

Agenda

Ordinary Council Meeting

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 28 October 2025
Time: 5:30pm
Location: Council Chambers Darrandirra
Level 1, Civic Centre
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin
Webcasting: [MS Teams link to Webcast](#)

Simone Saunders

Chief Executive Officer



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Right Worshipful, the Lord Mayor Peter Styles (Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Patrik Ralph

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Councillor Nicole Brown

Councillor Shani Carson

Councillor Kim Farrar

Councillor Julie Fraser

Councillor Edwin Joseph

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Councillor Mick Palmer

Councillor Peter Pangquee

Councillor Ed Smelt

Councillor Sam Weston

OFFICERS

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr

General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson

General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

WEBCASTING DISCLAIMER

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2 THE LORD'S PRAYER

3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 Apologies

4.2 Leave of Absence Granted

4.3 Leave of Absence Requested

5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

5.1 Electronic Meeting Attendance Granted

5.2 Electronic Meeting Attendance Requested

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting - 30 September 2025

8 MOVING OF ITEMS

8.1 Moving Open Items into Confidential

8.2 Moving Confidential Items into Open

9 MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE / LORD MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

11 PETITIONS

Nil

12 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

Nil

13 NOTICES OF MOTION**13.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - REVIEW OF ELECTED MEMBER ICT AND SUPPORT POLICY**

Attachments: Nil

I, Councillor Shani Carson, give notice that at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 October 2025, I will move the following motion:-

MOTION

1. THAT Council receives a report reviewing the ICT and the Elected Members Expenses, Facilities and Support policy to:
 - (a) investigate the utilisation of personal or preferred devices under a secure Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) arrangement
 - (b) investigate appropriate reimbursement for information technology capital entitlement
 - (c) consider policy alignment with governance principles, legislation and determinations
 - (d) consider benchmark arrangements with comparable Australian councils to ensure compliance, equity and contemporary practice.
2. THAT any funding requirements to support a change in approach be referred to the 2026/27 budget for consideration.
3. THAT a report be presented to Council for consideration by March 2026.

REASON:

The current Elected Members Expenses, Facilities and Support Policy prevents Elected Members from using personal or preferred devices, a change introduced outside the standard policy review cycle.

Modern elected representatives frequently balance council work with professional, community and personal responsibilities across multiple devices. A structured and secure BYOD option can offer both flexibility and accountability when properly governed.

A review will allow council to evaluate:

- the feasibility of a BYOD framework using contemporary security controls (such as multifactor authentication, VPNs and encryption)
- cost-neutral or cost positive models, including reimbursement or allowance options used by comparable Australian Councils
- clear delineation between administrative ICT control and Elected Member governance independence.

This approach supports good governance, transparency, and resource efficiency while maintaining security standards expected of a modern local government.

Signed by me at Darwin this 16 October 2025



COUNCILLOR SHANI CARSON

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

In this section information is provided by officers to facilitate decision-making:

- Facts and data
- Background context and historical information relating to the NOM
- What the next steps would be if the motion is passed, for example “a council report will be prepared and presented by 28 February 2023”

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or pricing has been obtained for this motion:

Public consultation requirements	Nil
External consultant advice	Any proposed changes to the current ICT hardware and software approach, and BYOD for Elected Member would be referred to the ICT Steering Committee for review and comment. With any recommendations flowing to Council as required.
Legal advice / litigation	Legal advice will be sought as required, regarding loss of data implications, Freedom of Information (FOI), privacy and other legal considerations and implications.
Impacts to existing projects	The requested work is required to be undertaken by ICT. ICT are currently fully committed with supporting of key system upgrades and changeover of existing aging ICT infrastructure over the coming months.
Impact to FTE	Nil
Budget reallocation	\$15,000
Capital investment	Nil
Officer time preparing the report requested in this motion	50hrs / \$7000
Officer time in receiving and preparing this Administration Comment	2hrs

13.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Attachments: Nil

I, Councillor Sam Weston, give notice that at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 October 2025, I will move the following motion:-

MOTION

1. THAT Council notes the vital role of small business in creating a thriving local Darwin economy and community.
2. THAT Council provides in-principle support for the creation of a new advisory committee, proposed to be called the Economic Development Advisory Committee.
3. THAT this committee include representatives and participants from the small business community and/or CBD stakeholders, to promote open two-way communication.
4. THAT this committee also includes representation from tourism, investments and other economic development stakeholders.
5. THAT the proposed committee is referred to the review of City of Darwin advisory committees at the November 2025 Forum Meeting.

REASON:

The Darwin small business community sometimes feel they are not being consulted by City of Darwin.

Most Council decisions in the CBD effect small business in some way.

Having spoken to many small business owners and the stakeholders over my time on Council and during the election period, some business owners feel that they don't receive the communication and information they would like from City of Darwin.

By having an Economic Development Advisory Committee, it will give all parties involved a chance to have a two-way conversation and all information can be documented and passed on to Council.

With representatives from all areas in regular meetings all the information, consultation and future projects that could affect business in the CBD will be available for all to read.

Having a committee will help Councillors when dealing with the small business as we will know exactly what has been communicated from both sides.

Signed by me at Darwin this 20 October 2025



.....
COUNCILLOR SAM WESTON

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

In this section information is provided by officers to facilitate decision-making:

- Facts and data
- Background context and historical information relating to the NOM
- What the next steps would be if the motion is passed, for example “a council report will be prepared and presented by 28 February 2023”

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or pricing has been obtained for this motion:

Public consultation requirements	Nil
External consultant advice	Nil
Legal advice / litigation	Nil
Impacts to existing projects	Nil
Impact to FTE	Nil
Budget reallocation	Nil
Capital investment	Nil
Officer time preparing the report requested in this motion	3 hours
Officer time in receiving and preparing this Administration Comment	1 hour

13.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCIL TRANSPARENCY AND ENGAGEMENT - TRANCHE 1**Attachments: Nil**

I, Councillor Ed Smelt, give notice that at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 October 2025, I will move the following motion:-

MOTION

1. THAT Council note the issues raised by our community during the 2025 Local Government Elections for greater transparency and engagement by City of Darwin and Elected Members.
2. THAT Council requests a report for the implementation of an Annual Community Satisfaction Survey outlining the process, structure, costs and potential interactions with our current strategies and the new City of Darwin Customer Relationship Management system, with a final report by August 2026.
3. THAT Council requests officers review the City of Darwin meeting agenda papers including the Order of Business, template headings of individual reports and the overall format to support transparent, efficient and informed decision making, with an Elected Member workshop and final report by April 2026.
4. THAT Council requests officers to establish, maintain and regularly circulate a register tracking actions from Council Forum meetings by December 2025.
5. THAT Council requests officers to publish answers to questions taken on notice during Open Council meetings with the online agenda and minutes when completed.

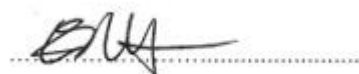
REASON:

During the 2025 Local Government Elections, candidates heard concerns about how City of Darwin and Elected Members engage with our community on issues that affect them and the way Council business is conducted. This motion represents a first tranche of governance actions to improve community engagement and transparency.

A City of Darwin Annual Community Satisfaction Survey hasn't been undertaken since 2018. This survey is an important tool to capture feedback on community attitudes and satisfaction with services and infrastructure. Reinstating this survey will help inform spending priorities and provide a regular, independent appraisal of our performance in delivering for our community.

Clear and complete agenda papers are vital to inform good decision making by Elected Members and for explaining decisions to our community. The start of a new Council term provides an ideal opportunity to review our agenda papers against our peer Councils and implement improvements that continue to support transparent, efficient and informed decisions.

Meetings between staff, elected members and our community should include clear records of actions and publication of responses. This helps to ensure we deliver on our commitments.



Signed by me at Darwin this 20 October 2025

COUNCILLOR ED SMELT

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

In this section information is provided by officers to facilitate decision-making:

- Facts and data
- Background context and historical information relating to the NOM
- What the next steps would be if the motion is passed, for example “a council report will be prepared and presented by 28 February 2023”

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or pricing has been obtained for this motion:

Public consultation requirements	N/A
External consultant advice	<i>Customer Satisfaction Survey</i> - Referred to ICT Steering Committee for review and comment.
Legal advice / litigation	N/A
Impacts to existing projects	<i>Customer Satisfaction Survey</i> - Consideration to CRM project timeline. Consideration to how this is placed against other engagement activities would be required to ensure no impact to existing engagement commitments. <i>Agenda Paper Reviews and Reports</i> - Consideration of impact to other Governance projects, frameworks and submissions.
Impact to FTE	<i>Customer Satisfaction Survey</i> - One FTE circa 88 hours to undertake market scan and engage with suppliers to understand services offerings. Develop project plan. <i>Agenda Paper Reviews and Reports</i> - One FTE circa 100 hours to conduct a comparison review with peer Councils and report. Plus, internal change management and training requirements x 2.0 hours.
Budget reallocation	<i>Customer Satisfaction Survey</i> - Yes budget to be identified <i>Agenda Paper Reviews and Reports</i> - Yes budget to be identified.
Capital investment	<i>Customer Satisfaction Survey</i> - evaluation and assessment circa \$30,000 to \$50,000, plus product costs circa \$120,000 to \$150,000, plus ongoing periodic service charges. <i>Agenda Paper Reviews and Reports</i> - review of Infocouncil and upgrade of templates between \$50,000 to \$100,000, Committee Templates \$50,000. Plus, FTE and staff time internal circa \$50,000.
Officer time preparing the report requested in this motion	<i>Customer Satisfaction Survey</i> - circa 88 hours, plus additional implementation time. <i>Agenda Paper Reviews and Reports</i> - To conduct a Forum Workshop to review template and agenda format 3 hours – plus 100 hours depending on volume of work effort prior.
Officer time in receiving and preparing this Administration Comment	One hour

14 ACTION REPORTS

14.1 PLACE AND LIVEABILITY PLAN 2050

Author: Manager Planning and Place
Executive Manager Growth and Economic Development

Authoriser: General Manager Innovation

Attachments: 1. Place and Liveability Plan [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Place and Liveability Plan 2050 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the Place and Liveability Plan 2050 at **Attachment 1**.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Place and Liveability Platform 2050.

KEY ISSUES

- Strong public support for the Place and Liveability Plan 2050 emphasises its community-driven vision for Darwin's future liveability and underpins the recommendation for Council endorsement.
- The Plan (**Attachment 1**) will be presented on an interactive Liveability Platform (Platform) for the next 5 years. It will be monitored by examining data from the Platform and will be reviewed every 5 years.
- The Platform will continue to evolve over the next 25 years with ongoing community and stakeholder engagement through interactive features, updates and tools.
- After considering the feedback from community and key stakeholders the:
 - Plan has been updated to embed climate resilience, First Nations, and vulnerable community support.
 - Platform has been updated for easier access, clearer layout, and better design.
- The Platform will be ready to be launched at the end of October alongside the final Plan.

DISCUSSION

Background

Over the past two years, City of Darwin worked with the community to develop the Place and Liveability Plan 2050. A draft was released earlier this year, followed by a Council workshop and a public consultation period from 28 June 2025 to 1 September 2025. During this time, the Plan and its interactive Platform were presented to the community and stakeholders for feedback.

The Plan aims to improve quality of life by fostering a stronger sense of place and guiding inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development. It builds on existing initiatives focused on sustainability, creativity, innovation, and wellbeing.

Key liveability principles identified by the community include open space, connectivity, safety, and arts and culture.

The co-designed Platform supports community engagement; tracks progress and informs place-based initiatives.

The Plan aligns with broader policy frameworks and the NT planning system.

The Plan's performance will be monitored through ongoing Platform data and stakeholder feedback and will be reviewed every five years, through deeper community and stakeholder engagement.

Public consultation

The public consultation phase resulted in strong support from the community and stakeholders. An engagement report is available on this Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda entitled Engagement Outcomes - Draft Place and Liveability Plan 2050.

Updates to the Place and Liveability Plan

After considering the feedback from the community and stakeholders, the final Plan has been updated to:

- emphasise that Darwin's neighbourhoods need climate-resilient urban design to tackle health risks and support community wellbeing
- embed First Nations and other stakeholder perspectives in designing public places and infrastructure, and
- confirm City of Darwin will continue to provide programs to support vulnerable people through outreach and partnership-working.

Updates to the Liveability Platform

After considering the feedback from the community and stakeholders, the Liveability Platform has been updated to reflect the recommendations and includes improved Platform design for easier navigation, layout and community access.

As the Platform will be live and will evolve over the next 25 years, it will continually be developed to:

- align the neighbourhood identities with community language and lived experience, through ongoing engagement, and
- enable two-way engagement through interactive platform features and updates.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	2 A Safe, Liveable and Healthy City 2.2 By 2030, Darwin will be increasingly recognised as a liveable city
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Budget/Funding: Engagement within 25/26 budget
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Legislation: <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> Planning Act 1999

	Policy: N/A
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	Engagement Level: Involve Tactics: As per the report Internal: Senior Leadership Team and staff External: Community and key stakeholders.
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).

CITY OF DARWIN

PLACE AND LIVEABILITY PLAN

2050



**City for people.
City of colour.**







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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of all the land and waters of the Greater Darwin region.

To the Larrakia, Darwin is known as Garramilla. The original language of the Larrakia is Gulumirgin (pronounced Goo-loo-midgin).

Often referred to as “Saltwater People”, the Larrakia lived, loved, birthed, hunted and survived a life on pristine coastal and inland areas. Established ‘song lines’ connecting Larrakia people to Country penetrate throughout their land and sea, allowing stories and histories to be told and retold for future generations. Scientific evidence dates Aboriginal presence in northern Australia to 60,000 years.

The Larrakia culture and identity is rich and vibrant. In the footsteps of the Larrakia people, City of Darwin will continue to foster this culture and identity by creating a vibrant community together.



LORD MAYOR AND CEO MESSAGE

At City of Darwin, we believe that a city is defined not only by its infrastructure and services, but by the people who call it home.

In 2019, we collaborated with our community to develop the *City for People. City of Colours. 2030 Strategic Plan*, a bold and shared vision to make Darwin a vibrant, cool, clean, safe and liveable city.

We've made significant progress toward that vision. Our streets are greener, our public spaces are more inviting, and our sense of community is strong. But we know that liveability isn't a fixed destination, it's a continuous journey shaped by the everyday experiences, needs and aspirations of our people.

The *Place and Liveability Plan 2050* is our next major step in this journey. More than just a plan, it is a legacy piece, an evolving platform built from the voices of our diverse community. It captures what people love about Darwin, what they need, their diverse perspectives and what they envision for the future.

The *Place and Liveability Plan 2050* serves as a long-term, ambitious goal that will guide our roadmap towards a thriving future, helping us stay focused on the bigger picture and the ongoing wellbeing of our community.

This plan aims to provide real, practical guidance to ensure that decisions about land use, development, funding and future activities truly reflect what matters to our community. It will help us advocate for Darwin's interests in broader land and development decisions made by the Northern Territory Government and beyond.

Importantly, liveability looks and feels different to everyone, and it changes over time. That's why this Plan is not a static document. It is a living, digital and interactive resource that showcases local stories, celebrates our favourite places and will include a toolkit containing resources for developers, staff and community members to use and adapt.



The Honourable Lord Mayor Peter Styles and Chief Executive Simone Saunders

Planning liveability is about creating a shared story and shared aspirations that honour Darwin's unique way of life, while growing together toward a more inclusive, resilient and connected future.

The *Place and Liveability Plan 2050* is an opportunity for the people of Darwin to help shape the future of our city by fostering a stronger sense of place, ensuring that by 2050, Darwin will be a liveable city that provides a comfortable and enjoyable environment for all.

The Hon. Lord Mayor
Peter Styles

Chief Executive Officer
Simone Saunders

**"WE'VE MADE SIGNIFICANT
PROGRESS TOWARD THAT VISION.
OUR STREETS ARE GREENER,
OUR PUBLIC SPACES ARE MORE
INVITING, AND OUR SENSE OF
COMMUNITY IS STRONG."**

PURPOSE OF THE PLACE AND LIVEABILITY PLAN

This plan aims to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of people living within our community by fostering a stronger sense of place and improving the liveability of Darwin by 2050.

It is a dynamic, evolving plan that will be continually refined through an interactive online Liveability Platform and the implementation of place-based initiatives.

OUR VISION

By 2050, Darwin will be an inclusive, vibrant city where diverse communities thrive, locals feel proud, and everyone enjoys a safe, welcoming environment shaped through active engagement and shared planning.



mirragma gunugurr-wa (bamboo raft) by Larrakia artists Uncle Roque Lee and Trent Lee. A public art collaboration between City of Darwin, Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation and GARUWA Creative.

DEFINING LIVEABILITY

Liveability is the degree to which a community and urban environment supports health, wellbeing and quality of life through sustainable, inclusive and resilient planning. It encompasses access to essential services, housing, efficient public transportation, green spaces and opportunities for social engagement and economic vitality. Liveability is deeply connected to the community's sense of place, identity, character and belonging.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

Local government delivers essential services and plays a strategic role in shaping place and liveability. It is closely connected to its local community. It helps the community tackle liveability challenges through ongoing engagement, service provision, integrated planning, partnerships and advocacy. Local government can enhance liveability directly through improved service provision such as roads, shared paths, waste management and the upgrading of public parks and other spaces that it is responsible for managing.

However, as local government is not responsible for managing all types of land or delivering all types of public services, it cannot directly tackle all liveability challenges. This is why integrated planning, partnerships and advocacy are important. It is also why City of Darwin's Place and Liveability Plan aligns with the policy objectives of the United Nations, Commonwealth Government and the Northern Territory Government (NTG), and is why we are working in alignment with stakeholders and the community to improve liveability in Darwin now and into the future.

GLOBAL SETTING

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

NATIONAL SETTING

National Urban Policy 2024
Northern Australia Action Plan 2024

NORTHERN TERRITORY SETTING

Regional Development Framework 2021
Strategic Planning Policy
Economic Strategy 2025

CITY OF DARWIN SETTING

Darwin 2030: City for People. City of Colour
Place and Liveability Plan 2050



LIVEABILITY PRINCIPLES

Liveability principles are broad values that help articulate what liveability means to our community in order to inform the planning and development of urban areas and enhance the quality of life for residents. They cover various aspects such as economic, social, environmental and infrastructural factors. To understand liveability in a Darwin context, a set of liveability principles were developed that align with a comprehensive understanding of urban planning, policy and academic literature.

.....

ACCESS TO SERVICES:

Ensure all residents have fair and reliable access to essential services such as healthcare, education, childcare, and social services.

.....

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION:

Deliver and enhance access to quality parks that support play, physical activity, leisure, and social connection.

.....

ACCESS TO SHOPS:

Provide convenient access to daily needs through local retail centres.

.....

PHYSICAL CONNECTIVITY:

Design places that prioritise walking, cycling, and ease of movement to enhance access, health, and community interaction.

.....

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY:

Support local jobs and thriving businesses with strong networks, in walkable neighbourhood centres.

.....

PUBLIC TRANSPORT:

Provide reliable, efficient, safe and accessible public transportation options.

.....

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AND CONNECTION:

Enable and foster social and cultural connections, mental health, engagement, and sense of belonging.

.....

SAFETY AND SECURITY:

Prioritise safety and preparedness to create well-lit, safe, resilient and prepared environments.

.....

EQUITY AND ACCESS:

Design places considering fair access to housing, services, amenities, economic opportunities, and community resources so all people can benefit and thrive.

.....

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE:

Protect natural assets, promote biodiversity, reduce emissions and plan for climate resilience for healthy sustainable communities.

.....

ARTS AND CULTURE:

Integrate opportunities for creative expression, cultural activities, and the arts into planning, placemaking and developments.

These principles were the basis for community and stakeholder engagement on the Plan, conducted from June to August 2024.





UNDERSTANDING OUR COMMUNITY

City of Darwin in 2018, worked with community members of Darwin to develop the vision, values and goals that informed City of Darwin's current Strategic Plan: Darwin 2030 – City for People, City of Colour. The Strategic Plan commits City of Darwin to continue working with the community and partners to deliver services that create opportunities to enhance the economic, cultural and environmental sustainability of Darwin. Since then, City of Darwin has begun implementing several ambitious strategies, including the Climate Emergency, Creative, Greening, Movement and Play Space strategies and Reconciliation Action Plan.

The Plan builds on all the work that has been carried out in recent years to create a capital city that is liveable, healthy, cool, clean, green, smart, vibrant and creative.

When developing this Plan, community engagement aimed to capture diverse perspectives on the unique needs, values and characteristics of Darwin. The engagement approach was designed to provide avenues for people of all age groups, genders and cultural backgrounds to contribute to the plan and identify their aspirations for a more liveable Darwin into the future. Questions focused on what liveability means to individuals and asked them to prioritise key liveability principles, to share their ideas for what could make Darwin more liveable.

Full details of the engagement process are provided on the [Liveability Platform](#).

Targeted workshops identified liveability principles important to our First Nations communities with most important principles as Safety and Security and Arts and Culture.

The key liveability principles that the Darwin community told us were important to them included:



OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION



PHYSICAL CONNECTIVITY



SAFETY AND SECURITY



ARTS AND CULTURE

LIVEABILITY STRENGTHS

We know from community feedback that Darwin has number of liveability strengths. Liveability strengths are the aspects that the community values most and where the city thrives. These strengths are achievements that Darwin should recognise, promote, and nurture. Most people in Darwin enjoy these key strengths:

1. Regular community events, festivals, public ceremonies, markets and other pop-up activities.
2. The availability of green space, parks, playgrounds, urban trails, bushland, beaches, foreshore areas and the sea.
3. Spending time in various sporting precincts, ovals, water parks and other recreation facilities.
4. Attractive and inviting public spaces, with some suburbs benefitting from leafy streets and well-kept gardens.



Coriolis, Cyclone Tracy Kinetic Sculpture, Bundilla Beach Reserve

LIVEABILITY CHALLENGES

We also know that Darwin faces several liveability challenges. The impacts of climate change, increasing vulnerability to heat, extreme weather events, ecological, biological and chemical changes; have direct consequence to liveability and adds complexity to improving liveability in areas our community values most. Other liveability challenges are the attributes that our community values deeply but are currently falling short. These challenges represent key areas for improvement in liveability for Darwin.

By prioritising and aligning efforts, program and projects to address these issues, we can maximise our return on investment and enhance the overall liveability of Darwin. Community feedback indicates that these key challenges include:

- 1. High levels of crime in some neighbourhoods, which erodes community safety, health and wellbeing.
- 2. Lack of shade and green spaces, resulting in poor levels of amenity and high levels of heat stress.
- 3. Insufficient maintenance of some parks, footpaths and other public spaces and poor maintenance of some private properties, which fractures civic pride, character and sense of place.
- 4. Some neighbourhoods have poor access for individuals with disabilities and other access challenges.



'EASIER ACCESS'

A 55-64 year old female advocated for easier access to footpaths, crossing and bike paths in her neighbourhood.



'A SAFER PLACE'

An under 18 year old female stated that she would like to be safe both near shopping precincts and in parks in her neighbourhood.





NEIGHBOURHOODS

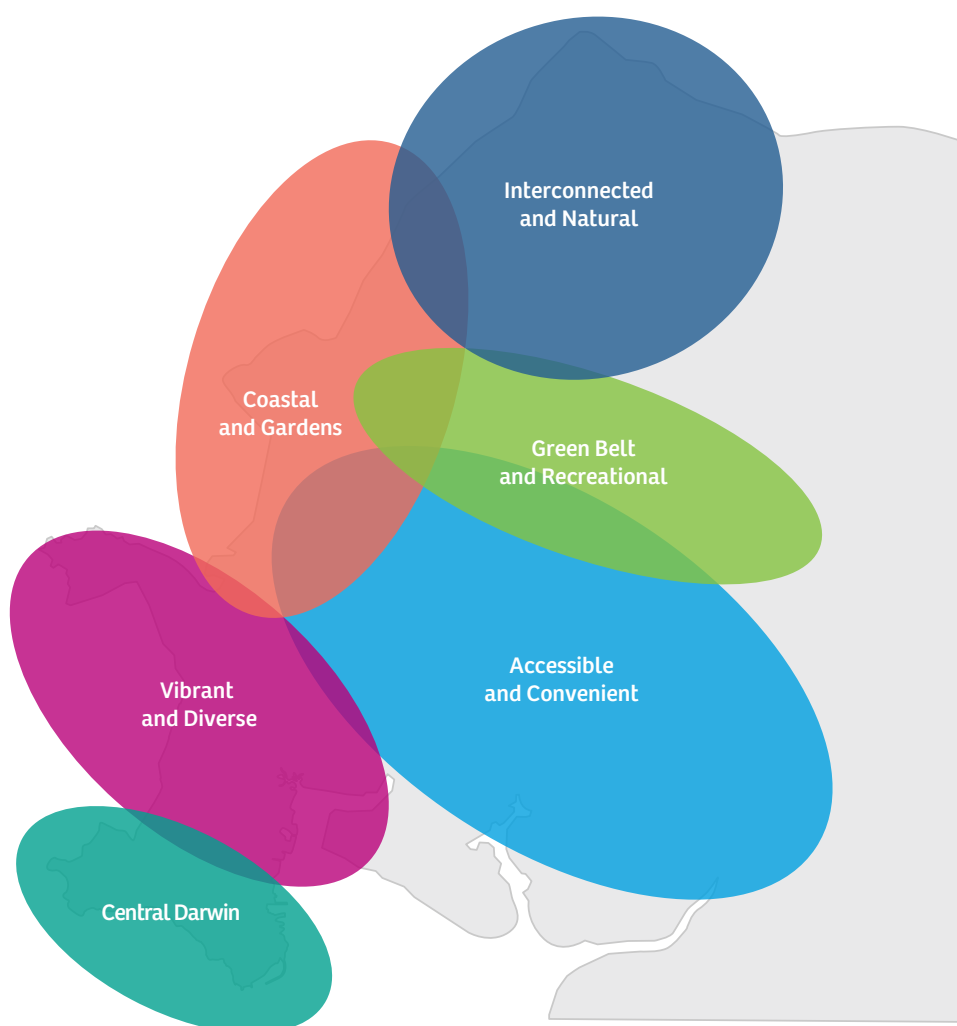
Feedback from the community has established the need for a people-first and neighbourhood approach to planning.

Darwin neighbourhoods have been created to align broadly with the NTG's Area Plans, ensuring consistency with the statutory land use planning system, yet pushing the boundaries to better integrate all aspects of liveability.

The neighbourhoods are dynamic, with their broad, overlapping boundaries reflecting their interconnectedness and interactions. The neighbourhoods are based on Darwin's existing Area Plans, community engagement results, neighbourhood features, infrastructure, facilities, and population characteristics.

The six neighbourhoods include:

- Central Darwin Neighbourhood
- Vibrant and Diverse Neighbourhood
- Coastal and Gardens Neighbourhood
- Accessible and Convenient Neighbourhood
- Green Belt and Recreational Neighbourhood
- Interconnected and Natural Neighbourhood





CENTRAL DARWIN NEIGHBOURHOOD

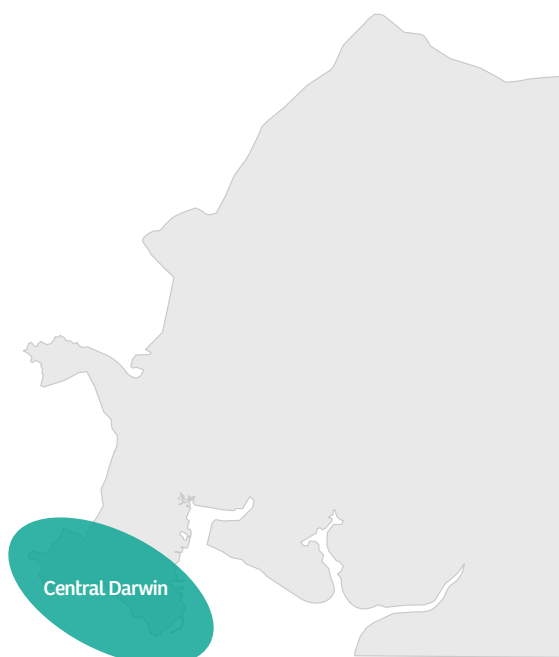
Vision

The Central Darwin neighbourhood is the vibrant heart of a thriving capital — celebrated for its cultural richness, diverse community, dynamic economy, coastal beauty, inviting public spaces, premier shopping, and lively entertainment.

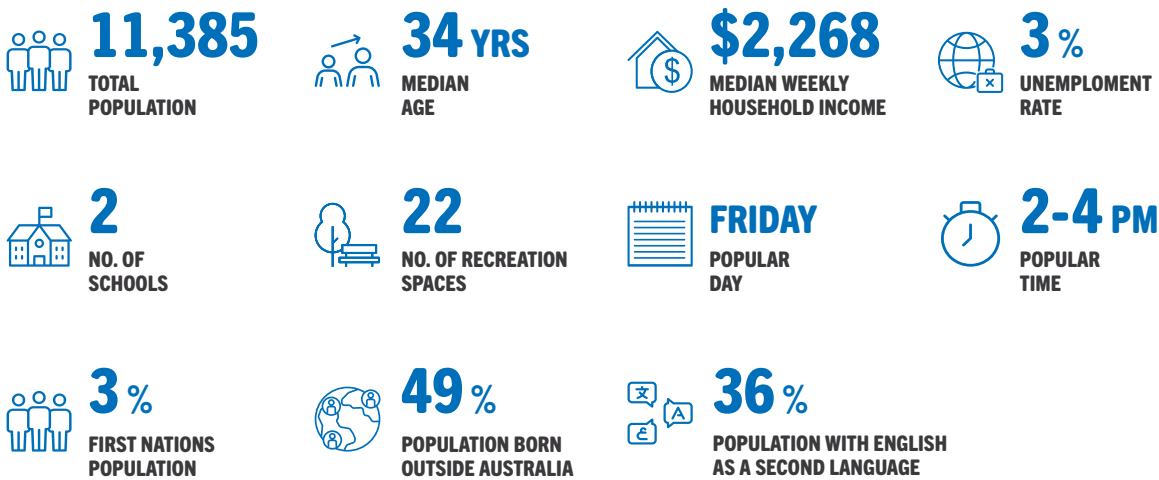
Place identity

The Central Darwin neighbourhood is a vibrant hub of commercial, cultural and civic activities, attracting residents, students and tourists alike with its diverse buildings, green spaces, waterfront, port, marinas, historic sites, public ceremonies, festivals, eateries, pubs and clubs. Famed for its young, energetic, multicultural community, Darwin's strategic location as a gateway to Asia continues to bolster this neighbourhood's national and international reputation. The following character statements help to define the neighbourhood's sense of place:

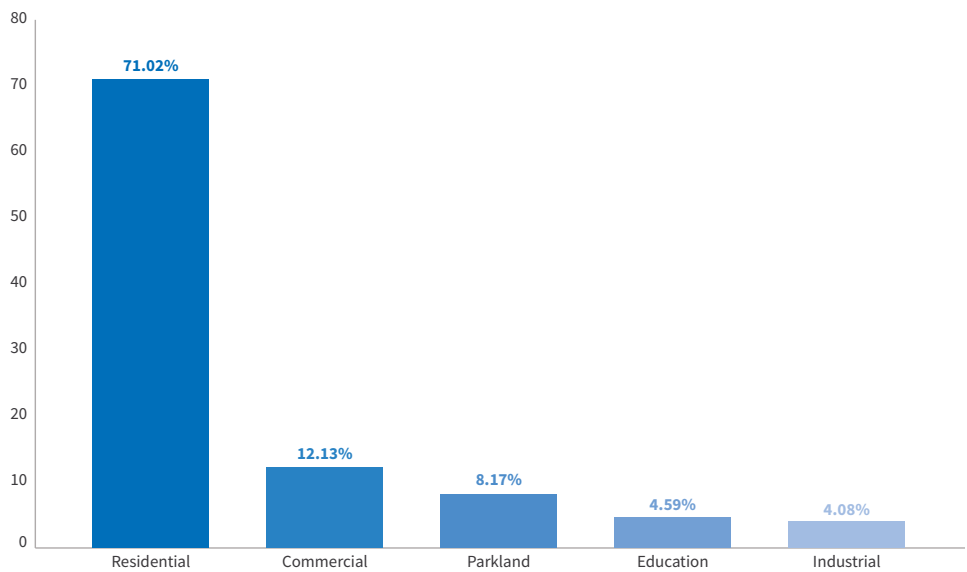
- Possesses a continued, rich, vibrant multicultural history.
- Is the region's dominant activity centre and a vibrant retail, hospitality and civic hub during the day and at night.
- Has a young energetic community with access to a broad range of entertainment, cultural, community and recreational services.
- Includes an attractive built form with a good mix of development density and eclectic, colourful and playful building designs.
- Is a major tourism destination with a wealth of cultural attractions, public ceremonies and entertaining events.
- Has diverse demographics with a variety of accommodation for residents, students and visitors.
- Is a strategic trade location, a gateway to Asia with port facilities and transport infrastructure.
- Has a broad range of community infrastructure and services with well-functioning roads, water, sewer and other infrastructure.
- Includes a wide variety of appealing green, open spaces and coastal environments.
- It is a dynamic place with:
 - City of Darwin's ongoing improvements for greening, shading, walking, cycling and urban mobility;
 - several major civic projects underway and planned, including the new State Square Art Gallery, Larrakia Cultural Centre, and Civic Centre redevelopment;
 - a declining demand for office space and an increasing demand for residential, student and tourist accommodation, which will shape future activity.



DATA SNAPSHOT



% OF ACTIVITY HOURS SPENT ACROSS DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES



VIBRANT AND DIVERSE NEIGHBOURHOOD

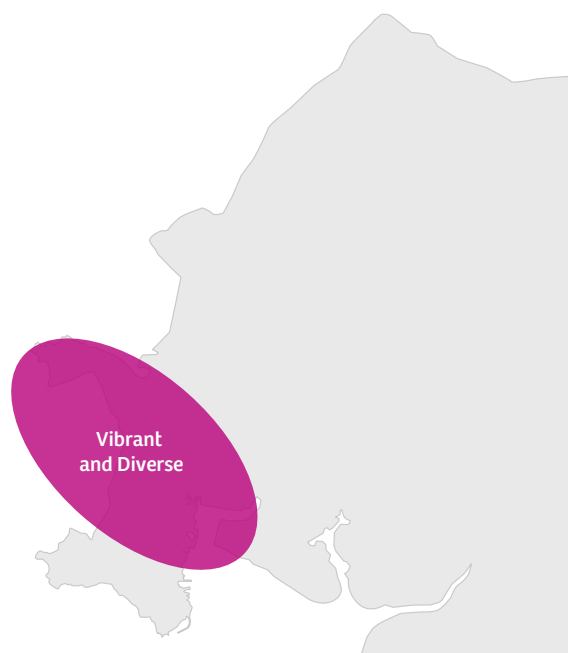
Vision

The Vibrant and Diverse neighbourhood is a lively, inclusive place offering a mix of housing, work, social, and recreational spaces - linked to surrounding neighbourhoods, enriched by natural environments, and shaped by its unique history.

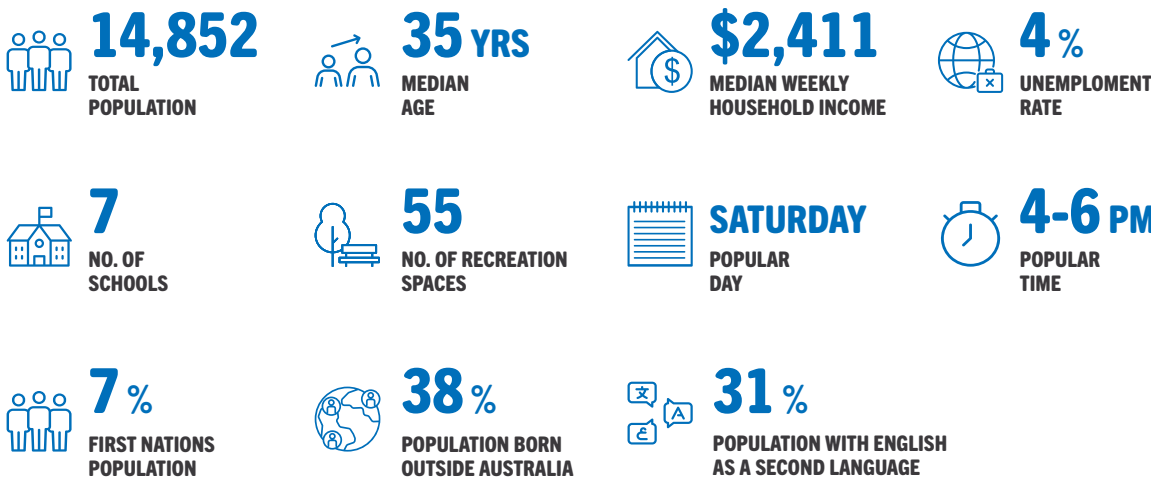
Place identity

The Vibrant and Diverse neighbourhood is characterised by its long, open stretches of coastline to the west and the south-east with vibrant urban areas in between. It hosts a variety of social, economic, recreational and tourist activities all located near to urban and natural areas. The following character statements help to define the neighbourhood's sense of place:

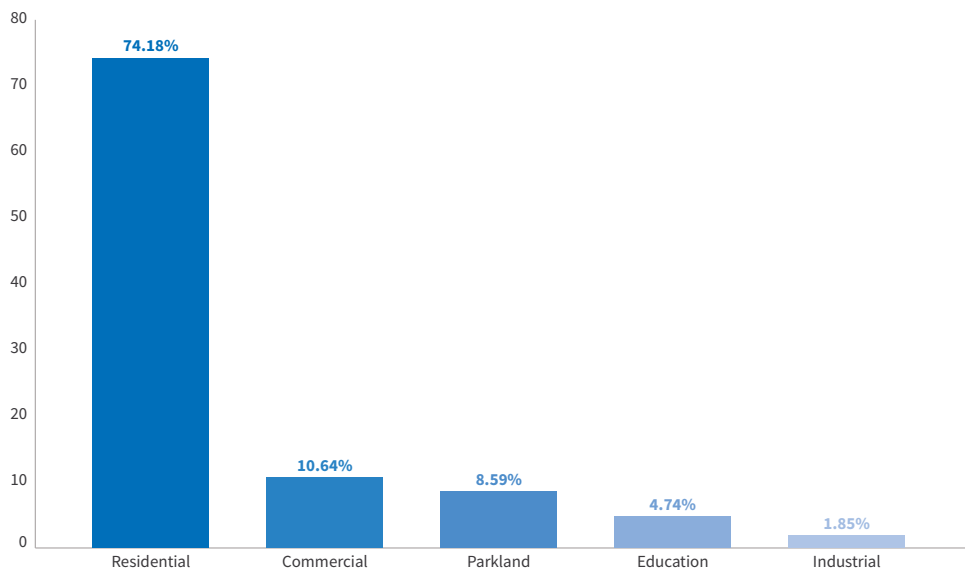
- Includes areas of great cultural significance for the Larrakia people.
- Long stretches of coastline with popular beaches, marinas and extensive areas of natural mangroves.
- Has several vibrant liveable suburbs with a diverse range of housing types and good access to services, shops, parks, beaches, shared path networks and high-quality streetscapes.
- A young community with easy access to schools and recreational opportunities that enjoys having fun on Saturdays.
- Includes mixed-use precincts, commercial areas with popular markets at Parap and Mindil Beach.
- Contains several significant community and tourist attractions, such as the Charles Darwin National Park, the Royal Darwin Botanical Gardens, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Fannie Bay Gaol, East Point fortifications and the Qantas Hangar in Parap.
- Includes popular markets, boat clubs, high-quality parks, inland coastal lakes, numerous urban and coastal trails, shared paths and the Darwin Racing Racecourse.
- Well-serviced by roads, water, sewer and other infrastructure.



DATA SNAPSHOT



% OF ACTIVITY HOURS SPENT ACROSS DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES





COASTAL AND GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD

Vision

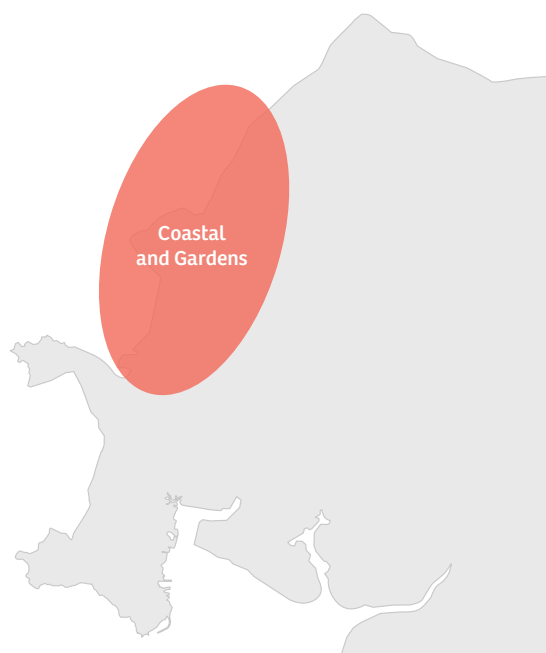
The Coastal and Gardens neighbourhood suits the needs of new and existing residents who embrace the foreshore and public spaces which are bustling day and night with movement, weekend markets, food trucks, and social interaction.

Place identity

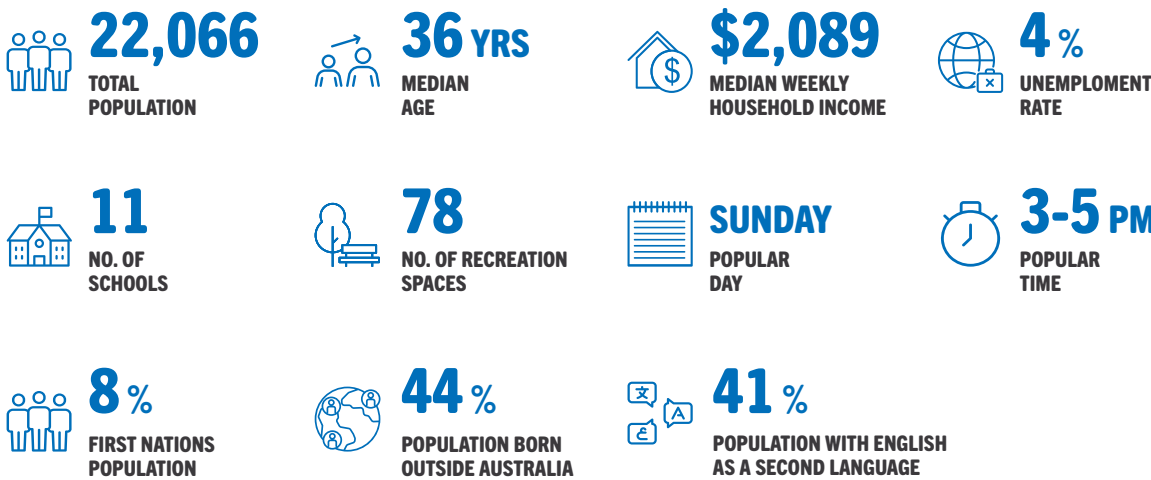
With its proximity to the coastline, extensive areas of mangroves and other natural assets, such as Rapid Creek, the Coastal and Gardens neighbourhood has a lush, tropical character. This bustling neighbourhood includes the Nightcliff and Rapid Creek suburbs, known nationally for their markets and high levels of community activity.

The following character statements help to define the neighbourhood's sense of place:

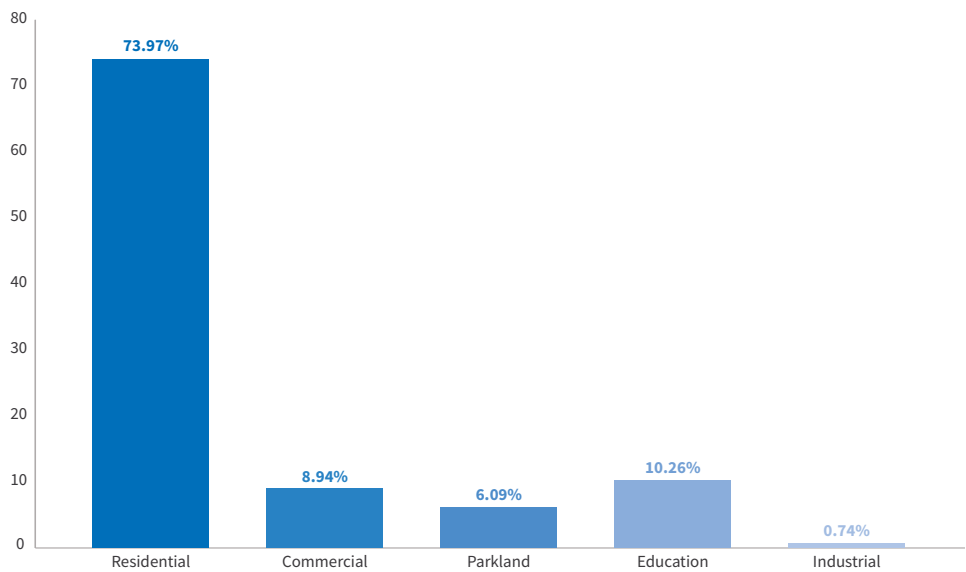
- A lush, green character with proximity to the coastline, Rapid Creek and other natural assets such as the Jingili Water Gardens.
- Includes several sites of great cultural and heritage significance.
- Includes iconic attractions, such as the Nightcliff foreshore and the Nightcliff and Rapid Creek markets.
- Contains long-established suburbs with a diverse range of residential options with detached tropical dwellings, apartments, and townhouses.
- A young community that enjoys weekends the most with its many recreational opportunities.
- Has a broad range of community services, including local schools, high-quality parks and an attractive range of busy commercial areas.
- Popular sporting venues, such as the Bagot Oval, velodrome, bowling alley and skate rink.
- Good network of infrastructure services and local transit routes connecting to other neighbourhoods.



DATA SNAPSHOT



% OF ACTIVITY HOURS SPENT ACROSS DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES





ACCESSIBLE AND CONVENIENT NEIGHBOURHOOD

Vision

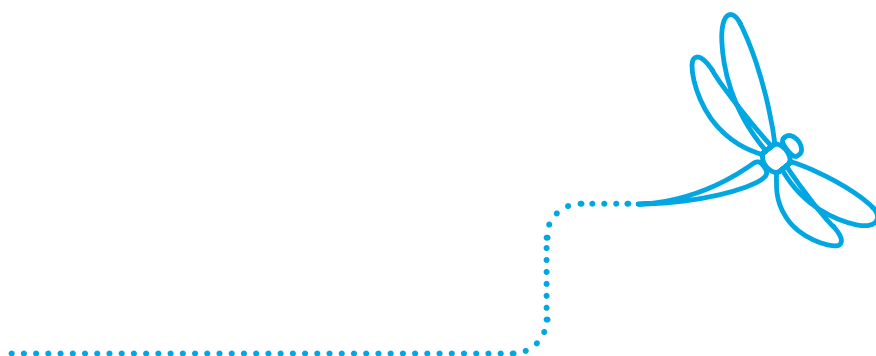
The Accessible and Convenient neighbourhood hosts a variety of modern housing, commercial, industrial and recreational areas with easy access to movement networks and clean, high quality public open spaces and unique experiences.

Place identity

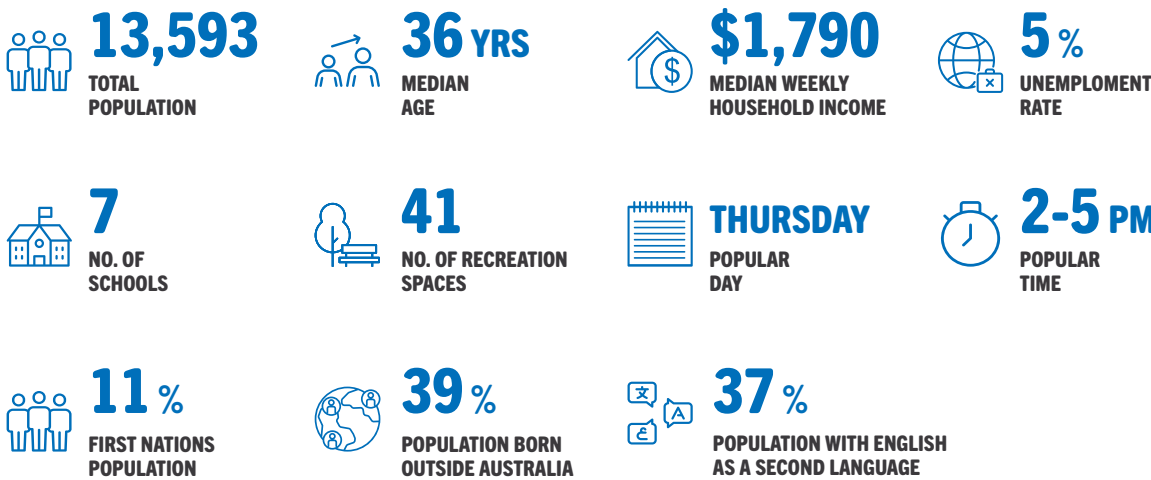
The Accessible and Convenient neighbourhood includes the Darwin International Airport and its surrounds. There are several residential, commercial and industrial areas near the airport and some of the city's most significant sporting precincts. Rapid Creek and the Gurumbai Trail meander under the flightpath through large areas of remnant vegetation and provide opportunities for locals and visitors to engage with rich cultural heritage, environmental values and connection to the land.

The following character statements help to define the neighbourhood's sense of place:

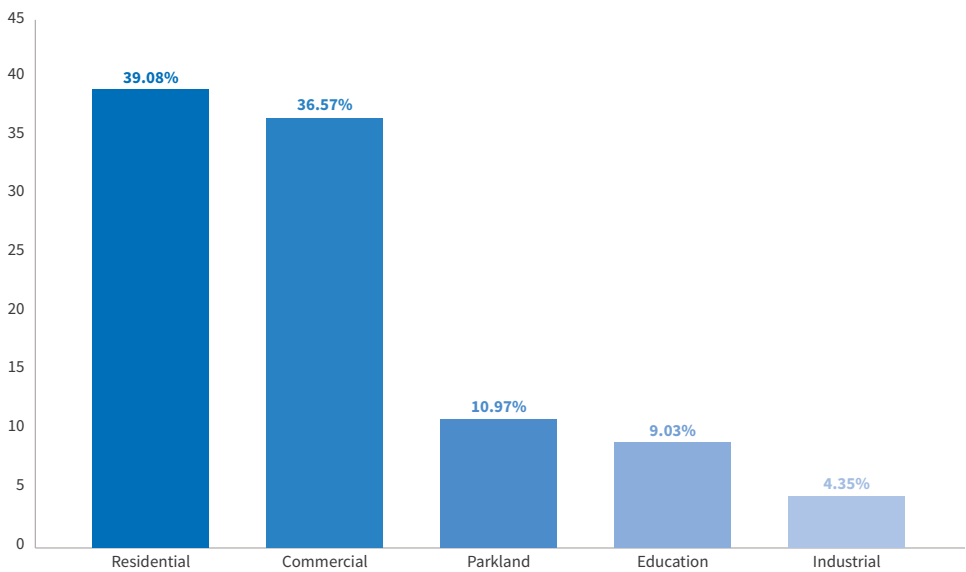
- Darwin International Airport dominates the area, serving as city's gateway to Asia and a major economic driver, providing employment, supporting tourism and trade.
- Includes the Gurumbai Trail, which meanders alongside Rapid Creek under flight paths through remnant vegetation.
- Includes the RAAF Base Darwin and the Defence Establishment at Coonawarra.
- Provides numerous sporting clubs making it a significant asset for recreation and local, national and international sporting events.
- Contains significant industrial/commercial areas in Winnellie and Berrimah, with a mix of industrial and commercial uses.
- Residential suburbs around the airport provide a mix of housing with some modern residential subdivisions, both private and Defence-owned, and potential for further development.
- Four main roads provide convenient access to the city, airport, sporting facilities and commercial areas.



DATA SNAPSHOT



% OF ACTIVITY HOURS SPENT ACROSS DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES





GREEN BELT AND RECREATIONAL NEIGHBOURHOOD

Vision

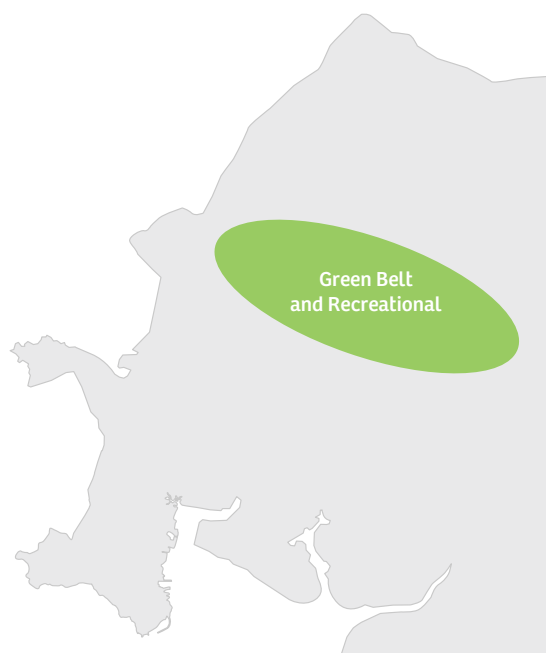
The Green Belt and Recreational neighbourhood includes green corridors, parks and recreational spaces for the whole community and visitors to enjoy and provides opportunities for business, employment and easy access to health services.

Place identity

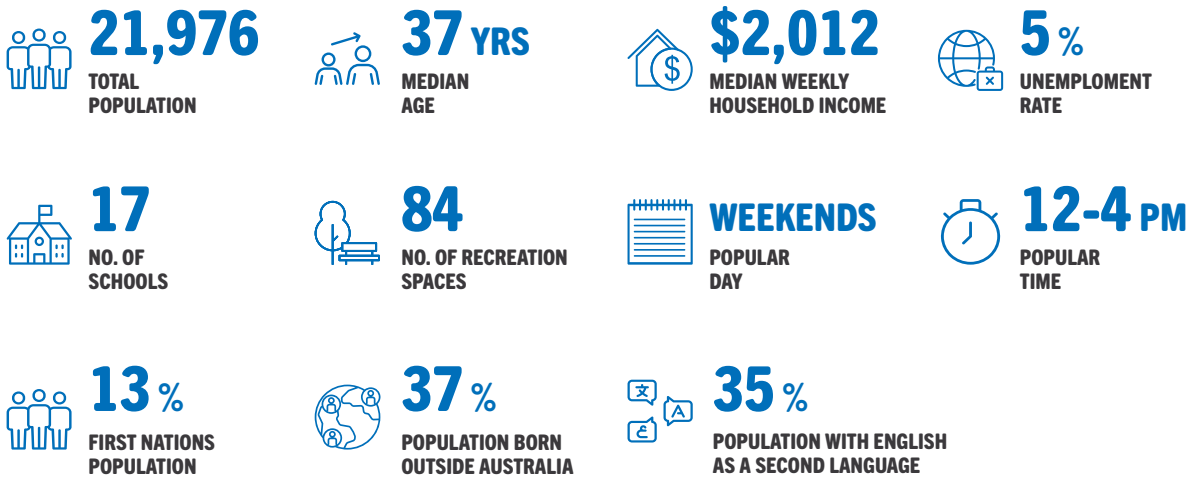
The Green Belt and Recreational neighbourhood is located around the northern edge of the airport and is dominated by the residential suburbs of Alawa, Jingili, Moil, Wagaman, Wulagi, Anula, Malak, Karama and Marrara. These residential areas are close to the many recreational opportunities, including the Marara Sporting Precinct and Leanyer Recreational Park. There are good road connections between all suburbs and the rest of the city and the airport. One of its greatest assets is the green belt that extends from the south-western edge of Anula eastwards into Malak.

The following character statements help to define the neighbourhood's sense of place:

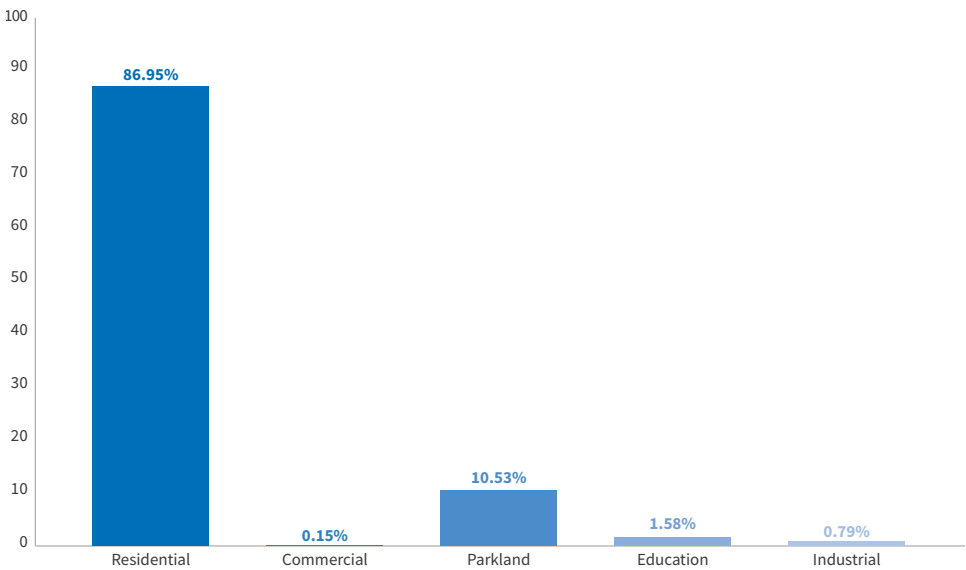
- It is a landlocked neighbourhood dominated by residential suburbs with a range of semi-natural features such as parks, street trees and a green belt that extends from the south-western edge of Anula eastwards into Malak.
- Includes a significant level of community infrastructure, such as schools, health care services, sporting and recreational facilities, public amenities, places of worship and local shops, including a shopping mall at Karama.
- Contains several popular sporting and entertainment clubs and recreation areas with community and tourist attractions.
- A relatively young, multicultural community, people here spend most of their time at home and enjoy the weekends.
- The Malak suburban centre has a concentration of First Nations and multi-cultural services and an active peak season market.
- Well-serviced by roads, water, sewer and other infrastructure.



DATA SNAPSHOT



% OF ACTIVITY HOURS SPENT ACROSS DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES





INTERCONNECTED AND NATURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD

Vision

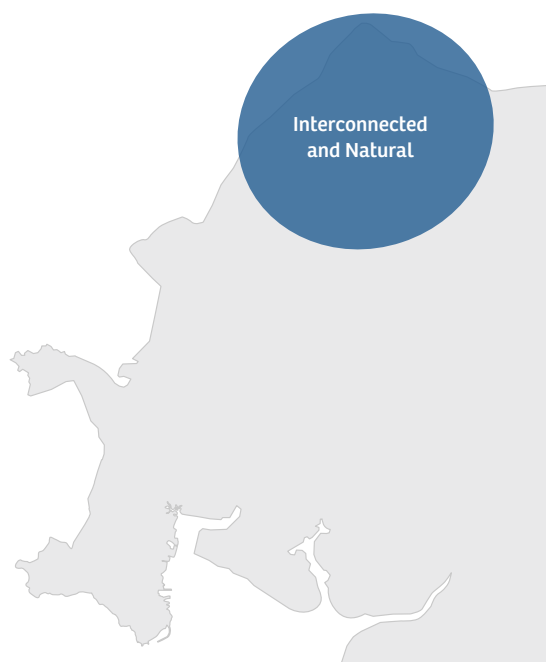
The Interconnected and Natural neighbourhood hosts the Buffalo Creek National Park, many natural and semi-natural areas, shared paths and a quality public realm for community connection and wellbeing.

Place identity

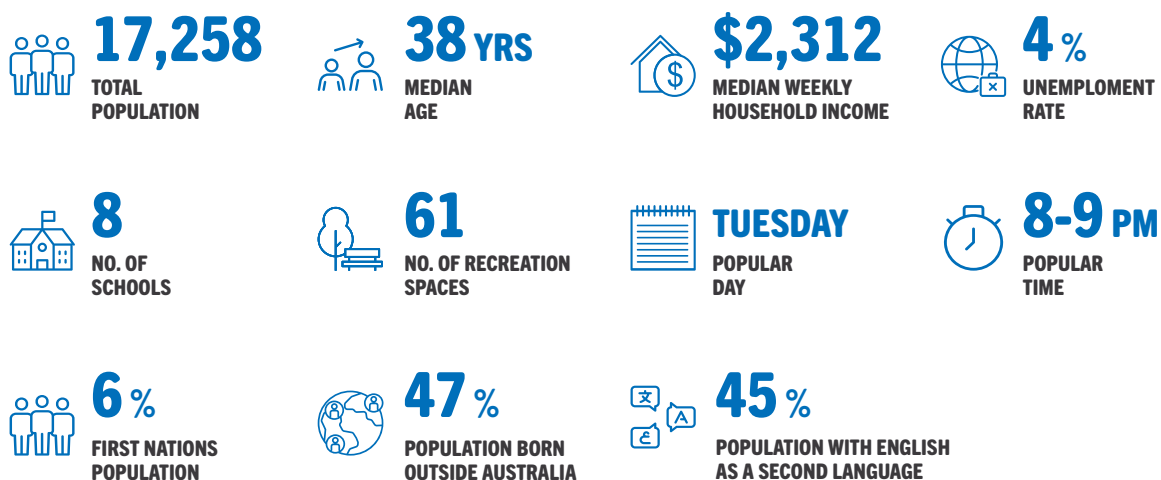
This neighbourhood is characterised by its interconnected suburbs close to an abundance of natural and semi-natural areas, including coastal reserves and various beaches, walking trails and parks. It includes major commercial, education and medical institutions located near several residential areas with good access to local transport networks. It also has strong recreational and tourism attractions with various boat ramps, sporting clubs, tourism ventures and range historic sites to visit.

The following character statements help to define the neighbourhood's sense of place:

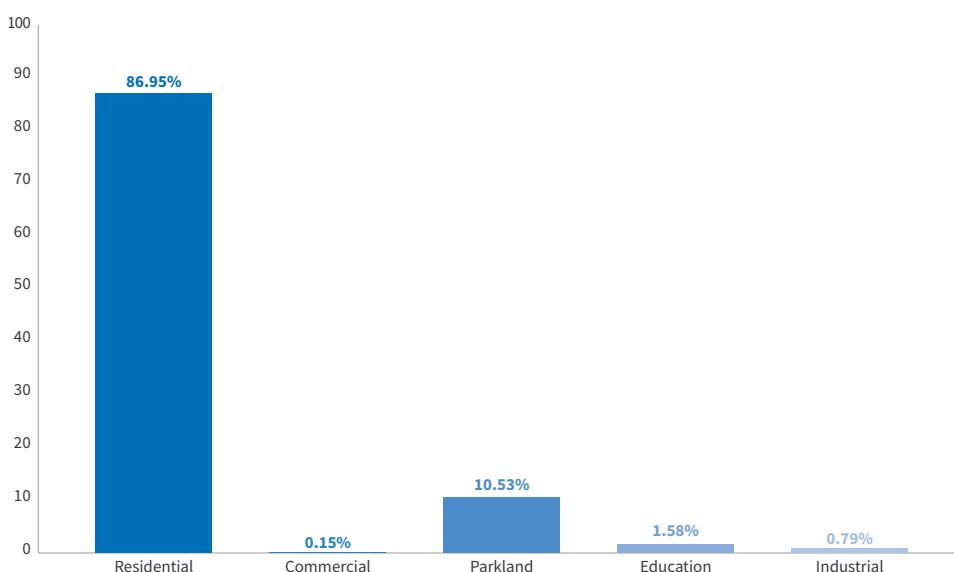
- An interconnected neighbourhood with an abundance of natural and semi-natural areas.
- Includes several significant pieces of community infrastructure with a school, disability services, health services, places of worship, shopping malls, beaches, parks, reserves, walking trails, heritage and tourism attractions.
- A neighbourhood with strong economic and employment generators, such as the Charles Darwin University, Royal Darwin Hospital, and Casuarina Square (shopping mall).
- The residential areas are predominantly single dwellings with a mix of older and newer subdivisions, most have recreational areas, open space, community centres, public amenities and local shops.
- People in this neighbourhood enjoy spending time at home and have access to a great many recreational spaces and schools.
- Well-serviced by roads, water, sewer and other infrastructure.



DATA SNAPSHOT



% OF ACTIVITY HOURS SPENT ACROSS DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES



DARWIN'S PLACE AND LIVEABILITY ROADMAP



Bagot Park Community Planting Day

City of Darwin commits to a roadmap of specific goals and actions that address the liveability principles of importance to our community.

Goal 1. Strengthening community participation and belonging

Our community is looking for higher levels of engagement and better ways to strengthen their sense of belonging to Darwin. We can deliver these aspirations by continuing to work with the community and partners. This will help us retain the people and knowledge we need to improve place and liveability over the next twenty-five years. We will achieve this goal by:

- Delivering an interactive and live Liveability Platform where the community can help us shape and monitor place and liveability initiatives.
- Delivering an inclusive Liveability Toolkit that shapes future place and liveability initiatives by providing guidance for our staff, the community, government and business.
- Delivering training and workshops for the community and staff on how to use the Liveability Toolkit and Platform.
- Developing a place and liveability champions and advocates program.
- Reviewing City of Darwin's current sponsorship and grants programs to consider how liveability can become a key criterion for assessment.
- Ensuring City of Darwin marketing and communication campaigns focus on neighbourhood strengths, places, events and activities.
- Delivering liveability pilot installations and initiatives in each neighbourhood to test liveability principles and seek feedback from the community.
- Developing a Liveability Game for Darwin to engage people in inclusive ways.
- Launching the virtual twin of Darwin and utilise the twin for community engagement and scenario planning.



Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Goal 2. Improving community safety for all

The community has consistently made it clear that improving community safety is a key priority. Community safety is the responsibility of a broad range of stakeholders, including government and non-government agencies, businesses, community groups and the wider community. We will improve this goal by:

- Developing and implementing a long-term prioritised Lighting Program for increased safety and security across Darwin's neighbourhoods.
- Delivering a long-term local area traffic program to make neighbourhood streets safer for people walking, biking, and driving.
- Continue to work with service providers to support vulnerable people including the homeless through outreach programs, youth programs, mental health service connections and other opportunities.
- Making sure parks, streets and shared public spaces are clean and tidy for everyone to enjoy.
- Working closely with the Police to support delivery of CCTV across the neighbourhoods.

Goal 3. Enhancing character and sense of place

This goal will help us address the community's concerns for the future development of the city and its impact on urban design, greening and civic pride. We will achieve this goal by:

- Advocating for the NTG to support better integrated planning to enhance neighbourhood character, liveability, and sense of place.
- Delivering masterplans across Darwin in various community, retail and recreational spaces.
- Developing inclusive neighbourhood streetscaping/landscaping guidelines.
- Upgrading local roads and streetscapes to bring to life commercial and recreational opportunities in the area.
- Continuing to design places that integrate Water Sensitive Urban Design such as using natural water systems in urban landscapes.
- Represent diverse community views to influence planning and development outcomes that improve sense of place, heat resilience, outdoor comfort, health and inclusiveness.



Goal 4. Revitalising public spaces

The community has prioritised the revitalisation of public spaces to ensure they become active destinations. We will achieve this by:

- Delivering a Street Food Revitalisation Program.
- Delivering an Active Paths and Open Streets Program with local schools to support everyday walking and riding routes to school and community engagement through street events.
- Engaging with partners to consider the development of additional nature and cultural trails throughout neighbourhoods.
- Developing a venues directory for the community.
- Designing inclusive, vibrant public spaces that serve as cool and resilient climate refuges—supporting biodiversity, fostering habitat creation, and strengthening cultural connections.
- Investigating opportunities for more nature playgrounds across Darwin.
- Reviewing options to close streets for community events and activities.



Goal 5. Reinforcing infrastructure networks

Walkability, cycling infrastructure and ease of movement across the neighbourhoods is a key liveability priority for our community. To address it, we can continue to reinforce our movement infrastructure networks. We will achieve this goal by:

- Continuing to improve our shared path connections for recreation and commuting throughout all neighbourhoods.
- Delivering a Signs Program to improve wayfinding and physical connectivity across Darwin.
- Reviewing ways to fund infrastructure to ensure our needs are met in neighbourhoods.
- Delivering a park and ride facility, where the community can park their cars and ride or catch public transport to school or work.
- Advocating for better public transport across the Darwin municipality.

TRACKING PROGRESS

City of Darwin will complete a review of the Place and Liveability Plan every five years. Council will be provided with regular updates on the Plan within the established reporting frameworks. The Liveability Platform will be a place where the community can provide continuous feedback.



Bundilla Dog Park

Harry Chan Avenue
GPO Box 84 Darwin NT 0801

For enquiries phone us from
8am – 5pm on 8930 0300
or email darwin@darwin.nt.gov.au

DARWIN.NT.GOV.AU



14.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY CALL FOR MOTIONS

Author: Manager Advocacy and Policy

Authoriser: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Draft LGANT motion [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Call for Motions be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the following motion to be submitted to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory General Meeting on 19 November 2025:

City of Darwin calls on LGANT to advocate for the Northern Territory Government to implement centralised Dog and Cat registration for the Northern Territory.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Elected Members to endorse the motion to be put forward to the LGANT General Meeting on 19 November 2025.

KEY ISSUES

- The LGANT General Meeting will be held 19 November 2025.
- As a member of LGANT, City of Darwin is invited to identify strategic priorities and issues for Council where the efforts and resources of LGANT could be directed for good effect and benefit.
- City of Darwin may submit motions and supporting papers for the consideration by the LGANT General Meeting.
- One topic is being proposed to put to the November General Meeting, namely calling for the Northern Territory Government to implement centralised Dog and Cat registration for the Northern Territory.

DISCUSSION

Council's principal role is to represent and make decisions in the interests of the Darwin community, coordinate the provision of services and facilities to support liveability improvements and represent the area's interests to the wider community.

As the sector's peak body, the LGANT is responsible for providing industry specific leadership, support and influential representation for its members, including the City of Darwin.

The next LGANT General Meeting is being held on 19 November 2025 in Darwin. This meeting provides an opportunity to shape the priorities, focus and output of LGANT.

LGANT have called for motions, and City of Darwin is proposing to put forward a motion calling on LGANT to advocate for the Northern Territory Government to implement centralised Dog and Cat registration for the Northern Territory.

Background

In 1991 the Dog Act 1980 was repealed making the Northern Territory the only jurisdiction with no legislative base to regulate companion animals.

During November 2018, at the LGANT General Meeting, a resolution was passed that LGANT lobby the Northern Territory Government to introduce uniform domestic animal management legislation in the Northern Territory.

Since 2018, LGANT along with several member councils have been advocating for companion animal legislation. This advocacy, among other methods, included:

- advocating through the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee; a committee reporting to the Minister for Environment and Fisheries, and
- member councils working with the Animal Reference Management Group; a group formed under the former Department Local Government to provide advice to the agency on operational considerations for the adoption or implementation of Companion Animal Legislation.

In 2024, the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee wrote to the Minister for Environment and Fisheries formally requesting work to commence to develop Companion Animal Legislation. No response has been received; however, officers within the Animal Welfare branch advised the committee that this is not a government priority and their agency will not progress any work within this term of Government.

Until companion animal legislation is introduced, it is proposed that LGANT call on the NT Government to implement central Dog and Cat registration. This has been successfully implemented in other States, such as South Australia through Dogs and Cats Online.

A central Dog and Cat registration will allow dog and cat owners to register a dog or cat through a single portal, accessible by any member council and NT Government agencies that have an ongoing interest or enforcement pathway related to Dogs or Cats.

The introduction of central Dog and Cat registration will allow pet owners to manage all aspects of their animal's registration; including, payment of renewals, notifying change of address or ownership, and provisions to flag declared dangerous dogs.

A portion of registration income may fund the costs associated with maintaining the central registry with surplus income distributed to councils based on the number of dogs or cats that register or renew in that Local Government Area.

This motion does not replace continued advocacy for Companion Animal Legislation, the motion seeks to address risks associated with compliance with registration requirements, visibility of the movement of a dog or cat across the Northern Territory along with the risks associated with inconsistent criteria for the declaration and tracking of declared dangerous dogs within the Northern Territory.

Therefore, it is being recommended that Council submit a motion calling on LGANT to advocate for the Northern Territory Government to implement centralised Dog and Cat registration for the Northern Territory.	
PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION	
N/A	
STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	6 Governance Framework 6.2 Roles and Relationships
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	N/A
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	N/A
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	N/A
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).



LGANT CALL FOR MOTIONS

P (08) 8944 9697
E info@lgant.asn.au
W lgant.asn.au

A 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820
PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804

ABN: 35 662 805 503

We are local. We connect.



CALL FOR MOTIONS

About this document

LGANT's purpose, as per the Strategic Plan 2025-2028, is to support and represent member councils to drive sustainable economic and social development of the Northern Territory community.

The purpose of *this* document is to provide a template for member councils to submit motions to LGANT on issues for consideration, such as governance, policy positions and advocacy efforts, at either the April or November General Meetings.

Policy positions are a statement or declaration of an organisation's stance on a particular topic(s). Further, LGANT seeks to influence public policy which is laws, guidelines and actions decided and taken by governments. Motions from councils help LGANT form its policy positions and statements that in turn, assist with advocacy efforts. LGANT's current policy statements can be found [here](#).

Advocacy is a broad term encompassing endeavours to achieve change. For LGANT, advocacy is activity undertaken to promote and influence issues that collectively effect local government.

Timeframes

This 'call for motion' template will usually accompany LGANT's notice of a General Meeting, but motions can be submitted at any time.

To make the agenda of a General Meeting, motions must be submitted in advance. Late motions will not be accepted (unless urgent) and will instead be referred to the next General Meeting.

If the motion is urgent, councils may consider calling a Special General Meeting or request the LGANT Board address through their meetings.

Other important information

There must only be ONE issue per motion. It is suggested that the council submitting the motion first discuss it with LGANT so they can outline existing activity or policies positions, if any, in the topic area and assist with developing the business case.

Motions need to be approved by resolution of the local government council prior to submission to LGANT.

LGANT will assess the motion for completeness and appropriateness and if necessary, discuss it with the submitting member council and request more information or redrafting before including in the General Meeting agenda. This process may require the council to re-endorse its motion. If there is not enough information, LGANT has the discretion to not accept the motion.

LGANT will draft a cover business paper for each motion and may present the final motions to the LGANT Board for review, before distribution to members via the final General Meeting agenda.

By submitting a motion, your council can move and speak to the motion at the General Meeting it is going to.

The better your council's argument or case, the more likely it is to be resolved by members. Resolved motions are minuted following the General Meeting, allocated to LGANT staff for action, and reported on at LGANT Board and General meetings.



TEMPLATE

CALL FOR MOTIONS

Member councils are invited to submit motions for debate to be included at General Meetings using this template.

Name of Council:

City of Darwin

Contact person and title:

Simone Saunders, Chief Executive Officer

Phone:

08 8930 0505

Email:

simone.saunders@darwin.nt.gov.au

Motion title:

Implementation of Northern Territory Centralised Dog and Cat Registry

Resolution sought (Motion):

Motions should be clear and concise and must be limited to one subject matter/ issue.

Consider the action your council wants LGANT to do for the local government sector e.g.,

- "Council calls on LGANT to...."
- "Council calls on the NT Government to...."
- "Council calls on the Australian Government to...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to assist with...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to develop a policy position on...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to review its policy position on...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to review the Constitution to...."

LGANT calls on the NT Government to implement centralised Dog and Cat registration for the Northern Territory.



Supporting information:

Questions for consideration in drafting this section:

- What is the issue/opportunity the motion is addressing?
- How it came to light?
- If/how your council has tried to deal with it to date?
- If a legislative issue, what is the relevant Act?
- Does LGANT have an existing policy statement on the subject/issue? If yes, what is it?
- Is the motion relevant to the sector across the NT? If yes, how? If not, can the issue be dealt with through a different forum?
- What other councils have you spoken to about this motion?

Provide attachment/s if required.

In 1991 the Dog Act 1980 was repealed making the Northern Territory the only jurisdiction with no legislative base to regulate companion animals.

During November 2018, the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) General Meeting, a resolution was passed that LGANT lobby the Northern Territory Government (NTG) to introduce uniform domestic animal management legislation in the Northern Territory.

Since 2018, LGANT along with several member councils have been advocating for companion animal legislation. This advocacy, among other methods, included:

- advocating through The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee; a committee reporting to the Minister for Environment and Fisheries, and
- member councils working with The Animal Reference Management Group; a group formed under the former Department Local Government to provide advice to the agency on operational considerations for the adoption or implementation of Companion Animal Legislation.

In 2024, the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee wrote to the Minister for Environment and Fisheries formally requesting work to commence to develop Companion Animal Legislation. No response has been received; however, officers within the Animal Welfare branch advised the committee that this is not a government priority and their agency will not progress any work within this term of Government.

Until companion animal legislation is introduced, it is proposed that LGANT call on the NT Government to implement central Dog and Cat registration. This has been successfully implemented in other States, such as South Australia through Dogs and Cats Online.

A central Dog and Cat registration will allow dog and cat owners to register a dog or cat through a single portal, accessible by any member council and NT Government agencies that have an ongoing interest or enforcement pathway related to Dogs or Cats.

The introduction of central Dog and Cat registration will allow pet owners to manage all aspects of their animal's registration; including, payment of renewals, notifying change of address or ownership, and provisions to flag declared dangerous dogs.



A portion of registration income may fund the costs associated with maintaining the central registry with surplus income distributed to councils based on the number of dogs or cats that register or renew in that Local Government Area.

This motion does not replace continued advocacy for Companion Animal Legislation, the motion seeks to address risks associated with compliance with registration requirements, visibility of the movement of a dog or cat across the Northern Territory along with the risks associated with inconsistent criteria for the declaration and tracking of declared dangerous dogs within the Northern Territory.

Council confirmation:

I, Simone Saunders, the Chief Executive Officer, hereby confirm that this motion was approved by resolution of council on [Click or tap to enter a date.](#) for presentation at the next LGANT General Meeting.

In submitting this motion, I confirm that the council has (please tick):

- ☐ consulted with other NT councils to confirm the motion is relevant to the sector more broadly;
- ☐ reviewed LGANT's [Constitution](#), [Governance Charter](#), [Policy Statements](#), and [Strategic Plan](#) in preparing this motion; and
- ☐ provided enough information to enable members to make a considered decision on whether to support or otherwise.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

14.3 EXCEPTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT - SUBDIVISION FOR 2 LOTS - 2 SCOTT STREET, FANNIE BAY

Author: Manager Planning and Place
Executive Manager Growth and Economic Development

Authoriser: General Manager Innovation

Attachments: 1. Submission - 2 Scott Street, Fannie Bay [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Exceptional Development Permit - Subdivision for 2 Lots - 2 Scott Street, Fannie Bay be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the submission to Development Assessment Services provided at **Attachment 1**.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement from Council to make a submission to an application for an Exceptional Development Permit.

KEY ISSUES

- The application (proposal) referred to City of Darwin is for an Exceptional Development Permit (EDP) that conflicts with City of Darwin's community-driven approach to place and liveability, which aims to:
 - strengthen community participation and belonging; and
 - enhance character and sense of place
- The proposal seeks to split one lot into two in the Low Density Residential (LR) zone.
- The smallest lot would have an area of only 350m², which is significantly less than the zone's minimum lot size of 800m².
- As a lot size under 800m² is prohibited for this site, an Exceptional Development Permit would be required for the applicants to increase the lot density and bypass the normal development application and rezoning process.
- The area is dominated by large single houses on large, vegetated lots with onsite stormwater disposal and in an area where the drainage network is not fully reticulated.
- The proposal conflicts with the planning scheme's applicable controls and Strategic Framework and contains a lack of supporting information about these matters, which is unfair to the community and undermines the purpose of the *NT Planning Act 1999*.
- The Development Consent Authority will consider the proposal and make a recommendation to the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment who may approve or refuse it.
- If approved, it may set a precedent for more undersized lots in Zone LR, which could lead to the loss of neighbourhood character, uncoordinated density increases, pressure on infrastructure and the unplanned escalation of costs.
- To enable City of Darwin to optimise budgets, upgrade infrastructure and improve service delivery, increased densities in Darwin's suburbs must be strategically planned to align with community needs, infrastructure upgrades and funding.

DISCUSSION

Background

The application (proposal) conflicts with the NT Planning Scheme's applicable controls and strategic framework. It is also short on information about these matters, which hinders community participation during the public advertising period and undermines the purpose and objectives of the *NT Planning Act 1999* (The Act). If approved, the proposal could set an undesirable precedent for unplanned subdivision, adversely impacting neighbourhood character and infrastructure. Given these matters, the proposal conflicts with City of Darwin's community-driven approach to place and liveability, particularly our goals to strengthen community participation, character and sense of place.

Site and surrounds

As shown in the image below, the established pattern of residential development in the area is low density with predominantly large single dwellings on lot sizes ranging from around 1,800m² to 1,200m². These residential properties are heavily vegetated, which provides urban cooling, stormwater management and a high level of amenity. The only residential anomaly in the vicinity of the site is a unit development, directly opposite and to the north of 2 Scott Street (at 60 East Point Road), which is the legacy of a much earlier planning scheme that applied a different type of zone. This unit development, which increases the demand for on street parking in the area, would not be approved in Zone LR today. There is no fully reticulated stormwater drainage system in this area.

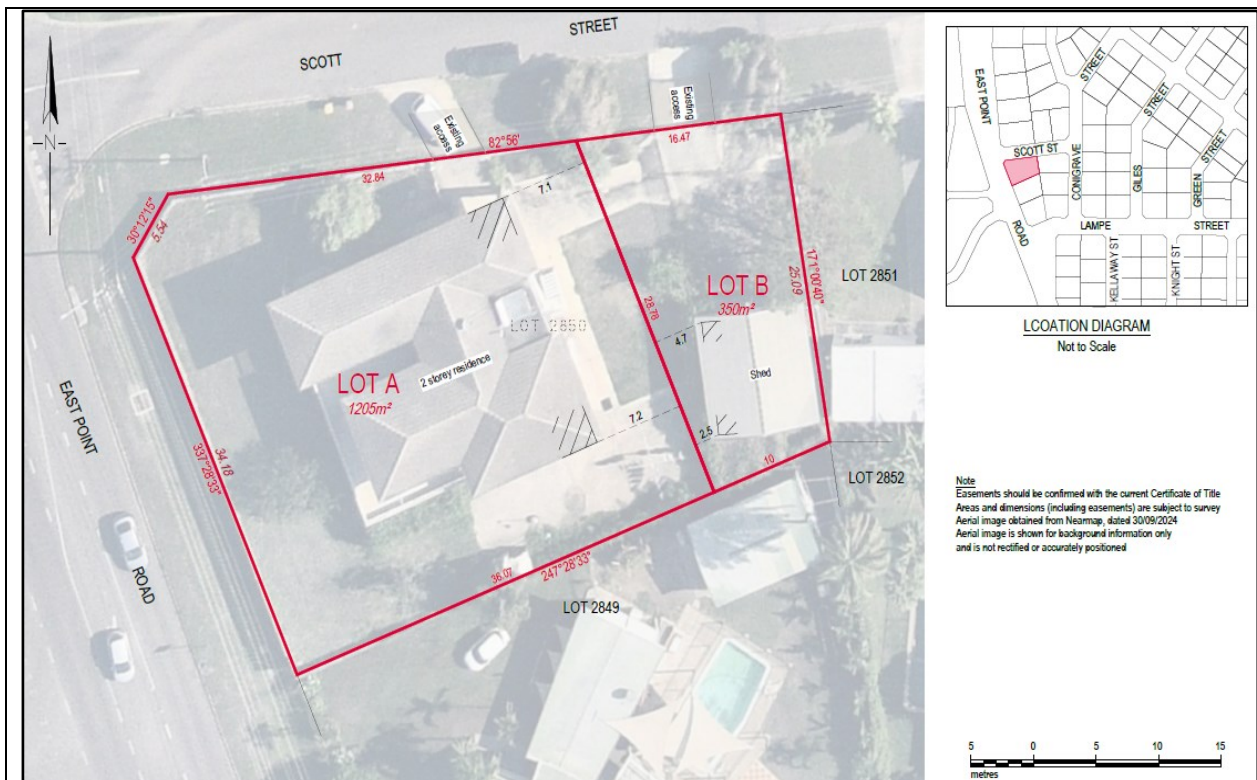


As shown below, the site is in large area of Zone LR in the Fannie Bay suburb, where there is no history of approving lot sizes lower than the required 800m². Nearly all lot sizes are above 1,200m².

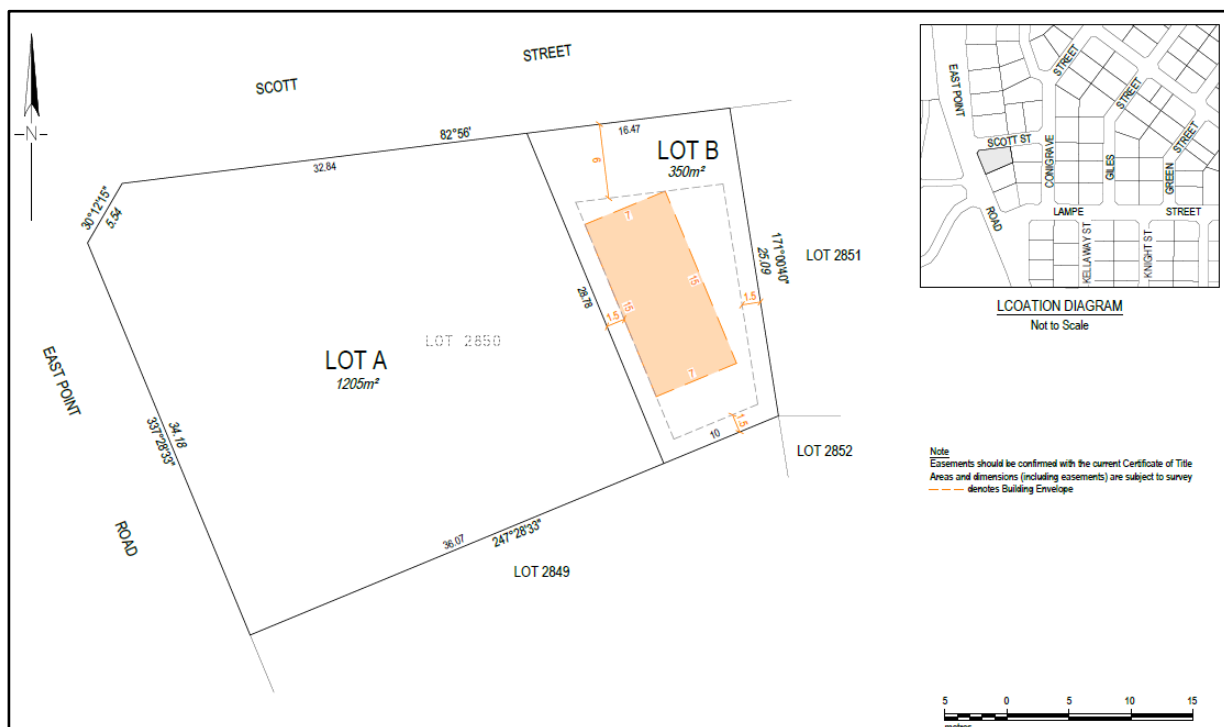


The proposal

The proposed EDP is to subdivide one lot into two lots at 2 Scott Street, Fannie Bay (Zone LR – Low Density Residential) as shown below. One lot would be 1,205m² (with the existing house) and the other just 350m² (with an existing garage). This is well below the 800m² minimum required for this particular property in this zone.



The indicative future house footprint is shown below (not part of this application). As can be seen by this indicative footprint, a future house on the smaller lot would be much smaller (less than half) with less garden area and more hard surfaces than the other properties in the surrounding area.



Reasons for recommending refusal

The City of Darwin submission (**Attachment 1**) details the proposal's conflict with the applicable parts of the Planning Scheme, including the Strategic Framework (land use plans and policy and subdivision and zone controls). It also highlights that the proposal lacks sufficient information to demonstrate alignment with strategic plans or effective stormwater management.

The reasons are summarised as follows:

- the smaller lot (350m²) is significantly less than is currently allowed in Zone LR
- the proposal will result in residential development that does not fit in with the established pattern of low-density residential development in the area
- the proposal conflicts with the NT Compact Urban Growth Policy, which only encourages higher only where neighbourhood character and infrastructure can support it
- it conflicts with the Darwin Inner Suburbs Area Plan 2016, which does not identify this area for increased density
- it conflicts with the Darwin Regional Land Use Strategy 2015, which aims for development to:
 - demonstrate compatibility with land and drainage constraints
 - be aligned with sequencing priorities for infrastructure delivery
- the application does not show how the smaller lot would benefit the wider community, and
- if approved, it may set a precedent and open the door for more undersized lots in Zone LR, which could lead to the loss of neighbourhood character, uncoordinated density increases, pressure on infrastructure and the unplanned escalation of costs.

Conclusion

The application conflicts with the Planning Act's objectives to ensure strategic planning reflects the wishes and needs of the community. Increasing densities in parts of Darwin with inadequate infrastructure should be guided by a strategic review of relevant land use plans to ensure appropriate planning and alignment. Any future changes to densities should also be aligned with local housing targets, infrastructure pipelines, funding programs and developer contributions.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	2 A Safe, Liveable and Healthy City 2.2 By 2030, Darwin will be increasingly recognised as a liveable city
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Budget/Funding: N/A
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Legislation: Northern Territory Planning Act 1999 Policy: N/A
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	Engagement Level: Inform
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).



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Manager Urban Planning
Development Assessment Services
Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics
GPO Box 1680
DARWIN NT 0801

Please Quote: PA2025/0296

17 October 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

Parcel Description: Lot 2850 Town of Darwin
2 Scott Street, Fannie Bay

Proposed Development: Exceptional Development - Subdivision to create two lots

Thank you for the development application referred to this office 3 October 2025 concerning the above.

The application is for an Exceptional Development Permit (EDP) to subdivide one lot into two lots in zone Low Density Residential (LR). In zone LR, the minimum lot size for this particular property is 800m². The subdivision proposal would result in one lot of 1,205m² (containing existing single dwelling) with a balance lot of 350m² (containing an existing garage). The smaller lot is 450m² less than would normally be permitted in the zone.

The site in Fannie Bay, sits in context with surrounding large lot of Zone LR. The existing pattern of residential development in the area is characterised as being low density with predominantly large single dwellings on lot sizes ranging from around 1,800m² to 1,200m². These residential properties are heavily vegetated, which provides urban cooling, stormwater management and a high level of amenity. The only anomaly in the vicinity of the site is a unit development, directly opposite and to the north of 2 Scott Street (at 60 East Point Road), which is a legacy of a much earlier planning scheme that applied a different type of zone. This unit development would not be approved in Zone LR today.

Pursuant to Section 22 (1) of the *NT Planning Act 1999* (the Act), City of Darwin submits that this application should be refused for the following reasons:

1. The proposed smaller lot is inconsistent with the purpose of Clause 6.2.11 (Lot Size and Configuration for Subdivision in Zone LR) due to the scale and configuration of the lot being inconsistent with the pattern of the established development in Scott Street and the surrounding area, where there has been no increase in residential development that has resulted in the creation of new lot with areas less than those permitted in Zone LR.

darwin.nt.gov.au





2. Despite the proposed residential development on the site being inconsistent with the established pattern of development in the area, the land will remain in Zone LR.
3. The proposal is inconsistent with the NT Compact Urban Growth Policy (CUGP) for the following reasons:
 - a. As the proposal will not transition density appropriately with surrounding lower density neighbourhood character, it conflicts with Clause: 4.2 Neighbourhood Character – Key Performance Indicator 3.
 - b. As there is no reticulated stormwater system in the area and the application does not consider stormwater impact, there may be inadequate infrastructure capacity to support increased density from smaller lot development, which conflicts with Clause: 4.4 Service Infrastructure – Key Performance Indicator 1.
 - c. As the proposal will result in a smaller single dwelling than those in the adjacent area, the proposal is inconsistent with Clause: 4.2 Neighbourhood Character – Key Performance Indicator 1(a).
 - d. As the Darwin Inner Suburbs Area Plan (DISAP) identifies the site and surrounds for 'Residential – low density' and does not identify it as being in a 'Potential area for change', the proposal is inconsistent Clause: 4.2 Neighbourhood Character – Key Performance Indicator 2.
 - e. As the proposal fails to demonstrate compliance with CUGP performance indicators, it is inconsistent with Clause: 3.2 Use of Policy Performance Criteria.
4. The proposal is inconsistent with the Darwin Regional Land Use Plan 2015 (DRLUP) for the following reasons:
 - a. The application has not provided sufficient information to demonstrate that the smaller lot is compatible with land capability and drainage constraints.
 - b. The increased density is not aligned with sequencing priorities for infrastructure delivery.
5. The application does not clearly demonstrate any benefits to the broader community or improved amenity to justify a departure from the NTPS and the Darwin Inner Suburbs Area Plan (DISAP), which undermines the Act's objective to promote the good design of buildings and other works that respects the amenity of the locality.
6. The application does not contain sufficient information to fully consider the requirements of the CUGP, DRLUP or DISAP, which means through this process that residents in the area were not provided the opportunity to consider the proposal against the planning scheme's Strategic Framework or strategic intent of the Darwin Inner Suburbs Area Plan (DISAP). This weakness in the EDP application undermines the effectiveness of the DISAP and conflicts with the Act's objectives to:
 - a. ensure strategic planning reflects the wishes and needs of the community.
 - b. respect and encourage fair and open decision making and public access to processes for review of planning related decisions.
7. If approved, the EDP would likely set an undesirable precedent of undersized lots in Zone LR, which may increase the potential for future development in the area to bypass existing planning controls. This could result in increasing densities without increasing infrastructure plans or capacity and would erode the character of the area with development that is more suited to a well-planned higher density zone, which undermines the Act's objectives to:
 - a. to assist the provision of public utilities, infrastructure and facilities for the benefit of the community.
 - b. promote the good design of buildings and other works that respects the amenity of the locality.



- c. respect and encourage fair and open decision making and public access to processes for review of planning related decisions.

City of Darwin advises that increased densities in areas of Darwin with inadequate infrastructure should be strategically planned to ensure they reflect the wishes and needs of the community through a review of applicable land use plans. They should also be aligned with local housing targets, infrastructure pipelines, funding programs and developer contributions. This will empower City of Darwin to plan for and support Darwin's growth, better prioritise infrastructure investment, optimise budgets and deliver more effective and timely services.

If you require any further information in relation to this application, please feel free to contact City of Darwin's Innovation Team on 8930 0300 or darwin@darwin.nt.gov.au

Yours faithfully

ALICE PERCY
GENERAL MANAGER INNOVATION

darwin.nt.gov.au



14.4 NOMINATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY (LGANT) BOARD

Author: A/Manager Office of Council and CEO

Authoriser: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. LGANT Board Director Nomination Information [↓](#)
2. LGANT Board Director Nomination Form [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Nominations for Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Board be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the nomination for _____ to the LGANT Board as President.
3. THAT Council endorse the nomination for _____ to the LGANT Board as Director – Municipal.
4. THAT Council appoint the nomination for _____ as Board Director – Municipal, should Councillor Peter Pangquee be appointed as President.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to endorse the nominations to the LGANT Board.

KEY ISSUES

- LGANT convened a Special General Meeting on Friday, 10 October 2025, where a resolution was passed to hold an election for the President and two casual vacancies on the LGANT Board.
- Election for the positions will be held on Wednesday, 19 November 2025 at the LGANT Annual General Meeting.
- Under the LGANT Constitution, nominations must be called for the LGANT Board.
- Nominations for the LGANT Board close on 31 October 2025.
- Nominations must be endorsed by way of Council resolution.

DISCUSSION

LGANT is calling for nominations for the President and two casual vacancy (Municipal) positions on the Board by 31 October 2024. The nomination information sheet is at **Attachment 1**.

Meetings of the Board are to be held in accordance with the Company's Governance Charter. The LGANT Board has nine members, eight of which are elected by vote and one position is appointed by the City of Darwin. Nominations must be supported by a short biography, to be included in the agenda papers for the Annual General Meeting, and members will be provided an opportunity to speak in support of their nominations at the meeting.

The nomination form is at **Attachment 2**.

The casual vacancy Board positions shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 19 November 2025, and, subject to LGANT's Constitution, and shall be entitled to hold office for a period of one year from that Annual General Meeting.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

At the 24 September 2024 meeting Council resolved:

RESOLUTION ORD400/24

1. THAT the report entitled Nomination for Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Board be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the nomination for the Lord Mayor to the LGANT Board as President.
3. THAT Council endorse the nomination for the Lord Mayor to the LGANT Board as Vice President – Municipal, should the Lord Mayor not be appointed as President.
4. THAT Council endorse the nomination for the Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee to the LGANT Board as Vice President - Municipal.
5. THAT Council appoint the nomination for the Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee as Board Director – Municipal.

CARRIED 9/0

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	6 Governance Framework 6.2 Roles and Relationships
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Budget/Funding: Is Funding identified: Yes As per the Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Councils Existing Position No: Contractor:
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Legislation: <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> Policy: Elected Members Expenses, Facilities and Support Policy Advisory and Other Committees Policy

CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	Engagement Level: Inform Tactics: N/A Internal: Chief Executive Officer External: N/A
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).



LGANT Board Director nomination information

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Board of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT). This introduction provides you with important information about the responsibilities and expectations associated with this role. We encourage you to read it carefully before submitting your nomination.

About LGANT

LGANT is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001*. We represent the interests of our local government members across the Northern Territory.

Director Responsibilities

As a Director of LGANT, you will have significant legal and ethical responsibilities. These include:

- 1. Duty of Care and Diligence:** You must exercise your powers and duties with the care and diligence that a reasonable person would exercise in the same circumstances. This includes staying informed about the organisation's activities and financial position.
- 2. Duty to Act in Good Faith:** You must act in good faith in the best interests of LGANT and for a proper purpose. This means putting the interests of LGANT ahead of your own interests or those of any individual council.
- 3. Duty Not to Improperly Use Position or Information:** You must not use your position, or information obtained through your position, to gain an advantage for yourself or someone else, or to cause detriment to LGANT.
- 4. Duty to Disclose Material Personal Interests:** You must disclose any material personal interests in matters that relate to the affairs of LGANT.
- 5. Duty to Prevent Insolvent Trading:** You must prevent LGANT from incurring debts that it cannot pay.

The Board is responsible for the overall governance, management and strategic direction of the organisation (LGANT) and for delivering accountable corporate performance in accordance with the organisation's goals and objectives.

It's crucial to understand that as a Director, you will be representing LGANT as a whole, not your individual council. You will need to "take off your council hat" and make decisions in the best interests of LGANT and its entire membership.

Eligibility Under the Corporations Act 2001

It is important to note that certain individuals are disqualified from managing corporations under the *Corporations Act 2001*. This includes people who are undischarged bankrupt, have been convicted of certain offences, or are subject to a court order that disqualified them from managing corporations. If you are unsure about your eligibility, please review Section 206B of the *Corporations Act 2001*, or seek legal advice before submitting your nomination.



Important: Director Identification Number (Director ID) Requirement

All Directors in Australia, including LGANT, are required to have a Director ID. This is a unique identifier that you will keep forever. If you don't already have a Director ID, you must apply for one before you can be appointed as a Director of LGANT. This is a crucial step in the nomination process.

To apply for a Director ID or for more information, visit the Australian Business Registry Services website – www.abrs.gov.au. We strongly recommend that you start this process as soon as possible if you intend to nominate, as it may take some time to complete.

Skills and Experience

Effective governance requires a diverse range of skills and experiences on the Board. We encourage nominees to consider their unique contributions in areas such as:

- Strategic planning and policy development;
- Financial management and analysis;
- Risk management and compliance;
- Stakeholder engagement and communication;
- Legal and governance expertise;
- Industry knowledge (local government, public administration); and
- Leadership and change management.

While not all Directors need to be experts in all areas, a combination of these skills across the Board is vital for LGANT's success.

Commitment

Board membership requires a time commitment. In addition to regular Board meetings, you may be asked to serve on committees, attend events, and engage in ongoing professional development. Please consider your capacity to fully engage in these responsibilities before nominating.

Governance Framework

LGANT operates under a comprehensive governance framework, primarily defined by our [Constitution](#) and [Governance Charter](#). These documents outline our purpose, structure, and operational guidelines. We strongly recommend that you familiarise yourself with these documents before submitting your nomination.

Nomination Process

Nominations open 10 October 2025 and close 31 October 2025.

Please note that each nomination must be endorsed by a resolution at your Council meeting.

Only one elected member from each member council can be elected as a Director of the Board, and all others must be withdrawn from the election to any other positions, with the exception of City of Darwin which may have up to two positions on the Board (e.g. their nominated Director and an ordinary Director).

Please refer to LGANT's [Constitution](#) for more information of the nomination and voting process.

Annual General Meeting

The election will take place at our Annual General Meeting which is being held on 19 November 2025.

**Nomination Form**

The nomination form outlines the specific requirements for nomination. Please complete and lodge by 31 October 2025. You will be provided an opportunity to talk to your nomination at the Annual General Meeting.

If you have any questions about the nomination process or the responsibilities of a LGANT Board Director, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

We appreciate your interest in contributing to the important work of LGANT and look forward to receiving your nomination.



LGANT Board Director nomination form

Nominating Council:	
Name of Elected Member nominee:	
Nominee Director ID No:	
Nominee position eg. Lord Mayor, Mayor/President, Deputy Mayor/President, or Councillor	
Nominee phone number:	
Nominee email address:	
Position (please indicate):	☐ President
	☐ Board Director – Municipal
Skills and Experience: (please provide brief details)	☐ Strategic Planning Details:
	☐ Risk Management Details:

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W lgant.asn.au

A 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820
 PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804
 ABN: 35 662 805 503

We are local. We connect.

	☐ Financial Management Details:
	☐ Stakeholder Engagement Details:
	☐ Legal Governance Expertise Details:
	☐ Local Government Knowledge Details:
	☐ Leadership Experience Details:
	☐ Other (please specify) Details:

Board Director experience:	Position:
	Date:
	Organisation:
	Position:
	Date:
	Organisation:
	Position:
	Date:
	Organisation:
Tertiary qualifications (eg. certificates, diplomas, degrees, etc):	Qualification:
	Field of Study:
	Institution:
	Qualification:
	Field of Study:
	Institution:
	Qualification:
	Field of Study:
	Institution:

Declaration

- ☐ I confirm that I have read and understood the LGANT Constitution and Governance Charter.
- ☐ I am aware of the responsibilities of a Director under the *Corporations Act 2001* and am willing to fulfil these duties if elected.

- ☐ I confirm that I am eligible to serve as a Director under the *Corporations Act 2001* and am not disqualified from managing corporations.
- ☐ I have included a short biography (with a high-resolution digital photo) outlining my relevant skills, experience and qualifications as part of this application.

Elected member nominee full name:	
Nominee signature:	Date:
Council endorsement: I confirm that this nomination has been endorsed by a resolution of [Council Name].	
Council resolution number:	
Council resolution date:	
Council CEO name:	
Signature:	Date:

Completed nomination form and short biography on each nominee must be submitted to LGANT by CoB 31 October 2025 to: ceo@lgant.asn.au.

Privacy Statement

The personal information collected on this form is being gathered for the purposes of the LGANT Board nomination and election process. This information will be used to assess your eligibility and suitability for a Board position and may be shared with LGANT member councils as part of the election process.

15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS**15.1 INTERIM MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2025**

Author: Manager Accounting Services
Executive Manager Finance

Authoriser: General Manager Corporate

Attachments: 1. Interim Monthly Financial Report - September 2025 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Interim Monthly Financial Report – September 2025 be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the financial position of Council for the period ended 30 September 2025.

Further, this report and the contents are required to be presented to Council in compliance with the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

KEY ISSUES

The Monthly Financial Report includes:

- Income Statement, which compares actual YTD income and expenditure against YTD budget.
- Fund Flow Statement (Monthly Operating Position), which outlines the effect on General Funds.
- Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet), which outlines what Council owns (assets) and what it owes (liabilities) at a point in time.
- Notes to the Balance Sheet, this includes further details on the Cash Balance, Trade Debtors, Trade Creditors, and a statement on Council's current payment and reporting obligations.
- Lord Mayor and CEO council credit card transactions.
- Investments, which provides details of treasury activities, investments as at month end.
- Procurement Reporting, which is a summary of contract variations and exempt procurement.
- Capital Expenditure and Funding, which compares YTD capital expenditure and funding against YTD budget.
- Planned Major Projects Capital Works, provides a high-level financial overview of our major projects at a point in time.

DISCUSSION**September 2025 – Year to Date Result**

The year-to-date operating result until 30 September 2025 is a **deficit of \$1.95M compared to budgeted deficit of \$4.9M** as highlighted in the table below.

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	(1,952)	(4,928)	2,976 Favourable

The 30 June 2025 Annual Financial Statements have not yet been adopted with the 2024/25 Annual Report scheduled to be presented at the Council meeting on 28 October. Accordingly, this report is being provided as an abridged monthly financial report.

The Revised Budget is Councils most recently adopted budget.

Income

Total Operating Income is tracking above budget by \$1M (+3.2% YTD variance).

Statutory charges have recorded a favourable variance, primarily with animal registrations, and parking infringements.

Interest and investment income exceeded the monthly budget by \$0.5M, due to the timing and management of external borrowings, which resulted in higher cash balances. The increase in cash holdings allowed for greater investment capital than budgeted.

Expenditure

Total Expenses are below budget by \$1.9M (+5% YTD Variance).

Employee costs report a positive variance to budget of \$1M reflecting timing of employee entitlements and vacancies. Some of this positive variance is offset through the use of contract labour to cover positions.

Materials, contracts, and services have a full-year budget of \$67M, covering a wide range of expenditure categories. YTD to September, a favourable variance of \$1.5M has been reported, primarily due to timing differences in spending across various sections during the first quarter of the financial year. The Waste Services division recorded expenditure below budget, driven by efficiency gains in materials and contracts related to leachate treatment and landfill cover material.

Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment expenses are tracking above YTD budget, primarily due to the increase in the re-valuation of pathways and transport assets recognised in June 2025. Depreciation is a non-cash expense and will be subject to a future budget review for realignment.

Statement of Fund Flows

The variances are related to a mismatch in the timing of projects and budget profiles, and the reasons described above under the operating statement commentary.

Capital expenditure and Transfers from Reserves relates to timing of capital projects. Major projects which span financial years will be realigned at a budget review to reflect the current years expenditure forecast.

Cash and Investments Note A

City of Darwin has achieved 3.73% on weighted average interest rate on its end of month cash and investment portfolio of \$168M (excluding loan offset \$43.8M). There have been no investment policy breaches in this month.

The Investment Reports include surplus cash funds that are placed against variable loans. These funds are considered 'at call' as they can be accessed in short time frames.

Treasury Comment

The RBA met on 30 September 2025, with the Monetary Policy Board deciding to keep the cash rate unchanged at 3.60 per cent. The decision reflects a continued easing in underlying inflation, which has slowed and is now within the 2-3 per cent range recorded in the June quarter.

Accounts Receivable (Trade Debtors) Note B

This section provides the aged debtors outstanding for general debtors and infringements.

Accounts Payable (Trade Creditors) Note C

Accounts Payable owing at end of month at the time of reporting. City of Darwin recognises the liability of invoices once goods are receipted as received.

Procurement Reporting

Under the Local Government (General) Regulations, Council is required to disclose at the next Council meeting and on the City of Darwin website:

- contract variations:
 - where a tender was not required, however the total cost exceeds \$100,000, or
 - where a contract requiring a tender is varied by 10%.
- exempt procurement greater than \$100,000.

Contract Variations

There were no reportable contract variations for September 2025.

Exempt Procurement

Nil exempt procurement greater than \$100,000 occurred in September 2025.

Certification by the CEO to the Council

That, to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief:

- (1) The internal controls implemented by the council are appropriate; and
- (2) The council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of the council.

D. Saunders

CEO Signed

23/10/2025

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

6 Governance Framework
6.3 Decision Making and Management

BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	N/A
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Part 2 Division 7 the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> require that a monthly financial report is presented to Council each month setting out: (a) the actual income and expenditure of the council for the period from the commencement of the financial year up to the end of the previous month; and (b) the most recently adopted annual budget; and (c) details of any material variances between the most recent actual income and expenditure of the council and the most recently adopted annual budget. Regulation 17(5) Part 2 Division 7 the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 require that the monthly report must be accompanied by: (a) a certification, in writing, by the CEO to the council that, to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief: (i) the internal controls implemented by the council are appropriate; and (ii) the council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of the council; or (b) if the CEO cannot provide the certification – written reasons for not providing the certification. The report is compliant with the requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>.
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	N/A
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).

Interim Income Statement For the Period Ended 30 September 2025	2025/26					
	YTD					FY
	Actual		Budget		Variance	Annual Budget
	\$'000		\$'000		\$'000	Budget \$'000
<u>Operating Income</u>						
Rates	19,973	58%	20,120	60%	(147)	80,478
Charges	2,603	8%	2,600	8%	3	10,398
Statutory Charges	1,505	4%	784	2%	721	3,136
User Fees and Charges	7,570	22%	7,555	23%	15	29,648
Operating Grants and Subsidies	686	2%	697	2%	(11)	4,313
Interest / Investment Income	1,477	4%	963	3%	514	3,851
Commercial & Other Income	606	2%	643	2%	(37)	2,588
Total Income	34,420		33,362		1,058	134,412
<u>Operating Expenses</u>						
Employee Expenses	9,971	27%	10,980	29%	1,009	43,930
Materials, Contracts & Services	16,323	45%	17,817	47%	1,494	66,892
Elected Member Allowances	169	0%	208	1%	39	832
Elected Member Expenses	42	0%	5	0%	(37)	21
Council Committee Allowances	1	0%	5	0%	4	20
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	9,360	26%	8,384	22%	(976)	33,536
Interest Expenses	506	1%	891	2%	385	5,664
Total Expenses	36,372		38,290		1,918	150,895
Budgeted Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	(1,952)		(4,928)		2,976	(16,483)
Capital Grants Income	-		950		(950)	5,335
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,952)		(3,978)		2,026	(11,148)

Interim Statement of Fund Flows Monthly Statement of Operating Position For the Period Ended 30 September 2025	2025/26			
	YTD			FY
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Annual Budget
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Net Operating Result from Income Statement	(1,952)	(4,928)	2,976	(16,483)
<u>Add Non Cash Items</u>				
Add Back Depreciation (Non-Cash)	9,360	8,384	976	33,536
Add Back Other Non-Cash Items	-		-	2,100
Total Non Cash Items	9,360	8,384	976	35,636
<u>Less Additional Outflows</u>				
Repayment of borrowings & advances	(1,607)	(1,521)	(86)	(6,084)
Capital Expenditure	(8,432)	(29,753)	21,321	(114,683)
Total Additional Outflows	(10,039)	(31,275)	21,236	(120,767)
<u>Add Additional Inflows</u>				
Capital Grants Income	-	950	(950)	5,335
Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	6	128	(122)	3,512
Transfers from/(to) Reserves	39,319	26,741	12,579	92,766
Total Additional Inflows	39,325	27,819	11,507	101,614
Net Increase (-Decrease) in Funds	36,694	0	36,694	0

Interim Statement of Financial Position as at 30 September 2025	2025/26		
	Actual \$'000	Note	FY Annual Budget \$'000
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank & Investments	75,017	A	18,360
Cash at Bank & Investments - externally restricted	58,585	A	22,375
Cash at Bank & Investments - internally restricted	34,484	A	17,246
Trade & Other Receivables	7,068	B	16,260
Rates & Charges Receivables	60,200		-
Inventories	277		273
Total Current Assets	235,631		74,514
Non-Current Assets			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	1,357,797		1,325,094
Lease Right of Use Assets	1,353		-
Total Non Current Assets	1,359,150		1,325,094
Total Assets	1,594,781		1,399,608
Current Liabilities			
Trade Payables & Other Payables	9,369	C	22,573
Accruals	3,425		-
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	650	C	-
Rates Revenue struck (in advance)	68,937		-
Borrowings	7,162		6,975
Provisions	6,579		7,886
Lease Liabilities	663		950
Total Current Liabilities	95,485		38,384
Non-Current Liabilities			
Trade & Other Payables	7		-
Borrowings	73,713		68,411
Provisions	46,268		53,799
Lease Liabilities	797		599
Total Non-Current Liabilities	120,785		122,810
Total Liabilities	216,271		161,194
NET ASSETS	1,378,510		1,238,414
Equity			
Accumulated Surplus	286,307		331,495
Asset Revaluation Reserve	999,133		867,298
Other Reserves	93,069		39,621
TOTAL EQUITY	1,378,510		1,238,414

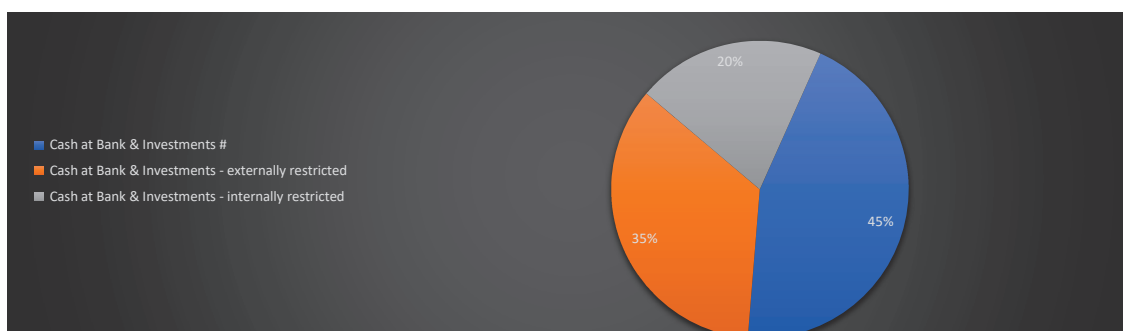
*Please note that these reports are unaudited management financial reports. Information contained in the reports were current as at the date of the reports and may not reflect any event or circumstances which occurred after the reports were completed.

Monthly Balance Sheet Report (Notes to the Statement of Financial Position) as at 30 September 2025

Note A. Details of Cash and Investments Held

Investments Report attached, which provides details of treasury activities, investments as at the end of the Month. City of Darwin has achieved 3.15% on weighted average interest rate on its September 2025 cash and investment portfolio of \$168M (including \$43.8M Variable Loans Surplus/Offset). There have been no investment policy breaches in this month. The Investment Reports include surplus cash funds that are placed against variable loans. These funds are considered 'at call' as they can be accessed in short time frames.

Cash at Bank & Investments	\$'000
Cash at Bank & Investments #	75,017
Cash at Bank & Investments - externally restricted	58,585
Cash at Bank & Investments - internally restricted	34,484
Total Cash at Bank & Investments	168,086



Cash at Bank & Investments includes Cash on Call of \$43.8M

Note B. Statement of Trade Debtors*	Past Due 1 – 30 Days	Past Due 31 – 60 Days	Past Due 61-90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total *
Other Trade Receivables and Other Receivables	\$ 5,122,354	\$1,688,363	\$144,872	\$112,033	\$7,067,621
Total Trade and Other Receivables	\$ 5,122,354	\$1,688,363	\$144,872	\$112,033	\$ 7,067,621

Note C. Statement on Trade Creditors*	Past Due 1 – 30 Days	Past Due 31 – 60 Days	Past Due 61-90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total*
General Trade Creditors	-\$3,676,825	-\$1,629,611	-\$50	-\$5,000	-\$5,311,486
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	\$650,222				\$650,222
Other Trade Payables & Other Payables	-\$4,057,520	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$4,057,520
Total Trade and Other Payables	-\$7,084,123	-\$1,629,611	-\$50	-\$5,000	-\$8,718,784

Note D. Statement on Australian Tax Office (ATO) and Payroll Obligations

The Council has met its payment and reporting obligations for GST, Fringe Benefits Tax, PAYG withholding tax, superannuation, and insurance for the month September 2025.

*Please note that these reports are unaudited management financial reports. Information contained in the reports were current as at the date of the reports and may not reflect any event or circumstances which occurred after the date the reports were completed.

Table 4. Member and CEO Council Credit Card Transactions for the Month
For the Month Ended 30 SEP 2025

Cardholder Name: CEO

Transaction Date	Amount \$	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
08-Sep-25	1.49	APPLE.COM/BILL SYDNEY AUS	IT and Communications
Total	1.49		

Cardholder Name: Lord Mayor

Transaction Date	Amount \$	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
27-Aug-25	20.00	Paystay South Wharf AUS	Parking
01-Sep-25	20.00	Paystay South Wharf AUS	Parking
Total	40.00		

**INVESTMENTS REPORT TO COUNCIL
AS AT
30 September 2025**

Investment and Cash at Call/Offset Distribution by Term to Maturity

Term to Maturity Policy Limits

There have been no breaches in Term to Maturity Policy limits for the month of September 2025

Term to Maturity Category	% of Total Portfolio	Term to Maturity (Policy Max.)	Term to Maturity (Policy Min.)
Less than 1 Year			
Term Deposits	56%		
Business Online Saver Accounts	4%		
Floating Rate Notes	5%		
General Surplus on Variable Loans	31%		
Bonds	0%		
Less than 1 Year Total	97%	100%	30%
Greater than 1 Year less than 3 Years			
Term Deposits	0%		
Business Online Saver Accounts	0%		
Floating Rate Notes	2%		
Bonds	0%		
Greater than 1 Year less than 3 Years Total	2%	70%	0%
Greater than 3 Years			
Term Deposits	0%		
Business Online Saver Accounts	0%		
Floating Rate Notes	1%		
Bonds	0%		
Greater than 3 Years Total	1%	30%	0%
Greater than 5 Years			
Term Deposits	0%		
Business Online Saver Accounts	0%		
Floating Rate Notes	0%		
Greater than 5 Years	0%	10%	0%
Total	100%		

Investment Distribution by Portfolio Credit Rating

Portfolio Distribution Credit Rating Limits

There have been no breaches in Portfolio Credit Rating Limits for the month of September 2025

Credit Rating - Maximum Individual Limit	ADI	Counterparty	% of Total Portfolio	Individual Counterparty Limits of Total Investments
AA-	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	13%	50%
	National Australia Bank Ltd	National Australia Bank Ltd	15%	50%
	Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	40%	50%
	ANZ Banking Group Ltd	ANZ Banking Group Ltd	3%	50%
AA-	Suncorp Bank	ANZ Banking Group Ltd	18%	30%
A-	Bank of Queensland Ltd	Bank of Queensland Ltd	4%	30%
BBB+	Bank Australia Limited	Bank Australia Limited	1%	10%
	Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	1%	10%
	Members Banking Group Limited t/as RACQ Bank	Members Banking Group Limited t/as RACQ Bank	1%	10%
BBB	Great Southern Bank	Great Southern Bank	3%	10%
	Maitland Mutual Bank Ltd	Maitland Mutual Bank Ltd	1%	10%
Grand Total			100%	
Credit Rating - Maximum Portfolio Limit			% of Total	Policy Limit
AAA to AA-			88%	100%
A+ to A-			5%	45%
BBB+ to BBB			7%	30%
BBB-			0%	0%
Total			100%	

**INVESTMENT AND CASH AT CALL/OFFSET REPORT TO COUNCIL
AS AT
30 September 2025**

Instrument	Institution Category	Counterparty	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Credit Rating (LT)	Credit Rating (ST)	Inv Type	FRN ONLY (Maturity Date - last pmt)	Principal \$	% Portfolio
INVESTMENT	MAJOR BANK	ANZ Banking Group Ltd	2 December 2025	4.21%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.15%
			1 October 2025	4.64%	AA-	A1+	FRN	31 March 2028	\$500,000	0.36%
		ANZ Banking Group Ltd Total							\$3,500,000	2.51%
		Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	30 September 2025	3.45%	AA-	A1+	BOS		\$5,812,316	4.17%
			13 October 2025	4.62%	AA-	A1+	FRN	13 January 2026	\$2,000,000	1.44%
		Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd Total							\$7,812,316	5.61%
		National Australia Bank Ltd	18 November 2025	5.10%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,035,970	1.46%
			15 September 2026	4.20%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,167,935	1.56%
			24 March 2026	4.20%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,097,732	1.51%
		National Australia Bank Ltd Total							\$6,301,637	4.52%
		Suncorp Bank	11 November 2025	4.73%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$5,000,000	3.59%
			14 October 2025	4.59%	AA-	A1+	FRN	17 October 2025	\$1,000,000	0.72%
			4 November 2025	4.84%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$5,000,000	3.59%
			25 November 2025	4.84%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,051,781	1.47%
			25 November 2025	4.66%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.44%
			9 December 2025	4.84%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$5,000,000	3.59%
			3 February 2026	4.42%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.15%
			28 April 2026	4.25%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,098,395	1.51%
		Suncorp Bank Total							\$25,150,176	18.05%
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	21 October 2025	4.99%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,155,274	2.26%
			11 November 2025	5.09%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,162,155	2.27%
			18 November 2025	5.12%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,040,596	2.18%
			2 December 2025	5.00%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,089	1.44%
			20 January 2026	4.85%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.44%
			17 February 2026	4.85%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.44%
			14 April 2026	4.28%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.15%
			27 January 2026	4.40%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,167,770	2.27%
			21 April 2026	4.54%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,090,122	1.50%
			19 May 2026	4.31%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,025,399	1.45%
			21 July 2026	4.29%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.44%
			29 September 2026	4.09%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,299,709	1.65%
			14 July 2026	4.29%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.15%
			13 January 2026	4.20%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.15%
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd Total							\$35,941,113	25.80%
		MAJOR BANK Total							\$78,705,242	56.49%
	OTHER	Bank of Queensland Ltd	16 December 2025	4.60%	A-	A2	TD		\$2,000,000	1.44%
			10 February 2026	4.35%	A-	A2	TD		\$3,000,000	2.15%
		Bank of Queensland Ltd Total							\$5,000,000	3.59%
		Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	27 November 2025	4.52%	A-	A-	FRN	28 November 2029	\$2,000,000	1.44%
		Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd Total							\$2,000,000	1.44%
		Bank Australia Limited	24 November 2025	5.15%	BBB+	A2	FRN	24 November 2025	\$2,000,000	1.44%
		Bank Australia Limited Total							\$2,000,000	1.44%
		Members Banking Group Limited t/as RACQ Bank	24 November 2025	5.25%	BBB+	A2	FRN	24 February 2026	\$1,600,000	1.15%
		Members Banking Group Limited t/as RACQ Bank Total							\$1,600,000	1.15%
		Great Southern Bank	14 October 2025	4.64%	BBB	A2	TD		\$4,214,268	3.02%
		Great Southern Bank Total							\$4,214,268	3.02%
		Maitland Mutual Bank Ltd	10 November 2025	5.26%	BBB	A2	FRN	10 May 2027	\$2,000,000	1.36%
		Maitland Mutual Bank Ltd Total							\$2,000,000	1.36%
		OTHER Total							\$16,814,268	11.99%
INVESTMENT Total									\$95,519,510	68.49%
VARIABLE LOAN SURPLUS	MAJOR BANK	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	30 September 2025	0.00%	AA-	A1+	General Surplus -		\$10,000,000	7.18%
		Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd Total							\$10,000,000	7.18%
		National Australia Bank Ltd	30 September 2025	0.00%	AA-	A1+	General Surplus -		\$14,653,900	10.52%
		National Australia Bank Ltd Total							\$14,653,900	10.52%
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	30 September 2025	0.00%	AA-	A1+	General Surplus -		\$19,147,397	13.74%
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd Total							\$19,147,397	13.74%
	MAJOR BANK Total								\$43,801,297	31.44%
VARIABLE LOAN SURPLUS Total									\$43,801,297	31.44%
Grand Total									\$139,320,807	100%

N.B.

*INV TYPE - FRN = interest rate is the 'Coupon Margin' established on issue date, this plus 3M BBSW provides the yield for the current coupon period.

*MATURITY DATE - FRN = the interest coupon payment date not actual FRN maturity date (paid every 91 days).

CBA General Bank Funds	\$27,177,982
NAB General Bank Funds	\$108,199
WBC General Bank Funds	\$261,506
Total Funds	\$166,868,494
Less Variable Loans Offset (Cash on Call)	-\$43,801,297
Total Investment & Cash (less offset)	\$123,067,197
Total Budgeted Investment Earnings	\$3,041,069
Year to Date Investment Earnings	\$1,274,157
Weighted Ave Rate	3.13%
Weighted Ave Rate (excluding Cash on Call)	3.73%
BBSW 90 Day Rate	3.56%
Bloomberg AusBond (Bank Bill Index)	

Trust Bank Account	\$456,675
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Capital Expenditure For The Period Ended 30 September 2025	2025/26			
	YTD Actuals	YTD Revised Budget	YTD Variance	FY Revised Budget Current Financial Year Budget
	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY ASSET CLASS:				
Land and Improvements	0	0	0	0
Buildings and Structures (includes parking building)	3,564,936	17,383,277	13,818,341	70,636,200
Environmental	14,800	187,384	172,584	749,542
Stormwater Drainage	69,470	798,122	728,652	2,953,769
Roads & Pathways	1,634,634	3,875,964	2,241,330	11,097,838
Street & Public Lighting	230,330	344,956	114,626	1,229,818
Waste Management Infrastructure	1,397,141	3,705,012	2,307,871	14,666,769
Plant & Equipment	292,490	1,755,753	1,463,264	7,023,023
Parks, Playgrounds and Reserves	1,228,361	1,644,148	415,787	6,092,478
Public Art	0	58,391	58,391	233,568
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	8,432,162	29,753,007	21,320,845	114,683,005
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY*:				
Operating Income	885,829	4,666,013	3,780,184	16,391,325
Capital Grants	1,620,711	1,974,934	354,223	5,335,410
Transfer from Reserves	4,528,480	19,407,048	14,878,568	83,949,044
Borrowings	1,397,141	3,705,012	2,307,871	5,490,675
Sale of Assets (including trade-ins)	0	0	0	3,516,550
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	8,432,162	29,753,007	21,320,845	114,683,004

*YTD Funding of expenditure is assumed to be consumed in line with YTD Capital Expenditure

**\$1M moved from street & public lighting to roads & pathways due to category of assets expected to be capitalised

**Report on Planned Major Capital Works
For The Period Ended 30 September 2025**

Class of Assets	By Major Capital Project	Total Prior Year(s) Actuals \$ (A)	YTD Actuals \$ (B)	Total Actuals \$ (C = A + B)	Total Planned Budget \$ (D)	Total Yet to Spend \$ (E = D - C)	Expected Project Completion Date
Buildings	Civic Centre and Plaza Precinct Development	3,069,545	1,180,474	4,250,019	47,600,000	40,349,981	30/06/2028
Buildings	Civic Centre Public Carpark/CBD Parking	4,867,700	2,365,107	7,232,808	30,000,000	22,767,192	30/06/2028
Buildings	Project Contingency	0	0	0	2,000,000	2,000,000	30/06/2028
Waste Management Infrastructure	Shoal Bay - Stage 2 Expansion Phase 1	535,817	1,345,087	1,880,904	6,000,000	4,119,096	31/03/2026
Waste Management Infrastructure	Shoal Bay Waste Management Site - Stage 7 Construction	198,906	52,055	250,961	8,750,000	8,499,039	TBC
TOTAL		8,671,969	4,942,722	13,614,691	91,350,000	77,735,309	

15.2 ENGAGEMENT REPORT - DRAFT PLACE AND LIVEABILITY PLAN 2050

Author: Manager Planning and Place
Executive Manager Growth and Economic Development

Authoriser: General Manager Innovation

Attachments: 1. Place and Liveability Engagement Report [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Engagement Report - Draft Place and Liveability Plan 2050 be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the outcomes of the engagement process completed for the draft Place and Liveability Plan.

KEY ISSUES

- City of Darwin's Draft Place and Liveability Plan (the Plan) and Liveability Platform (Platform) were the subject of a community and stakeholder engagement process that ran from 28 June to 1 September 2025.
- The communication methods, engagement activities and feedback are detailed in the engagement report at **Attachment 1**, which includes analysis of the feedback and recommendations.
- The engagement included diverse tactics such as the Draft Place and Liveability Plan Survey on Engage Darwin and stall at the Seniors Expo.
- Community and stakeholder feedback expressed strong support for the Plan and Platform.
- Residents value green spaces, safety, connectivity and mostly agree with the way the neighbourhoods' place identity is described in the Plan.
- Common themes raised by stakeholder groups identified the need for more emphasis in the Plan on climate resilience, First Nations inclusion and support for vulnerable people.
- Feedback on the Platform focused on improving navigation, design and two-way engagement features.
- The recommendations were to:
 - Update the Plan to enhance the inclusion of climate resilience, First Nations, and vulnerable community support.
 - Continually improve the Platform's usability, neighbourhood alignment and enable ongoing two-way engagement features.
- The engagement results will be used to help guide finalisation of:
 - a static Place and Liveability Plan for Darwin,
 - a Liveability Toolkit aimed to be used as reference guide under the Northern Territory Planning Scheme and to be used by stakeholders, staff and the community, and
 - an active, living Liveability Platform – for community input, feedback, and insights.

DISCUSSION**Introduction**

Following a workshop with Council in May 2025, the consultation phase took place between 28 June 2025 and 1 September 2025, with the Plan and interactive Platform being open to the Darwin community between 28 June and 28 July 2025. and face to face meetings held up until early September with a range of stakeholders to present the Plan and Platform and seek feedback.

Background

Over the last two years, City of Darwin has been working with the community to create the Plan. It aims to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of people living within our community by developing a stronger sense of place and improving the liveability of Darwin by 2050. The Plan provides a long-term, evolving roadmap that reflects community values and supports inclusive, resilient and sustainable urban development across Darwin's neighbourhoods.

Engagement objectives

The consultation phase achieved its engagement objectives which were to:

- inform the public about the Draft Place and Liveability Plan
- encourage feedback and participation from the community and key stakeholders on input into the Plan
- seek feedback on the Liveability Platform, and
- collect diverse community insights into Darwin's liveability needs and neighbourhood identities.

Communications and engagement tactics

City of Darwin used communications and engagement tactics such as:

- Workshop with Elected Members
- Landing page on the Engage Darwin website, including FAQs and survey
- Letter / emails to stakeholders
- Flyers at Library, Civic and Pools
- Media release from City of Darwin
- Regular radio spots (LM/CEO)
- Social media posts
- Google Ads
- News articles on City of Darwin website and staff and Elected Member intranets.
- Workshops with staff
- Stall at the Darwin Show and Senior's Expo
- Email to Advisory Committees
- Meetings with stakeholder groups
- Internal and external newsletters.

Engagement snapshot

The snapshot of the reach of the engagement process is provided below:

- 1,200 survey submissions through Engage Darwin website, email, phone and in-person conversations

- 1,318 visitors across two pop-up stalls
- 204,732 impressions from Google ads
- 74,963 impressions from LinkedIn post
- 15,620 combined views from Facebook and Instagram posts
- 3 media coverage pieces (1 radio, 2 online)
- Written feedback submissions from 15 stakeholder groups and two residents.

Engagement outcomes

The analysis in the Engagement Report shows community and stakeholder feedback includes strong support for the Plan and Platform. With 591 survey responses and broad participation across Darwin, residents valued green spaces, safety, and connectivity. Fifteen stakeholder groups were supportive with some common recommendations for the Plan and Platform to place more emphasis in the Plan on climate resilience, First Nations inclusion and support for vulnerable people.

The Plan splits the city into neighbourhoods and describes their place identities. While these descriptions broadly reflect the community's understanding of these places, some gaps in language were identified. This suggests the need for ongoing dialogue to better understand the sense of place and liveability challenges that each neighbourhood faces over the next 25 years.

Some community feedback highlighted liveability challenges in specific neighbourhoods. These are important and will be addressed through the Plan's roadmap, Platform and Toolkit, rather than the neighbourhood place identity descriptions.

Other community suggestions received are site-specific or operational in nature. Although valuable from an operational perspective, these types of suggestions fall outside the scope of the Plan, which is focused on strategic, long-term priorities rather than detailed project-level actions.

There were numerous suggestions to improve the Platform, including the need to improve navigation and design of the Platform and Toolkit. These suggestions are aligned with the platform's strategic intent to remain adaptive and responsive, enhancing community access to liveability information while fostering continuous, two-way engagement on place-based improvements.

Recommendations

Based on the feedback received during the engagement process, it is recommended that the:

- Place and Liveability Plan 2050 be updated to:
 - emphasise that Darwin's neighbourhoods need climate-resilient urban design to tackle health risks and support community wellbeing
 - embed First Nations and other stakeholder perspectives in designing public places and infrastructure, and
 - confirm City of Darwin will continue to provide programs to support vulnerable people through partnerships and outreach.
- Liveability Platform be continually updated over the next 25 years to:
 - strengthen platform design for easier navigation and community access
 - align neighbourhood identities with community language and lived experience, through ongoing engagement
 - improve the Toolkit usability with clearer layout and visual design, and
 - enable two-way engagement through interactive platform features and updates.

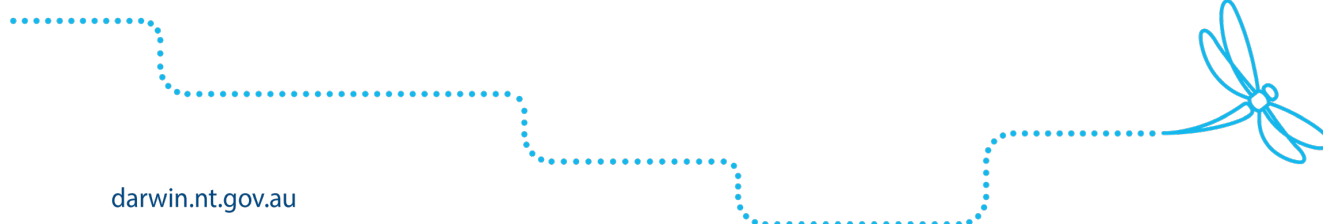
These recommendations have been used to update the Plan and are explained in a separate report to Council.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION N/A	
STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	4 A Smart and Prosperous City 4.2 By 2030, Darwin will have attracted and retained more residents and will offer sustainable investment opportunities
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Budget/Funding: \$25k for combined engagement costs
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Legislation: <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> Planning Act 1999 Policy: N/A
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	Engagement Level: Involve Tactics: As per the report Internal: Senior Leadership Team and staff External: Community and key stakeholders.
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).



Engagement report

Draft Place and Liveability Plan 2050



darwin.nt.gov.au



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Engagement activities and feedback	15



Executive summary

The Place and Liveability project commenced in 2024 with Stage 1 community engagement in July and August 2024 which informed development of a draft Plan. In October and November 2024, pilot projects were delivered in Wanguri and Karama to test concepts of liveability. In June 2025, community engagement begun on the draft Place and Liveability Plan. The final Place and Liveability Plan 2050 is now available for endorsement by Council.

City of Darwin has developed a Place and Liveability Plan 2050 to guide long-term urban development and improve quality of life across Darwin's neighbourhoods. The Plan is supported by the Liveability Platform, a digital tool co-designed with the community to track progress, share local stories and support place-based initiatives.

The Plan outlines key liveability principles identified by the community, including open space and recreation, physical connectivity, safety and security, and arts and culture. It aligns with existing City of Darwin strategies and broader policy frameworks, including the NT land use planning system.

Draft Place and Liveability Plan engagement summary

Public community engagement on the draft Plan and Platform was held from 28 June to 28 July 2025, with further key stakeholder feedback open until 1 September 2025. The engagement was conducted at the involve level of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum of engagement.

A total of 591 survey responses were received during the process, with broad participation across Darwin.

City of Darwin employed a range of tactics to gather feedback, including an online survey hosted on the Engage Darwin website, direct correspondence with key stakeholders, social media promotion, proactive media engagement and in-person community pop-up stalls (including the Royal Darwin Show).

During this period and up until early September 2025, City of Darwin met face to face with a range of stakeholder groups to present the Plan and Platform and seek feedback, including City of Darwin's Councillors participating in a strategic workshop to help shape the Plan's neighbourhood direction.

The engagement objectives were to:

- Inform the public about the Draft Place and Livability Plan.
- Encourage feedback and participation from the community and key stakeholders on the Plan.
- Seek feedback on the Liveability Platform.



- Collect diverse community insights into Darwin's liveability needs and neighbourhood identities.
- Shape the Plan and Platform through inclusive community and stakeholder engagement activities.

Key themes of support included:

- Strong endorsement of the Plan and Platform
- Value placed on green spaces, safety, and connectivity
- Support for inclusive design and climate resilience
- Recognition of the Platform's potential for ongoing community input

Concerns and suggestions included:

- Need for clearer neighbourhood identity language
- Desire for improved Platform navigation and design
- Requests for site-specific or operational actions, which fall outside the Plan's strategic scope
- Calls for stronger inclusion of First Nations perspectives and support for vulnerable groups

Based on the feedback received during the engagement process, it is recommended that:

- The draft Place and Liveability Plan 2050 be updated to reflect community priorities around climate resilience, inclusive design, and support for vulnerable populations.
- The Liveability Platform be enhanced to improve usability, align neighbourhood identities with community language, and enable two-way engagement.
- The feedback outlined in this engagement report is used to inform and guide Council's decision on endorsing the Plan.
- City of Darwin continue to engage with the community to refine neighbourhood identities and address liveability challenges over time.
- The engagement report be made publicly available on the Engage Darwin website and used to inform Council's final decision-making.



Background

City of Darwin has developed the Place and Liveability Plan 2050 to guide long-term urban development and improve quality of life across Darwin's neighbourhoods.

Over the past two years, City of Darwin has been working with the community to create a Place & Liveability Plan. More information on this process can be found engage.darwin.nt.gov.au/place-and-liveability_city-of-darwin

The Plan outlines key liveability principles identified by the community, including open space and recreation, physical connectivity, safety and security, and arts and culture. It aligns with existing City of Darwin strategies and broader policy frameworks, including the NT land use planning system.

The Plan aims to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of people living within our community by developing a stronger sense of place and improving the liveability of Darwin by 2050. The Plan provides a long-term, evolving roadmap that reflects community values and supports inclusive, resilient and sustainable urban development across Darwin's neighbourhoods.

Building on an already strong foundation of City of Darwin initiatives that prioritise sustainability, creativity, innovation and wellbeing, the Plan outlines key principles to guide future planning and investment decisions, ensuring Darwin evolves as a city that is not only economically strong, but socially connected and environmentally future-fit. The key liveability principles that the community said were important to them included:

- Open space and recreation.
- Physical connectivity.
- Safety and security.
- Arts and culture.

The Plan is supported by an interactive Platform. It is a dynamic, digital tool co-designed with the community to capture local stories, track progress and guide place-based initiatives, empowering residents, businesses and planners to shape a more liveable Darwin together.

The Plan is designed to integrate with other City of Darwin strategies and is aligned with global, national and Northern Territory policy objectives for place and liveability. It is also aligned with the NT land use planning system. The Plan's strong local narrative, strategic alignment and foresight expresses the community's liveability needs and aspirations in transparent ways.



Methodology

Goals and objectives

The goal of this process was to ensure the development of the Plan was undertaken with input from key stakeholders and the broader community.

The objectives were to:

- Inform the public about the Draft Place and Liveability Plan.
- Encourage feedback and participation from the community and key stakeholders on input into the Plan.
- Seek feedback on the Liveability Platform.
- Collect diverse community insights into Darwin's liveability needs and neighbourhood identities.

Level of engagement

City of Darwin has a policy on community engagement with a commitment to open, transparent and responsive community engagement. Using the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) principles that guide good community engagement, this engagement was conducted at the level of involve.

City of Darwin provided the public with balanced and objective information to assist with understanding the project and to obtain public feedback.

Approach

The engagement approach for the Place and Liveability Plan was divided into two 'streams' – internal engagement, and stakeholder and community review and feedback.

Resourcing

City of Darwin led this engagement through the Innovation Hub, including the Growth and Economic Development and Digital Innovation teams and with support from the Marketing, Communications and Engagement team.

Tools and tactics

A combination of tools and tactics were used to support the engagement process, as summarised below.



Internal engagement	Community and stakeholder engagement
Talking points for Elected Members	Media release, media brief
Lord Mayor media brief	Stakeholder emails
CEO newsletters to staff and Elected Members	Survey on Engage Darwin website
Talking points (FAQs) for Customer Service	Social media advertising
Intranet article	Organic social media
	Two in-person engagement community pop-up stalls at the Darwin Seniors Expo and the Royal Darwin Show
	Flyers at Library, Civic and Pools
	Meetings - Airport Development Group, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, The Cairns Institute, Charles Darwin University, CSIRO Darwin Living Lab, Department of Logistics and Infrastructure, Department of Lands and Planning, Engineers Australia, Green Building Council of Australia, NT Health, NT Planning Commission, NT Shelter, Planning Institute of Australia, St Vincent de Paul Society NT, Chamber of Commerce, Darwin City Retailers Association
	Website article and banner
	Digital screens at Pools, Libraries and Civic Centre
	Darwin Vibrant newsletter, which has 1,752 subscribers
	SEO Google Ads
	Committee meetings

Internal engagement

In May 2025, Elected Members and City of Darwin's Senior Leadership Team were briefed on the engagement progress and City of Darwin staff were notified of the engagement via the City of Darwin Intranet.

Community and stakeholder review and feedback

On 28 June 2025, the engagement period opened for community and stakeholders to review the draft proposal and provide feedback. Several tools and tactics were used to promote engagement, as outlined below.



Stakeholder letter/emails

Key stakeholders were emailed a link to the Engage Darwin webpage with an invitation to discuss or provide feedback, including the following:

- Airport Development Group, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, The Cairns Institute, Charles Darwin University, CSIRO Darwin Living Lab, Department of Logistics and Infrastructure, Department of Lands and Planning, Engineers Australia, Green Building Council of Australia, NT Health, NT Planning Commission, NT Shelter, Planning Institute of Australia, St Vincent de Paul Society NT, Chamber of Commerce, Darwin City Retailers Association
- Businesses
- Ministers
- Schools
- Multicultural groups
- Not for profit organisations
- First Nations organisations
- Committees

Engage Darwin

The Engage Darwin platform engage.darwin.nt.gov.au was used for this engagement process and contained the following information:

- Draft Place and Liveability Plan
- concept neighbourhoods
- community engagement lifecycle timeline
- FAQs
- previous Engagement Report
- submission portal (for survey submissions).



Place and Liveability in Darwin



Consultation has concluded

Have your say on Darwin's Draft Place and Liveability Plan!

City of Darwin is working with the community to create a Place and Liveability Plan that aims to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of people living within our community by fostering a stronger sense of place and improving the liveability of Darwin by 2050.

What is the draft Place and Liveability Plan?

The draft Place and Liveability Plan provides a long-term, evolving roadmap that reflects community values and supports inclusive, resilient and sustainable urban development across Darwin's neighbourhoods.

The draft Plan builds on all the work that that has been carried out in recent years to create a capital city that is liveable, healthy, cool, clean, green, smart, vibrant and creative.

Community feedback

When developing this draft Plan, the first round of community engagement in 2024 captured diverse perspectives on the unique needs, values and characteristics of Darwin.

Community engagement results, Darwin's existing Area Plans, neighbourhood features, infrastructure, facilities and demographic information has helped us develop this draft Plan.

Key principles in the draft Plan

Building on an already strong foundation of City of Darwin initiatives that prioritise sustainability, creativity, innovation and wellbeing, the draft Place and Liveability Plan 2050 outlines key principles to guide future planning and investment decisions, ensuring Darwin evolves as a city that is not only economically strong, but socially connected and environmentally future-fit.

The key liveability principles that the community said were important to them included:

- Open space and recreation
- Physical connectivity
- Safety and security
- Arts and culture

Interactive Liveability Platform

The Plan is supported by an Interactive Liveability Platform, a dynamic, digital tool co-designed with the community to capture local stories, track progress and guide place-based initiatives—empowering residents, businesses and planners to shape a more liveable Darwin together.

Check it out here: [Liveability Platform](#)

Check out the Liveability Toolkit here: [Liveability Toolkit](#)

Have your say!

Taking your input on board, we are now inviting the community to provide feedback on the draft Place and Liveability Plan, platform and toolkit.

Your feedback will help inform the final Place and Liveability Plan 2050 and help shape how we deliver on the Place and Liveability Plan and make sure it reflects what matters most to our community now, and long term.

The Place and Liveability Plan is an opportunity for the people of Darwin to help shape the future of Darwin as a place and to be more liveable by 2050.

NEWS FEED

SURVEY

Consultation has concluded

draft Place and Liveability Plan

draft Place and Liveability Plan (4.55 MB) (pdf)

Key Dates

Community engagement open
20 June 2025

Community engagement closes
28 July 2025

Lifecycle



FAQs - Place and Liveability Plan

[Why is City of Darwin developing a Place and Liveability Plan?](#)

[What are the goals of the Plan?](#)

[Who is developing the Place and Liveability Plan?](#)



Social media

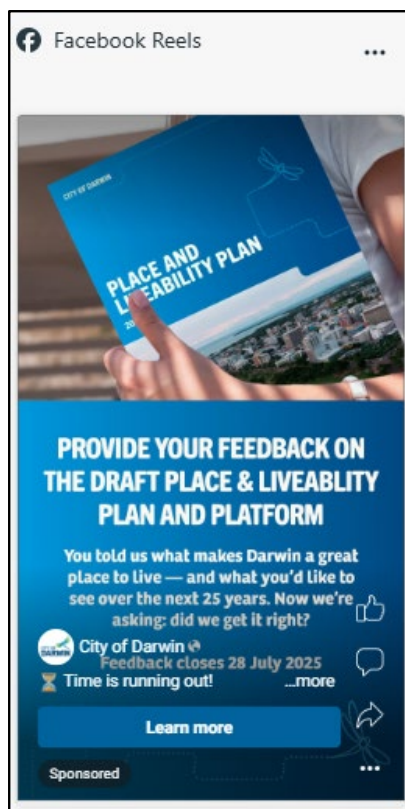
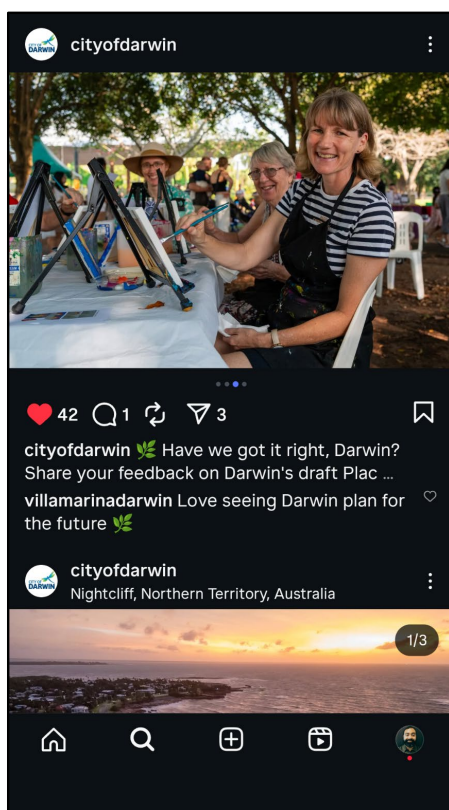
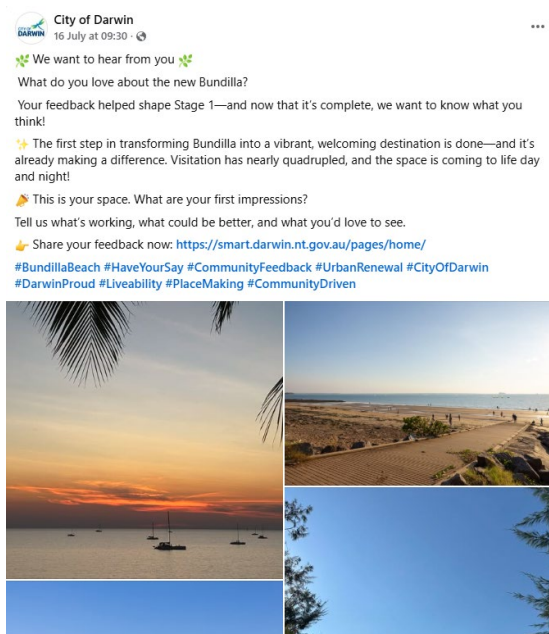
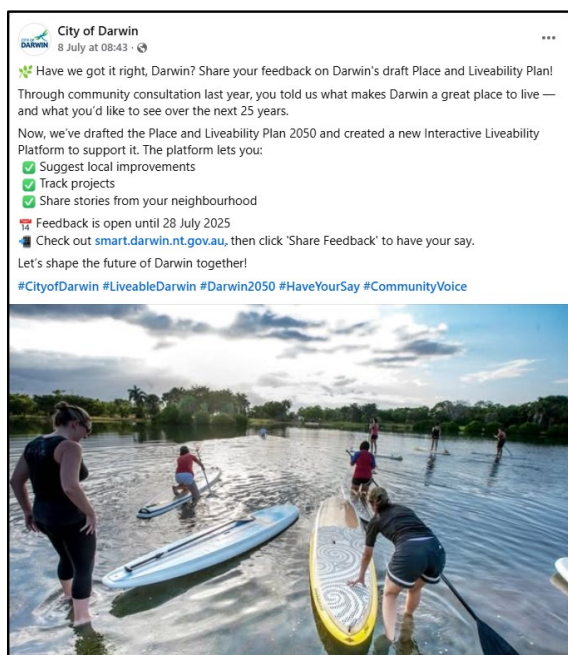
Overview of all Social Media Communications

There were four organic social media posts and multiple ad formats across Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Google promoting the engagement process, a summary is provided table below. The posts are provided below the table.

Date	Topic	Comments	Likes & reactions	Shares	Reach	Engagement (link clicks)
Facebook						
08 July 2025	Have we got it right, Darwin? Share your feedback on Darwin's draft Place and Liveability Plan	0	3	2	1,735	10
16 July 2025	We want to hear from you What do you love about the new Bundilla?	81	54	1	12,527	34
Instagram						
08 July 2025	Have we got it right, Darwin? Share your feedback on Darwin's draft Place and Liveability Plan	1	42	3	1,358	12
LinkedIn						
08 July 2025	Have your say on the future of Darwin- share your feedback on our draft Place and Liveability Plan!	0	13	1	558 (impressions)	34
Paid Ads: Facebook and Instagram						
12 July 2025	Provide your feedback on the draft place and liveability plan and platform	22	110	11	74,963	1,638
Paid Ads: Google Responsive Display						
14 July 2025	You Decide Darwin's Future		10		204,732 (impressions)	1,174

Facebook and Instagram Posts

The following Facebook and Instagram posts were released in July 2025. They reached a combined number of 15,620 views.





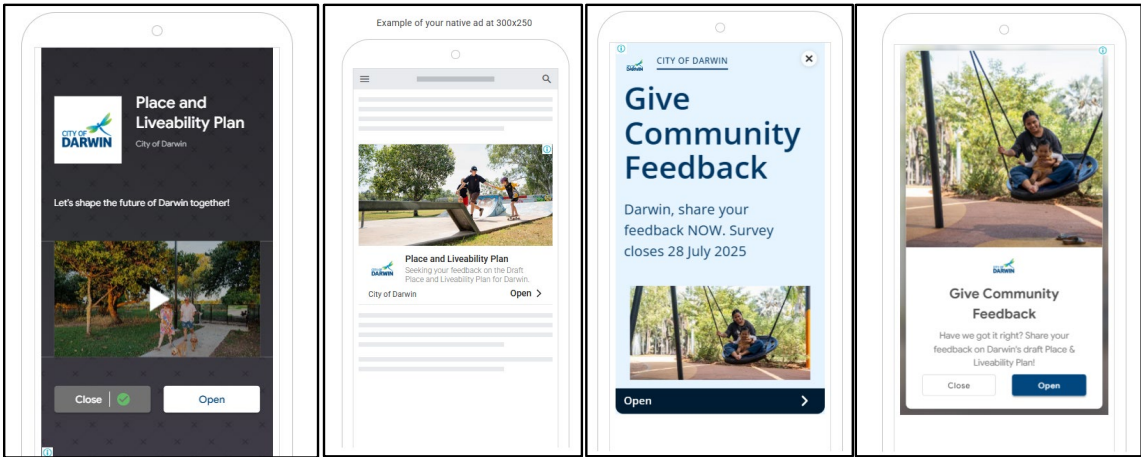
LinkedIn

The following LinkedIn post was released in July 2025. The post reached 74,963 impressions (the number of times the post appeared in LinkedIn members feed).



Digital Advertisements

The following paid advertisements were released in July 2025. They were Google Responsive ads that reached 204,732 impressions (the number of times the ad appeared in searches).





Community pop-up stalls

A pop-up stall was organised for the Seniors Expo (28 June 2025) with corflutes, QR codes and opportunities to submit survey’s electronically via tablets. Staff engaged directly with around 65 visitors by presenting the Plan and Platform on a screen and helping them to submit surveys. Verbal feedback was mostly supportive with particular interest being shown in the Platform and its Toolkit. The surveys were submitted on the Engage Darwin website. Hard copy surveys were also completed and handed out. They were later entered into the Survey on the Engage Darwin website.

The main purpose of City of Darwin’s display at this year’s Royal Darwin Show was to present and explain the draft Plan to visitors and enable them to complete surveys via tablets on the Engage Darwin website. The display included interactive game cards, live engagement stations, merchandise giveaways, and themed installations showcasing local planning initiatives. It attracted strong public participation and earned third place fin the Best Government stall category. The stall resulted in:

- 343 hard copy surveys completed (477 in 2024)
- 1,253 participants in the COD Game Card
- 1,096 prize draw entries
- 1,340 merchandise giveaways

The summary of the pop-up stalls is as follows:

Stall	Location	Visitors
Pop-up 1	Seniors Expo - CDU Marrara Netball Stadium – Saturday, 28 June 2025, from 10:00am to 2:00pm	65
Pop-up 2	Royal Darwin Show – Darwin Showgrounds and Exhibition Centre, three days from 24 to 26 July 2025	1,253
Total visitors		1,318



Engagement summary

A comprehensive engagement methodology was implemented to inform and gather feedback on the Draft Place and Liveability Plan, using a mix of internal communications and public-facing tools. Community engagement included digital platforms, media outreach, social media campaigns, and pop-up stalls at major events like the Seniors Expo and Royal Darwin Show. The initiative successfully reached a broad audience, collected valuable insights, and earned recognition for its interactive and accessible approach. The following data summarises outcomes of the engagement methodology:

- A total of 591 surveys completed
- 1,253 participants in the City of Darwin Game Card
- 1,096 prize draw entries
- 1,340 merchandise giveaways
- 1,318 total visitors across two pop-up stalls
- 204,732 impressions from Google ads
- 74,963 impressions from LinkedIn post
- 15,620 combined views from Facebook and Instagram posts
- 3 media coverage pieces (1 radio, 2 online)

Engagement activities and feedback

Council Workshop and endorsement to engage

A workshop for Elected Members was held on 6 May 2025 to present the draft Plan for feedback and to workshop its vision and the future of the neighbourhoods. Staff facilitated the workshop and Elected Members contributed by providing advice and opinion on the wording of the vision and neighbourhood character statements for each neighbourhood. Following the workshop, the draft Plan was updated accordingly before being presented in a report to the Ordinary Council Meeting on 27 May, where Council endorsed staff to conduct public consultation on the Plan.

Public engagement and survey responses

During the public engagement process, City of Darwin presented the Plan and the Platform to the community at the Seniors Expo (28 June 2025) and the Royal Darwin Show (24-27 July 2025), reaching a total of 1,318 visitors. These face-to-face engagements and the online media campaign resulted in 591 respondents completing a survey that was open to the public up until 28 July 2025. The table below summarises the responses to the survey.

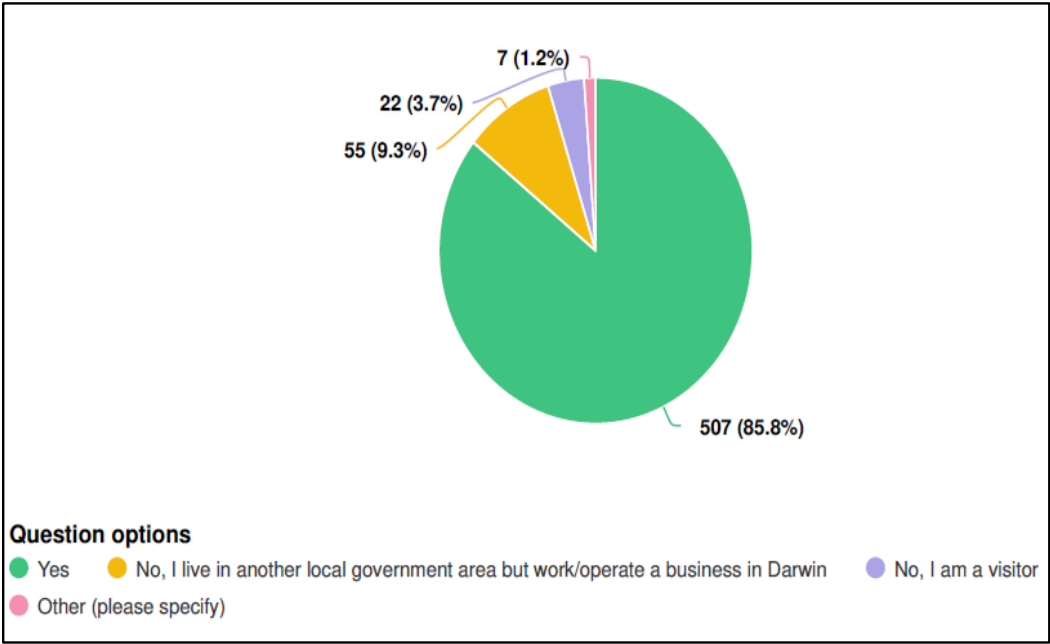
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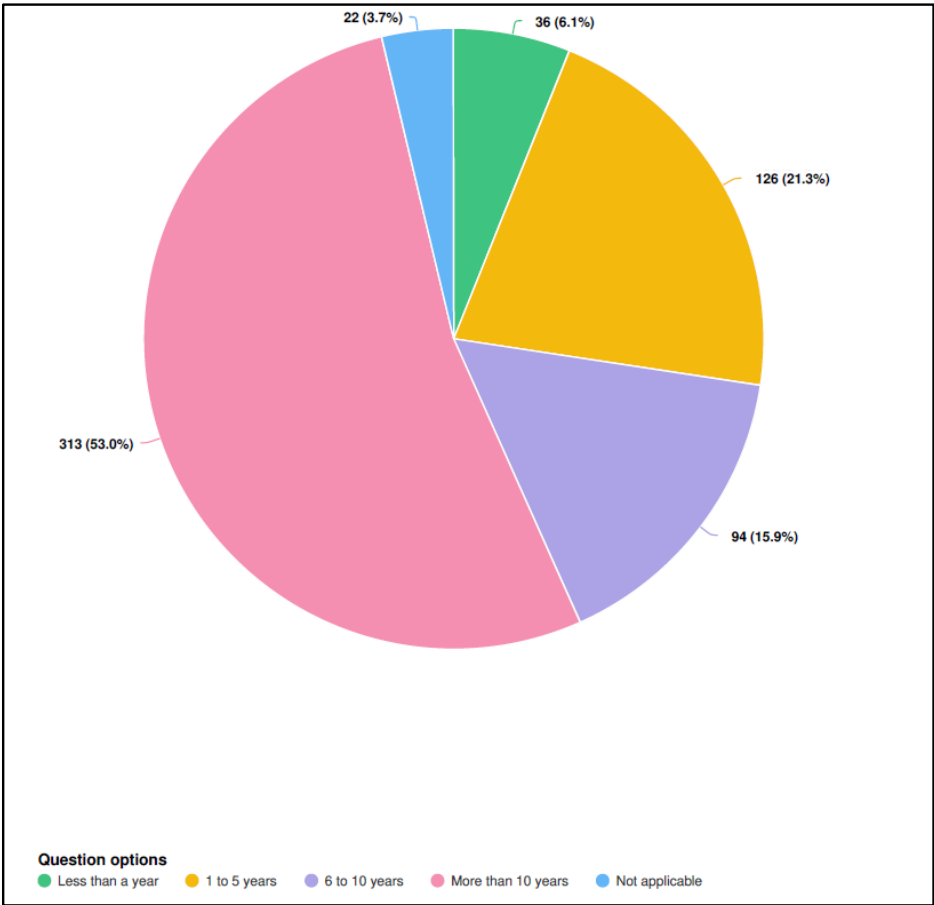


The data below sets out the feedback during the engagement period 28 June to 28 July 2025. The data is taken from the separate report from Engage Darwin entitled Draft Place and Liveability Plan Survey.

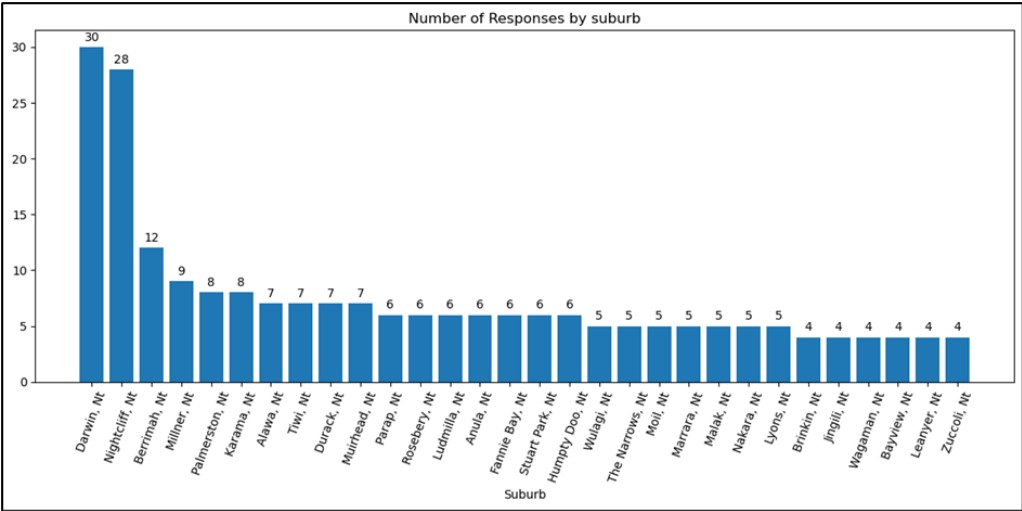
As shown below, 507 (85.8%) of respondents were Darwin residents. Others were from other local municipalities and interstate.



Most local respondents (53%) have been living in Darwin for more than 10 years, indicating deep local experience and long-term perspectives. Around 21% have lived in Darwin for 1–5 years, offering fresh insights from newer residents.

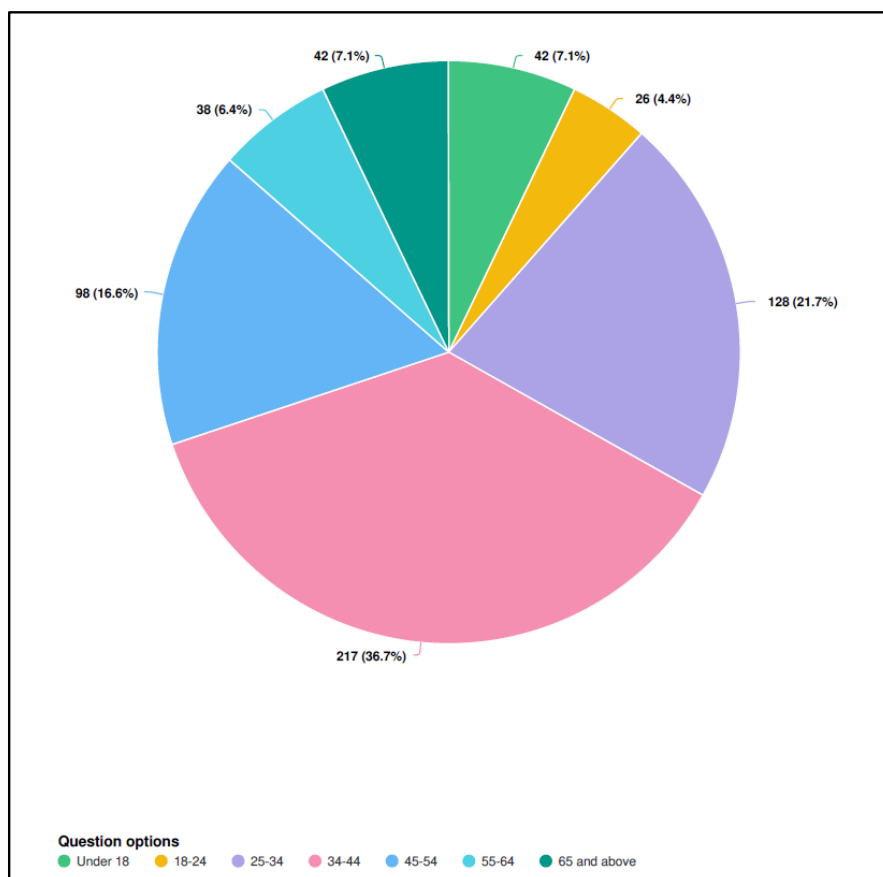


Out all respondents, 61 (10.3%) indicated they liven the Darwin city suburb and 563 (9%) live in Nightcliff. There were also numerous representations from all Darwin suburbs, including 19 (3.2%) each from Leanyer and Millner.

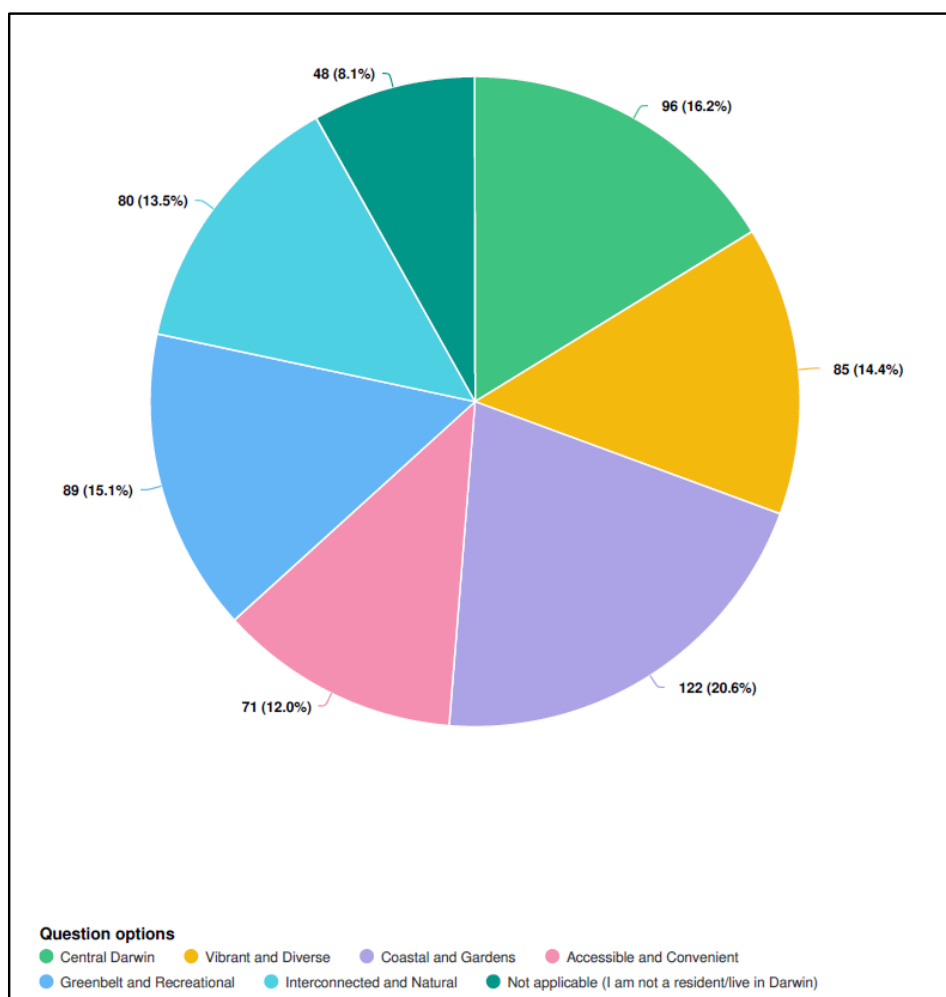




As shown below, most respondents are adults. This includes 217 (36.7%) between 34-44, and 128 (21.7%) between 25-30 and 98 (16.6%) between 45-54. Interestingly, there is also strong representation from those aged under 18 and over 65, with both groups returning 42 responses which is a total of 14.2% of participants.



As shown below, the respondents live in all neighbourhoods with a relatively even spread. The responses range from 122 (20.6%) from people in the Coastal and Gardens neighbourhood to 71 (12%) from the Accessible and Convenient neighbourhood. The location of the neighbourhoods is shown in the Plan.



Alignment with the Liveability Plan

As the Plan splits the city into the neighbourhoods shown below, the survey sought the respondents' opinion on the Plan's descriptions of these neighbourhoods, including their vision and place identity.



Most respondents said the descriptions in the draft Place and Liveability Plan reflected how they see their neighbourhoods. Greenbelt and Recreational resonated the most, with 74% of residents agreeing the description matched their experience. Vibrant and Diverse and Coastal and Gardens also scored highly, each at 73%. While Central Darwin was lower at 67%, most residents still agreed the description was accurate.

Neighbourhoods	Resonates Most	Unsure	Resonates Least	Other
Greenbelt and Recreational	74%	15%	4%	7%
Vibrant and diverse	73%	20%	5%	2%
Coastal and Gardens	73%	15%	11%	1%
Interconnected and Natural	72%	20%	1%	7%
Accessible and Convenient	69%	18%	10%	3%
Central Darwin	67%	15%	15%	3%



Neighbourhood Identity Analysis

When describing their neighbourhood in their own words, 11% aligned exactly with the Greenbelt and Recreational character (11%). Other strong matches for exact alignment included Accessible and Convenient (8%), Vibrant and Diverse (7%), and Central Darwin (6%). While the exact alignment may be generally low, as shown in the section below, the community’s sentiment is well-aligned with the Plan’s neighbourhood descriptions.

Neighbourhood	% Exact match
Greenbelt and Recreational	11%
Accessible and Convenient	8%
Vibrant and Diverse	7%
Central Darwin	6%
Interconnected and Natural	5%
Coastal and Gardens	5%

Central Darwin

The community’s overall tone and sentiment are well aligned, with approximately 88% of the feedback reflecting positive or neutral alignment with the neighbourhood’s intended character. The word cloud below shows some of the key themes, words and sentiments that people associate with this neighbourhood.

The community sentiment below highlights challenges such as safety concerns, cleanliness and maintenance, infrastructure needs and cultural and social disconnect. While these concerns are not addressed in the place identity for this neighbourhood, they will be consistently addressed through implementation of the Plan and the Platform over the next 25 years.



The community's overall tone is well aligned around 87%, indicating that the community broadly describes the neighbourhood in a similar way to how it is presented in the Place and Liveability Plan. The word cloud below highlights the main ideas, expressions, and feelings that community members link to this neighbourhood. Some community sentiments point to challenges such as safety, maintenance, infrastructure and opportunities for more markets and attraction not explicitly captured in the neighbourhood's descriptions within the Plan. However, it is the strategic intent of both the Plan and Platform to continually address these concerns.





Coastal and Gardens

As shown in the word cloud below, the community's the overall sentiment alignment is strong. This suggests that community perceptions do reflect the place identity, but often through different expressions. For example, a term like "*lush*" might be felt and described by residents as "*beautiful*" or "*green and vibrant*"—capturing the same essence but not matching the plan's exact wording.



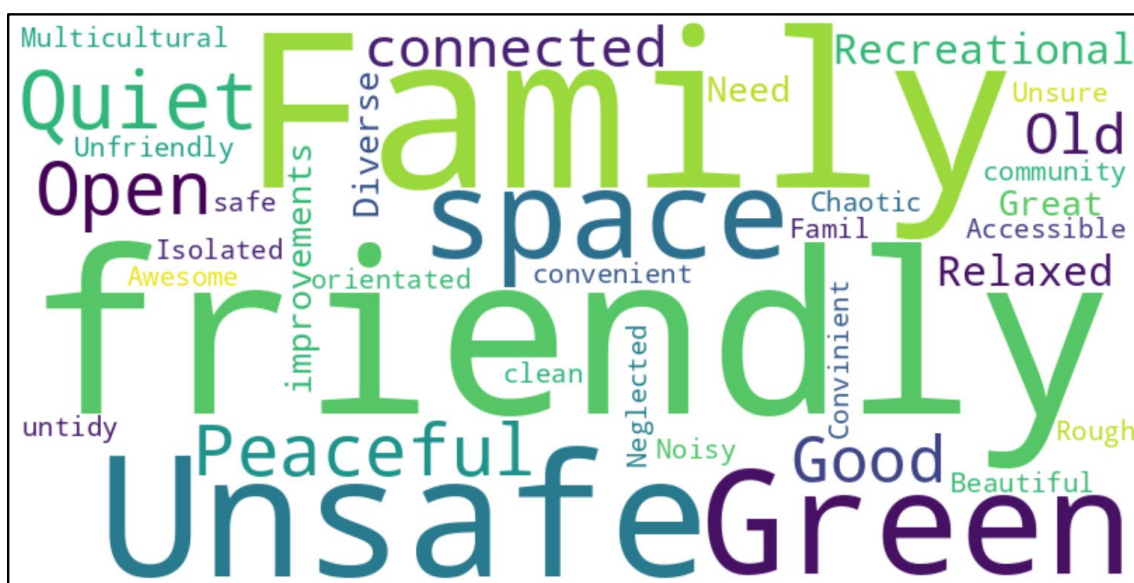
Accessible and Convenient

The word cloud below shows how the community described the neighbourhood. The words they used are well-aligned with the intended character of the neighbourhood, indicating that residents share similar values and perceptions, even if expressed differently. The word cloud below illustrates the key words and emotions people connect with this neighbourhood. Community sentiments around culture, markets, attractions, cleanliness, maintenance and infrastructure will all be address through the implementation of Plan and Platform.



Greenbelt and Recreational

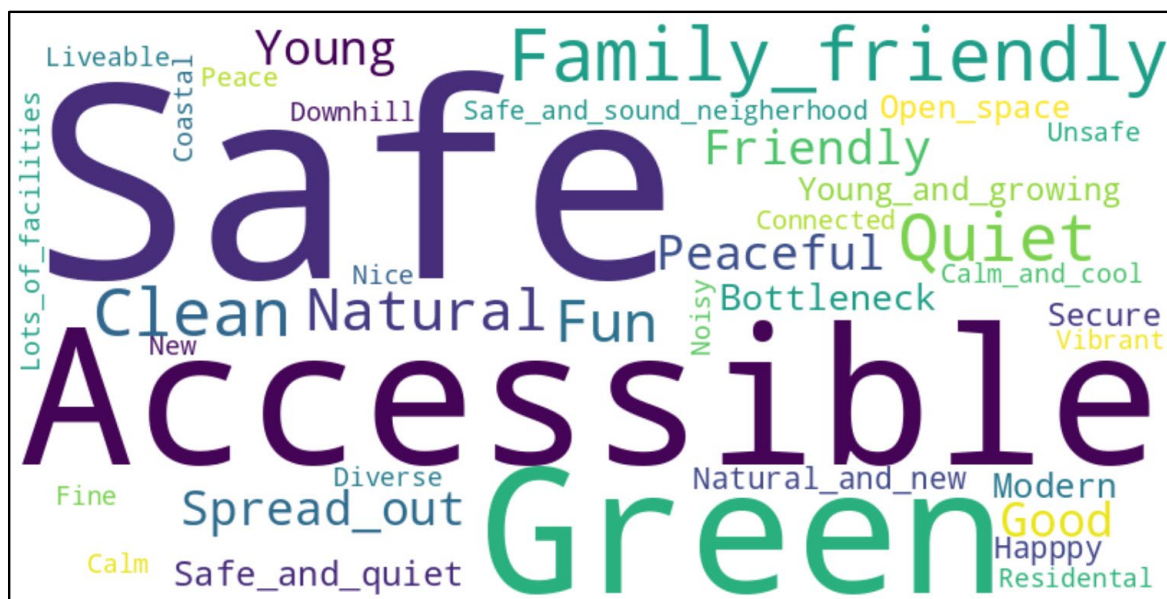
As shown in the word cloud below, the community strongly values green spaces, family-friendly environments, and peacefulness, which are core elements of the neighbourhood's defined place identity. The following word cloud reflects the thoughts, language, and impressions that people most often associate with this area. The word cloud includes some challenges around safety, infrastructure, maintenance and social cohesion, which will be addressed by the broader strategic goals of the Plan and Platform.





Interconnected and Natural

As shown in the word cloud below, the community's overall sentiment alignment with the Plan's description of this neighbourhood is strong. Implementation of the Plan and Platform will ensure that some concerns around safety and amenity can be continually addressed.



Community views on the Place and Liveability Plan

There were 478 responses to this question. The suggestions below, are summarised and grouped in terms of liveability aspects. Most of the following suggestions are site-specific and operational rather than detailed project-level actions.

Open Space and Recreation:

- Build BMX and skate facilities to support Olympic-level sports.
- Develop pump track at Jingili Water Gardens or Freshwater Drive.
- Create a park at the old Darwin hospital site near Cullen Bay.
- Build indoor playgrounds for children during the hot wet season.
- Add more playgrounds around Nightcliff beach.
- Install public toilets in Northcrest and Hobart Park playgrounds.
- Install water fountains along walk paths at East Point.

Physical Connectivity:

- Add footpaths to Boulter Road for safer pedestrian access.
- Improve Stuart Park–Parap connectivity with highway underpass.
- Develop bike road infrastructure for e-scooters and cyclists.
- Provide shaded bus stops with seating for public comfort.



Safety and Security:

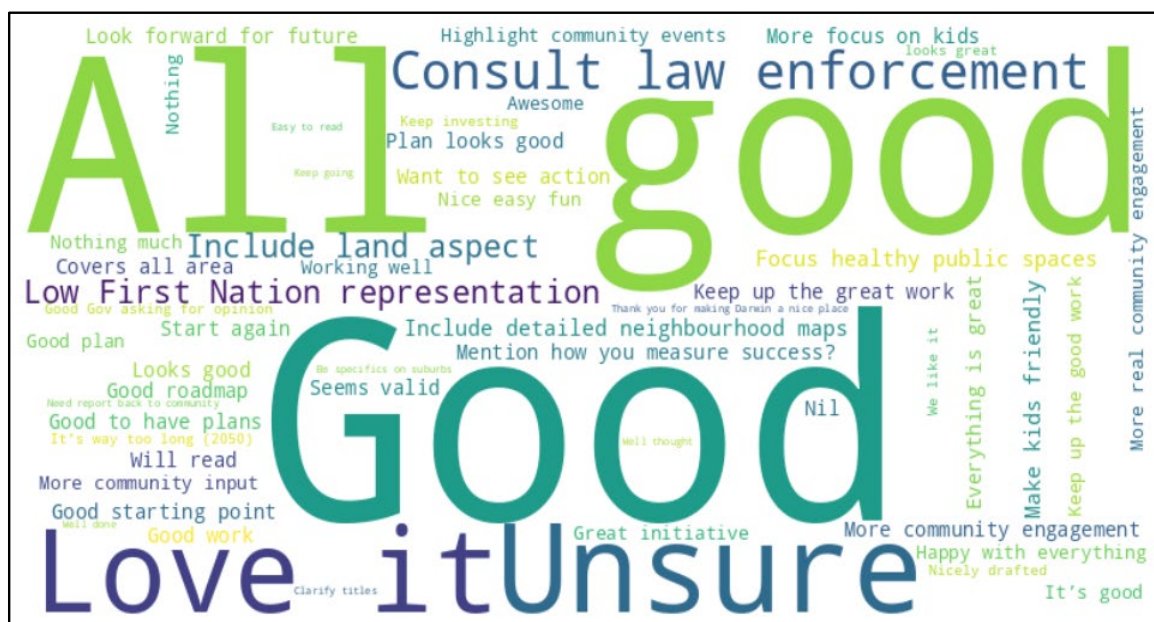
- Upgrade East Point toilets.
- Daily glass and hazardous waste clean-up in playgrounds.
- More police presence and lighting at night in parks.
- Activate vacant / unused land and car parks to be used better.

Arts and Culture:

- Add more community events during wet season months.
- Create more farmers markets for local produce and culture.
- Support intergenerational programs combining seniors and children.
- Add public art or cultural installations in neighbourhood parks.
- Activate Alawa shops with local events and activities.

Other aspects of Liveability:

- Very little First Nations voice in the Plan or Toolkit.
- Address climate change more directly in liveability planning.
- Create wildlife corridors to protect biodiversity and native species.
- Promote battery storage collaboration in residential neighbourhoods.
- Support and programs for vulnerable youth and families.
- More farmer's markets.
- Activate vacant shops for economic prosperity.





Community Views on the Liveability Platform and Toolkit

This question received almost 400 responses. Most of the responses suggested ways to improve the Platform and Toolkit, including the following:

- Improve navigation of the Platform and visual design of Toolkit for easier public use.
- Add community group chat feature to improve local engagement.
- Include more languages in toolkit for broader community access.
- Create workshops guided by locals through mangroves and neighbourhoods.
- Add climate literacy resources for vulnerable and outdoor-working groups.
- Develop a mobile app version of the Liveability Toolkit.
- Add public planting tree events and neighbourhood greening initiatives.
- Install toilets and water bubblers along Lee Point Road.
- Provide BBQ area at Turtle Park in Lyons.
- Link toolkit with Greening Darwin Strategy for better alignment.
- Add online parking tracker for real-time availability updates.
- Include more community gardens for local food and connection.
- Host more pet-friendly events to engage animal-loving residents.
- Add sector-specific resources for housing, health, and sports.
- Protect wildlife corridors, especially Lee Point to rural area.

Word cloud for Community Views on the Platform:





Word cloud for Community Views on the Platform:



Written Submissions from Stakeholders

Between 1 July and 1 September, staff met with several stakeholder groups. Following a presentation about the Plan, Platform and Toolkit, most of the stakeholders provided a written submission. Some stakeholder groups did not attend stakeholder meetings but were aware of the plan being advertised for consultation and provided written submissions.

Feedback from the stakeholder groups indicates that the most common ideas for improving the Place and Liveability Plan are to:

- Emphasise that Darwin's neighbourhoods need climate-resilient urban design to tackle health risks and support community wellbeing.
- Embed First Nations and other stakeholder perspectives in designing public places and infrastructure.
- Provide local government programs to support vulnerable people through outreach and partnership-working.

Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) NT

Supports the Plan and Liveability Toolkit. Recommends integrating green infrastructure, First Nations design and landscape-led metrics. Suggests embedding the Liveability Toolkit in planning processes, co-designing cultural indicators, and aligning with national frameworks for climate resilience and liveability. Recommends data from the Platform be used to track progress and metrics be aligned with Commonwealth funding priorities. AILA would like the Plan, Platform and Toolkit to support smart design and nature to make the city cooler, greener and more liveable.



The Cairns Institute

Commends the Plan's innovation, use of digital tools and alignment with national planning policy. Recommends measurable equity targets to track fairness (especially for First Nations people and those with less money), climate adaptation strategies and embedding the Platform in decision-making and funding alignment.

Charles Darwin University (CDU)

Following City of Darwin's face-to-face presentation of the Plan, Platform and Toolkit, CDU is very supportive and is keen to find ways of integrating the Plan and the Platform with the university's curriculum and learnings for students.

CDU's written submission suggests adding more nature into buildings, making spaces healthier and more inclusive, and designing for Darwin's tropical climate. They also recommend involving locals more, celebrating culture, and using smart design to improve wellbeing and community connection.

CSIRO Darwin Living Lab

CSIRO supports the Plan's alignment with liveability goals but recommends stronger emphasis on climate change impacts, equity in access to cool spaces, and climate adaptation strategies. They propose collaboration on monitoring, data, and innovative cooling solutions to enhance resilience, thermal comfort, and community wellbeing across Darwin to 2050.

CSIRO recommends explicitly addressing climate change impacts, such as extreme heat, in the Plan's challenges section. It suggests integrating climate adaptation goals, including shaded active paths and tree canopy expansion. Equity of access to cool refuges like shaded walkways, pools, and libraries should be prioritised. CSIRO encourages collaboration on monitoring urban heat and land cover changes. It offers support in developing datasets for the Platform and Digital Twin. Environmental sensor networks can provide real-time data on heat stress and air quality. Research into community values and climate-resilient planting strategies can guide design decisions. CSIRO also proposes working with Larrakia leadership to assess biodiversity and green space contributions to liveability.

Darwin Airport Development Group

Following City of Darwin's presentation to Darwin International Airport's Community Consultation Group and Planning Coordination meeting in July, the Airport Development Group (ADG) provided written confirmation that it supports the City of Darwin's Place and Liveability Plan. ADG commends the Plan's vision and approach and is looking forward to its implementation to enhance Darwin's liveability through 2050.



Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI)

DLI's officer-level response is primarily from a road safety perspective. The department recommends expanding liveability definitions to include safe, accessible transport. Suggests stronger focus on road safety, inclusive infrastructure language and behavioural change programs to support active transport and connected neighbourhoods. Would like 'micromobility and mobility devices (wheelchairs etc) to be added to the Plan's action for a long-term local area traffic program to make neighbourhood streets.

Department of Lands and Planning

The department supports the Plan's alignment with NT Planning Commission's Area Plans and recognises the potential that the Platform offers for more effective community engagement and future collaboration for land use planning. They want to keep working with City of Darwin to make sure everyone's voice is heard.

Fannie Bay Equestrian Club (FBEC)

Commends the Plan and notes the need to continually improve aspects of liveability. Highlights FBEC's contribution to open space and recreation, community wellbeing and connection, and Sustainable Environment and Resilience. Requests the final plan includes a long-term lease extension beyond 2040 to secure its role in enhancing open space, community connection, and environmental stewardship.

Fiona Eddleston (Landscape Architect)

Fiona considered the Plan and Platform is a valuable tool for the future. Proposes that the following be included in the Plan: food-producing trees in parks, safe sleeping spaces for the homeless, hygiene facilities, and free market stalls for local creatives, especially in less active suburbs. Suggests repurposing vacant land or buildings to be used for supporting vulnerable populations to improve overall wellbeing.

Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA)

Supports the Plan's evolving roadmap that will deliver and resilient and sustainable community. The GBCA suggests co-designing with diverse communities, improving safety, celebrating local culture, enhancing public spaces, and building resilient infrastructure. Recommends using Green Star Communities benchmarks, embedding co-design, inclusive safety, green infrastructure, and climate-responsive design to guide implementation.



NT Health - Chief Health Officer

NT Health supports the Plan's emphasis on community participation and belonging. As their goal is to make Darwin a healthier place to live, they recommend embedding health as a core liveability principle. NT Health suggests the final Plan and Platform include actions on healthy eating, active living, heat mitigation, mental wellbeing, smoke-free zones, and air quality monitoring.

NT Planning Commission (NTPC)

The NTPC supports the Plan's direction and approach to placemaking and liveability. Recommends stronger integration with regional frameworks, broader climate resilience strategies, transport connectivity, and a monitoring framework to track outcomes. The NTPC considers local and Territory-wide planning should work together to build strong, connected communities, and looks forward to continued collaboration to deliver a shared vision that supports healthy, connected, and resilient communities.

NT Shelter

NT Shelter supports the Draft Place and Liveability Plan and advocates for stronger integration of homelessness and housing insecurity responses into urban planning and liveability frameworks.

Recommendations include using data collection to guide local solutions, public education to shift homelessness perceptions, consistent protocols for respectful engagement practices, early intervention via community touchpoints and partnerships, inclusive amenities supporting dignity for rough sleepers, and land use strategies enabling long-term affordable housing.

Planning Institute of Australia

PIA supports the Plan and Platform's direction, and commends their innovation, climate-conscious focus, neighbourhood-based planning, and potential to strengthen policy integration between Council and Territory Government planning and funding decisions.

PIA recommends elevating the significance of heat stress in the Plan's vision and principles. It encourages referencing CSIRO's Living Lab to strengthen climate-responsive design. The role of neighbourhoods should be clarified to support planning and investment decisions. Alignment with NT Government Area Plans is essential to avoid confusion. PIA supports Goal 3's focus on masterplanning and offers collaboration to refine implementation. The Platform should maintain public engagement and ensure meaningful data contributions. Clear governance around data moderation and transparency is needed. PIA welcomes involvement in developing the Professionals Liveability Toolkit.

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) NT

SVdP NT welcomes the Plan its community-focused and aspirational vision. They recommend the final plan incorporates strategies to address homelessness and housing insecurity strategies. They



also recommend that neighbourhood planning provides for co-located support services, safety programs, and partnerships to address vulnerability in neighbourhood planning.

Resident 1

Supports the Plan and would like it to make Darwin more fun, inclusive and connected for all ages. Recommends more multicultural engagement, creative showcases for women, and free monthly dance or karaoke events for seniors to foster inclusion and intergenerational connection.

Resident 2

Criticises Council's planning approach, citing lack of trust and community consultation. States a preference for natural, quiet, shaded environments with amenities over dense urbanisation or "15-minute city" concepts.

15.3 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2025 (Q1)

Author: Manager Risk and Customer Experience

Authoriser: General Manager Corporate

Attachments: 1. Strategic Plan Action Summary Q1 2025/26 [↓](#)
2. Municipal Plan Action Summary Q1 2025/26 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Quarterly Performance Report – July to September 2025 (Q1) be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to proactively inform Council and the community on the performance against adopted strategies and plans.

KEY ISSUES

- The *Darwin 2030 – City for People. City of Colour.* Strategic Plan sets the direction for all strategic plans for the City of Darwin.
- Quarterly performance reports track progress in delivering on the Strategic and Municipal Plan and is utilised to inform the Annual Report each year.

DISCUSSION

City of Darwin has been implementing its strategic planning and performance reporting framework since the adoption of the *Darwin 2030: City for People. City of Colour.* Strategic Plan in July 2019. The below provides 2025/26 quarter 1 highlights against the Strategic and Municipal Plans.

Quarter 1 Highlights – Strategic Plan:

There are 26 actions within the Strategic Plan active during 2025/26. Of these actions, all 25 are on track, and one is listed as not yet due. See **Attachment 1** for full details of City of Darwin's Q1 performance against the Strategic Plan.



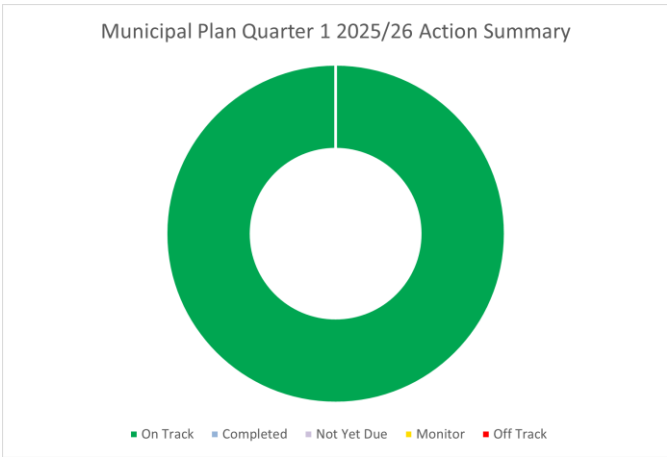
Highlights from this quarter include:

- a new agreement is in place for the Karama facility, and the tenant has commenced building works
- the Federal Government has approved the Lee Point Road Stage 2 Roads to Recovery project
- facilitated a community planting day at Robyn Lesley Park
- delivered engaging programs across libraries, including ‘personalise a library bag’ using Cricut, bedazzling and fabric painting, along with STEAM programs, crafting and Virtual Reality experiences.

The action marked as not yet due is the development of a Multicultural Framework, this has been scheduled for commencement in 2028/29.

Quarter 1 Highlights – Municipal Plan:

Within the 2025/26 Municipal Plan there are 36 actions for delivery, including 6 actions which fall under the Governance Framework. A summary of performance against each action in this quarter is located at **Attachment 2**. Of these actions all 36 are marked as on track.



Highlights from this quarter include:

- the tender for the CRM (Customer Relationship Management) system was released to market in Q1, with tender evaluation planned to occur in Q2
- greening targets are progressing ahead of schedule, with street and park trees exceeding the annual target, with customer request trees, and native plant giveaways set to reach an exceed targets over the coming period
- the wet season Healthy Darwin program has been finalised ahead of the launch on 1 October 2025
- draft Liveability Platform launched to the public alongside the draft Place and Liveability Plan.

There were six actions carried forward from the Municipal Plan 2024/25. Of these all six remain on track against revised targets. One action remained ongoing from the Municipal Plan 2023/24, which was the development of the Access Strategy. The Access Strategy 2025-2030 was endorsed by Council in July 2025, marking this action as complete.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Not applicable. Each quarterly report is considered on its own merit.

**STRATEGIC PLAN
ALIGNMENT**

6 Governance Framework
6.4 Accountability

BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Budget/Funding: Nil Is Funding identified: Nil Corporate Hub is responsible for coordinating the City of Darwin Performance Reporting.
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Legislation: <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> Section 34 – Contents of municipal, regional or shire plan (1)(d) Municipal Plan must define indicators for judging the standard of the Council's performance Policy: Darwin 2030 – <i>City for People. City of Colour.</i> Strategic Plan, Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	Engagement Level: Inform Internal: The actions contained within the Strategic Plan and 2025/26 Municipal Plan have been reviewed and Quarter 1 updates are provided by responsible Executive Managers and Managers. Hub General Managers approve performance and status updates for responsible actions as part of this reporting framework. External: Quarterly Performance Report: July to September 2025 (Q1) will inform the City of Darwin 2025/26 Annual Report and reporting is part of the open session of Council, so public at the time meeting agendas are issued for an Ordinary Meeting.
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter. If a conflict of interest exists, staff will not act in the matter, except as authorised by the CEO or Council (as the case requires).

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025/26 ACTION SUMMARY							
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Original Start Date	Expected End Date
Target: By 2030, a number of strategic infrastructure projects will be developed and delivered							
SD1	TAR1	Implement City of Darwin's Asset Management Framework	EM Infrastructure	2025/26 Q1 - Transport and Pathways asset management plans are drafted awaiting input of revaluation data and updated predictor modelling. Stormwater asset condition assessments ongoing.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2028
SD1	TAR1	Develop a Priority Infrastructure Plan	EM Technical Services	2025/26 Q1 - Asset surveys to identify condition/age-based priority projects are ongoing. The Federal Government has approved the Lee Point Road Stage 2 Roads to Recovery project and a tender for its design has gone to market. Federal Government funding submissions has also been made for tranches of priority pedestrian, active transport and LATM projects.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2028
SD1	TAR1	Increase utilisation of the City of Darwin's land and community assets	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - EOIs were pursued for Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre tenancies. A new agreement in place for the Karama facility and the tenant has commenced building works. An EOI published for vacant properties in the Nightcliff Community Centre. An EOI received for a lead tenant at Lyons Community Centre. The Street Food Program is operating with the highest number of permits at 38 in the peak season. Supported 59 comprehensive and 110 small event permits on City of Darwin land.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2028
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be increasingly recognised as a liveable city							
SD2	TAR2	Promote Darwin as a more attractive place to live and work	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Darwin was promoted as an attractive destination to live and work via the Discover Darwin website. City of Darwin collaborated with Darwin Festival through a Sister Cities Soiree program that celebrated the diversity of our residents. Developed a program to engage with key stakeholders around development of the Greater Darwin Brand Toolkit.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD2	TAR2	Work with the NT Government on a long term plan for Council to take on an increased role in planning decisions within the municipality	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Feedback received from the community on the draft Place and Liveability Plan through Engage Darwin, the Seniors Expo, Royal Darwin Show, staff and stakeholder meetings. Reviewed proposed changes to the Planning Act and commenced development of new internal processes needed in response to the change. Responded to two Planning Scheme Amendments and 32 Development Applicants.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD2	TAR2	Increase utilisation of Darwin's beaches and foreshores	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Continued to support market and Street Food vendors through the peak season. Activated Bundilla with Street Food Vans on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings seeing increased usage of the beach and reserve.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030

Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as a clean and environmentally responsible city							
SD3	TAR1	Facilitate forums for environmental service providers to share information and develop relationships within the sector and with other industries	EM Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2025/26 Q1 - Presented and sat on a panel at the Darwin Living Lab Symposium. Sponsored and supported the NT Native Eco Fair. Delivered a Shoal Bay Community Open Day involving industry and community stakeholders covering diversion from landfill opportunities and waste management best practice.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD3	TAR1	Council will have zero net emissions from operations by 2030	EM Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2025/26 Q1 - Commenced 2024/25 organisation emissions profile. Federal Government Community Energy Upgrades Grant agreement has been executed for greenhouse gas emission reduction projects. Energy audit has been completed on the new Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD3	TAR1	Deliver projects that will cool the Darwin City Centre	EM Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2025/26 Q1 - Smith Street greening has been completed. Commenced a greening project on McMinn carpark verge. Chapel Lane construction has commenced, which includes temperature monitoring to understand the impact of cooling initiatives.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD3	TAR1	Ensure Council open spaces contribute to the city's biodiversity	EM Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2025/26 Q1 - Facilitated community planting of native garden bed in Robyn Lesley Park, Karama, including approximately 200 native plants. Ongoing community cane toad management activities at East Point and Jingili Water Gardens. East Point cat survey commenced to understand threats to biodiversity.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised globally as a smart city							
SD4	TAR1	Support the development of business centres that foster industry engagement, collaboration and innovation across all markets	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - With backing from DCRA, the Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Top End, and Hospitality NT, a successful grant application was submitted to the NTG to deliver wayfinding improvements in Smith Street Mall. Discussions with UDIA focused on place and liveability, with joint efforts underway to address key challenges, including promoting urban density in future developments.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR1	Develop innovation hubs for our community and future generations	GM Innovation	2025/26 Q1 - Fifteen stakeholder meetings were held to showcase the Place and Liveability platform and toolkits, which are now available for use. Neighbourhood-level plans break down population, demographic, and other key place-based data, offering valuable insights to guide the development of innovation hubs that are responsive to community needs and designed to better serve Darwin's diverse communities.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR1	Lead innovation for the city and facilitate relevant activities to support these initiatives	GM Innovation	2025/26 Q1 - Smart sensors, software, trailers and poles being utilised across the organisation and neighbourhoods to measure movement, environment and economic impact of projects and to make informed decisions. Mobile wayfinding kiosk launched to support navigation for cruise passengers. Greater Darwin Place Brand Toolkit being developed.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR1	Support life-long learning opportunities through the provision of STEAM programs	EM Library and Family Services	2025/26 Q1 - Delivered a variety of engaging programs across our libraries, including 'Personalise a Library Bag' sessions for Seniors Month and Library Lounge, introducing adults to Cricut, bedazzling, and fabric painting. The Radicle Centre brought their Science of Keeping Cool Roadshow to the STEAM Zone, and Science Week featured Solar System sessions supported by an Inspired NT grant. The ongoing Crafting and Gaming program at Karama Library continues to attract the local community with hands-on STEM-based crafts and immersive Virtual Reality experiences.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030

SD4	TAR1	Implement and evolve the #SmartDarwin and its pillars by 2030	GM Innovation	Q1 2025/25 - Data Insights Platform and Liveability Platform being finalised in order to launch next quarter. Presentation at a national data insights forum. Environmental sensor network delivery at 90%. Commenced measuring the health of the Tree of Knowledge to see the impacts pre and post construction of the Civic Centre. New movement sensors added across neighbourhoods. Micromobility tender launched for another two year contract. Minecraft Place and Liveability game developed.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2026
Target: By 2030, Darwin will have attracted and retained more residents and will offer sustainable investment opportunities							
SD4	TAR2	Implement an Economic Development Plan for the city	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Key actions this quarter for the Plan included continuing delivery of Discover Darwin social media content, highlighting international engagements led by the Lord Mayor and supporting key events; distributing the quarterly International Relations email update to all subscribers, maintaining strong communication with global partners; and preparing two City of Darwin workshops for October Business Month, aimed at fostering local business growth and innovation.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR2	Develop an International Relations Program to leverage business growth and economic development opportunities for the city	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Delivered the Sister Cities Soirée during the Darwin Festival, celebrating international relationships through cultural performances, interactive trivia, and the announcement of the Darwin Sister City Storytelling Competition winners.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR2	Promote Darwin as a great destination to live, work, study and invest	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - The quarterly International Relations email was distributed to all subscribers, celebrating initiatives such as Darwin Fusion 2025 and sharing key news and events that highlight the city's global connections and vibrant community.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR2	Support initiatives to increase the population of Darwin through engagement with business and industry, and all levels of Government	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Held the Sister Cities and International Relations Advisory Committees in July, bringing together key stakeholders to share updates, outcomes, and business insights that contribute to positioning Darwin as a globally connected and attractive city.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR2	Support initiatives to grow the economy and retain people and jobs in Darwin	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - The Sponsorship Program supported a variety of community and cultural initiatives this quarter, including the Multicultural Darwin Festival, Tactile Makers Markets, Darwin Symphony Orchestra concerts, and Tourism Top End operations. Provided over \$30,000 in in-kind support to local events and activations.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as an iconic destination							
SD5	TAR1	Deliver a City of Darwin events program and support other event programs that engage locals and attract visitors	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Delivered a highly engaging activation at the Darwin Show providing opportunities for feedback around projects and proposals as well as giveaways.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD5	TAR1	Partner with other stakeholders to grow the visitor economy of Darwin	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Met with Darwin Aboriginal Arts Fair to discuss partnership opportunities for FreeGuide tours. Participated in the Military History Advisory Committee, the Cruise Tourism Working Group and Destination Darwin Working Group, presenting to them the Wayfinding app that was soft launched in September. Participated in the Airport Development Group Community Engagement sessions discussing new airlines, development at the airport and other overlapping projects.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030

SD5	TAR1	Support the promotion of Darwin as a cruise ship and yachting destination and as a home port for expedition ships	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Facilitated meetings with Tourism Top End and Darwin Port to prepare for the next cruise season. Provided TTE additional fliers on FreeGuide tours, wayfinding and other useful information to pass onto visitors.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a more connected community and have pride in our cultural history							
SD5	TAR2	Deliver programs and services that create a cohesive, connected and culturally enriched community	General Manager Community	2025/26 Q1 - City of Darwin has continued to deliver programs and services that create a cohesive, connected and culturally enriched community, including programs for families and children, youth, seniors and participants in recreation and exercise and arts and culture sectors.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD5	TAR2	Promote Darwin as a destination known for its Aboriginal cultures and landmarks	EM Growth and Development Services	2025/26 Q1 - Supported the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair for a successful 2025 series of events during this quarter bringing significant national and international visitation to Darwin and celebration of the rich aboriginal cultural offer Darwin provides.	On track	01/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD5	TAR2	Develop a City of Darwin Multicultural Framework	EM Community and Cultural Services	Not yet due.	Not yet due	01/07/2028	30/06/2030

MUNICIPAL PLAN 2025/26 ACTION SUMMARY								
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	
Target: By 2030, a number of strategic infrastructure projects will be developed and delivered								
SD1	TAR1	Deliver the 2025/26 capital works program	EM Infrastructure	Programmes and projects allocated to responsible officers, procurement for asset renewal programmes for stormwater, pathway replacement, playgrounds and road resurfacing complete. Scheduling timing of construction for works underway.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
SD1	TAR1	Deliver the 2025/26 milestones for the new Civic Centre and Precinct Redevelopment Project	EM Infrastructure	Project milestones met for quarter; construction works on time and within budget forecast. Works completed to date include site establishment, lift over runs, library floor, columns and site crane foundation.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
SD1	TAR1	Complete an expression of interest for partnership opportunities to deliver electric vehicle infrastructure across the Darwin municipality	EM Growth & Development	A draft EOI document has been prepared.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
SD1	TAR1	Develop asset management plans for asset categories street and public lighting, and stormwater drainage	EM Infrastructure	Asset condition data in process of collection. Template for Asset Management Plan developed.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a safer place to live and visit								
SD2	TAR1	Deliver regulatory services including regulation of vehicles, animals and public places in line with legislative requirements	EM Regulatory Services	Regulatory Services continues to support the community through the regulation of vehicles, animals and public places in line with legislative requirements. This includes offering a series of free monthly workshops for residents to build their relationship with their animals, including barking matters programs, don't bite be polite, life with dogs, and animal education initiatives.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
SD2	TAR1	Deliver local area traffic management initiatives to improve movement, road safety and liveability	EM Technical Services	Preliminary work has commenced on delivery of the Chambers Crescent LATM/liveability project, with some conceptual design for the traffic calming and landscape elements underway and a communications plan developed.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
SD2	TAR1	Deliver the 2025/26 street and public lighting and amenity projects	EM Technical Services	Preliminary work has commenced on the design of the Atkins Drive street light upgrade project. Decorative lights have been installed in a Tiwi laneway. Discussions are being held with contractors around the Mindil Stage 2B lighting project.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
SD2	TAR1	Deliver an assertive outreach program in partnership with service providers	EM Community & Cultural Services	Assertive Outreach team continue to refine data collection and maintain strong working relationships across a wide variety of service providers. The Team was involved in joint stakeholder programs such as Operation Home Safe to assist with return to country following the Darwin Show.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a more active and healthy								
SD2	TAR3	Deliver the 2025/26 healthy and active community programs	EM Community & Cultural Services	The dry season Healthy Darwin program continued until 30 September 2025, and the wet season Healthy Darwin program was launched on 1 October 2025 and will run until April 2026. The program provides a variety of low and no-cost activities for Darwin residents to engage in healthy and active lifestyles including health workshops and activities such as Pilates, Zumba and Yoga.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	
SD2	TAR3	Deliver 2025/26 Play Space Strategy annual funded actions	EM Community & Cultural Services	City of Darwin continue to upgrade and develop play spaces as per the strategy and where additional funding and resourcing is allocated. Planning and design is underway for the Waters Ward Multigenerational Recreation Space with stage 1 works being prepared for tender.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026	

Target: By 2030, Darwin will be increasingly recognised as a liveable city							
SD2	TAR2	Deliver the access and inclusion infrastructure projects	EM Infrastructure	Project scope and feasibility being finalised, procurement for items underway, works to be scheduled once materials received.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD2	TAR2	Deliver the 2025/26 milestones for the Waters Ward Multigenerational Recreation Space	EM Infrastructure	Project milestones met, procurement for enabling works underway. Detailed design under final review prior to issue for procurement.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD2	TAR2	Deliver the 2025/26 annual events program, including the 2026 Bombing of Darwin event	EM Growth & Development	The Darwin Show activation was a success, generating strong community engagement and feedback on the draft Place and Liveability Plan. Planning is well underway for upcoming events, including the Waters Ward Halloween Party in October and the Christmas Pageant in November.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD2	TAR2	Enhance and maintain, parks and recreation facilities to meet community needs	EM Operations	Operation teams continue to deliver ongoing maintenance and services to enhance and maintain, parks and recreation facilities to meet community needs. This includes proactive and reactive works for aquatic facilities, play spaces, parks and reserves and community facilities.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as a clean and environmentally responsible city							
SD3	TAR1	Deliver the 2025/26 Greening Darwin Strategy annual funded actions	EM Operations	The annual 2025/26 annual greening targets are progressing ahead of schedule. A total of 337 park and street trees were planted, exceeding the annual target of 200 trees. A total of 95 customer requested street trees were planted by 30 September 2025 against an annual target of 100 trees. A total of 5,488 native plants were distributed to the community through the native plant giveaway program against an annual target of 8,500.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD3	TAR1	Deliver the Stage 7 putrescible cell milestones at Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility	EM Infrastructure	Project milestones met, design with NTEPA for construction approval, procurement for construction contractor, construction and environmental oversight scheduled for Q2.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD3	TAR1	Deliver the 2025/26 Climate Emergency Strategy annual funded programs	EM Environment, Climate and Waste	Development of the 2024/25 emissions profile has commenced. Federal Government Community Energy Upgrades grant agreement has been executed. Chapel Lane, Smith Street and Civic Centre temperature monitoring has commenced to understand the impact of cooling initiatives pre and post construction.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD3	TAR1	Explore advanced waste processing technologies to divert waste from landfill	EM Environment, Climate and Waste	A feasibility meeting was undertaken with the Northern Territory EPA to determine the environmental assessment framework that would be applied for a waste to energy proposal. Further meetings have been held with NTG Departments to integrate with Circular Economy strategy frameworks and investment opportunities.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD3	TAR1	Identify priorities for more targeted greening along footpaths and shared paths	EM Operations	Priorities for targeted greening along footpaths and shared paths are being identified through the 10 Year Tree Planting Plan. A draft plan including prioritisation and financial modelling is scheduled for Q3 2025/26.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised globally as a smart city							
SD4	TAR1	Deliver 2025/26 outcomes from the ICT roadmap including milestones towards the customer relationship management system	Director ICT Project Management Office	Program milestones on track, with CRM request for tender in market, and HRIS planned to release to market in Q3.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD4	TAR1	Deliver a data insights platform	GM Innovation	A draft Data Insights Platform has been launched to City of Darwin staff. The Data Insights Platform will be launched to the public in December.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: By 2030, Darwin will have attracted and retained more residents and will offer sustainable investment opportunities							
SD4	TAR2	Deliver the 2025/26 international relations events program, including the new Sister Cities Cup event	EM Growth & Development	Planning is underway for the Sister Cities Cup, with project plans currently being drafted and a grant application submitted to the Australia-China Foundation.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD4	TAR2	Deliver an online liveability platform	GM Innovation	A draft Liveability Platform was launched to the public alongside the draft Place and Liveability Plan. The Liveability Platform will be launched to the public in November.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026

Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as an iconic destination							
SD5	TAR1	Deliver the Creative Strategy annual funded actions	EM Community & Cultural Services	The implementation actions against the Creative Strategy are being delivered in line with resourcing, including those associated with the new Percentage for Arts policy and key infrastructure projects.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a more connected community and have pride in our cultural identity							
SD5	TAR2	Deliver the 2025/26 Community Grants Program	EM Community & Cultural Services	Community Grants round closed at end of September with assessment about to take place, recommendations due to Council in late 2025.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD5	TAR2	Deliver funded actions against the Reconciliation Action Plan	EM Community & Cultural Services	City of Darwin has completed the 2023 2025 Innovate RAP. RAP impact reporting was delivered to Reconciliation Australia in late September.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD5	TAR2	Deliver the 2025/26 Youth Strategy annual actions	EM Community & Cultural Services	City of Darwin continue to deliver actions developed in the co design workshop and as raised by the Youth Advisory Committee. During the period another term of the Launch Night Series was delivered with some youth developing skills to assist as volunteers in future programs.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD5	TAR2	Deliver the communications, media and marketing annual program	EM Marketing Communications and Engagement	City of Darwin has continued to deliver a holistic program. This quarter has focused on supporting community education and awareness, and supporting engagement.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD5	TAR2	Deliver annual library services and programs, including focus areas of literacy and continuation of online services and digital inclusion	EM Library and Family Services	Library programs and services continue to be delivered. The 35th Young Territory Author Awards received 211 entries from young authors across the Territory by the end of August, with winners to be announced in November. The Libby digital library continues to grow in popularity, and the team delivered two digital literacy sessions: "What is AI?", and "Click & Go: Travel Basics".	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD5	TAR2	Deliver family and children's outreach programs to improve family wellbeing and support children's development and foster community connections	EM Library and Family Services	The outreach programs continued to provide engaging, inclusive opportunities for children and families to connect, learn and play. The Fun Bus operated across five locations across Darwin, Monday to Friday, offering play-based activities for children under five and their parents and carers. Fun in the Parks supported the City of Darwin Youth team at the Skate Jam event, and delivered a school holiday program featuring a meet and greet with NT Fire & Rescue and collaborating with Deaf Connect.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: Vision and Culture							
SD1	TAR1	Proactive risk management in supporting operations and project delivery	EM Corporate & Customer	Proactive risk management remains ongoing.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: Roles and Relationships							
SD1	TAR1	Establish and maintain productive and positive relationships with First Nations organisations and implement memoranda of understanding	EM Community & Cultural Services	City of Darwin have continued a strong and positive working relationship with Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation under our existing MOU.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD1	TAR1	Advocate Council's position at national and local levels for the benefit of the Darwin community	Chief Executive Officer	Targeted advocacy has been delivered in line with City of Darwin priority projects and strategic projects with Northern Territory Government and other agencies. Ongoing advocacy continues via ALGA, LGANT and CCCLM.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: Decision Making and Management							
SD1	TAR1	Deliver the 2025/26 Internal Audit program	EM Corporate & Customer	The BCP and Emergency Response internal audit is nearing completion, and the Fraud Framework Review has been awarded, with commencement scheduled for October 2025. Audits from the first tranche of the program have either been finalised or are nearing completion.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
Target: Accountability							
SD1	TAR1	Deliver unqualified 2024/25 City of Darwin Audited Financial Statements	EM Finance	External audit underway, substantially complete.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026
SD1	TAR1	Deliver the 2024/25 Annual Report	EM Corporate & Customer	The draft annual report for 2024/25 has been delivered to design, and is on track for delivery to RMAC on 17 October 2025.	On track	1/07/2025	30/06/2026

16 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS****19 GENERAL BUSINESS****20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 25 November 2025, at 5:30pm (Open Section followed by the Confidential Section), Council Chambers Darrandirra, Level 1, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin.

21 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

THAT pursuant to Section 99 (2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Regulation 8 of the Local Government Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*:

28.1 City of Darwin Annual Report 2024/25

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

28.2 Micromobility Update

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

29.1 Corporate Services Quarterly Report - July to September 2025

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(a) and 51(c)(iv) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual and information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

29.2 Information on Legal Matter

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i), 51(c)(iv) and 51(d) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person and information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

22 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 30 September 2025

Unconfirmed

Reports, recommendations and supporting documentation can be accessed via the City of Darwin Website at www.darwin.nt.gov.au, or contact Customer Service on (08) 8930 0300.

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON TUESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT:

Lord Mayor Peter Styles (Chair)
Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Councillor Shani Carson
Councillor Kim Farrar
Councillor Julie Fraser
Councillor Edwin Joseph
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris
Councillor Mick Palmer
Councillor Peter Pangquee
Councillor Patrik Ralph
Councillor Ed Smelt
Councillor Sam Weston

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders
General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr
General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson
General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

APOLOGY:

Councillor Nicole Brown

GUESTS:

Nil

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We the members of City of Darwin acknowledge that we are meeting on Larrakia Country.

We recognise and pay our respects to all Larrakia people, Traditional Owners and Custodian Elders of the past and present.

We support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future.

We are committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

2 THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever.

Amen

3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

RESOLUTION ORD409/25

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:34 pm.

CARRIED 12/0

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION ORD410/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the apology from Councillor Nicole Brown, be received.

CARRIED 12/0

4.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

RESOLUTION ORD411/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT a leave of absence be granted for Councillor Sylvia Klonaris for the period 23 October 2025 to 27 October 2025.

CARRIED 12/0

5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE**5.1 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE GRANTED**

Nil

5.2 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**6.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS****RESOLUTION ORD412/25**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Councillor Shani Carson, declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 28.1 - Appointment of external committee members – Risk Management and Audit Committee and Item 29.1 - Update on the Esplanade.

CARRIED 12/0

6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**RESOLUTION ORD413/25**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 29 July 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 12/0

8 MOVING OF ITEMS**8.1 MOVING OF OPEN ITEMS INTO CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

8.2 MOVING OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN

Nil

8.3 MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**28.1 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS - RISK MANAGEMENT & AUDIT COMMITTEE (RMAC)****RESOLUTION ORD454/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Appointment of External Committee Members - Risk Management & Audit Committee (RMAC) be received and noted.
2. THAT Sanja Hill, Tanya Jacobs and Shara Reid be endorsed as Community Members of the Risk Management and Audit Committee.
3. THAT Roland Chin be appointed as Chair of the Risk Management and Audit Committee.
4. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293 (1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
5. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 10/0

29.1 UPDATE ON THE ESPLANADE**RESOLUTION ORD455/25**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Update on The Esplanade be received and noted.
2. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293 (1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
3. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 10/0

9 MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE / LORD MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

11 PETITIONS

Nil

12 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

Nil

13 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

14 ACTION REPORTS

14.1 REVIEW OF CASTING VOTE POLICY - 24TH CITY OF DARWIN COUNCIL

RESOLUTION ORD414/25

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Casting Vote Policy - 24th City of Darwin Council be received and noted.
2. THAT pursuant to section 95(6) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Council adopts a policy position for the 24th City of Darwin Council at **Attachment 1**.

CARRIED 12/0

14.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF EXECUTIVE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES - 24TH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION ORD415/25

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Edwin Joseph

1. THAT the report entitled Establishment of Executive and Advisory Committees - 24th Council be received and noted.

2. THAT Council, pursuant to section 82 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, establishes the following Executive and Advisory Committees and that the respective terms of reference be adopted:
 - (a) Executive Committees
 - (i) Administrative Review Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 1**.
 - (ii) Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 2**.
 - (b) Advisory Committees
 - (i) Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 3**.
 - (ii) Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 4**.
 - (iii) Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 5**.
 - (iv) East Point Reserve Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 6**.
 - (v) Information Communication Technology Steering Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 7**.
 - (vi) International Relations Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 8**.
 - (vii) Reconciliation Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 9**.
 - (viii) Sister City Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 10**.
 - (ix) Tree Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 11**.
 - (x) Youth Advisory Committee terms of reference provided at **Attachment 12**.
3. THAT Council, pursuant to section 86 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, establishes the Risk Management and Audit Committee and that the respective terms of reference provided at **Attachment 13** be adopted.
4. THAT Council endorse a workshop to be held as part of the November 'Forum Meeting' to review the Advisory Committees and respective terms of reference.

CARRIED 12/0

14.3 PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT - REZONE LAND IN ZONE LOW-MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO A SPECIFIC USE - 121 MITCHELL STREET AND 12 DOCTORS GULLY ROAD

RESOLUTION ORD416/25

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

1. THAT the report entitled Planning Scheme Amendment - Rezone land in zone Low-Medium Density Residential to a Specific Use - 121 Mitchell Street and 12 Doctors Gully Road be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the draft submission to the Northern Territory Planning Commission provided at **Attachment 1**.

In Favour: Members Shani Carson, Edwin Joseph, Mick Palmer, Peter Pangquee, Patrik Ralph, Ed Smelt, Peter Styles and Sam Weston

Against: Members Jimmy Bouhoris, Kim Farrar, Julie Fraser and Sylvia Klonaris

CARRIED 8/4

14.4 PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT - TO FACILITATE GROUP DWELLING AND MULTIPLE DWELLING - ZONE LMR (NT-WIDE)

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT the report entitled Planning Scheme Amendment - To facilitate group dwelling and multiple dwelling - Zone LMR (NT-wide) be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the draft submission to the Northern Territory Planning Commission provided at **Attachment 1**.

RESOLUTION ORD417/25

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

That this item lay on the table and be referred to the October 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting to allow Elected Members to receive a briefing on the proposed amendment and the original proposal letter from the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment.

CARRIED 12/0

14.5 REAPPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS - INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) STEERING COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION ORD418/25

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Reappointment of External Committee Members - Information Communication Technology (ICT) Steering Committee be received and noted.
2. THAT Neil Glentworth, Sarah Hicks and Tim Woods be reappointed as External Members of the ICT Steering Committee for a two year term ending 30 September 2027.
3. THAT Neil Glentworth be reappointed Chair of the ICT Steering Committee for a two year term ending 30 September 2027.
4. THAT Council note that the Chair of the Risk Management and Audit Committee will be appointed as an External Member of the ICT Steering Committee.

CARRIED 12/0

14.6 CARRY FORWARD BUDGET 2024-2025 AND RESERVE BALANCES AS AT 30 JUNE 2025**RESOLUTION ORD419/25**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

1. THAT the report entitled Carry Forward Budget 2024-2025 and Reserve Balances as at 30 June 2025 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt carry forward items listed in **Attachment 1** of report Carry Forward Budget 2024-2025 and Reserve Balances as at 30 June 2025, totalling \$20,436,021 by their inclusion in the 2025/26 Annual Budget.
3. THAT Council adopt the Reserve Balances 2025 total of \$132,387,465 listed in **Attachment 2** of report Carry Forward Budget 2024-2025 and Reserve Balances as at 30 June 2025.

CARRIED 12/0

14.7 STATUTORY DELEGATIONS - 24TH CITY OF DARWIN COUNCIL**RESOLUTION ORD420/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

1. THAT the report entitled Statutory Delegations - 24th City of Darwin Council be received and noted.
2. THAT Council, pursuant to Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2019* delegates to the Chief Executive Officer's Performance Appraisal Committee the power to:
 - a) conduct and finalise a performance evaluation and review of the Council's Chief Executive Officer; and
 - b) any other powers and functions delegated to it under its Terms of Reference from time to time.
3. THAT Council, pursuant to Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2019* delegates to the Administrative Review Committee its powers under Section 324 of the *Local Government Act 2019* to:
 - a) investigate, inquire into and make recommendations to Council on matters raised in an application to review a decision in accordance with Part 18.1 of the *Local Government Act 2019*; and
 - b) any other powers and functions delegated to it under its Terms of Reference from time to time; and
 - c) pursuant to Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2019* delegates to the Administrative Review Committee its powers under Section 19 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, to carry out, on behalf of the council, financial functions of the council in the months the Council does not hold an Ordinary Meeting.
4. THAT Council, pursuant to Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2019* delegates to the Risk Management and Audit Committee its powers, functions and duties under Section 87 of the *Local Government Act 2019* to:
 - a) To monitor and review the integrity of the council's financial management.
 - b) To monitor and review internal controls.

- c) To make recommendations to the council about any matters the committee considers require the council's consideration as a result of the committee's functions under paragraph (a) or (b).
 - d) any other powers and functions delegated to it under its Terms of Reference from time to time.
5. THAT Council, pursuant to Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer, or any person acting in the position of Chief Executive Officer, all of the powers, functions and duties under the *Local Government Act 2019* and *Local Government Regulations 2021* subject to any conditions and or limitations specified in legislation, Council Policy and Procedure or by Council resolution **with the exception of:**
- (i) The powers, functions and duties under Sections 35, regarding the adoption of the Municipal Plan.
 - (ii) The powers, functions and duties in Section 54 and Section 65, appointment to fill a Casual Vacancy on the Council.
 - (iii) The powers, functions and duties under Section 82 to establish or abolish Council Committees; and
 - (iv) The powers, functions and duties under Section Part 6.4, meetings of electors.
- a) All of the powers, functions and duties of all other Acts and Regulations under which Council has a vested power, function or duty, subject to any legislative restrictions, conditions and limitation, Council Policy and Procedure.
 - b) The powers and functions under the Darwin City Council By-Laws 2023, subject to any legislative restrictions, conditions and limitation, Council Policy and Procedure.
 - c) That such powers and functions may be further delegated by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with Section 168 of the *Local Government Act 2019* as the Chief Executive Officer determines, unless otherwise indicated herein.
6. THAT Council, pursuant to Section 183 of the *Local Government Act 2019* hereby appoints the Chief Executive Officer, or any person acting in the position of Chief Executive Officer, to be an Authorised Person with the powers and functions specified in the *Local Government Act 2019*.

CARRIED 12/0

14.8 MEETING SCHEDULE - 24TH CITY OF DARWIN COUNCIL

RESOLUTION ORD421/25

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Meeting Schedule - 24th City of Darwin Council be received and noted.
2. THAT Council, pursuant to Section 90(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019 (NT)* adopt the following schedule for the City of Darwin Ordinary Council Meetings for the Term of the 24th Council:
 - (a) One Ordinary Council Meeting to be held per month.
 - (b) Ordinary Council Meetings to be held on the last Tuesday of the month, excluding December.
 - (c) One Ordinary Council Meeting to be held in December on the first Tuesday of the

month.

- (d) The Ordinary Meeting of Council scheduled for Tuesday, 25 April 2028 (Anzac Day public holiday) be held on Wednesday, 26 April 2028.
 - (e) Ordinary Council Meetings will commence at 5.30pm.
 - (f) Ordinary Council Meetings will be held in the Council Chambers located at the Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin unless amended from time to time.
3. A public forum will be held at the Civic Centre commencing at 5.00pm on the last Tuesday of each month, excluding December.

CARRIED 11/1

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

AMENDMENT

THAT the report entitled Meeting Schedule - 24th City of Darwin Council be received and noted.

2. THAT Council, pursuant to Section 90(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019 (NT)* adopt the following schedule for the City of Darwin Ordinary Council Meetings for the Term of the 24th Council:
- (a) The current schedule of One Ordinary Council Meeting per month continues until December 2025 with Ordinary Council meetings to be held on the last Tuesday of the month, excluding December.
 - (b) The December 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on the second Tuesday of that month
 - (c) Council adopt a two (2) Ordinary Council Meeting per month schedule with:
 - (i) Meetings on a Tuesday
 - (ii) commencement of schedule be from 27 January 2026 as the first briefing meeting, followed by the first Ordinary Council meeting on 3 February 2026.
 - (d) Ordinary Council Meetings will commence at 5.30pm.
 - (e) Ordinary Council Meetings will be held in the Council Chambers located at the Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin unless amended from time to time.
3. A public forum will be held at the Civic Centre commencing at 5.00pm on the last Tuesday of each month.

With the consent of the mover the proposed amendment was withdrawn.

RESOLUTION ORD422/25

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT in accordance with Meetings Policy 1053.100.E.R as set out in section 3.10, the meeting be suspended at 6:44 pm for 10 minutes to allow for discussion on the report relating to the Meeting Schedule of the 24th City of Darwin Council.

CARRIED 12/0

RESOLUTION ORD423/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Edwin Joseph

THAT in accordance with Meetings Policy 1053.100.E.R as set out in section 3.10, the meeting be suspended at 6:54 pm for a further 10 minutes to allow for discussion on the report relating to the Meeting Schedule of the 24th City of Darwin Council.

CARRIED 12/0

RESOLUTION ORD424/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT in accordance with Meetings Policy 0043.100.E.R the meeting be resumed at 7:06 pm.

CARRIED 12/0

Councillor Sam Weston departed the meeting at 7:16 pm.

14.9 ACQUITTAL OF 2023/24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATE PRIORITY GRANTS

RESOLUTION ORD425/25

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

1. THAT the report entitled Acquittal of 2023/24 Local Government Immediate Priority Grants be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the Grant Acquittals for the 2023/24 Local Government Immediate Priority Grants at **Attachment 1** and **Attachment 2**

CARRIED 11/0

Councillor Sam Weston re-joined the meeting at 7:18 pm.

14.10 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LORD MAYOR

RESOLUTION ORD426/25

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT the report entitled Appointment of Deputy Lord Mayor be received and noted.
2. THAT Council appoint Councillor Patrik Ralph as the Deputy Lord Mayor for the period 30 September 2025 to 29 January 2026.

CARRIED 12/0

14.11 APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL EXECUTIVE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES - 24TH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION ORD427/25

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

1. THAT the report entitled Appointments to Council Executive and Advisory Committees - 24th Council be received and noted.
2. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Administrative Review Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris;

Councillor Edwin Joseph;

Councillor Mick Palmer.

And that all remaining Elected Members are appointed as alternate members to the committee.

3. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Councillor Shani Carson;

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris;

Councillor Mick Palmer and

Councillor Ed Smelt.

4. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris; and

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris as Alternate.

5. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Councillor Patrik Ralph; and

Councillor Kim Farrar as Alternate.

6. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Councillor Sam Weston; and

Councillor Shani Carson as Alternate.

7. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **East Point Reserve Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Councillor Mick Palmer; and

Councillor Shani Carson as Alternate.

8. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Information Communication Technology Steering Committee** to 30 September 2027:

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris; and

Councillor Peter Pangquee as Alternate.

9. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **International Relations Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris; and

Councillor Sam Weston as Alternate.

10. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Reconciliation Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Councillor Peter Pangquee; and

Councillor Patrik Ralph as Alternate.

11. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Sister City Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris; and

Councillor Edwin Joseph as Alternate.

12. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Tree Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Councillor Julie Fraser and

Councillor Kim Farrar as Alternate.

13. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Members to the **Youth Advisory Committee** to 30 September 2026:

Councillor Patrik Ralph; and

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris as Alternate.

14. THAT Council appoint the following Elected Member to the **Risk Management and Audit Committee** to 30 September 2027:

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris; and

Councillor Mick Palmer and

Councillor Ed Smelt.

15. THAT Council note that the Lord Mayor holds the position of Ex-Officio for all Council Committees.

16. THAT Council note that the Lord Mayor is directly appointed the following external committees for the whole of the 24th Term of Council:

Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM)

Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC)

17. THAT Council note that Councillor Peter Pangquee is an Executive Board Member appointed to the **Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT)** and that his appointment remains current until November 2026.

CARRIED 12/0

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

RESOLUTION ORD428/25

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

That in accordance with Meetings Policy 1053.100.E.R as set out in section 3.12 the meeting be adjourned at 7:55 pm for 10 minutes.

CARRIED 12/0

RESUMPTION OF MEETING**RESOLUTION ORD429/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the meeting be resumed at 8:04 pm.

CARRIED 12/0

14.12 NOMINATIONS FOR THE DARWIN DIVISION OF THE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT AUTHORITY**RESOLUTION ORD430/25**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

1. THAT the report entitled Nominations for the Darwin Division of the Development Consent Authority be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the nomination for the following Community Members to the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment for the Darwin Division of the Development Consent Authority.

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Councillor Julie Fraser

Councillor Mick Palmer

Councillor Peter Pangquee

Councillor Sam Weston

CARRIED 12/0

14.13 NOMINATIONS FOR NORTHERN TERRITORY GRANTS COMMISSION**RESOLUTION ORD431/25**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Nominations for Northern Territory Grants Commission be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the nomination of Councillor Peter Pangquee to LGANT as the representative on the Northern Territory Grants Commission.

CARRIED 12/0

15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS**15.1 INTERIM MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - AUGUST 2025****RESOLUTION ORD432/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Ed Smelt

THAT the report entitled Interim Monthly Financial Report – August 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

15.2 INTERIM MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - JULY 2025**RESOLUTION ORD433/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Edwin Joseph

THAT the report entitled Interim Monthly Financial Report – July 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

16 CORRESPONDENCE**16.1 NORTHERN TERRITORY REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL - LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS ENTITLEMENTS 2026****RESOLUTION ORD434/25**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the report entitled Northern Territory Remuneration Tribunal - Local Government Councils Entitlements 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**RESOLUTION ORD435/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the following Reports of Representatives be received and noted.

17.1

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris reported attending City of Darwin's plant giveaway at Anula Oval on Saturday, 27 September 2025, and expressed disappointment at the low turnout suggesting future events be promoted earlier to improve public awareness. and attendance. Furthermore, attended

the opening of the Poolhouse Bar and Kitchen at Novotel Darwin Airport on Monday 29 September with Lord Mayor Peter Styles and Councillors Nicole Brown and Shani Carson. The food was excellent and a great new restaurant in Waters Ward.

17.2

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris reported on attending the AFL National Masters Carnival opening ceremony at the Gardens Oval on Sunday 28 September. Noting how many of the interstate visitors, many of whom were visiting Darwin for the first time, enjoyed the city and all it has to offer despite negative stories in national media. Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris stated his desire for City of Darwin to continue to support these types of events.

17.3

The Lord Mayor Peter Styles reported on attending the handover of the Cyclone Tracy Memorial at East Point with Councillor Shani Carson and then joined the Chung Wah Society Senior Citizens Recreation Group, who meets every second Friday throughout the year. Furthermore, attending the opening of the Poolhouse Bar and Restaurant in Waters Ward on Saturday 27 September. The Lord Mayor Peter Styles officially opened the AFL National Masters Carnival on Sunday 28 September 2025. Additionally, attending the National Police Remembrance Day held on Monday 29 September.

17.4

Councillor Patrik Ralph attended the 2025 Northern Territory Youth Parliament sitting week as a facilitator and praised the participants for their strong engagement with the program. Councillor Patrik Ralph noted that many participants saw the appointment as the youngest Elected Member in the history of City of Darwin Council, as a step toward to greater youth representation and involvement in decision making.

17.5

Councillor Shani Carson attended the handover of the Cyclone Tracy Memorial at East Point on Friday 26 September 2025 with the Lord Mayor Peter Styles. The event, led by the Remembering Cyclone Tracy Inc committee, and noted the organisers appreciation for their attendance.

17.6

Councillor Julie Fraser attended a community meeting at Tudawali Park in Ludmilla on Saturday, 27 September 2025, organised by the Planning Action Network (PLAN) Inc. Representatives from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure, were present to hear residents' concerns about proposed drainage works near the Ostermann Street boundary of Kulaluk town camp, particularly the environmental risks to nearby mangroves and trees. Councillor Julie Fraser also raised concerns about transparency in decision-making and encouraged Council to carefully assess developments that may impact the environment.

Councillor Julie Fraser also visited the Jingili Community Gardens, noting some newly planted trees in the area and the ongoing works at the Jingili footbridge, and spoke with members about the amazing work the community garden does.

17.7

Councillor Kim Farrar attended the Robyn Lesley Park community planting day on Saturday 20 September, with fellow Waters Ward Councillors Sylvia Klonaris and Patrik Ralph. Noting the strong community turn out on the day, including residents of Palmerston, who praised the initiative

and expressed interest in seeing similar events hosted by City of Palmerston. Congratulations to City of Darwin.

CARRIED 12/0

18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

18.1 SMITH STREET STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

RESOLUTION ORD436/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sam Weston inquired on the revised completion date for Smith Street streetscape improvement works and the reason for the delay.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders confirmed the Smith Street streetscape improvement project, originally scheduled for completion on Tuesday 30 September 2025, has been delayed by 10 days and is now expected to finish on Friday 10 October 2025. The delay due to roadwork issues discovered during tree pit excavation. Additionally, some works near the Smith Street and Knuckey Street intersection were rescheduled from August to September, at the request of local businesses, to avoid peak tourist season.

CARRIED 12/0

18.2 SMITH STREET BICYCLE LANES

RESOLUTION ORD437/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Kim Farrar inquired when the bicycle lanes will be installed on Smith Street as part of the improvement project.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders confirmed that bike lanes will be included in the final stages of the works, scheduled for completion by Friday 10 October 2025. Final artwork, stencils, and signage will be installed later in the year. Further advising that any future schedule changes will be communicated to Elected Members via Councillor Support, and all affected businesses continue to receive weekly updates from the project team.

CARRIED 12/0

18.3 MALAK COMMUNITY HALL PARKING**RESOLUTION ORD438/25**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris inquired whether car parking at Malak Community Hall will be affected during the Waters Ward Halloween event on Friday 31 October, due to works on the Waters Ward Multigenerational Play Space. Also requesting an update on the expected project start date for Elected Members.

Response

General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy confirmed that there will be no parking restrictions at Malak Community Hall during the Halloween event.

General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson informed Elected Members that the contract for the works is still in the procurement phase, and a start date will be confirmed once this process is complete.

CARRIED 12/0

18.4 LYONS COMMUNITY CENTRE**RESOLUTION ORD439/25**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris requested an update on the lease for the Lyons Community Centre

Response

General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy confirmed that after the Gary Lang Dance Company withdrew from the lease agreement, the Northern Territory Government reaffirmed its commitment to funding prospective tenants and provided City of Darwin with a list of interested parties seeking a similar space and fit-out. Further noting City of Darwin also has the option to issue a new expression of interest as needed to identify additional suitable tenants.

CARRIED 12/0

18.5 CASUARINA AQUATIC AND LEISURE CENTRE POOL HEATING TRIAL**RESOLUTION ORD440/25**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris inquired about the results of the heating trial for the 50 metre pool at

Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre and whether a report on the trial will be provided to Elected Members.

Response

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr advised that feedback from the heating trial was very positive. Noting officers have completed an energy audit to evaluate energy consumption and explore sustainable solutions, including solar and battery powered options. A report outlining the trial results and potential costs for year-round heating of the 50 metre pool will be provided to Elected Members in the coming months.

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr provided a brief explanation to new Elected Members on the background of the 50 metre pool heating trial.

CARRIED 12/0

18.6 LEE POINT ROAD

RESOLUTION ORD441/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris inquired whether City of Darwin had removed trees on the Lee Point Beach end of Lee Point Road.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders took the question on notice, further advising Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris to email Councillor Support with more information on the exact location.

CARRIED 12/0

18.7 PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC FORUM

RESOLUTION ORD442/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Julie Fraser inquired on the procedure for following up concerns raised by members of the public during the public forum, and whether records are kept of the questions. Councillor Julie Fraser requested clarification on the process for submitting a Notice of Motion to Council to address how public forum questions are handled and followed up.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders noted that the public forum is not an official meeting; therefore, formal records are not kept. However, officers may take notes on specific questions that require a response. In certain cases, the Lord Mayor and other Elected Members may choose to engage directly with members of the public to discuss issues. Furthermore, confirmed that a Notice

of Motion can be brought forward to address any changes to how public forum operates.

CARRIED 12/0

18.8 JINGILI WATERGARDENS FOOTBRIDGE

RESOLUTION ORD443/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Lord Mayor Peter Styles

Question

Councillor Julie Fraser inquired if invitations had been sent out for the opening of the Jingili Watergardens footbridge, and who will be in attendance.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised City of Darwin's Marketing Communications and Engagement team have organised a media stop for the opening and will issue a media release. Elected Members will be invited to the opening on Friday 3 October 2025, however no official opening event is planned. Members of the public are able to attend the media stop if they wish.

CARRIED 12/0

18.9 PUBLIC AMENITIES MUIRHEAD

RESOLUTION ORD444/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Edwin Joseph inquired whether City of Darwin has any future plans to construct public amenities in parks located within the Muirhead area.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders took the question on notice.

CARRIED 12/0

18.10 KARAMA CHILDCARE CENTRE

RESOLUTION ORD445/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested an update on the expected move-in date for the new tenants of the Karama Childcare Centre.

Response

General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy confirmed the new lease has been finalised. The incoming tenants have inspected the site and have arranged staff to be in Darwin over the next six months to complete the necessary building works prior to officially moving in.

CARRIED 12/0**18.11 WULAGI OVAL STORAGE SHED****RESOLUTION ORD446/25**

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris inquired if a media event has been scheduled for the hand over of the new storage shed at Wulagi Oval.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised that media events are not specifically arranged for projects delivered under the Better Suburbs Initiative. However, there will be a photo opportunity for Elected Members at a future time.

CARRIED 12/0**19 GENERAL BUSINESS****19.1 PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT - TO FACILITATE GROUP DWELLING AND MULTIPLE DWELLING - ZONE LMR (NT-WIDE)****RESOLUTION ORD447/25**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Ed Smelt

1. THAT the report entitled Planning Scheme Amendment - To facilitate group dwelling and multiple dwelling - Zone LMR (NT-wide) be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the draft submission to the Northern Territory Planning Commission provided at **Attachment 1**.

CARRIED 12/0

In accordance with Meetings Policy 1053.100.E.R as set out in section 3.5, the Lord Mayor Peter Styles moved a Motion without Notice to consider Item 14.4 Planning Scheme Amendment - To facilitate group dwelling and multiple dwelling - Zone LMR (NT-wide), in General Business.

19.2 CONGRATULATIONS TO INCOMING MEMBERS OF 24TH COUNCIL**RESOLUTION ORD448/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

On behalf of the re-elected members, Councillor Peter Pangquee extended a warm welcome to the incoming members of the 24th Council, Councillors Nicole Brown, Shani Carson, Julie Fraser, Edwin Joseph, Patrik Ralph, and Lord Mayor Peter Styles. Acknowledging the challenges of the campaign, offering congratulations and expressed a commitment to continue to deliver positive outcomes for Darwin.

CARRIED 12/0

19.3 THANK YOU TO OUTGOING MEMBERS OF 23RD COUNCIL**RESOLUTION ORD449/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

On behalf of Elected Members, Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris extended thanks to all outgoing Elected Members and Mr Kon Vatskalis for his eight years of service. It was proposed that a formal letter of appreciation be sent, acknowledging their commitment to City of Darwin and contributions to the community during tenure.

CARRIED 12/0

19.4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUTGOING MEMBERS OF 23RD COUNCIL**RESOLUTION ORD450/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Councillor Patrik Ralph proposed letters of thanks be sent to outgoing members of the 23rd City of Darwin Council.

The Lord Mayor Peter Styles confirmed letters had been sent to all outgoing members and those who were unsuccessful in their election campaigns.

CARRIED 12/0

20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 28 October 2025, at 5:30pm (Open Section followed by the Confidential Section), Council Chambers Darrandirra, Level 1, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin.

21 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT pursuant to Section 99 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 8 of the Local Government Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*:

28.1 Appointment of External Committee Members - Risk Management & Audit Committee (RMAC)

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

29.1 Update on The Esplanade

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i) and 51(c)(iv) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person and information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

22 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

RESOLUTION ORD451/25

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 8:51 pm.

CARRIED 12/0

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 10:17 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 10:17 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 October 2025.

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CHAIR