



Business Papers

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, 21 February 2017
1.00pm**



Notice of Meeting

To the Lord Mayor and Aldermen

You are invited to attend a Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting to be held in Meeting Room 1, Level 1, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin, on Tuesday, 21 February 2017, commencing at 1.00pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B P Dowd', is positioned above the printed name.

B P DOWD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/3

CITY OF DARWIN

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2017

MEMBERS: Member R M Knox (Chair); The Right Worshipful, The Lord Mayor, Katrina Fong Lim; Member J A Glover; Member S J Niblock.

OFFICERS: Chief Executive Officer, Mr B Dowd; General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Ms A Malgorzewicz; Manager Recreation, Events and Customer Services, Mr M Grassmayr; Library Services Manager, Mrs K Conway; Manager Community Development, Ms K Hearn; Committee Administrator, Mrs P Hart.

Enquiries and/or Apologies: Penny Hart

E-mail: p.hart@darwin.nt.gov.au - PH: 89300 670

OR Phone Committee Room 1, for Late Apologies - PH: 89300 519

Committee's Responsibilities

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Recreation & Leisure | • Cultural Services |
| • Family and Children Services | • Liquor Licences |
| • Sister Cities | • Youth Services |
| • Libraries | • Customer Services |

THAT effective as of 16 April 2012 Council, pursuant to Section 32 (2)(b) of the Local Government Act 2008, hereby delegates to the Community & Cultural Services Committee the power to make recommendations to Council and decisions relating to Community & Cultural Services matters within the approved budget.

***** INDEX *****

PAGE

1. MEETING DECLARED OPEN	5
2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	5
3. ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE	5

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/4

4.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF	5
5.	CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	6
6.	WITHDRAWAL OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION	6
7.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES PERTAINING TO THE PREVIOUS COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING	
	• Tuesday, 22 November 2016	6
8.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PERTAINING TO THE PREVIOUS COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING	
8.1	Business Arising	7
9.	DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS	7
10.1	OFFICERS REPORTS (ACTION REQUIRED)	
10.1.1	Strategic Direction of Casuarina Pool	9
10.1.2	Council Gig Gear Initiative - Review	42
10.2	OFFICERS REPORTS (RECEIVE & NOTE)	47
11.	INFORMATION ITEMS	
11.1	Draft Minutes Ambon Sister City Advisory Committee 17 November 2016	47
11.2	Draft Minutes Haikou Sister City Advisory Committee 2 December 2016	51
11.3	Draft Minutes Kalymnos Sister City Advisory Committee 14 November 2016	53
11.4	Draft Minutes Youth Advisory Committee 2 February 2017	56
12.	GENERAL BUSINESS	63

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/5

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

1. **MEETING DECLARED OPEN**
2. **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
Common No. 2695036
 - 2.1 **Apologies**
 - 2.2 **Leave of Absence Granted**
3. **ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE**
Common No. 2221528
 - 3.1 **Electronic Meeting Attendance Granted**
4. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**
Common No. 2752228
 - 4.1 **Declaration of Interest by Members**
 - 4.2 **Declaration of Interest by Staff**

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/6

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

5. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS** Common No. 1944604

5.1 **Closure to the Public for Confidential Items**

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 following Items:-

<u>Item</u>	<u>Regulation</u>	<u>Reason</u>
C14	8(c)(iv)	information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person
C17.1	8(c)(iv)	information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of the council or some other person

5.2 **Moving Open Items Into Confidential**

5.3 **Moving Confidential Items Into Open**

6. **WITHDRAWAL OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

THAT the Committee resolve under delegated authority that all Information Items and Officers Reports to the Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 21 February 2017 be received and considered individually.

7. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES PERTAINING TO THE PREVIOUS COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

THAT the Committee resolve that the minutes of the previous Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 22 November 2016, tabled by the Chair, be received and confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/7

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PERTAINING TO THE PREVIOUS COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

8.1 Business Arising

9. DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

Nil

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/8

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

10.1 OFFICERS REPORTS (ACTION REQUIRED)

ENCL: COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES
YES COMMITTEE/OPEN

AGENDA ITEM: 10.1.1

STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF CASUARINA POOL

REPORT No.: 17C0003 MG:kl

COMMON No.: 3049210

DATE: 21/02/2017

**Presenter: Manager Recreation, Events & Customer Services,
Matt Grassmayr**

**Approved: General Manager Community & Cultural Services,
Anna Malgorzewicz**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding enhanced contemporary family aquatic and leisure elements at Casuarina Pool.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the City of Darwin 2012 – 2016 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Towards 2020 Strategic Plan':-

Goal

2 Vibrant, Flexible and Tropical Lifestyle

Outcome

2.3 Increased sport, recreation and leisure experiences

Key Strategies

2.3.3 Promote and host family-orientated activities

KEY ISSUES

- Council, at its 1st Ordinary meeting on 13 October 2015, identified the future strategic direction for Casuarina Pool as a contemporary family aquatic and leisure facility.
- This report investigates enhancements to the current infrastructure at Casuarina Pool in order to achieve this strategic direction.
- Community feedback suggested installing a wet play area as a priority to enhance the family-friendly nature of the venue.
- Council engaged the services of a Recreation Strategic Planner to undertake an evidence-based review for options regarding wet play at Casuarina Pool.

PAGE: 2
 REPORT NUMBER: 16C0092 MG:kl
 SUBJECT: STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF CASUARINA POOL

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

- A. THAT Report Number 17C0003 MG:kl entitled Strategic Direction Of Casuarina Pool, be received and noted.
- B. THAT an amount of \$100,000 be referred to the 2017-2018 budget deliberations for consideration to enhance the family friendly elements at Casuarina Pool.

BACKGROUND

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

DECISION NO.21\4929 (18/10/16)

Casuarina Pool

Common No. 3049210

THAT a Report be prepared for the Committee Meeting held in February 2017 on the Implementation of Recommendation D of Decision No 21\3812, Report No. 15C0125 entitled Strategic Direction for City of Darwin Public Swimming Pools, regarding enhanced contemporary family aquatic and leisure elements at Casuarina Pool.

DECISION NO.21\3812 (13/10/15)

Strategic Direction for City of Darwin Public Swimming Pools

Common No. 3049210

*D: THAT Council endorse the future strategic direction for Casuarina Pool, as a contemporary family aquatic and leisure facility, as defined in the City of Darwin Swimming Pools Strategic Directions Report October 2015 at **Attachment A** to Report Number 15C0125 MG:sc entitled Strategic Direction for City of Darwin Public Swimming Pools for the purpose of future planning and community consultation.*

DISCUSSION

Council, at its 1st Ordinary meeting on 13 October 2015, identified the future strategic direction for Casuarina Pool as a contemporary family aquatic and leisure facility. At the Community and Cultural Services Committee meeting on the 18 October 2016, a report was called for to provide options that would deliver this strategic direction.

Modern aquatic facilities offer a variety of elements to accommodate a range of ages and abilities, not just a space to swim. Facilities also include design elements that improve access and amenity to provide family-friendly spaces.

PAGE: 3
 REPORT NUMBER: 16C0092 MG:kl
 SUBJECT: STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF CASUARINA POOL

Facilities at Casuarina Pool currently consist of an 8-lane 50m competition pool, a 20m learn-to-swim pool, a 6m radius toddlers' pool, basketball half-court, dry playground with fort and slide, BBQ, picnic tables and shade structures **Attachment A**.

Consultation with stakeholders and the community was undertaken through meetings and surveys to capture their priorities for enhanced contemporary family aquatic and leisure elements at Casuarina Pool. Survey and stakeholder responses are detailed at **Attachment B**.

Stakeholders identified wet play and exercise equipment as important family friendly elements for inclusion. They also made suggestions for club and competition use which are detailed in **Attachment B**.

The community was surveyed online, and via hard copy during the Christmas Water Fun Afternoon at Casuarina Pool and during Fun Bus activities, from December 2016 to February 2017. The survey results established the following elements in order of priority to enhance the facility for family and leisure use:

- Wet Play Area
- Shade
- Picnic/BBQ Facilities
- Dry Playground
- Café
- Other
- Exercise Equipment
- Group Fitness Classes
- Mobile Food

Wet and Dry Play Areas

Council engaged Mark Upson, Recreation Strategic Planner, to provide an evidence-based review of wet play areas and investigate the feasibility and rationale to install this type of element at Casuarina Pool. The Casuarina Swimming Pool Contemporary Wet Play Areas Review at **Attachment C** details a number of examples of existing wet play area designs that would be suitable to enhance Casuarina Pool.

The demographic changes within the Casuarina Pool catchment area, combined with the reduction in residential land size and therefore home pool ownership, has resulted in Casuarina Pool being well placed to offer a family-friendly zero-depth wet play area that will complement but not significantly compete with the Leanyer Recreation Water Park.

The economic rationale for inclusion of wet play areas includes:

- initial capital cost is significantly less than traditional swimming pools
- wet play elements result in a significant increase in patronage, both in terms of number of visits and the duration that patrons stay at the facility

PAGE: 4
 REPORT NUMBER: 16C0092 MG:kl
 SUBJECT: STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF CASUARINA POOL

Wet play areas increase sustainability and have lower maintenance requirements and running costs, due to the lower amount of water required compared to traditional toddler pools. These areas are zero-depth and have no standing water, they include a number of water play components and result in lower supervision costs as there is no requirement for continuous lifeguard surveillance.

A dry playground has been provided at Casuarina Pool for a number of years. The existing dry play area consists of a covered single slide and fort structure which does not adequately meet community expectations. Contemporary aquatic facilities designs co-locate wet and dry play areas close to amenities and kiosk facilities to allow parents and carers to supervise informal play at a centralised location that also provides enhanced amenity. The Casuarina Swimming Pool Contemporary Wet Play Areas Review recommends the installation of a combined wet/dry play area in the location of the existing toddler pool.

Shade

Artificial and natural shade was the second most important element identified by the community, and was also a priority for stakeholders. Following concerns from swimming clubs, Council has installed a temporary shade pavilion at the kiosk end of the pool deck to accommodate afternoon squad training. A permanent structure would cost approximately \$60,000 (ex GST) to cover this area. While at present this is a priority request from stakeholders, once Council re-opens Parap Pool the requirement for this element may change.

An improvement in natural shade could be achieved by assessment and shading program by Council's parks team.

BBQ/Picnic Facilities

There are 11 aluminium picnic tables and 1 BBQ covered with shade cloth in the Casuarina Pool grounds. Feedback from pool management indicates these are heavily utilised on weekends. An additional 3 BBQs with hard covers would increase the amenity of the facility.

Food and Beverage

The survey results indicated improved food and beverage options are important to patrons, with preference for a permanent café rather than mobile food. Council will tender the Management Contract in 2017 and recommendations for greater food and beverage choices will be included. In order to gauge financial viability of food and beverage offerings, a trial of mobile food vendors will be undertaken during the 2017 Dry Season.

Other

The community and stakeholders provided comment on a variety of other elements they indicated would enhance the family and leisure facilities, these included:

- Water bubblers
- Updated change rooms
- New pool toy

PAGE: 5
 REPORT NUMBER: 16C0092 MG:kl
 SUBJECT: STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF CASUARINA POOL

- Upgrade basketball court
- Skate area
- Jumping pillow
- Water slides
- Water rock climbing wall
- Improved wheelchair access
- Improved accessibility to pool
- Volleyball court
- Braille signage
- Childcare
- WiFi
- Programs and events for children and youth such as school holiday programs, movie nights, pool parties

Quotations have been sourced for some of these elements; estimated costs are listed in the Budget and Resource section of this report.

Exercise Facilities and Programs

Survey respondents rated additional exercise facilities and programs as a lower priority. Outdoor exercise equipment or a covered space for dry land group exercise classes would improve exercise options at the pool. The most recent Council installation of exercise equipment included two static pieces of equipment and two dynamic pieces of equipment located under natural shade at Robyn Lesley Park, Karama at a cost of \$25,635.

A covered exercise area of approximately 10m x 5m is estimated to cost \$110,000 (ex GST). The Healthy Darwin program currently utilises Casuarina Pool for weekly Aqua Yoga classes and Adult Learn-to-Swim courses. The addition of a covered exercise area would allow further programs to be established at this location.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

From November 2016 to February 2017, the community was invited to provide feedback on what type of additional elements they would like to see at Casuarina Pool to enhance the family-friendly nature of the facility.

A list of common inclusions at aquatic centres was made available online for people to rank in order of preference, as a web-based survey. The survey was promoted via Council's website and social media. In addition, paper questionnaires were completed at the Casuarina Pool Christmas Water Fun Afternoon on 18 December 2016. Questionnaires were available at the Casuarina Pool Kiosk throughout January 2017 as well as being distributed to Fun In The Parks participants.

Stakeholders were also invited to provide comment, with submissions received from Casuarina Storm Swimming Club, Nightcliff Swimming Club, Royal Life Saving Society NT and Dempsey Consolidated.

PAGE: 6
 REPORT NUMBER: 16C0092 MG:kl
 SUBJECT: STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF CASUARINA POOL

In preparing this report, the following City of Darwin officers were consulted:

- Recreation and Healthy Lifestyle Coordinator
- Recreation Services Officer

In preparing this report, the following External Parties were consulted:

- Mark Upson, Mark Upson & Associates Leisure Facilities Management & Marketing
- Nightcliff Swimming Club
- Casuarina Storm Swimming Club
- Darwin Swimming Club
- Darwin Stingers Masters Club
- Royal Life Saving Australia – NT Branch
- Swimming NT
- Dempsey Consolidated Pty Ltd

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

City of Darwin Policy No. 046 - Recreation and Healthy Lifestyle Policy provides a framework to support equitable, safe and inclusive use of Council's active and passive reserves and recreation facilities.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The below table provides an estimate for infrastructure enhancements at Casuarina Pool to enhance the family friendly nature of the facility.

Proposed Item	Estimated Cost (ex GST)
Zero-depth wet play area	\$750,00 to \$950,000
Dry playground including shade	\$200,000
Covered outdoor exercise space	\$110,000
3 additional BBQs areas with shade	\$90,000
Artificial shade at kiosk end of pool deck	\$60,000
Outdoor exercise equipment	\$30,000
New pool toy	\$25,000
WiFi installation	\$15,000
Upgrade to existing basketball court	\$12,000

RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

PAGE: 7
 REPORT NUMBER: 16C0092 MG:kl
 SUBJECT: STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF CASUARINA POOL

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

MATT GRASSMAYR
MANAGER RECREATION,
EVENTS & CUSTOMER
SERVICES

ANNA MALGORZEWICZ
GENERAL MANAGER
COMMUNITY & CULTURAL
SERVICES

For enquiries, please contact Anna Malgorzewicz on 89300633 or email:
a.malgorzewicz@darwin.nt.gov.au.

Attachments:

- Attachment A:** Family and Leisure Facilities at Casuarina Pool
- Attachment B:** Casuarina Pool Engagement Findings
- Attachment C:** Casuarina Swimming Pool Contemporary Wet Play Areas Review

Current Facilities at Casuarina Pool



Picture 1: The Main Pool



Pictures 2 & 3: The Toddlers' Pool



Picture 4: The Learn-To-Swim Pool



Pictures 5 & 6: Playground with rubberised softfall and shade structure



Picture 7: Gas Barbecue with pavers and shade structure



Picture 8: Basketball half-court



Pictures 9 & 10: additional shade structures



Picture 11: Race Marshalling Area (with shade structure, concrete apron, removable tables and permanent tiered seating) and Swimming NT on-deck office



Picture 12: Race Start Blocks (at both ends); additional shade structure (temporary) for Swimming Clubs whilst Parap Pool is undergoing its redevelopment.

Casuarina Pool Engagement Findings

From 31 October 2016 to 23 January 2017, consultation with stakeholders and the community was undertaken, seeking feedback on what family-friendly elements would enhance Casuarina Pool to align with Council's strategic direction for the pool. 223 responses were received for the survey.

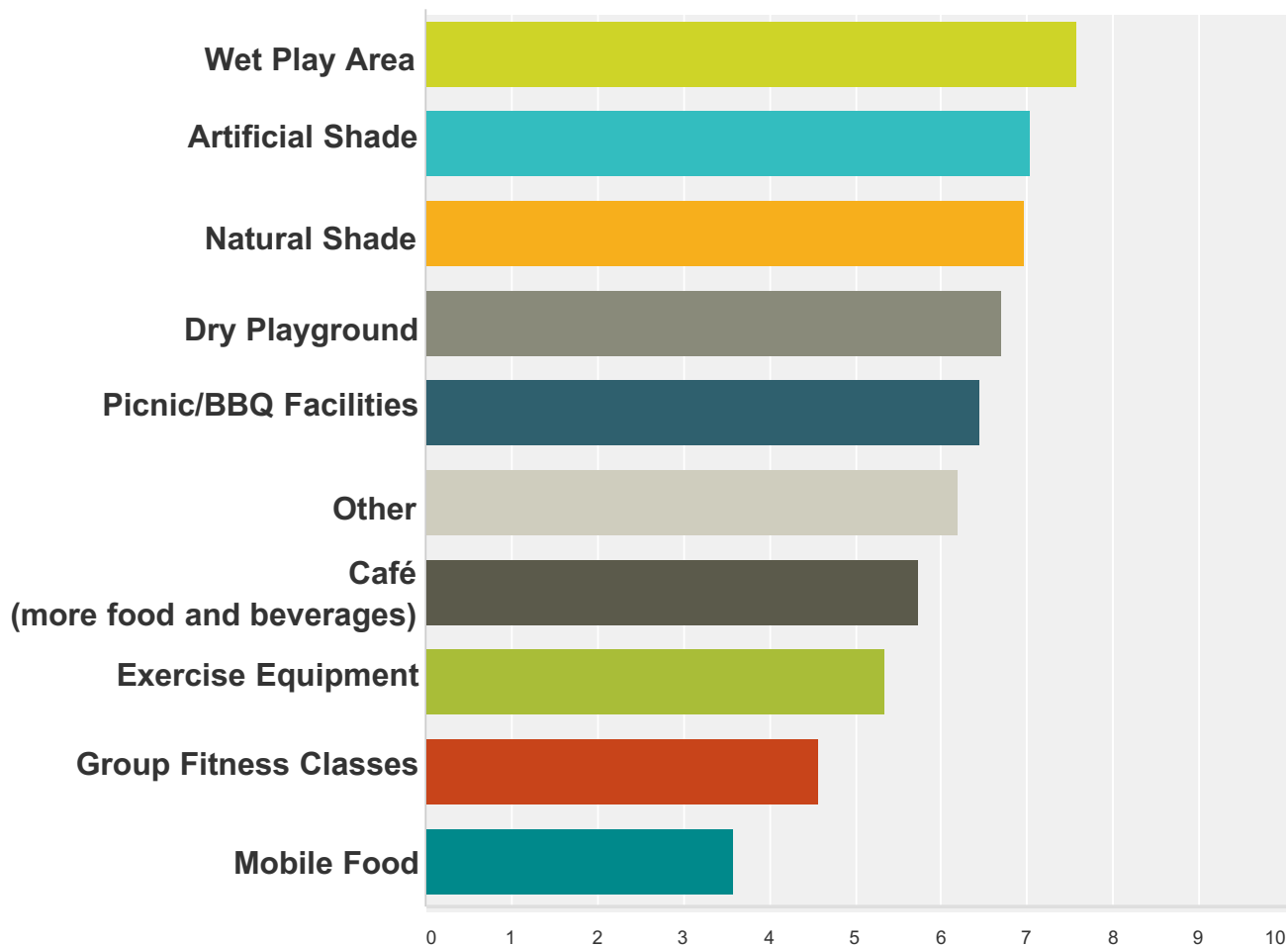
Written submissions were also received from Casuarina Storm Swimming Club, Nightcliff Swimming Club, Royal Life Saving Society NT and Dempsey Consolidated.

Casuarina Pool Survey

Q1 Please rank the following in the order you see as a priority for the venue. (1 = the most desirable; 10 = least desired).

You do not need to number all options if you don't want to - just number those that you feel are relevant.

Answered: 223 Skipped: 1





Casuarina Swimming Club Inc.

Suggestions to improve Casuarina Pool facility

1. A retractable Shade Cover similar to Palmerston Aquatic Centre.

- * solves heating the pool during the cooler months
- * will remove the hazard of cyclone damage to shade sails.
- * solves children being exposed to the sun if they are in the top end of the pool.

2. Shaded areas immediately around the 50m pool.

3. Fix the roller gate at the front, so the pool entry looks bigger.

4. Drinking fountain near the back end of the pool.

5. Exercise equipment similar to the Nightcliff foreshore.

6. Water play area for the little swimmers.

7. Remove the trees around the perimeter of the grounds to prevent break ins.

8. Up grade the fencing to mirror Nightcliff's black fence (looks awesome over there).

9. Create a lightning safe area for swimmers to shelter under at the back end of the pool ei - metal roof shading structure.

10. Make the wheel chair entry bigger.

11. Include braille signage on the toilets.

12. Include a visual warnings of lightning for your deaf swimmers.

13. Create a space for the squad swimmers to store their kits (at the moment they are dumped in front of the kiosk - tripping hazard for the public.



Royal Life Saving NT's input to a more family-friendly Casuarina facility are as follows (not sure on budget)

- 1) More stakeholder engagement days, maybe discounted or free entry - reacquainting families that the pool is a cheap option
- 2) Soft water pay, more options for children
- 3) More shade and BBQ facilities
- 4) Jumping pillow
- 5) Water Slides, the community always seeming to ask for it at the

Stephen Gazzola | IAS Remote Swim, Survive & Strive Manager Royal Life Saving Society NT Branch
 "Our People, Our Lifestyle, Our Water"
 PO Box 1229 Darwin NT 0801 | T: 08 8981 5036 | F: 08 89418 442 remoteswimsurvive@rlssa.org.au



Suggestions to improve Casuarina Pool as a family friendly venue.

A children's toilet/change room. I know as a mother with boys who no longer want to go to the ladies with me that I don't feel comfortable with them going to the men's alone to change/toilet. A separate cubicle such as that provided to disabled swimmers would help make it more secure for children. This is especially so for club swimmers who are often dropped off minus parental supervision and it is a large ask for coaches to keep track of children and random adults entering change rooms.

Kind regards,

Jessica Menzies

President Nightcliff Swimming Club



Casuarina Swimming Pool Contemporary Wet Play Areas Review

February 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION.....	2
2	CASUARINA SWIMMING POOL OVERVIEW.....	2
3	CASUARINA POOL PERFORMANCE HISTORY.....	4
3.1	ATTENDANCES.....	4
3.2	OPERATIONAL COSTS.....	4
3.3	SUBSIDY PER VISITATION	5
3.4	CASUARINA SWIMMING POOL STRATEGIC PLANNING	5
3.5	CASUARINA NOTIONAL WET PLAY CATCHMENT	6
3.6	NOTIONAL CATCHMENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.....	6
4	CONTEMPORARY FAMILY AQUATIC AND LEISURE ELEMENTS	7
5	CASUARINA POOL WET PLAY AREA OPTIONS	8
5.1	PROPOSED WET PLAY LOCATION.....	8
5.2	WET PLAY AREAS	9
6	CASE STUDIES.....	11
6.1	SOUTHSIDE MEMORIAL POOL – ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL COUNCIL, QLD	11
6.2	BLACKWATER AQUATIC CENTRE – CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL, QLD.....	13
6.3	BLUEWATER LAGOON – MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL, QLD.....	14
6.4	RECENT WET PLAY FACILITY DEVELOPMENTS.....	15
7	WET PLAY / DRY PLAY COMBINATION.....	16
8	RATIONALE FOR INVESTMENT IN WET / DRY PLAY AREA	16
9	PRELIMINARY BUDGET PLANNING	17
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	17

1 INTRODUCTION

In October 2015, City of Darwin (CoD) determined the strategic direction for Casuarina Swimming Pool (Casuarina Pool) as a **contemporary family aquatic and leisure facility**, as defined Report Number 15C0125 MG:sc entitled 'Strategic Direction for City of Darwin Public Swimming Pools'.

This paper provides an evidence-based review of contemporary wet play areas that would enhance the current Casuarina Pool facility.

For the purposes of preliminary and estimated costings, the assumption has been made that any new wet play area would:

- be built on land currently occupied by the original toddler pool in the north-east corner of the Casuarina Pool complex
- initially utilise existing underground services for water supply and drainage connections to the existing Casuarina water treatment plant and
- deliver **zero-depth** water features that do not include any ponded water

Zero-depth wet play is defined as providing wet play features that generally operate in less than 50mm of water and:

- water is sprayed or dropped from upright structures or ground sprays and then drained before it can accumulate
- can generally operate safely with parental supervision and without a dedicated lifeguard
- is inclusive, catering for all ages and abilities

2 CASUARINA SWIMMING POOL OVERVIEW

Over the past fifteen years, Council has committed to significant research and master planning to inform the future facility requirements of all Council pools.

Previous Councils have consistently acknowledged that:

- the operation of the three swimming pools is valued, and are important community facilities
- Council's swimming pools are a major provider of aquatic competition, recreation and community leisure opportunities, and are deemed to be essential facilities in the Top End's tropical climate
- demand will continue to grow for access to new contemporary aquatic recreation and leisure services, including swimming pools and wet play facilities
- previous town planning advice suggests that while Darwin has traditionally experienced high levels of home pool ownership, the reduced size of new developments (many with 450m² allotments) will limit the number of new home pool installations, thereby increasing individual and family demand for new and improved Council and NTG aquatic facilities

Council has already implemented several major recommendations taken from previous reports for the Nightcliff and Parap Pools, including:

- relocating and upgrading the Nightcliff Pool plant room and filtration systems
- the development of a new purpose-built café adjacent to Nightcliff Pool
- the redevelopment of Parap Pool as the regional aquatic competition and training facility

In order for Casuarina Pool to evolve into Council's strategic vision of a contemporary family aquatic and leisure facility, significant facility upgrades are required.

Due to the high capital costs involved in replacing 50 to 60-year-old assets that are no longer contemporary or meeting community expectation, many Australian Councils have introduced new components that offer modern facilities designed to attract increased visitation based on the quality of the facilities and the inclusiveness of the services offered.

Other Councils have reported immediate and significant increases in attendances at upgraded facilities with the community using and supporting the new facilities as aquatic community centres rather than just pools (refer Section 6).

The Casuarina site is well suited to enhancement in terms of its available parkland space and, subject to assessment, may also allow for a relatively easy and less expensive wet play installation to be facilitated by using existing underground services (this should be confirmed by an inspection by a suitably qualified asset management expert or engineer).

Currently, facility planning trends incorporate several strategies, including:

- developing a wider range of activity areas at the one site to maximise use of infrastructure (car parking, fixed services, etc.) and reduce staffing costs on a per visitation basis
- the development of additional facilities that are inclusive and appeal to all sections of the community
- planning a facility that offers opportunities for families to socialise and spend time together



3 CASUARINA POOL PERFORMANCE HISTORY

The following section summarises the attendance and financial performance of Casuarina Pool.

3.1 ATTENDANCES

The following table (Figure 1) shows the annual attendances at Casuarina Pool over the eight-year period 2009 to 2016.

2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
64,391	63,930	52,362	59,635	43,410	77,204	85,721	78,253

Figure 1: Casuarina Annual Pool Attendances 2009-2016

On average over the eight-year period 2009-2016, Casuarina has had the lowest attendances of Council's three swimming pools:

- Nightcliff 71,048 (35.29%)
- Parap 66,482 (33.02%)
- Casuarina 63,808 (31.69%)

3.2 OPERATIONAL COSTS

Figure 2 below shows the seven-year average revenue and expenditure data for 2009-2015 for Council's three swimming pools.

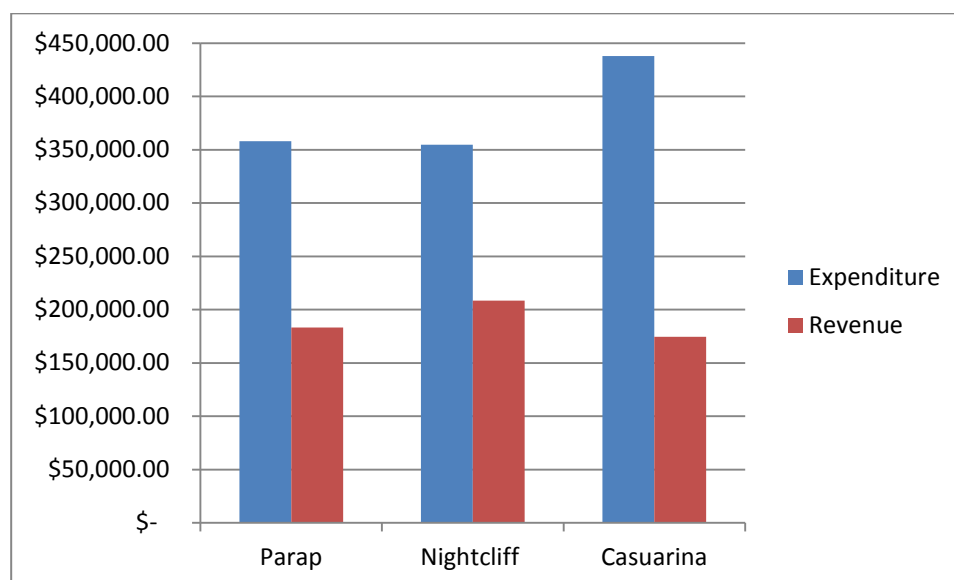


Figure 2: City Of Darwin Swimming Pools Revenue and Expenditures – seven-year average for 2009-2015

Historically, Casuarina has had the highest annual operating deficit (seven-year average 2009-2015 of -\$263,333) followed by Parap (seven-year average of -\$174,665) and Nightcliff (seven-year average of -\$146,285).

3.3 SUBSIDY PER VISITATION

Based on average attendance and operating costs, Casuarina Pool recorded the highest subsidy per visitation of the three Council pools (seven-year average of -\$4.24) followed by Parap Pool (seven-year average of -\$3.21), and Nightcliff Pool (seven-year average of -\$2.20).

3.4 CASUARINA SWIMMING POOL STRATEGIC PLANNING

Casuarina Pool has been identified as the venue that will be “recognised for its feeling of fun, entertainment, excitement, youth attractions and general family appeal”.

The Casuarina Pool site is situated in a major retail and commercial precinct and is also the closest swimming pool to the new Lee Point housing development for up to 2,000 new residents.

Casuarina Pool is approximately 2km from the NTG free-entry Leanyer Recreation Park which also features large man-made lagoons, water slides, water features and picnic facilities.

Casuarina Pool is well positioned to be the facility that delivers a neighbourhood/district level family friendly zero-depth wet play component that will complement but not significantly compete with the Leanyer Recreation Park ponded water components.

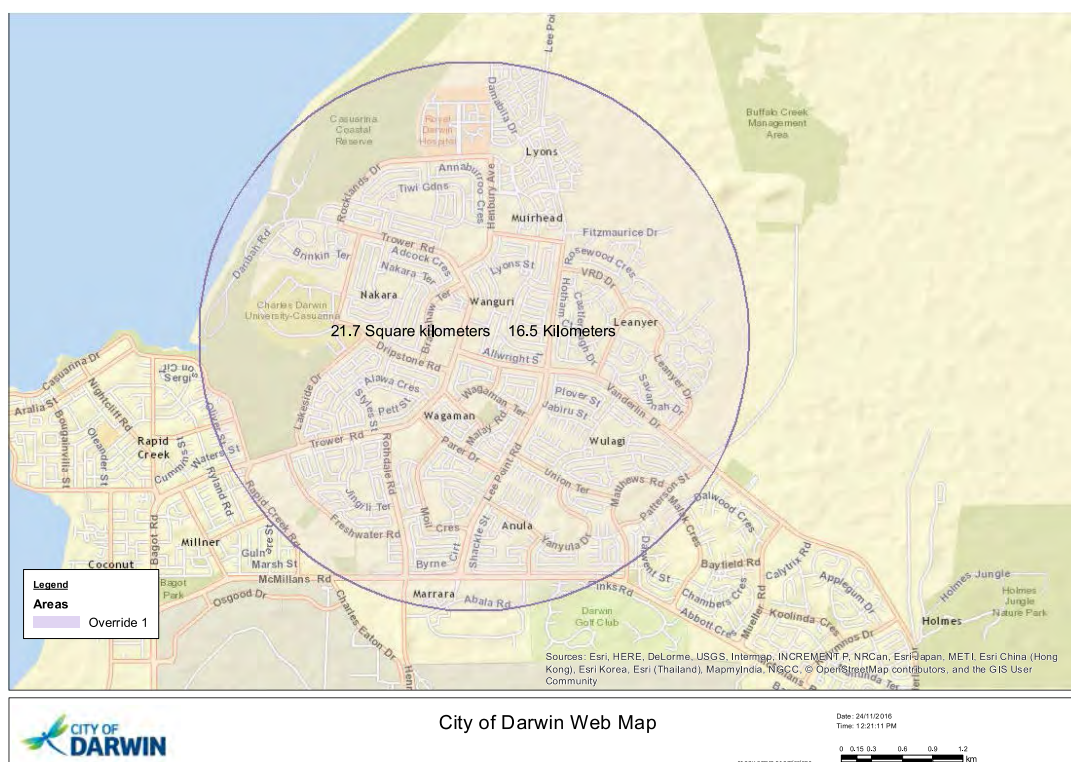


It is recommended that all Council swimming pools offer some wet play component for toddlers and young children to encourage immediate neighbourhood use of each pool by families, play groups and community event organisers.

Casuarina Pool has the opportunity for its future enhancements to offer the most comprehensive family wet play facilities of Council's three pools in order to realise Council's strategic vision for it to become the contemporary family aquatic and leisure facility.

3.5 CASUARINA NOTIONAL WET PLAY CATCHMENT

Assuming a radius of approximately 4 kilometres, Casuarina Pool's catchment area would incorporate the suburbs shown in the map below.



Mapping supplied by City of Darwin

3.6 NOTIONAL CATCHMENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

The demographics of the immediate Casuarina notional community catchment (circa 4km radius) provide insights into the likely level of demand for age-based wet play facilities.

Planning for future Casuarina family-focussed aquatic facilities needs to understand and consider the current and future needs of the notional community catchment shown above.

The 2011 Census Data indicated Casuarina Pool's notional catchment population was 24,855. The average median age of that catchment population was 34.64 years.

The catchment population grew by 10.79% over the 10-year period 2001-2011, and continued growth has been forecast by Council staff for the area, based on the new residential land developments occurring at Lee Point and environs.

The 2011 Census Data indicated that 21.70% (5,393 persons) of the population was aged 0-14 years of age and a further 27.9% (6,935 persons) was aged 15-34.

This information indicates that over 49.6% (12,328 persons) of the Casuarina catchment population falls into the age cohorts that traditionally represent most aquatic and wet play patrons.

Further, the cohorts of 50 to 69 year olds ("Baby Boomers") represent another 22.48% (5,587 persons) of the notional catchment's total community; many in this age cohort are reportedly seeking new lifestyle and recreational opportunities, including access to family-friendly activities that can include their grandchildren.

4 CONTEMPORARY FAMILY AQUATIC AND LEISURE ELEMENTS

In December 2016, the community and stakeholders were invited to provide Council with feedback and ideas as to what would be the most important enhancements that could improve Casuarina Pool in terms of becoming a more family-friendly facility.

In priority order, the following elements were suggested by the community:

- Wet Play Area
- Shade
- Picnic/BBQ Facilities
- Dry Playground
- Café
- Exercise Equipment
- Group Fitness Classes
- Mobile Food

Feedback was also received for a number of other elements for consideration.

Most of the above features identified by the community represent components that consistently appear in swimming pool and leisure centre upgrades and redevelopments that have been undertaken since 2000. These elements ensure a venue can offer inclusive and quality leisure services to its community.

The following sections of this paper provide data and case reviews of several outdoor aquatic facilities which demonstrate how recent aquatic and leisure centre developments and upgrades have included wet play components into their venues' master plans and operations.

5 CASUARINA POOL WET PLAY AREA OPTIONS

5.1 PROPOSED WET PLAY LOCATION

Figure 3 below indicates the proposed area that could potentially accommodate a wet play area at Casuarina Pool. It is proposed a wet play area would replace the existing toddler's pool at the venue. This particular site was chosen based on the following:

- the site has clear sightlines from the main entry and reception areas
- potential capacity to utilise the existing toddler pool's underground services which could reduce the initial capital development costs
- the site's proximity and easy access to existing changerooms and amenities
- the capacity to develop a large wet and dry play area with minimal disruption to existing pool operations during construction
- potential to reduce lifeguard supervision requirements (reduced wages) due to:
 - use of zero-depth water levels with no ponded water
 - excellent sightlines from reception to the area (possibly incorporate CCTV)
 - increased café seating areas enabling parents to directly supervise their children playing in a safe wet and dry environment
- the area has sufficient space to also incorporate picnic facilities with individual shelters that could be booked for birthday parties and events (increased revenues)

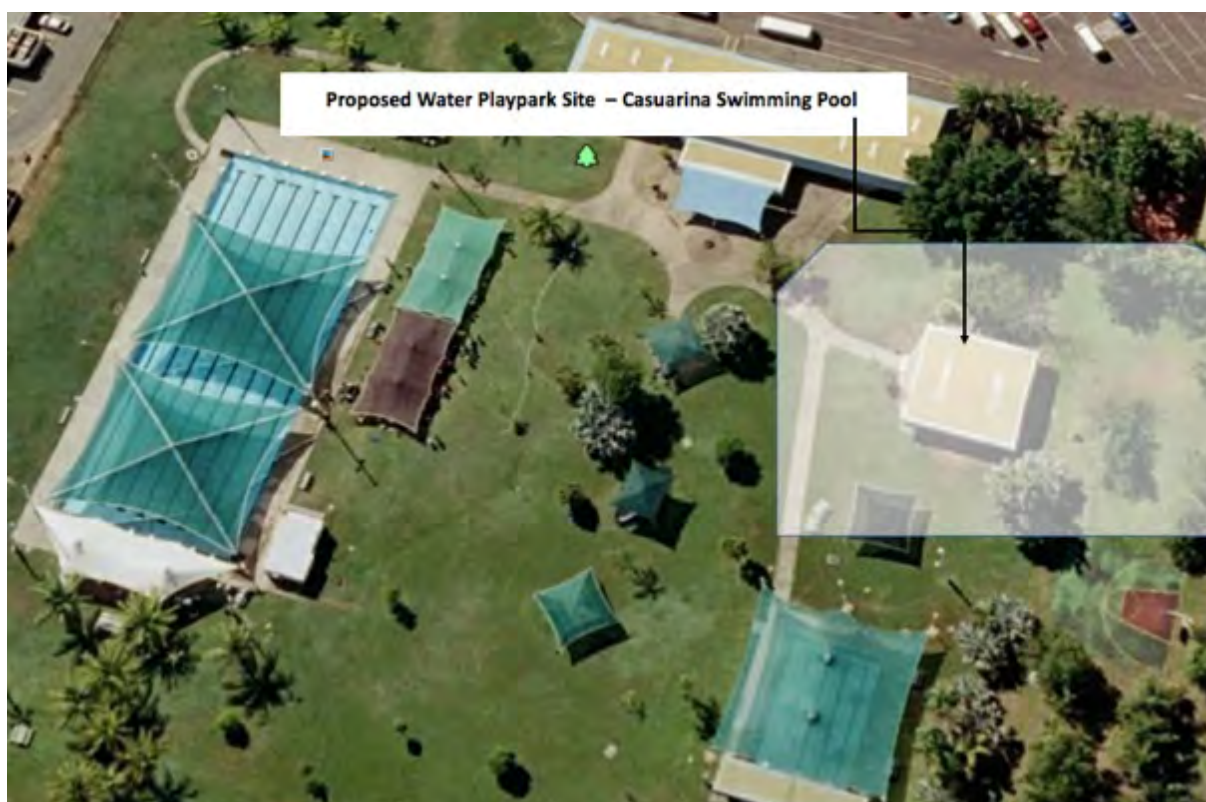


Figure 3: Proposed Wet Play/Dry Play site location

5.2 WET PLAY AREAS

Wet play areas have been installed in a wide variety of locations, including public open spaces, residential and tourist developments, and indoor and outdoor leisure and aquatic centres.

The components of wet play should be designed to suit several different ages and confidence levels. Depending on their size, they can be zoned to allow toddlers to play safely while older children can explore and play in a more active aquatic environment.

Components can range from fully enclosed water slides to shaded softfall with in-ground fountains and sprays. Children can enjoy a safe aquatic environment which offers a wide range of interactive wet play activities and experiences.

Zero-depth wet play will have constantly draining surface water that is no more than 50mm deep at any time, which can include interactive spray pads, tipping buckets, fountains, wet decks, splash pads, water cannons, waterfalls, watersheets and in some instances, low level waterslides.

Benefits of zero-depth wet play areas with such features include:

- no standing water
- zero-depth wet play components can minimise the need for continuous lifeguard surveillance while the area is operating
- increased frequency and longer visitation times by patrons, which with appropriate design considerations, can be linked to greater secondary (café) spend

Recent wet play facilities have included themed structures (such as forts, caves, castles and boats) designed to create an exciting environment that is child-safe and parent-friendly.

One of the first of its kind was the Townsville Strand Water Park. This facility was built in 1999; it has had several facelifts over the years, and in 2016 underwent a complete redevelopment at a cost of \$2.8 million, which fully renewed the waterpark after almost 17 years of operation and more than a million visitations.



Image: Townsville City Council

A key feature of well-planned wet play facilities is the ability to develop sustainable active

facilities that have lower maintenance requirements and reduced running costs, due to the lower amount of water required to activate and maintain the water elements compared to traditional toddler pools.

While there is considerably less cost associated with chemicals and water treatment due to the lower volumes of water compared to traditional swimming pools, it is still important that a stand-alone filtration and water treatment system be included as a part of wet play design specifications¹.



Splash pads are an integral feature of wet play spaces, and are often chosen as a simple design element that cost less to install than some other wet play infrastructure that is built above ground; however, softfall splash pads are usually incorporated into more complex wet play designs. The wet play design should enable the elements to be isolated or separated if circumstances require just a simple splash pad to operate at certain times of the day.

Splash pads are generally considered to be a safe play environment. They should however always require parental supervision when operating. Splash pads provide fun for children of all ages and more modern installations also offer a combination of ground sprays and geysers ranging in projection heights of 40mm to 10m high and which can be sequenced to run at random intervals and with the option of in-ground speakers to pipe music and interactive coloured LED lights for night events and operation.

¹ In the event of a contamination incident, the wet play area needs to be able to be shut down, water supply isolated, flushed and disinfected without impacting the operation of the venue's other aquatic facilities.

6 CASE STUDIES

This paper incorporates a set of evidence-based case studies for three recently developed wet play facilities:

- Southside Memorial Swimming Pool – Rockhampton Regional Council, Qld
- Blackwater Aquatic Centre – Central Highlands Council, Qld
- Bluewater Lagoon – Mackay Region Council, Qld

6.1 SOUTHSIDE MEMORIAL POOL – ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL COUNCIL, QLD



Rockhampton Regional Council operates two major aquatic centres. Since 2008, Council has completed the staged development of the 2nd World War Memorial Aquatic Centre in South Rockhampton. The redeveloped facilities now include:

- heated 50m FINA-compliant 2m constant depth covered pool (ramp access)
- heated 25m pool (ramp access)
- hot shower facilities
- 650 seat covered grandstand
- diving pool
- heated learn-to-swim pool
- wet playpark area

Estimated catchment population

The estimated regional catchment population is 70,000.

Climate

Rockhampton experiences a subtropical climate receiving an average annual rainfall of over 800mm, with distinct wet and dry seasons like Darwin.

Background/Reason for Development

In Council's original master plan, the wet play area was designed as a smaller facility that would primarily serve the local Southside Pool catchment. The original master plan acknowledged that Council's other aquatic facility, the Northside Pool, had been designated as the region's family leisure aquatic complex with a private lessee investing significant capital to develop the pool's leisure facilities.

However, several of the Northside Pool leisure features experienced damage due to cyclones and many of the leisure and wet play features were closed. Council subsequently resumed the lease, triggering the need for a larger wet play feature to be included in the Southside facility planning. The new Southside Memorial Pool wet playpark opened in late 2014 and incorporates a play fort, tipping bucket, spray features and soft fall ground sprays.

Planning, Community Consultation and Design

Council had done extensive community consultation over the past 15 years and determined the City's two swimming pools would be developed to clearly reflect family and leisure activities being based at the Northside Pool and the aquatic competition and training facilities to be developed at the Southside aquatic complex.

This strategy was progressed, but since 2012 sections of the Northside Pool (which was largely developed by a private lessee) were closed due to damage. The closures included the Northside Pool wet playpark components.

Council resumed the lease and subsequently determined to add a much larger family wet play area than was initially envisaged in the Southside Pool design.

Size: 500m²

Cost: Approximately \$1.3million

Community Use/Impact on Attendances and Overall Performance

The previous three-year average (2011-2013) annual attendance at the Southside Pool was 34,364. The new wet playpark opened in December 2014 and the attendance for that year was 74,644.

Council staff report that centre attendances in the first six weeks after opening was 51,957, compared with approximately 12,000 visitations in the same period in 2013. In 2015, the attendance was 161,280 and in 2016, the centre had 148,799 visitations up to 30 November 2016.

Cost of entry: \$2.00 per person

(Source: Rockhampton Regional Council)

6.2 BLACKWATER AQUATIC CENTRE – CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL, QLD

The Central Highlands Council is in Central Queensland between Rockhampton and Longreach. The region encompasses an area of around 60,000 square kilometers, and has a population of around 32,000 people who live in thirteen unique communities.

When opened in 2017, Council's new aquatic facilities will include:

- 50m x 10 lane swimming pool
- 25m x 18m learn-to-swim/hydrotherapy pool, 1.2m to 1.6m in depth
- zero-depth splash pad area of 200m²

Climate: The region experiences a sub-tropical climate

Estimated Catchment Population: The new facility's estimated core catchment population is 4,000

Size: 225 m²

Cost: Total project cost is \$15.5 million

Community Use/Impact on Attendances and Overall Performance

Council anticipates the new Blackwater Aquatic Centre will provide health benefits, social benefits and ultimately financial benefits for the region.

Council staff advise that the new facilities are designed to enhance the opportunities for sport and recreation, and are planned to become a social hub and key drawcard to the immediate town and broader community.



(Source: Central Highlands Council and <http://www.liquidblu.com.au/blackwater-aquatic-centre>)

6.3 BLUEWATER LAGOON – MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL, QLD

Mackay Regional Council operates five aquatic facilities. Four of these are traditional 25m and 50m rectangular pools, some with ancillary toddler pools and playgrounds. The fifth centre is the Bluewater Lagoon complex. Comprising three tiered lagoons, the Bluewater Lagoon is a free-entry, family-friendly leisure facility situated adjacent to the Pioneer River in the heart of Mackay's city centre. It covers an area equivalent to three 50m swimming pools, and is designed to provide a safe year-round stinger-free swimming environment.

Estimated catchment population

The estimated 2014 regional population was 182,049. Council staff advise that the facility is popular with locals and tourists, and a realistic catchment population would be approximately 30-40,000.

Climate

The Mackay area has a tropical climate. Summers are generally hot and wet, though the coast has the benefit of a regular afternoon sea breeze. Winter days are generally warm and sunny, while winter nights can be cool away from the coast.

Maximum daytime temperatures are typically 29-30°C during the summer/wet months and 21-25°C during the winter/dry months.

The complex opened in late 2008 and consists of:

- two main lagoon areas (connected by a waterfall) which vary in depth up to 1.8m
- 19.5m water slide from the top lagoon to the middle lagoon
- an interactive children's water park and drop-bucket
- café

Council staff report that up to 300,000 patrons visit the lagoons annually and it is estimated that 30% of all visitations are attracted to the waterplay area.

Size: 200 m² (softfall)

Community Use/Impact on Attendances and Overall performance:

Council staff report that up to 300,000 patrons visit the lagoons annually and it is estimated that 30% of all visitations are attracted by the wet play area.

Cost of entry: Free



(Source: Mackay Regional Council)

6.4 RECENT WET PLAY FACILITY DEVELOPMENTS

The table below details other recent wet play area developments to inform Council's decision-making regarding any potential installation of a wet play area at Casuarina Pool.

Facility	Location	Build Date	Size	Detail	Cost (ex GST)
Warringah Aquatic Centre	NSW	2016	107m ²	Design features tunnels, caves, timber and rockwork to allow for greater use in colder months	\$500,000
Deception Bay Bicentennial Pool	QLD	2015	200m ²	Zero-depth aquatic play space with 11 upright features and large dumping bucket	\$600,000
Big4 NRMA Treasure Island Holiday Park	QLD	2014	340m ²	Designed around a large central play feature that generates excitement with clear sightlines and ample seating for caretakers or picnicking families	\$600,000
Birrong Aquatic Centre	QLD	2010	550m ²	Design features zero-depth wet play and tipping bucket	\$500,000
Wet n Wild Waterpark	NSW	2013	250m ²	Design includes a family play space to complement water slide attractions with a toddler/child high action area	\$750,000
Big4 Marion Holiday Park	WA	2013	250m ²	Design includes a large activity centre with water slides and custom graphics to provide brand logo and colours	\$750,000

7 WET PLAY / DRY PLAY COMBINATION

Since the 1970's, many local government swimming centres chose to incorporate dry playground activities within the complex to attract additional patronage and provide alternative activities at their swimming pools.

In more recent times, as these traditional swimming pools have been upgraded/replaced with more contemporary and inclusive facilities, the trend has been to link both wet and dry play features adjacent to each other to create a dedicated area within the complex to specifically cater for family groups with younger children. The co-location of quality wet and dry playground equipment in a family zone activates that area and allows for its use even when colder weather conditions may preclude prolonged use of the wet play by some children. Such developments have seen dramatic increases in visitations and facility use as described in Section 6.1 Southside Memorial Pool – Rockhampton Regional Council, Qld.

A related design trend that is evident in nearly all new contemporary aquatic facilities is the siting of wet and dry play areas near the venue's kiosk and café services. Situating the food and beverage services next to the children's wet and dry play areas allows parents and grandparents to watch their children play safely in a dedicated toddler and children's zone while relaxing and meeting with other families. Many contemporary aquatic facilities facilitate formal and informal play group and water familiarisation sessions as part of a venue's weekly programming being based around a quality café environment.

8 RATIONALE FOR INVESTMENT IN WET / DRY PLAY AREA

The inclusion of well-designed, quality and inclusive wet and dry play zones to the upgrade or redevelopment of any existing aquatic facilities should be considered for a number of reasons:

- depending on the design and components chosen, the initial capital cost of development can be significantly less than the development of more traditional swimming and training pools
- the ongoing operating costs of wet and dry play areas are dramatically less than traditional ponded swimming pools due to the reduced levels of energy and chemicals required to circulate and sanitise smaller quantities of zero-depth water on an hourly basis
- the wet and dry play areas normally do not require 24/7 circulation and can be switched off during inclement weather and other times of reduced patronage, unlike traditional swimming pools which need to be circulating and treated at all times to maintain water quality standards

Further, as evidenced by the inclusion of family wet play features in the new Rockhampton Southside Memorial Swimming Pool (refer section 6.1) and reported use of the wet play component section of the Mackay Bluewater Lagoon (see section 6.3), such contemporary water features can reactivate traditional swimming pools and dramatically increase patronage compared to previous years.

The attendances reported since the opening of the Rockhampton Southside Memorial Swimming Pool indicate that by comparison to the previous 3-year average annual attendance, the first twelve months' attendances at the new complex increased by 117%.

Based on Casuarina Swimming Pool's 2016 reported attendances of 78,253, if after a similar wet and dry play redevelopment were completed, attendances increased by only 50% of the

reported Rockhampton's redeveloped pool, it is predicted Casuarina's attendance would be in the vicinity of 124,000/annum, an annual increase of over 45,000 compared to the pool's 2016 attendances.

9 PRELIMINARY BUDGET PLANNING

Based on the cost of the wet play designs and installations described in Section 6 of this paper, it is estimated that a well-designed, safe, interactive zero-depth wet play area suited to the requirements of the Casuarina Pool site could cost in the range \$750k to \$900k (\$2017), subject to:

- suitability and condition of existing underground services to the preferred site
- final design and number of features required by Council
- m² of softfall area required
- amount and height of artificial shade to be included in the project

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The time, advice and assistance offered by the following persons in the development of this options paper is gratefully acknowledged:

- Mr Yuri Dillon, Liquid Blue Pty Ltd, Brisbane
- Mr Matt Grassmayr, City of Darwin
- Mr Andrew Collins, Rockhampton Regional Council
- Mr David Cowley, Mackay Regional Council
- Ms Carol Vertigan, Central Highlands Council
- Mr Johnathan Cox, Dynamic Playgrounds and Wet play Solutions Corp, WA
- Mr Tony Jones, Water Features by Design [www.wfbd.com.au] WA
- Ms Clare Beacham, City of Darwin
- Ms Claire Dandie, City of Darwin

ENCL: NO	COMMUNITY & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE/OPEN	AGENDA ITEM: 10.1.2
COUNCIL GIG GEAR INITIATIVE - REVIEW		
REPORT No.: 17C0007 LB:lb	COMMON No.: 3421209	DATE: 21/02/2017

Presenter: Youth Events and Training Officer, Lisa Burnett

Approved: General Manager Community & Cultural Services,
Anna Malgorzewicz

PURPOSE

This report presents a review of Council's Gig Gear Program operated by the Youth Services Team and recommends changes to current hiring and support arrangements for the BIG Gig Gear equipment.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the City of Darwin 2012 – 2016 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Towards 2020 Strategic Plan':-

Goal

1. Collaborative, Inclusive and Connected Community

Outcome

- 1.1 Community Inclusion Supported

Key Strategies

- 1.1.1 Develop and support programs, services, and facilities and provide information that promotes community spirit, engagement, cohesion and safety

KEY ISSUES

- Cost and hiring audit of the Gig Gear in-kind support program.
- Proposed discontinuation of BIG Gig Gear equipment program by Council.
- Relocation and gifting of BIG Gig Gear equipment to a community arts organisation.

PAGE: 2
 REPORT NUMBER: 17C0007 LB:lb
 SUBJECT: COUNCIL GIG GEAR INITIATIVE - REVIEW

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the Committee resolve under delegated authority:-

- A. THAT the Report No 17C0007 entitled Council Gig Gear Initiative - Review be received and noted.
- B. THAT the BIG Gig Gear equipment program operated by Council be discontinued.
- C. THAT the BIG Gig Gear equipment be rehoused and donated to Browns Mart Theatre to enable continued usage of the equipment.

BACKGROUND

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

DECISION NO. 21\4468 (31/05/16)

Young Darwin 2016 -2021

Report No. 16C0048 RH:es (23/05/16) Common No. 1096115

- B. THAT Council endorse the draft Young Darwin 2016 -2021 **Attachment A**, to Report Number 16C0048 RH:es entitled Young Darwin 2016 -2021.*
- D. THAT Council launch Young Darwin 2016 -2021 in partnership with key stakeholders.*

DECISION NO. 20\1234 (24/02/09)

Final Youth Strategy Report 2009-2014

Report No. 09C0010 Common No. 1096115 (09/02/09)

- C. THAT the following actions be prioritised and associated costs referred to the 2009/2010 budget process:*

- I. Gig Gear initiative \$18,500 (one off).*

DISCUSSION

In 2016 the *Young Darwin 2016-2021 City of Darwin Youth Strategy* was endorsed. The Strategy includes a review of learnings over the past four years as well as key priority areas for action. *Priority Area 3, Support Creativity and the Arts* provides for a range of programs and activities in addition to bolstering community groups with practical resources including loaning soft event infrastructure for community events in the form of two professional quality PA systems. In planning for Youth Strategy implementation, an audit and review of equipment usage has been undertaken providing insights as to operational impacts and community need.

PAGE: 3
 REPORT NUMBER: 17C0007 LB:lb
 SUBJECT: COUNCIL GIG GEAR INITIATIVE - REVIEW

Operationally, hire of both BIG and SMALL Gig Gear is subject to a number of conditions. These conditions are necessary however in practice, limit the range of activities and events for which the equipment can be made available. Conditions include:

- The event must take place within the Darwin municipality.
- The hirer must acknowledge support from City of Darwin (such as a banner).
- The event must be non-commercial in nature and open to the community to attend.
- The hirer must have public liability insurance not less than \$20,000,000.00.
- The equipment cannot be loaned until the hire agreement, deposit return form, public liability insurance certificate of currency and payment have all been provided to Council.
- The hirer must engage a qualified sound technician to set up and operate the PA and their name and contact details are to be supplied to Council prior to pick up.
- The hirer is responsible for all transport of the equipment.

In 2016 the **BIG Gig Gear** was used by City of Darwin (Youth Week, NAIDOC at Bagot, Capital City CEO Conference), Seabreeze Festival, Darwin Festival and NT Aids & Hepatitis Council.

In 2016 the **SMALL Gig Gear** was used by the following community organisations and groups: City of Darwin (National Youth Week, Youth Event @ Bagot, Skate 2 x Competitions, 4 x Casuarina Pool Parties), Friends of Rugby, Couch Surfing multiagency event, Lock the Gate, Seabreeze Festival, RSPCA, Darwin Community Legal Service (Law Week and Rights on Show), Somerville Community Services, Bollywood Dance and Karama Christmas Carols.

The SMALL Gig Gear gets significantly more use than the BIG Gig Gear which is too large and complex for most hirers to manage and tends to only be booked by organisations operating at the more experienced end of event production. There were only three external hirers for the BIG Gig Gear in 2016 – Seabreeze, Darwin Festival and Northern Territory Aids & Hepatitis Council (NTAHC).

In mid-2016, NTAHC purchased their own PA equipment so they will no longer be hiring PA equipment from Council. They are also intending to hire out this equipment to generate income.

Alongside the BIG and SMALL PAs, City of Darwin also offers a battery powered mobile speaker called a Mipro that comes with two microphones and the capacity to play pre-recorded music eg iPhone. In 2016, its availability to the community was limited due to breakdown (twice) and the difficulty hirers experienced in using the wireless microphones. Council has since purchased a Mipro and is trialling it with cabled microphones instead. It is anticipated that the simplified nature of operating this unit will improve accessibility significantly due to its user friendliness and portability.

PAGE: 4
 REPORT NUMBER: 17C0007 LB:lb
 SUBJECT: COUNCIL GIG GEAR INITIATIVE - REVIEW

The BIG Gig Gear is coming to the end of its useful life. It was purchased for a cost of \$22,308 (DST inclusive) in the 2013/2014 financial year and first used in May 2014 for the Seabreeze Festival. Given the rapid advances in audio technology since that time, smaller more user friendly, non-technician reliant and cheaper equipment is available. The usage limitations of the BIG Gig Gear and the declining need for large equipment of this type has prompted consideration of rehousing the BIG Gig Gear to support continued usage while enabling Council to offer more efficient, community friendly resources. It is recommended that Council discontinue providing the BIG Gig Gear as a program and rehouse the equipment to Browns Mart as a one off donation. This will continue Council's support for youth and community arts while reducing operational and maintenance impacts for Council.

In considering options available to Council, Browns Mart Theatre have indicated a willingness to assume responsibility and care of the BIG Gig Gear while still making it available to the community hirers (Darwin Festival and Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival) until the equipment reaches the end of its useful life. Browns Mart have ready access to the professional skills required to maintain and operate the equipment and are experienced in moving heavy and bulky goods.

Simplifying the sound equipment Council provides to the community will improve equity of access to in-kind support, provide greater avenues to promote Council's contribution to community life and broaden the reach of its role in supporting community groups and organisations.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

In preparing this report, the following City of Darwin officers were consulted:

- Youth Events and Training Officer
- Youth Engagement Officer
- Manager Community Development
- Revenue Manager
- Youth Advisory Committee

In preparing this report, the following External Parties were consulted:

- Darwin Festival
- NTAHC
- Seabreeze Festival
- Browns Mart Theatre

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This proposal aligns with Council's Strategic Directions, Evolving Darwin Towards 2020 and the Young Darwin 2016-2021 strategy that seeks to support equitable access to resources and enrichment of community life. Rehousing the BIG Gig Gear to the nominated community arts organisation (Browns Mart) falls beyond Council's Asset Disposal Policy (FIN03), in that the equipment will continue to be used by the

PAGE: 5
 REPORT NUMBER: 17C0007 LB:lb
 SUBJECT: COUNCIL GIG GEAR INITIATIVE - REVIEW

community groups that currently access it and will not result in a sale, income or use discontinuance.

BUDGET AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated that rehousing the BIG Gig Gear to Browns Mart will result in a cost reduction in the ongoing management and maintenance of Gig Gear by at least 25% while still positioning the resource to be accessible to community organisations.

RISK/LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

A simplified agreement would be prepared to formalise the rehousing of the BIG Gig Gear equipment so that the impact on Council would largely be operational.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COUNCIL OFFICER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

We the Author and Approving Officers declare that we do not have a Conflict of Interest in relation to this matter.

LISA BURNETT
YOUTH EVENTS AND TRAINING
OFFICER

ANNA MALGORZEWICZ
GENERAL MANAGER
COMMUNITY & CULTURAL
SERVICES

For enquiries, please contact Anna Malgorzewicz on 8930 0633 or email: a.malgorzewicz@darwin.nt.gov.au.

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/9

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

10.2 OFFICERS REPORTS (RECEIVE & NOTE)

Nil

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

11.1 Draft Minutes Ambon Sister City Advisory Committee 17 November 2016

Document No. 3478450 (21/02/2017)

*The item is **Attachment A**.*

DRAFT MINUTES

AMBON SISTER CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday 17 November 2016 4.30 – 5:30 PM
Meeting Room 1, City of Darwin Civic Centre

**1. Meeting Open****2. Present**

Rick Setter	Chair - Community Representative
Christine Silvester	Community Representative
Jherry Matahelumual	Community Representative
Alderman Gary Haslett	Elected Member
Alderman Robin Knox	Elected Member
Ryan Andriani	Observer
Shena Damayanti	Observer
Zoe Scrogings (ZS)	Cultural Partnerships Officer, CoD

3. Apologies

Judy Miller
 Nafisyah Mukhlis

4. Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting held Thursday 8 September 2016 were received and noted.

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**5.1 CDU Sculpture Garden**

Cultural Partnerships Officer received an email from Allan informing that the wood carvings had been repaired. Rick Setter commented and recommended that a letter be sent to Allan thanking him and the Team at CDU for their efforts. ZS informed the Committee that she had sent an email on behalf of Council to express gratitude.

In addition to this the Committee suggested that the wood carvings required an interpretative plaque.

ACTION	ZS/Committee organise for a gold or bronze plaque to be installed at the CDU sculpture garden with information about the wood carvings donated by the Ambon Sister City Advisory Committee.
---------------	---

5.2 Reciprocal Student Teacher Exchange – SMA 5, Kormilda College

Jherry Matahelumual presented photos of the exchange, with the students and teacher from Kormilda who travelled to Ambon. The group enjoyed the

famous Ambonese hospitality with their host family, attended school and participated in a range of extra curricula activities including a meeting with the Acting Lord Mayor of Ambon.

ZS gave thanks to Jherry and asked Jherry to pass on our sincere gratitude to the host family for receiving the group during their stay.

Rick Setter raised that the exchange period is too short and this needed to be addressed with both schools. ZS stated that the MoU stipulates 3 weeks and that some confusion with Kormilda in regard to this had occurred that would need to be addressed going forward.

Rick mentioned that he would be in Ambon on 21 November 2016 and will meet with SMA 5 Negari to discuss the exchange and a possible extension of the duration of the exchange and that May Ririhena will be a liaison person.

Jherry added that there were discussions with the School that they were able to arrange and book travel, as they now have experience in this and are confident in coordinating these logistics into the future.

ZS commented that she arranged the flights and accommodation as May Ririhena did not have the resources to do so. Going forward there needs to be a decision in regard to who arranges flights, accommodation and visas.

ACTION	A meeting be scheduled with Fay Gurr from Kormilda College to debrief the project and to plan for 2017.
---------------	---

5.3 Darwin to Ambon Yacht Race

Rick Setter will be travelling to Ambon with Tony Waldron, Chair of the Dinah Beach Yacht Club to meet with the Acting Mayor of Ambon in regard to the 2017 Darwin to Ambon Yacht Race.

Further to this both Rick Setter and Alderman Knox mentioned that the Amahusu Community Association were very interested supporting the race further by way of homestays, activities and school visits.

ZS noted that in March 2016 Nicho Tulalessy from Amahusu Yacht Club, sent an email to Lord Mayor, Katrina Fong Lim in regard to the above, specifically seeking endorsement to organise homestays for yacht race participants and a request for senior high school exchanges between Darwin and Ambon.

A reply letter from Lord Mayor was sent recommending that Mr Tulalessy contact the organisers of the Darwin to Ambon Yacht Race who would be able to support homestays. Additionally, the letter provided information in regards to the Reciprocal Student and Teacher Exchange between SMA 5 Negari and Kormilda College and the MoU signing in Ambon in 2015.

ZS reported that she liaised with the Clare Hall Coordinator of the Darwin to Ambon Yacht race in regards to supporting the homestays. This was received very well and a number of yacht race participants took part in homestays that were coordinated by the Amuhusu group.

ACTION	Rick Setter to report back at the next meeting in 2017 in regards to the meetings in Ambon.
---------------	---

6. General Business

6.1 Indonesian Christmas Gathering

3 December 2016 from 6 – 10pm
Chinese Timorese Club all welcome.

6.2 Gathering of the Tribes – End of Year Showcase and Celebration

Friday 25 November 2016 for all Committees to celebrate achievements for 2016. Christine Silvester has volunteered to present on behalf of the Ambon Committee and will meet with ZS to plan.

7. Date and Time of Next Meeting - TBA

Meeting Closed

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/10

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

11.2 Draft Minutes Haikou Sister City Advisory Committee 2 December 2016
Document No. 3478451 (21/02/2017)

*The item is **Attachment A**.*

Meeting Opened 12:40 pm**1. Present**

Phillip Rudd	Chair
Tim Hill	Community Member
Ping Lu	Community Member
Glynis Lee	Community Member
Marnie Foster	Community Member
Alderman Justine Glover	Elected Member
Zoe Scrogings (ZS)	Cultural Partnerships Officer, CoD

2. Apologies

Hannah Taino-Spick	Community Member
Alderman George Lambrinidis	Elected Member
Mr Wang Hua	Observer

3. Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting held Friday 23 September 2016 were received and noted.

Moved: Alderman Justine Glover, Glynisi Lee. Carried.

4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**4.2 Digital Art Pilot Project**

Naina Sen presented a work in progress at the Gathering of the Tribes Sister City Showcase function. The work featured video portraits of Darwin's diverse residents. The work received highly positive feedback and was of high quality.

Glynis Lee suggested that it was important to ensure 'Australian Born Chinese' are featured within the project and the young people who are members of the Lion Dance Troup invited to participate. Marnie Foster added that the involvement of young people in the Lion Troup is very unique to Darwin and Haikou audiences would find this interesting. Lord Mayor, Katrina Fong Lim will also be interviewed as part of the project.

5. General Business

- 5.1 Other Business - nil
- 5.2 Report Back from Phil – Attended the 2016 China International Friendship Cities Conference held in Chongqiong City, China from 9 to 11 November 2016. City of Darwin awarded the Friendship City award and accepted by Phil. The digital art project was well received with the new Director General.

6. Date and Time of Next Meeting – TBA**7. Meeting Closed**

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/11

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

11.3 **Draft Minutes Kalymnos Sister City Advisory Committee 14 November 2016**

Document No. 3478452 (21/02/2017)

*The item is **Attachment A**.*

1. Meeting Open

2. Present

Tony Miaoudis	Community Representative
Costa Miaoudis	Community Representative
Alderman George Lambrinidis	Elected Member
Alderman Mick Palmer	Elected Member
Zoe Scrogings (ZS)	Cultural Partnerships Officer

3. Apologies

Fay Karamanakis, Alexia Koumpa

4. Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting held Monday 26 September, 2016 were received and noted.

Moved: Alderman Palmer, Alderman Lambrinidis (Carried)

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

5.1. English Language Scholarships MoU (Attachment B)

Tony Miaoudis and Zoe Scrogings, Cultural Partnerships Officer will meet in order to plan the project. Tony informed the Committee that he will call the Municipality of Kalymnos to enquire as to who will be the contact person in Council for the project. Tony added that in previous years Mr Pothitos Magoulas was a key driver in organising the 11 participating schools.

The Committee agreed that the Award Ceremony, as in previous years include a Skype link up between Kalymnos and Darwin. The Committee discussed that the event involve all Advisory Committee members, the broader Greek community and be held at the Kalymnian Brotherhood venue.

In addition, the sponsors of the English Language Scholarship, George Halikos President of the Kalymnian Brotherhood and The Honourable Mr John Anictomatis, Consul General Greek Consulate will need to be invoiced for \$1,500. A letter signed by the Lord Mayor would be a courteous gesture.

ACTION	Tony Miaoudis and ZS to meet to further project planning.
	Tony Miaoudis to call Pothitos Magoulas to discuss the project.
	ZS to arrange Lord Mayoral letter and invoicing for sponsorship.

5.2. Sister Cities Workshop (10 August 2016) Feedback

The Committee briefly discussed the Kalymnos Sister City Terms of Reference (ToR) and International Relations Policy as well as the Sister Cities Guidelines. The Committee were pleased with the draft documents. Committee members are welcome to provide further feedback, while noting the closing date for further comment is approaching.

ACTION	The Committee to provide further comment and feedback in regards to the above items by the 30 November 2016.
---------------	--

6. General Business

6.1 Welcoming Cities

ZS informed the Committee that a report is being prepared on the Welcome To Darwin and Welcoming Cities initiative, including options for the event to be inclusive of all new community members to Darwin. The Committee were advised that the Welcoming Cities program has launched National Standards that can be used as a guide for cities developing inclusion and diversity programs.

6.2 International Relations Newsletter

ZS advised that a new International Relations Newsletter has been distributed which was warmly received by the Committee.

6.3 Committee Membership

7. Meeting Closed

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Date: TBA

Time: 12:30 - 1:30pm

Venue: Casuarina Village

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/12

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

11.4 Draft Minutes Youth Advisory Committee 2 February 2017
Document No. 3478453 (21/02/2017)

*The item is **Attachment A**.*



1. MEETING OPENED

The regular meeting of the Youth Advisory Committee was opened at 5.40pm by chair Richelle Hedstrom.

2. PRESENT

Richelle Hedstrom	Youth Engagement Coordinator
Alicia Kent	Youth Services Trainee
Alderman George Lambrinidis	Elected Member
Johnathon McDonald	YAC Member
Grace Goodman	YAC Member
Hannah Illingworth	YAC Member
Kyaw Naing	YAC Member
Maiyshla Chunwan	YAC Observer
Skye Manley	YAC Member
Emily Ford	YAC Observer
Kailey Coble	YAC Observer

2. APOLOGIES

Lisa Burnett	Youth Events and Training Officer
Matt Schobben	YAC Member
Ira Racines	YAC Member
Claudia Ennis	YAC Member
Maroup Bol	YAC Member
Saveeta Roberts	YAC Member
Tenneil Ross	YAC Observer
Rebecca Jennings	YAC Observer
Emmanuel Klemis	YAC Observer
Kaitlyn Anderson	YAC Observer
Sascha Sarev-Lund	YAC Observer
Philadelphia Hughes	YAC Observer

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of 3 November 2016 were endorsed as a true and accurate record.

Kyaw Naing (moved) Grace Goodman (seconded)

4.1 WELCOME OBSERVERS

YAC welcomed three new observers to the meeting.

4.2 ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY AND TED TALK

Ice Breaker and TED Talk ran by Youth Services Trainee.

4.3 YAC Consultation

Children in Care and Youth in Detention Advocacy Service (CICAYDAS) to present update on progress of Royal Commission at March YAC meeting.

Action

- Youth Services Officer to confirm CICAYDAS as guest speakers for March YAC meeting.

4.4 YOUTH STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

YAC Members were provided with a copy of *Young Darwin 2016-2021* and a linked action plan for 2017 YAC projects (Attachment A). YAC were encouraged to read and review action plan in preparation for March meeting.

Action

- Timeline and activity schedule to be developed at March YAC meeting.

4.5 YAC BRANDING

Item deferred to June 2017 meeting to allow sufficient time and attention to be allocated to Youth Week and Quiz4Dili.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT- Barneson Boulevard

YAC welcomed Council's Community Engagement Officer, who informed and sought feedback from YAC on the Barneson Boulevard Duplication project, a venture between Council, Territory and Commonwealth governments.

Loss of car parking was discussed as an issue of concern. YAC members were encouraged to attend consultation nights where aspects such as design will be discussed, as well as other social and physical impact issues.

Actions

- YAC Members are encouraged to promote and fill out online survey and attend consultation nights.
- Youth Services Trainee to circulate information around to YAC members, along with links to surveys and workshop times and dates.

5.2 YEAR IN REVIEW

Long serving YAC members presented projects delivered by YAC over the past 12 months. The following projects were highlighted by YAC as key achievements:

- Midnight Basketball
- Dili Youth exchange
- Quiz4Dili
- Youth Strategy launch event
- YAC Attendance of Committee meetings and Council meetings
- Consultations (internal and external)

Actions

- Youth Services Officer will include invitations to upcoming Council/Committee meetings on monthly YAC agenda.
- Youth Services Officer will ensure 4-5 external consultations are undertaken by YAC per year.
- First Quiz4Dili meeting will be organised by Youth Services Officer for late February.
- Planning for the Kick Start! Student Leadership Forum will begin at March YAC meeting.

5.3 YAC PROJECTS FOR 2017

5.3.1 Youth Week 2017

- Dishing Up Darwin; Opportunities for involvement include volunteers on the day, advertising support, flier drop in schools/networks/workplaces, judges for the rounds, competing as contestants
- Skate Comp; Opportunities for involvement include volunteering on the days, competing and support with advertising and marketing.

Action: Alderman George Lambrinidis suggested Council fund a few skateboards/scooters for public use in the lead up to the Youth Week skate comp. Youth Services Officer and Skate Development Project officer to follow up.

- Youth Homelessness Matters Day - Couch Surfing: Opportunities for involvement include volunteering on the day, competing and support with advertising and marketing.

5.3.2 Quiz4Dili and Dili Youth Exchange - May to September 2017

5.3.3 Midnight Basketball

29th April to 17th June 2017: Various roles and opportunities are available to YAC to be involved in the project.

5.3.4 National Student Leadership Forum – September 2017

YAC Project to be addressed during July meeting.

5.3.5 Ongoing Consultations and Advocacy

YAC will undertake four to five external consultations a year, with internal consultations happening when relevant and possible. YAC members are encouraged to bring items of concern/issues affecting young people to the table for discussion/action.

Meeting Closed 7:40pm

Next YAC meeting scheduled –

Thursday 2 March 2017 @ 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Council Meeting Room 1 - Upstairs Council Civic Centre.

Contact Person Youth Engagement Coordinator 0422362767

Youth Advisory Committee Action Plan 2017

Young Darwin 2016 – 2021	Project	Timeline
Capacity Building PRIORITY 2 Feeling Confident and Capable GOAL 2.2 <i>Promote positive representations of young people through online and print media platforms</i>	<p>Meaningful social media influencing and engagement with LAUNCH and CoD digital platforms.</p> <p>Does the YAC branding represent the committee adequately?</p> <p>Do we want to change it? How?</p> <p>Access to quarterly strategic planning and committee training workshops.</p> <p>Selection of one YAC member to represent the Northern Territory at the annual National Student Leadership Forum.</p> <p>Plan and deliver Kick Start! Darwin Young Leaders Forum November 2017</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>June Meeting</p> <p>May, August, November 2017</p>
Advocacy GOAL 4.6 <i>Facilitate initiatives that promote and encourage connectivity</i>	<p>Planning and delivery of events and issue based community awareness raising activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quiz4 Dili - Youth Week - CEO Sleep out - Middle School Engagement - Dili Youth Exchange <p>Middle school engagement project</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p>GOAL1.6 <i>Work collaboratively to improve health literacy of young people and their families</i></p> <p><i>Utilise YAC meetings to table/address emerging local issues/trends impacting young people</i></p>	<p>Attendance of Monthly YAC meetings Attendance of Council Committee meetings Full Council meetings</p>	<p>August 2017</p> <p>Monthly</p>
<p>Consultation GOAL1.2 Develop, identify and maintain high quality youth friendly facilities and services</p>	<p>Regular consultations with YAC when planning and developing Council capital works infrastructure projects. Ensure a youth voice in community consultations on projects and services impacting young people</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Meeting Structure</p>	<p>What are the things that we need in our meetings? Where should they go? What can we do without?</p>	<p>March meeting</p>

OPEN SECTION

C&CS02/13

Community & Cultural Services Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 21 February 2017

12. GENERAL BUSINESS