comments on the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations after the NT election.

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

8.1 2016 National General Assembly Resolutions
Discussion
Mayor Siebert asked that it be noted that he is against Resolution 50 which was passed at the recent National General Assembly.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the 2016 National General Assembly Resolutions.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Mayor Miller
Carried

8.2 NT Population Summit
Discussion
Members noted the outcomes from the recent NT Population Summit.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the NT Population Summit.

Moved: Mayor Miller
Seconded: Alderman Elix
Carried
8.3 LGANT 2016 NT Election Document

Discussion
Members noted the responses to date.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the LGANT 2016 NT Election document.

Moved: Mayor Miller
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

8.4 Northern Territory Government's Remote Housing Strategy

Discussion
Members heard that there are four Remote Housing Development Authority meetings scheduled for next week which Peter McLinden will attend and report back to the Executive at the next meeting.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the Northern Territory Government's Remote Housing Strategy.

Moved: Mayor Siebert
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

ACTION
10. Complete report for next Executive meeting.

8.5 ALGA CEOs Meeting Report

Discussion
Members heard that:

- WALGA is presenting information to the public on residential rates via its website and this could be worth considering for the Northern Territory
- councils are still being encouraged to promote how they use FAGs on their websites and annual reports
- ALGA will continue the fight for a 1% share of Federal taxation
- Peter McLinden will attend an ALGA forum in Sydney on Indigenous issues including:
  - Indigenous procurement
  - linkage of arts and culture with tourism
  - municipal services and housing
  - governance arrangements for how the group of councils that attended the National General Assembly are going to work in the future.

RESOLUTION
THAT the LGANT Executive receives and notes the report on the ALGA CEOs meeting.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Mayor Miller
Carried

ACTION
11. Complete report for Executive meeting.
8.6 Land Development in the Northern Territory – Uniform Subdivision Guidelines

Discussion
Members agreed it is important to put forward local government’s case in the first sector of the new government. Alderman Elix, having a lot of experience with the Development Consent Authority, will attend the meeting with the new Minister for Planning.

Members were encouraged to read the report, Resilient Families, Strong Communities, A roadmap for regional and remote Aboriginal communities, State of Western Australia, 2016 which can be found at: www.regionalservicesreform.wa.gov.au

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on Land Development in the Northern Territory – Uniform Subdivision Guidelines.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Mayor Miller
Carried

8.7 Darwin Regional Transport Plan 2016

Discussion
Members noted the plan mainly impacts on the Darwin, Palmerston, Litchfield, Wagait, Belyuen and Coomalie councils.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the Darwin Regional Transport Plan 2016.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Mayor Miller
Carried

8.8 Aviation Industry and Services Strategy 2020

Discussion
Members agreed that LGANT needs to speak to ministers about this issue going forwards to keep the momentum going.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the Aviation Industry and Services Strategy 2020.

Moved: Mayor Siebert
Seconded: Alderman Elix
Carried

8.9 Roads and Bridges Strategy and Network Investment Plan

Discussion
Members were informed that there will be status reports on the Roads and Bridges Strategy on the website – https://transport.nt.gov.au/strategies/roads-and-bridges-strategy

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the Roads and Bridges Strategy and Network Investment Plan.

Moved: Mayor Miller
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

8.10 National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility
Discussion
Members noted the report.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on the National Climate Change Adaption Research Facility.

Moved: Mayor Siebert
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

8.11 Nominations to the LGANT Executive
Discussion
Members noted the nominations.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive receives and notes the report on nominations to the LGANT Executive.

Moved: Mayor Miller
Seconded: Alderman Elix
Carried

8.12 Regional Economic Infrastructure Fund – Round 3
Discussion
Members were alerted to the short timeframe for applications which must be in by 9 September 2016.

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive encourages councils to make application to Round 3 of the Regional Economic Infrastructure Fund.

Moved: Mayor Siebert
Seconded: Mayor Miller
Carried

9. PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Members heard that the President attended a Transport and Infrastructure meeting in Melbourne on behalf of ALGA. The main points discussed at the meeting were:

- fuel prices continue to drop and as a result infrastructure suffers because revenues fall
- ‘cost for kilometers used’ will become a priority in the future to help fund infrastructure
- driver licence harmonisation
- National Cycling Strategy
- Heavy Vehicle Regulatory Service Delivery Strategy and the costing.

10. BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING THAT IS NOT YET FINISHED

10.1 Administration & Legislation Advisory Committee
Future Action
Provide progress reports.
Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.2 The Transfer of Local Roads from the NT Government to Local Government
Future Action
Follow up after the NT election with the Department of Transport as to whether or not a Cabinet submission on roads on Aboriginal land has been done and advise councils.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.3 Draft Submission on the Cemeteries Act
Future Action
After the NT election, ascertain from the Department as to when the Act is likely to be introduced into Parliament.

Discussion
Members heard that the legislation has not been introduced as yet and it will now be up to the new government.

10.4 Establishing a Territory Wide Local Government Insurance Scheme
Future Action
2-15/08/2016 – Consult with CEOs in regards to funding project.
Following activities will proceed subject to funding:
15/08/2016 – Consultant commences project.
28/02/2017 – Consultant recommendation received.
30/06/2017 – Consultant recommendation completed.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.5 The Transfer of Barge Landings, Boat Ramps and Airstrips to Local Government
Future Action
Continue to monitor and meet with Department officers.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.6 Draft Submission on the Oil and Gas Industry Development Strategy
Future Action
Await Government response and release of the final strategy.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.7 Anti-Corruption, Integrity and Misconduct Commission Inquiry
Future Action
Await decision of the Government on the Inquiry and compare with LGANT’s submission.

Discussion
Members noted the report.
10.8 **Community Champions**

**Future Action**
Business paper presented to Governance Reference Group for feedback on 12 May 2016. Follow up with OAA what action it has taken.

**Discussion**
Members noted the report.

10.9 **Balanced Environment Strategy Discussion Draft**

**Future Action**
Await final release of the strategy and compare with LGANT’s submission.

**Discussion**
Members noted the report.

10.10 **New Library Management System for NT Libraries**

**Future Action**
Provide progress reports.

**Discussion**
Members noted the report.

10.11 **Cancellation of CentrePay Deductions for Council Programs**

**Future Action**
LGANT to:  
- canvas regional councils to ascertain the scope of the issue for Northern Territory councils, and
- contact the relevant Australian Government department and organise a meeting to discuss the issue with a view to devising a solution in which councils will not be subsidising these programs.

**Discussion**
Members noted the report.

10.12 **LGANT Representation on External Committees**

**Future Action**
Follow up with the new government following the August 2016 Northern Territory election its approach with the nomination of LGANT representatives on government committees.

**Discussion**
Members noted the report.

10.13 **NT Library Community Reference Group Nomination**

**Future Action**
Await confirmation of the appointment to the reference group from NT Library.

**Discussion**
Members noted the report.
10.14 Submission to the Draft Alcohol Action Plan
Future Action
Do an assessment of the changes proposed by government once legislation is introduced and compare with LGANT's submission.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.15 Submission to the Planning Act
Future Action
Follow up with the NT Planning Commission to confirm its arrangements about how it proposes to consult over changes in land uses in local government areas.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.16 Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
Future Action
Confirm with Recognise Australia its representatives that are to attend the general meeting.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.17 Street Lighting Arrangements
Future Action
Investigate and develop a position of tariff charges so there is incentive for local government to pursue efficient technology for street lighting.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.18 Belyuen, Coomalie, Wagait Local Government Advisory Group
Future Action
Provide progress reports.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.19 Representation to the NT Weeds Advisory Committee
Future Action
Await formal notification from the Minister, now likely to occur after the 27 August 2016 NT election.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.20 Nominations to the NT Grants Commission
Future Action
Await formal notification from the Minister, now likely to occur after the 27 August 2016 NT election.

Discussion
Members noted the report.
10.21 LGANT Video Conference Capability

Future Action
Follow up with CouncilBIZ its assessment of options for LGANT and CouncilBIZ to use.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

10.22 Procurement Forum – 11 and 12 August 2016

Future Action
Provide a report on the Procurement Forum at the September 2016 meeting.

Discussion
Members noted the report.

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

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

11. BUSINESS NOT YET FINISHED BUT INACTIVE

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive accept the business not yet finished but inactive.

Moved: Mayor Miller
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

12. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

12.1 Question:
Will there be a usage charge for water on private bores?

Answer:
There has been extensive monitoring of the greater Darwin regional bore fields and there has been a number of bores in that area that have run out of water. It has been mooted, but there is nothing in writing, that there is potential to start charging for that water through the metering and licensing process.

In the Greater Darwin Regional Plan there are some comments in there about the development and the surety of the quality of the water supply by providing mains water to those affected. If there is further development, there is a risk the supply of water could dry up in the bore fields for those who are dependent on it.

LGANT is unaware of any discussions on metering or charging for water on remote communities.

Question:
Should there be a performance register for council CEOs within Australia, or within the Northern Territory, to assist councils in the recruitment process?
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Answer:
In the review of the Local Government Act it has been suggested that someone with knowledge, ie LGANT, assist in the employment of any future CEOs.

13. GENERAL BUSINESS - Nil

14. COMPLETED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION
THAT the Executive approves the removal of items of completed business from the agenda for the next meeting.

Moved: Alderman Elix
Seconded: Councillor Sharman
Carried

15. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

16. NEXT MEETING
The next meeting of the LGANT Executive will be held on Tuesday 20 September 2016 at 10:00am in the LGANT Boardroom.

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

17. LIST OF ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>Item No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Obtain a copy of Mayor Jack’s resignation from council.</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Write to Roper Gulf Regional Council regarding reinstatement to the Executive Board.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The Institute of Company Directors courses be included as an item in the general meeting agenda.</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Send letter to the Department of Local Government and Community Services.</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Arrange a meeting with the new Minister for Local Government after the election.</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Advise CouncilBIZ of resolution on the constitution.</td>
<td>6.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Develop draft policies on shared services and collaboration.</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Executive member, Mayor Siebert, to contact Mr King.</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. LGANT to write to the Department advising it will provide comments after the NT election.</td>
<td>7.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Complete report for next Executive meeting.</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Complete report for next Executive meeting.</td>
<td>8.5</td>
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Summary:
This report summarises efforts by officers in progressing the possibility of "smart city" technology to be integrated into Council strategy related to street lighting and car parking in City of Palmerston.

RECOMMENDATION
1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0975.

Background:
Technology approaches to the management of municipal assets and provision of new services to the community are growing in number throughout the world. The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet has begun to push these “smart city” approaches across Australia in a similar manner to central governments across the world, yet with roughly 80% of Australia’s infrastructure assets owned or managed by local governments, it is increasingly necessary for cities themselves to develop a strategic approach to implementing asset related technology.

Broadly speaking, "smart city" technologies seek to leverage data provided through sensor technologies to either improve the management of infrastructure assets, or to deliver improved services in relation to these assets to the community, or both. With its beginnings in electricity grid management, it has spread through to street lighting, car parking, waste management, traffic management and even animal management, with new applications of technology in infrastructure management appearing on a steady basis around the world. Cities such as Copenhagen, New York, Den Hague, Barcelona, Singapore, Seoul and Tokyo have been active in this area for many years. Large population bases and access to technology have meant that this has been a "big city" issue, but the steadily dropping costs associated with technology and innovative approaches to funding have meant a growing number of smaller and regional cities and local governments have been increasingly active in developing smart city solutions to their localised issues, including many in Australia.
For the City of Palmerston, two issues became relevant regarding smart city strategies:

- The impending transfer of street light asset ownership from Power Water Corporation to City of Palmerston on 1 January 2018 would require Council to deliver a new service to its community – provision and management of street lights, rather than simply "paying the power bill". The current street light situation is expensive and environmentally unfriendly, as the tariff rate provides no incentive to convert street lights to LED and management of the assets themselves is a very manual task – both are areas where smart city solutions are resulting in operational savings to cities.

- The start of paid car parking in the CBD of Palmerston will require the roll out of new parking technology to assist in effective management of car parking bays, including infringement systems. Were street lights to be made "smart", the choice of management technology would likely leverage technology to provide additional efficiency. Again, this has become a common area for "smart city" technology.

Officers learned of an approach by a consortium led by Cisco to the NT Government, and arranged meetings with them to learn about how they saw potential solutions to be rolled out. Following meetings with staff, a broader meeting between the consortium and representatives of NT Government departments and City of Darwin was held.

**General:**

The Cisco Consortium have proposed to work with City of Palmerston to develop a model which consisted of them managing and renewing street lighting assets and car parking with no net effect on Council's budget over the 20 year period, and the possibility of shared revenue reducing this even further. (Details are not provided here as they remain commercial in confidence.)

This proposal was discussed at a Council workshop. Officers recognise that this is a new area of interest for Council, and that Elected Members would benefit from having a broader understanding of smart city projects and technologies prior to determining how best to approach it. As such, a consultancy firm from Singapore named OpenGov Asia was engaged to facilitate a 3 hour workshop with Elected Members and invited guests from NT Government departments to further understand the opportunities. This was negotiated with Cisco, and came at no cost to Council.

On 29 July 2016 the OpenGov Breakfast Dialogue event was held at Rydges Palmerston. Together with representatives from Cisco’s Sydney and Singapore offices, special guests Dr Leong Mun Kew, Deputy Director at the Institute of Systems Science at the National University of Singapore and Mr Glenn Ashe, former GCIO at the Attorney General Department facilitated discussion. (See the Attachment A for the Post Event Report). Mayor Ian Abbott, Deputy Mayor Seranna Shutt, Alderman Sue McKinnon, Alderman Andrew Byrne and Alderman Paul Bunker attended, with Alderman Geoff Carter attending briefly by phone from Sydney. Feedback from attendees indicated the event was very successful.

The next possible step for City of Palmerston would likely be the development of a strategy to guide any possible smart city initiative, laying out the areas of focus and providing guiding principles. There are a number of consultancies and firms active in supporting organisations build such a strategy, indeed Cisco has expressed an interest in supporting Council in construction of a strategy under the terms of a possible memorandum of understanding. OpenGov Asia has expressed a similar interest, either with or without the involvement of Cisco. Council would need to determine how best to proceed, either via the open market or by expressing willingness to work with a firm such as one of these.

Development of a strategy is likely to be several months work, and involve multiple workshops with Elected Members. If an external consultant is used, one could expect a cost of roughly $40,000 for a completed strategy. Alternatively, under an MOU Cisco may be willing to carry out the work, but officers
recommend that Council may bear risks in compromising the independence of the work. Alternatively, the development of a strategy could be carried out in-house, although the resourcing for the work would need to be closely examined.

Most recently, the Federal Government has announced in late August a funding round under its Smart Cities Strategy which may assist in funding all or part of any work undertaken.

The current status of all work regarding smart city initiatives remains in a holding pattern. There are no agreements or obligations to either consultants or vendors, nor has there been any expenditure, budget request or procurement initiated.

**Financial Implications:**

At this time there are no financial implications. If Elected Members resolve to pursue further initiatives then a financial and staffing commitment would need to be supported by Council and appropriate direction given.

**Legislation/Policy:**

Nil

**Recommending Officer:** Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone (08) 8935 9976 or email ben.dornier@palmerston.nt.gov.au

**Author:** Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services

**Schedule of Attachments:**

Attachment A: OpenGov Breakfast Dialogue – Post Event Report
OpenGov
Breakfast Dialogue
29 July 2016
8:00 AM - 10:55 AM
Rydges Palmerston

POST EVENT REPORT
Brought to you by:
In collaboration with:
TRANSFORMING PALMERSTON INTO A SMART CITY THROUGH DIGITAL

In collaboration with:  Brought to you by:
Collaboration and sharing of data as key towards a Smart City in NT

OpenGov Asia and its partner CISCO held an engaging breakfast dialogue in Palmerston, NT centred on the topic on how to approach Palmerston’s journey towards becoming a Smart City. It was OpenGov Asia’s inaugural event at Palmerston, which is the second biggest city with a population of 38,000 in NT just after Darwin city, which has a population of 50,000.

Delegates of the breakfast dialogue included several key local government officials, such as Mr. Ian Abbott (below left), Mayor of Palmerston City, Mr. Ricki Bruhn (below right), the CEO of Palmerston City and Ms. Seranna Shutt, Deputy Mayor of Palmerston City.

A full capacity of 28 delegates attended the dialogue and Mr. Mohit Sagar, Managing Director and Editor in Chief of OpenGov Asia, began the dialogue with a fundamental but important question: “What do we want a Smart City to be?”

Dr. Leong Mun Kew (above left), Deputy Director, Institute of Systems Science, NUS, who was also the invited speaker of the breakfast dialogue, then cited the example of Singapore’s journey towards becoming a Smart Nation which started in 1995:

“Firstly, it’s about building a good infrastructure, such as having hyper-speed Internet access, which can support the Smart Nation. Next, you need to own what you have, understand it and having the technical savviness to change it. Nurturing a tech-savvy workforce that understands IT and applying it will also make a difference to other industries. Lastly, the government needs to set the pace and be way ahead of the private sector.”

Dialogue Questions and Discussion
The dialogue continued with a series of polling questions revolving on the topic of Smart Cities, which was the highlight of the event given the rigorous engagement and open sharing from the delegates. The question, “What is your primary objective from a Smart City?” drew lots of feedback from the floor with 57% citing providing enhanced services to citizens as most important:

“It’s actually knowing about an issue even before the citizen emails you about it. It’s about fixing an issue before it even occurs, to actively act before it happens. It’s about being proactive, not reactive”.  
- Ms. Wendy York, CIO, Dept of Infrastructure

“’Innovation’ is one of those words that become like ‘gourmet’, it’s very overused, lots of people don’t even know what it means. For me, government has to be agile enough, recognise opportunities and make the most out of it. It’s about opening up our data and letting other people do the work for us. We have some great data from the Dept of Primary Industry and Fisheries, someone from Singapore or Adelaide may have an idea what to do with it. It’s not just about having sensors here and there, it’s about opening up our processes. We are working with organisations like GovHack, it’s about opening up our data and see where we can go.”
- Mr. Rowan Dollar, CIO, Dept of Primary Industry and Fisheries, NT
“I found it hard to answer what’s the primary objective of a Smart City. It’s an unknown journey but it hinges on partnerships and for me business matters in this space. It’s about having to think smarter about how people flourish, how people make their choices and how technology contributes to that. For me, this is about the partnering between government and the private sector, it’s really important for the citizens and looking out for the opportunities that come out of collaboration.”

- Ms. Jude Ellen, Member of the Advisory Committee to the Northern Territory, Minister for Corporate and Information Services

The question, “What is your concern in implementing a digital strategy?” 45% of the floor voted “We don’t know what we don’t know”, which was interesting to observe. Mr. Ricki Bruhn gave the example of the recent completion of a project at Goyder Square, which included adding of free WiFi services and a big TV screen for community updates: “People were initially resistant to change but once the projects came to fruition, they stopped because they realised that they benefitted from these changes.”

Mr. Brendan Dowd (above right), CEO, City of Darwin added:

“One of the starting premises is understanding the objectives of the digital strategy. It does very much depend on the cultural environment, which is driven by the government leadership. The government needs to demonstrate that there’s something in it for everyone, you don’t get outcomes unless people start to say there’s something in it for me and that’s the real challenge.”

Mr. Glenn Ashe, former Australian government CIO and now part of the OpenGov Asia Team, responded to Mr. Dowd:

“Change has to be driven by somebody, it’s not going to happen by itself, somebody has to pick it up and drive that idea. Somebody has to take ownership and leaders in the organisation, such as those who are in these room, we are the best people to drive that change. If we aren’t open to that, it’s not gonna happen. As leaders, the only way we are going to drive change is to do it ourselves”.

Ms. Sue McKinnon, Alder, City of Palmerston, explained that her main concern in implementing a digital strategy was data privacy and security.

Dr. Leong replied with the example of Singapore in his capacity as a former Chief Data Security Officer at the National Library Board, explaining that the Singapore government creates trust with transparency in terms of what is done with the data, as well as ensuring data from various government agencies is protected and only shared with each other only on a need-to-know basis.

Subsequent polling questions were centred around the financial and operational aspects of implementing a digital strategy but the main highlight of the dialogue was really getting the delegates to spark off ideas and share relevant examples in their various positions in government in relation to the topic of digital transformation and strategy.

The dialogue was indeed a great opportunity for the delegates from government to engage in high-level discussions, something which was rare to come by.

Based on the engaging topics and conversations at the dialogue regarding digital transformation in Palmerston and by extension, the Northern Territory, the region has great opportunities and potential to move towards becoming Smart Cities.

This development hinges on several key aspects: more collaboration between the public and private sectors, sharing and opening up of data as well as governments and its leaders taking the lead to drive change. With the right foundations set in place, it looks to be an exciting time of great change for the City of Palmerston.

Ben Dornier and Jude Ellen find humour in a tough situation
What delegates have to say:

“I am honoured to have a collective of proactive minds working towards solutions to better my city.”
- Ian Abbott, Mayor, City of Palmerston

“Good experience, found it enlightening”
- Tony Tapsell, CEO, Local Government Association of the Northern Territory

“The event was very well coordinated, excellent speakers and great interaction between the participants - a great opportunity for the exchange of information.”
- Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer City of Palmerston

“Very good open forum enabling good interaction and discussion”
- David Kerslake, Project Director, Civil Asset Management, Department of Infrastructure
“Transforming Palmerston Into A Smart City Through Digital”

What delegates have to say:

“Extremely Informative”
- Paul Bunker, Alderman, City of Palmerston

“Interesting cross government discussion, there are citizens looking to change to a smart city”
- Wendy York, Chief Information Officer, Department of Infrastructure

“Interesting diverse discussion”
- Diana Leeder, General Manager, Corporate Services City of Darwin

“A very useful, practical discussion that stimulates ideas. The insights from a room of very qualified people are fascinating.”
- Steven Pegg, Assistant Director Information and Business Systems, Department of Lands, Planning and the Environment

“Breakfast dialogue provided a great environment for shaping and learning about smart cities”
- Jason Robertson, Project Manager, Department of the Chief Minister

“Great interaction with global experience”
- Gary Boyle, Major Projects Officer, City of Palmerston

“Excellent opportunities through stepping into a new digital age”
- Charles Yeo, Theme Leader, Information Technology Charles Darwin University

“Good discussion forum”
- Danny Moore, Executive Manager - Sales and Strategy, Jacana Energy

LIVE POLLING RESULTS

Which of these themes would you categorise as most important?
- 58% Creating an innovation environment
- 21% Improving efficiencies in city department operations
- 13% Others - I have a new one in mind

What is your primary objective from a “Smart city”?
- 30% Others - ask me
- 57% Enhanced services to citizens
- 13% Social impact - e.g. employment opportunities, CO2 reductions

How ready are you with a digital strategy for your city?
- 50% Others - ask me
- 57% Somewhat prepared - tell me more
- 13% Fully prepared - know my objectives, technology options, cost and benefits

What delegates have to say:
**LIVE POLLING RESULTS**

**What is your main concern in implementing a digital strategy?**
- 23% Unclear Return on Investment
- 25% Don't have the budget
- 45% We don't know what we don't know
- 23% Concerned about data privacy & security
- 9% Other

**What is the use case that is of most interest to you?**
- 57% Others - ask me
- 24% Smart Street Lighting
- 14% Smart Parking
- 5% City Wifi
- 5% Others - ask me

**What is your main expectation from an ideal smart city partner?**
- 68% Forward looking vision and global implementation experience
- 16% Brings on board a full suite of ecosystem partners
- 16% Can manage & operate smart city infrastructure assets
- 55% Others - ask me

**What enablers do you need to implement a digital strategy?**
- 25% Financial - e.g. Government grants
- 20% Regulatory - e.g. tariff reforms
- 20% Others - ask me
- 55% Others - ask me

**What business model will you be most comfortable with?**
- 67% Skeletal in house staff to manage point outsourced operations
- 28% Fully outsourced to an master operations partner for all city services
- 5% Do everything ourselves
- 5% Others - ask me
SPONSORS TESTIMONIALS

“The key take-away from this event is a non-threatening environment to drive discussion. I am impressed by the great participation and the informal speeches. The discussion was the main factor that differed this dialogue from others. I would rate the client handling high - excellent”
- Rajat Mittal, Director, IoT Strategy & Market Development, Cisco Systems

“The event was a great mechanism for gathering ideas. The platform provided great actionable insights. I am impressed by the open environment created. Overall rating, excellent”
- Bud Kapoor, Business Development Manager, Smart + Connected Communities, Cisco Systems

“The dialogue had a great open exchange of ideas. I am impressed by the participant’s willingness to speak out candidly. The tenants made this event different from the others”
- Vijay Ramani, Engagement Manager, Cisco Systems

What is the key learning points for you?
- The learning lesson from Singapore about staff development into project manager rather than being technical people. Need to be in control of the technology
- Leadership of moderator and great value added by experts
- Elected member thoughts
- A lot of work to do, to change mindsets.
  But worth it, top down leadership
- Driving change from top down, identify problems and solve smart
- Leadership in change
- Bring back the “tech” people.
- Four pillars of smart city to base a digital strategy
- Change, Innovation

What is the key features of the breakfast dialogue?
- Participation from broad range of agencies
- Interactions from question format
- Open Discussion
- Inclusion of elected members and other government departments to enable them to hear a different and independent view
- Participation and open forum
- Sharing of experiences to make the change possible

How we can improve?
- Allocate additional time
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00 am</td>
<td>Registration and breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.40 am</td>
<td>Group Photograph (yes, we will share this)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.45 am</td>
<td>Opening address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.55 am</td>
<td>Welcome address</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.05 am</td>
<td>International Case Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.20 am</td>
<td>Interactive Discussion Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45 am</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.50 am</td>
<td>End of Breakfast Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.55 am</td>
<td>Informal Networking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mohit Sagar**
Group Managing Director & Editor-in-Chief
OpenGov Asia

**BUD KAPOOR**
Business Development Manager
Smart + Connected Communities
Cisco Systems

**Dr. Leong Mun Kew**
Deputy Director,
Institute of Systems Science,
National University of Singapore (NUS)

**Rajat Mittal**
Director
Strategy & Market Development
Internet of Everything, Cisco Systems

Glenn Ashe former GCO Attorney General sharing his opinions

Ian Abbott, Mayor of City of Palmerston sharing his views on Smart City

www.opengovasia.com
## Breakfast Dialogue Government Delegates List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>JOB TITLE</th>
<th>ORGANISATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ian Abbott</td>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seranna Shutt</td>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue McKinnon</td>
<td>Alderman</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Bunker</td>
<td>Alderman</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Byrne</td>
<td>Alderman</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricki Bruhn</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Tapsell</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>Local Government Association of the Northern Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Boyle</td>
<td>Major Projects Officer</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Dornier</td>
<td>Director of Corporate and Community Services</td>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brendan Dowd</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>City of Darwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Yeo</td>
<td>Theme Leader, Information Technology</td>
<td>Charles Darwin University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danny Moore</td>
<td>Executive Manager - Sales and Strategy</td>
<td>Jacana Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bryan</td>
<td>Senior Director NT Property Management</td>
<td>Department of Corporate and Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Kerslake</td>
<td>Project Director, Civil Assets Management</td>
<td>Department of Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana Leeder</td>
<td>General Manager, Corporate Services</td>
<td>City of Darwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elise Vervetjes</td>
<td>Executive Director Major Projects</td>
<td>&quot;Office of Major Projects, Infrastructure and Investment Northern Territory Government&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Robertson</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Department of the Chief Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jude Ellen</td>
<td>Ministerial ICT Advisory Committee Member</td>
<td>Northern Territory Minister for Corporate and Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise McCormick</td>
<td>Executive Director Transport Infrastructure Planning Division</td>
<td>Department of Transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan Dollar</td>
<td>Chief Information Officer</td>
<td>&quot;Department of Primary Industry &amp; Fisheries Northern Territory Government&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Pegg</td>
<td>Assistant Director Information and Business Systems</td>
<td>Department of Lands, Planning and the Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy York</td>
<td>Chief Information Officer</td>
<td>Department of Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank You
ITEM NUMBER: 13.1.1 Thai Temple and NT Thai Association

FROM: Director of Corporate and Community Services

REPORT NUMBER: 8/0966

MEETING DATE: 6 September 2016

Municipal Plan:

1. Community & Cultural Wellbeing
   3.2 Assets and Infrastructure
      3.2 We are committed to maintaining and developing community assets and infrastructure which meet the needs of our community

Summary:
The Thai Temple and NT Thai Association have requested community purpose land upon which to build a temple and a community centre in a letter tabled as correspondence at the 16 August 2016 Council meeting. This report requests direction from Council on how best to service this request.

RECOMMENDATION
1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0966.
2. THAT Council determine what support it seeks to provide the Thai Temple and NT Thai Association in their request for two blocks of land in Palmerston.

Background:
Several discussions have occurred between representatives of the NT Thai Association, the Mayor and Council officers regarding their interest in expanding into Palmerston to better serve the local Thai community. Most recently, a letter from the NT Thai Association was tabled at the 16 August Council meeting.

General:
The NT Thai Association seek two separate non-contiguous blocks of land in Palmerston:

1. One block large enough for a community centre of significant size circa 50m x 30m plus carparking. This would serve as a gathering space for members of the Thai community in Palmerston as well as the rural area.
2. One block large enough for a Thai Buddhist temple and temple gardens, as well as car parking, ideally located in a quiet and secluded area.
The NT Thai Association seeks that both blocks of land be made available to the group at no cost via a long term lease or transfer of title.

Whilst there is a community purpose (CP) zoned block of land located adjacent to the Palmerston Christian School in Marlow Lagoon, there are no other adequately sized blocks of land zoned CP owned by Council, although there are several owned by the Northern Territory Government.

It may also be possible to accommodate both uses in the northern area of Marlow Lagoon adjacent to the Satellite BMX Club and Top End Remote Controlled Car Club. Further work would be needed to determine whether this location would be suitable.

This report seeks to determine how Council seeks for this request to be progressed.

Officers recommend either:

A. Council instruct officers to find a suitable location and bring this location back to Council for consideration; or
B. Council instruct officers to inform the NT Thai Association that it will need to seek a land grant of suitable CP zoned land from the Northern Territory Government.

Financial Implications:
Unknown

Legislation/Policy:
Nil

Recommending Officer: Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone (08) 8935 9976 or email ben.dornier@palmerston.nt.gov.au

Author: Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services

Schedule of Attachments:
Nil
Summary:
Following the resignation of Alderman Carter effective from 25 August 2016, Council needs to consider the options available to deal with this casual vacancy.

RECOMMENDATION
1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0967.
2. THAT Council determine how it wishes to address the casual vacancy.

Background:
Alderman Carter tendered his resignation as an Elected Member by providing the Chief Executive Officer with written notice in accordance with Section 39 (1) (e) of the Local Government Act. The resignation became effective from the close of business on 25 August 2016.

In accordance with Section 39 (4) (d) (i) and (ii), the required notification has been provided to the Council, Elected Members and the Electoral Commissioner.

General:
Council has several options available to deal with this casual vacancy, these include:

- A by-election (the October 2015 by-election was conducted at a cost of $87,961 (excluding GST)
- Section 39 (5) (a) of the Local Government Act provides
"if a casual vacancy occurs within 18 months or less before the next general election, the council may (in accordance with its policy) co-opt a person to fill the vacancy until the next general election”.

- Taking no action and continue with six Elected Members until the next general election occurs in August 2017.

The City of Palmerston has previously co-opted and appointed a person to fill casual vacancies which fall under Section 39 (5) (a) with the most recent occasion being August 2011. I have not been able to locate a specific policy for the filling of casual vacancies, although I can recall there was a process that was agreed to by Council at the time back in 2011. This process included advertising for Expressions of Interest, followed by all applicants being interviewed by full council and then a decision made.

Should Council seek to co-opt a person to fill the casual vacancy created by the resignation of Alderman Carter, I would recommend that a policy be adopted by Council in the first instance.

Financial Implications:

- Should a by-election be held the estimated cost is $90,000;
- If an Alderman is appointed to fill the casual vacancy, this is provided for in the 2016/2017 budget;
- If the position is left vacant, it will create a budget saving of approximately $23,000.

Legislation/Policy:

Section 39 of the Local Government Act

**Recommending Officer:** Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

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

**Author:** Ricki Bruhn - Chief Executive Officer

**Schedule of Attachments:**

Nil
ITEM NUMBER: 13.1.3  Library Materials – Stock write Off
FROM: Director of Corporate and Community Services
REPORT NUMBER: 8/0970
MEETING DATE: 6 September 2016

Municipal Plan:
4. Governance & Organisation
   4.2 Service
      4.2 We value and encourage participation in Council activities by the community, and are committed to delivering the highest possible levels of service and community engagement

Summary:
This report seeks Council approval to write-off an accumulation of billed library materials for a three-year period.

RECOMMENDATION
1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0970.
2. THAT Council approves the stock write off $81,273.

Background:
City of Palmerston Library has recently undertaken the implementation of a new library management system, which has been initiated by Northern Territory Libraries (NTL). In preparation for this change member participation was required in order to transfer member records across to the new library management system. Members that did not participate in this change did not have their records transferred, and billed item records were not transferred either. Our system indicates that there are 2,932 library items (stock) currently billed that would be deleted from the system and written off, this equates to an average item cost of $27.72.

To remedy this situation, it is likely to be problematic in regards to data integrity and customer relations. Furthermore, it is unlikely to be cost effective to instigate debt collection for multiple small values. Therefore, officers seek to delete billed item records and thereby write off $81,273.00 in library materials (stock).

General:
In course with standard library operational procedures the 2013 billed stock would be financially written off and operationally deleted from the library data-base. The rationale for writing off the additional years emanates from the knowledge that the records (stock) are not currently in the new library management
system and that it may not be possible nor viable to input the records into the new library management system. Therefore, the most practical outcome would be to delete the records and in undertaking this action write the stock off.

Financial Implications:

1. 2013 - $23,991.00
2. 2014 - $25,829.00
3. 2015 - $31,453.00

Legislation/Policy:

Local Government Act (NT) s129
Local Government Act (NT) s10A
Palmerston (Public Places) By-Laws (2008)

Recommending Officer: Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone (08) 8935 9976 or email ben.dornier@palmerston.nt.gov.au

Author: Sharon Tollard, Library Services Manager

Schedule of Attachments:

Nil
ITEM NUMBER: 13.1.4  Review EM02 Elected Members Benefits and Support Policy
FROM: Chief Executive Officer
REPORT NUMBER: 8/0971
MEETING DATE: 6 September 2016

Municipal Plan:
4. Governance & Organisation
   4.1 Responsibility
       4.1 We are committed to corporate and social responsibility, the sustainability of Council assets and services, and the effective planning and reporting of Council performance to the community

Summary:
This report was presented to the Governance and Organisation Committee meeting on 11 August 2016, recommending Council to adopt the amended EM02 Elected Members Benefits and Support Policy. At the 16 August 2016 Council meeting, Council resolved that the policy be brought to Council for consideration.

Amendments have been made to Policy EM02 following the recent Compliance Review conducted in March 2016 by the Department of Local Government and Community Services. Council received the final report on 1 July 2016 where the Chief Executive Officer made response to the ‘Issues’ raised within the report, noting that there were no non-compliances identified.

RECOMMENDATION
1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0971.
2. THAT Council approve the amended EM02 Elected Members Benefits and Support Policy.

Background:
Issue 3 of the Final Compliance Review Report ‘The Council’s policy relating to elected members’ benefits and payments require review and updating’. The following had been identified:-

1. Paras 4.1.3, 4.3.1 and 4.3.3 require members to obtain prior approval from the CEO to access various member allowances and expenditure payments.

The policy has been amended from CEO approval to Council Approval.

2. Section 4.5 Legal Assistance’
The Department agreed that they were unable to provide evidence that this section of the policy is unlawful. No amendments have been made to this section.

3. Outdated references

References have been amended.

General:

The amended EM02 Policy has been provided as an attachment for review. Two additional inclusions have been added from the previous Policy Manual:

4.1.7 If an Elected Member is absent, with or without leave of the Council, from ordinary meetings of the Council for any continuous period of 3 meetings or more, payment will not be made for the period in excess of 3 meetings.

Additional wording has been added to section 4.3.1 to include; ‘with the exception of LGANT meetings including special meetings and the ALGA National Assembly where Council delegates are authorised to attend at Council’s expense’.

Financial Implications:

Nil

Legislation/Policy:

EM02 Elected Members Benefits and Support Policy.

Recommendating Officer: Ricki Bruhn, Chief Executive Officer

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

Schedule of Attachments:

Attachment: Reviewed Policy EM02 Elected Members Benefits and Support
The City of Palmerston is committed to ensuring Elected Members are provided with the support necessary for them to effectively carry out their roles in Council. This policy covers allowances, benefits, and support to be provided to Elected Members.

2 Principles

Policies of the City of Palmerston are guided by principles of sustainability, good governance, advocacy, regulation and service provision. More guidance is provided in Council and Administrative policies, procedures and guidelines, the Municipal Plan, Asset Management Plans and other relevant documents.

3 Definitions

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allowances</td>
<td>Allowances provided in compensation to Elected Members in consideration of the time and effort spent in their roles on Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elected Member</td>
<td>Individuals elected to Council. For the purposes of this policy, Elected member refers to Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Aldermen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 Policy Statement

4.1 Elected Member Allowances

4.1.1 A Base Allowance is paid to Elected Members to cover their time spent in the following activities: agenda study and meeting preparation, attendance at regular Council meetings, attendance at social functions as Council representatives, constitueny responsibilities, and Council representation outside of the municipality, including delegations interstate and overseas;

4.1.2 An Electoral Allowance is paid to assist members with electoral matters at the discretion of the individual Member;

4.1.3 A Professional Development Allowance is paid to members to attend appropriate and relevant conferences or training courses which sustain the professional competence of members. Prior approval from the CEO is required to access this allowance. Elected Members shall advise the CEO in writing providing relevant details of the proposed activity, an estimate of travel and accommodation expenses and a short statement identifying the anticipated benefit to Council. The CEO shall provide a report to the next available Council meeting detailing the relevant conference or training course, benefit to council, with an estimated cost for council approval.
4.1.4 Extra Meeting allowance

4.1.4.1 For a principal member, deputy principal member and acting principal member, this allowance is not paid separately. It is provided for and included in the base allowance.

4.1.4.2 For other council members this allowance is paid only after an approved claim has been made.

4.1.4.3 In accordance with Section 2 (1) of the Local Government Act 2008 Ministerial Guideline No. 2, the City of Palmerston has determined only the following meetings will attract the allowance:-

i. Council Committee Meetings;
ii. Special Meetings of Council;
iii. Special Meetings of Council Committees;
iv. Council Advisory / Reference Group Meetings;
v. Council workshops or briefings;
vi. Meetings of external agencies or organisations to which Council has formally appointed a council member to represent the Council or a member nominated through or with the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory as a representative;
vii. Professional development courses / conferences that have approval and are in line with Council Policy.

4.1.5 Allowances are set annually by Council as part of budget deliberations.

4.1.6 Allowances (apart from Professional Development Allowance) are to be paid from 1 July each year on a monthly basis in arrears by electronic funds transfer to their nominated account.

4.1.7 If an Elected Member is absent, with or without leave of the Council, from ordinary meetings of the Council for any continuous period of 3 meetings or more, payment will not be made for the period in excess of 3 meetings.

4.1.8 Where an Elected Member is acting as Mayor in the absence of the Mayor for a period of less than 14 days, no compensation will be paid. Where the period is 14 days or longer, the acting Mayor will be paid 100% of the Mayoral Base and Electoral Allowance for that period.

4.2 Elected Member Benefits

4.2.1 In order to ensure Elected Members are able to have ready access to technology enabling them to perform their roles as efficiently as possible, they are provided with:

- an iPad, internet access, and an iPad capable printer for home use, a single set of toner cartridges and a single ream of paper. All subsequent toner and paper is at the Member’s expense
- A City of Palmerston email address for official use in their role as Elected Member, together with calendar facility. An Elected Member’s calendar shall be available to other Elected Members and staff in order to facilitate the smooth running of Council operations, and as a record of their activities
- An Elected Members Portal with dedicated access to Council business papers

4.2.2 All ICT equipment remains the property of the City of Palmerston. Elected Members have full private use. Support provided by Council will be on a “return to Council” basis, with Council IT support staff not being responsible to attend private residences.

4.2.3 Elected Members shall be provisioned with business cards and name badges for their use.

4.2.4 Council will provide postage for official correspondence through its internal mail services. Bulk mailing will not be provided.

4.2.5 Use of Council’s photocopying facilities for official business is available for Elected Members through the Mayor’s Executive Assistant. Circulars, publications or election material are specifically excluded from this benefit.

4.2.6 Elected Members will be reimbursed for attendance at all Council endorsed meetings to a maximum of $85 to cover child care costs associated with their participation.
Reimbursement is subject to receipts being provided and are on a per Member rather than per child basis.

4.2.7 For any Elected Member with a disability, Council may resolve to provide reasonable additional facilities and expenses in order to allow that Member to perform their civic duties.

4.2.8 Elected members shall not use Council facilities, resources (including staff) for personal reasons including furtherance of their political career.

4.2.9 Miscellaneous
- A framed Certificate of Service will be presented in Council meeting for Elected Members achieving 10 years of service, with subsequent certificates presented at five yearly intervals
- A history of members elected to office will be appropriately recorded photographically under direction of the CEO.

4.2.10 Mayoral Benefits
In addition to the benefits above, the Mayor is entitled to the following additional benefits to assist them in their civic duties:
- Provision and maintenance of Mayoral Robes and Chain of Office
- Mobile Phone
- An office and administrative and secretarial assistance for official use
- Provision and use of official Mayoral stationary
- Reimbursement for costs associated with attendance and participation at official functions where Council is represented
- Fully maintained Council vehicle for private and official use

4.3 Elected Member Travel
4.3.1 Elected Members wishing to attend a conference, workshop, seminar or relevant training session incurring travel costs at Council’s expense shall apply to the CEO for approval where a report will be provided to council for approval. With the exception of LGANT meetings including special meetings and the ALGA National Assembly where Council delegates are authorised to attend at Council’s expense.

4.3.2 Air travel is to be by the most reasonably economic means available, and shall not include business or first class.

4.3.3 Accommodation, meals and associated travel costs are to be covered by prior approval of the CEO Council.

4.3.4 Council will pay in advance any registration fees, accommodation deposits and airline tickets for approved Elected Member travel. Where this is not possible, a reimbursement equivalent to the fees or expenses will be paid subject to the provision of receipts.

4.3.5 Elected Members may be accompanied by a spouse or partner subject to Council not incurring any additional expense.

4.4 Insurance
4.4.1 Elected members will receive the benefit of insurance cover to the limit specified in Council’s insurance policies for the following:
- Personal Injury whilst on Council business, providing specified benefits for lost income and other expenses arising from permanent disablement, temporary total disability and temporary partial disability. The cover does not include medical expenses. Full details are available from the Director of Corporate and Community Services.
- Professional Indemnity and Public Liability
- Use of private motor vehicle whilst on Council business

4.5 Legal Assistance
4.5.1 Legal assistance shall be provided to Elected Members in the event of an enquiry,
investigation or hearing into the conduct of an Elected Member by
- The office of the Ombudsman
- Department of Local Government, Housing and Sport and Community Services
- The Police
- The Director of Public Prosecutions

4.5.2 Legal assistance will be provided to Elected Members in respect of legal proceedings being taken by or against an Elected Member, arising out of or in connection with the Elected Member’s performance of his or her civic duties or exercise of his or her functions as an Elected Member.

4.5.3 Council shall reimburse such Elected Member, after the conclusion of the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding, for all legal expenses properly and reasonably incurred, given the nature of the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding, on a solicitor/client basis.

4.5.4 All legal assistance will be provided subject to the following conditions:
4.5.4.1 The amount of such reimbursement shall be reduced by the amount of any moneys that may be or are recouped by the Elected Member on any basis;
4.5.4.2 The enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding results in a finding substantially in favour of the Elected Member;
4.5.4.3 The amount of such reimbursement is limited to the equivalent of the fees being charged by Council’s solicitors.

4.5.5 Legal Advice
Legal advice shall be made available on Conflict of Interest provisions subject to the following procedure:
4.5.5.1 On receipt of a written enquiry received in good time before the relevant meeting seeking an interpretation of the Conflict of Interest provisions, the CEO is authorised to seek legal opinion from Council’s solicitors as to the nature and extent of interest and the application of the legislative provisions;
4.5.5.2 Legal advice provided to one Elected Member under this provision is to be made available to all Members;
4.5.5.3 The Elected Member initiating the enquiry agrees to be bound by the contents thereof.

4.6 Gifts and Benefits Received by Elected Members
4.6.1 Where gifts and benefits are not provided for under this policy are offered to Elected Members in the course of their roles which are above the value of $50, Elected Members will immediately inform in writing the Chief Executive Officer with regards to the following:
- The nature of the gift or benefit, i.e. concert tickets, bottle of wine, dinner;
- The value of the gift or benefit;
- How the Elected Member proposes to treat the gift or benefit, i.e. accept and keep, reject.

4.6.2 The Chief Executive Officer will maintain a register of Elected Members Gifts and Benefits identifying all gifts and benefits offered to Elected Members.
5  Associated Documents

- City of Palmerston *Professional Development for Elected Members Policy*
- City of Palmerston *Elected Members Policy*
- City of Palmerston *Code of Conduct for Elected Members*

6  References and Related Legislation

- [Local Government Act](#)
- [Local Government (Accounting) Regulations](#)
- [Local Government (Administration) Regulations](#)
- [Local Government (Electoral) Regulations](#)

Guidelines made by the Minister pursuant to s258 of the Local Government Act:

- **Guideline 1: REVOKED**
- **Guideline 2: Allowances for Council Members**
- **Guideline 3: Appointing a CEO**
- **Guideline 4: Investments**
- **Guideline 5: Borrowings**
- **Guideline 6: REVOKED**
- **Guideline 7: Disposal of Property**
- **Guideline 8: Regional Councils and Local Authorities**
Summary:

This report provides Council with further details on the costings and budget available for implementation of the 2016/2017 actions listed in the Palmerston Arts Strategy (The Strategy). Council is also requested to approve and adopt the attached Palmerston Arts Strategy 2016 – 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0974.

Background:

The Strategy has been co-created by Consultants Jenny Kerr and Lorna Secrett, in conjunction with the City of Palmerston and key community and sector stakeholders, to result in a robust 5 year action plan that builds on the City’s strategic urban planning by providing a framework for dynamic and meaningful arts initiatives, inviting the community to both lead the way and participate.

The Palmerston Art Strategy 2016 – 2021 was submitted to Council for adoption on 16 August 2016. Council has requested further information be provided on the operational budget required for implementation of the strategies actions outlined for 2016/2017.

General:

The Strategy includes four (4) outcomes, each with a number of actions indicated for the 2016/2017 financial year:

Outcome 1: To secure partnerships with sector Stakeholders
Outcome 2: To increase participation and engagement in arts, culture and heritage
Outcome 3: To improve places and spaces
Outcome 4: To communicate the value of arts, culture and heritage
The 2016/2017 actions for each outcome have been listed in Attachment A and indicate those which have been budgeted for in this financial year and those that require external grant funding or to be deferred until the next financial year.

The actions listed for Outcome 1 can be achieved with current operational staff within the Community Development Team and require no additional funding.

The actions listed in Outcome 2 have not been fully budgeted for in 2016/2017, in particular the implementation and encouragement of public art installation in Goyder Square and CBD. However, Council has recently installed some previously completed public art pieces on the Goyder Square structure and also installs the Goyder Square Christmas Tree each year as a form of temporary public art.

Cultural training at the City of Palmerston, listed against Outcome 2, could be achieved with the human resources and staff development budget allocations with training offered once a year to all staff, who have not previously completed the training, and any new staff.

Council has currently included operational funds to activate Goyder Square as part of the events budgets, actions are already underway to activate the space.

Enhancing the character and identity of Palmerston with Authentic and meaningful designs suggested through the creation of a design palette and street furniture catalogue has not had funding allocated in the 2016/2017 budget.

Action listed against Outcome 4 can be achieved with current operational staff within the Community Development Team and require no additional funding.

Financial Implications:

The financial requirements to implement the actions identified in the Art Strategy for 2016/17 is $180,000. Council has included funds in the 2016/17 operational arts and cultural budget for five (5) of the actions listed, totalling $105,000. Activation of Goyder Square will be funded through the community events 2016/17 budget totalling $35,000. Grant funding will be sought to encourage public art installations in Goyder Square.

Officers will be working to develop an approach to the design palette and street furniture catalogue.

Legislation/Policy:

Nil

Recommendng Officer: Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services

Any queries on this report may be directed to Ben Dornier, Director of Corporate and Community Services on telephone (08) 8935 9976 or email ben.dornier@palmerston.nt.gov.au

Author: Jan Peters, Manager Community Development

Schedule of Attachments:

Attachment A: City of Palmerston Arts Strategy Budget
Attachment B: City of Palmerston Arts Strategy 2016 - 2021
## Budget for Palmerston Arts Strategy: 2016/17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 1 - To secure partnerships with sector stakeholders</strong></td>
<td>Form Strategic partnerships with industry</td>
<td>Public Art in Goyder Square &amp; CBD</td>
<td>Not required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Form Strategic partnerships with national and NT regional arts, aboriginal and multicultural organisations</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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<td>Voices of Palmerston</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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<td>Public Art</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Form Strategic Partnerships with educational institutions</td>
<td>Voices of Palmerston</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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<td>Public Art</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 2 - To increase participation and engagement in arts, culture and heritage</strong></td>
<td>Implement and encourage public art installations to connect places</td>
<td>Goyder Square &amp; CBD Enhancement</td>
<td>COMM 001 335 3842</td>
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<td>Voices of Palmerston</td>
<td>COMM 001 335 3842</td>
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<td>Cultural training at City of Palmerston</td>
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<td>Showcase of multicultural art programs at events and activities</td>
<td>COMM 001 335 3842</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Build community capacity through skills development</td>
<td>Provide opportunities for local and community artists to share skills through PD and Showcase of talent - Art workshops</td>
<td>COMM 001 335 3842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 3 - To improve places and spaces</strong></td>
<td>Increase usage and improve amenity for arts and creative enterprise</td>
<td>Conduct needs analysis with arts and cultural groups to determine provision of arts facilities</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Activation of Goyder Square</td>
<td>COMM 004 335 3842</td>
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<td>Durack Heights Community Centre</td>
<td>COMM 001 335 3842</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Support aboriginal cultural spaces</td>
<td>COMM 001 335 3842</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Design palette and street furniture catalogue</td>
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<td>Manage public art collection</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 4 - To communicate the value of arts, culture and heritage</strong></td>
<td>Integrate implementation of the arts strategy within roles and responsibilities of Council staff</td>
<td>Internal policy and procedure alignment</td>
<td>Not required</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Budget:** $180,000.00

**Total Budgeted:** $140,000
It is my great pleasure to present the City of Palmerston Arts Strategy. The creative and cultural life of Palmerston is a very important part of the future of this growing and dynamic City. Artists are vital to the lifeblood of our community. The City of Palmerston aims to play a crucial role in developing opportunities for artists and to create access to the arts for all members of our socially and culturally diverse community.

The need for a strategic and considered pathway to enhancing and building Palmerston as a place for artists and art was voiced loudly by our community during the extensive consultation that has taken place to develop this Strategy. I am delighted to see the City of Palmerston embrace the arts and place an enhanced focus on the value of art and culture to our City. The Strategy will assist us to increase participation and engagement in arts, culture and heritage.

We are in a unique position within our own history to grow into a place that engages with art and culture as our everyday norm. This Strategy includes important actions to recognise Aboriginal culture along with multicultural groups and organisations. It provides avenues to improve our places and spaces and outlines strategic partnerships that will enable us to grow together, with all the community’s aspirations intermixed to result in a sustainable, proud and colourful City.

Mayor of Palmerston, Ian Abbott

"Artists are vital to the lifeblood of our community"
INTRODUCTION

The languages of the arts can breakdown social, racial and economic barriers. They are a medium for the expression of feelings, strengths and ideas to reflect the individual artist and the community. Art is a fundamental human behaviour.

It is acknowledged that arts and culture play a significant role in community wellbeing, particularly in the areas of vibrant community, social cohesion and community capacity building, and cultural identity and expression. The arts play a critical role in determining a ‘sense of place’ and can act as a catalyst for generating social activity and creating memorable places.

The Palmerston Arts Strategy 2016 - 2021 (the Strategy) demonstrates Council’s commitment to arts and culture. It builds on the City’s strategic urban planning by providing a strategic action framework for dynamic and meaningful arts initiatives, inviting the community to both lead the way and participate.

The Strategy is a vehicle to bring the people of Palmerston together to build a shared vision and future and is facilitated and supported by a whole of organisation approach to achieving quality outcomes. It has been collaboratively designed with the diverse communities of Palmerston and will contribute to the vision of ‘City of Opportunity’. The Strategy will be monitored annually and comprehensively reviewed in 2019.

The Palmerston Arts Strategy 2016 - 2021 (the Strategy) demonstrates Council’s commitment to arts and culture
The Arts Strategy reinforces the City of Palmerston Vision as a 'A Place for People'

The City of Palmerston is committed to:
- Improving the safety of all our citizens
- Maintaining our own identity
- Providing services, facilities and amenities to support the community’s needs
- Developing and maintaining our reputation for being clean and green

We will achieve this through:
- Delivering to our community high quality value for money services that meet their diverse needs
### STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The strategies, goals and focus areas in the Arts Strategy are aligned with National, Territory and City of Palmerston Arts Policies and Plans.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIRECTION</th>
<th>STRATEGIC DOCUMENT</th>
<th>STATEMENT ON ARTS AND CULTURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Government</td>
<td>Arts in Daily Life Report 2014 - Australia Council</td>
<td>The overall engagement with the arts has increased, as Australians believe the arts enrich lives and have a big impact on the development of children. Australians value Indigenous arts and there are great opportunities to grow audiences.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Innovation Paper 2015</td>
<td>The arts are a major Australian industry, contributing 6.9% or $86.7 billion to Gross Domestic Product annually. The arts sector employs 972,200 individuals, involves 164,730 entities actively trading as businesses or non-profit organisations, and contributes $756 million to GDP through volunteers alone.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Strategic Plan for the Arts 2014 - 2019 Australia Council</td>
<td>Focuses on four key goals: Australian arts are without borders; Australia is known for its great art and artists; The arts enrich daily life for all; Australians cherish Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture. We aim to make these cultural expressions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people a source of pride for all Australians.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Territory Government</td>
<td>The Creative Tropical City: Mapping Darwin's Creative Industries (2009) (Data includes Palmerston, both as part of Greater Darwin and as a specific focus)</td>
<td>Identified strengths of Darwin as a creative city include diversity; nature, landscape and environment; unique conditions for creativity (including its isolation and distance as both a challenge and opportunity); less hierarchical with greater access to senior members of Territory and local government; strong arts community and networks, given its size; individual, youthful, positive, risk taking, self reliant and laid back culture of the community; university presence in a residential population of 120,000; proximity to Asia for travel and business, giving the city a non-parochial world view. Whatever steps are taken to further develop the city’s creative economy potential need to ensure that the unique enabling qualities for creativity are protected, nurtured and placed at the centre of its future story.</td>
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### Direction

<p>| Municipal Plan 2015-2020 | Public Art Policy 2010 Arts and Culture Discussion Paper 2015 (to inform Arts and Culture Policy currently in development) | The Northern Territory Government embraces public art as a rich, multi-layered interpretation of the Northern Territory’s built and cultural heritage, natural environment and dynamic community represented through innovative, excellent and relevant artistic practice in well designed community spaces. The Northern Territory is a creative, culturally rich and diverse community with world renowned artists and an incredible range of arts and cultural experiences, venues, festivals and events for locals and visitors to enjoy and participate in across the Territory. The significance of Aboriginal arts and culture in the Northern Territory is acknowledged, valued and respected and integral to the cultural diversity of the Territory. Arts and culture are an essential element of our Territory lifestyle, enriching the lives of all Territorians and contributing to our creative, social and economic development. |
| City Centre Master Plan (2015) | Key statement: We are committed to the fostering and promotion of arts and culture within our community, the awareness and promotion of our local history, and advocacy for increased cultural resources. Arts and Culture KPI rose from 86% in 2013 to 111% in 2014, demonstrating community satisfaction with Council's performance in this area | In the context of continuing growth, Council has proactively undertaken significant strategic planning, including the City Centre Master Plan and accompanying Public Realm Strategy. This has driven Council’s investment in place development initiatives that benefit the wider community through improvements to the CBD. These signature projects, including Stage 1 of The Boulevard Redevelopment and Goyder Square Stage 2 Redevelopment aim to invite new commercial and retail businesses back into the heart of the city and provide spaces for arts led activation that will build social fabric and cohesion. In addition to these Council led capital improvements, a collaborative approach with developers aims to provide the types of community facilities and amenity that support a strong and vibrant culture, such as well developed open space areas incorporating parks, playgrounds and walking paths. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<th>STATEMENT ON ARTS AND CULTURE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palmerston City Centre Public Realm and Subdivision – Great Streets Strategy</td>
<td>Cities gain identity through their public art. With a thought through public art strategy you can make places with personality, create a connection between the user and the space, and provide a city with a national and international identity. For the city, the art can provide cultural, social and economic revenue, and opens dialogue between citizens and decision makers, through engagement in the built form. Public art is noted as a key strategy in streetscape design.</td>
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<td>Development Guideline 2015</td>
<td>This document provides an overview of approvals and permits required for development and provide minimum standards acceptable to CoP for the planning of new development, including requirements for public art and/or contributors.</td>
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</table>
| Arts and Culture Policy (2008) | Defines an approach to arts and culture, which honours heritage by promoting harmony, respect and the sharing of knowledge across cultures and communities. The City of Palmerston will actively encourage and foster an innovative arts and cultural environment within the municipality by:  
• Supporting a range of creative arts and cultural activities for the community.  
• Encouraging all groups involved in the arts and culture services to work cooperatively and collaboratively.  
• Ensuring that community information about arts and cultural events is freely available  
• Encouraging public participation in the development and implementation of arts and cultural activities  
• Developing excellence, providing skills and professional development opportunities, to innovative works and exposing audiences to new art forms. | |

Other documents considered in the development of the Strategy include:
- City of Palmerston Sustainability Strategy
- City of Palmerston Disability Access Strategy
- COPAL Palmerston Parks and Playgrounds
- City of Palmerston Community Consultation Policy
- City of Palmerston Annual Report 2014 – 2015
- City of Palmerston Community Infrastructure Plan 2016 (Draft)
- Palmerston (Public Place) By Laws (July 2008)
- Artistic Vibrancy e-Book - A way for organisations to talk about artistic impact - Australia Council 2015
A variety of meetings, interviews, focus groups, presentations and workshops were held to ensure that diverse sections of community were meaningfully engaged and that their aspirations and ideas were at the centre of the Strategy.

A forum on ‘Public Art - Collaboration’ sought input from people interested in art works for the public realm in Palmerston, to explore ways artists create work for public spaces and to understand how to develop and support artistic intervention in Palmerston. A panel that included a landscape architect, an architect, artists, a public arts facilitator and a cultural planner offered a range of insights and experiences to stimulate the discussion.

Young families contributed valuable conversations and input to the strategy during an arts activity at Palmerston Library facilitated by a local artist.

As part of the engagement, 167 people responded to a survey which explored involvement in the arts including levels of interest, art form, barriers to participation and educational qualifications. The survey also asked open questions to get personal and anecdotal feedback.

A snapshot of the people of Palmerston reveals:

- one of the fastest growing regional cities in Australia with 38,000 residents, projected to reach 42,000 in 2020
- a young community with an average age of 28 years and 25% of residents under 15 years
- families make up 77% of households
- an even ratio of male to female
- a culturally diverse community, where 24% of people were born overseas and languages spoken at home include Filipino, Greek, Vietnamese and Thai
- 3,000 identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Palmerston is an official Refugee Welcome Zone
- main industries of employment are Defence; State Government Administration; School Education; Public Order and Safety Services; and Cafes, Restaurants and Takeaway Food Services
- 53% of Palmerston residents are members of the Palmerston Library
WHAT YOU TOLD US

Of respondents were members of one or several community organisations, Tactile Arts, Darwin Community Arts and Darwin Visual Arts Association being the most common.

Participants were asked to rate their interest in a selection of art forms – although there was a fair spread of interest across the categories, Live Music, Music in all Forms and Festivals were the highest rated.

Of respondents were actively involved in the arts as both Maker/Creator and Audience Member and were asked more specific questions about their arts practice. This indicated a dominance of craft practitioners, musicians and painters/visual artists, a number of writers, photographers, performers and dancers and a smattering of performers, graphic artists, teachers, and film-makers in the community.

Approximately of these respondents hold educational qualifications from school, TAFE or University, with 72% practicing at home and 62% describing themselves as ‘artistically ambitious’.

Out of all respondents, nearly 77% are participating in arts activity on a daily or weekly basis. When asked to identify any barriers to participation, the strongest responses were ‘Don’t know what’s on’ (51%), ‘Cost’ (53%), ‘Lack of facilities/venue suitability’ (59%) and ‘Lack of events/opportunities’ (61%). In terms of communication, ‘Friends’ and ‘Internet’ were the most common ways that respondents found out about arts activities.

Significantly, 81% of respondents agreed that ‘Planning for more places to create and experience the arts is important to community life and well being in Palmerston’.

The community was asked what kinds of stories they would like to tell and be told about Palmerston through public art and community arts projects in the public realm.

Both seniors and youth told us that the Northern Territory is at a dynamic stage in its development, instilling a sense of adventure and that there is a need to tell stories about ‘remote Palmerston’.

A celebration of Palmerston’s diverse cultural mix was also strongly supported, with Larrakia and indigenous culture alongside stories of European and multicultural settlement. It was suggested that community stories including how the suburbs of Palmerston were named and the personalities that they acknowledge could be interpreted to provide a deeper understanding and sense of place.

Military history, World War 2 bombings and defence of Australia’s Top End were seen as unique to the area. Environment was also strong, with the green spaces and parks of Palmerston seen as a community asset for enjoyment and interpretation.
CULTURAL AUDIT

A preliminary cultural audit was conducted to inform the Strategy. It identifies what already exists and provides a benchmark for the development of partnerships, communication channels, promotion, venues and funding. A Directory, containing details of groups, venues and funding, has been compiled to provide a valuable ongoing resource.

ARTISTS AND ARTS GROUPS

The survey indicated the majority of artists in Palmerston maintained practice in crafts, painting and music.

There are a number of non profit and commercial arts businesses producing and presenting arts programs, developing the arts and cultural industries, supporting community cultural development and raising the profile of NT arts to national and international audiences. Of these, Darwin based groups such as Corrugated Iron and Tactile Arts currently provide workshops in Palmerston, whilst Darwin Community Arts have also been involved over a number of years. Palmerston is home to the Palmerston Own Writers, Palmerston Dance Club, Palmerston Ballet School, Palmerston Hobby Ceramics and Art Antics (specialising in art for children). Consultation also revealed over five Facebook member groups for crafts and photographers.

VENUES

Artists work predominantly in home studios, and many conduct classes in visual arts and crafts in these studios. Craft classes are offered at the Joy Anderson Centre and Gray Community Hall. Craft sessions are held at ‘Pam’s Place’, with a focus on thrift and recycled materials. The Men’s Shed is a community workshop area for men to gather, develop skills, and undertake different activities.

There is currently no suitably equipped exhibition or arts workshop space in Palmerston, however the new Neighborhood Centre in Durack Heights has the potential to be such a venue. The Family and Culture Centre in Palmerston is managed by Larrakia Nation and offers suitable dry workshop and meeting space for hire. Tactile Arts regularly hold workshops in the community room at the Palmerston Library. Local artists participate in the annual Art Trail event in the outer Palmerston region and showcase their work at markets and galleries in the territory and beyond. The foyer of the Civic Centre has the potential to be used as an informal display area with the addition of an adequate display system.

Dance classes are held weekly at Gray Community Hall. The Palmerston Tavern has live music three nights a week. A recording studio has been set up in a home in Palmerston, which is said to be the only one of its kind in the Greater Darwin Area.

The City of Palmerston manages over 100 parks scattered throughout the city, with a variety of facilities including playground equipment, BBQs and recreational facilities. Of these, Marlow Lagoon Recreation Area has the capacity to stage large multi stage events, as demonstrated by the Palmerston Festival 2015. It has an area large enough to host the Darwin Symphony Orchestra. Sanctuary Lakes in Gunn has a grassed amphitheater area that looks out onto one of the three lakes and is used for a range of arts, culture and family events. Both parks have toilets.
and BBQ areas. Goyder Square in the CBD is a new park in front of the Palmerston Library. It has a large LCD screen, night lighting, a water play area and new infrastructure for the Palmerston Markets.

The City has developed a Community Infrastructure Plan that is currently in draft form.

**PUBLIC ART**

The City of Palmerston has approximately twenty art works in the public realm. These include permanent and temporary art works, fountains and memorials. Developers have commissioned a number of works situated in parks, others have been commissioned as artist led community projects associated with targeted Federal, Territory or City funding. The City does not have an acquisition policy to guide commissions or donations. Several of the works are in disrepair and a conservation audit of works has not been undertaken to date. A Public Art Register, although incomplete, has been developed as part of the Cultural Audit and provides a template to document permanent and temporary art works in the public realm. The Public Art Register includes a maintenance schedule and is intended as a working document to be used as a key tool in the management of the City’s public art collection.

There is considerable opportunity to build professional capacity amongst local artists to deliver quality permanent public art works. There is a desire by developers and landscape architects to include public art in public open space.

The Arts and Culture Policy defines Public Art as:

- Temporary and permanent (may include durational or performance works)
- Inside or outside
- 3 dimensional; or 2 dimensional
- Engage one or more of the senses
- Incorporate elements form any or all of the arts, crafts and design
- Integrated as part of an environment or structure such as buildings, paving, street furniture, handrails, fencing, lighting or other feature
- Stand alone
- Created by a single artist or a team of appropriate design professionals in collaboration with an artist or in collaboration with members of the community through a community cultural development process
- Site specific
- Ephemeral

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The City of Palmerston has approximately twenty art works in the public realm
Issues and opportunities have been identified through engagement with community, arts organisations and the City of Palmerston staff, Executive and Elected Members. Issues and opportunities can be regarded as being interchangeable, as an issue can present an opportunity for focus and resolution in positive ways. They have been integrated and addressed in the Strategy and Action Plan.

- There is a need to enhance the perception of Palmerston, to build a unique cultural identity and to foster pride in living in the area.
- Communication and connectivity is limited amongst artists and arts groups, leading to unrealised potential and opportunities.
- Skills development and support is needed to activate community leadership and involvement in the arts.
- There are limited indoor and outdoor venues for arts practice, celebration and gathering groups together, and these are often unsuitable for these purposes.
- Arts and culture needs to be embedded in roles and responsibilities across the organisation to enable the successful implementation of the Arts Strategy. This is an opportunity for integrated planning, streamlined processes and procedures that lead to better outcomes and increased community satisfaction.
- The Arts Strategy should build on, align with and complement existing urban planning, development design guidelines and policies, to complete capital works in the city centre and surrounding areas.
- Meaningful community engagement and involvement in the arts is vital for the success for the Arts Strategy; this requires support and adequate resourcing.
- Arts are effective in bringing the community together and telling the stories of Palmerston – as 85% of event programs are arts and culture related, there is an opportunity for planning, programming and engagement of artists at local events as providers of content.
ARTS STRATEGY OVERVIEW

The Strategy sets out goals and actions to be achieved through collaborative planning and strategic partnerships. It identifies strategic programs and projects for all art forms and includes arts initiatives for future capital works and developments.

FOCUS PROGRAMS AND SITES

Three arts projects are outlined for the years 2016–2021. These provide a focus to achieve the Strategy Outcomes.

• ‘Voices of Palmerston’, a multi arts, multi cultural project to engage all ages to collect and tell the stories of Palmerston people
• Public arts enhancement and activation of the streetscape and public open space focusing on the CBD, particularly Goyder Square
• Creative enterprise activation, focusing on collaborative planning for management and use of the new Durack Heights Neighbourhood Centre

OUTCOMES AND ACTIONS

A detailed Action Plan for the years 2016–2021 suggests a staged approach to achieving the outcomes below. The outcomes and actions are also designed to guide an organic approach, allowing for flexibility and for opportunities to be addressed.

Outcome One – To secure partnerships with sector stakeholders

Actions
Form strategic partnerships with industry/local business to provide quality arts experiences for the community and improve the built environment
Form strategic partnerships with national and Northern Territory regional arts, aboriginal and multicultural organisations
Form strategic partnerships with educational institutions
Identify opportunities for events and workshops by others in Palmerston

**Outcome Two: To increase participation and engagement in arts, culture and heritage**

**Actions**
- Implement and encourage public art installations to connect places throughout the CBD
- Enhance the character and identity of Palmerston by collecting and telling the stories of Palmerston people
- Support and nurture diversity and multiculturalism in art programs and activities
- Build community capacity through skills development and provide opportunities for local artists to share skills and showcase talent

**Outcome Three: To improve places and spaces**

**Actions**
- Provide and sustainably manage a range of multipurpose venues to make and exhibit artwork
- Increase usage and improve facilities and amenities for artists and creative enterprise
- Enhance the character and identity of public spaces with authentic and meaningful design

**Outcome Four: To communicate the value of arts, culture and heritage**

**Actions**
- Communicate the value of the arts to the community
- Adopt a whole of organisation approach to delivering quality arts experiences for artists and the community
- Develop communication plans to disseminate arts information and celebrate success
- Engage specialist expertise to develop, assess and manage projects
- Evaluate to provide a benchmark for success
THEMES

These themes have been suggested through community engagement and form the basis for public art and community arts projects to be considered and reflected in arts projects and commissions.

- Community Identity and Palmerston Stories
- Environment
- History of Palmerston
- Larrakia & Indigenous Culture
- Military History
- Multicultural Diversity

FUNDING AND RESOURCES

The most sustainable approach to the Strategy is to utilise and add value to existing resources and to collaborate with others to achieve shared goals. There are a range of funding opportunities both internal and external. External funding opportunities have been identified in the Action Plan and Directory.

The Strategy aims to engage and connect Council staff in a whole of organisation approach to success. Whilst the Community Development Directorate holds primary responsibility for implementation of the Strategy, there is a unique opportunity for all staff to collaborate on its initiatives to meet goals and objectives of the Municipal Plan and other key strategic documents. It is intended that the objectives of the Strategy are built into work plans and budgets across the organisation, where specific expertise and responsibility are held.

Public Art projects will be funded in accordance with the City’s Arts and Culture Policy definition of public art and states:

- $10,000 should be allocated from the Council’s annual budget, for the creation and ongoing maintenance of Public Art
- A minimum amount of 2% of the Council’s total expenditure in the capital works program should go directly towards the commissioning works of public art work to be included in each project where that project is over $250,000 (This excludes Council roadwork reserves). Included in this Policy are Council initiated projects; Community projects on land/pace owned/managed by Council; Extensions and major refurbishments to
existing buildings; Street furniture or other major constructed public space amenities: Fixtures and fittings such as bike racks, rubbish bins etc; playgrounds; landscape works.

- Developer Contribution Plans where-by the Developer shall either provide public art to the satisfaction of Council or provide a combination equal to 5 percent of the overall cost of open space development. Private or commercial businesses should also be encouraged to apply the 2% policy, although not mandatory.
- State and Federal funding through the annual grants programs provided by Arts NT, Australia Council, or any other source connected to the arts, community, youth, seniors, heritage or urban design and provision of amenities.
- Corporate partnerships and sponsorship.

A Directory of Arts and Cultural Resources has been provided to staff for direction and guidance.

“The Strategy aims to engage and connect Council staff in a whole of organisation approach to success.”
**ACTION PLAN**

**Outcome One – To secure partnerships with sector stakeholders**

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<tr>
<td>Form strategic partnerships with industry/local business to provide quality arts experiences for the community and improve the built environment</td>
<td>Public Art in Goyder Square &amp; CBD</td>
<td>Set up Reference Group to provide input, identify opportunities and assist in communicating artistic intent for the aesthetic/functional enhancement of walls, seating, shade and storage</td>
<td>Extend Reference Group to include other business and industry in CBD to provide input, identify opportunities and assist in communicating artistic intent for the aesthetic enhancement of walls</td>
<td>Support and initiate opportunities for Landscape Architects and Architects to work with artists to realise public arts outcomes</td>
<td>Develop public art initiative</td>
<td>Review and celebrate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify opportunities for events and workshops by others in Palmerston</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Provide support opportunities for incorporated organisations and arts community to apply for funding</td>
<td>Provide support opportunities for incorporated organisations and arts community to apply for funding</td>
<td>Provide support opportunity for incorporated organisations and arts community to apply for funding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Form strategic partnerships with national and Northern Territory regional arts, aboriginal, and multicultural organisations</td>
<td>Voices of Palmerston Public Art</td>
<td>Identify opportunities and approach organisations</td>
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<td>Identify opportunities and approach organisations</td>
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<td>Identify opportunities and approach organisations</td>
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<td>Establish working party/communication channels</td>
<td>Voices of Palmerston</td>
<td>Promote project to schools</td>
<td>Support schools to develop project through artist in schools funding</td>
<td>Celebrate and acknowledge arts in schools</td>
<td>Celebrate and acknowledge arts in schools</td>
<td>Celebrate and acknowledge arts in schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Art</td>
<td>Engage project management and develop brief to design and prototype street furniture by artists</td>
<td>Continue to develop brief to design and prototype street furniture by artists</td>
<td>Ensure implementation</td>
<td>Ensure implementation</td>
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### Outcome Two: To increase participation and engagement in arts, culture and heritage

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<td>Implement and encourage public art installations to connect places</td>
<td>Develop targeted public art and community arts projects in the CBD</td>
<td>Goyder Square &amp; CBD Enhancement</td>
<td>Develop a program that encourages and supports artists’ initiatives for art on walls and temporary arts interventions</td>
<td>Integrate artists’ initiatives with ‘Creating streets as shared spaces’ (Public Realm Strategy)</td>
<td>Integrate temporary &amp; permanent works and interpretation, based on Voices of Palmerston project</td>
<td>Continue to encourage, develop and support artists’ initiatives for art on walls and temporary arts interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance the character and identity of Palmerston</td>
<td>Collect and tell the stories of Palmerston people</td>
<td>Voices of Palmerston</td>
<td>Engage writers and film makers to develop and implement intergenerational storytelling project. Improve access to local history archives Digitize archived information online</td>
<td>Engage musicians and songwriters to develop work based on stories Identify and support opportunities to showcase project in public places and events (e.g. Goyder Square Screen, Initiate Yarning event)</td>
<td>Showcase Voices of Palmerston project (NT Writers Festival, Darwin Festival, Goyder Square Screen)</td>
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<td>Support and nurture diversity and multiculturalism</td>
<td>Provide support and advocate for cultural awareness opportunities for staff, stakeholder groups &amp; community groups</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Cultural induction for all City of Palmerston staff Support and showcase of multicultural art programs at events and activities</td>
<td>Cultural induction for new staff Support and showcase of multicultural art programs at events and activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build community capacity through skills development</td>
<td>Provide opportunities for local and community artists to share skills through a professional development program and showcase of talent</td>
<td>Voices of Palmerston Public Arts Durack Heights</td>
<td>(MusicNT) Sound recording seminar in Palmerston Storytelling and Writing workshops to support Voices of Palmerston Hold workshops at Durack Heights</td>
<td>Song writing workshops to support Voices of Palmerston Support artists’ initiatives to showcase their visual art and craft</td>
<td>Public art Support artists’ initiatives to showcase their musical talent</td>
<td>Public art Support artists’ initiatives to showcase their visual art and craft</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To increase usage and improve amenity for arts and creative enterprise</td>
<td>Provide and sustainably manage a range of multipurpose venues to make and exhibit art work, including studio, workshop and gallery spaces</td>
<td>Conduct needs analysis with arts and cultural groups to determine provision of arts facilities and amenities in Palmerston. (including Goyder Square and Durack Heights Neighbourhood Centre)</td>
<td>Engage project management and develop brief. Conduct community consultation and needs analysis with artists and user groups. Audit and map current and potential spaces for creative enterprise. (add value to Facilities Report)</td>
<td>Integrate recommendations with capital works projects for community facility maintenance and renewal</td>
<td>Capital works continue as per plan</td>
<td>Capital works continue as per plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activation of Goyder Square</td>
<td>Evaluate and monitor arts activities, events and amenities</td>
<td>Develop integrated Activation Plan</td>
<td>Implementation of Activation Plan</td>
<td>Implementation of Activation Plan</td>
<td>Implementation of Activation Plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durack Heights Neighbourhood Centre</td>
<td>Engage the community to develop a Management Plan through collaborative planning process to determine management model and design of outdoor space. Provide subsidised fees to user groups for arts activation</td>
<td>Implement management model design recommendations. Identify management and construction costs</td>
<td>Monitor and support management and activities at Centre</td>
<td>Monitor and support management and activities at Centre</td>
<td>Monitor and support management and activities at Centre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support aboriginal cultural spaces</td>
<td>Investigate a dedicated outdoor cultural space within City of Palmerston parks</td>
<td>Support arts activities at Palmerston Family and Cultural Centre</td>
<td>Develop cultural trail plan that incorporates interpretive artworks</td>
<td>Construct first identified stage of trail</td>
<td>Continue to implement trail plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance the character and identity of Palmerston with authentic and meaningful designs</td>
<td>Develop staged design palette and street furniture catalogue for CBD and parks</td>
<td>Engage project management and develop brief to design and prototype street furniture by artists</td>
<td>Continue to develop brief to design and prototype street furniture by artists and monitor implementation</td>
<td>Monitor implementation</td>
<td>Monitor implementation and review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manage public art collection</td>
<td>Public Art Management Plan</td>
<td>Public Art Assessment and Maintenance Schedule</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Art Management Plan</td>
<td>Public Art Assessment and Maintenance Schedule</td>
<td>Public Art Assessment and Maintenance Schedule</td>
<td>Public Art Assessment and Maintenance Schedule</td>
<td>Public Art Assessment and Maintenance Schedule</td>
<td>Public Art Assessment and Maintenance Schedule</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome Four: To communicate the value of arts, culture and heritage

**ACTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt a whole of organisation approach to delivering quality arts experiences for artists and the community</td>
<td>Adopt a whole of organisation approach to delivering quality arts experiences for artists and the community</td>
<td>Complete Control Implementation of the Arts Strategy with roles and responsibilities of Council staff and elected members</td>
<td>Ensure internal city documents are accessible, understood and acknowledged across the organisation. (Arts Strategy, Arts and Culture Policy, and Development Guideline)</td>
<td>Review City policies to integrate with Strategy</td>
<td>Ensure internal City documents are accessible, understood and acknowledged across the organisation. (Arts Strategy, Arts and Culture Policy, and Development Guideline)</td>
<td>Review Control Assessment Sheet Identify and improve internal communication channels and systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrate implementation of the Arts Strategy with roles and responsibilities of Council staff and elected members</td>
<td>Integrate implementation of the Arts Strategy with roles and responsibilities of Council staff and elected members</td>
<td>Internal Policy and Procedure alignment</td>
<td>Implement and record feedback form Deliver progress report on strategy</td>
<td>Implement and record feedback form Deliver progress report on strategy</td>
<td>Implement and record feedback form Deliver progress report on strategy</td>
<td>Review and assess Deliver final evaluation of strategy Develop strategy for 2021/2026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate to provide benchmark for success</td>
<td>Evaluate to provide benchmark for success</td>
<td>Develop simple criteria and feed back form for evaluating arts projects Deliver progress report on Strategy</td>
<td>Ensure information is distributed through NT arts orientated media such as Arts NT Bite Size, Turn it Up, Off the Leash editorials Develop media partnership with Southern Cross Media and PRBA</td>
<td>Review communications plan Identify projects that require media engagement/individual communication plans</td>
<td>Ensure information is distributed through NT arts orientated media such as Arts NT Bite Size, Turn it Up, Off the Leash editorials</td>
<td>Review and assess Deliver final evaluation of strategy Develop strategy for 2021/2026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate the value of the arts to the community</td>
<td>Communicate the value of the arts to the community</td>
<td>Develop communication plan to disseminate arts information and celebrate success; Create a centralised calendar of events Identify projects that require media engagement communication plan</td>
<td>Ensure information is distributed through NT arts orientated media such as Arts NT Bite Size, Turn it Up, Off the Leash editorials Develop media partnership with Southern Cross Media and PRBA</td>
<td>Review communications plan Identify projects that require media engagement/individual communication plans</td>
<td>Ensure information is distributed through NT arts orientated media such as Arts NT Bite Size, Turn it Up, Off the Leash editorials</td>
<td>Evaluate and review communications plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage specialist expertise to develop, assess and manage projects</td>
<td>Engage specialist expertise to develop, assess and manage projects</td>
<td>Engage suitably qualified artists and expertise for art selection, project reference group and management</td>
<td>Engage suitably qualified artists and expertise for project reference group and management</td>
<td>Engage suitably qualified artists and expertise for project reference group and management</td>
<td>Engage suitably qualified artists and expertise for project reference group and management</td>
<td>Engage suitably qualified artists and expertise for project reference group and management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art Antics and families attending the arts activity at Palmerston Library

Art Warehouse

Arts NT

Charles Darwin University Architecture Faculty

City of Palmerston Elected Members and Staff

City of Darwin Arts and Cultural Coordinator

Darwin Community Arts

Darwin Festival

Darwin Symphony Orchestra

Forum attendees and presenters at ‘Public Art - Collaboration’

Larrakia Nation

Multi-cultural Council of the NT

Music NT

Palmerston Regional Business Association

Seniors Advisory Group

Survey respondents and the many Palmerston individuals who took the time to contribute to and support the development of the Strategy

Youth Inspiring Palmerston (YIP)

This document has been prepared by Jenny Kerr and Lorna Secrett, in collaboration with the communities of Palmerston and on behalf of the City.
Summary:

The future owner of lot 10024 Frances Street, Palmerston City, has approached Council with an offer to include a public car park in his development. The following report recommends that Council further pursue the offer.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council receives Report Number 8/0976.

2. THAT Council continue to pursue the option of including a public car park in the building development on lot 10024 and neighbouring part lot 9629 with the future owner of lot 10024.

3. THAT a minimum of 250 bays be provided in a standalone public accessible area separate from the buildings private car park.

4. THAT a minimum of 250 bays be provided in addition to the bays generated by the uses at the site.

General:

Council currently has a budget of $400,000 to undertake preliminary work on the development of a multideck car park and the installation of paid parking in the City Centre.

The City Centre MasterPlan (MP) identifies lot 10024 and part lot 9629 Frances Street Palmerston City as a possible location for a multistorey public car park. The MP does not dictate exactly how many bays should be provided in a future multistorey car park at the location.

A workshop was held with elected members on 31st August 2016 during which discussions took place regarding:

- The current causes of all-day parking shortfalls in the City Centre
- Future changes to car parking in the City Centre.
- A proposed multistorey car park at lot 10024 and part lot 9629 Frances Street, Palmerston City
- Planning advantages related to positioning a public car park at lot 10024 and part lot 9629 Frances Street, Palmerston City
- The minimum number of bays required by Council
- Funding mechanisms Council may consider in order to facilitate a public car park
- The compliance of the proposal to the Local Government Act and Regulations

From the elected members present at the workshop staff believe that there was interest in further pursuing the offer and bringing back to council for their consideration amongst other things the following:

- The total number of bays that can be achieved without jeopardising the design of the building and its compliance to the MP
- The expected cost
- Funding options
- Compliance to the Local Government Act and Regulations

**Financial Implications:**

Nil at this time.

**Legislation/Policy:**

At this time there are no legislated restrictions on Council discussing a proposed parking opportunity in a future building structure. Should Council seek to pursue the sale of land, borrowing of money, and/or purchase of structure they would need to comply with the Local Government Act and Regulations.

**Recommending Officer:** Mark Spangler, Director of Technical Services

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

**Schedule of Attachments:**

Nil.
Mr Ricki Bruhn
Chief Executive Officer
City of Palmerston
PO Box 1
PALMERSTON NT 0831

Dear Mr Bruhn

NORTHERN TERRITORY GRANTS COMMISSION ALLOCATIONS 2016-17

I am writing to provide you with information about your council’s final grant outcomes for 2016-17.

The Australian Government has now approved the NT Grants Commission’s recommendations in relation to the 2016-17 allocation. The total allocation for the NT is $32,606,645. This allocation has two components that are distributed using different assessment methods.

In 2016-17 the general purpose financial assistance entitlement for the NT is $16,161,188 and the identified local road entitlement is $16,477,568.

The Australian Government has also advised that there was an overpayment of $32,111 in the general purpose assistance. The adjustment is due to the difference between the population estimates made at the beginning of the last financial year and the actual outcome. This adjustment has been made to your 2016-17 grant and will amount to a total decrease of $1,388 to your council’s general purpose financial assistance entitlement.

To assist you and the council to better understand the grants allocative process used by the Commission I have attached a package of material relating to your council’s allocations for 2016-17. This comprises:

- A sheet detailing your council’s grant allocations and payment schedule for 2016-17;
- A sheet showing the calculation of standardised expenditure and standardised revenue for your council;
- A matrix showing the application of the three cost adjusters against the various expenditure categories;
- A bar chart showing the cost adjusters calculated for all NT councils which underpin the calculation of standardised expenditures;
- A sheet showing the calculation of your council’s identified local road entitlement for 2016-17;
- A sheet showing the 2016-17 grant allocations for all NT councils; and
- A grant trend chart of your council's grants over five years.

Contact details for Commission staff members are as follows:

- Peter Thornton  (08) 899 98523  email: peter.thornton@nt.gov.au
- Donna Hadfield  (08) 899 98820  email: donna.hadfield@nt.gov.au

If you have any queries in relation to the matters raised in this letter please contact the Commission's Executive Officer, Mr Peter Thornton on the above.

Yours sincerely

BOB BEADMAN
Chairman
10 August 2016
## 2016-17 Allocations – General Purpose Grants and Local Roads Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Allocation</th>
<th>Allocations 2016-17 $</th>
<th>- Adjustment of Allocations 2015-16 $</th>
<th>Cash Payments 2016-17 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Purpose Funding</td>
<td>$707,313</td>
<td>($1,388)</td>
<td>$705,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Roads Funding</td>
<td>$797,215</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$797,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,504,528</strong></td>
<td><strong>($1,388)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,503,140</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Payment Schedule 2016-17*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due Dates</th>
<th>General Purpose Funding $</th>
<th>Local Roads Funding $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 August 2016</td>
<td>$176,481</td>
<td>$199,303</td>
<td>$375,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 November 2016</td>
<td>$176,481</td>
<td>$199,303</td>
<td>$375,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 February 2017</td>
<td>$176,481</td>
<td>$199,303</td>
<td>$375,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 May 2017</td>
<td>$176,482</td>
<td>$199,306</td>
<td>$375,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$705,925</strong></td>
<td><strong>$797,215</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,503,140</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*GST is not applicable to these payments.

Please provide a copy of this statement to your accounts department so that they are aware of scheduled payments.
City of Palmerston

POPULATION 34,612

TERRITORY WIDE AVERAGES OF EXPENDITURE - Per Capita

General Public Service 478.743
Public Order & Safety 74.796
Economic Affairs 149.641
Environment Protection 64.426
Housing & Community Amenities 196.760
Health 14.930
Recreation, Culture and Religion 200.181
Education 15.130
Social Protection 114.801

REVENUE

Equalised Revenue (per capita share of NT Average) 22,324,971.19
Add Grants
   Roads To Recovery (50% used) 134,595.00
   Library 570,612.00
   Roads 795,741.00
   Budget Term (per capita share NT Average $504.854) 17,474,008.05

TOTAL REVENUE $41,299,927.24

LESS EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Base Expenditure</th>
<th>Cost Adjustor Applied</th>
<th>Standardised Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Public Service</td>
<td>16,570,248.89</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>14,392,463.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Order &amp; Safety</td>
<td>2,588,851.32</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>1,729,203.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Affairs</td>
<td>5,179,384.86</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>4,140,242.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment Protection</td>
<td>2,229,897.20</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>2,229,897.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing &amp; Community Amenities</td>
<td>6,810,259.67</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>4,548,859.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>516,755.65</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>345,162.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation, Culture and Religion</td>
<td>6,926,652.28</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>5,538,554.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>523,671.86</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>349,782.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Protection</td>
<td>3,973,491.65</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>2,654,062.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL EXPENDITURE $35,928,228.88

The Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC) recommends that the total standardised expenditure for all councils per category, equals the actual expenditure per category for all councils. This is achieved by re-scaling the cost adjustors around one. The result of re-scaling for the City of Palmerston is a negative adjustor for most of the heads of expenditure.

Surplus 2016-17 $5,371,698.36

Adjusted Deficit (When the assessed level of need i.e. the theoretical deficit is greater than the available funds the Commission allocates grants to councils based on receiving the same percentage share of their equalisation requirement.) Nil

Per Capita Grant (population by per capita $20.435) $707,312.53
Assessed Need Nil
Regional Centre Allocation Nil

TOTAL GRANT ENTITLEMENT 2016-2017 $707,313.00

Less Overpayment for 2015-2016 ($1,388.00)

CASH PAYMENT FOR 2016-2017 $705,925.00

* Figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between total and the sums of the component totals.
## APPLICATION OF POPULATION AND COST ADJUSTORS AGAINST EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure Category</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Cost Adjustors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing and community amenities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public order and safety</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dispersion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental protection</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aboriginality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General public services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social protection</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation, cultural and religion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic affairs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Shaded area indicates when cost adjustor applies)
# NORTHERN TERRITORY GRANTS COMMISSION
## LOCAL ROADS GRANT 2016-17

### City of Palmerston

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Type Category</th>
<th>Number of Kilometres</th>
<th>Weighting Per Road Type</th>
<th>Total Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sealed</td>
<td>195.720</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5,284.440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel</td>
<td>1.300</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15.600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycle Paths</td>
<td>46.050</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>460.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formed</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unformed</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>243.070</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5,760.540</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Adjustor</th>
<th>1.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Total Equalised Road Factor**: 5,761

Local Roads Grant Entitlement = Equalised Council Road Factor / Equalised Total Roads x Total Road Funding

$797,214.99

Less Adjustment for 2015-16: n/a

**Total Cash Payment for 2016-17**: $797,215.00

Share of Total Northern Territory Roads Pool (%): 4.84%

---

1 Data provided by council
2 Data provided by council
3 Figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between totals and the sums of the component items
## NORTHERN TERRITORY GRANTS COMMISSION
### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council</th>
<th>Estimated Entitlement</th>
<th>Less Adjustment 2015-16</th>
<th>Cash Payment</th>
<th>Total Cash Financial Assistance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Purpose</td>
<td>Roads</td>
<td>General Purpose</td>
<td>Roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>2015-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Darwin</td>
<td>1 692 384</td>
<td>1 752 269</td>
<td>(3,384)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiwi Islands Regional Council</td>
<td>430 400</td>
<td>938 781</td>
<td>(802)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Palmerston</td>
<td>707 313</td>
<td>797 215</td>
<td>(1,388)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litchfield Council</td>
<td>482 011</td>
<td>2 458 581</td>
<td>(902)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belyuen Community Government Council</td>
<td>25 624</td>
<td>31 712</td>
<td>(46)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coomalie Community Government Council</td>
<td>26 443</td>
<td>402 785</td>
<td>(53)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagait Shire Council</td>
<td>8 706</td>
<td>53 121</td>
<td>(18)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Arnhem Regional Council</td>
<td>1 196 804</td>
<td>1 144 127</td>
<td>(2,427)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Arnhem Regional Council</td>
<td>3 078 353</td>
<td>1 170 698</td>
<td>(6,440)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Daly Regional Council</td>
<td>491 355</td>
<td>678 873</td>
<td>(877)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Daly Regional Council</td>
<td>534 287</td>
<td>838 198</td>
<td>(981)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Town Council</td>
<td>552 509</td>
<td>607 742</td>
<td>(728)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roper Gulf Regional Council</td>
<td>1 821 674</td>
<td>1 026 793</td>
<td>(3,745)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barkly Regional Council</td>
<td>1 725 729</td>
<td>435 276</td>
<td>(3,452)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice Springs Town Council</td>
<td>705 947</td>
<td>913 808</td>
<td>(1,434)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Desert Regional Council</td>
<td>945 345</td>
<td>821 938</td>
<td>(1,927)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MacDonnell Regional Council</td>
<td>1 736 304</td>
<td>958 820</td>
<td>(3,507)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Association of the Northern Territory</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1 446 831</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16 161 188</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16 477 568</strong></td>
<td><strong>($32 111)</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GRANT TREND CHART
CITY OF PALMERSTON

![Bar Chart showing grant trend for General Purpose and Roads from 2012-13 to 2016-17]