

Agenda

Ordinary Council Meeting

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

Date: Tuesday, 30 April 2024
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 Kon Vatskalis (Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Sam Weston

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Councillor Kim Farrar

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Councillor Mick Palmer

Councillor Peter Pangquee

Councillor Morgan Rickard

Councillor Vim Sharma

Councillor Ed Smelt

Councillor Amye Un

Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

OFFICERS

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr

Acting General Manager Corporate, Alex Vereker

General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

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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 - 16 April 2024

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 - SPEED LIMIT CHANGES**

- Attachments:**
1. **Speed Reduction Zones** [↓](#)
 2. **Letters of Support** [↓](#)

I, Councillor Ed Smelt, give notice that at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 30 April 2024, I will move the following motion:-

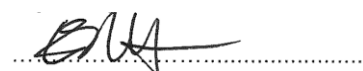
MOTION

1. THAT Council notes the lifesaving and broader community benefits of increased walking and cycling in residential areas that result from the implementation of safer speed limits.
2. THAT Council recognises the strong community support from a broad cross section of schools, businesses, individuals and community groups for lower speed limits in the Chan Ward suburbs of Nightcliff, Rapid Creek and Millner.
3. THAT Council approves a reduction in speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of:
 - (a) Nightcliff Road
 - (b) Rapid Creek Road
4. THAT a review of vehicle speeds on Nightcliff and Rapid Creek Roads is conducted after 18 months of operation and reported back to Council.
5. THAT City of Darwin assesses options for lower speed limits around the Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre and new Progress Drive business precinct with recommendations provided to Council in a future report. The report shall also consider potential speed reduction at other key market precincts across Darwin including Parap Markets, Rapid Creek Markets and Malak Markets to ensure a consistent approach across the municipality.
6. THAT the Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road speed sign changes (along with the other proposed speed limit changes accepted by Council on 31 October 2023) be referred to the 2024/25 Local Area Traffic Management budget for funding and prioritisation consideration.

REASON:

The objective of this motion is to improve road safety in our local streets. We know that with lower vehicle speeds we can all enjoy increased suburban amenity and we are more likely to walk and cycle around our local streets that increases overall health and wellbeing. This motion seeks to act on the advice of the report to Council on 31 October 2023 for speed limit reductions at discrete locations across the municipality and to remove 60km/hr speed zones from Nightcliff, Rapid Creek and Millner. It will also investigate speed limit reductions around our popular market precincts. These actions align with the key philosophy of the City of Darwin Movement Strategy to prioritise vulnerable road users in the design and operation of the road network and it also supports future micromobility transport options.

Signed by me at Darwin this 23 April 2024



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	If this Notice of Motion is supported, community engagement will be required. This will include seeking the communities feedback through the use of variable message boards, ads in the NT News and social media messaging.
External consultant advice	None identified.
Legal advice / litigation	None identified.
Impacts to existing projects	<p>The Review of Non-Default Speed Limits report presented to Council on 31 October 2023 supported the immediate reduction in the speed limit of Nightcliff Road (from Ryland Road to Casuarina Drive), from 60km/hr to 50km/hr. However, this report found that the remaining section of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road did not meet the immediate speed limit lowering criteria.</p> <p>The remaining section of Nightcliff Road (between Ryland Road and Progress Drive), scored as a Category 1 site and therefore will be considered for inclusion in City of Darwin's future design and construction programs. Once such Category 1 roads are treated with traffic calming measures, a further analysis will then be completed to determine if the speed can be reduced to 50km/hr.</p> <p>Traffic counts have recently been undertaken on streets surrounding the Nightcliff Village (excluding Progress Drive). These counts revealed 85th percentile speeds of 51.2km/hr, 37.9km/hr and 39.9km/hr along Oleander Street, Pavonia Place and Phoenix Street respectively. Therefore, a reduction in speed limit from 50km/hr to 40km/hr would be supported along Pavonia Place and Phoenix Street.</p> <p>Further traffic counts will need to be undertaken along Progress Drive to determine whether a speed limit reduction in the vicinity of the Progress Drive business precinct is supported.</p> <p>City of Darwin officers recommend that prior to speed limit changes that traffic counts are completed at all key market precincts across Darwin including Parap Markets, Rapid Creek Markets and Malak Markets to ensure a consistent approach across the municipality.</p>

	The LATM Guidelines provide a robust, consistent and equitable approach to speed limit reduction across the municipality.
Impact to FTE	Project Officers eight weeks (including investigation) and Communications Team two weeks. This is currently unfunded and funding will need to be identified.
Capital investment	<p>The estimated total cost associated with lowering the speed limits of the Chan Ward roads is \$70,000. This could be reduced to circa \$30,000 if not all 60km signs going to 50km signs were replaced.</p> <p>Additional costs would need to be funded for other Ward projects, to be determined in the return report.</p> <p>Until the current LATM programme is completed and available funding is confirmed, City of Darwin officers are unable to commit to delivering the speed limit reduction works this Financial Year.</p>
Officer time preparing the report requested in this motion	Once the traffic data is obtained (typically three weeks), it will take one week to prepare the report to Council. However, due to current workloads, we are unable to confirm when this report will be ready to go to Council.
Officer time in receiving and preparing this Administration Comment	3 hours.

Attachment 1



Figure 1: Rapid Creek Road at Thorpe Place with 60km/hr speed and 20km/hr advisory signs



Figure 2: Knocked over safety bollards on Nightcliff Road near Chapman Road. These have been hit and damaged twice within 18 months.

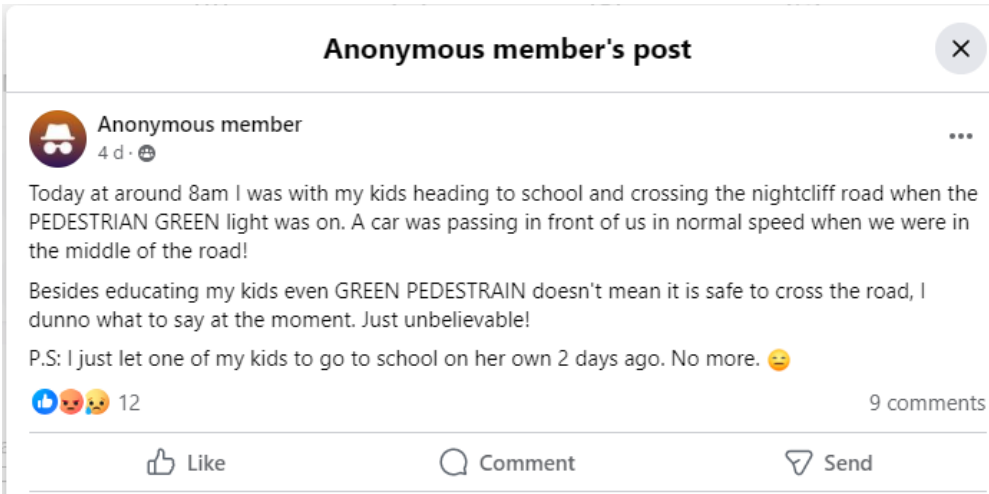


Figure 3: Facebook post regarding near miss at traffic lights on Nightcliff Road

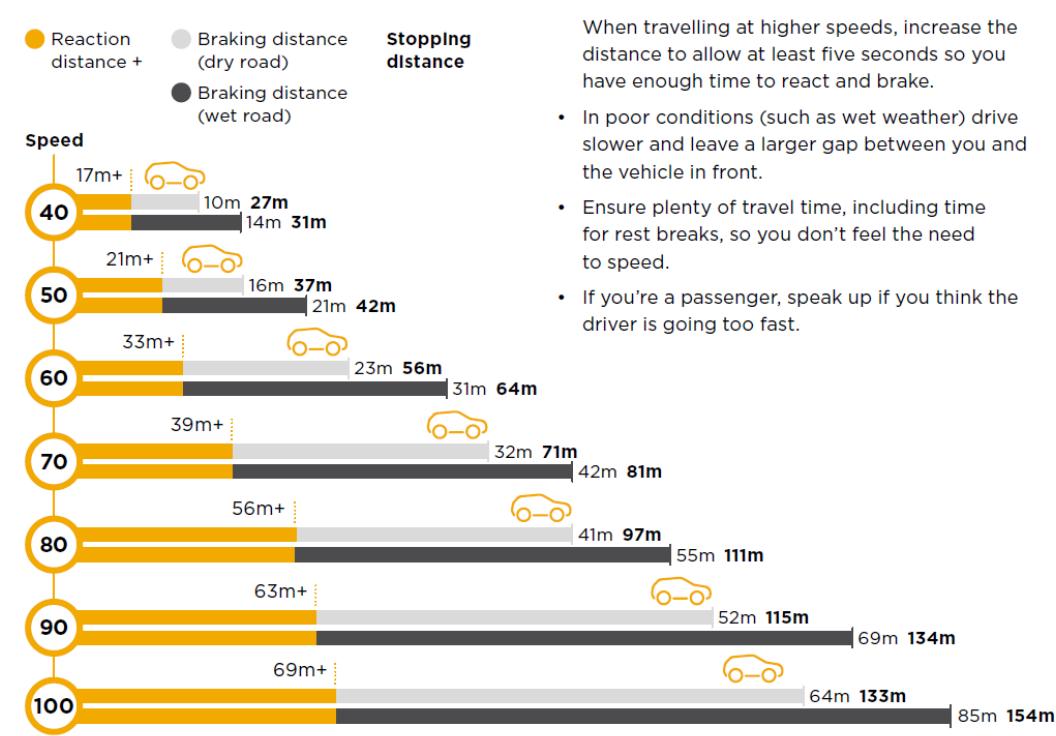


Figure 4: Stopping distances at different speeds (Source: NSW Towards Zero: <https://towardszero.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-05/RS-FactSheet-Speed-TZ-FINAL.pdf>)

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you with support for the proposed reduction of speed limits on Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek.

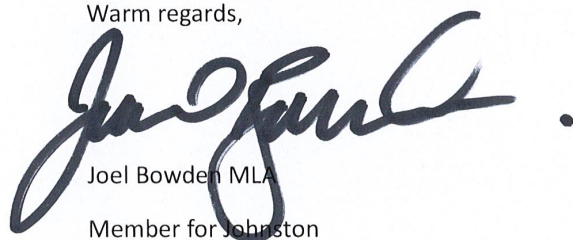
As the Member for Johnston, I have the privilege of representing a community committed to road safety and positive well-being. The implementation of lower speed limits has been a longstanding goal of mine, driven by a desire to create safer streets for all residents, particularly pedestrians and cyclists. By reducing the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road, we have the opportunity to enhance road safety and create a more pedestrian-friendly environment.

Furthermore, I wholeheartedly support the assessment for the application of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village shops, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct. These bustling areas are hubs of activity for our community, and it is essential that we prioritise the safety and well-being of all who frequent them.

I am committed to working collaboratively with the City of Darwin and other stakeholders to bring about these necessary changes. Together, we can create safer streets, promote healthier lifestyles, and build a stronger, more connected community.

Thank you for considering this proposal. I look forward to seeing the positive impact that these speed limit changes will have on our local community for years to come.

Warm regards,



Joel Bowden MLA
Member for Johnston

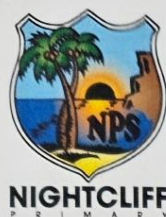
P 8999 6620

A Millner Village Plaza, crn of Fitzgerald Street
and Bagot Road, Millner NT 0810

E Electorate.johnston@nt.gov.au

F facebook.com/JoelBowden2020





Nightcliff Primary School

Cunjevoi Crescent

Nightcliff, NT 0810

Ph: (08) 8948 8488

Email: nightcliff.ps@education.nt.gov.au

Website: <http://www.nightcliffprimary.nt.edu.au/>



Wednesday 6th March, 2024

To Councillor Ed Smelt,

Nightcliff Primary School (NPS) is writing to support the proposal to reduce speed limits on the remaining 60 km/hr roads in Nightcliff and Rapid Creek, namely, Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.

NPS is proud to have a strong active travel culture with a large number of students riding or walking to school. The goal for NPS is to achieve 90% student participation in active travel to school. The school supports active travel by spending money on facilities, spending time on programs and building a supportive culture which celebrates independent and active travel. We have a number of in-house programs that teach road safety to students and communicate road safety issues to the parent/carer cohort.

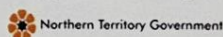
Further increases in active travel to NPS also depends on changes to road conditions and the streetscape within the school catchment. Clearly, reducing vehicle speeds in the catchment of the school (i.e. Rapid Creek and Nightcliff) helps create a more inviting environment for students and their carers to walk and cycle to school and reduces the likelihood and consequence of collisions. There are two roads in the NPS catchment that are still posted as 60km/hr – Rapid Creek Road and Nightcliff Road. It has come to our attention that following your request to review speed limits on these two roads, only the top end of Nightcliff Road is planned to be reduced to 50km/hr and no changes were warranted on Rapid Creek Road. NPS considers that these proposed changes (or lack thereof) do not go far enough to create a safe environment that facilitates active travel for students and carers to the school.

We therefore support your proposal to increase the scope of the proposed speed reductions to (a) all of Nightcliff Road; (b) all of Rapid Creek Road; and (c) to consider a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops. We are confident that these speed reductions will be welcomed by students and their families and help facilitate their active travel to and from our school.

Yours Sincerely,

Renae Graham
Acting Principal
Nightcliff Primary School

Allen Fanning
School Council Chair
Nightcliff Primary School



Nightcliff Traders Association

To whom it may concern,

Nightcliff Traders Association is writing to express our full support for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road, and to advocate for the establishment of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops.

As the organisers of the Sunday Nightcliff Market, the safety and well-being of our stallholders, customers, and the broader community are of paramount importance to us. The success of our markets relies heavily on foot traffic, and it is imperative to ensure a safe environment for all attendees.

Furthermore, we believe that reducing speed limits will not only enhance road safety but also encourage more residents to visit our markets, fostering a vibrant and bustling community atmosphere.

Therefore, we fully endorse the following proposals:

- Reduction of the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.
- Assessment for the creation of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.

We look forward to working collaboratively with the City of Darwin and other stakeholders to implement these important safety measures, ensuring a safer and more enjoyable experience for all visitors to the Sunday Nightcliff Markets.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Drew Browning

Chairperson

Nightcliff Traders Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

20 April 2023

To the City of Darwin,

I write in support of the proposal to reduce speed limits along Nightcliff Rd and across Nightcliff and Rapid Creek more broadly.

In 2017 four local schools (The Essington School, Nightcliff Primary, Nightcliff Middle and St Pauls Primary) established The Walk and Wheel Project to improve the safety of children walking to and from school. Close to 2000 children move through Nightcliff and Rapid Creek every day with a significant number having to cross Nightcliff Rd.

This community driven initiative was funded by the Dept of Planning, Infrastructure and Logistics to gather data and engage with the local community. The final report and recommendations were presented to the City of Darwin and DIPL in July 2019

Through widespread and public engagement, it was clear that Nightcliff Rd and specifically vehicle speed was an issue that many parents saw as a risk and impediment to allowing their children to walk and ride to school. Indeed, speed data collected by City of Darwin along Nightcliff Rd at the time, demonstrated that the 85TH percentile was greater than 60km/hr.

In Sept 2021 a “pedestrian refuge” was installed on Nightcliff Rd, within 12 months the refuge was destroyed by a vehicle travelling at speed. A pedestrian waiting on this refuge would stand no chance.

In Feb 2024 a vehicle has again run through the refuge destroying all handrails.

Attached find other examples over the past couple of years of the impacts of speed along Nightcliff Rd. Parents see the aftermath of these crashes and rightly conclude that the local road network is not safe for them or their children to simply walk and ride through their local suburbs.

Nightcliff Rd is short and terminates at Casuarina drive – there is simply no need for this road to be a high speed throughfare dividing Nightcliff and Rapid Creek.

The decision to reduce the local speed limit is a decision between prioritising vehicular traffic speed over the safety of children wanting to walk and ride to school.

As a local resident I strongly support the reduction of speed limits along Nightcliff Rd.

Regards,

Simon Niblock

7 Ternau St, Rapid Creek NT



Highspeed single vehicle crash Sept 2022 Nightcliff Rd (looking South)



Highspeed single vehicle crash Sept 2022 Nightcliff Rd (looking North-West)



Destruction of safety handrails Feb 2024 Nightcliff Rd (looking South)



Destruction caused by vehicle having left Nightcliff Rd. Fox Cres Mar 2018



Vehicle Damage Nov 2021 Roundabout Adjacent Nightcliff Middle School Nightcliff Rd



High Speed single vehicle crash Nov 2021 Nightcliff Rd



Rear end crash July 2023 Nightcliff Middle School, Nightcliff Rd



Dear Darwin City Council,

As Principal and Chair of the School Board of St. Paul's Catholic Primary School, we are writing to express our collective support for Councillor Smelt's initiative to reduce speed limits around our school, specifically focusing on Nightcliff and Rapid Creek Roads.

Hence, we lend our support to the following proposals:

- Reduction of the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.
- Assessment for the creation of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.

Enhancing road safety in these areas is paramount to ensuring the protection of our students and promoting active transportation to school.

St. Paul's Catholic Primary School places the safety and well-being of our students as our top priority. However, the current high-speed traffic surrounding our school poses a significant risk to the safety of our children, especially those who commute by foot or bicycle. Lowering the speed limits on Nightcliff and Rapid Creek Roads would greatly contribute to improving road safety and fostering a safer environment for our students. Not only would it reduce the likelihood of accidents, but it would also provide a greater sense of security for pedestrians and cyclists, thereby encouraging more families to opt for active transportation methods for their children's commute to school.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to collaborating with you to prioritise the safety and well-being of our school community.

Sincerely,

Shannon Feldtman
Acting Principal
St. Paul's Catholic Primary School

Janet Hanigan
Chair of the School Board
St. Paul's Catholic Primary School

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Venture Housing
15 Boetdoemba St,
Nightcliff NT 0810

To whom it may concern,

Venture Housing is writing to express our full support for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek. Additionally, we advocate for the establishment of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops.

The safety and well-being of our residents are paramount to us. Many of our tenants rely on safe and accessible transportation options, and reducing the speed limits in our area will greatly contribute to their safety and quality of life. This initiative aligns with our mission to provide safe and supportive housing environments for vulnerable members of our community.

Therefore, we fully endorse the following proposals:

- Reduction of the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.
- Assessment for the creation of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.

We look forward to working collaboratively with the City of Darwin and other stakeholders to implement these important safety measures, ensuring safer and easier access for our tenants to the Nightcliff Village shops and services.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Walsh', written in a cursive style.

Karen Walsh

CEO

Venture Housing

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek, and to advocate for the consideration of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops.

As a long-time resident living near Nightcliff Road, I have witnessed firsthand the dangers posed by speeding vehicles to pedestrians, cyclists, and other road users. The current speed limit of 60km/hr is simply too high for the residential nature of our community, and it often leads to reckless driving behaviour and near-misses.

By implementing lower speed limits, we can create a safer and more liveable neighbourhood for all residents. Slower speeds will not only reduce the likelihood of accidents but also encourage more people to walk and cycle, thereby promoting a healthier and more active lifestyle.

Furthermore, as a resident who frequently walks and cycles in the area, I strongly believe that reducing speed limits will improve the overall quality of life for everyone in our community. It will enhance our sense of safety and well-being, encourage social interaction, and create a more pleasant environment for outdoor activities.

Therefore, I wholeheartedly support the following proposals:

- Reducing the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek.
- Conducting an assessment for the application of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.

I urge the City of Darwin to prioritise the safety and well-being of residents by implementing these necessary changes.

Thank you for considering my input on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,



Warran Brown



Date: 09 April 2024

To whom it may concern

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road, and to advocate for the establishment of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops.

As a local small business in Nightcliff Village, we are committed to the safety and well-being of our staff, customers, and the broader community. The proposed reduction in speed limits will not only enhance road safety but will also provide a safer environment for staff and customers accessing our premises.

Furthermore, we believe that promoting safer road conditions will not only benefit our business but will also contribute to the overall health and vitality of Nightcliff Village as a thriving community hub.

Therefore, we wholeheartedly endorse the following proposals:

- Reduction of the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.
- Assessment for the creation of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.


We look forward to collaborating with the City of Darwin and other stakeholders to implement these important safety measures and create a safer environment for everyone in our community.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this matter.

Regards.

AlleyKatz Barber Shop

Contact Us

(08) 8985 4499 

kathy.zaf@hotmail.com 

<https://www.alleykatzbarbershop.com.au/> 





Bendigo Bank Community Bank Nightcliff

To whom it may concern,

Bendigo Bank Community Bank Nightcliff is writing to express our full support for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road, and to advocate for the establishment of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops.

As a community-focused financial institution committed to returning profits to our local communities, we are deeply committed to the safety and well-being of our staff, customers, and the broader community. The proposed reduction in speed limits aligns perfectly with our values, as it aims to create a safer environment for all members of our community, including pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.

The proposed reduction in speed limits will not only enhance road safety but will also provide safer conditions for staff and customers accessing our bank premises. This is a cause we are passionate about, as it directly impacts the everyday lives of those who rely on our services.

Furthermore, we believe that promoting safer road conditions will not only benefit our bank but will also contribute to the overall health and vitality of Nightcliff Village as a thriving community hub.

Therefore, we wholeheartedly endorse the following proposals:

- Reduction of the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.
- Assessment for the creation of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.

We look forward to collaborating with the City of Darwin and other stakeholders to implement these important safety measures and create a safer environment for everyone in our community.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Watson', written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Watson

Branch Manager

Bendigo Bank Community Bank Nightcliff

Community Bank - Nightcliff
Shop 1, 40 Progress Drive, Nightcliff NT 0810
p 08 8948 4485 e nightcliffmailbox@bendigobank.com.au

bendigobank.com.au

Nightcliff Community Enterprises Limited ABN 64 128 953 748 Franchisee of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1406582, OUT_1903796, 08/03/2021

**From the Principal***Paul Nyhuis - M.Ed, B.A., BEd*

22 March 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of The Essington School to formally express our endorsement for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road. Additionally, we strongly advocate for the establishment of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops.

As a leading educational school in Nightcliff, The Essington School is committed to fostering a safe and nurturing environment for students, staff, and the wider community. Ensuring the safety of every member in our school community, spanning from the Early Years to Year 12, is our utmost priority.

Reducing speed limits on Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road will not only enhance the safety of our students and their families during their daily commute but also contribute to the overall well-being of the Nightcliff community. By creating safer road conditions, we aim to promote active transportation methods and instil lifelong habits of pedestrian and cyclist safety among our students.

We believe that advocating for lower speed limits aligns with our school's values and demonstrates our commitment to promoting the welfare and safety of all members of the community.

We wholeheartedly support the following proposals:

- Reduction of the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.
- Assessment for the establishment of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.

We look forward to collaborating with City of Darwin to implement these essential safety measures, further enhancing the well-being and security of our school community and the wider Nightcliff and Rapid Creek area.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Nyhuis
Principal/CEO



Main Campus | Gate 1, Chrisp Street | Rapid Creek NT 0810 | Northern Territory | PO Box 42321 | Casuarina NT 0811

Ph: +61 8 7913 8100 | www.essington.nt.edu.au | ABN 77 082 486 904

email: friendsofbagotpark@yahoo.com

Facebook: Friends of Bagot Park

To Whom It May Concern,

We hereby express our enthusiastic support for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road. Additionally, we advocate for the creation of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops.

Friends of Bagot Park are dedicated to enriching the Millner neighbourhood through the care and development of Bagot Park. Our members highly value our local green open space as a place to walk, exercise, meet with friends and family and spend time in nature.

As advocates for the preservation and enhancement of Bagot Park also and familiar with sporadic speeding vehicles on Old McMillans Road, we understand the importance of creating safe and accessible environs for our community. Lowering the speed limits in our area will contribute to pedestrian and cyclists' safety but also enhance the overall enjoyment and accessibility of Bagot Park

This initiative aligns with our mission to promote the well-being and enjoyment of Bagot Park for all residents of Millner and surrounding areas. Accordingly, we endorse the following proposals:

- Reduce the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road, and
- Assess the creation of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the Nightcliff Community Centre.

Thank you for your consideration of our perspective on this matter.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Last

Coordinator

Friends of Bagot Park

10/04/2024

Promoting, Protecting and Enhancing the environmental, cultural and aesthetic values of Bagot Park

City of Darwin Lord Mayor and Councillors
c/- Councillor Ed Smelt

Dear Lord Mayor and Councillors

I write in support of the proposal to lower the speed limits on Nightcliff Road, Rapid Creek Road and around the Nightcliff Village Shops.

I have lived in the Nightcliff/Rapid Creek area since 1985 and represented the people of the electorate of Nightcliff from 2001 to 2012. I have been a resident and ratepayer of Nightcliff Road since 1995.

During my time in Darwin, the population in the area has significantly increased as has the traffic. There are now significant unit developments on Casuarina Drive, Progress Drive and Rapid Creek Road, which had previously been single dwellings. This has seen increased traffic on each of these roads over many years.


There are also four schools within a one kilometre area, plus the Greek School which operates on the weekends and some school day afternoons. On any given school day there are probably around 1800 children being moved in this area, either by foot or by car or bus. This is likely to increase soon with the opening of the Essington School early childhood centre in Cummins Street which is due to open fairly soon. It will increase the traffic on Nightcliff Road, particularly at school pick up times and possibly cause congestion at the Cummins Street turn from Nightcliff Road.

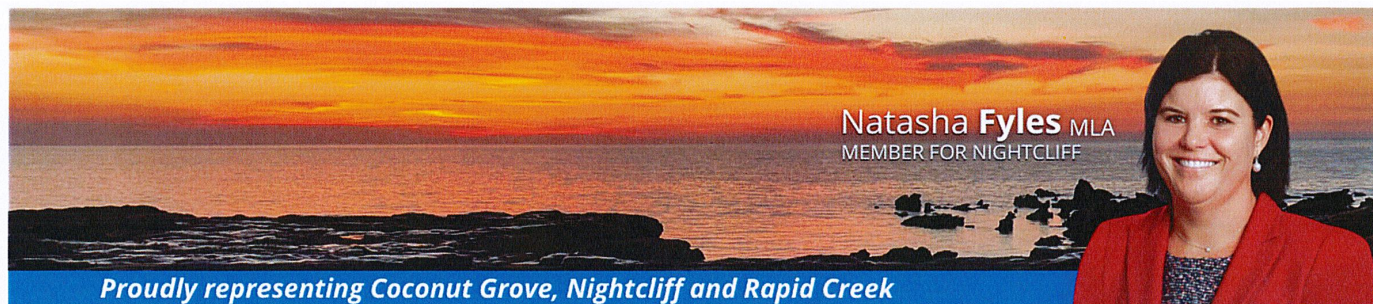
While I have lived on Nightcliff Road, I have seen many near misses of children attempting to cross each of these roads. The new traffic lights have helped with slowing traffic and definitely make it safer to cross. Outside school hours there are many hoons in the area, especially in the evening. Speeding is very common.

I think one of the issues is that Nightcliff, Rapid Creek and Progress Drive are all feeder roads from either Trower Road or Bagot Road where the speed limits vary from 70 to 80 km per hour. People forget they are entering a residential area. A suggestion could be to have a sign at the beginning of each of these roads indicating this is a residential area with four schools in the vicinity and many children crossing in the area. This might jolt people to slow down.

I also support the lowering of speed limits around the Nightcliff Shopping Village. There are many disabled and elderly people living in the area and it can be dangerous crossing the road. There have been many near accidents.

Thank you considering this important proposal for the safety of our community.
Yours sincerely

 6/4/24
Hon Jane Aagaard AM



To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to support the proposed reduction of speed limits on Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek, a change that I have advocated for over many years.

As the Member for Nightcliff, I have the privilege of representing a community committed to road safety and positive well-being. The lowering of speed limits will help create safer streets for all residents, including pedestrians and cyclists.

For years, our community has voiced concerns about the safety risks associated with high-speed traffic in residential areas. By reducing the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road, we have the opportunity to significantly enhance road safety and create a more pedestrian-friendly environment.

I also support the lowering of speed limits around the Nightcliff Village shops, the Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct. This will help keep these busy spaces within our community safe for all those who regularly visit these areas.

I look forward to working collaboratively with the City of Darwin and other stakeholders to bring about these changes. Together, we can create safer streets, promote healthier lifestyles, and build a stronger, more connected community.

Thank you for considering this proposal. I look forward to seeing the positive impact that these speed limit changes will have on the Nightcliff community for years to come.

Kind regards,

Natasha Fyles MLA
Member for Nightcliff
9th April 2024



Natasha Fyles MLA Member for Nightcliff

Shop 5, Pavonia Way, Nightcliff NT | PO Box 1283, Nightcliff NT 0814
Phone: 08 8999 6743 | Fax: 08 8985 4545 | Email: electorate.nightcliff@nt.gov.au

27th March 2024



Nightcliff Football Club

Dear Concerned Parties,

The Nightcliff Football Club wishes to express our strong support for the proposed reduction of speed limits from 60km/hr to 50km/hr on the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek.

Additionally, we advocate for the establishment of a low-speed area around Nightcliff Village shops. As a vital part of the Nightcliff community, our football club places great importance on the safety and well-being of our players, supporters, and local residents. Many of our members, spanning all age groups, rely on foot and bicycle transport to access our training and matches at Nightcliff Oval, and safer road conditions are essential for their protection.

Beyond the immediate safety benefits, we believe that implementing lower speed limits will encourage more individuals to engage in active transportation methods, promoting healthier lifestyles and reducing traffic congestion in our area. This aligns with our club's values of community involvement and well-being.

Therefore, we wholeheartedly endorse the following proposals:

- ☐ Reduction of the speed limit from 60km/hr to 50km/hr for the remaining sections of Nightcliff Road and Rapid Creek Road.
- ☐ Assessment for the establishment of a lower speed limit around Nightcliff Village, Nightcliff Shopping Centre, and the new Progress Drive business precinct.

We look forward to seeing City of Darwin implement these important safety measures, fostering a safer and more vibrant environment for all members of the Nightcliff and Rapid Creek community.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MD' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Mark Dodge
President
Nightcliff Football Club
10 Camphor Street
Nightcliff 8010

14 ACTION REPORTS

14.1 REVIEW OF INVESTMENT POLICY

Author: Executive Manager Finance

Authoriser: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Investment Policy - Tracked Changes [↓](#)
2. Investment Policy - Revised Version [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Investment Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopts the revised Investment Policy 3301.100.E.R at **Attachment 2**.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the reviewed and updated Investment Policy to Council for endorsement

KEY ISSUES

- City of Darwin's Investment Policy is due for review in April 2024.
- Officers supplied a copy of the Investment Policy to City of Darwin's investment advisor for comment and recommendations.
- There are four proposed changes to the policy as outlined below.
- This report was provided to the Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) at the meeting held 19 April 2024.
- One change was incorporated in the policy following the RMAC meeting in relation to City of Darwin's variable loans.

DISCUSSION

City of Darwin's Investment Policy 0024.100.E.R. is due to be reviewed by April 2024. Council is required to review the investment policy every twelve months. The Investment Policy number has changed to now be Policy 3301.100.E.R and replaces the previous policy.

As part of the review, City of Darwin forwarded the policy to City of Darwin's investment advisor to provide comment and recommendations on the policy.

Following discussions with the advisor there are three recommended changes that have been included in the amended policy which can be followed in **Attachment 1** (tracked changes). These recommended changes are:

A+ to A- Credit Rating increase to 60%

The first recommended change is increasing the maximum overall exposure for A+ to A- category from 45% to 60% as the current limit is considered overly conservative. The proposed change will raise the risk level of the overall investment policy but remains moderated with exposure to individual institutions limited to 30%.

Exclusion of loan offset accounts/variable loans

City of Darwin has several variable loans in which surplus funds are placed to minimise the servicing costs of the loans. The loans are with domestic major banks and similar to offset accounts, that is, funds can be drawn overnight and at the discretion of City of Darwin. The proposed policy now provides guidance on the surplus funds placed against variable loans by excluding the surplus funds in the individual counterparty limit calculations and portfolio holdings.

Option to divest Floating Rate Notes (FRN) prior to maturity

The current policy prohibits 'an active trading strategy' or in simpler terms enforces a buy and hold strategy. In recent years City of Darwin has pursued favourable floating rate notes (FRN) opportunities as they arise. One of the advantages to FRN's is they reduce interest rate risk in increasing interest rate markets (conversely can be a disadvantage in decreasing interest rate markets) and are liquid in nature. Expanding on the buy and hold strategy allows City of Darwin to convert the instruments for cash flow requirements if needed and realise a capital gain if deemed advantageous to do so. Trading for the purpose of realising a capital gain will only be done on the recommendation of City of Darwin's investment advisor. City of Darwin will not actively buy FRN's or other products with the intention of trading or seeking capital gains.

Following the RMAC meeting held on the 19 April 2024 the Investment Policy has been updated to include City of Darwin's strategy of investing surplus against the variable loans or offset accounts when the return on investment is lower than the interest expense on the loans.

The final amendment to the policy is superficial in nature, with updates to the formatting and layout to meet the requirements of City of Darwin's style guide. As the policy document number has also been updated for the revised version at **Attachment 2**.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

At the 16 May 2023 meeting Council resolved:

RESOLUTION [ORD236/23]

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Investment Policy 0024.100. E.R be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the amended Investment Policy 0024.100.E.R at Attachment 1.

CARRIED 10/0

At the Risk Management and Audit Committee held 19 April 2024 the Committee resolved:	
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC025/24	
1. THAT the report entitled Review of Investment Policy be received and noted. 2. THAT the Committee recommends that Council adopts the amended Investment Policy 3301.100.E.R at Attachment 2 .	
CARRIED 6/0	
STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	6 Governance Framework 6.3 Decision Making and Management
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	N/A
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	<p>Legislation: Investment of surplus funds is governed by section 194 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i></p> <p>Policy: Once adopted by Council, this amended policy will become a policy of Council.</p>
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	<p>Engagement Level: Consult</p> <p>Internal: Nil</p> <p>External: City of Darwin's external investment advisor was consulted on this policy and provided recommended amendments.</p>
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>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).</p>



Investment policy

Policy No. 3301.100.E.R

1 Purpose

The Investment Policy establishes the rules City of Darwin adopts in investing funds not required to meet immediate liquidity needs with the exception of trust funds.

This policy is supplemented by Investment Procedures, which are not required to be adopted by Council. The procedures form part of City of Darwin's internal controls.

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2 Scope

To invest Council's funds with consideration of risk and at the most favourable rate of return available to it at the time for the investment type. While exercising the power to invest, consideration is to be given to preservation of capital, liquidity and the return on investment.

Primary objectives of the policy are to:

- ensure the investment portfolio is structured to provide sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements
- minimise risk of capital losses through prudent management of credit risk, diversification of investments and ensuring investments do not need to be sold in adverse market conditions incurring a capital loss on sale
- earn interest
- ensure that funds are invested in accordance with legislative requirements
- identify the range of approved and prohibited investments
- set boundaries for exposure to the risks associated with investments
- ensure that Council maintains adequate control of its investments
- establish a framework for monitoring investments
- meet, or exceed, an agreed benchmark return appropriate to the risk tolerance of Council on a long-term basis.

Section 194 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) sets out the requirements of Council with respect to an Investments Policy. Specifically, Council may by resolution, adopt a policy for investing money that is consistent with this Act and the Minister's Guidelines

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3 Policy statement

3.1 Legislative framework

Local Government Act

Section 194(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) states that ‘a council may invest money not immediately required for the purposes of the Council’.

Local Government Investment Guidelines

Section 194(3) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) states that ‘a Council may, by resolution, adopt a policy that is consistent with this Act and the Ministers Guidelines’.

Delegation of Authority

In accordance with Section 40(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) Council has delegated the authority for implementation of the Investment Policy to the Chief Executive Officer.

In accordance with Section 168 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) the Chief Executive Officer has delegated implementation and management of the Investment Policy, subject to financial limits, to the General Manager Corporate.

This policy is however subject to any instrument of delegation or variation thereto issued from time to time by the Council or Chief Executive Officer.

Prudent Person Rule

The Prudent Person Rule requires officers to exercise the same care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in managing the affairs of other persons. Acting prudently applies to selecting investments and requires an individual to consider diversification, appropriateness of the product, risk and anticipated return, liquidity, independent financial advice and to have a clear understanding of the product. Under no circumstances, must an individual make an investment for speculative purposes.

Ethics and conflicts of interest

Officers shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with the proper execution and management of Council’s investment portfolio. This policy requires officers to disclose any conflict of interest to the Chief Executive Officer.

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3.2 Authorised investments

Approved investments

Investments are limited to the NT Local Government legal and regulatory requirements including the Minister’s Guidelines. If there is any conflict or contradiction between this policy and the legal requirements the legal requirements must prevail. The policy should be amended as soon as practicable after noting that a conflict or contradiction exists.

In addition to the legal requirements and without approval by specific resolution of Council investments are limited to:

- Local/State/Commonwealth Government Bonds, Debentures or Securities
- interest bearing securities issued by an Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, regulated authorised deposit taking institution.

All investments are subject to the Investment Limits stated in this policy.

Mandatory conditions

There are certain mandatory conditions that all investments must comply with:

- all investments must be in the name of City of Darwin. If using the services of an Investment Advisor or Broker, Council must ensure ownership is retained
- all investments must be denominated in Australian dollars
- all investments must be placed through a licensed financial services institution with a current Australian Financial Services Licence issued by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, unless placed directly with the issuing entity whose interest-bearing securities must be compliant with the investment policy.

Prohibited investments

This policy prohibits any investment carried out for speculative purposes including:

- subordinated bank debt (all bank debt should be senior)
- derivative based instruments
- principal only investments
- standalone securities issued that have underlying futures, options, forward contracts and swaps of any kind
- shares of any kind
- investment denominated in foreign or cryptocurrencies.

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3.3 Environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing

Where financial institutions are offering equivalent investment returns with the same or similar credit rating and assessed financial risk and the investment fits within the provisions of this Investment Policy, preference will be given to placing funds with institutions identified as having the higher ESG standards which may include, but not limited to, investing with institutions not financing fossil fuel companies.

3.4 Risk Management Guidelines

Council is risk averse; risk aversion is the reluctance to invest in a product with a higher risk compared with a product with lower risk, but possibly lower returns. Risk can never be completely mitigated and no investment is risk free.

This policy outlines the limits on investments that assist in mitigating risk within Council's control without unnecessary detrimental impact on investment returns.

Investments are to comply with the following key criteria:

- Credit Risk – limit overall credit exposure of the portfolio
- Counterparty Credit Risk – limit exposure to individual counterparties/ institutions' risk of default in repayment of interest and/or principal
- Diversification – setting limits to the amounts invested in a particular product (concentration risk), with a particular financial institution or government authority to reduce credit, liquidity and market risks
- Interest Rate Risk – the risk the fair market value of the investment fluctuates significantly due to changes in underlying interest rates
- Liquidity Risk – the risk council is unable to redeem the investment at a fair price within a timely period
- Market Risk – the risk the fair value or trading price of an investment will fluctuate due to changes in market conditions, including but not limited to credit, interest rate and maturity risk
- Maturity Risk – limiting of market and liquidity risk through managing individual investment maturities and timing of investment redemptions on a portfolio basis
- Grant Funding Conditions – conditions related to grant funding available to invest must be complied with.

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3.5 Investment limits

Term to maturity

The portfolio is to be invested with the following term to maturity constraints:

Maturity Band	Minimum Portfolio	Maximum Portfolio
	Exposure	Exposure
<1 year	30%	100%
>1 year	0%	70%
>3 years	0%	30%
>5 years	0%	10%

All investments greater than 5 years must be issued by a government entity or carry a long-term rating of AA- or above from S&P (or an equivalent ratings agency) at the point of purchase or be issued by a Major Bank.

All investments rated BBB+ or below by S&P (or an equivalent ratings agency) must not have a maturity greater than 5 years at the point of purchase.

Liquidity requirements

The term of investments must also take into account Council's long term financial plan and liquidity requirements. The portfolio must be structured so that there are always sufficient funds available to meet weekly operational and capital cash requirements.

Variable Loans

An evaluation must be carried out to determine whether surplus cash should be allocated towards variable loans or investments when considering new investments. The evaluation must consider the best economic benefit for City of Darwin on return on any new investments versus savings provided from offsetting variable loans.

Credit ratings

Credit ratings are a guide or standard for an investor, which indicate the ability of a debt issuer or debt issue to meet the obligations of repayment of interest and principal. Credit rating agencies such as Moody's, Standard and Poor's (S&P) and Fitch Rating make these independent assessments based on a certain set of quantitative and qualitative assessment criteria.

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Ratings in no way guarantee the investment or protect Council against investment losses. The prescribed ratings should not be misinterpreted as an implicit guarantee of the credit worthiness of investments or entities that have such ratings. Even given this challenge, ratings provide the best independent information available as to the credit risk inherent in the investments.

The following table provides a comparison of the rating equivalents between the different rating agencies:

Rating comparison table	Moody's		Standard & Poor's		Fitch	
Investment grade (credit risk level)	Long term	Short term	Long term	Short term	Long term	Short term
Highest (Minimum Credit Risk)	Aaa	P-1 (Prime-1)	AAA	A-1+	AAA	F1+
Very High (Very Low Credit Risk)	Aa1		AA+		AA+	
	Aa2		AA		AA	
	Aa3		AA-		AA-	
High (Low Credit Risk)	A1	P-2/P-1	A+	A-1	A+	F1/F1+
	A2		A		A	F1
	A3	P-2/P-1	A-	A-2	A-	F2/F1
Good (Moderate Credit Risk)	Baa1	P-2 (Prime-2)	BBB+		BBB+	F2
	Baa2	P-3/P-2	BBB		BBB+	F3/F2
	Baa3	P-3 (Prime-3)	BBB-	A-3	BBB-	F3

To limit overall credit exposure of the portfolio, Council has placed the following limits on portfolio credit ratings:

Credit rating (S&P or equivalent)	Maximum total investments
AAA to AA- (or Major Bank Senior Debt) and below	100%
A+ to A-	60%
BBB+ to BBB	30%

Major Banks for the purpose of this policy are defined as ANZ, CBA, NAB, Westpac and their wholly owned and guaranteed subsidiaries. Council is not permitted to purchase an investment with a credit rating lower than 'BBB'. In the event an investment is rated by S&P and another ratings agency (either

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Fitch or Moody's) the S&P rating will apply in the first instance to prevent "ratings arbitrage" between ratings agencies.

Policy Breaches & ‘Grandfathering’

If any investment is made in breach to this investment policy, that instrument will be divested as soon as it is practical (taking into account the costs and benefits of doing so). This will also apply to any investment that is downgraded and as a result no longer falls within the policy guidelines.

Any investment purchased when compliant with the investment policy may be held to maturity or sold as Council believes best, dependent on the individual circumstances, so long as the risk management strategy for the investment is in accordance with the principles of the Investment Guidelines as above, the prevailing legislation and the prudent person principles.

Specifically, Grandfathering will apply to any investment that:

- was made ineligible by a previous change to the external legislation if that change allows for grandfathering
- is made ineligible as a result of a change to this investment policy
- is in breach of the investment policy due to a change of circumstance. (e.g. because the investment has been downgraded or has had its credit rating withdrawn post purchase)
- due to a change of portfolio size or composition (e.g. because the overall portfolio size has decreased and as a result the percentage of total portfolio limit which applies to individual remaining investments increases and therefore causes a breach)".

Individual Counterparty Credit Framework (diversification)

The individual credit guidelines to be adopted will be based on the Standard and Poor's (S&P) ratings system criteria (or Moody's / Fitch equivalent if an S&P rating is not available). The maximum available limits in each rating category are as follows:

Credit rating	Maximum individual limit
Federal Government	100%
AAA to AA- (or Major Bank Senior Debt or State or Territory Government)	50%
A+ to A-	30%
BBB+ to BBB	10%

For the purposes of this policy any surplus funds placed against variable loans that are able to be drawn at the discretion of Council are excluded from Councils investment portfolio holdings and individual counterparty limits.

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3.6 Administration of Policy

Investment Register

Council must keep an up to date Investment Register supported by appropriate documentary evidence for each investment held.

For external audit purposes, certificates must be obtained from the financial institutions confirming the investments held on the Council's behalf as at 30 June each year and reconciled to the Investment Register.

Reporting

- A monthly investment report will be provided to Council containing the following:
- list of investments by financial institution
 - total cash and investments held
 - percentage exposure to individual financial institutions
 - adherence to the investment limits set in this policy
 - investment portfolio performance against established benchmarks, including budget.

Benchmark

The performance of the investment portfolio shall be compared to the Bloomberg Ausbond Bank Bill Index (Bank Bill Index) as quoted at the end of each month.

Variations to Policy

The Chief Executive Officer is authorised to approve temporary variations to the policy if required by legislative changes. All changes to the policy will be reported to Council within 30 days. All other variations to the policy are required to be authorised by Council.

Investment Procedures

The Investment Procedures supplement this policy and define the procedures that officers must adhere to when managing investments including, but not limited to, authorisation, placement, redemption and reinvestment.

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Quotation for Purchase and Sale of Investments

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The investing officer must satisfy themselves that they are obtaining a fair market price for all investments made at all times. This may be accomplished by obtaining three (3) independent quotes from reputable market makers where the investment is widely traded or where it is not widely traded by reference to other similar instruments that are traded in the market place.

If this is not possible or impractical, the investing officer can rely on representations made by an Independent Advisor with no conflicts of interest regarding the purchase or sale of the investment.

For the avoidance of doubt the investing officer must not rely or representations made by the buyer, seller or broker or any other person with a potential conflict of interest or pecuniary interest in the buying or selling transaction.

Investment Strategy

On a monthly basis and in conjunction with this Investment Policy, an Investment Strategy will be formulated and included in the monthly reports from the Investment Advisor, taking into consideration the following:

- council's cash flow requirements and implications for the portfolio liquidity profile.
- allocation of investment types, credit quality, counterparty exposure and term to maturity
- current and projected market conditions and any likely impacts on relative positioning in terms of the portfolio and any necessary policy implications
- relative return outlook; risk-reward considerations; assessment of the market cycle and hence constraints on risk
- appropriateness of overall investment types for Council's portfolio
- projected investment portfolio size for the forthcoming year.

Safe Custody

All investments must be settled and held directly in safe custody or via Council's Austraclear account to be maintained by Council as an associate member of Austraclear and operated by Council's Austraclear proxy provider.

Investment Advisor

Independent investment advice should be obtained on a regular basis in relation to Council's policy, strategy and tactics.

The advisor must be an independent person who has no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to investment products being recommended and is free to choose the most appropriate product within the terms and conditions of the investment policy.

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The independent advisor is required to provide written confirmation that they do not have any actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to the investments they are recommending or reviewing, including that they are not receiving any commission or other benefits in relation to the investments being recommended or reviewed. Any commissions or other fees available to the advisor and which the advisor receives must be rebated in full to Council.

Investment Advisor Performance Assessment

Investment Advisor performance may be measured annually by returns on the investment portfolio net of fees when compared with likely performance of the investment portfolio without external advice.

The Council can enter into a biennial contractual arrangement with the Investment Advisor with the Council having an option to renew for a further two years.

In renewing the contractual arrangement, the Council should also take into account the risks taken to achieve the returns and any other services the Investment Advisor may provide such as reporting, valuations, assistance with audit requirements, current market information and alerts all of which have an indirect benefit to Council in saving internal resources such as staff time.

Trading Policy

Council will make every effort and will undertake cash flow forecasting to match investment maturities to cash flow requirements to minimise liquidation of investments prior to scheduled maturities and any associated penalties either explicit in the form of break costs or implicit in terms of broker fees, market spreads and potential loss of capital caused by selling at a value less than the ultimate redemption price.

Investments will be acquired with the intention of holding them to maturity, and cash liquidity requirements will be managed to ensure that Council avoids a situation which will require a forced sale of these assets in normal circumstances.

However, if Investment Policy Limits have been breached due to a change in the overall size of the investment portfolio, external or internal changes to investment policy parameters or for any other reason, then investments may be sold prior to maturity. Under these situations Council has the authority to make the necessary arrangements to withdraw from the investment as soon as practicable.

Council may also sell assets prior to maturity in the following circumstances:

- If the asset is liquid, easily tradeable, can be sold without significant loss and was purchased as part of a "liquidity buffer" against the event of unforeseen and unexpected liquidity requirements.
- Securities such as floating rate notes (FRN) and fixed bonds hold an advantage of being "liquid" compared to other complying investments such as term deposits which are illiquid. These securities can be sold to third parties and incur no 'break fees' (unlike term deposits when sold prior to maturity). They are however susceptible to mark-to market valuations so if sold prior to maturity they can incur a capital gain or a capital loss. Notwithstanding that Council will not adopt

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in an active trading strategy. FRN's can also be sold prior to maturity if it is deemed a beneficial capital gain and only on the recommendation of Councils Investment Advisor.

- If Council judges the asset has deteriorated in credit quality and there is a material risk of further market price deterioration or ultimate default if it continues to held and Council, upon seeking external advice from a competent and reputable advisor, is advised that a sale of the asset is in the best interests of Council for risk management purposes to potentially minimise any future losses.

Council will not view maximum and minimum allocations in investment categories as 'target' allocations. The portfolio should in normal circumstances be operated with a degree of margin around any policy restrictions."

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For the avoidance of doubt, Council will not adopt an active trading strategy buying and selling assets on broker recommendations for the purposes of enhancing returns through the accumulation of capital profits. ¶

Trust Funds

Trust funds are excluded from this policy.

4 Definitions

Counterparty refers to the other individual or institution to an agreement or contract.

5 Legislative References

Local Government Act 2019 (NT) Part 10.2
Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 (NT) – Regulation 17
Guidelines pursuant to the Act, and
Australian Accounting Standards

6 Procedures / Related Documents

Procedure - FIN04.01 - Investments End of Month
Procedure - FIN04.05 - Investments Report to Council
Procedure - FIN04.07 - New Investments, Rollovers & Redemptions

7 Responsibility / Application

The General Manager Corporate is responsible for ensuring that this policy is understood and adhered to by all Council staff.
This policy will be reviewed annually or more often as required.

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Responsible Officer: General Manager Corporate

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Investment policy

Policy No. 3301.100.E.R

1 Purpose

The Investment Policy establishes the rules City of Darwin adopts in investing funds not required to meet immediate liquidity needs with the exception of trust funds.

This policy is supplemented by Investment Procedures, which are not required to be adopted by Council. The procedures form part of City of Darwin’s internal controls.

2 Scope

To invest Council’s funds with consideration of risk and at the most favourable rate of return available to it at the time for the investment type. While exercising the power to invest, consideration is to be given to preservation of capital, liquidity and the return on investment.

Primary objectives of the policy are to:

- ensure the investment portfolio is structured to provide sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements
- minimise risk of capital losses through prudent management of credit risk, diversification of investments and ensuring investments do not need to be sold in adverse market conditions incurring a capital loss on sale
- earn interest
- ensure that funds are invested in accordance with legislative requirements
- identify the range of approved and prohibited investments
- set boundaries for exposure to the risks associated with investments
- ensure that Council maintains adequate control of its investments
- establish a framework for monitoring investments
- meet, or exceed, an agreed benchmark return appropriate to the risk tolerance of Council on a long-term basis.

Section 194 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) sets out the requirements of Council with respect to an Investments Policy. Specifically, Council may by resolution, adopt a policy for investing money that is consistent with this Act and the Minister's Guidelines

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3

Policy statement

3.1

Legislative framework

Local Government Act

Section 194(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) states that ‘a council may invest money not immediately required for the purposes of the Council’.

Local Government Investment Guidelines

Section 194(3) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) states that ‘a Council may, by resolution, adopt a policy that is consistent with this Act and the Ministers Guidelines’.

Delegation of Authority

In accordance with Section 40(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) Council has delegated the authority for implementation of the Investment Policy to the Chief Executive Officer.

In accordance with Section 168 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) the Chief Executive Officer has delegated implementation and management of the Investment Policy, subject to financial limits, to the General Manager Corporate.

This policy is however subject to any instrument of delegation or variation thereto issued from time to time by the Council or Chief Executive Officer.

Prudent Person Rule

The Prudent Person Rule requires officers to exercise the same care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in managing the affairs of other persons. Acting prudently applies to selecting investments and requires an individual to consider diversification, appropriateness of the product, risk and anticipated return, liquidity, independent financial advice and to have a clear understanding of the product. Under no circumstances, must an individual make an investment for speculative purposes.

Ethics and conflicts of interest

Officers shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with the proper execution and management of Council's investment portfolio. This policy requires officers to disclose any conflict of interest to the Chief Executive Officer.

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3.2 **Authorised investments**

Approved investments

Investments are limited to the NT Local Government legal and regulatory requirements including the Minister’s Guidelines. If there is any conflict or contradiction between this policy and the legal requirements the legal requirements must prevail. The policy should be amended as soon as practicable after noting that a conflict or contradiction exists.

In addition to the legal requirements and without approval by specific resolution of Council investments are limited to:

- Local/State/Commonwealth Government Bonds, Debentures or Securities
- interest bearing securities issued by an Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, regulated authorised deposit taking institution.

All investments are subject to the Investment Limits stated in this policy.

Mandatory conditions

There are certain mandatory conditions that all investments must comply with:

- all investments must be in the name of City of Darwin. If using the services of an Investment Advisor or Broker, Council must ensure ownership is retained
- all investments must be denominated in Australian dollars
- all investments must be placed through a licensed financial services institution with a current Australian Financial Services Licence issued by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, unless placed directly with the issuing entity whose interest-bearing securities must be compliant with the investment policy.

Prohibited investments

This policy prohibits any investment carried out for speculative purposes including:

- subordinated bank debt (all bank debt should be senior)
- derivative based instruments
- principal only investments
- standalone securities issued that have underlying futures, options, forward contracts and swaps of any kind
- shares of any kind
- investment denominated in foreign or cryptocurrencies.

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3.3 Environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing

Where financial institutions are offering equivalent investment returns with the same or similar credit rating and assessed financial risk and the investment fits within the provisions of this Investment Policy, preference will be given to placing funds with institutions identified as having the higher ESG standards which may include, but not limited to, investing with institutions not financing fossil fuel companies.

3.4 Risk Management Guidelines

Council is risk averse; risk aversion is the reluctance to invest in a product with a higher risk compared with a product with lower risk, but possibly lower returns. Risk can never be completely mitigated and no investment is risk free.

This policy outlines the limits on investments that assist in mitigating risk within Council’s control without unnecessary detrimental impact on investment returns.

Investments are to comply with the following key criteria:

- Credit Risk – limit overall credit exposure of the portfolio
- Counterparty Credit Risk – limit exposure to individual counterparties/ institutions’ risk of default in repayment of interest and/or principal
- Diversification – setting limits to the amounts invested in a particular product (concentration risk), with a particular financial institution or government authority to reduce credit, liquidity and market risks
- Interest Rate Risk – the risk the fair market value of the investment fluctuates significantly due to changes in underlying interest rates
- Liquidity Risk – the risk council is unable to redeem the investment at a fair price within a timely period
- Market Risk – the risk the fair value or trading price of an investment will fluctuate due to changes in market conditions, including but not limited to credit, interest rate and maturity risk
- Maturity Risk – limiting of market and liquidity risk through managing individual investment maturities and timing of investment redemptions on a portfolio basis
- Grant Funding Conditions – conditions related to grant funding available to invest must be complied with.



3.5 Investment limits

Term to maturity

The portfolio is to be invested with the following term to maturity constraints:

Maturity Band	Minimum Portfolio Exposure	Maximum Portfolio Exposure
<1 year	30%	100%
>1 year	0%	70%
>3 years	0%	30%
>5 years	0%	10%

All investments greater than 5 years must be issued by a government entity or carry a long-term rating of AA- or above from S&P (or an equivalent ratings agency) at the point of purchase or be issued by a Major Bank.

All investments rated BBB+ or below by S&P (or an equivalent ratings agency) must not have a maturity greater than 5 years at the point of purchase.

Liquidity requirements

The term of investments must also take into account Council's long term financial plan and liquidity requirements. The portfolio must be structured so that there are always sufficient funds available to meet weekly operational and capital cash requirements.

Variable Loans

An evaluation must be carried out to determine whether surplus cash should be allocated towards variable loans or investments when considering new investments. The evaluation must consider the best economic benefit for City of Darwin on return on any new investments versus savings provided from offsetting variable loans.

Credit ratings

Credit ratings are a guide or standard for an investor, which indicate the ability of a debt issuer or debt issue to meet the obligations of repayment of interest and principal. Credit rating agencies such as Moody's, Standard and Poor's (S&P) and Fitch Rating make these independent assessments based on a certain set of quantitative and qualitative assessment criteria.

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Ratings in no way guarantee the investment or protect Council against investment losses. The prescribed ratings should not be misinterpreted as an implicit guarantee of the credit worthiness of investments or entities that have such ratings. Even given this challenge, ratings provide the best independent information available as to the credit risk inherent in the investments.

The following table provides a comparison of the rating equivalents between the different rating agencies:

Rating comparison table	Moody's		Standard & Poor's		Fitch	
Investment grade (credit risk level)	Long term	Short term	Long term	Short term	Long term	Short term
Highest (Minimum Credit Risk)	Aaa	P-1 (Prime-1)	AAA	A-1+	AAA	F1+
Very High (Very Low Credit Risk)	Aa1		AA+		AA+	
	Aa2		AA		AA	
	Aa3		AA-		AA-	
High (Low Credit Risk)	A1	P-2/P-1	A+	A-1	A+	F1/F1+
	A2		A		A	F1
	A3	P-2/P-1	A-	A-2	A-	F2/F1
Good (Moderate Credit Risk)	Baa1	P-2 (Prime-2)	BBB+		BBB+	F2
	Baa2	P-3/P-2	BBB	A-3	BBB+	F3/F2
	Baa3	P-3 (Prime-3)	BBB-		BBB-	F3

To limit overall credit exposure of the portfolio, Council has placed the following limits on portfolio credit ratings:

Credit rating (S&P or equivalent)	Maximum total investments
AAA to AA- (or Major Bank Senior Debt) and below	100%
A+ to A-	60%
BBB+ to BBB	30%

Major Banks for the purpose of this policy are defined as ANZ, CBA, NAB, Westpac and their wholly owned and guaranteed subsidiaries. Council is not permitted to purchase an investment with a credit rating lower than 'BBB'. In the event an investment is rated by S&P and another ratings agency (either Fitch or Moody's) the S&P rating will apply in the first instance to prevent "ratings arbitrage" between ratings agencies.

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Policy Breaches & 'Grandfathering'

If any investment is made in breach to this investment policy, that instrument will be divested as soon as it is practical (taking into account the costs and benefits of doing so). This will also apply to any investment that is downgraded and as a result no longer falls within the policy guidelines.

Any investment purchased when compliant with the investment policy may be held to maturity or sold as Council believes best, dependent on the individual circumstances, so long as the risk management strategy for the investment is in accordance with the principles of the Investment Guidelines as above, the prevailing legislation and the prudent person principles.

Specifically, Grandfathering will apply to any investment that:

- was made ineligible by a previous change to the external legislation if that change allows for grandfathering
- is made ineligible as a result of a change to this investment policy
- is in breach of the investment policy due to a change of circumstance. (e.g. because the investment has been downgraded or has had its credit rating withdrawn post purchase)
- due to a change of portfolio size or composition (e.g. because the overall portfolio size has decreased and as a result the percentage of total portfolio limit which applies to individual remaining investments increases and therefore causes a breach)".

Individual Counterparty Credit Framework (diversification)

The individual credit guidelines to be adopted will be based on the Standard and Poor's (S&P) ratings system criteria (or Moody's / Fitch equivalent if an S&P rating is not available). The maximum available limits in each rating category are as follows:

Credit rating	Maximum individual limit
Federal Government	100%
AAA to AA- (or Major Bank Senior Debt or State or Territory Government)	50%
A+ to A-	30%
BBB+ to BBB	10%

For the purposes of this policy any surplus funds placed against variable loans that are able to be drawn at the discretion of Council are excluded from Council's investment portfolio holdings and individual counterparty limits.

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3.6 Administration of Policy

Investment Register

Council must keep an up to date Investment Register supported by appropriate documentary evidence for each investment held.

For external audit purposes, certificates must be obtained from the financial institutions confirming the investments held on the Council's behalf as at 30 June each year and reconciled to the Investment Register.

Reporting

A monthly investment report will be provided to Council containing the following:

- list of investments by financial institution
- total cash and investments held
- percentage exposure to individual financial institutions
- adherence to the investment limits set in this policy
- investment portfolio performance against established benchmarks, including budget.

Benchmark

The performance of the investment portfolio shall be compared to the Bloomberg Ausbond Bank Bill Index (Bank Bill Index) as quoted at the end of each month.

Variations to Policy

The Chief Executive Officer is authorised to approve temporary variations to the policy if required by legislative changes. All changes to the policy will be reported to Council within 30 days. All other variations to the policy are required to be authorised by Council.

Investment Procedures

The Investment Procedures supplement this policy and define the procedures that officers must adhere to when managing investments including, but not limited to, authorisation, placement, redemption and reinvestment.

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Quotation for Purchase and Sale of Investments

The investing officer must satisfy themselves that they are obtaining a fair market price for all investments made at all times. This may be accomplished by obtaining three (3) independent quotes from reputable market makers where the investment is widely traded or where it is not widely traded by reference to other similar instruments that are traded in the market place.

If this is not possible or impractical, the investing officer can rely on representations made by an Independent Advisor with no conflicts of interest regarding the purchase or sale of the investment.

For the avoidance of doubt the investing officer must not rely or representations made by the buyer, seller or broker or any other person with a potential conflict of interest or pecuniary interest in the buying or selling transaction.

Investment Strategy

On a monthly basis and in conjunction with this Investment Policy, an Investment Strategy will be formulated and included in the monthly reports from the Investment Advisor, taking into consideration the following:

- council’s cash flow requirements and implications for the portfolio liquidity profile.
- allocation of investment types, credit quality, counterparty exposure and term to maturity
- current and projected market conditions and any likely impacts on relative positioning in terms of the portfolio and any necessary policy implications
- relative return outlook; risk-reward considerations; assessment of the market cycle and hence constraints on risk
- appropriateness of overall investment types for Council’s portfolio
- projected investment portfolio size for the forthcoming year.

Safe Custody

All investments must be settled and held directly in safe custody or via Council’s Austraclear account to be maintained by Council as an associate member of Austraclear and operated by Council’s Austraclear proxy provider.

Investment Advisor

Independent investment advice should be obtained on a regular basis in relation to Council’s policy, strategy and tactics.

The advisor must be an independent person who has no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to investment products being recommended and is free to choose the most appropriate product within the terms and conditions of the investment policy.

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The independent advisor is required to provide written confirmation that they do not have any actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to the investments they are recommending or reviewing, including that they are not receiving any commission or other benefits in relation to the investments being recommended or reviewed. Any commissions or other fees available to the advisor and which the advisor receives must be rebated in full to Council.

Investment Advisor Performance Assessment

Investment Advisor performance may be measured annually by returns on the investment portfolio net of fees when compared with likely performance of the investment portfolio without external advice.

The Council can enter into a biennial contractual arrangement with the Investment Advisor with the Council having an option to renew for a further two years.

In renewing the contractual arrangement, the Council should also take into account the risks taken to achieve the returns and any other services the Investment Advisor may provide such as reporting, valuations, assistance with audit requirements, current market information and alerts all of which have an indirect benefit to Council in saving internal resources such as staff time.

Trading Policy

Council will make every effort and will undertake cash flow forecasting to match investment maturities to cash flow requirements to minimise liquidation of investments prior to scheduled maturities and any associated penalties either explicit in the form of break costs or implicit in terms of broker fees, market spreads and potential loss of capital caused by selling at a value less than the ultimate redemption price.

Investments will be acquired with the intention of holding them to maturity, and cash liquidity requirements will be managed to ensure that Council avoids a situation which will require a forced sale of these assets in normal circumstances.

However, if Investment Policy Limits have been breached due to a change in the overall size of the investment portfolio, external or internal changes to investment policy parameters or for any other reason, then investments may be sold prior to maturity. Under these situations Council has the authority to make the necessary arrangements to withdraw from the investment as soon as practicable.

Council may also sell assets prior to maturity in the following circumstances:

- If the asset is liquid, easily tradeable, can be sold without significant loss and was purchased as part of a “liquidity buffer” against the event of unforeseen and unexpected liquidity requirements.
- Securities such as floating rate notes (FRN) and fixed bonds hold an advantage of being “liquid” compared to other complying investments such as term deposits which are illiquid. These securities can be sold to third parties and incur no ‘break fees’ (unlike term deposits when sold prior to maturity). They are however susceptible to mark-to market valuations so if sold prior to maturity they can incur a capital gain or a capital loss. Notwithstanding that Council will not adopt

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in an active trading strategy, FRN’s can also be sold prior to maturity if it is deemed a beneficial capital gain and only on the recommendation of Councils Investment Advisor.

- If Council judges the asset has deteriorated in credit quality and there is a material risk of further market price deterioration or ultimate default if it continues to held and Council, upon seeking external advice from a competent and reputable advisor, is advised that a sale of the asset is in the best interests of Council for risk management purposes to potentially minimise any future losses.

Council will not view maximum and minimum allocations in investment categories as ‘target’ allocations. The portfolio should in normal circumstances be operated with a degree of margin around any policy restrictions.”

Trust Funds

Trust funds are excluded from this policy.

4 Definitions

Counterparty refers to the other individual or institution to an agreement or contract.

5 Legislative References

Local Government Act 2019 (NT) Part 10.2
Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 (NT) – Regulation 17
Guidelines pursuant to the Act, and
Australian Accounting Standards

6 Procedures / Related Documents

Procedure - FIN04.01 - Investments End of Month
Procedure - FIN04.05 - Investments Report to Council
Procedure - FIN04.07 - New Investments, Rollovers & Redemptions

7 Responsibility / Application

The General Manager Corporate is responsible for ensuring that this policy is understood and adhered to by all Council staff.
This policy will be reviewed annually or more often as required.

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14.2 SUBMISSION TO JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CIVIC EDUCATION, ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

Author: Executive Manager Corporate and Customer Services

Authoriser: Acting General Manager Corporate

Attachments: 1. Draft Submission [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Submission to Joint Standing Committee on Civic Education, Engagement and Participation be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve the proposed submission to the Joint Standing Committee on civics education, engagement and participation in Australia.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for a submission to the Joint Standing Committee inquiring into civics education, engagement and participation in Australia.

KEY ISSUES

- The Federal Government has commissioned an inquiry into civics educations, engagement and participation in Australia.
- A submission has been prepared for Council's approval covering a number of topics in response to the Terms of Reference.
- City of Darwin will continue to advocate to this Committee, including seeking to appear at public hearings.

DISCUSSION

The Federal Government has commissioned an inquiry into civics education, engagement, and participation in Australia which will be chaired by Member for Jagajaga (Victoria), Ms Kate Thwaites MP. Submissions are currently open, and a submission has been prepared for Council's approval at **Attachment 1**. Submissions are due by 24 of May 2024.

The Terms of Reference are:

- the effectiveness of formalised civics education throughout Australia and the various approaches taken across jurisdictions through schools and other institutions including electoral commissions, councils, and parliaments; the extent to which all students have equitable access to civics education; and opportunities for improvement;
- the vast array of informal mechanisms through which Australians seek and receive information about Australia's democracy, electoral events, and voting; and how governments and the community might leverage these mechanisms to improve the quality of information and help Australians be better informed about, and better participate in, the electoral system;
- the mechanisms available to assist voters in understanding the legitimacy of information about electoral matters; the impact of artificial intelligence, foreign interference, social media and mis- and disinformation; and how governments and the community can prevent or limit inaccurate or false information influencing electoral outcomes;
- opportunities for supporting culturally diverse, geographically diverse, and remote communities to access relevant, appropriate, and culturally suitable information about Australian democracy, electoral events, enrolment and voting to promote full electoral participation;
- social, socio-economic, or other barriers that may be preventing electoral participation; and ways governments might address or circumvent these barriers; and
- potential improvements to the operations and structures that deliver electoral events to support full electoral participation.

The issues raised in the submission at **Attachment 1** are:

- low levels of electoral participation and potential strategies to address this
- appropriate use of social media in political debate, and protections for elected members and candidates.

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	Engagement Level: Involve N/A

<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</p>	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>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).</p>
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Darwin NT 0801

P 08 8930 0300
E darwin@darwin.nt.gov.au

To: **Committee Secretary**
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: em@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Members

The City of Darwin appreciates the opportunity to provide this submission to the Joint Standing Committee into civics education, engagement and participation in Australia. City of Darwin is the largest local government in the Northern Territory, administering the capital city of the Northern Territory, including both the Central Business District and surrounding suburban areas across a 111km² area. City of Darwin has approximately 400 staff delivering an annual budget of \$139 million to service a strategically vital community of 85,000 residents and a \$1.25 billion infrastructure base.

City of Darwin strongly recommends to the Committee that public hearings be held in Darwin, to give local government and relevant stakeholder associations the opportunity to engage directly with Committee and the Committee the opportunity to experience our challenges in person.

Whilst this submission is made on behalf of City of Darwin, the issues covered here also impact surrounding local governments and communities, and references to Darwin can often be taken to include the metropolitan area that City of Darwin supports the extends outside the City of Darwin local government area boundaries.

City of Darwin wishes to raise two matters of concern, being:

- electoral participation
- appropriate use of social media in political debate.

Electoral Participation

The Northern Territory, including City of Darwin has some of the lowest voting turnout levels in Australia, despite voting being compulsory for elections at all three levels of government. At the City of Darwin's most recent general election on 28 August 2021, conducted by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC), five elections were conducted: one to elect the Lord Mayor and four elections to elect 3 councillors in each of four Wards. At this election, 51,060 electors were enrolled.

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This was a 1.9% increase in enrolment from previous local government general elections held in 2017. 33,942 ballot papers were counted for this election which was a turnout rate of 66.5%. The turnout rate was slightly lower than at the 2017 elections where the rate was 67.3%. This reduction in turnout was despite changes to reduce complexity for voters and candidates such as changes to declaration voting that allows electors who turn up at a voting centre but are not enrolled (or are enrolled for an interstate address) to still cast a vote that can be admitted to the count. The declaration envelope acts as an enrolment form which is forwarded to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) for processing. If the person is able to be enrolled, their vote is added to the count. Previously, declaration votes would result in updated enrolments, but their ballot papers would not be included in the count. A potential further improvement is greater awareness and promotion of postal voting to support participation of people who are travelling on polling days. As most local and State/Territory elections are on fixed dates, this can be planned and delivered.

More recently, the Lyons Ward by-election, on 2 September 2023, there was a total of 12,890 electors enrolled in the Lyons Ward. 6,554 votes were cast, a turnout rate of only 50.8%. By means of comparison, the recent local government elections held on 16 March 2024 in Brisbane, the turnout rate was 85.31%.

City of Darwin is subject to different population pressures to many other communities in Australia. Population turnover due to high defence presence, regular movement of civilian population interstate, and fluid movement of people between remote communities and Darwin may result in low enrolments and a lack of ownership over local issues and therefore the political process.

City of Darwin believes that further funding is needed to encourage people not just to register to vote, but to take an active and informed interest in civic matters. This should be led by the Australian Electoral Commission with its extensive national experience, supported by and supporting the NTEC in delivery of programs. This could include tailored education initiatives for migrant and First Nations communities to increase awareness, enrolment and education, as well as engagement with defence to ensure electoral enrolment is a consideration in inductions for relocating defence personnel. Further analysis of disparities in census data should also be undertaken to consider movement of people between Darwin and remote communities, and between remote communities. City of Darwin recommends research and engagement not just with other states and territories, but also nations that may have similar issues to determine appropriate strategies and apply them here.

City of Darwin is also of the view that compliance needs to be strengthened. The fine for failure to vote does not appear to be an incentive to vote. The fine in the Northern Territory is \$25 for local and Territory elections and \$20 for federal elections. This compares to Queensland where it is \$154.80 and \$109 in South Australia for state and local government elections. At \$25, it is also uneconomical when NTEC undertakes non-voter compliance after elections.

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Appropriate Use of Social Media in Political Debate

With the rise in Facebook and political activism in Australia, City of Darwin is concerned that the balance between protection of free speech and protection of individuals is skewing towards free speech at the expense of safety and wellbeing of individuals, including Elected Members and candidates. This may include interactions between Elected Members, Elected Member's and candidates, as well as with the broader community.

City of Darwin notes the decision of the High Court in *Fairfax Media Publications Pty Ltd vs Voller (2021) 273 CLR 346* where liability for content was extended media companies as publishers for comments by members of the public on Facebook pages. This had the potential to limit dissemination of defamatory material and disincentivise placing defamatory, aggressive or inappropriate material on Facebook. Legislative reforms have responded to this decision, effectively diluting the responsibility of media companies and reducing liability where there is a complaints mechanism and the complaints mechanism was utilised. City of Darwin is concerned as this puts the onus on the defamed party to take action and allows up to 7 days for action to occur. This means that defamatory material can stay online for up to 7 days after a defamed person becomes aware of it, and potentially has their reputation damaged, suffers financial loss and physical or mental harm. These legislative reforms have had the effect of effectively shifting responsibility from large media companies with extensive resource to individuals with limited resources, including access to costly legal services. With these reforms due to become active across on 1 July 2024, time will tell whether this has an adverse impact on individuals, however City of Darwin encourages the Committee to evaluate whether this an appropriate balance between the competing considerations of free speech and protecting individuals participating in the political process.

City of Darwin is also concerned with the application of section 474.17 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth) as feedback received is that there appears to be a reluctance to apply this in response to complaints of inappropriate online behaviour, particularly in the Northern Territory where there is not extensive experience in its use and application.

City of Darwin raises these concerns because the public policy consideration is that civic participation in the Northern Territory is not at satisfactory or sustainable levels. Without strong protections in place for people engaged in the political process, it is unreasonable to expect that a broader selection of candidates will seek elected office with the risk of suffering unreasonable and inappropriate treatment online. This is an even greater risk where elected members in local government are remunerated on a part time basis as is the case for most in the Northern Territory. This will also have the effect of further disengaging voters and potential voters who do not feel that political debate is considering the issues important to them.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission. City of Darwin would appreciate the opportunity to further participate including further submissions and committee appearances as appropriate. City of Darwin reiterates its request that public hearings with the full Committee be held in Darwin and looks forward to the opportunity to participate.

Yours sincerely

Simone Saunders

Chief Executive Officer

30 April 2024

Sent via email

DRAFT

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14.3 SUBMISSION TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUSTAINABILITY

Author: Executive Manager Corporate and Customer Services

Authoriser: Acting General Manager Corporate

Attachments: 1. Draft Submission - Local Government Sustainability [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Submission to House of Representatives Standing Committee on Local Government Sustainability be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve the proposed submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Local Government Sustainability.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee inquiring into local government sustainability.

KEY ISSUES

- The Federal Government has commissioned an inquiry into local government sustainability.
- A submission has been prepared for Council's approval covering a number of topics in response to the Terms of Reference.
- City of Darwin will continue to advocate to this Committee, including seeking to appear at public hearings.

DISCUSSION

The Federal Government has commissioned an inquiry into local government sustainability, which will be chaired by the Member for Solomon, Luke Gosling OAM MP. Submissions are currently open, and a submission has been prepared for Council's approval at **Attachment 1**. Submissions were initially due by 3 May 2024 however the timeframe for submission has been extended to the end of May 2024.

The Terms of Reference are:

- the financial sustainability and funding of local government
- the changing infrastructure and service delivery obligations of local government
- any structural impediments to security for local government workers and infrastructure and service delivery
- trends in the attraction and retention of a skilled workforce in the local government sector, including impacts of labour hire practices
- the role of the Federal Government in addressing these issues raised in relation to the above
- other relevant issues.

The issues raised in the submission at **Attachment 1** are:

- retention and attraction of workforce
- use of incentives such as removal of concession cap for superannuation in remote and rural areas, increasing zone rebates, extending Fringe Benefits Tax exemptions to local government, and increased education funding
- migration policy, particularly the definition of "regional"
- restoring Financial Assistance Grants to 1% of Federal taxation revenue (currently 0.5%)
- providing an offset payment to address impacts of Financial Assistance Grants freeze, or as an alternative requiring the Northern Territory Government to share part of additional payments with local government
- impacts of rates concessions for social housing
- impacts of evacuations during disasters
- impacts of underinvestment in remote housing
- discretionary and politically motivated decision making in the disbursement of federal funds to local government
- resilience and infrastructure
- support for climate change initiatives
- continued Australian Defence Force support for disaster recovery
- upgrade to the National Land Transport Network, including rail network
- Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility financial sustainability and lease arrangements.

The submission also strongly encourages public hearing with the full Committee in Darwin to give local government and relevant stakeholder associations the opportunity to engage directly with the Committee.

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	Engagement Level: Involve City of Darwin is advocating for public hearings in Darwin and will seek to appear before the Committee in support of its submission.
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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To: **Committee Secretary**
House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: rdit.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Members

The City of Darwin appreciates the opportunity to provide this submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee's inquiry into local government sustainability. City of Darwin is the largest local government in the Northern Territory, administering the capital city of the Northern Territory, including both the Central Business District and surrounding suburban areas across a 111km² area. City of Darwin has approximately 400 staff delivering an annual budget of \$139 million to service a strategically vital community of 85,000 residents and a \$1.25 billion infrastructure base.

City of Darwin also strongly recommends to the Committee that public hearings be held in Darwin, to give local government and relevant stakeholder associations the opportunity to engage directly with Committee and the Committee the opportunity to experience our challenges in person.

Whilst this submission is made on behalf of City of Darwin, the issues covered here also impact surrounding local governments and communities, and references to Darwin can often be taken to include the metropolitan area that City of Darwin supports, that extends outside the City of Darwin local government area boundaries.

This submission considers several issues including:

- Workforce attraction and retention
- Cost and responsibility alignment for community infrastructure and services
- Impacts of climate change and subtropical environment
- Resilience

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Workforce attraction and retention

It is widely recognised that with unemployment at sustained low levels trending below 4% nationally for two years¹, workforce attraction and retention is challenging across many industries and communities in Australia. However, the challenge in the Northern Territory is unique.

The City of Darwin, and the Northern Territory more broadly, can struggle to attract and retain staff, particularly in the fields of finance, human resources, ICT project delivery, and specialised roles such as risk management, emergency management and town planning. This is due to a remoteness, perception and cost of living challenges.

When looking at the ability of the local workforce to sustain itself, this also presents challenges. The Northern Territory has both the highest participation rate and the highest unemployment rate² indicating limited capacity in the employment market. This leads to consistent movement of existing employees amongst the same employers, often Federal, Territory and local government. This constant change affects the retention of corporate knowledge and experience, training and development of retained staff, succession planning and timely delivery of infrastructure and services to community. It also increases cost of service delivery and infrastructure provision. The Community Development Program (CDP), which is proposed to continue to 30 June 2025, reinforces obstacles to market participation for First Nations people, further contributing to both a skills shortage and urban labour market suffocation. Training pathways and private/public sector employment partnerships (which results in wages as opposed to income support) need significant investment and a transition away from CDP.

The Federal Government has a number of mechanisms available to assist in addressing this issue. For example, superannuation policy can be used to attract people, through increased Concessional Contributions Caps for designated regional and remote areas which would be supported by commonly offered co-contribution schemes, where employers match additional superannuation contributions made by staff up to certain percentage. Other forms of assistance may include financial support to local governments to assist in matching the parental leave benefits offered to Federal and Territory employees. Further reviewing and increasing current remote tax incentives, like zone rebates.

Other mechanisms could include extending Fringe Benefit Tax exemptions currently enjoyed by public benevolent institutions (PBIs) and not-for-profit organisations, such as remote area accommodation, remote area residential fuel, and remote area holiday transport. These mechanisms would assist in reducing the competitive disadvantage of living in remote and regional areas caused by the lack of availability and diversity of housing, remoteness, costs of travel, climate and costs of living eg. fuel and groceries. Not for profit organisations work alongside local government in remote

¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics February 2024 Labour Force, Australia, ABS website, accessed 14 April 2024.

² ibid





and regional communities delivering analogous services and infrastructure with the same challenges. However, despite local government having greater levels of accountability and expectation, they do not receive the same support.

City of Darwin notes that the regional migration scheme does not support Darwin in attracting migrants to live and work. Isolated regional centres such as Darwin are competing with places such as the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Adelaide, Canberra, and Geelong for migrants willing to live and work in regional areas. These areas have stronger and cheaper connectivity (eg. air travel), greater diversity of employment, housing and education options, greater amenity and lifestyle options, are closer to other centres (often within driving distance) and do not face the same perception challenges as Darwin. City of Darwin recommends that the definition of regional centre be reviewed as a matter of urgency, particularly as this does not have the same cost impact as some other recommendations in this submission. This would also help alleviate the housing challenges in some of the previously mentioned locations.

City of Darwin welcomes the recent Federal Government increased funding commitment, and commensurate Northern Territory Government (NTG) commitment, to ensure all public schools receive 100% of the Schooling Resource Standard by 2029. However, City of Darwin notes that recent analysis indicates that there is still a shortfall in funding for non-government schools. City of Darwin encourages Federal and Territory governments along with stakeholder organisations and schools in the non-government education sector to work together to match resourcing for all education types in other states. This will assist in eliminating the perception of education as a disadvantage to living and working in the Northern Territory by providing an appropriate diversity and supply of education options for families.

Cost and responsibility alignment for community infrastructure and services

Local government faces the challenge of meeting increasing community expectation and service responsibilities against a reduction in overall revenue share in Australia. In 2023-24, Australian local governments received \$3.1 billion in Federal Government Financial Assistance Grants, which is approximately 0.5% of Federal Government taxation revenue. This ratio has declined from 1% in 1996, accelerated by the freezing of indexation in Financial Assistance Grants between 2014/15 and 2017/18. City of Darwin supports the Australian Local Government Associations' 2024/25 pre-Budget submission calling for:

- the Federal Government to restore Financial Assistance Grants to at least 1% of Federal taxation revenue; and
- provide local governments with an additional once-off payment of \$3 billion to address the practice of bringing forward Financial Assistance Grants payments.

As an alternative to the national one-off payment, consideration should be given to one-off payments for Northern Territory local governments. City of Darwin notes additional payments that have been made to the NTG in respect of roads funding and GST share in recognition of unique challenges faced in service and infrastructure delivery in the Northern Territory. City of Darwin believes that similar payments based on a similar rationale should be made to local government, either as

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additional funds, or as an apportionment of additional funds provided to the NTG. The latter would also equalise the fact that as a result of planning responsibility not sitting with local government in the Northern Territory, revenue stream is reduced, and local government is specifically prohibited by NTG Planning Regulations from seeking contributions from developers for social or green infrastructure. The onus would then be placed onto the NTG to collect appropriate revenue from development to offset their costs of infrastructure provision.

Despite this reduction, local governments continue to expand their service, including into economic development and stimulus, delivery of infrastructure and services typically undertaken by State and Territory governments, and increased regulatory functions. For example, in the Northern Territory, the NTG has a stated policy objective to transfer up to 50% of social housing to community housing providers. Currently the NTG pays rates on all social housing, however social housing providers are seeking to have those rates exempted³, effectively shifting some of the cost of social housing to local governments. If replicated across the local government sector in the Northern Territory, this would see approximately 5,200⁴ dwellings rate free, reducing local government's ability to provide services and infrastructure by approximately \$7.8 million annually (based on a conservative assumption of \$1,500 annual rates per property).

Another example of the challenge faced by Northern Territory local governments is the impact of disaster evacuations. Residents from remote communities are evacuated to Darwin and Katherine each year due to weather events and no financial support or other resources are provided to local governments to assist in managing social impacts, including increased use of community assets and services, and anti-social behaviour. Similar to this, underinvestment in remote housing, especially for First Nations Australians, can result in greater levels of homelessness and anti-social behaviour in urban communities. This impacts perception of crime, liveability, and the cost of maintaining infrastructure and providing services.

The ability of local government to manage these challenges is further complicated by the fact that Federal assistance in the various grant and funding forms are not paid directly to local government. These are allocated at the subjective discretion of the Northern Territory Grants Commission appointed by the NTG who subjectively evaluate the cost of providing services and capacity of those local governing bodies to raise their own revenue. The Commission then makes recommendations to the Minister responsible for Local Government in the Northern Territory and then ultimately the final decision is made by the relevant Federal Minister. This opens the process to being impacted by political motivations in the Northern Territory. Similarly, there are grants programs where City of Darwin and other local governments find themselves competing with the NTG or requiring NTG

³ <https://www.ntnews.com.au/news/northern-territory/venture-housing-seeks-rates-exemption-for-125-social-housing-units-at-driver-johnston/news-story/6e9c2de648299647289ed096fd1c3bc3>.

⁴ Territory Families, Housing and Communities Annual Report, Territory Families, TFHC website, accessed 15/04/2024.





approval for proposals to proceed, and again politically motivated decisions, or decisions in favour of NTG owned entities such as the Darwin Waterfront Corporation may be made.

City of Darwin is of the view that this process should be done directly with the Federal Government and not via the Northern Territory Government. The Committee should consider what mechanisms are available to implement this.

Impacts of climate change and subtropical environment

City of Darwin recognises that the potential threats of climate change and being a tropical community are at the forefront of changing climates. City of Darwin has researched this issue extensively and has prepared strategies to respond including the *Climate Emergency Strategy*, a commitment to net zero by 2030, and investment in renewable energies. If current climate change predictions are correct, the broader Darwin community will face more significant challenges to our built and natural environments. These may include:

- extreme rainfall events
- increased level and severity of bushfires
- rising sea levels
- a greater proportion of cyclones
- an increase in average daily temperature maximums
- continued loss and risk to biodiversity
- risks of contamination to the water supply through saltwater intrusion into freshwater aquifers.

A continued presence in Darwin to support its strategic roles as an administrative centre, service centre, defence installation and tourist destination is the shared view of all levels of government. However, to support a continued presence, it needs to be recognised that there will be liveability challenges arising from climate change. Continued Federal Government support of climate mitigation projects through grants and programs, such as the CSIRO participation in the Darwin Living Lab, must continue.

City of Darwin also remains concerned about the Australian Defence Force's (ADF) position that it will reduce ADF contribution to disaster response. Darwin has a relatively small base of operational local government and NTG emergency services personnel. Similarly, Darwin also has a small private contractor base who already service multiple local governments, the NTG, and public utilities. Furthermore, unlike most other major centres such as Southeast Queensland, metropolitan Sydney and Melbourne etc, readily deployable resources are not located in nearby or connected communities. In fact, the closest community of a comparable size to Darwin is Dili, the capital of Timor-Leste. The closest similar sized cities to Darwin are on the east coast of Queensland over 2,000km away and are potentially inaccessible during a significant weather event due to loss of road

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and rail access, and potentially use of Darwin International Airport. Another significant barrier to interstate support, especially from the private sector would be the cost to transfer personnel and equipment.

Local government has a vital role to play in disaster response and resilience. As the level of government closest to the community, local councils have a unique understanding of the specific needs and challenges faced by their residents, and they can respond quickly and effectively to the needs of their communities. To maximize the effectiveness of local government in disaster response, it is essential that councils have the necessary resources and support from higher levels of government, including ADF personnel and equipment, particularly where local capacity is limited.

Resilience

As a region subject to the extremes of climate activity, Darwin has evolved over time to be more resilient, however Darwin faces some unique challenges in asset and infrastructure management. Due to the climate challenges faced by Darwin, infrastructure deteriorates at a greater rate meaning that asset life is less. This places a financial burden on ratepayers. City of Darwin also has a significant group of assets that were replaced in the aftermath of Cyclone Tracy meaning that these will need replacement in a concentrated time period, rather than gradually allowing costs to be managed.

A significant vulnerability remains the overhead electricity network. City of Darwin notes that most of the power network is overhead, however the NTG has commenced a program of undergrounding power, with priority being given based on risk and potential impacts. City of Darwin supports the NTG in this program and any requests for funding from the Federal Government.

Within the National Land Transport Network, there are several highways vulnerable to flooding including the Stuart, Victoria and Barkly Highways in the Northern Territory, the Bruce Highway in Queensland and roads in Western Australia. Rail corridors can also be cut insignificant weather events. This results in restricted movement of people, groceries, essentials and freight as a result of weather, impacting health and quality of life in regional communities. Given the expense and responsibilities for these corridors, significant Federal Government investment is needed to complete the flood proofing of these networks, especially upgrading culverts, causeways and bridges.

City of Darwin is committed to being a clean and environmentally responsible city and providing a sustainable waste management and resource recovery facility for Greater Darwin. The Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility (Shoal Bay) is the region's largest waste and resource recovery facility, which accepts around 200,000 tonnes of waste and recyclable material per year. Shoal Bay operates under an environmental protection licence and is the only Top End facility licenced to collect putrescible waste, consisting mainly of general household and business waste that contains organic matter. The licence also permits the receiving, processing and storage of commercial volumes of tyres, garden organics, inert waste (consisting primarily of construction and building waste) and asbestos.

This facility operates on a lease from the Department of Defence currently in place until 2034, with no long-term security of tenure over the land. City of Darwin staff continue to engage with the

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Department of Defence to extend lease terms.. This will ensure that City of Darwin is able to fulfil the cost modelling by maximizing the life of the facility, as well as meet its remediation obligations for existing and future waste cells.

There is an estimated 27 years of future life at Shoal Bay where additional best practice engineered landfill cells are designed and constructed to meet the future needs of community, while ensuring human health and environmental protection. Since 2016 more than \$40 million has been spent on capital upgrades at Shoal Bay to ensure a long term sustainable future for the facility including the construction of a leachate treatment plant (treating liquid waste generated in landfill), construction of covered storage ponds, gas collection systems, landfill capping and the construction of new cells. Fees and charges at Shoal Bay are calculated to cover the operational running costs and significant capital upgrades required for environmental compliance, recycling and ensuring the long term capacity at Shoal Bay. While tackling legacy issues and securing a long term sustainability for waste management for the Top End, Shoal Bay's fees and charges remain similar to, and in many cases less than, comparable interstate facilities. City of Darwin provide this context for the Committee's information and also to respond to inaccurate and misleading criticism received from time to time about its management of the facility.

In the event of an emergency, such as a cyclone, there is an increase in waste generation across all waste categories that are received at Shoal Bay. The NTG Draft Emergency Waste Management Plan estimates that a Category 5 cyclone for Greater Darwin would generate 14 times the average annual waste within the Top End region. Shoal Bay is not designed as an emergency waste management facility and in the event of an emergency would support the resilience of the Greater Darwin area through prioritising the receiving and effective storage of putrescible waste to protect human health and the environment.

The impacts received at Shoal Bay as a result of Cyclone Marcus in 2018 led to a series of events that put the long term sustainability of Shoal Bay at significant risk. During Marcus, Shoal Bay was greatly exposed to Greater Darwin's emergency waste liability, where the putrescible waste landfill cells were rapidly filled with materials best managed at emergency sites and diverted from landfill. The multimillion dollar environmental and financial impacts of Cyclone Marcus at Shoal Bay are still experienced today through the monitoring and management of subsurface landfill hotspots fuelled from legacy combusting mahogany trees that were brought in as emergency waste. Coordinated emergency waste management is a significant area of opportunity to strengthen the resilience of the Greater Darwin area.

Noting these challenges, City of Darwin is concerned with recent feedback received from the NTG in relation to the application of Disaster Funding Recovery Arrangements (DRFA) guidelines, including indications that subjective assessments of local government will be factored into NTG's reimbursement of local government during a disaster event. This would place an unreasonable and unfair burden on City of Darwin ratepayers who already subsidise Shoal Bay from general revenue, in addition to waste charges. City of Darwin request that the Committee consider removing the ability for State and Territory governments to apply discretion in the provision of DRFA support, with a mechanism for funds to be paid directly to affected local governments developed. This removes the administrative burden and politically motivated decision making.

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There are many other opportunities in building further resilience into waste management and materials recovery systems for the Northern Territory which City of Darwin is keen to partner with Federal Government. The City of Darwin Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 outlines further actions for implementation at Shoal Bay to increase waste diversion from landfill and increase recycling to support the Northern Territory's transition to a Circular Economy. Current focus areas here include the expansion of the landfill gas to energy plant, the processing of tyres for reuse, developing a composting facility and additional pre-sorting and processing of building waste.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission. City of Darwin would appreciate the opportunity to further participate including further submissions and committee appearances as appropriate. City of Darwin reiterates its request that public hearings with the full Committee be held in Darwin and looks forward to the opportunity to participate.

Yours sincerely

Simone Saunders

Chief Executive Officer

30 April 2024

Sent via email

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14.4 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION OUTCOME - WALKWAY 190 - KOOLAMA COURT TO KOOJARA COURT KARAMA

Author: Executive Manager Community and Cultural Services
Senior Coordinator Community Inclusion

Authoriser: General Manager Community

Attachments: 1. Letter to Residents [↓](#)
2. Resident Feedback on Walkway 190 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Community Consultation Outcome - Walkway 190 – Koolama Court to Koojara Court Karama be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve to undertake a night time closure of Walkway 190 - Koolama Court to Koojara Court Karama from approximately 9:30pm to 5:30am, seven days per week.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the outcomes of the community consultation undertaken during March 2024 on Walkway 190. Consultation was undertaken in response to a community petition seeking the night time closure of Walkway 190. This report seeks Council's endorsement for a night time closure of Walkway 190.

KEY ISSUES

- In February 2024, Council received a petition signed by 29 Karama residents requesting a night time closure of Walkway 190.
- Residents report ongoing antisocial behaviour and criminal activity in and around the walkway which negatively impacts on the community.
- In March 2024, Officers undertook community consultation which provided an opportunity for feedback on the future management of Walkway 190.
- During the consultation 6 written responses were received, with all respondents in support of Council undertaking a nighttime closure of Walkway 190.

DISCUSSION**Council Managed Walkways**

City of Darwin manages 245 walkways across the municipality. This includes 22 walkways which are closed on an ongoing 24/7 basis, and 19 which are closed each night and reopened for access during the day.

Council-owned walkways are an integral part of Darwin's pedestrian network. Many provide critical connectivity between residential areas and community facilities such as schools, shopping centres and public transport. Suburban walkways were originally designed to provide the shortest, most convenient pedestrian access within the suburbs, as opposed to pedestrians following the road network.

Council's management of walkways must balance the requirement of maintaining an accessible pedestrian network with sustainable asset management and protection, while considering public safety and community amenity.

As any closure will affect pedestrian access and neighbourhood amenity, several factors are considered to ensure there is sufficient evidence to recommend a closure. Without substantive evidence, Council will work closely with residents, relevant authorities, and stakeholders to address public safety issues rather than closing walkways.

Consideration of Closures

Factors considered prior to the ongoing, temporary, or night-time closure of a walkway include:

- value of the walkway connecting pedestrians to essential community infrastructure
- future suburban planning or growth of suburbs
- recognition that closing one walkway often shifts 'problem' behaviour to the next closest walkway or another part of the suburb and that these areas may see an escalation of issues
- the potential impact night-time closure may have on residents whose properties directly adjoin the walkways (especially relevant if residents' adjoining fences are shorter than the height of the installed walkway gates), and the increased risk of people accessing private property to circumvent a walkway closure.

Antisocial Behaviour and Walkways

The presence of walkways in a neighbourhood does not automatically assume or create antisocial behaviour in walkways. Antisocial behaviour is changeable and related to a range of community factors such as:

- neighbourhood composition
- the proximity of community amenities
- seasonal factors.

Night-time walkway closures are supported if there is evidence of sustained and significant negative impact to residents. Closure is considered when large numbers of community complaints are received, or proactive petitions are presented supporting closure of a particular walkway.

Relevant Information Related to Walkway 190

Walkway 190 provides access for local residents to McMillans road, this includes important access to public transport such as bus stops, it also allows access on to adjoining residential areas. Other walkways in the vicinity have been closed over recent years, some on a night time basis and others 24/7.

Should Council support a night time closure security providers are given a window or range of times to undertake this.

<p>Consultation Outcomes</p> <p>On 27 February 2024, Council received a petition from 29 residents seeking a night time closure of Walkway 190.</p> <p>On 18 March 2024, residents received a letter outlining the community consultation process.</p> <p>During the consultation period, approximately 50 letters were delivered in the immediate area, inviting residents to comment on potential community impact of a night-time closure of the walkway.</p> <p>Feedback on the proposed night-time closure during the consultation was provided by 6 residents, with all supporting the night-time closure, provided at Attachment 2. Reasons cited for support of a night-time closure include antisocial and criminal behaviour, reduced community safety and the requirement for increased personal and residential security.</p> <p>Several residents were clear that the walkway should remain open during day time to allow for access to shopping area and other amenities.</p>	
<p>PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION</p> <p>At the 27 February 2024 meeting Council resolved:</p> <p>RESOLUTION ORD 068/24</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT the Petition, requesting the night time closure of Walkway 190, Koolama Court to Koojarra Court, Karama be received and noted. 2. THAT, in accordance with By-law 12, the Petition requesting the night time closure of Walkway 190, Koolama Court to Koojarra Court, Karama be referred to the Community Hub for consideration and a report to return to Council. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 10/0</p>	
STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	<p>2 A Safe, Liveable and Healthy City</p> <p>2.1 By 2030, Darwin will be a safer place to live and visit</p>
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	<p>Funding:</p> <p>Installation of gates and security costs would be funded through existing operational budget.</p> <p>The cost for the construction and installation of hard mesh gates on Walkway 190 is estimated at \$5,850, there will be additional costs associated with the removal of traffic calming bollards that are already within the walkway that may need to be removed.</p> <p>The ongoing security costs for night-time closure of a walkway is approximately \$2,700 per annum.</p>
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	<p>Legislation:</p> <p><i>Local Government Act 2019</i> (Section 270) and the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> (Section 64).</p> <p>Policy:</p> <p>Walkway Closure Assessment Procedure</p>

<p>CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION</p>	<p>Engagement Level: Consult</p> <p>Community consultation in response to complaints, included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage placed either end of Walkway 190. • Letterbox drop undertaken to approximately 50 properties in the immediate area. • Direct engagement with residents via emails.
<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</p>	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>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).</p>



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E darwin@darwin.nt.gov.au

15 March 2024

Dear Resident

Re: Community consultation – Walkway 190 (Koolama Crt to Koojara Crt Karama)

City of Darwin has received a community petition requesting the night-time closure of **Walkway 190**.

Understanding how people use the walkways near them helps us to determine any potential impacts of a night-time closure.

We are requesting your feedback on the proposed night-time closure. Feedback will be included in a consultation report to be presented to Council so that they can make a decision on the ongoing management of Walkway 190.

All feedback is confidential and individuals will not be identified in the consultation report.

Feedback can be provided by close of business Friday, 5 April 2024 via email to safercity@darwin.nt.gov.au or by phone on 8930 0300.

Yours sincerely

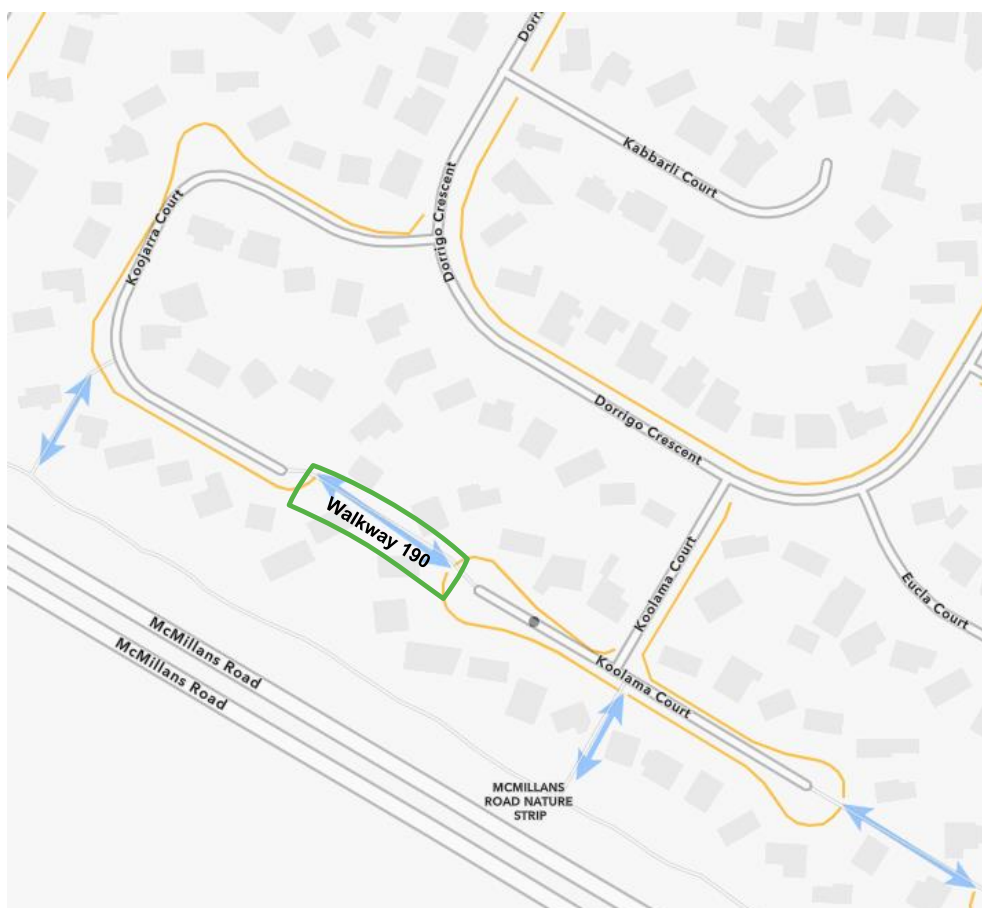
MATT GRASSMAYR
GENERAL MANAGER
COMMUNITY & REGULATORY SERVICES

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Location of Walkway



Date	Location of residence	Via	Support Nighttime Closure	Comments	Signed Petition
25-Mar-24	Koolama Crt Karama	Email	Yes	Security concerns. Note she walks early in the morning which would be impacted by closure.	X
26-Mar-24	Koolama Crt Karama	Email	Yes	Anti-social behaviour. Walkway provides getaway point from break ins and criminal behaviour.	X
28-Mar-24	Koojarra Crt Karama	Email	Yes	Uses walkways during the day to access shops and bike path, needs to remain open during the day.	
29-Mar-24	Koojarra Crt Karama	Email	Yes	Long-time resident. Wanted to acknowledge anti-social behaviour around walkway and other walkways.	
31-Mar-24	Koolama Crt Karama	Email	Yes	Closure is a positive move to ensure the safety of residents in the Koolama court area.	X
31-Mar-24	Koojarra Crt Karama	Email	Yes	Supportive of nighttime closure, not of permanent closure as uses the walkway to access shops and takes children for walks and ride bikes.	X

15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS**15.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - MARCH 2024**

Author: Financial Controller
Executive Manager Finance

Authoriser: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Monthly Financial Report - March 2024 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Monthly Financial Report – March 2024 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 31 March 2024.

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.
- Investments, which provides details of treasury activities, investments as at end of month.
- Rates and Receivables Report which provides a summary of outstanding rates and debtors.
- 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**March 2024 – Year to Date Result**

The year-to-date operating result until 31 March 2024 is a **deficit of (\$5.1M)** compared to a **YTD Budgeted deficit of (\$13.2M)** as highlighted in the table below.

After including capital income, the **Net Surplus is \$5.8M** against the YTD budgeted **deficit of (\$4.5M)**. This has resulted in a favourable **\$10.3M** variance overall (as shown in the income statement).

	Actual \$'000	Budget \$'000	Variance \$'000
Net Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	(5,076)	(13,205)	8,129 Favourable

Commentary

The Net Operating Position has a favourable variance to the year-to-date revised budget of \$8.1M. The variance results from higher-than-expected interest on investments, lower than budgeted materials and contracts, employee costs, and interest expense, offset by lower than anticipated fees and charges. Please find below additional commentary for the material variances:

Income

Total Operating Income is tracking on budget.

User Fees & Charges

The unfavourable variance is \$2.0M. This is almost exclusively due to Waste Fees & Charges being under YTD expectations as the volume of material received through Shoal Bay is lower than anticipated. This reduction in revenue is offset by a decrease in waste related expenditure.

Interest / Investment Income

The favourable variance mainly relates to the increase in returns received on investments due to the high Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) cash rate.

Expenditure

Total Expenses are under budget by \$7.9M. This is due to underspends in Materials & Contracts \$6.1M, Employee Expenses of \$2.2M, and interest on borrowings \$1.0M.

Materials & Contracts

Materials and Contracts expenses has an annual budget of \$61.9M and this incorporates various expenditure types. Combined, this budget line is under budget with a variance of \$6.1M. \$2.5M of this variance relates to Waste Management and the operation of Shoal Bay. This saving is partially offset by a reduction in fees and charges for Shoal Bay. Other variances relate maintenance programs and events. These are timing variances, and the budget is expected to be consumed as we enter the dry season.

Employee Expenses

Employee costs report a positive variance to budget of \$2.1M. This variance is offset in part by increases in contract and other labour sources and the variance will further reduce when leave provisioning is adjusted at year end.

Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciation is over budget by \$1.4M, this is a non-cash expense and will be considered at a future budget review.

Interest Expenses

Interest expenses show a positive variance (\$0.97M) due to loan offsets been utilised against the variable loans and timing of the draw down for loan SBWMF Stage 2 Expansion, Phase 1.

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 operating statement commentary. Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment variance relates to timing of capital projects.

Cash and Investments Note A

City of Darwin has achieved 4.94% on weighted average interest rate on its end of month cash and investment portfolio of \$92.0M (excluding loan offset \$37.5M). 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 19 March 2024 and the board decided to leave the cash rate unchanged at 4.35%. The RBA commented "Higher interest rates are working to establish a more sustainable balance between aggregate demand and supply in the economy. Accordingly, conditions in the labour market continue to ease gradually, although they remain tighter than is consistent with sustained full employment and inflation at target. Wages growth picked up a little further in the December quarter, but appears to have peaked with indications it will moderate over the year ahead. Nevertheless, this level of wages growth remains consistent with the inflation target only on the assumption that productivity growth increases to around its long-run average. Inflation is still weighing on people's real incomes and household consumption growth is weak, as is dwelling investment... The Board will continue to pay close attention to developments in the global economy, trends in domestic demand, and the outlook for inflation and the labour market. The Board remains resolute in its determination to return inflation to target."

Accounts Receivable (Trade Debtors) Note B

This section considers the receipt timing of Rates collection and any general Debtors outstanding. The report also includes information on aged debtors including general debtors, infringements, and Rates arrears.

Accounts Payable (Trade Creditors) Note C

Accounts Payable owing at end of month was \$2.9M at the time of reporting. City of Darwin recognises the liability of invoices once goods are receipted as received.

Other notes to the financial reports

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

Our internal accounting conventions for monthly reporting currently recognise the Council Rates that are attributable to that month and then progressively throughout the year.

Please note that these reports are unaudited management financial reports. Information contained in the reports was 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.

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 March 2024.

Exempt Procurement

There was no reportable exempt procurement for March 2024.

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.

S. Saunders

CEO Signed

24/04/2024

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	<p>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:</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(b) the most recently adopted annual budget; and</p> <p>(c) details of any material variances between the most recent actual income and expenditure of the council and the most recently adopted annual budget.</p> <p>Regulation 17(5) Part 2 Division 7 the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 require that the monthly report must be accompanied by:</p> <p>(a) a certification, in writing, by the CEO to the council that, to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief:</p> <p>(i) the internal controls implemented by the council are appropriate; and</p> <p>(ii) the council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of the council; or</p> <p>(b) if the CEO cannot provide the certification – written reasons for not providing the certification.</p> <p>The report is compliant with the requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> and <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>.</p>
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	N/A
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>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).</p>

Income Statement For the Period Ended 31 March 2024	2023/24						
	March 2024					FY	FY
	YTD Actual		YTD Revised Budget		Variance	Revised Budget	Original Budget
	\$'000		\$'000		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<u>Operating Income</u>							
Rates	63,762	70%	63,393	69%	369	84,524	84,524
Charges	2,490	3%	2,028	2%	461	2,333	2,338
Fees and Charges	18,605	20%	20,610	23%	(2,005)	27,075	29,532
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,998	2%	2,166	2%	(168)	2,140	6,116
Interest / Investment Income	3,768	4%	2,328	3%	1,440	3,104	3,104
Other Income	995	1%	889	1%	107	2,151	2,151
Total Income	91,618		91,414		204	121,327	127,765
<u>Operating Expenses</u>							
Employee Expenses	27,931	29%	30,100	29%	2,170	40,014	40,560
Materials and Contracts	41,717	43%	47,862	46%	6,145	61,891	61,477
Elected Member Allowances	485	1%	521	0%	36	795	795
Elected Member Expenses	0	0%	28	0%	28	44	64
Council Committee & LA Allowances	5	0%	7	0%	3	10	10
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	25,740	27%	24,318	23%	(1,421)	32,425	32,425
Interest Expenses	817	1%	1,783	2%	966	3,448	3,948
Total Expenses	96,694		104,620		7,925	138,627	139,279
Budgeted Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	(5,076)		(13,205)		8,129	(17,300)	(11,514)
Capital Grants Income	10,835		8,691		2,145	11,350	952
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	5,760		(4,515)		10,274	(5,950)	(10,562)

Statement of Fund Flows Monthly Operating Position For the Period Ended 31 March 2024	2023/24				
	March 2024			FY	FY
	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Revised Budget \$'000	Variance \$'000	Revised Budget \$'000	Original Budget \$'000
<u>Funds From Operating Activities</u>					
Net Operating Result from Income Statement	(5,076)	(13,205)	8,129	(17,300)	(11,514)
Add back depreciation (not cash)	25,740	24,318	1,421	32,425	32,425
Add back Other Non Cash Items	0	0	0	1,029	904
Net Funds Provided (or used in) Operating Activities	20,664	11,113	9,551	16,154	21,815
<u>Less Additional Outflows</u>					
Repayment of borrowings & advances	(3,685)	(3,685)	0	(5,260)	(5,614)
Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	(26,707)	(44,312)	17,605	(55,493)	(19,020)
Total Additional Outflows	(30,392)	(47,997)	17,605	(60,753)	(24,634)
<u>Add Additional Inflows</u>					
Add Capital Grants	10,835	8,691	2,145	11,350	952
Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	80	377	(297)	500	500
Proceeds from borrowings & advances	0	6,000	(6,000)	6,000	0
Transfers from Reserves	16,833	21,817	(4,984)	25,690	1,367
Transfer from Unrestricted Cash				1,060	
Total Additional Inflows	27,748	36,884	(9,136)	44,600	2,819
Net Increase (-Decrease) in Funds	18,019	0	18,019	(0)	0

Statement of Financial Position
as at 31 March 2024

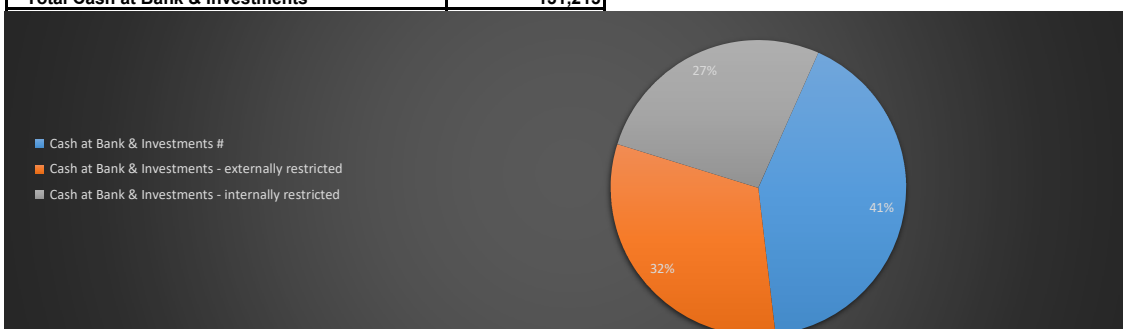
Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2024	2023/24			
	March 2024	Note	FY	FY
	Actual \$'000		Revised Budget \$'000	Original Budget \$'000
Current Assets				
Cash at Bank & Investments	54,419	A	17,751	18,811
Cash at Bank & Investments - externally restricted	41,517	A	39,326	39,080
Cash at Bank & Investments - internally restricted	35,276	A	28,498	39,172
Trade & Other Receivables	3,911	B	11,759	11,759
Rates & Charges Receivables	14,312	B	0	0
Inventories	257		300	300
Total Current Assets	149,692		97,634	109,122
Non-Current Assets				
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	1,249,881		1,276,724	1,267,733
Lease Right of Use Assets	3,170		0	0
Total Non Current Assets	1,253,050		1,276,724	1,267,733
Total Assets	1,402,743		1,374,358	1,376,855
Current Liabilities				
Trade Payables & Other Payables	2,827	C	18,286	18,286
Accruals	7,289		0	0
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	99	D	0	0
Rates Revenue struck (in advance)	21,188		0	0
Borrowings	2,250		5,451	5,451
Provisions	7,087		7,689	7,689
Lease Liabilities	922		888	888
Total Current Liabilities	41,662		32,314	32,314
Non-Current Liabilities				
Trade & Other Payables	12		0	0
Borrowings	56,966		62,314	55,960
Provisions	54,401		52,738	52,738
Lease Liabilities	2,411		1,254	1,254
Total Non Current Liabilities	113,790		116,306	109,952
Total Liabilities	155,452		148,620	142,266
NET ASSETS	1,247,290		1,225,738	1,234,589
Equity				
Accumulated Surplus	308,368		295,786	294,209
Asset Revaluation Reserve	862,128		862,128	862,128
Other Reserves	76,793		67,824	78,252
TOTAL EQUITY	1,247,290		1,225,738	1,234,589

Monthly Balance Sheet Report (Notes to the Balance Sheet) as at 31 March 2024

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 3.4% on weighted average interest rate on its March 2024 cash and investment portfolio of \$129.6M (including \$37.5M 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 #	54,419
Cash at Bank & Investments - externally restricted	41,517
Cash at Bank & Investments - internally restricted	35,276
Total Cash at Bank & Investments	131,213



Cash at Bank & Investments includes Cash on Call of \$37.5M

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 *
Rates & Charges Debtors	\$ 11,234,072	\$0	\$0	\$3,077,602	\$14,311,674
Other Trade Receivables and Other Receivables	\$ 1,692,407	\$1,475,186	\$292,668	\$450,637	\$3,910,898
Total Trade and Other Receivables	\$ 12,926,478	\$1,475,186	\$292,668	\$3,528,239	\$18,222,571

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	-\$2,794,336	-\$18,378	-\$7,110	-\$7,482	-\$2,827,306
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	-\$98,676	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$98,676
Total Trade and Other Payables	-\$2,893,012	-\$18,378	-\$7,110	-\$7,482	-\$2,925,982

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

The Council has the following outstanding payment and reporting obligations: GST Refund of \$157,722 and PAYG withholding tax obligation of \$256,398 for the month of March 2024.

* 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 31 March 2024

Cardholder Name: CEO

Transaction Date	Amount \$	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
21-Mar-24	20.00	PAYSTAY SOUTH WHARF	Parking
05-Mar-24	20.00	PAYSTAY SOUTH WHARF	Parking
Total	40.00		

Cardholder Name: Lord Mayor

Transaction Date	Amount \$	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
25-Mar-24	20.00	PAYSTAY SOUTH WHARF	Parking
18-Mar-24	20.00	PAYSTAY SOUTH WHARF	Parking
13-Mar-24	20.00	PAYSTAY SOUTH WHARF	Parking
Total	60.00		

**INVESTMENTS REPORT TO COUNCIL
AS AT
31 March 2024**

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 March 2024

Term to Maturity Category	% of Total Portfolio	Term to Maturity (Policy Max.)	Term to Maturity (Policy Min.)
Less than 1 Year			
Term Deposits	48%		
Business Online Saver Accounts	8%		
Floating Rate Notes	1%		
General Surplus on Variable Loans	30%		
Bonds	2%		
Less than 1 Year Total	89%	100%	30%
Greater than 1 Year less than 3 Years			
Term Deposits	3%		
Business Online Saver Accounts	0%		
Floating Rate Notes	6%		
Bonds	1%		
Greater than 1 Year less than 3 Years Total	10%	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 Total	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 March 2024

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	30%	50%
	National Australia Bank Ltd	National Australia Bank Ltd	25%	50%
	Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	27%	50%
	Northern Territory Treasury Corporation	Northern Territory Treasury Corporation	2%	50%
A+	Macquarie Bank	Macquarie Bank	1%	30%
	Suncorp Metway Limited	Suncorp Bank	6%	30%
BBB+	Bank of Queensland Ltd	Bank of Queensland Ltd	3%	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%
	Bank Australia Limited	Bank Australia Limited	2%	10%
Grand Total			100%	
Credit Rating - Maximum Portfolio Limit			% of Total	Policy Limit
AAA to AA-			84%	100%
A+ to A-			7%	45%
BBB+ to BBB			9%	30%
BBB-			0%	0%
Total			100%	

**INVESTMENT AND CASH AT CALL/OFFSET REPORT TO COUNCIL
AS AT
31 March 2024**

31 March 2024											
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	29 March 2024	5.42%	AA-	A1+	FRN	31 March 2028	\$500,000	0.40%	
		ANZ Banking Group Ltd Total							\$500,000	0.40%	
		Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd		30 April 2024	4.69%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,071,360	2.49%
				21 May 2024	5.41%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,122,364	2.53%
				13 August 2024	5.09%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				18 June 2024	5.06%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				12 November 2024	5.43%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.43%
				12 April 2024	5.25%	AA-	A1+	FRN	13 January 2026	\$2,000,000	1.62%
				19 May 2024	5.18%	AA-	A1+	FRN	18 August 2025	\$1,000,000	0.81%
				18 August 2024	4.24%	AA-	A1+	BOND	18 August 2025	\$1,000,000	0.81%
				31 March 2024	4.35%	AA-	A1+	BOS		\$9,411,069	7.62%
		Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd Total								\$26,604,793	21.54%
		National Australia Bank Ltd		30 April 2024	4.54%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$1,518,333	1.23%
				25 June 2024	5.34%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				25 June 2024	5.50%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,142,715	2.74%
				13 August 2024	5.10%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$5,000,000	4.05%
				17 September 2024	5.15%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				17 September 2024	5.22%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.43%
		National Australia Bank Ltd Total								\$16,661,048	13.68%
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd		3 December 2024	1.62%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				23 April 2024	4.85%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				11 June 2024	5.03%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				10 September 2024	5.20%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%
				22 October 2024	5.19%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.43%
				24 September 2024	5.15%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$2,087,445	1.69%
				12 November 2024	5.42%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.43%
				24 April 2024	5.49%	AA-	A1+	FRN	24 April 2024	\$1,000,000	0.81%
				28 January 2025	5.11%	AA-	A1+	TD		\$3,000,000	2.43%
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd Total								\$20,087,445	16.26%
		Northern Territory Treasury Corporation (NTTC)		15 December 2024	1.30%	AA-	A1+	BOND		\$2,000,000	1.62%
		Northern Territory Treasury Corporation (NTTC) Total								\$2,000,000	1.62%
	MAJOR BANK Total									\$65,853,286	53.50%
	OTHER	Bank of Queensland Ltd	10 December 2024	5.15%	BBB+	A2	TD		\$4,000,000	3.24%	
		Bank of Queensland Ltd Total							\$4,000,000	3.24%	
		Macquarie Bank	13 May 2024	5.26%	A+	A1	FRN	12 February 2025	\$1,000,000	0.97%	
		Macquarie Bank Total							\$1,000,000	0.97%	
		Suncorp Bank	9 April 2024	5.52%	A+	A1	TD		\$1,562,827	1.27%	
			19 November 2024	4.57%	A+	A1	TD		\$2,000,000	1.62%	
			19 November 2024	5.49%	A+	A1	TD		\$3,000,000	2.43%	
			17 April 2024	5.23%	A+	A1	FRN	17 October 2025	\$1,000,000	0.81%	
		Suncorp Bank Total							\$7,562,827	6.12%	
		Bank Australia Limited	27 May 2024	5.98%	BBB	A-2	FRN	24 November 2025	\$2,000,000	1.62%	
		Bank Australia Limited Total							\$2,000,000	1.62%	
		Members Banking Group Limited t/as RACQ Bank	24 May 2024	5.84%	BBB+	A2	FRN	24 February 2026	\$1,600,000	1.30%	
		Members Banking Group Limited t/as RACQ Bank Total							\$1,600,000	1.30%	
		Great Southern Bank	8 April 2025	5.20%	BBB	A2	TD		\$4,000,000	3.24%	
		Great Southern Bank Total							\$4,000,000	3.24%	
	OTHER Total								\$20,162,827	16.48%	
INVESTMENT Total									\$86,016,114	69.99%	
VARIABLE LOAN SURPLUS	MAJOR BANK	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	31 March 2024	0.00%	AA-	A1+	General Surplus - I		\$10,000,000	8.09%	
		Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd Total							\$10,000,000	8.09%	
		National Australia Bank Ltd	31 March 2024	0.00%	AA-	A1+	General Surplus - I		\$14,750,000	11.94%	
		National Australia Bank Ltd Total							\$14,750,000	11.94%	
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	31 March 2024	0.00%	AA-	A1+	General Surplus - I		\$12,771,705	10.34%	
		Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd Total							\$12,771,705	10.34%	
MAJOR BANK Total								\$37,521,705	30.37%		
VARIABLE LOAN SURPLUS Total									\$37,521,705	30.37%	
Grand Total									\$123,537,819	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	\$5,781,793
NAB General Bank Funds	\$134,667
WBC General Bank Funds	\$113,921
Total Funds	\$129,568,200
Less Variable Loans Offset (Cash on Call)	-\$37,521,705
Total Investment & Cash (less offset)	\$92,046,495
Total Budgeted Investment Earnings	\$2,464,000
Year to Date Investment Earnings	\$1,417,243
Weighted Ave Rate	3.44%
Weighted Ave Rate (excluding Cash on Call)	4.94%
BBSW 90 Day Rate	4.34%
Bloomberg AusBond (Bank Bill Index)	

Trust Bank Account	\$456,989
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Capital Expenditure For The Period Ended 31 March 2024	2023/24			
	YTD Actuals	YTD Revised Budget	YTD Variance	FY Revised Budget Current Financial Year Budget
	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY ASSET CLASS:				
Capital Work In Progress				
Land - Under Roads	0	0	0	0
Land and Buildings:				
Land and Improvements	0	0	0	0
Buildings	16,324,892	15,148,669	(1,176,223)	19,382,732
Infrastructure:				
Stormwater Drainage	1,928,133	2,231,750	303,617	2,669,253
Transport	4,717,699	6,104,136	1,386,437	7,108,395
Pathways	417,542	1,301,932	884,390	1,724,435
Public Lighting	403,685	1,220,137	816,452	2,523,702
Waste Management Infrastructure	1,046,276	7,436,545	6,390,269	7,506,548
Waste Remediation	0	0	0	0
Right Of Use Assets (Leases):				
Leased Land and Buildings	0	0	0	0
Other Leased Assets	0	0	0	0
Plant & Equipment, including Fleet	708,464	6,830,169	6,121,705	9,274,019
Parks & Reserves Infrastructure	1,154,578	4,041,137	2,886,559	5,248,631
Other Assets	5,600	(2,301)	(7,901)	55,784
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	26,706,869	44,312,174	17,605,305	55,493,499
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY*:				
Operating Income	7,528,893	13,833,438	6,304,545	17,431,338
Capital Grants	7,416,939	6,449,113	(967,826)	11,351,162
Transfer from Reserves	1,607,324	8,832,186	7,224,862	11,513,562
Borrowings	10,153,713	15,197,437	5,043,724	15,197,437
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	26,706,869	44,312,174	17,605,305	55,493,499

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

**Report on Planned Major Capital Works
For The Period Ended 31 March 2024**

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	Casuarina Aquatic & Leisure Centre	9,254,074	15,688,467	24,942,541	27,233,111	2,290,571	31/08/2024
Waste Management Infrastructure	Shoal Bay - Stage 2 Expansion	23,796	107,099	130,895	12,000,000	11,869,105	31/10/2024
Waste Management Infrastructure	Leachate Irrigation System - Shoal Bay (CF)	15,788,400	288,784	16,077,184	16,142,591	65,407	30/06/2023
Waste Management Infrastructure	SBWMF - Stage 3 & 4 Final Cap Design & Construction (CF)	14,970,430	251,941	15,222,370	15,268,962	46,592	30/09/2023
Waste Management Infrastructure	Shoal Bay - Leachate Ponds	7,362,783	466,198	7,828,981	7,828,980	(1)	30/09/2023
TOTAL		47,399,482	16,802,489	64,201,971	78,473,644	14,271,673	

15.2 COMMITTEE MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Author: Supervisor Councillor Governance

Authoriser: Manager Office of Council and CEO

Attachments:

1. Youth Advisory Committee Unconfirmed Minutes 14 March 2024 [↓](#)
2. Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee Unconfirmed Minutes 25 March 2024 [↓](#)
3. International Relations Advisory Committee Unconfirmed Minutes 27 March 2024 [↓](#)
4. Sister City Advisory Committee Unconfirmed Minutes 27 March 2024 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Committee Meeting Open Minutes be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the open minutes of the committee meetings in March 2024 to Council.

KEY ISSUES

- The Youth Advisory Committee unconfirmed open minutes of 14 March 2024 are presented at **Attachment 1**.
- The Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee unconfirmed open minutes of 25 March 2024 are presented at **Attachment 2**.
- The International Relations Advisory Committee unconfirmed open minutes of 27 March 2024 are presented at **Attachment 3**.
- The Sister City Advisory Committee unconfirmed open minutes of 27 March 2024 are presented at **Attachment 4**.

DISCUSSION

This report provides the minutes for the following committees:

- Youth Advisory Committee
- Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee
- International Relations Advisory Committee
- Sister City Advisory Committee

Any recommendations that arise from the committee meetings will be presented to Council in a separate report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

At the 26 March 2024 meeting Council resolved:

RESOLUTION ORD051/24

THAT the report entitled Committee Meeting Open Minutes be received and noted.

CARRIED 9/0

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	6 Governance Framework 6.1 Vision and Culture
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Legislation: <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> Policy: Policy 043 Meetings Policy 093 Advisory and Other Committees
CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	Nil
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>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).</p>



MINUTES

**Youth Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, 14 March 2024**

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM , GUYUGWA ROOM, CASUARINA LIBRARY, BRADSHAW
TERRACE, CASUARINA
ON THURSDAY, 14 MARCH 2024 AT 5:30 PM**

PRESENT:

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Member Anais Henry-Martin
Member Lucy Tinapple

OFFICERS:

Danielle Cameron (Youth Engagement Officer)
Lisa Burnett (Youth Programs Coordinator)

APOLOGY:

Member Jules Gabor
Member Vivek Wilson

GUESTS:

Observer – Luke Mead
Observer – Terence Talbot

Order Of Business

1	Meeting Declared Open	4
2	Acknowledgement of Country	4
3	Apologies & Leave Of Absence	4
4	Electronic Attendance	4
5	Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff	4
6	Confirmation of Previous Minutes	4
7	Actions Arising from Previous Minutes	5
8	Presentations	5
9	Officer Reports.....	5
9.1	Casuarina Youth and Community Hub Consultation.....	5
9.2	Endorsement of New Members	5
9.3	Youth Advisory Committee Orientation.....	5
9.4	Terms of Reference Review	6
9.5	2024 Professional Development Opportunities.....	6
9.6	Youth Engagement Officer Update.....	6
10	Member Reports	6
11	General Business.....	6
	Nil	
12	Next Meeting	6

1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:50 pm, noting Lucy Tinapple was chair.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**3.1 Apologies**

Member Jules Gabor

Member Vivek Wilson

3.2 Leave of Absence

Nil

3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members**

Nil

5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION YAC001/24**

Moved: Member Anais Henry-Martin

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

That the minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee Meeting held on 9 November 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED 3/0

7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS**9.1 CASUARINA YOUTH AND COMMUNITY HUB CONSULTATION****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the report entitled Casuarina Youth and Community Hub Consultation be received and noted.

Item 9.1 – Casuarina Youth and Community Hub Consultation was not considered and will be tabled at the next Youth Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 9 May 2024.

9.2 ENDORSEMENT OF NEW MEMBERS**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. THAT the report entitled Endorsement of New Members be received and noted.
2. THAT the Youth Advisory recommend to Council two new members be appointed to the Youth Advisory Committee for a two-year term.

Item 9.2 – Endorsement of New Members was not considered and will be tabled at the next Youth Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 9 May 2024.

9.3 YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORIENTATION**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION YAC002/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Member Lucy Tinapple

THAT the report entitled Youth Advisory Committee Orientation be received and noted.

CARRIED 3/0

9.4 TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION YAC003/24**

Moved: Member Anais Henry-Martin

Seconded: Member Lucy Tinapple

1. THAT the report entitled Terms of Reference Review be received and noted.
2. THAT the amended Terms of Reference – Function and Membership sections be endorsed at the next meeting.

CARRIED 3/0**9.5 2024 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION YAC004/24**

Moved: Member Lucy Tinapple

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the report entitled 2024 Professional Development Opportunities be received and noted.

CARRIED 3/0**9.6 YOUTH ENGAGEMENT OFFICER UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION YAC005/24**

Moved: Member Anais Henry-Martin

Seconded: Member Lucy Tinapple

THAT the report entitled Youth Engagement Officer Update be received and noted.

CARRIED 3/0**10 MEMBER REPORTS**

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris informed the committee that an invitation would be extended to the opening of the Casuarina Aquatics and Leisure Centre.

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

12 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 9 May, 5:30pm-7:00pm.

Meeting closed at 7:09pm.



MINUTES

Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee Meeting Monday, 25 March 2024

Date: Monday, 25 March 2024

Time: 11:00am

**Location: Meeting Room 1 (Bidjpidji)
Level 1, Civic Centre
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
CYCLONE TRACY COMMEMORATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM 1, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY CHAN AVENUE,
DARWIN
ON MONDAY, 25 MARCH 2024 AT 11:00AM**

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful, the Chairperson Kon Vatskalis
Councillor Kim Farrar
City of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Simone Saunders
Member for Solomon, Luke Gosling OAM, MP
Museum and Art Gallery NT, Jared Archibald
Australian Defence Force, Mark Bunnett LCDR
Community Member Sally Courtney
Community Member Richard Creswick
Community Member Marie-Louise Pearson
Community Member Gerard Reid

OFFICERS

Alice Percy (General Manager Innovation)
Emma Struys (Executive Manager Growth and Economic Development)
Jessica Fry (Events Producer)

APOLOGY:

Australian Defence Force, Brigadier Douglas Pashley, CSC
Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah
NT Major Events Company, Suzana Bishop
Library and Archives NT, Dr Wendy Garden

GUESTS:

Northern Territory Representative, Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet, Jo Smallacombe

Order of Business

1	Meeting Declared Open	4
2	Apologies and Leave of Absence	4
3	Electronic Meeting Attendance.....	4
4	Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff	4
5	Confirmation of Previous Minutes	4
6	Officer Reports.....	4
7	Member Reports	4
7.1	Members Verbal Updates.....	4
8	General Business.....	5
9	Questions by Members	5
10	Closure of Meeting to the Public	5

1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTCAC008/24**

Moved: Community Member Marie-Louise Pearson

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the Chair declared the meeting open at 11:00 am.

CARRIED 10/0**2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Australian Defence Force, Brigadier Douglas Pashley, CSC

Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

NT Major Events Company, Suzana Bishop

Library and Archives NT, Dr Wendy Garden

3 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

Community Member Sally Courtney

Member for Solomon, Luke Gosling OAM, MP

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

Community Member, Marie-Louise Pearson made the following declaration:

A perceived conflict of interest through her connections with the NT China Museum (Chung Wah Society), who are currently applying for a grant with City of Darwin.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTCAC009/24**

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar

Seconded: Community Member Marie-Louise Pearson

THAT the minutes of the Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee Meeting held on 26 February 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED 10/0**6 OFFICER REPORTS**

Nil

7 MEMBER REPORTS**7.1 MEMBERS VERBAL UPDATES**

Nil

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

9 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Nil

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

THAT pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That 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*:

14.1 Cyclone Tracy 50th Anniversary Commemoration Grants Program

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.

14.2 Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Program Communications Plan

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.

14.3 Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Welcome Event VIP List

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.

14.4 Members Verbal Updates

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(e) 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 subject to subregulation 51(3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

The Meeting closed at 11:05 am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee held on 27 May 2024.

.....
CHAIR

Unconfirmed

MINUTE EXCERPT – MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING – 25 MARCH 2024**14.1 CYCLONE TRACY 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION GRANTS PROGRAM****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTCAC011/24**

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar

Seconded: Australian Defence Force, Mark Bunnett LCDR

1. THAT the report entitled Cyclone Tracy 50th Anniversary Commemoration Grants Program be received and noted.
2. THAT the Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee note Council is considering awarding funding grants under the Cyclone Tracy 50th Anniversary Commemoration Grants Program to:
 - Big Dog Salad for \$5,000
 - NT Chinese Museum (Chung Wah Society) for \$4,500
 - Kevin McCarthy (Theatre production) for \$2,500
 - Darwin Symphony Orchestra for \$5,000
 - St John's Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc \$5,000
 - Arafura Wind Ensemble for \$4,050 (subject to existing funding agreement acquittal).
3. 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*.
4. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open following Council resolution of the grant funding allocation.

CARRIED 10/0

14.2 CYCLONE TRACY COMMEMORATION PROGRAM COMMUNICATIONS PLAN**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTCAC012/24**

Moved: Chairperson Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Community Member Marie-Louise Pearson

1. THAT the report entitled Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Program Communications Plan 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

14.3 CYCLONE TRACY COMMEMORATION WELCOME EVENT VIP LIST**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTCAC013/24**

Moved: Chairperson Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

1. THAT the report entitled Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Welcome Event VIP List be received and noted.
2. THAT the suggested initial invitation lists for the Welcome Reception planned for the 29 November be considered.
3. 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*.
4. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 10/0



MINUTES

International Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, 27 March 2024

Date: Wednesday, 27 March 2024

Time: 11:00 AM

**Location: Council Chambers Darrandirra
Level 1, Civic Centre
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH 2024 AT 11:00 AM**

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful, the Chairperson Kon Vatskalis
Councillor Brian O'Gallagher
Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall
Chamber of Commerce NT Rohan Badenhop
Charles Darwin University, Vice-President Global and External Shannon Holborn
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Drew Boekel
Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah
Port of Darwin, Executive Director Ben Cheng
Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone
Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan
Tourism Top End General Manager Samantha Bennett

OFFICERS:

Emma Struys (Executive Manager Growth and Economic Development)
Cherry Cai (Manager of Economic Development and International Relations)

APOLOGY:

City of Darwin, General Manager Innovation Alice Percy
Port of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Peter Dummett
Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff
Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden
Chamber of Commerce NT, Chief Executive Officer Greg Ireland
Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade General Manager Luis Da Rocha

International Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

27 March 2024

Order of Business

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3	Apologies & Leave Of Absence	4
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5	Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff	4
6	Confirmation of Previous Minutes	5
7	Actions Arising from Previous Minutes	5
8	Presentations	5
9	Officer Reports	5
9.1	Update on Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou	5
9.2	Lord Mayor China Trip update	5
9.3	Update on Friendship City proposal with the City of Ho Chi Minh	6
9.4	2023/24 Sister Cities Action Plan and budget update	6
10	Member Reports	6
10.1	Joetsu Japan Trip Update	6
10.2	Member Verbal Updates	7
11	General Business	8
	Nil	
12	Next Meeting	8
13	Closure of meeting	8

1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

THAT the Chair declared the meeting open at 11:00 am.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and *support emerging Larrakia* leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**3.1 Apologies**

City of Darwin, General Manager Innovation Alice Percy

Port of Darwin, Chief Executive Officer Peter Dummett

Darwin Convention Centre, General Manager Peter Savoff

Tourism Top End Board Member Alana Madden

Chamber of Commerce NT, Chief Executive Officer Greg Ireland

Department of Tourism, Industry and Trade General Manager Luis Da Rocha

3.2 Leave of Absence

Nil

3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

Charles Darwin University, Vice-President Global and External Shannon Holborn

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members**

Committee members made the following declaration:

Councillor Brian O’Gallagher has been declared as the CLP candidate for Karama

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis received a bottle of wine from the Mayor of Joetsu, Japan, which has been declared and registered in the gifts register for Council accordingly

5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC001/24**

Moved: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

THAT the minutes of the International Relations Advisory Committee held on 29 November 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED 11/0

7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS**9.1 UPDATE ON FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF QUANZHOU****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC002/24**

Moved: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Seconded: Tourism Top End General Manager Samantha Bennett

THAT the report entitled Update on Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou be received and noted.

CARRIED 11/0

9.2 LORD MAYOR CHINA TRIP UPDATE**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC003/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

THAT the report entitled Lord Mayor China Trip Update be received and noted.

CARRIED 11/0

9.3 UPDATE ON FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF HO CHI MINH**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC004/24**

Moved: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

Seconded: Tourism Top End Board Samantha Bennett

THAT the report entitled Update on Friendship City proposal with the City of Ho Chi Minh be received and noted.

THAT the International Relations Advisory Committee recommends City of Darwin to include the following cooperation areas in the Memorandum of Understanding of Friendship City relationship between Darwin and Ho Chi Minh.

CARRIED 11/0**9.4 2023/24 SISTER CITIES ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC005/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Tourism Top End General Manager Samantha Bennett

THAT the report entitled 2023/24 Sister Cities Action Plan and budget update be received and noted.

CARRIED 11/0**10 MEMBER REPORTS****10.1 JOETSU JAPAN TRIP UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC006/24**

Moved: Chamber of Commerce NT Rohan Badenhop

Seconded: Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

THAT the report entitled Joetsu Japan Trip Update be received and noted.

CARRIED 11/0

10.2 MEMBER VERBAL UPDATES**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IRACC007/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

THAT the report entitled Member Verbal Updates be received and noted.

CARRIED 11/0

Darwin International Airport, Chief Executive Officer Tony Edmondstone

Provided some relevant updates on the status of works at the airport:

- There are additional canopies in the carpark in preparation for the wet season
- The upper level terminal works and food court area should be completed within six months
- Half of the runway has been completed and should be finished by October

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Drew Boekel

- Attended the ASEAN Summit in Melbourne
- Brazilian Head Commission and Darwin dialogue in April regarding talks on critical minerals and rare earths
- First Nations Ambassador keen to collaborate with indigenous networks in Darwin for the 2025 World Indigenous Forum

Chamber of Commerce NT Rohan Badenhop

- Provided information and interest in the Nicholas Moore report on cultural trade and that there is still a need for some financial pathway in order to progress
- Commented that airlines are important in international business growth and high prices for airline tickets need to be addressed accordingly by relevant groups/organisations
- Mark Newman is the new Senior Industry Councils Coordinator

Austrade, Territory Liaison Advisor Daniel Hall

- Export Market Development Grants amended laws have been finalised and will soon be tabled in Parliament wherein amendments will be increase in grant prices, eligibility requirements and changes in the payment schedule
- There will be an increase in international trade and a closer engagement in Southeast Asia with five missions with Singapore and Kuala Lumpur slated first
- A contract will commence between Austrade and NT Government

Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

- Mr John Rivas, Consul General, is requesting an update regarding the Friendship City status with Bacolod City, Philippines

Tourism Top End General Manager Samantha Bennett

- Currently addressing seasonality concerns on tourism efforts
- Tourism vouchers are currently at 55% coming from local tourists and the remaining portion are from interstate tourists
- Invigorating the centre with some additional enhanced digital platform
- Launch of *Welcome to the Dry* next week
- Travel Expo is ongoing

Port of Darwin, Executive Director Ben Cheng

- Mineral projects were stopped and cancelled for the last half of the financial year
- A lot of marine activities at Darwin Port
- Memorandum of Understanding with NT Garment

International Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

27 March 2024

Larrakia Nation, Chief Executive Officer Michael Rotumah

- Tourism strategy plan will be completed by May
- Creation of a seasonal calendar with a focus on the 7 seasons and opportunity to promote that with *Tickets to the North*

Sister City Advisory Committee Chairperson Kate Heelan

- Talks with DFAT regarding skills development growth exchange program for businesses
- Invited Dr Kevin Evans, Director for Australian-Indonesian Centre in Jakarta, to come and speak about the Indonesian election and a session with DFAT and CDU on partnership prospects with Indonesia and scheduled on 17-20 April 2024

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

12 NEXT MEETING

15 May 2024 at 11:00 am

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:57 am



MINUTES

Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 27 March 2024

Date: Wednesday, 27 March 2024

Time: 5:30 PM

**Location: Council Chambers Darrandirra
Level 1, Civic Centre
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
SISTER CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH 2024 AT 5:30 PM**

PRESENT:

Chair Kate Heelan
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris
Community Member Vida Ruth Goodvach
Community Member Nerida Hart
Community Member Stephanie Lin
Community Member Ninik Stroud
Alternate Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

OFFICERS:

Emma Struys (Executive Manager Growth and Economic Development)
Cherry Cai (Manager of Economic Development and International Relations)

APOLOGY:

Community Member Max Stretton
Community Member Tony Miaoudis
Community Member Cornelio De Varvaldo

GUESTS:

Nil

Order of Business

1	Meeting Declared Open	4
2	Acknowledgement of Country	4
3	Apologies & Leave Of Absence	4
4	Electronic Attendance	4
5	Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff	4
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9	Officer Reports.....	5
9.1	Update on Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou.....	5
9.2	2023/24 Sister Cities Action Plan and budget update	5
9.3	Lord Mayor China Trip update	5
9.4	Update on Friendship City proposal with the City of Ho Chi Minh	5
10	Member Reports	6
11	General Business.....	6
11.1	Membership update	6
12	Next Meeting	6
13	Closure of Meeting	6

1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

THAT the Chair declared the meeting open at 5:30 pm.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**3.1 Apologies**

Community Member Max Stretton

Community Member Tony Miaoudis

Community Member Cornelio De Varvaldo

3.2 Leave of Absence**3.3 Leave of Absence Notified**

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

Community Member Vida Ruth Goodvach

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members**

Nil

5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC001/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Community Member Nerida Hart

THAT the minutes of the Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting held on 29 November 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED 6/0

7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS**9.1 UPDATE ON FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF QUANZHOU****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC002/24**

Moved: Community Member Ninik Stroud

Seconded: Community Member Nerida Hart

THAT the report entitled Update on Friendship City Proposal with the City of Quanzhou be received and noted.

CARRIED 6/0**9.2 2023/24 SISTER CITIES ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC003/24**

Moved: Community Member Ninik Stroud

Seconded: Community Member Nerida Hart

THAT the report entitled 2023/24 Sister Cities Action Plan and budget update be received and noted.

CARRIED 6/0**9.3 LORD MAYOR CHINA TRIP UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC004/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Community Member Stephanie Lin

THAT the report entitled Lord Mayor China Trip Update be received and noted.

CARRIED 6/0**9.4 UPDATE ON FRIENDSHIP CITY PROPOSAL WITH THE CITY OF HO CHI MINH****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC005/24**

Moved: Community Member Stephanie Lin

Seconded: Community Member Vida Ruth Goodvach

THAT the report entitled Update on Friendship City proposal with the City of Ho Chi Minh be received and noted.

Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

27 March 2024

THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee recommends City of Darwin to include the following cooperation areas in the Memorandum of Understanding of Friendship City relationship between Darwin and Ho Chi Minh.

CARRIED 6/0**10 MEMBER REPORTS**

Nil

11 GENERAL BUSINESS**11.1 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC006/24**

Moved: Community Member Stephanie Lin

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT the report entitled Membership Update be received and noted.

THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee receive the resignation letter from Mr Max Stretton.

THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee thanks Mr Max Stretton's contributions to the Sister City Advisory Committee and its programs.

CARRIED 6/0**11.2**

Community Member Vida Ruth Goodvach briefed the Committee on the proposal of Jipungwayi Sister City project and Milikapiti School. No vote and resolution was conducted to follow the meeting procedure. Vida Goodvach was provided the information on the process and current status of Sister City Agreement renewal negotiation between City of Darwin and Tiwi Regional Council.

12 NEXT MEETING

12 June 2024 at 5:30 pm

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING

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

15.3 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT: JANUARY - MARCH 2024 (Q3)

Author: Risk Management Coordinator

Authoriser: Executive Manager Corporate and Customer Services

Attachments:

1. Q3 - 2023/24 Strategic Plan Action Summary [↓](#)
2. Q3 - 2023/24 Municipal Plan Action Summary [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Quarterly Performance Report: January – March 2024 (Q3) be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to utilise a systematic approach and methodology 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.
- City of Darwin's integrated planning and reporting framework is under development.
- 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.

There are 56 actions within the Strategic Plan, however during previous years 21 actions have been marked as complete, leaving 35 actions to be reported in 2023/24.

Quarter 3 Highlights – Strategic Plan:

There are 35 actions for 2023/24; of which 34 are On Track and 1 is Not Yet Due.

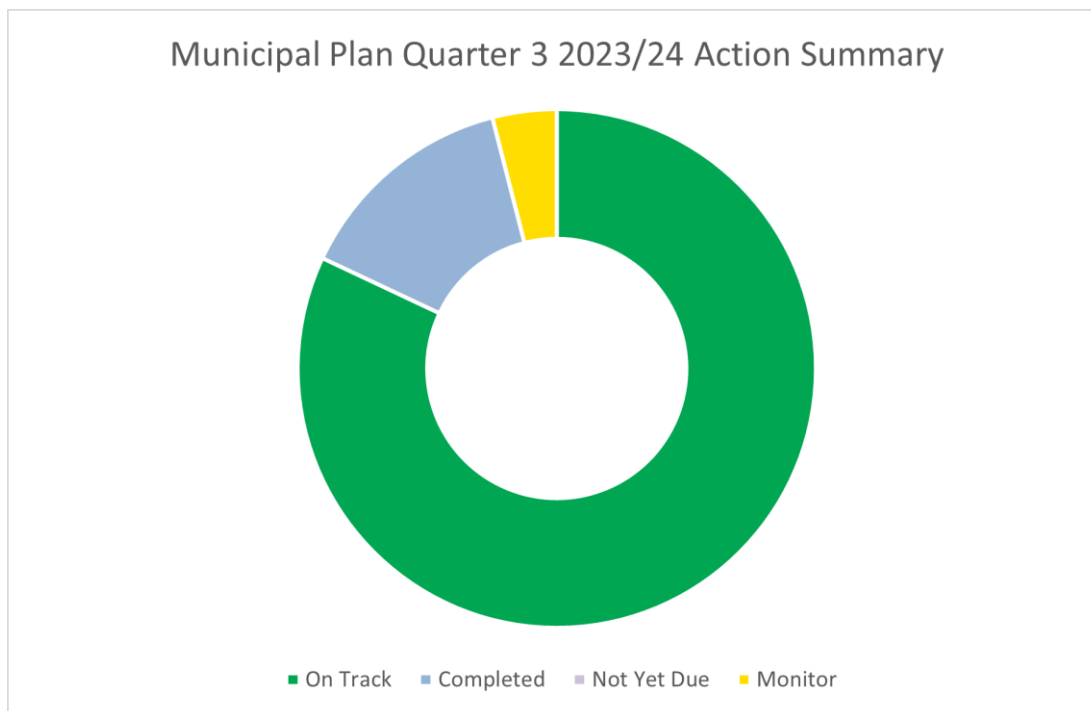


Highlights from this quarter include:

- the street food program for 2024 has been launched
- Cavenagh and Smith Street streetscaping projects are underway
- Landcare NT, in conjunction with Darwin Wildlife Sanctuary and Territory Native Plants have commenced a series of free flora and fauna education sessions to Darwin schools, funded by a City of Darwin Environment and Climate Change Grant
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) programs remain a highlight at City of Darwin libraries
- successful Australia Day and Bombing of Darwin events. Planning for the 2024/25 event program is underway.

Quarter 3 Highlights – Municipal Plan:

Within the 2023/24 Municipal Plan there are 50 actions, including 11 actions which fall under the Governance Framework section. Of these 50 actions seven (7) are 'Complete', 41 are 'On Track' and two (2) are 'Monitor'.



Highlights from this quarter include:

- draft Bundilla Master Plan is ready for community consultation
- heat stress training was delivered to City of Darwin staff
- continued working with industry to support cruise access to the city
- progressed the Friendship City proposal discussions with the City of Joetsu
- the Greening Strategy deliverable is marked as 'Monitor' while procurement is underway for a supplier to take on the Tree Planting and Watering contract.

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	<p>Budget/Funding: Nil</p> <p>Is Funding identified: Nil</p> <p>Corporate Services Hub is responsible for coordinating the City of Darwin Performance Reporting.</p>

<p>LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Policy: Darwin 2030 – <i>City for People. City of Colour.</i> Strategic Plan, Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.</p>
<p>CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION</p>	<p>Engagement Level: Inform</p> <p>Internal: The Actions contained within the Strategic Plan and 2023/24 Municipal Plan have been reviewed and Quarter 3 (Q3) 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.</p> <p>External: Quarterly Performance Report: January - March 2024 (Q3) will inform the City of Darwin 2023/24 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.</p>
<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</p>	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>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).</p>

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023/24 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	Develop a Priority Infrastructure Plan	EM - Technical Services	2023/24 Q3 - A Strategic and Priority Projects Plan 2030 is being sent to Council for approval on the 16 April. This will be a guiding document to advocate for funding for key infrastructure projects and will also inform updates of the Long Term Capital Works Plan (LTCWP). A detailed Priority Infrastructure Plan be finalised following the completion of the asset survey work.	On Track	1/07/20	30/06/25
SD1	TAR1	Implement City of Darwin's Asset Management Framework	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - Building condition survey completed, asset revaluation underway. Stormwater condition surveys ongoing	On Track	1/07/20	30/06/25
SD1	TAR1	Maintain existing Council assets to ensure best value for money and utilisation is achieved	EM - Operations	2023/24 Q3 - Programs and projects are being delivered in accordance with available asset management plans, policy, guidelines and best practice. Opportunities for efficiency are regularly investigated as part of replacing or creating new assets. This is adopted as standard practice.	On Track	1/07/20	30/06/30
SD1	TAR1	Increase utilisation of the City of Darwin's land and community assets	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - City of Darwin officers are supporting Malak Markets to recommence in May 2024. Street food program for 2024 has been launched. Draft Commercial Outdoor Activities Policy is with the public for consultation. Providing in-kind support to the community to utilise City of Darwin land and assets.	On Track	1/07/20	30/06/30
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a safer place to live and visit							
SD2	TAR1	Expand CCTV networks across the municipality as part of the #SmartDarwin Strategy	GM Innovation	2023/24 Q3 - City of Darwin officers have been discussing options for CCTV cameras at Chapel Lane/West Lane as part of the Chapel Lane revitalisation project and to measure before and after movement data as part of the project.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2025
SD2	TAR1	Implement City of Darwin Business Continuity Plans to enable appropriate responses to disaster and man-made events that could impact on the safety of the community, Council staff and Council assets	EM - Corporate and Customer Service	2023/24 Q3 - Focus of Emergency Management function has been on emergent security matters and cyclone season preparation. Business continuity plan finalisation has been retasked and is underway.	On Track	1/07/2020	31/12/2023
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be increasingly recognised as a liveable city							
SD2	TAR2	Partner with the Australian Government and Territory Government to deliver on the Darwin City Deal	Office of the Lord Mayor and CEO	2023/24 Q3 - State Square and Civic Centre Precinct progressing. Art Gallery now being constructed. Conversations occurring with the Northern Territory Government in relation to closure of Smith Street for pedestrian access. Chapel Lane 30% design completed. Cavenagh and Smith Street beautification projects are underway.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2025
SD2	TAR2	Promote Darwin as a more attractive place to live and work	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 - Q3 - City of Darwin hosted a successful citizen of the year and Australia day ceremony in Jan 2024. Draft Investment Prospectus developed. Continuing to promote Darwin through international visits and delegations and Discover Darwin.	On Track	1/07/2020	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	2023/24 Q3 - Met with the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Logistics to discuss Movement Strategy actions, place and liveability planning, integrated planning and projects. Presented to the PIA NT division.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY							
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Original Start Date	Expected End Date
SD2	TAR2	Increase utilisation of Darwin's beaches and foreshores	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 - Q3 - Preparing for the 2024 Mindil Markets. Sponsorship for Sea Breeze Festival 2024 provided. Draft Masterplan developed for Bundilla. There was a total of 8 external events held on Council beaches and forshore areas for the quarter.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD2	TAR2	Develop a Social Infrastructure Plan that outlines Council facilities and services that meet the long term social needs of the city	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Place and Liveability Plan responses assessed and tender is currently is being finalised. This will include identifying the Darwin community needs.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2025
Target: By 2030, Darwin residents will be more active and healthy							
SD2	TAR3	Increase the total kilometres of walking and cycling paths, including shaded pathways, to improve community connectivity and mobility	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 To be delivered in line with Movement Strategy actions, total increase to network calculated at end of financial year.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2025
SD2	TAR3	Provide an accessible network of Council parks and recreation facilities that encourage active living for all ages and abilities	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Now incorporated into the Play Space Strategy.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as a clean and environmentally responsible city							
SD3	TAR1	Develop a best practice Environmental Management Plan	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - Scoping change management plan to embed the Environmental Management System across the organisation.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2024
SD3	TAR1	Council will have zero net emissions from operations by 2030	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - Applying for Federal Government Community Energy Upgrades Fund grant for implementing Energy Audit recommendations for Parap Pool, Casuarina Library and West Lane Car Park.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD3	TAR1	Deliver projects that will cool the Darwin City Centre	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - A number of projects have been designed to include trees, grass and shade structures to increase cooling in the Darwin City Centre. CSIRO will be installing sensors to measure cooling before and after Chapel Lane redevelopment. City of Darwin environmental sensors to be installed to measure future changes along Cavenagh St following greening.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD3	TAR1	Ensure Council open spaces contribute to the city's biodiversity	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - Support for Darwin schools greening has recommenced through the Gardens for Wildlife program. Landcare NT, in conjunction with Darwin Wildlife Sanctuary and Territory Native Plants have commenced a series of free flora and fauna education sessions to Darwin schools, funded by a City of Darwin Environment and Climate Change Grant. An ecological consultant has been engaged to map and classify native vegetation along the Nightcliff Foreshore.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD3	TAR1	Contribute to Northern Territory Government's 50% renewable energy target by 2030	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - Applying for Federal Government Community Energy Upgrades Fund grant for installing solar PV on West Lane Car Park. Coolmob ran a very successful Home Energy Efficiency workshop for Darwin residents. They are also offering free energy audits and publish regular posts and promo on social media of home cooling energy saving tips. Planning underway for a Sustainable House Day event.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
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	2023/24 Q3 - Dialogue has commenced with private entities regarding collaborative opportunities for value adding waste in the NT.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY							
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Original Start Date	Expected End Date
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised globally as a smart city							
SD4	TAR1	Expand the #SmartDarwin Strategy	GM Innovation	2023/24 Q3 - Progressing actions within the Smart City Framework and Management Plan, such as sensor, gaming and software trials, policies and procedures.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2026
SD4	TAR1	Lead innovation for the city and facilitate relevant activities to support these initiatives	GM Innovation	2023/24 Q3 - Innovation Toolkit drafted.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR1	Support the development of business centres that foster industry engagement, collaboration and innovation across all markets	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Supporting the growth of the Darwin City Retailers Association and The Array. Preparing for business workshops in May.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR1	Develop innovation hubs for our community and future generations	GM Innovation	2023/24 Q3 - Place and Liveability Plan Request for Proposal being assessed. The Place and Liveability Plan will incorporate development of a toolkits for neighbourhoods which will support future generations.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR1	Support life-long learning opportunities through the provision of STEAM programs	EM - Library and Family Services	2023/24 Q3 - The STEAM programs continue to have a high level of engagement across the four libraries delivering learning opportunities.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
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	2023/24 Q3 - Drafted Economic Development Action Plan 24-26 and circulated internally for feedback. The plan will be briefed before Elected Members in the next quarter.	On Track	1/07/2020	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	2023/24 Q3 - This quarter saw numerous engagements with government and industry including representative groups such as the International Relations Advisory Committee, Property Council, Planning Institute Australia, and Chamber of Commerce. City of Darwin are actively working with the Chamber of Commerce to plan an engagement event for Early May. Draft Strategic and Priority Project Plan developed.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR2	Promote Darwin as a great destination to live, work, study and invest	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Working with industry to support cruise access to the city. Seven posts on Discover Darwin LinkedIn published over the last quarter with increased following by 27%. Discover Darwin photography competition launched in February 2024 across Darwin's Sister Cities. City of Darwin was promoted in person during a visit to Joetsu in March 2024.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD4	TAR2	Support initiatives to grow the economy and retain people and jobs in Darwin	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Sponsorships program launched which supports local businesses and their activities in Darwin. Continued to work NTG and other key stakeholders involved in the Cruise Industry Working Group NT and facilitated permits and timing for transfers and access to the city centre.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2023
SD4	TAR2	Develop an International Relations Program	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Continued to deliver the Sister Cities Action Plan with on going programs such as the Darwin Sister City Awards - Visual Storytelling Photography Competition and the Darwin-Kalymnos Language Scholarship Program. Progressed the Ho Chi Minh City Friendship city proposal as well as the Tiwi Islands updates to the sister city MOU. Progressed the Friendship City proposal discuss with the City of Joetsu.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY							
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Original Start Date	Expected End Date
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as an iconic destination							
SD5	TAR1	Partner with other stakeholders to grow the visitor economy of Darwin	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Implementing the Discover Darwin Social Media Plan 2023/24 with posts from of Our Town episodes which has attracted 44,946 impressions. Launched Darwin Sister City Awards - Visual Storytelling Photography Competition and 2024/25 Sponsorship program. Supported 43 events by issuing the event permits and providing event guidance.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD5	TAR1	Deliver a City of Darwin events program and events management practices with a focus on developing and marketing of Council owned facilities for events	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - The Australia Day Event 2024 was a success with 54 new citizens welcomed to Darwin. The Bombing of Darwin event was relocated due to extreme weather leading up to the event. Despite this, there was 4000 people in attendance including more than 50 schools and positive feedback was received about the accessibility of the event. Planning for the 2024/25 event program well underway.	On Track	1/07/2020	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	2023/24 Q3 - Provided event permit and in-kind support by waiving the bus parking fee for tourist shuttle bus drop off and collection in the Darwin City Centre.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a more connected community and have pride in our cultural history							
SD5	TAR2	Develop a City of Darwin Multicultural Framework	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Multicultural Framework to be delivered in future years.	Not Yet Due	1/07/2025	30/06/2027
SD5	TAR2	Promote Darwin as a destination known for its Aboriginal cultures and landmarks	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Revitalising the Seven Seasons sign in the Mall. Developing a free Darwin visitor trail project which will include aboriginal tours.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030
SD5	TAR2	Fund the Darwin Entertainment Centre to deliver programs and services that create a cohesive, connected and culturally enriched community	General Manager Community & Regulatory Services	2023/24 Q3 - City of Darwin continues to contribute to funds for Darwin Entertainment Centre.	On Track	1/07/2020	30/06/2030

MUNICIPAL PLAN 2023/24 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 2023/24 Capital Works Program	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - 2nd Budget review adjustments complete. Capital works projects in various stages of planning, delivery and close out.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD1	TAR1	Deliver the 2023/24 Better Suburbs and Enhancement Projects	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q2 - 2023/24 Better suburbs project in various stages of planning, delivery and close out.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD1	TAR1	Continue asset condition assessments for Council's stormwater infrastructure	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - Stormwater condition surveys underway and on track.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD1	TAR1	Deliver the Lee Point Road Project	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - Project complete	Completed	1/07/2022	30/06/2024	
SD1	TAR1	Implement a Strategic Property Plan 2030 for City of Darwin properties to ensure sustainability	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Draft Leasing and Licencing Policy is being shared internally for feedback. Negotiating and finalising new tenant agreements ie. Karama, CAALC, Lyons. Preparing for the roll out of new parking technology.	On Track	1/07/2022	30/06/2024	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a safer place to live and visit								
SD2	Tar1	Deliver the Making Mindil Safe Project - Stage 2	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - Works on Stage 2A are out to tender, for delivery in 2023/24, with Stage 2B to be designed and delivered as part of next financial year's lighting program.	Monitor	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD2	Tar1	Deliver the 2023/24 animal management program and services	EM - Regulatory Services	2023/24 Q3 - Regulatory Services has continued to deliver animal management programs and other services to the community. This includes investigations, patrols and behavioural and education initiatives such as Walk and Wag. The Animal Education team is also delivering a de-sexing program for residents allowing for their cat or dog to be de-sexed at a low cost throughout the 2023/24 financial year.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD2	Tar1	Continue to partner with the Northern Territory Government to deliver City Safe Security Patrol Services in the city centre	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3- Current partner agreement expires on 30 June 2024, any extension or renewal is subject to Council decision and budget allocation.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be increasingly recognised as a liveable city								
SD2	TAR2	Deliver the 2023/24 Movement Strategy annual actions	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Additional accessible parking in Nichols Place Carpark. Upgrading parking technology. City revitalisation projects and Bundilla all considering different modes of movement. Audit to determine other potential locations for EV Charging completed and an EOI planned for next quarter. Partnering with Bicycle Network and schools to launch Active Paths and Open Streets Program for 2024.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	

MUNICIPAL PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY								
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	
SD2	TAR2	Deliver the 2023/24 Play Space Strategy annual funded program	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Program subject to Council budget decisions for 2024/25.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD2	TAR2	Deliver placemaking planning and opportunities across the municipality	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - 30% design for Chapel Lane. Draft Bundilla Masterplan ready for community consultation. Place and Liveability Plan contract being negotiated. Workshop being planned for May to discuss placemaking opportunities with businesses.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD2	TAR2	Participate in City Deal initiatives, including the State Square and Civic Precinct Redevelopment	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Chapel Lane revitalisation at 30% design stage. CSIRO and key business stakeholders provided feedback. Continuing to participate in the State Square and Civic Precinct Advisory Group. Provided feedback on CSIRO Urban Living Lab Digital Twin and Research Plan 2024-2026.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
Target: By 2030, Darwin residents will be more active and healthy								
SD2	TAR3	Deliver the annual milestone progress on the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre Project	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - Construction project milestones on track.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD2	TAR3	Deliver the Healthy Darwin program across the municipality	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Delivery of the Healthy Darwin program is underway and continues to provide activities across the municipality.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD2	TAR3	Complete an audit which identifies locations for cycling and micromobility infrastructure opportunities	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Completing an audit of bike servicing stations, bubblers and bike racks. Developing an active transport program outlining projects and priorities for the next 5-7 years.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as a clean and environmentally responsible city								
SD3	TAR1	Deliver the 2023/24 Greening Darwin Strategy annual funded actions	EM - Operations	2023/24 Q3 - Progress towards delivering greening outcomes continued throughout the quarter.	Monitor	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD3	TAR1	Deliver the 2023/24 Climate Strategy annual funded programs	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - Applying for Federal Government Community Energy Upgrades Fund grant for implementation of Energy Audit recommendations for Parap Pool, Casuarina Library and West Lane Car Park. When implemented this is estimated to save ~\$80,000/year. Staff commute survey completed. Heat Stress training offered to all staff delivered by specialist Matt Brearley.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD3	TAR1	Deliver the 2023/24 Waste Management and Resource Recovery annual funded program	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - Exploring options for commercial composting at Shoal Bay. Trash and Treasure Shop tender is currently being evaluated. Construction and installation of the cardboard compactor is scheduled for completion in April. Currently exploring opportunities for diverting waste from landfill using new technology.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD3	TAR1	Deliver the final capping on landfill areas Stage 3/4 at Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - Construction and Independent Environmental Auditors assessment documentation submitted to NTEPA.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	

MUNICIPAL PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY							
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Start Date	End Date
SD3	TAR1	Stage 2 expansion and Stage 7 Design of Landfill for Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility	EM - Infrastructure	2023/24 Q3 - Detailed progressing and is on target to meet project construction timeframe of 2027.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
SD3	TAR1	Finalise a best practice Environmental Management System for City of Darwin operations	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 - Continuing with drafting Environmental Management System (EMS) manual and scoping the change management plan to embed the EMS across the organisation.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
SD3	TAR1	Partner with City Deal Partners to deliver the Heat Mitigation and Adaption Strategy and Urban Living Priorities	EM - Environment, Climate and Waste Services	2023/24 Q3 CSIRO presented iTree canopy coverage report to the Tree Advisory Committee. Discussions with CSIRO about further Storymaps. The Storymap that's been developed to date illustrating the impact of Cyclone Marcus on canopy cover has been highly effective and useful. City of Darwin staff have provided our annual update to NTG on progress of Heat Mitigation Strategy actions.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised globally as a smart city							
SD4	TAR1	Deliver 2023/24 components of the Smart City Initiatives	GM - Innovation	2023/24 Q3 - Data Policy being developed. YourDarwin Insights Dashboards and OpenData visualisation trial being explored for better usability for all stakeholders. ECM upgrade to the cloud occurred on 16 April with additional use, reporting and archiving functionalities. Draft liveability game created with CDU students. Place Intelligence being utilised to measure movement across the municipality. Smart trailer being developed for the Richardson Ward as per Better Suburbs project.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
SD4	TAR1	Implement Customer Service Strategy annual actions	EM - Corporate and Customer Service	2023/24 Q3 - Continuous improvement consolidating First Contact resolution opportunities ongoing and part of BAU. All remaining actions relate to CRM which is currently deferred pending delivery under RoadMap.	Completed	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
SD4	TAR1	Implement Library Strategy annual actions	EM - Library and Family Services	2023/24 Q3 - The Libraries for People Library Strategy 2020-24 is in the final year for implementation. To date 97% of actions have been completed, (46 of 47). The final action is not due for completion until 30 June 2024.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
SD4	TAR1	Deliver 2023/24 outcomes from the ICT Roadmap	ICT PMO Director	2023/24 Q3 - The multi-year ICT Roadmap Program continues to progress. Requirements for a Learning Management System are defined and progressing towards implementation within current financial year.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
SD4	TAR1	Upgrade City of Darwin's electronic records management system	ICT PMO Director	2023/24 Q3 - City of Darwin's on-premise upgrade of the Electronic Records Management System is complete. Final upgrade to cloud based solution is on track for completion within the current financial year.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
SD4	TAR1	Develop an Innovation Toolkit to empower City of Darwin Staff and the Community to deliver innovative outcomes	GM - Innovation	2023/24 Q3 - Draft Innovation Toolkit developed and consulting internally on the project.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024

MUNICIPAL PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY								
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will have attracted and retained more residents and will offer sustainable investment opportunities								
SD4	TAR2	Promote Darwin as a great destination to live, work, study, visit and invest through various channels	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Working with industry to support cruise access to the city. Seven posts on Discover Darwin LinkedIn published over the last quarter with increased following by 27%. Discover Darwin photography competition launched in February 2024 across Darwin's Sister Cities. City of Darwin was promoted in person during a visit to Joetsu in March 2024.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD4	TAR2	Deliver an International Relations Program	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Continued to deliver the Sister Cities Action Plan with on going programs such as the Darwin Sister City Awards - Visual Storytelling Photography Competition and the Darwin-Kalymnos Language Scholarship Program. Progressed the Ho Chi Minh City Friendship city proposal as well as the Tiwi Islands updates to the sister city MOU. Progressed the Friendship City proposal discuss with the City of Joetsu.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD4	TAR2	Promote City of Darwin via official website and social media accounts	EM - Marketing and Communications	2023/24 Q3 - Ongoing work across a number of projects and channels. The team is accountable by delivering projects on time and on budget, and to an exceptional standard.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be recognised as an iconic destination								
SD5	TAR1	Deliver a City of Darwin annual events program and events management, including partnering with NTG to deliver the Christmas pageant	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - The Australia Day Event 2024 was a success with 54 new citizens welcomed to Darwin. The Bombing of Darwin event was relocated due to extreme weather leading up to the event. Despite this, there was 4000 people in attendance including more than 50 schools and positive feedback was received about the accessibility of the event. Planning for the 2024/25 event program well underway.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD5	TAR1	Partner with key stakeholders through the Cruise Tourism Working Group and Destination Darwin Working Group	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Provided event permit and in-kind support by waiving the bus parking fee for tourist shuttle bus drop off and collection in the Darwin City Centre. Working with the Port to commence counting cruise numbers. Considering webkiosks at new locations across Darwin.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD5	TAR1	Develop and implement a Creative Strategy	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Creative Strategy endorsed by Council and resources being considered through budget process for delivery from mid 2024.	On Track	1/07/2022	30/06/2024	
Target: By 2030, Darwin will be a more connected community and have pride in our cultural identity								
SD5	TAR2	Develop the new Innovation Reconciliation Action Plan	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q1 - Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan endorsed by Council on 27 June and launched in August 2023	Completed	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD5	TAR2	Deliver the 2023/24 Community Grants Program to support and enable community events and programs including those celebrating culture, arts and diversity	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Delivery of the Community Grants program including an additional category for Reconciliation and NAIDOC Week is currently underway for Round 1 for activity held from July 2024 - December 2024.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	

MUNICIPAL PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY								
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Start Date	End Date	
SD5	TAR2	Deliver the 2023/24 Youth Strategy annual actions	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Delivery of 2023/24 actions against Youth Strategy are underway.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD5	TAR2	Develop the next Access and Inclusion Strategy	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Procurement process deferred due to recruitment needs, the RFQ opportunity will be released next Q.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
SD5	TAR2	Deliver the 2023/24 communications, media and marketing program	EM - Marketing and Communications	2023/24 Q2 - A number of media and marketing programs delivered across the quarter.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
Target: Vision and Culture								
GOV	TAR1	Continue to Implement Council's Integrated Strategic Planning Framework	EM - Corporate and Customer Service	2023/24 Q3 - Strategic Planning elements are continuing as BAU. Strategic Risk Review to also occur in coming months.	On Track	1/10/2023	30/06/2024	
GOV	TAR1	Proactive risk management in supporting operations and project delivery	EM - Corporate and Customer Service	2023/24 Q1 - Framework is developed and implemented. Will be reviewed in 23/24 year. Risk register development and reporting now BAU with supporting systems and resources.	Completed	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
Target: Roles and Relationships								
GOV	TAR2	Establish and maintain productive and positive relationships with Larrakia Nation, First Nations and Government Stakeholders to work in collaboration to improve public amenity	EM - Community and Cultural Services	2023/24 Q3 - Through Assertive Outreach and Reconciliation programs we continue to work positively with all stakeholders to improve public amenity. Initial conversations have taken place with Larrakia Development Corporation and Gwalwa Daraniki regarding an MOU.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
GOV	TAR2	Provide Operating Subsidies and Sponsorships in line with City of Darwin's Funding Guidelines	EM - Growth and Development Services	2023/24 Q3 - Updated the Funding Policy and Funding Guidelines by integrating the operational subsidies, community grants and other grants. Launched the 2024/25 Sponsorship Program.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
GOV	TAR2	Advocate Council's position at National and Local Levels for the benefit of the Darwin community	OCELM	2023/24 Q3 - Developing advocacy and partnerships program, linking in with LGANT to support and advocate for local government. Continued engagement with CCCLM.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
Target: Decision Making and Management								
GOV	TAR3	Implement new City of Darwin By-Laws in compliance with legislative requirements	EM - Regulatory Services	2023/24 Q3 - New By-laws came into effect on 2 October 2023. Policies and procedures are being updated to reflect new By-Laws	Completed	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
GOV	TAR3	Review and refine Workplace Health & Safety Management Framework and document suite	EM - Human Resources and Safety	2023/24 Q3 - Key Priority 1 documents in place; finalisation and implementation of remaining Priority 2 and 3 documents in progress in line with implementation plan.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	
GOV	TAR3	Implement Council's Privacy Management Framework and annual actions	EM - Corporate & Customer Services	2023/24 Q3 - PMP2 adopted. Work to commence on actions.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024	

MUNICIPAL PLAN 2023/24 ACTION SUMMARY							
Strategic Direction (SD)	Target	Action	Responsible Executive Manager (EM)	Progress Comment	Action Status	Start Date	End Date
Target: Accountability							
GOV	TAR4	Deliver Unqualified 2022/23 City of Darwin Audited Financial Statements	EM - Finance	2023/24 Q2 - Financial Statements unqualified and adopted by Council 31 October 2023 ORD672/23	Completed	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
GOV	TAR4	Deliver the 2022/23 Annual Report	EM - Corporate and Customer Service	2023/24 Q2 - Completed and submitted as per legislative requirements.	Completed	1/07/2023	30/06/2024
GOV	TAR4	Deliver the 2023/24 Internal Audit Program	EM - Corporate and Customer Service	2023/24 Q3 - Contract management audit scoped and to commence shortly. Internal Audit project plan to establish a forward plan for internal audit priorities will be developed following Strategic Risk Review.	On Track	1/07/2023	30/06/2024

15.4 UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT OUTCOMES

Author: Executive Manager Corporate and Customer Services

Authoriser: Manager Office of Council and CEO

Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled Update on Code of Conduct Outcomes be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the progress of outcomes arising from Code of Conduct matters.

KEY ISSUES

- Council will be provided an update on resolved Code of Conduct matters and completion of any actions recommended.

DISCUSSION

In accordance with Regulation 76(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, a report containing the following is provided at each meeting:

- The procedural progress of each complaint in relation to a Council member; and
- The item of the Code of Conduct allegedly contravened.

This report meets that requirement and give Council an update on the completion of required outcomes for all concluded Code of Conduct matters.

The Chief Executive Officer has written to Councillor Amye Un providing a summary of the apologies and training recommendations, seeking advice as to the status and to assist with information.

Complainant	Respondent	Clauses Breached	Actions	Status
Lord Mayor	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 3 - Courtesy	Mediation	Mediation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open
Mr Paul Arnold	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 3 - Courtesy	Reprimand Training	Reprimand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued / Completed Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open Complaint referred to an Independent Panel.
Mr Paul Arnold	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un – Nil breached	Nil	N/A – This is the outcome from the review considered by Independent Panel.
Councillor Amye Un	Lord Mayor	Lord Mayor – Nil breaches	Nil	Complaint being reviewed by NTCAT.
Mr George Mamouzellos	Lord Mayor	Lord Mayor – Nil breaches	Nil	N/A
Councillor Amye Un	Lord Mayor	Lord Mayor – Nil breaches	Nil	N/A

Mr Reece Ravlich	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 3 – Courtesy Clause 4 – Prohibition on bullying Clause 5 – Conduct towards Council staff	Reprimand Written Apology Training	Reprimand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued / Completed Written Apology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open
Mr Steve Thacker	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 3 – Courtesy Clause 5 – Conduct towards Council Staff Clause 10 – Accountability	Reprimand Training	Reprimand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued / Completed Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open
Ms Brooke Prince	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 3 – Courtesy Clause 4 – Prohibition on bullying Clause 5 – Conduct towards Council staff	Reprimand Training	Reprimand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued / Completed Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open
Ms Rebecca Maddalozzo	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 3 – Courtesy Clause 4 – Prohibition on bullying Clause 5 - Conduct towards Council staff	Reprimand Training	Reprimand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued / Completed Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open

Ms Makaylia Ravlich	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 3 – Courtesy Clause 4 – Prohibition on bullying Clause 5 – Conduct towards Council staff	Reprimand Written Apology Training	Reprimand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued / Completed Written Apology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open
Mr Reece Ravlich	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 4 - Prohibition on bullying	Written Apology	Written Apology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open
Ms Simone Saunders	Councillor Amye Un	Councillor Amye Un breached: Clause 2 – Care and diligence Clause 3 – Courtesy	Reprimand Mediation Training	Reprimand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued / Completed Mediation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status not advised / Open

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTION

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT	6 Governance Framework 6.4 Accountability
BUDGET / FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	N/A
LEGISLATION / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	Legislation: <i>Local Government Act 2019 (NT)</i> <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> Policy: <i>0094.100.E.R Elected Members – Breach of Code of Conduct</i>

CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION	Engagement Level: Inform Tactics: N/A
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	<p>The report author does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The report authoriser does not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.</p> <p>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).</p>

16 CORRESPONDENCE

16.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE - THE HONOURABLE CHIEF MINISTER - CRIME PLAN

Author: Manager Office of Council and CEO

Authoriser: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Incoming Correspondence - The Honourable Chief Minister - Crime Plan [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the Incoming Correspondence - The Honourable Chief Minister - Crime Plan be received and noted.



CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8936 5500
Facsimile: 08 8936 5576

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Darwin
The Honourable Kon Vatskalis
City of Darwin

Email: lord.mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au

Dear  Lord Mayor

Nothing is more important than keeping Territorians safe – and that's why I've developed a comprehensive and common sense plan to lower crime.

The key part of this common sense plan is to boost police resources and we are doing this by recruiting an extra 200 sworn police officers.

We know that police response times need to get better. That's why the Territory Labor Government will invest in more police, more call takers and upgraded communications technology to achieve faster police response times.

We will provide the Northern Territory Police Force with extra resources to recruit an extra 25 call takers and CCTV operators. These extra trained staff working in the Joint Emergency Services Communication Centre will improve efficiency and reduce dispatch times for police to respond to crime in the community.

We are also securing the long-term future of the Territory Safety Division and ensuring it has the equipment needed to lower crime. We're investing \$16 million each year to deliver 52 extra police and 26 vehicles – so they can go where they are needed most.

The Territory Safety Division is a high-visibility policing unit that focuses on public order, anti-social behaviour and youth crime – with these extra resources the unit will be able to do more on Territory streets to keep the community safe.

Boosting resources and support to the Northern Territory Police Force to record levels is part of my common sense and comprehensive plan to lower crime across the Territory.

Reducing crime is my top priority and we will work tirelessly to improve community safety right across the Territory. Please feel free to contact my office if you would like further information on my common sense and comprehensive plan to lower crime.

Yours sincerely



EVA LAWLER

10 APR 2024



17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

19 GENERAL BUSINESS

Appointment of Deputy Lord Mayor

20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 28 May 2024, 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 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 Draft 2024/25 Municipal Plan

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 Chapel Lane Redevelopment

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.

28.3 Appointment of Chair Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee

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.

28.4 Community Grants Round 1 and Reconciliation/NAIDOC Week Program Recommendations 2024

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.

28.5 2024 East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Membership Appointment

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.

28.6 Christmas Pageant

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.

28.7 Cyclone Tracy Memorial at East Point

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.

28.8 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.

28.9 Smith Street Greening Concepts

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.

28.10 Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Budget Recommendation 2023/2024

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 Corporate Services Quarterly Report - January to March 2024

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 George Park Playground Petition

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.

29.3 Committee Meeting Confidential Minutes

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.

22 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 16 April 2024

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, 16 APRIL 2024 AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT:

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor Sam Weston
Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris
Councillor Brian O'Gallagher
Councillor Mick Palmer
Councillor Peter Pangquee
Councillor Morgan Rickard
Councillor Ed Smelt
Councillor Amye Un

OFFICERS

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders
General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr
Acting General Manager Corporate, Alex Vereker
General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

APOLOGY:

Councillor Kim Farrar
Councillor Vim Sharma
Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

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 ORD093/24

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:31 pm.

CARRIED 10/0

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION ORD094/24

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT the apology from Councillor Vim Sharma and Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe, be received.

CARRIED 10/0

4.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

RESOLUTION ORD095/24

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT it be noted Councillor Kim Farrar is an apology due to a Leave of Absence previously granted on 26 March 2024 for the period 5 April 2024 to 19 April 2024.

CARRIED 10/0

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

RESOLUTION ORD096/24

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

1. THAT a Leave of Absence be granted for Councillor Mick Palmer for 30 April 2024.
2. THAT a Leave of Absence be granted for Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris for the period 19 April 2024 to 22 April 2024.
3. THAT a Leave of Absence be granted for Councillor Peter Pangquee for 30 April 2024.

CARRIED 10/0

5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

5.1 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE GRANTED

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 95 (43) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the following Councillor(s) was granted permission for Electronic Meeting Attendance:

- Councillor Amye Un

5.2 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

6.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

RESOLUTION ORD097/24

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the Lord Mayor, declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 15.2.
2. THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Councillor Amye Un, declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 15.2.

CARRIED 10/0

6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

RESOLUTION ORD098/24

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 179 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders, declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 15.2.

CARRIED 10/0

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLUTION ORD099/24

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Sam Weston

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting and the Restricted Confidential Open Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED 10/0

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**28.2 DRAFT BUNDILLA BEACH MASTER PLAN****RESOLUTION ORD122/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

1. THAT the report entitled Draft Bundilla Beach Master Plan be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the draft Bundilla Beach Master Plan at **Attachment 1** for the purposes of commencing the next phase of stakeholder and community engagement.
3. THAT the finalised Bundilla Beach Master Plan be presented to Council for endorsement at a future Council meeting.
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 and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 10/0

28.5 ADVOCACY AND PARTNERSHIPS PLAN**RESOLUTION ORD125/24**

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Advocacy and Partnerships Plan be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the Draft 2030 Advocacy and Partnerships Plan at **Attachment 1**.
3. 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*.
4. 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 OUTSTANDING DEBTOR ACCOUNT**RESOLUTION ORD127/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Update on Outstanding Debtor Account 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 and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 10/0

29.3 THE FUTURE OF MICROMOBILITY TRANSPORTATION**RESOLUTION ORD129/24**

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Councillor Ed Smelt

1. THAT the report entitled The Future of Micromobility Transportation 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**29.4 UNCONFIRMED CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES - RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (RMAC) - 23 FEBRUARY 2024****RESOLUTION ORD130/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

1. THAT the report entitled Unconfirmed Confidential Minutes – Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) – 23 February 2024, 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

11.1 PETITION – GEORGE PARK FANNIE BAY

RESOLUTION ORD100/24

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Councillor Ed Smelt will present the Petition.

1. THAT the Petition, in relation to the request that Council reconsider the decision not to build a new playground at George Park, George Crescent, Fannie Bay be received and noted.
2. THAT the Petition regarding the decision not to build a new playground at George Park, George Crescent, Fannie Bay, be referred to the Community Hub for consideration and a report to return to Council.

CARRIED 10/0

12 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

12.1 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

Nil

13 NOTICES OF MOTION

13.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - TRIAL CLOSURE OF THE INTERSECTION OF HOLMES STREET AND PLAYFORD STREET, FANNIE BAY

I, Councillor Mick Palmer, give notice that at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 16 April 2024, I will move the following motion:-

RESOLUTION ORD101/24

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

1. THAT Council receive and note this motion to undertake a minimum three year trial closure of the intersection of Holmes Street and Playford Street, Fannie Bay.
2. THAT Council provide in-principle support for this three year trial closure and approve for this motion to be referred to the Innovation Hub for consideration and a return report to Council in June 2024.

CARRIED 10/0

14 ACTION REPORTS

14.1 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MOTIONS 2024

RESOLUTION ORD102/24

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Ed Smelt

1. THAT the report entitled Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly Motions 2024 be received and noted.

2. THAT Council endorse the following motion to be put to the National General Assembly 2024:

"This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to reaffirm that the Australian Defence Force provide disaster assistance to local communities when required or requested."

3. THAT Council endorse the following motion to be put to the National General Assembly 2024:

"This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support flood proofing on major Australian highways and rail corridors, including upgrading culverts, causeways and bridges to ensure transport corridors for food, freight and essential supplies at all times."

CARRIED 10/0

14.2 WORLD CITIES SUMMIT 2024

RESOLUTION ORD103/24

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

1. THAT the report entitled World Cities Summit 2024 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve for the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to travel to Singapore to attend the World Cities Summit 2024, in accordance with [Policy 0017 Elected Members Expenses, Facilities, and Support](#).

CARRIED 10/0

15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS**15.1 UNCONFIRMED OPEN MINUTES - RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (RMAC) - 23 FEBRUARY 2024****RESOLUTION ORD104/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the report entitled Unconfirmed Open Minutes - Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) – 23 February 2024 be received and noted.

CARRIED 10/0

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis departed the meeting at 5:47 pm due to a declared conflict of interest.

Councillor Amye Un departed the meeting at 5:47 pm due to a declared conflict of interest.

The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders departed the meeting at 5:47pm due to a declared conflict of interest.

15.2 UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT OUTCOMES**RESOLUTION ORD105/24**

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

THAT the report entitled Update on Code of Conduct Outcomes be received and noted.

CARRIED 8/0

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis re-joined the meeting at 5:49 pm.

The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders re-joined the meeting at 5:49pm.

Councillor Amye Un re-joined the meeting at 5:50 pm.

16 CORRESPONDENCE**16.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE - DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER AND CABINET - PERSONAL USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA****RESOLUTION ORD106/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

THAT the Incoming Correspondence - Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet - Personal Use of Social Media be received and noted.

CARRIED 10/0

17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Nil

18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**18.1 PUBLIC TOILET OPENING HOURS****RESOLUTION ORD107/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Question

Councillor Ed Smelt requested an update on the roll out of the public toilet change of opening hours from the Council decision of October 2023.

Response

The General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy responded and advised the security contractor was advised of the change of hours and has been rolling out since. The team are currently in the process of finalising a contract with a new security provider.

CARRIED 10/0

18.2 CORONATION DRIVE STUART PARK**RESOLUTION ORD108/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Question

Councillor Amye Un requested an update on a request sent through to City of Darwin by a resident for trees to be planted in the roundabout along Coronation Drive in Stuart Park.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr took the question on notice.

CARRIED 10/0

18.3 UPDATE ON CCTV IN SMITH STREET MALL**RESOLUTION ORD109/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher
Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris requested an update on who owns and who is currently operating the CCTV in The Mall.

Response

The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders responded and advised the CCTV in The Mall is owned by the Northern Territory Police and they are responsible for monitoring, repairs and maintenance. The Northern Territory Police have recently advised, they were experiencing intermittent connectivity issues with the CCTV.

CARRIED 10/0**18.4 PINE LOG REPLACEMENT PROGRAM****RESOLUTION ORD110/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher
Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested an update on the replacement of pine logs in parks.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised the pine log replacement program looks at risk assessment for the ones that are most deteriorated or need to be replaced and there are a couple of different options. It is determined by a case-by-case basis.

CARRIED 10/0

18.5 PATTERSON STREET MALAK**RESOLUTION ORD111/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested an update on the fencing in the greenbelt along Patterson Street in Malak.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr took the question on notice.

CARRIED 10/0

18.6 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING COUNTDOWN**RESOLUTION ORD112/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Question

Councillor Sam Weston requested an update on why the countdown for the pedestrian crossings at several intersections in the city have been removed.

Response

The Executive Manager Infrastructure, Nik Kleine advised that the traffic lights are owned by the City of Darwin and managed by a contractor awarded by the Northern Territory Government. If the countdown system has reverted to the green or red flashing person, there may be a fault with the system and will need to be checked. Officers will contact the relevant contractor to have the issue rectified.

CARRIED 10/0

18.7 ROUGH SLEEPERS**RESOLUTION ORD113/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Question

Councillor Amye Un advised of rough sleepers located at Officeworks in Stuart Park and requested the assistance of City of Darwin to have them moved on.

Response

The Lord Mayor responded and advised that it is private property and City of Darwin can not assist.

CARRIED 10/0

19 GENERAL BUSINESS**19.1 ROUGH SLEEPERS****RESOLUTION ORD114/24**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Councillor Morgan Rickard was copied into correspondence from the Member for Nightcliff, Natasha Fyles regarding campers in the Nightcliff area. Councillor Morgan Rickard would like the Lord Mayor to respond and remind the member it is a homelessness issues which is the responsibility of the Northern Territory Government. The Lord Mayor noted the correspondence received.

CARRIED 10/0

19.2 VENTURE HOUSING**RESOLUTION ORD115/24**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested information on who Council can reach out to regarding issues with NT Housing properties now being managed by Venture Housing.

The Lord Mayor took the question on notice and will provide further information to the Elected Members.

CARRIED 10/0

19.3 MEMBER FOR KARAMA**RESOLUTION ORD116/24**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Councillor Brian O’Gallagher advised he will be running in the upcoming election as the Country Liberal Party candidate of Karama. He will provide Council with an intent letter no later than the 8 August 2024 and wish all candidates all the best.

CARRIED 10/0

19.4 MEMBER FOR FONG LIM**RESOLUTION ORD117/24**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Councillor Amye Un advised she will be running in the upcoming election as an Independent Candidate for Fong Lim. The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised that Councillor Amye Un had sought advice from the Electoral Commission.

CARRIED 10/0

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

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 30 April 2024, 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 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 Strategic and Priority Projects Plan 2030

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 Draft Bundilla Beach Master Plan

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.

28.3 Lyons Community Centre

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.

28.4 Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre Tenancies

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.

28.5 Advocacy and Partnerships Plan

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.

28.6 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.

29.1 Update on Outstanding Debtor Account

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.

29.2 Civic Centre Redevelopment Update

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i) and 51(c)(iii) 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 prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

29.3 The Future of Micromobility Transportation

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.

29.4 Unconfirmed Confidential Minutes - Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) - 23 February 2024

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.

22 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

RESOLUTION ORD118/24

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Morgan Rickard

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 6:06 pm.

CARRIED 10/0

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 6:53 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 6:53 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 April 2024.

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CHAIR