



Darwin City Council Annual Report 2008 - 2009

2008/2009 Darwin City Council Annual Report



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Introduction

Lord Mayor's Message



The 20th Darwin City Council was elected in March 2008 and shortly after we commenced developing a strategic plan to optimise the evolution of Darwin towards the year 2020. The plan, known as the "Evolving Darwin; Towards 2020 and Beyond", provides a road map for Council planning and development for the next eleven years.

The first step was to rediscover and strengthen links between the Darwin City Council and the Northern Territory Government, Australian Government and neighbouring local government organisations. This was done through participation in various forums such as:

- The Darwin Capital City Committee with Northern Territory Government which also includes representation from the Property Council and the Chamber of Commerce. Outcomes from this forum included partnership arrangements for the Smith Street Connection which runs between The Mall and the Esplanade, Woolner Road upgrade and City Centre Revitalisation Program.
- The Council of Capital City Lord Mayors which brings together the Australian Government and capital cities in a "new era" of working together on initiatives aimed at building national prosperity. To date, meetings with the Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Infrastructure Minister, Anthony Albanese have been fruitful, facilitating millions of dollars worth of funding for major projects in Darwin.
- TOPROC (Top End Regional Organisation of Councils) which is made up of the Darwin, Palmerston, Litchfield and Wagait Councils. Working together we are able to tackle common issues such as Regional Development Project Funding, Grants Commission Funding, Regional Waste Management, Climate Change implications and Regional Transport.

Climate change and environmental management challenges will increase in line with growth and development in Darwin. These include foreshore erosion, land-sea interface priorities and the identification of climate related conditions such as the potential of increased storm surges.

Council has a renewed focus on how these matters will affect communities, infrastructure and organisational activities.

The formation of a Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee with community, government and non government, Indigenous, science and education representation, has developed a set list of priorities to 2012. Actions to protect and mitigate threats to Darwin's biodiversity, aquatic systems, water and air quality, native habitats for threatened species and improved waste management and recycling are at the forefront of a developing management plan.

Council is actively engaging with and responding to the Australian and Northern Territory Governments, various Statutory and Industry bodies, all of whom currently are seeking public comment to their Draft Environmental Impact and Environmental Assessment Statements in regards to Darwin Harbour and the Darwin region.

In the past year we have worked closely with the City of Palmerston on many successful projects. Two that come to mind that have a direct impact on the wellbeing and life of the city are the Graffiti Management Program and Activate NT. In conjunction with the NT Police, both cities have been able to, in the first instance quickly respond to the removal and graffiti with the longer term goal of keeping graffiti to a minimum. Activate NT worked well engaging the general public in fun active programs as well as education on better dietary practices.

We were privileged again to host the World War Two Veterans for the Bombing of Darwin Commemoration. The 19th of February went off without a hitch and we are grateful for all the positive feedback that we have received. We are working hard to develop something really spectacular in 2012 for the 70th Anniversary.

In 2009 we celebrate Darwin 200. It is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his book "The Origin of Species". We have had a series of events during the year organised in conjunction with Charles Darwin University and Museums and Art Galleries of the NT.

On the first of July 2008, the Darwin City Council's new Animal Management Plan came into effect. Some aspects of the plan were phased in over the year. The plan is all about public safety and animal welfare. A great new feature is the use of micro-chipping which allows the easy identification of lost animals once they have been found. A national database is maintained so your pet can be identified anywhere in Australia. In August 2008 we opened the new \$1.7 million animal pound. With increased capacity and upgraded facilities it affords Darwin the best practice when it comes to impounded animals.

Council has continued to work on the development of a youth precinct in Darwin. The Youth Energy Precinct (YEP) will provide a safe and positive environment with appealing activities for young people.

To round out the year we introduced new By-laws which control the use of fireworks at Mindil Beach. The new regime will mean Mindil Beach will be a safe refuge for families.

I really have to report that it was a good year for the City of Darwin. Unfortunately things were not so good in rural Victoria. Darwin City Council donated on behalf of the City \$50,000 towards the Red Cross Bushfire Appeal. Darwin City Council Staff organised a blood drive and made sizable personal donations to the Red Cross appeal.



Graeme Sawyer
Lord Mayor

Chief Executive Officer's Message



In preparing for my first Annual Report as CEO of Darwin City Council, I took some time to reflect on my past few years in the organisation.

My time as Council's Director of Technical Services gave me the opportunity to develop strong relationships with the community, Elected Members and staff and this is something I aim to maintain as Council's Chief Executive Officer. I am fortunate and grateful that I have around me a very strong and committed team of Elected Members, General Managers and staff.

I took up the position of Chief Executive Officer on 12 September 2008 and the 20th Council was elected in March 2008. While there are many examples in the business world and government sector of change creating a turbulent environment, I'm pleased to say that the exchanges of 2008 heralded an exciting era of change for Darwin City Council and for me personally.

One of the pivotal moments in 2008 was when Darwin City Council endorsed the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan on 16 December. Council recognised the need for change and through this innovative Strategic Plan will take the necessary steps to ensure the city continues to offer a great lifestyle, with the focus on environmental, economic and social wellbeing.

One of the first tasks I embarked on was to ensure that the organisation was structured appropriately to support and deliver Council's Strategic Plan, Evolving Darwin; Towards 2020 and Beyond, as the saying goes "structure follows strategy".

Some changes were necessary and I thank the Elected Members and staff for their support whilst the reorganisation was undertaken.

Other achievements for the year include development and implementation of a planning and reporting framework which has been internally aligned to support the delivery of our strategic plan, finalisation of Council's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement, obtaining over \$12 million in grant funding, which is a record for Council, finalisation of Council's largest contract for waste management services at our Shoal Bay Facility, By-law amendments relating to the use of fireworks at Mindil Beach, policy development to support increased openness and transparency, support for the reconstitution of the Capital City Committee and ensuring compliance with the Local Government Act introduced on 1 July 2008.

Council continues to develop its strong relationship with all tiers of government. An excellent example of this is the City Centre Revitalisation Project, MY0800.

MY0800 is a \$7million project that aims to revitalise the economic growth, social and cultural development of Darwin City.

Darwin City Council is working in partnership with the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and the private sector, to create a greener, more vibrant city with improved pedestrian connections, better lighting, seating and shelter.

MY0800 provides a solid platform for business and the community to develop retail, cultural and community activities – something that land owners, city residents, shoppers and workers can participate in and take part in.

The project will incorporate works on some of the city's major streets, The Mall and Raintree Park, and will set the tone for future development of the city while providing an economic boost during construction and long term business growth opportunities.

There are a myriad of other programs and initiatives that make up Darwin City Council's calendar.

Council is also in the process of developing new public art guidelines and there will be a variety of new public art commissions in 2009-2010, in particular a range of works as part of the City Centre Revitalisation project.

The commissioning of the HMS Beagle Ship Bell Chime in Civic Park as part of the Darwin 200 celebrations, is a wonderful example of how public art can be interactive and engage the community.

In closing, I would like to congratulate and thank Darwin City Council staff who continue to strive for excellence.

I am excited to lead the Darwin City Council's staff in support of our Elected Members who strive to ensure that Darwin continues to evolve as a dynamic, different and diverse city.



Brendan Dowd
Chief Executive Officer



Overview

City Profile

Darwin is the capital city of the Northern Territory, situated on the Timor Sea and is well-known as Australia's gateway to world class nature and culture experiences.

Darwin has a current estimated residential population of 73,754, making it by far the largest and most populated city in the Northern Territory. It is the most northerly of the Australian capital cities, and acts as the Top End's Regional Centre.

Darwin has grown into a thriving, vibrant destination, renowned for its tropical climate and colourful characters with wide streets, shady parks, a pedestrian mall, festivals and sporting events, a large range of restaurants, pubs and clubs and an entertainment strip.

Getting to Darwin is easy, from most Australian capital cities a direct flight to Darwin is around 4 hours. Darwin International Airport is located only 12.5km from Darwin City. It has regular flights arriving daily from all Australian capital cities, Cairns and Broome. The Ghan travels to Darwin from Adelaide (and vice versa). The journey operates twice weekly and takes two nights in either direction. Cruise ships and Navy vessels also regularly dock at the Darwin Wharf Precinct for a stopover.

The municipality of Darwin is spread across 112 km² and comprises of 23,150 households and covers thirty six suburbs plus the RAAF and Navy Bases and Darwin International Airport.

Darwin People

The most recent ABS data (released in April 2009) shows that the current estimated resident population for the Darwin municipality has grown to 73,754, representing an increase of nearly 1.3% from last year.

The 2006 ABS Census shows that the largest age group (48.4%) in the Darwin municipality is the 25 to 54 year olds. Under 25 years old represent 34.9% of the population. Of Darwin's population 83.1% were Australian citizens, 21.4% were born overseas and 3.6% were overseas visitors. The percentage of the population that identify themselves as indigenous has increased to 9.4% from 8.9% since the last Census. This is compared with an average of 2.3% across Australia. Aboriginal traditions and customs are still interwoven with daily life for Darwin's indigenous community. Within Darwin, the Larrakia people are the traditional landowners.

	2006		2001		Change 2001 to 2006
	Number	%	Number	%	
Usual resident population					
Total population	66,290	100	64,342	100	1,948
Males	34,208	51.6	33,369	51.9	839
Females	32,082	48.4	30,973	48.1	1,109
Population characteristics					
Indigenous	6,233	9.4	5,752	8.9	481
Australian born	45,408	68.5	44,616	69.3	792
Overseas born	14,185	21.4	13,980	21.7	205
Australian citizens	55,083	83.1	55,188	85.8	-105
Australian citizens 18+	41,384	62.4	40,742	63.3	642
Age structure					
Infants 0 to 4 years	4,427	6.7	4,536	7	-109
Children 5 to 17 years	11,793	17.8	12,116	18.8	-323
Adults 18 to 64	46,101	69.5	44,745	69.5	1,356
Mature Adults 65 to 84	3,723	5.6	2,715	4.2	1,008
Senior citizens 85 years and over	245	0.4	224	0.3	21
Average household size (persons)	2.58	-	2.6	-	

Darwin Economy

In the face of the global financial crisis, the Darwin and Northern Territory economy's have had a positive year.

As at 30 June 2009, the Northern Territory had the lowest unemployment rate in the country at 3.9% compared to the Australian average of 5.8%. The participation rate in the Northern Territory was 76.1% versus the Australian average of 65.4%.

Access Economics' June 2009 quarter Business Outlook publication, have forecasted that the average annual Northern Territory gross state product (GSP) growth will

be 2.2% for the five years to 2012-2013, better than the average 2% growth across Australia. This figure did not directly factor in the potential Inpex LNG project, so actual results could be higher for the Northern Territory. Access Economics also revised the medium term outlook for the Northern Territory economy, with the forecasted figure for 2008/2009 now 4.9% (previously 4.1%).

As an example of Darwin's overall economic growth, the following tourist accommodation in Darwin has been sourced from ABS data to demonstrate the growth in this area over the past three years.

	June 2008	June 2007	June 2006	Growth 2006-2008
Takings in accommodation	\$32.7m	\$28.5m	\$25.1m	+29.99%
Guest arrivals	133,056	132,659	140,019	-4.97%
Guest nights occupied	331,009	324,594	316,646	+4.54%
Room nights	204,381	194,756	194,457	+5.10%
Occupancy rate	81.7%	77.9%	76.3%	+5.40%

Source ABS Catalogue Number 8635.7.55.001 - Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Northern Territory

In the June 2009 quarter, Darwin's annual inflation increased by 2.5%, compared to 1.5% nationally. The main drivers of Darwin's annual inflation rates were housing, food, alcohol and tobacco, with housing still the largest contributor to the growth.

The number of recorded sale of houses within the Darwin municipality is up 6.2% from the same time last year with the median house price being \$537,093, up almost 27% from last year. The number of unit sales within the Darwin municipality actually decreased by 25% when compared to the same period last year, with the majority of the decrease occurring within inner Darwin. Overall the median unit price has increased by over 16% within the municipality to \$382,287. In the rental market the cost of renting a 3 bedroom house in Darwin is currently \$555 per week an increase of 8.8% from last year.

The commercial and residential building industry is still very strong. Throughout 2008/2009 the number of dwelling units approved in the Northern Territory was 986, Council's own data reports that 303 development applications were reviewed by Council staff in 2008/2009.

The latest ABS data shows that Territorians are earning 3.87% more than the same period last year. As at May 2009, total earnings in the Northern Territory was \$961.10 per week per person compared to the national average of \$923.40.

Government workers form the biggest industry sector within Darwin. Nearly 20% work within the public administration and safety sector, 10% in health care and social assistance, nearly 10% within education and almost 7% in the professional, scientific and technical services and many of the 5% of transport, postal and warehousing workers would also be deemed to be 'government workers'. The retail industry accounted for 10.6% of Darwin workers, 7% work in the accommodation and food services industry and nearly 5% in both the construction and manufacturing industries.



Elected Members

The Lord Mayor, Graeme Sawyer

PO Box 84, Darwin NT 0801

Mobile: 0411 881 378

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

Council of Capital Cities Lord Mayors (CCCLM)
Capital City Committee
Community Safety and Security Advisory Committee
CBD CAR Parking Advisory Committee
Town Planning Committee
Environment & Infrastructure Committee
Corporate & Economic Development Committee
Community Services Committee
Top End Region Executive Committee



Chan Ward

Coconut Grove, Jingili, Millner, Moil,
Nightcliff, Rapid Creek

Alderman Bob Elix

Mobile: 0417 800 332 Email: bobelix@bigpond.com

Environment & Infrastructure
Committee (Chairman)
CBD Parking Advisory Committee
Town Planning Committee
Development Consent Authority NT
Community Safety & Security
Advisory Committee



Lyons Ward

Bayview, Darwin City, Fannie Bay, The Gardens,
Larrakeyah, Ludmilla, The Narrows, Parap,
RAAF Base/Airport, Stuart Park, Winnellie, Woolner

Alderman Rodger Dee

Mobile: 0439 751 954 Email: r.dee@darwin.nt.gov.au

Community Services Committee
Town Planning Committee
Anchorage Sister Cities Community
Committee



Alderman Greg Jarvis

Home: 8948 0003 Email: zimbaj@bigpond.com

Community Services Committee
Dili Sister City Community Committee
Festival of Darwin Committee
Town Planning Committee
Arts & Cultural Development
Advisory Committee (alternate)
Community Safety & Security
Advisory Committee
Youth Advisory Group (YAG)
(alternate)



Alderman Helen Galton

Mobile: 0400 659 661 Email: h.galton@darwin.nt.gov.au

Town Planning Committee (Chairman)
Corporate & Economic
Development Committee
Audit Committee
Capital City Committee
Local Government Association
of the NT (LGANT)
Community Safety & Security
Advisory Committee
Council of the Ageing
NT Board



Alderman Kerry Moir

Mobile: 0427 569 388 Email: kerry.moir@lgant.nt.gov.au

Corporate & Economic Development Committee
(Chairman)
Haikou Sister Cities Community Committee
Town Planning Committee
CBD Parking Advisory Committee
Top End Regional Organisation
of Councils (TOPROC)
Audit Committee (Chairman)
Local Government Association of
the NT (LGANT)
Ambon Sister Cities
Community Committee



Alderman Heather Sjoberg

Mobile: 0408 825 134 Email: h.sjoberg@darwin.nt.gov.au

Environment & Infrastructure
Committee
CBD Parking Advisory Committee
Town Planning Committee
Development Consent Authority NT
Darwin Performing Arts Centre Ltd
T/A Darwin Entertainment Centre
Arts & Cultural Development
Advisory Committee (Chairman)



Richardson Ward

Alawa, Brinkin, Leanyer, Lee Point, Nakara, Tiwi, Wagaman, Wanguri and Lyons

Alderman John Bailey

Mobile: 0412 892 237 Email: jjjmbailey@bigpond.com

Corporate & Economic Development Committee
Dili Sister City Community Committee
Rapid Creek Catchment
Advisory Committee
Town Planning Committee
Darwin Performing Arts Centre LTD
T/A Darwin Entertainment Centre
Community Safety & Security
Advisory Committee



Waters Ward

Anula, Berrimah, Defence Establishment Berrimah, Coonawarra, Karama, Malak, Marrara, Northlakes and Wulagi

Alderman Robyn Lesley

Mobile: 0438 411 911 Email: robyn.lesley@bigpond.com

Community Services Committee (Chairman)
CBD Parking Advisory committee
Town Planning Committee
Community Safety & Security
Advisory Committee
Disability Advisory Committee
Capital Cities (alternate)



Alderman Garry Lambert

Mobile: 0401 119 118 Email: g.lambert@darwin.nt.gov.au

Ambon Sister Cities Community Committee
CBD Parking Advisory Committee
Town Planning Committee
Development Consent Authority NT
Corporate & Economic
Development Committee
Environmental Management Plan
(EMP) Advisory Committee
Anchorage Sister Cities
Community Committee



Alderman Allan Mitchell

Mobile: 0417 804 546 Email: almitch@bigpond.com

Community Services Committee
Disability Advisory Committee
Kalymnos Sister Cities Community Committee
Tourism Top End
Town Planning Committee
LGANT Rep - Place Names Committee
(3 year Appointment)
Community Safety & Security
Advisory Committee
Neighbourhood Watch NT
Committee



Alderman Joanne Sangster

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Environment & Infrastructure
Committee
Youth Advisory Group (YAG)
Greening Australia NT Board
Town Planning Committee
Environmental Management Plan
(EMP) Advisory Committee
Kalymnos Sister Cities
Community Committee



Alderman Fred Marrone

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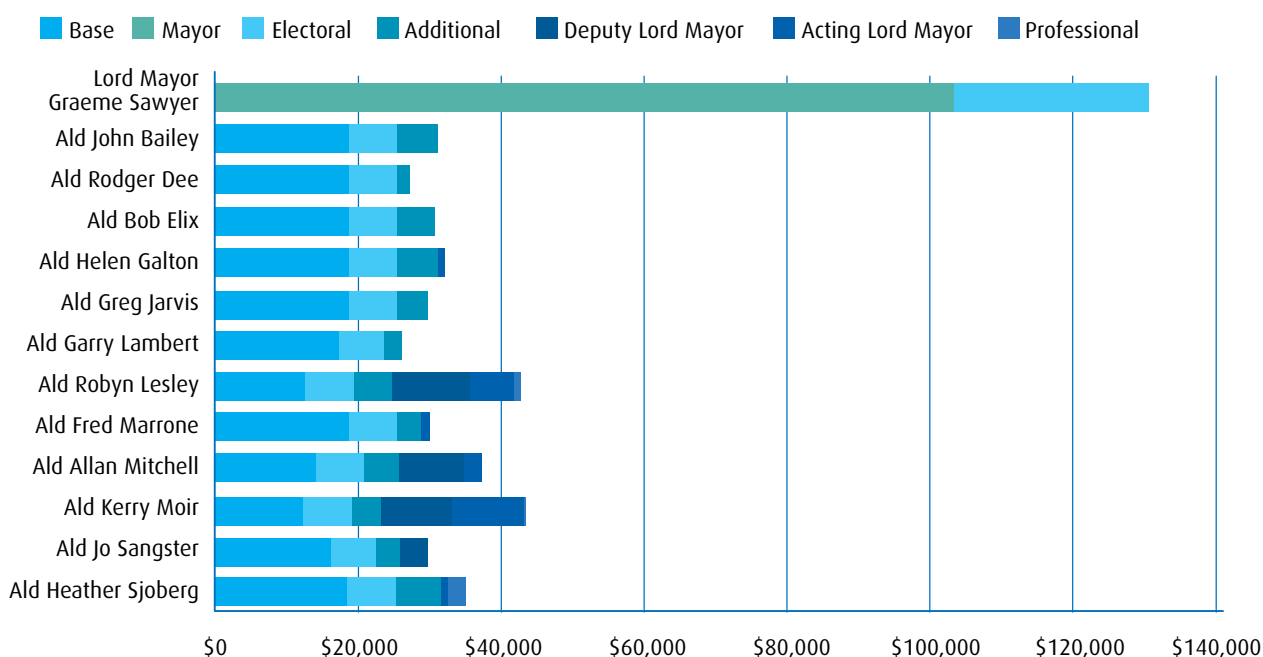
CBD Parking Advisory Committee
Haikou Sister Cities Community
Committee
Town Planning Committee
Top End Regional Organisation of
Councils (TOPROC)
Environment & Infrastructure
Committee



Elected Member's Allowances

Figure 1

Lord Mayor & Alderman Allowances 2008/09



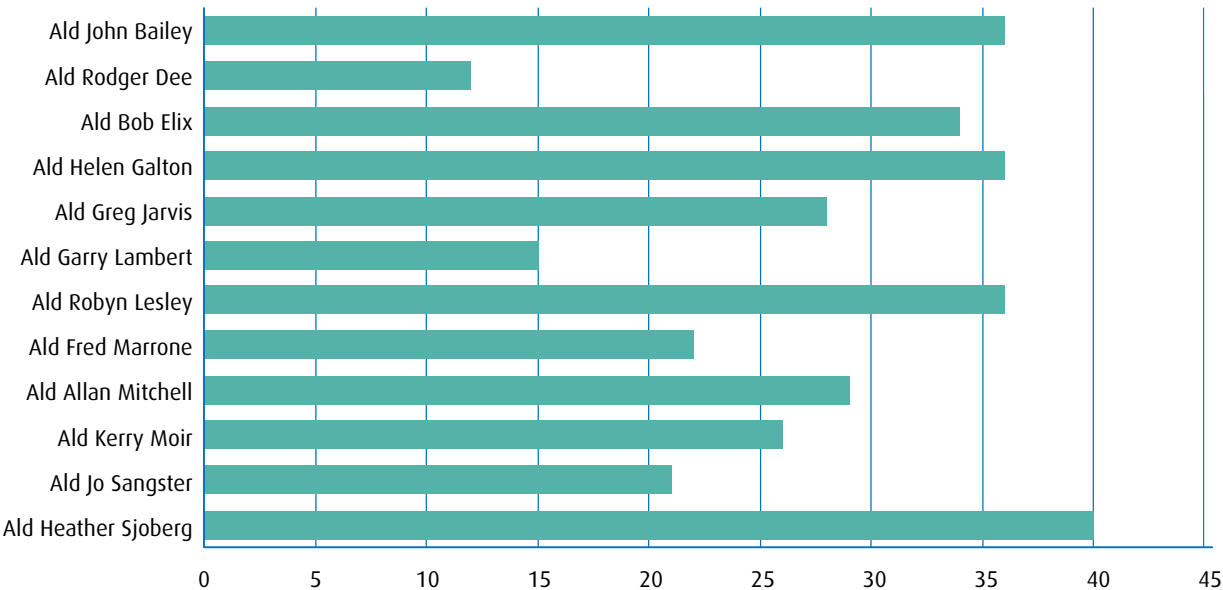
Pursuant to section 71 of the Local Government Act 2008, a member of the council is entitled to be paid an allowance which is set at a fixed rate, subject to the guidelines issued by the Minister.

The Local Government Act also provides for differential allowances for the principal member (i.e. Lord Mayor) and the deputy principal member (i.e. Deputy Lord Mayor).

At Darwin City Council the Deputy Lord Mayor position is filled on a rotational basis with each Elected Member fulfilling a four month term over the life of the Council. The allowance amount is paid as a daily rate of \$104.00 calculated by dividing the annual base allowance amount by the number of days in the year.

Additional Paid Meetings for Elected Members

Figure 2
Number of Additional Meetings Attended by Aldermen 2008/09



Pursuant to sections 3 and 9 of the Local Government Act 2008 Guidelines, the principal member (i.e. Lord Mayor), the deputy principal member (i.e. Deputy Lord Mayor) and acting principal members are not entitled to claim an additional paid meeting allowance.

Professional Development for Elected Members

Each Elected Member of the Council may access up to \$3,102.00 (as per the Local Government Act, 2008) to attend an appropriate and relevant conferences or training courses. This amount includes all associated costs such as travel, conference fees, meals and accommodation.

Activity / Conference	Venue	Dates	Number of Elected Members attending
Charles Darwin University – Associate Degree in Legal Studies	Darwin	01/07/2008 - 30/06/2009	1
Australian Motorcycle Council	Sydney	02/08/2008 - 03/08/2008	1
NT Election 2008 Let the Leaders Debate Luncheon hosted by Property Council of Australia	Darwin	06/08/2008	1
Darwin Performing Arts Centre Company Membership	Darwin	16/09/2008	1
The Top End Regional Committee AGM Luncheon	Darwin	09/10/2008	5
9th World Congress of Metropolis	Sydney	21/10/2008 - 25/10/2008	1
The Artists Forum	Darwin	14/11/2008	1
The Australian Local Government Association Constitutional Summit	Melbourne	09/12/2008 - 11/12/2008	1
Future Directions Forum - Property Council of Australia	Darwin	19/03/2009	5
Local Govt Planning for Community in a Changing Climate	Hobart	25/03/2009 - 26/03/2009	1
Planning Institute of Australia 2009 National Congress	Darwin	30/03/2009 - 01/04/2009	1
The Law Society of Northern Territory – Respond to Financial Crisis	Darwin	23/04/2009	1
Chamber of Commerce Lunch with Mr Sol Trujillo, CEO Telstra Corp	Darwin	27/04/2009	3
Chamber of Commerce Darwin Budget Luncheon	Darwin	05/05/2009	7
2009 Retirement Village Association & Aged and Community Services 8th Annual Conference SA/NT	Adelaide	14/05/2009 - 23/05/2009	1
Local Government Managers Association – 2009 National Congress & Business Expo	Darwin	25/05/2009	5
4 O'clock Forum (Building Heights) Property Council of Australia	Darwin	17/06/2009	2

Council Decisions

Council Decisions July 2008 - June 2009						
Month	Number of Meetings	Total Number of Decisions	Number of Confidential Decisions	Number of Confidential Decisions Moved into Open	Number of Administrative Decisions Remaining in Confidential	Number of Non Administrative Decisions Remaining in Confidential
Jul-08	3	87	4	2	2	0
Aug-08	2	69	6	3	3	0
Sep-08	3	100	9	4	1	4
Oct-08	2	81	12	8	2	2
Nov-08	5	104	9	8	0	1
Dec-08	2	40	6	6	0	0
Jan-09	1	29	5	4	1	0
Feb-09	4	90	22	20	1	1
Mar-09	3	117	4	4	0	0
Apr-09	5	71	11	10	1	0
May-09	6	100	15	14	0	1
Jun-09	3	105	9	2	5	2
Total	39	993	112	85	16	11

In 2008/09 Council made significant improvements in governance specifically relating to openness and transparency. That said, every effort will be made to further increase our performance in this area notwithstanding that there will always be matters that will need to be considered in confidence pursuant to Section 65(2) of the Local Government Act and Part 4 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.

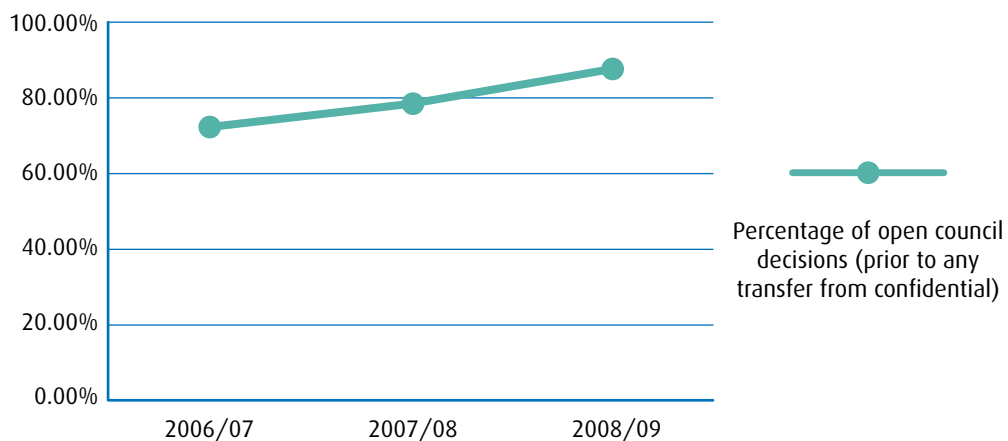
Figure 3

Number of Council Decisions



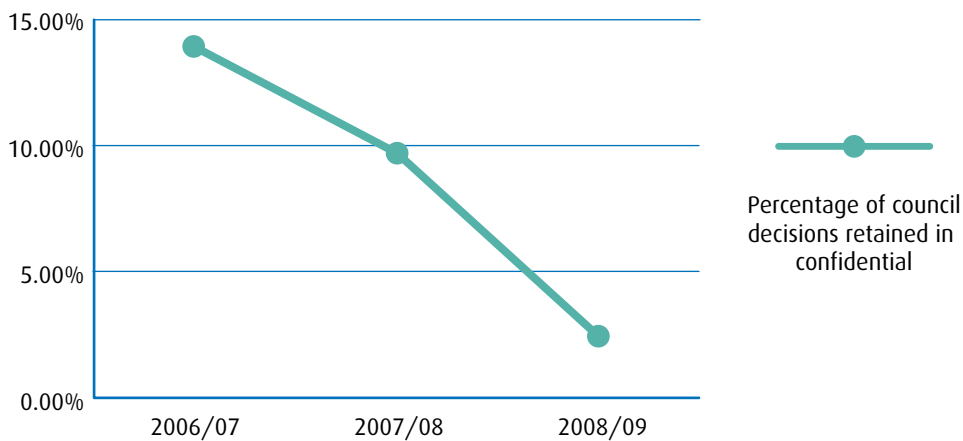
Using Council decision making as an indicator, 2008/09 has been the busiest within the last three years.

Figure 4



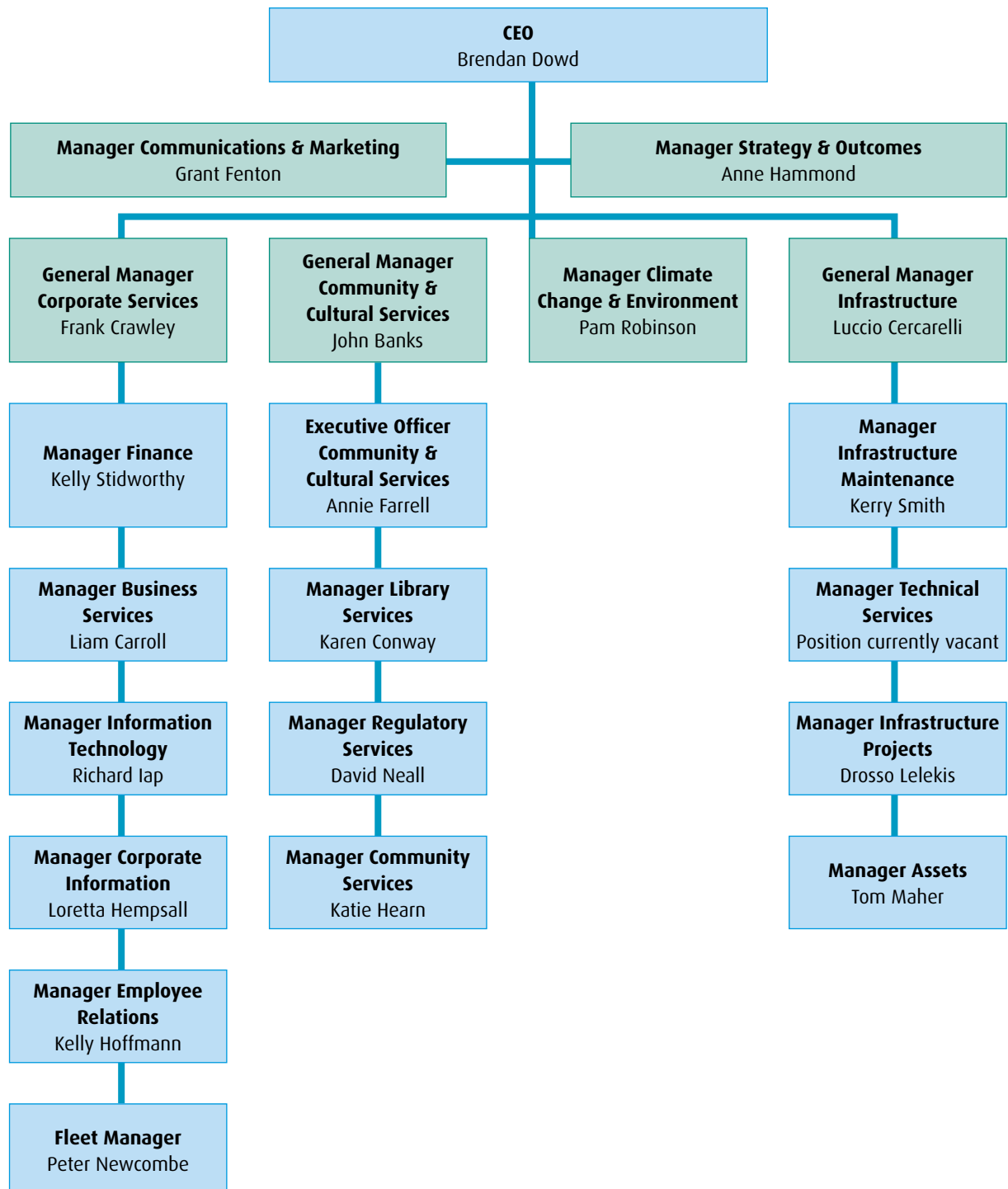
A second indicator of openness and transparency is the percentage of Open Council decisions prior to any transfers from Confidential to Open.

Figure 5



The third indicator of openness is the percentage of decisions retained in confidential. As this graph indicates, very significant improvements in openness and transparency have been made in 2008/09.

Organisational Chart



Executive Staff

Chief Executive Officer **Brendan Dowd**

Brendan has more than 25 years experience in Local Government, in particular eight years with Darwin City Council (seven years as the Director of Technical Services and now one year as the CEO).

Brendan has a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil), a Master of Business Administration, a Graduate Diploma in Municipal Engineering, a Company Directors Diploma and has completed the Senior Executive Program at the Melbourne Business School – University of Melbourne.

As CEO Brendan is responsible for the whole organisation, however in addition to this, Brendan's portfolio specifically covers:-

- Strategic Services
- Governance
- Executive Support
- Communications and Marketing
- Climate Change and Environment
- Waste Management



Staff Overview

Employee Numbers

Council employs 333 permanent full time equivalent employees, including 17 part-time employees and six trainees. Of these employees, 41% are female and 59% are male.

Personal Leave

On average, employees used 7.33 days personal leave. This represents an overall utilisation of just 40% of budgeted personal leave provisions.

Recruitment and Staff Turnover

57 full-time employees terminated their employment, equalling a staff turnover of 19% for the year. This represents no change to the previous period.

Staff Counselling

Council maintained its agreement with an external organisation to provide employee counselling. Employees were able to access free confidential counselling services for any situation that impacted on their personal or working life. During the period consultations comprised: 18 for work related issues; 32 for personal issues; 21 for family/relationship problems; and 3 for addictive behaviour/substance abuse.

Training and Development

Council employees attended a range of training programs to improve work performance, maintain

safety standards and assist with career development. A total of 12,075 training hours were recorded in the areas of Leadership Development, Higher Education, Vocational Education and Training (VET), Occupational Health and Safety, Technical, Operator, Corporate Induction and Administration. Average training hours per employee was 27.00 hours, in line with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) all industry average of 27.6 hours. Based on actual training time, 70% of training was nationally recognised. It includes VET qualifications at Certificate and Diploma levels across a range of occupations and single units from nationally accredited training packages to meet job-specific needs. Nett training expenditure was \$248,150, an average of \$709.00 per employee. This puts Council well above the ABS national all industry average of \$458.00 per employee. Training provided by external training providers accounted for 60% of the training undertaken.

Occupational Health and Safety

Council had approximately 819 days lost time due to injury during the period. A total of 22 Workers Compensation Claims were received representing an increase of 2 over the previous period. These claims related to; 8 upper torso injuries; 8 lower torso injuries; 4 lacerations; and 2 'other' injuries. There was a 30% reduction in lower back injuries and a 40% increase in ankle injuries. The reduction in back injuries can be attributed to the implementation of manual handling training and engineering controls. The increase in ankle injuries is attributed to alighting plant using incorrect techniques. This issue is being addressed through local area training.

General Manager Infrastructure Luccio Cercarelli

Luccio has been with DCC since December 2008. Luccio brings with him more than 17 years experience in Local Government. Luccio has a Bachelor of Business, a Associate Diploma Engineering (Civil) and a Diploma in Local Government Administration.

Luccio has the primary responsibility for Council's \$19.8 million Capital Works Budget. Within this budget, Luccio is specifically responsible for the following programs:-

- Asset Management
- Building Services
- Cemeteries
- Design
- Infrastructure Projects
- Mosquito Control
- Operations
- Parks and Reserves
- Pathways
- Planning
- Roads Maintenance
- Road Construction and Traffic Management
- Sporting Areas
- Stormwater Drainage Maintenance
- Street Cleaning
- Urban Enhancement
- Urban Forest Management



General Manager Community and Cultural Services John Banks

John has 27 years experience in Local Government, with six years of this dedicated to Darwin City Council. John has a Bachelor Applied Science (Env.Health), Masters of International Management, Graduate Diploma Occupational Health & Safety Management and is a Certified Safety Consultant.

John's portfolio covers:-

- Children and Youth
- Community and Cultural Services

- Community Services and Support
- Control of Domestic Animals
- Darwin Entertainment Centre
- Libraries
- Recreation and Leisure
- Regulatory Services
- Sister Cities



General Manager Corporate Services Frank Crawley

Frank joined the team at DCC seven years ago and has been working for Local Governments for over 25 years.

Frank holds a degree in Social Science and a Certificate in Business Studies.

Frank's portfolio is responsible for:-

- Business Services
- Contracts Administration
- Customer Services
- Employee Relations
- Financial and Management Accounting Services
- Fleet Management
- Information Management
- On and Off Street Parking
- Property Management
- Records and Information Management
- Revenue Services
- Risk Management



Corporate Compliance

Darwin City Council is one of five municipal councils in the Northern Territory. Operating under the Northern Territory Local Government Act 2008, Council is charged with providing services and facilities for the benefit of our residents and visitors, providing for the interests and wellbeing of individuals and groups, carrying out measures to protect our area from natural and other hazards and to manage and develop council facilities and services in a sustainable way.

The role of the Council is to:

- Act as a representative, informed and responsible decision-maker in the interests of its constituency; and
- To develop a strong and cohesive social life for its residents and allocate resources in a fair, socially inclusive, and sustainable way; and
- To provide and coordinate public facilities and services; and
- To encourage and develop initiatives for improving quality of life; and
- To represent the interest of its area to the wider community; and
- To exercise and carry out the powers and functions of local government assigned to the council under the Local Government Act and other Acts.

Council is made up of 13 Elected Members, one of whom is the Lord Mayor, and all are elected by eligible voters. Elections are held every four years with the next election due in 2012. The Elected Members are the governing body of Council.

The role of the Elected Members includes; providing leadership and guidance, facilitating communication between the members of the council's constituency and the council, participating in deliberations of council and its community activities, representing the interests of residents and rate payers and ensuring that the council acts honestly, efficiently and appropriately in carrying out its responsibilities.

Income for Darwin City Council is generated by rates, Australian Government grants and Northern Territory Government grants and subsidies, services fees and charges and penalties. Council has 29,661 rateable

properties and a budget of \$69.75 million. Darwin City Council is a corporate body. Formal budgets are prepared every year and the rates are set in July, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2008.

Program budgets provide information on the service and costs associated with each individual program. Budget papers are available for public scrutiny in Council's four libraries, on its website and at the Civic Centre, Harry Chan Ave, Darwin.

A goal of Darwin City Council is to improve the quality of life of the Darwin community. Community participation and consultation are high priorities on every agenda and Council works hard to keep the community informed of its intentions and matters under consideration.

Darwin City Council's management planning process involves three layers:

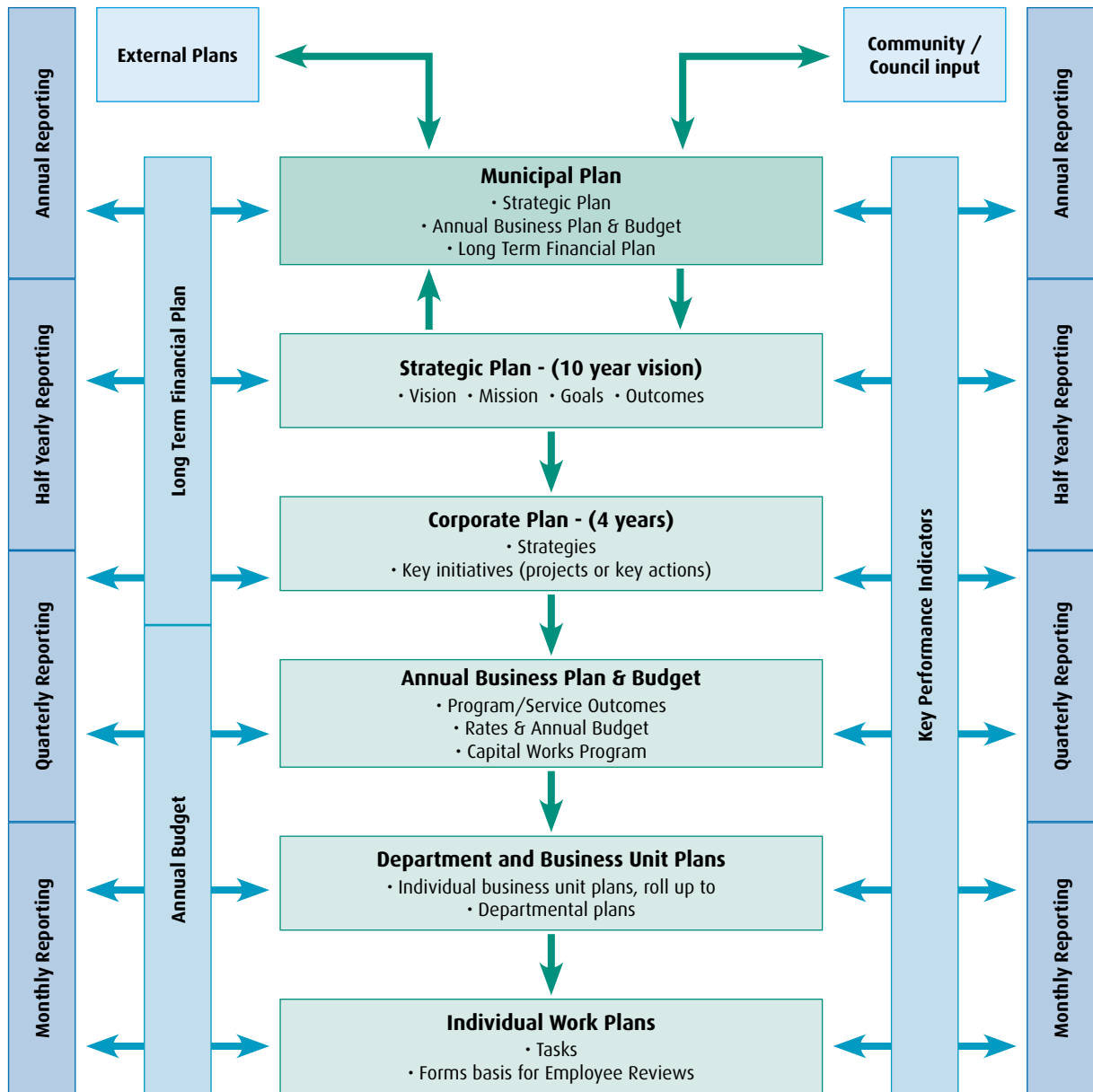
- a four-year Strategic Plan (the big picture)
- a Municipal Plan (incorporating the Annual Business Plan and Budget); and
- Corporate and Business Plans (the detail).

These plans help monitor performance and include review methods to ensure agreed aims are achieved. Darwin City Council plans all comply with the Local Government Act.

In March 2009 Council adopted a 'planning framework'. This framework illustrates all of the layers of planning applicable for an organisation of this size and complexity. The framework illustrates how each layer of planning is aligned to achieving the goals of Council.

The framework also outlines the frequency of reporting against each of these planning layers. There are performance indicators attached to each layer of planning in order to accurately assess the success of implementation of all actions and strategies.

The framework also acknowledges that all layers of planning must be within the parameters of the Annual and the Long Term Financial Plans.



Finance, Information Technology, Records Management and Human Resource Systems

The governance of Darwin City Council is supported by integrated finance, information technology, records management and employee relations systems.

Project Area	Achievements for 2008/2009
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revalued land assets• Implemented internal audit recommendations within specified timeframes• Introduced new investment guidelines
Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information and Security Audit completed• Implementation and rollout of Mobile Infringement Devices• Implementation of new Public Computer Workstation for all libraries
Records Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 80% completion of the retention and disposal schedule• Archiving of all hardcopy records brought up to date and old consignment lists organised and arranged• Records officers were deployed to better assist departments to achieve their records management requirements
Employee Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Successful negotiation of Councils 3 year Enterprise Agreement• Successful implementation of the new Organisational Structure• Formation of Councils Workforce Planning Committee• Commencement of the Leadership Development Program - Diploma of Management for all those with leadership requirements at the Operations Centre

Information Act

Council responded to 5 information access requests in 2008-2009 as per table below.

Applications under the Information Act	2008/2009
Applications outstanding at the start of the year	0
Applications to access personal information	4
Applications to access Government Information or mix	4
Accepted applications withdrawn	3
Unaccepted applications	0
Accepted applications finalised	4
Open Applications at end of year	1

Council also responded to a complaint from the Information Commissioner in respect of an application for personal information.

Compliance with Part 9 of the Information Act

Council continues to work towards full compliance with part 9 of the Information Act. Business rules and data entry standards were developed for users of the electronic document management system and the project to create a fully compliant retention and disposal schedule is almost complete.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee advises Council and met four times during the year. Its role is to help Council achieve corporate governance best practice by monitoring the effectiveness of Management's internal control and risk management framework across the Council's operations.

The members of the Audit Committee during the year were:

- Mr Iain Summers (Chairman)
B. Comm Grad Dip Mngt Psych, FCA, FCPA, FAIM, FAICD;
- Mr Craig Spencer
MBA, Grad Dip Risk Management;
- Alderman Kerry Moir (Chairman of Corporate & Economic Development Committee)
BA, MA, Dip Secondary Education; and
- Alderman Helen Galton.

During the year the committee considered, amongst other things, the findings of internal audits including:

- internal audit of application controls;
- internal audit plan 2009-2011;
- car park management review; and
- project management review.

It was pleasing to note that a number of outstanding recommendations were implemented during the year. Among the more noteworthy were:

- introduction of a workforce planning committee;
- improvements to controls over IT user access;
- improvements to payroll internal controls; and
- formalisation of a number of IT procedures.

These revised systems and procedures help to further improve the governance systems of Council.

The audited annual financial statements for the proceeding year were presented to the committee and there were no matters of a substantial nature that were brought to the attention of the committee by the auditor.



Overview of Performance

Darwin City Council strives to provide high quality services, programs and infrastructure. As part of Council's commitment to open and transparent reporting, this presents the 2008/2009 end of year position of Council's performance against the programs as defined in The City of Darwin Municipal Plan (Annual Business Plan and Budget).

Across the organisation, the operating revenue is above target (positive variance) and the operating expenditure is below target; a positive position for Council. The majority of actions and supporting indicators are on track. At this point in time, a few of the supporting indicators need further investigation and validation. This is to ensure that the data presented is accurate and to also ensure that the indicators identified can be consistently measured in a timely manner.

Program	Action Performance	KPI Performance	Budget Performance
Asset Management			(+)
Building Services		N/A ¹	
Business Services			
Children and Youth		²	
Climate Change and Environment			
Communications and Marketing			(-)
Community Services and Support			
Contracts Administration			
Control of Domestic Animals			(-)
Customer Services			(-)
Darwin Entertainment Centre			(+)
Design			(-)
Executive Support			
Financial & Mgmt Accounting			(-)
Fleet Management			(-)
Governance			
Infrastructure Projects			
Libraries			
Mosquito Control			
On Street Parking			
Off Street Parking			
Operations		N/A ³	
Parks and Reserves			

¹ Some anomalies were identified with the 2008/2009 data. Changes have now been made to ensure the accuracy for future reporting.

² This result has been based on a sample of two months of data and extrapolated out to produce a full year result. Changes have now been made to ensure greater accuracy for future reporting.

³ The performance measure for this program is based on internal staff satisfaction. An internal survey was not conducted during 2008/2009.

Program	Action Performance	KPI Performance	Budget Performance
Pathways			(-)
Planning			
Property Management			(-)
Recreation and Leisure			
Regulatory Services			
Revenue Services			
Risk Management			
Road Construction & Traffic Mgmt			(-)
Sister Cities			
Stormwater Drainage Maintenance			
Strategic Services			(-)
Street Cleaning			
Urban Forest Management		N/A ⁴	
Waste Management			(-)

This table provides an overview of Council's performance against the programs that it delivers. Further detailed information against each of the program areas can be found in the 2008/2009 City of Darwin Municipal Plan – Progress report as at 30 June 2009. www.darwin.nt.gov.au/documents

A 'traffic light' colour coding system has been adopted where green represents actual performance is on track or better, yellow represents a marginal variance of 10% or less and a red icon highlights that actual performance was greater than a 10% variance from the target.

It should be noted a yellow or red indicator within 'Budget Performance' can signify that the net program income and expenditure was either over or under budget. When a program is 'under budget' this is identified as a positive (+) variance, any programs that were 'over budget' are identified as a negative (-) variance.

Within the ensuing sections of this report, a summary of performance is provided against each of the Evolving Darwin, towards 2020 and Beyond Strategic Plan goal areas.

⁴ Some anomalies were identified with the 2008/2009 data, therefore accurate results can not be reported. Changes have now been made to ensure the accuracy for future reporting.

Collaborative Relationships

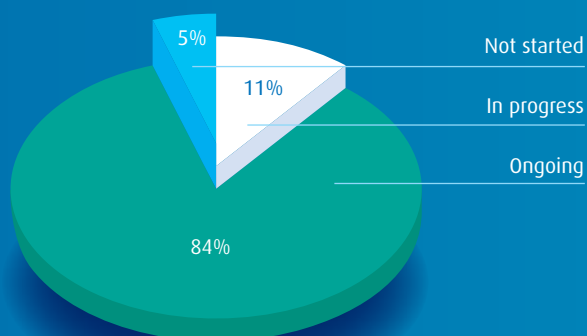
Goal 1:

Achieve effective partnerships and engage in collaborative relationships

Darwin City Council will develop networks with a wide range of stakeholders, engage with the community and establish productive relationships. Council recognises that better outcomes can be achieved through leveraging relationships.

Summary of Performance

Figure 6



This graph represents the current status of all of Council's actions that support the achievement of Goal 1.

This table outlines the goals, outcomes and strategies as described in the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan. This table also shows the key strategic initiatives that specifically describe what Council staff will be doing over the next 3 years to achieve the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan. Many of these actions are long term, high profile activities which will take several years to fully implement.

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Improve relations with all levels of Government	Effectively engage with Territory and Australian Government officials, particularly in the Darwin region	Understand Council's role and the impacts of the Intervention and Closing the Gap targets. Develop and maintain a framework which ensures that Senior Officers and Elected Members effectively engage with NT and Australian Government
	Develop ways in which the Council can enhance relationships and develop opportunities with other Councils to build better cooperation and enhanced efficiencies in local government	Be an active member of the Local Government Association NT (LGANT) Continue to participate in and actively support the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM).
	Develop partnerships and joint projects with other levels of government	Develop effective partnerships and initiate joint projects with Northern Territory and Australian Government In partnership with the NT Police and the City of Palmerston implement the Graffiti Management Plan Support, facilitate and attend the Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC) meetings Participate in the Public Transport Project Control Group with the NTG Identify partnership opportunities with NTG, neighbouring Councils, community groups and private developers when seeking grant funding Participate in LGANT Chief Executive Officers Forum Partner with NT Police to locate external funding to enhance Council's role in community safety. Partner with NTG, CDU and other stakeholders to deliver the Darwin 200 program of events
	Play a strategic role in the planning and developmental processes that impact Darwin	Coordinate the approval of the design and construction of all private and/or government capital works, subdivisions and development works including approvals Participate in Darwin's Urban Design Advisory Panel
	Influence Government and developers to develop sustainable projects which reflect Darwin's lifestyle	Undertake a leadership role in relation to Climate Change and the Environment Darwin City Council to provide comments on new developments to the Northern Territory Government's Development Consent Authority (DCA)

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Effectively engage with the community	Increase involvement of the Business Community for developing solutions to local issues	Investigate the impacts of major developments on the Darwin community and Council services Participate in annual business forums to exchange information and raise awareness of Council issues and services
	Engage, communicate and work collaboratively with the community including schools	Assist sport/community groups to identify funding and write grant applications

A suite of strategic indicators were developed so that the Council and our community can understand the impact of the actions which have been implemented and the success of the strategies. The following table shows the current status of these indicators:

Outcome	Indicator	Target	Actual Result
Goal 1: Achieve Effective Partnerships and Engage in Collaborative Relationships			
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes		>90%	100% 
1.1	Improve relations with all levels of Government	Number of new joint initiatives initiated	Trend 20 
		Number of joint projects completed	Trend 2 
		Number of development applications received	Trend 520 
		Number of DCC recommendations adopted by DCA	Trend 360 
1.2	Effectively engage with community	Number of business development enquiries	Trend 3 
		Number of new community wellbeing initiatives recommended to Council based on community needs	Trend 288 ⁵ 
		Number of Youth Advisory Group meetings held	Trend 8 
		Youth Advisory Group meeting attendance	Trend 113 
		Community agreement rating that Council consults with community sufficiently	> 3.3 3.4 

⁵ This result has been based on a sample of two months of data and extrapolated out to produce a full year result. Changes have now been made to ensure greater accuracy for future reporting.

City Development

City Centre

In December 2008, Council made application to the Australian Government for funding under its Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program for the City Centre Revitalisation Project. The application contained partnerships with both the Australian and Northern Territory Governments.

The application was successful with final project value being estimated at \$7million and funding and partnerships from all tiers of Government and the private sector.

Australian Government	\$3.60 million
Northern Territory Government	\$1.75 million
Darwin City Council	\$1.15 million
Private Sector	\$0.50 million

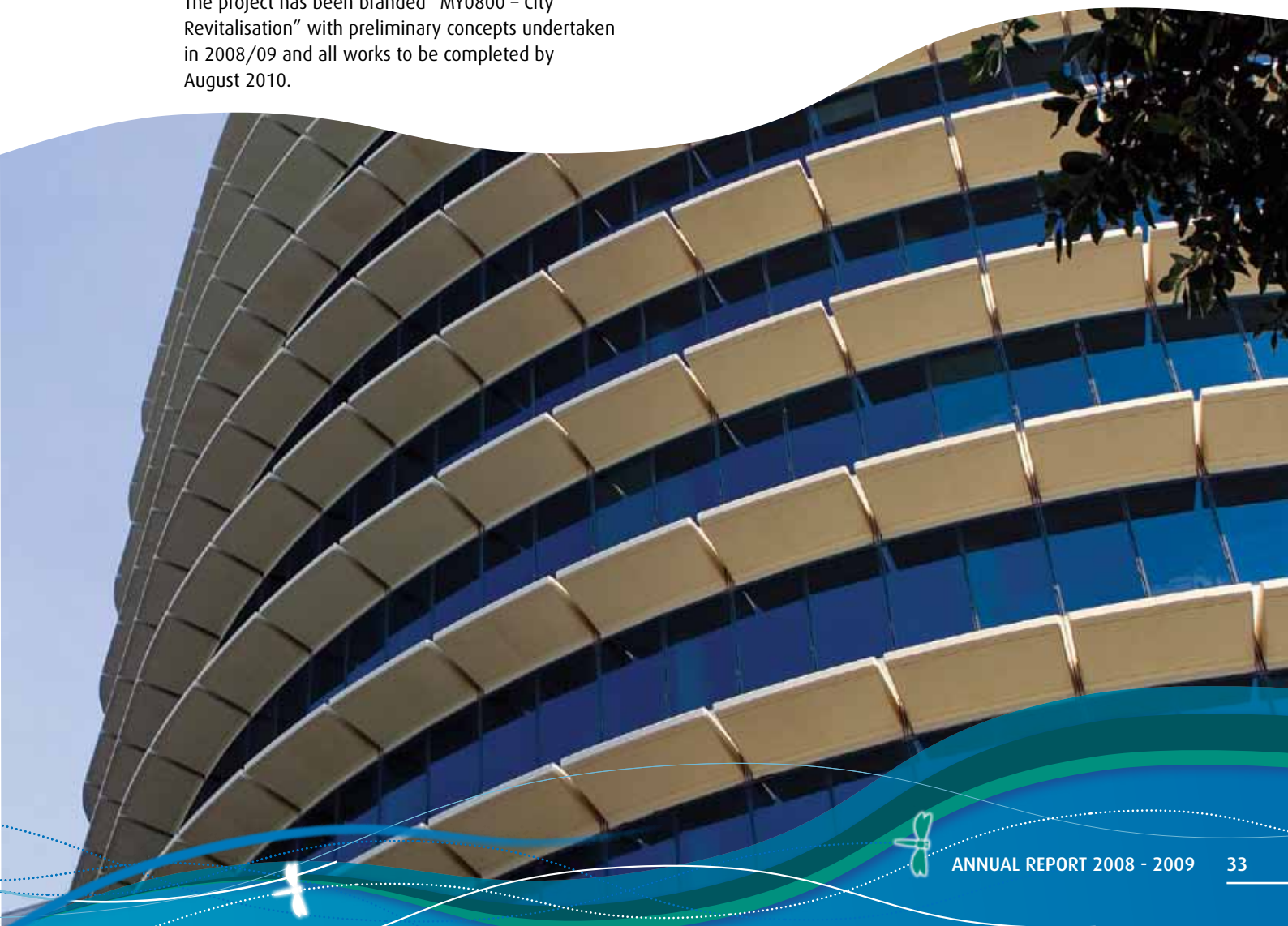
The project has been branded "MY0800 – City Revitalisation" with preliminary concepts undertaken in 2008/09 and all works to be completed by August 2010.

Smith Street East

The Northern Territory Government in liaison with the Council is undertaking the redevelopment of the Smith Street pedestrian link between the Darwin Waterfront and The Mall. The project will include landscaping, shade, street furniture and public art. Works commence in the second half of 2008/2009 and are expected to be completed by November 2009.

Bagot Park

Tenders were called and awarded for the resurfacing of the highly used Bagot Park. The facility is used by the Football Federation of the Northern Territory for junior soccer. The works included a new and improved playing surface and irrigation system. The project is majority funded by Darwin City Council with support from the Northern Territory Government.



Lifestyle

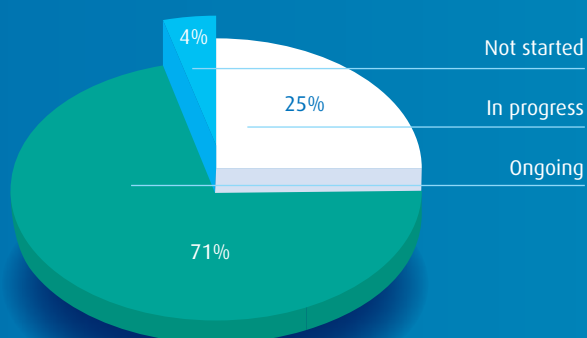
Goal 2:

Enhance Darwin's active, positive and flexible lifestyle

The Council values the lifestyle enjoyed by the community and seeks to build on that by providing opportunities for active and passive recreation, leisure pursuits and healthy lifestyle choices.

Summary of Performance

Figure 7



This graph represents the current status of all of Council's actions that support the achievement of Goal 2.






This table outlines the goals, outcomes and strategies as described in the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan. This table also shows the key strategic initiatives that specifically describe what Council staff will be doing over the next 3 years to achieve the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan. Many of these actions are long term, high profile activities which will take several years to fully implement.

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Improve urban enhancement around Darwin	Manage and improve the landscaping, streetscape and infrastructure to a standard that meets community needs	Deliver Urban Enhancement Improvements Program Develop and implement the City Revitalisation Program Finalise the overarching Recreation Strategic Plan Manage the use and policy in respect to cyclepaths, ovals, sporting court and swimming pools Oversee the maintenance and construction in relation to cyclepaths, ovals, sporting court and swimming pools
	Develop and maintain a vibrant and active Central Business Area	Implement the MY0800 suite of projects
	Support the Northern Territory Government's Ribbons of Green and CBD entry node upgrade initiatives	Support the NTG's Ribbons of Green and CBD Entry Node developments
	Provide a clean and liveable municipality	Deliver animal education programs Review and maintain Street Cleaning and Litter Services
	Participate and partner in activities that contribute to a safer Darwin	Contribute to a safer Darwin through the various safety initiatives Support the delivery of the Alcohol Management Plan
Increase recreational leisure and heritage experiences	Enhance library facilities	Actively participate in the Library Review Committee
	Promote Darwin as a host city for sport and other recreational events	Develop new events, attract events and enhance existing events in Darwin Provide support for the Arafura Games Provide support for community groups and organisations through the provision of leisure/event equipment and venues
	Manage and improve the pathway and cycleway network and encourage safe cycling and walking	Construct and maintain cyclepaths in accordance with the Cyclepath Strategy Review and improve the Cyclepath Strategy
	Progress aquatic facility planning and delivery	Finalise the Aquatics Facilities Masterplan

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Promote family friendly and healthy activities	Promote and host family orientated activities	Oversee and represent Council's interests in the Darwin Entertainment Centre Work with the youth community to host low cost and accessible youth events
	Pursue the development of a purpose designed youth space and positive youth activities	Coordinate the National Youth Week event Develop and implement the Youth Space Masterplan
	Provide facilities and programs which encourage healthy lifestyle choices	Deliver community health and well being programs (ie Activate NT, Heart Foundation Walking, Making Tracks, Pedometers) Deliver Sporting Areas Services Deliver Recreation & Leisure Services

A suite of strategic indicators were developed so that the Council and our community can understand the impact of the actions which have been implemented and the success of the strategies. The following table shows the current status of these indicators:

Outcome	Indicator	Target	Actual	Result	
Goal 2: Enhance Darwin's Active, Positive and Flexible Lifestyle					
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes		>90%	97%	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	
2.1	Improve urban enhancement around Darwin	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of maintenance of suburban parks and playgrounds	> 3.8	3.8	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Community rating against generally feel safe in their local suburb	> 70%	72%	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of litter collection from public areas	> 3.5	3.5	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Number of incidents resulting in an injury	Trend	13	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of street lighting	> 3.8	3.6	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
2.2	Increase recreational, leisure and heritage experiences	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of footpaths/ cyclepaths	> 3.8	3.4	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Community satisfaction rating with Library services	> 3.8	4.1	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Library membership as a % of the population	Trend	43.99	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Total number of library visits	Trend	509,442	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Total swimming pool attendance	Trend	183,350	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
		Total attendance to cultural institutions	Trend	2,458	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>

Outcome	Indicator	Target	Actual Result
Goal 2: Enhance Darwin's Active, Positive and Flexible Lifestyle			
2.3	Promote family friendly and healthy activities	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of recreation facilities such as tennis courts	> 3.8 3.9 
		Total Fun Bus attendance numbers	Trend 9,812 
		Total Fun In The Parks attendance numbers	Trend 3,115 
		Average number of bookings for sporting areas per week	Trend 49.25 
		Total participation in ActivateNT	Trend 200 

City Improvements and Maintenance

Urban Enhancement

The Urban Enhancement Program is a joint program between Council and the Northern Territory Government. The Program is designed to improve urban amenities around shopping centres, playgrounds and to improve lighting in walkways.

The program concluded in June 2009 with Council completing works at the Wulagi Shopping Centre, various playgrounds and lighting of walkways.

Cavenagh Street Landscaping Masterplan

Council developed a Masterplan for Cavenagh Street for the purpose of consultation and direction. The plan involves converting Cavenagh Street to four lanes by the removal of on-street angle parking and landscape beautification of the street. The landscape works included re-planting of median islands as well as the provision of tree planter beds within the road pavement.

Development Applications

Council provided written responses to 303 development applications including NT Planning Scheme Amendments referred to Council by the Northern Territory Government.

Council undertook technical assessments on all the applications. Issues addressed included infrastructure and amenity requirements, planning assessments, traffic studies and waste management facilities.



Library Services

Darwin City Council Libraries are committed to delivering a dynamic, different and diverse public library service which promotes and supports the recreational and lifelong learning needs of our community.

In 2008/2009 a total of 514,993 items were borrowed and over 509,500 visits were made to libraries. The libraries offer free membership to permanent residents and visitors can become temporary library members with the payment of a \$50 refundable deposit giving them access to all membership rights.

Casuarina Library closed on 12th September for refurbishment. It reopened after twelve weeks, when the internal modifications, painting, new shelving, carpet, additional PC's and refurbished updated meeting rooms were completed. Over 1,600 items were issued when the library re-opened on Monday 15 December 2008.

The official re-opening of Casuarina Library was held on Monday 9 February with the Lord Mayor unveiling a plaque to commemorate the \$1.6 million refurbishment.

Events

Author talks are very popular at the libraries and this year many local and interstate author visits to all four libraries were featured. Of special note were visits by Leonie Norrington, Phillip Gwynne and Di Morrissey. In addition to these visits Michael Robotham and Andy Griffiths visited the Casuarina and Karama libraries as part of the National Books Alive program. Local author Phil O'Brien launched his latest book "The Minor Successes of a Bloke that Never had a Real Lot of Luck" at the City Library. A 'Non-boring' Family History writing workshop with Hazel Edwards was held at the City Library. 'National Simultaneous Storytime' was celebrated at all libraries in September.

'Music in the library' program and 'Friday lunchtime at Casuarina Library' were new initiatives this year which attracts local artists and proved very popular with library customers. Other events were the Jasmine Jan's Pen & Ink Drawing Workshop and the EBay sessions.

Harmony Day was celebrated at the Casuarina Library on Saturday 21 March. A Multicultural Storytime was followed by performances from 2 multicultural dance groups, one group from Burma and another from West Africa.

Events for youth were held throughout the year, Read 'em 'n Rock was a hugely successful quiz night with live music. A video production workshop was included in the September Holiday Program and was aimed at the 12 to 18 year olds. The release of the movie Twilight coincided with a youth event at Casuarina Library.

Services

Public access to computer facilities is heavily used for internet browsing and email. The Living, Learning, Leisure program which teaches participants how to use the web and email continues to attract good attendance. A series of EBay workshops were also held for the public.

There are 4 Book Clubs operating at the libraries. Monthly clubs meet at lunchtime at the City Library and evening clubs meet at both the Casuarina and City libraries, a youth club meets fortnightly after school at the Casuarina Library.

Online resources are very popular and cover a wide range of subjects, such as 'Your Tutor', a real time online tutoring service for students from Year 4 to tertiary which covers english, maths, science and research based subjects. Other online resources available from both the libraries and remotely accessible include Academic Search Premier, Health and Wellness Resource Centre, World Book Online,



ANZ Reference Centre, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Britannica Online, Ask a Librarian, Libraries Australia, My Language and the NT News.

Inter library loans were once again in demand this year for both recreation and lifelong learning pursuits. Limits are placed on the types of materials that can be borrowed free of charge.

Up to 800 visits were made to Council's housebound library customers. Housebound customers receive a regular supply of reading material from our Casuarina and the City libraries.

Children and youth activities are well attended at all libraries. Story times are conducted every day of the week. Every Wednesday Babes'n'Books, a story time for new parents and babies up to 12 months is held at the Casuarina Library. Child care centres and crèches also visit the libraries for story time sessions. Breakfast with Books a Saturday morning story time is conducted during the school holidays. Children's authors have been regular visitors to the Storytime sessions with visits from Jeannette Rowe, Mem Fox, Hazel Edwards and Robyn Crowe this year.

Library staff visit the local hospitals to delivery nappy packs for parents with new babies. A voucher can be redeemed at the libraries when parents join up their baby and the baby receives a free new book and library bag.

Karama Library hosts the monthly KAOS program for young people. KAOS is held on the last Wednesday of each month from 6pm to 9pm. It is open to children and youth aged 12 -18 years.

Over 3,000 children participated in holiday programs, including the Summer Reading Club held during December and January. Local authors Barry Jonsberg, Leonie Norrington and Nick Bland held writers workshops for children.

Each year Darwin City Council Libraries hosts the Young Territory Author Awards. The awards are open to all Northern Territory children up to 18 years of age and prize money of \$500 is awarded to the winner. The winners are announced at a ceremony hosted by the Lord Mayor during Children's Book Week.

Community Safety Initiatives

Graffiti Management

In early December 2008, Council launched its Graffiti Management Plan, which was a joint initiative with City of Palmerston and the NT Police. This initiative included the provision of free resources to residents to encourage self removal activities.

From 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, Council received 2,717 reports of graffiti. Of those reports, 2,057 related to graffiti occurring on Council assets. The most frequently targeted are the Nightcliff Foreshore, Malak Oval and the Wagaman, Jingili and the Anula areas.

Community Support

Council has continued support of the NT Department of Health & Community Services' condom dispensing program and has allowed the dispensing units installed at Council's toilets at Austin Lane, Westlane Car Park and Nightcliff Beach Foreshore to continue. Two additional condom dispenser units have been installed in Council's public amenities at The Esplanade and East Point Reserve for an initial three month trial period.

Young Women's Sexual Health & Wellbeing program

Council supported Mission Australia in the delivery of the young women's sexual health and wellbeing program. The program facilitated a partnership with Dripstone High School targeting young women that were not school attending but still enrolled. The program encouraged young women to connect with the school nurse and counsellor, so that at the conclusion of the 10 week workshops, the women had developed supportive and accessible connection points that extended beyond the timelines of the program.

Neighbourhood Watch Northern Suburbs Community Patrols Trial

Council supported the Neighbourhood Watch Northern Suburbs Community patrols trial for a six month period from July 2008 to January 2009.

Family, Children and Youth Activities

School Civic Visits

Darwin City Council continues to offer the opportunity for all Darwin primary and middle school students to visit the Civic Centre with their teachers to learn more about Local Government in the Northern Territory and in particular Darwin City Council. This program assists teachers to meet their curriculum requirements in the area of governance. In 2008/2009, 4 classes from 4 schools attended the Civic Centre.

Fun Bus

The Fun Bus is a mobile playgroup service for children 0 to 5 years, their parents and carers. The Fun Bus provides an important informal opportunity for parents and carers to come together, share ideas and experiences and develop new friendships while their children learn through play experiences. This program is jointly funded by Darwin City Council and the Northern Territory Government. The Fun Bus operates weekdays between 9:30am and 11:30am for 45 weeks per year between January and December and participation is free. The Fun Bus operates at various outdoor venues throughout the municipality except for nine weeks of the year (wet season) when it is held at the Malak Community Centre. Experienced and qualified council staff plan and run each session.

July to December 2008	Children	Adults	Visits
Venues			
Bagot Community	155	77	22
Old McMillans Park	1131	729	24
Water Gardens	2286	1528	24
Malak Caravan Park	556	324	24
Civic Park	1228	826	24

February and March 2009	Children	Adults	New Families
Malak Community Centre	1,136	601	32

April to June 2009	Children	Adults	New Families
Venues			
Bagot Community	79	30	5
Old McMillans Park	830	552	19
Water Gardens	1,465	952	26
Malak Caravan Park	227	166	17
Civic Park	719	516	22

Fun in the Parks

Darwin City Council's Fun in the Parks is held each Monday, Wednesday and Friday of school holidays and provides a range of free activities for primary school aged children. Activities include water play, ball games, and assorted craft and face painting. Many other activities are also on offer with a variety of rotating programs. During 2008/2009 the program was run 31 times from a variety of parks and locations throughout the Council municipality.

Fun in the Parks joined with Corrugated Iron Youth Arts and Council's Fun Bus on several occasions throughout the year which increased attendance figures and added another dimension to the program.

Fun in the Parks has also joined with Council's Free Recreation and Entertainment for Everyone in the Parks (FREEPS) events as well as supporting other community events.

In-Kind Support at Community Events

Each year Council receives a vast number of requests from community groups and organisations seeking some form of support to build upon their project, event or service.

Council considers each request carefully and priority is given to those activities that have substantial community benefit, are inclusive and grow the capacity of marginalised members of our community along with the not for profit sector. Equity of access and the nature of the request are also evaluated.

2008/2009 saw Council provide diverse forms of in-kind support. From small cash contributions to fee waivers for use of Council facilities, subsidised hire of equipment, donations of equipment right through to direct service provision to enhance community events such as a visit from the Fun Bus for major community events.

Although Council cannot support every request, it continues to be a primary access point for community groups seeking information, resources and community linkages.

In 2008/2009 the following events were supported:-

Date of Event	Event	Service Provided
July 2008	Darwin Lions Beer Can Regatta at Mindil Beach	Fun in the Parks
July 2008	DCC stand at Royal Darwin Show at Showgrounds	Two face painters
July 2008	School Sports NT	Hire of Jingili Oval
July 2008	DarwinLite	Hire green stage/trailer 10 sections + 2 steps
July 2008	East Point Breezeway Landcare Group Inc	2 x compost bins
July 2008	MAJIMAP Choice Aboriginal Corporation	Hire Moil Oval
August 2008	NT Cricket	Hire Gardens Oval
August 2008	Milkwood Steiner School	Hire 2 x units aluminium staging
August 2008	Darwin Football Club	Hire Jingili Oval x 20 sessions
August 2008	Darwin Festival	Gardens Oval and Knuckey St banner site, hire of Gardens Amphitheatre and installation and removal of 150 street light banners
August 2008	Tropical Garden Spectacular	1 x worm farm, 1 x compost bin

Date of Event	Event	Service Provided
August 2008	ACCU Teddy Bears Picnic as part of Darwin Festival at George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens	Fun Bus and two face painters
September 2008	Cancer Council NT	Hire Gardens Oval and Gardens Oval banner site
September 2008	National Street Soccer/The Big Issue	Hire of Malak Community Centre and supply of refreshments
September 2008	Darwin Community Arts Inc	Hire of 10 units of aluminium staging
September 2008	Darwin 200 Launch in partnership with NTG and CDU	Civic Park hire
September 2008	Arts NT Public Art Forum – Managing Projects	Catering, PA hire, hire Civic Centre Function Area and refreshments
October 2008	Majimap Choice Aboriginal Group	Hire Malak Oval
October 2008	NT Shelter Inc – Anti Poverty Week	Hire 2 x units aluminium staging + 1 step. Hire Gardens Oval banner site and advertisement for Anti Poverty Week events in NT News
October 2008	Children's' Week Darwin Family Fun Day	Fun Bus and two face painters
December 2008	Christmas in Darwin Assoc	Hire Gardens Amphitheatre
February 2009	Anglicare - Headspace	Hire Malak Community Centre
February 2009	AFLNT	Hire 2 x units aluminium staging/ 2 steps
February 2009	Tourism NT	Film permit for 'Mercurio's Menu'
February 2009	Darwin Blues & Roots Club Inc – Bush Fire Appeal, Top end Families for Victoria Benefit Concert	Fun Bus and two face painters
March 2009	The Big Issue/Street Soccer	Use of Council meeting room
March 2009	United Nations Assoc Of Australia Inc - International Women's Day March	Street permit, refreshments and staff assistance
March 2009	Harmony Day Family Fun Day at Malak Community Centre	Fun Bus and two face painters
March 2009	Darwin Golf Club	Free use of Shoal Bay Tip for disposal of green waste
April 2009	Darwin RSL	Hire 1 unit aluminium stage + 1 step
May 2009	Melaleuca Refugee Centre Communal Picnic part of National Volunteer Week at Malak Park	Fun in the Parks and two face painters
May 2009	Heritage Family Day at Myilly Point Heritage Precinct	Fun Bus and two face painters

Community Centres

Council's Community Centres at Malak and Nightcliff continue to operate at capacity under the effective management of user groups and tenants in partnership with Council. The Community Centres continue to be in high demand for bookings.

Childcare Centres

Council sponsors seven child care centres through the provision and maintenance of the buildings. Council also provides assistance to the Centres to obtain grants from the Northern Territory and Australian Governments and Council also project manages the works where applicable. Council has completed minor works at most Centres and assisted in the completion and management of the grant funded building related works including capital works. During 2008/2009, Council attended to several minor maintenance issues at all seven Childcare Centres.

The Family and Children's Services Coordinator has attended committee meetings at each of the centres upon invitation from the Centre's management. This has been a very useful tool in maintaining open lines of communication and being in touch with the committees and Directors of the centres. This ensures an ongoing collaborative working relationship between Council and the centres/management.

Youth Services

Council's Youth Services is focussed on engaging young people within the community by providing activities and opportunities that cater for all young people. Activities are planned and hosted by and for young people. This approach continues to support equity of access and ensures genuinely appealing activities are held. Council has continued to support a traineeship position within Council's Youth Services section, which has been instrumental in supporting the engagement of young people in Council activities. Key programs that Youth Services coordinated during 2008/2009 are:

Youth Advisory Group (YAG)

The Youth Advisory Group has a membership of 18 young people aged between 12 and 20 years and its role is to provide advice and inform Council on issues affecting young people. A key achievement during 2008/2009 included the production and formulation of a new five year Youth Strategy named "LOUD & CLEAR", which is the result of community consultation that surveyed over 1,300 young people.

YAG has provided regular input to Council's proposed Youth Energy Precinct (YEP), a dedicated youth venue in Darwin. As well as participating in community consultations at various locations around Darwin, YAG provided advice on appropriate advertising and promotion of the YEP and the consultation phase. YAG has provided comment on changes to *The Care and Protection of Children Act* to both the Council and the Northern Territory Government through a direct meeting with the responsible Minister. YAG has assisted the following organisations in presenting activities, forums and presentations to young people, United Nations Youth Association, Darwin Community Arts, YWCA, The Global Poverty Project and the Oaktree Foundation.

Meeting every month, YAG is an established, respected and valuable advisory committee of Council and provides a vital avenue for young people to be heard in local government.

GRIND Youth Newspaper

The last 12 months has seen great changes to the GRIND Youth Newspaper. GRIND has transformed from a magazine to an online format www.grindonline.com.au allowing for up to the minute updates, podcasting, vodcasting, updateable calendar events and live chatting. GRIND continues to serve as a positive medium for young people to express themselves through art, music, reviews, short stories and journalistic pieces. It also provides young people with real media experiences with press access to events such as BASSINTEGRASS and the Darwin Festival, as well as the opportunity to interview visiting celebrities, personalities and artists. GRIND aims to become the main access point for young people to Council and all its programs and events.

Publications

Council produces over 20,000 Youth Information Cards, which are distributed to all students, youth service providers and at key youth events. This free resource provides a quick reference tool for young people which lists important numbers for contacting youth service providers.

Council also produces the Youth Services Directory, a free resource, also providing details of youth service providers.

Both the Youth Information Card and Youth Services Directory is available in hard copy and can be downloaded from both the Council website and via GRIND.

The Youth Energy Precinct (YEP)

A new initiative of Council has been to investigate the establishment of a dedicated youth space in Darwin. The consultation phase over the last 12 months has seen large scale public stalls at THE BIG GIG and Casuarina Square Shopping Centre, an online survey available via both on the Council website and GRIND, a visit to all secondary schools in the Darwin area as well as awareness and promotion campaigns in Council's pools and libraries, commercial radio and print media.

A key highlight of YEP is the establishment of a Youth Consult Team (YEPYCT), headed up by four local young people. The YEPYCT has provided input and feedback at all stages of the public consulting and acted as a conduit between the consultants, Strategic Leisure, the Youth Advisory Group, the media and the Youth Services team.

THE BIG GIG

Council was successful in obtaining significant funding from *beyondblue* to present THE BIG GIG during National Youth Week 2009. The event was well attended and featured three local bands and one national touring band. As well as offering information stalls for young people, THE BIG GIG provided recreation activities including:- recycled jewellery workshops, active recreation in Civic Park and cupcake art. The event was organised by both the YAG and GRIND teams, with young people doing everything from designing the poster, booking the bands, working the door, staffing and promoting the event, presenting workshops and documenting the event.

THE BIG GIG provided opportunities for young people to work with our professional partner organisations, Corrugated Iron Youth Arts and Music NT. The young people participating in THE BIG GIG gained experience in event management, stage and sound technical skills, advertising, promotion and public relations.

Recreation Activities

Free Recreation and Entertainment for Everyone in the Parks (FREEPS)

The 2008/2009 FREEPS events were a great success, providing a range of free activities and entertainment including:-

- Face painting and temporary tattoos
- Jumping castles and other inflatable activities
- Games and recreational activities
- Arts and crafts
- Not-for-profit organisations' information stands
- Music, children's entertainers and local dance acts
- Community fund-raising

Each of the combined events attracted approximately 1,500 people and the independent events were attended by between 300 and 500 people. Many families with young children had the opportunity to participate in a range of new recreation activities in a number of Darwin City Council parks.

Date	Location – Event	Approximate Attendance
20/07/2008	Civic Park	350
31/08/2008	Parap Pool – end of dry season 'splash'	400
02/05/2009	Nightcliff Foreshore – as part of the Seabreeze Festival	1,500
10/05/2009	Marrara Central – as part of the Arafura Games	300

FREEPS provides the opportunity for not-for-profit organisations to be involved through food and drink sales as well as providing recreation, arts, dance and provided performance groups the opportunity to showcase their skills and activities. FREEPS is also an avenue for organisations such as the Darwin Toy Library, Royal Life Saving and 'Life. Be in it.' to raise community awareness about their own programs and resources.

Activate NT

Activate NT is the re-branded DarwinLite program launched in 2008. The 2009 Activate NT program attracted around 200 participants and volunteers and ran for ten weeks. Throughout Activate NT participants engaged in over 1,200 sessions of physical activity. Aside from these physical activities the program included the provision of health information, cooking classes and other special events. Other service providers supported the program by offering discounted or free activities to participants, which increased the number of physical activity sessions to well over 2,000 throughout the program.

The program combined events specifically designed for Activate NT with existing community-based activities, introducing participants to a broader range of physical recreation opportunities.

Heart Foundation Walking Groups

Council's Recreation Services team is the Area Co-ordinator for some of the groups associated with the Heart Foundation Walking program.

The groups are based at Casuarina and Mitchell Street shopping centres and, as a result of the success of Activate NT, groups at Nightcliff and East Point Reserve have also commenced. Groups are led by volunteers and it is free to register and participate.

Special events were also held throughout 2008/2009 including a walk along Nightcliff foreshore and a healthy breakfast at Nightcliff Pool which involved all of the Heart Foundation Walking Groups in the Top End and participants from Activate NT. The event was free to attend and pool entry fees were waived for all participants.



Playgrounds

As part of the Northern Territory Government's Urban Enhancement Program, Council upgraded eight local playgrounds during 2008/2009. These were:-.

Park	Suburb	Park	Suburb
Carnoustie	Marrara	Dickinson	Karama
Grebe	Wulagi	Grevillia	Nightcliff
Groote	Wagaman	Nightcliff Oval	Nightcliff
Rapid Creek Foreshore	Rapid Creek	Byrne	Moil

Grevillia Park in Nightcliff was the first location in Australia to have the Bloqx climbing block installed. This piece of equipment is aimed at older children (11 – 15 years), an age group which is often over-looked in the provision of play equipment.

Swimming Pools

All three swimming pools achieved increased patronage throughout the year as a result of the excellent quality of the water and grounds as well as the well-trained and friendly staff.

	2008/2009	2007/2008	Annual Increase
Parap	63,630	61,118	+4.11%
Casuarina	64,391	58,720	+9.66%
Nightcliff	71,812	67,748	+6.00%

Adult swim classes were introduced in 2008/2009 and proved very popular. As a result, the number of classes was increased from 2 to 5 per week, catering for adults with beginner and intermediate abilities. An average of 8 to 10 participants attended each class.

Children's learn-to-swim classes accommodated approximately 800 children over two 12 week blocks between September and April.

Aqua-aerobics was available on Tuesday evenings at Parap Pool (averaging 20 participants), Tuesday and Thursday lunch times and on Saturday mornings (each averaging 8 participants). Nightcliff Pool held classes Monday to Thursday evenings and morning classes on Saturdays and Sundays averaging 25 participants each.

Ovals

Council maintains 17 ovals which were all in high demand by user groups throughout both the wet and dry seasons. Bagot Park was off-line for the 2009 dry season in order to regrade, irrigate and returf.

The upgrading works will be completed during the 2009/2010 wet season, in time for the commencement of the 2010 dry season sporting season.

Gardens Oval held a number of special events such as Cancer Council's Relay for Life in September 2008 and the NT Cricket International Competition in August 2008 between Bangladesh and the Australian Institute of Sport. The international games were warm-up matches prior to the Bangladesh vs Australia fixtures held at the Marrara Stadium.



Connectivity

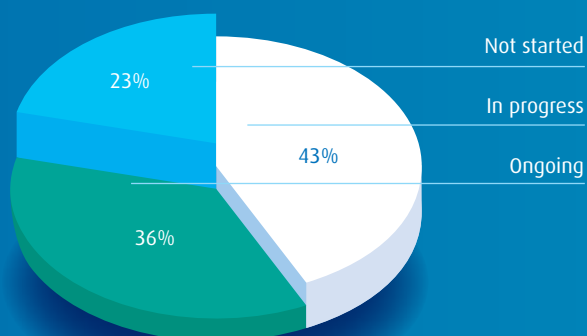
Goal 3:

Assist individuals and the community stay connected with the Darwin region.

Darwin City Council will introduce additional communication technologies and support opportunities for community networking, creating place to be and encouraging community capacity building throughout the city.

Summary of Performance

Figure 8















This graph represents the current status of all of Council's actions that support the achievement of Goal 3.

This table outlines the goals, outcomes and strategies as described in the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan. This table also shows the key strategic initiatives that specifically describe what Council staff will be doing over the next 3 years to achieve the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan. Many of these actions are long term, high profile activities which will take several years to fully implement.

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Promote the use of public spaces	Enhance public spaces and encourage greater use by the community	Implement the grounds and infrastructure refurbishment program Review the Playground strategy (inc. 10 year plan)
Enhance transport systems	Review transport and parking needs	Develop and implement car park contribution plan for areas outside of the CBD Review the CBD parking policy, strategy and financial model Deliver a planning and design framework in relation to the Cavenagh Street car parking Influence the delivery of passenger and commercial transport
	Manage and improve the road network and infrastructure to a standard that meets the needs of the community	Deliver and implement municipal street lighting upgrade program Develop and implement Council's ongoing Local Area Traffic Management Plan Implement the Roads to Recovery program
	Provide parking facilities and management systems which meet the needs of the community	Manage, maintain and ensure optimal performance of Council's off street car parks
Increase and promote use of technology	Develop and promote Council's IT capability for informing the community and seeking feedback	Expand Council's connectivity IT capability (e.g. website and intranet, mobile devices etc) Implement IT's Five Year Strategic Plan Investigate the functionality and process for obtaining Council papers, reports and agendas electronically
	Advocate for the provision of a wireless service for the CBD	Investigate wireless internet in key locations, including using wireless devices for accessing Darwin information.

A suite of strategic indicators were developed so that the Council and our community can understand the impact of the actions which have been implemented and the success of the strategies. The following table shows the current status of these indicators:

Outcome	Indicator	Target	Actual Result
Goal 3: Assist Individuals and the Community Stay Connected with the Darwin Region			
	Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes	>90%	97% 
3.1	Promote the use of public spaces		
	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of public toilet maintenance	> 3.0	3.1 
	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of maintenance of larger public parks, foreshores and beaches	> 3.9	3.8 
3.2	Enhance transport systems		
	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of car parking in the CBD	> 3.0	3.0 
	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of car parking in suburban areas	> 3.7	3.6 
	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of road maintenance	> 3.7	3.5 
	Percentage of road length resealed to total sealed roads	Trend	3% 
	% utilisation of public transport	Trend	20% 
3.3	Increase and promote use of technology		
	Total number of on-line payments made via e-services	Trend	8,907 
	% of community surveyed who made contact with Council via the internet or email	> 6%	5% 
	Availability of agendas and minutes on Council's internet	> 99%	100% 
	System uptime	> 99%	99.62% 

City Roads and Public Spaces

Road Safety

Council continued with its commitment to improving safety on its road network throughout the year via the Blackspot Program and Local Area Traffic Management Program, works included:-

- Woolner Road Blackspot Project:- Council was successful in obtaining funding from the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to improve safety in this Blackspot area. Works include a new roundabout, improved Stuart Highway intersection and improved lighting and stormwater drainage. Works commenced in June 2009 and are expected to be completed by the end of November 2009.
- Local Area Traffic Management:- Various local area works were undertaken throughout Darwin's streets to improve safety. These included the construction of devices such as roundabouts, intersection narrowing and pedestrian refuges. Suburbs where works were undertaken include Moil, Wulagi, Ludmilla, Fannie Bay, Alawa, Leanyer and Nightcliff.
- Pedestrian Signals Coconut Grove:- Council installed a signalised crossing on Dick Ward Drive Coconut Grove to assist pedestrian and cyclists in crossing this busy road.

Footpaths and Cycleways

During the year, Council constructed or refurbished 7.9km of footpath and 0.46km of cycleway in various locations in Darwin's suburbs.

Roads and Drainage

Routine maintenance continued on Council's road and stormwater drainage networks. This included:

- Cleaning of Gross Pollutant Traps
- Clearing of blockages in drains
- Re-line marking
- Condition survey of Assets.

Road Resealing Program

Council continued its road resealing program with 95,470m² of roads being resealed and 11,752m² being overlaid with asphalt.

Cost effective treatments were used mainly to provide water proofing to the wearing course.

Greening Mindil

Greening Mindil was a partnership project with the Larrakia Nation. It involved the protection of the Mindil Beach sand dunes by provision of walkways using recycled plastic, fencing and vegetation works.

The vegetation works were undertaken via a Community Planting event on the 30 May 2009, where over 100 community members attended to assist.

The project was jointly funded by the Darwin City Council and Australian Government under the Community Coast Care Program.

Parks, Reserves and Landscaping Works

Maintenance of Council's Parks and Reserves saw continuous improvement in the presentation of the 126 parks under maintenance. These ongoing programmes include mowing, tree pruning, mulching of garden beds, irrigation maintenance, playground maintenance, furniture and infrastructure maintenance and litter control. Revegetation planting in areas of high erosion at Rapid Creek were undertaken during the wet season.

Various land care groups, conservation volunteers and the Northern Territory Government assisted Council staff with the installation of approximately 7,000 trees at Rapid Creek and East Point. A further 1,000 trees were planted into neighbourhood parks and street tree planting programmes, many of these replaced trees blown over by Cyclone Helen in the previous year.

The Correctional Services Community Support Program continued throughout 2008/2009 with a range of ongoing maintenance programmes including the removal of weeds, coffee bush and rubbish in areas such as Mindil Beach, East Point reserve, Vestey's Lake, Colivas Breeze Way, Nightcliff Foreshore and the

Rapid Creek Corridor. Minor sand replacement works on the primary dune at Mindil Beach were completed following the wet season. A major community event saw a very successful planting day at the Mindil beach dunes where Council staff, Larrakia Rangers and volunteers planted coastal plants to further stabilise the dune system and protect against future erosion.

Irrigation upgrades were completed at Jingili Water Gardens, Nightcliff Shopping Centre and Wulagi Shopping centre. The programme of replacing the CCA treated timber post and rail fencing at Nightcliff foreshore reserve continued with the installation of 200 recycled plastic bollards.

Council conducted regular counts of the wallabies at East Point Reserve and performed regular inspections to ensure sufficient feed and water was available.

Key performance indicators were implemented for parklands in regards to cost effectiveness, physical condition, customer satisfaction and safety/legislative requirements. Capital funds were spent on installation and upgrade of park furniture including seating, water bubblers and play equipment.



Regulatory Services

Animal Management

The Animal Management team had a busy year with the implementation of the new Darwin City Council By-Laws which now includes the regulation of cats. Continued public education regarding responsible cat ownership under the new animal management By-laws is an ongoing program.

The new By-Laws now includes cat registrations, microchipping and penalties for cats found at large as well as registration conditions for declared dogs (categories 1, 2, and 3) relating to dogs involved in an attack, or that are habitually at large. The cat By-laws have created a great deal of interest with Council Officers assisting Darwin residents in the trapping, removal and the impounding of stray cats.

During 2008//2009 Council received 1,012 calls from the public concerning dogs at large, 234 reported instances of dog attacks and 312 calls for barking including dogs causing nuisance.

There were 9,097 registered dogs in Darwin, of these 6,683 were desexed. The number of desexed dogs reflects the importance owners place on the desexing of their dogs.

A total of 539 infringements were issued for By-law offences involving dogs and cats.

In this inaugural year of cat registrations 974 cats were registered with Council, of these 834 were desexed cats. This once again reflects community attitudes toward responsible pet ownership.

The completion and operation of Darwin City Council's Animal Pound has been a huge success with 1,012 dogs and 418 cats processed during 2008/2009. Ark Animal Hospital has been operating the facility over this period.

We also held another successful microchipping day at Anula oval on Sunday 28 September 2008 which also incorporated a FREEPS family fun day. Pet owners were able to get their pets microchipped at a discounted rate of \$30 which then entitled them to a lifetime membership with the National Pet Register. This could not have been delivered without the assistance of the Ark Animal Hospital veterinarians.

Council has increased the number of Animal Management Officers throughout the year to provide a more effective and consistent level of service to the community. This increase in resources furnishes Council with the opportunity to provide the appropriate enforcement response to individual complaints whilst also allowing Officers to proactively provide education advice to cat and dog owners as part of their regular patrols.

The Animal Management Team has been provided with extensive training from specialist dog behavioral experts. Day visits were organised to town camps to observe dog behaviour for research purposes in conjunction with the Animal Management in Remote and Rural Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC) conference which was held in Darwin on 14 October 2008.

The Animal Management Team Leader attended the International Animal Welfare Conference at the Gold Coast from 31 August to 3 September 2008 where a diverse number of welfare and compliance issues were discussed and presented.

Also a large number of our Animal Officers attended the Australian Institute for Animal Management (AIAM) Conference held in Darwin from 15 to 17 October inclusive. Council was a major sponsor of this event, as part of this, several interstate delegates were given a tour of Council's new Animal Pound Facility located in Boulter Rd Berrimah.

Parking

Parking Officers enforce compliance of the Northern Territory Traffic Act and Regulations and the Australian Road Rules. Officers regularly conduct Mall patrols and provide information, advice and assistance to the public when requested or when such advice/information would be helpful. A total of 18,436 on street parking penalty notices were issued in the CBD for the 2008/2009 period, of these 1,765 were withdrawn.

Suburban officers issued 1,160 parking penalty notices. In response to requests from residents regarding the illegal parking practices that occur whilst the markets are being held, Council officers regularly patrol the Rapid Creek, Nightcliff and Parap Market areas on the weekends. Off-street car parks have a delegated Officer to ensure compliance with the Northern Territory Traffic Act and Regulations and the Australian Rules. A total of

2,805 off-street car park infringements were issued for the 2008/2009 period, with 377 withdrawn.

General Duties

Council's General Officers ensure compliance with the Local Government Act, Darwin City Council By-laws and the Northern Territory Litter Act and Regulations and issue infringement notices or cautions, where appropriate, for any substantiated breach. For the 2008/2009 period officers actioned a total of 976 By-law customer complaints ranging from abandoned vehicles, encroachment onto a public place, long grass on a property, stacking and storing of goods in a public place and abandoned shopping trolleys and litter.

Council Officers worked along side members of the Defence Force and the NT Police to ensure the safety of the public during several major road closures such as the Welcome Home Parades which saw 1,400 troops march through the CBD.

Public Places

The public places program proactively ensures that the amount of illegal camping/sleeping in public places and the obstruction of public facilities is minimised. Working in conjunction with the NT Police, Council officers have been conducting regular camping initiatives. Officers are aware of the consumption of alcohol in areas that are designated as prohibited zones and continue to assist other government agencies in monitoring anti social behaviour within the Darwin municipality. Officers also work in conjunction with Larrakia Nation and will relay information relating to camping gear that has been impounded thereby ensuring it can be returned the appropriate owners.

Council officers also attend monthly patrol network meetings which are hosted by the NT Police and involve other government agencies such as Centrelink, Night Patrol, Bus link, and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure. Information on new hot spots for anti social behaviour, problem areas and other specific concerns are shared amongst the group in an effort to work together and to bring to light any information that may be beneficial for the community. A total of 370 infringements were issued by officers for breaches of the Darwin City Council By-laws and the Northern Territory Litter Act.

Environmental sustainability

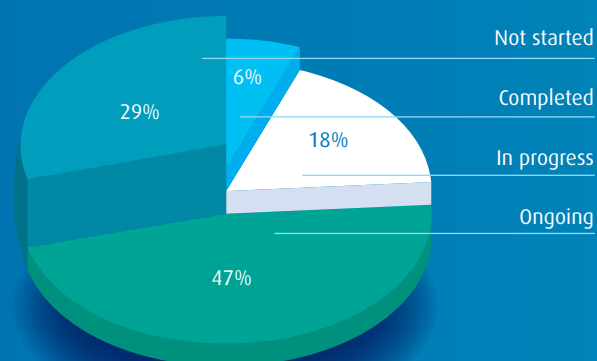
Goal 4:

Create and maintain and environmentally sustainable city.

Darwin City Council will continue to play a leadership, advocacy and early adopter role in relations to sustainability issues and to facilitate community action in adapting to climate changes.

Summary of Performance

Figure 9











This graph represents the current status of all of Council's actions that support the achievement of Goal 4.

This table outlines the goals, outcomes and strategies as described in the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan. This table also shows the key strategic initiatives that specifically describe what Council staff will be doing over the next 3 years to achieve the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan. Many of these actions are long term, high profile activities which will take several years to fully implement.

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Be a leader with climate change policies	Develop and implement a climate change policy and strategies for the reduction of carbon emissions	Investigate the impact on Council of the introduction of Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) Implement findings of the Building Energy Efficiency Audits Actively pursue environmentally friendly options for fleet operations Develop a climate change policy and strategy
	Develop and implement a coastal erosion management plan	Develop & implement a Coastal Management Plan
Improve water conservation	Develop and implement a water efficiency plan	Develop and implement a Water Sustainability Plan
	Manage and improve Council's storm water management system	Develop and implement an ongoing stormwater management plan for the municipality Develop a policy for the transfer of NTG stormwater drains to DCC
Increase efficiency of waste management	Lobby for, provide and develop contemporary waste management practices	Conduct education campaigns in relation to waste, litter and recycling To advocate and participate in the development of a Regional Waste Management Facility including the use of alternate waste technologies Implement recommendations of the Gross Pollution Trap (GPT) Master Plan to reduce litter in stormwater Review, develop and manage Council's waste management facilities and services Advocate for the introduction of container deposit legislation
Enhance, preserve and protect the Darwin environment	Advocate for the preservation of the Darwin Harbour	Advocate for the protection and enhancement of Darwin Harbour
	Enhance water quality, ecological systems and biodiversity in Darwin	Develop and implement water quality and conservation education programs with partner groups Develop and implement the establishment of a weed management plan for Council Advocate for legislation and regulatory controls to enhance, preserve and protect the Darwin environment



A suite of strategic indicators were developed so that the Council and our community can understand the impact of the actions which have been implemented and the success of the strategies. The following table shows the current status of these indicators:

Outcome	Indicator	Target	Actual Result
Goal 4: Create and Maintain an Environmentally Sustainable City			
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes		>90%	94% 
4.1	Be a leader with climate change policies Decrease in greenhouse gas emissions*	Trend	12,777 CO2 emissions 
4.2	Improve water conservation Quantity of water used per hectare of open space	Trend	2,073kl 
	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of storm water drainage	> 4.0.	3.8 
4.3	Increase efficiency of waste management Increased volume of kerbside recycling	6% increase	1,885 tonnes 
	Increased participation in recycling	90%	83.9% 
	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of the wheelie bin emptying service	> 4.2	4.3 
4.4	Enhance, preserve and protect the Darwin environment Number of environmental projects completed per annum	2	2 

State of the Environment

Through Council's Climate Change and Environment section, a wide range of sustainability issues were managed in 2008/2009. These included foreshore erosion, land-sea interface priorities and the identification of climate related conditions that are relevant to people, how they affect communities and how climate change might affect future community and organisational activities.

The breadth of issues now expected to be addressed by local government is recognised by Darwin City Council and a renewed focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation was established.

A large number of proactive environmental programs were continued and positive environmental outcomes to help protect and enhance Darwin's environment were achieved.

Major achievements included:-

- The formation of a Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee with representation from government and non government, environmental groups, environmental and marine science, Indigenous and education interests.
- A planning day to review the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) developed a set list of priorities to 2012 to protect and mitigate threats to Darwin's biodiversity, aquatic systems, water and air quality, native habitats for threatened species and improved waste management and recycling.
- Implementing greenhouse action and assessment through a collaboration between Council and Cities for Climate Protection (ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, CCP Program). Council's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions led to the development of an Energy Audit of all Council buildings and the subsequent implementation of recommendations. Milestone 4 of the CCP Program was achieved prior to the cessation of the Australian

Government's program and the award was presented to the Lord Mayor at the National Local Government Assembly in May 2009.

- Participating through partnerships with programs for air quality, water conservation, biodiversity and habitat monitoring to assess our progress and provide responses through The State of the Environment Report.
- Attendance at the National Coast to Coast Conference held in Darwin in August. The conference provided an opportunity to show-case Darwin Harbour and highlight a range of marine and coastal issues and opportunities. Participation by Council staff throughout the week's program enabled them to gain international and interstate ideas and perspectives.
- Ongoing fauna and flora surveys at Rapid Creek were completed and ongoing fauna and flora surveys at East Point, including Lake Alexander, were conducted. New tree plantings were undertaken and track work with assistance from Conservation Volunteers Australia was extended.
- A Lake Alexander water quality investigation program was continued. An increased number of days of jellyfish occupation were noted which required additional freshwater flushing.
- An audit of assets in the open space areas was undertaken. A number of locations indicated an opportunity to consolidate assets.
- Toad traps were established at priority breeding sites. A Cane Toad Detention Centre at the Shoal Bay Recycling Facility, previously introduced in partnership with Frog Watch, continued to be monitored.

Environmental Education

Environmental awareness training workshops and participatory seminars were provided for Elected Members, Council Staff and the community through in-house and community presentations.

Cane toad awareness programs were conducted in partnership with Frogwatch.

Recycling education and awareness programs were run for schools, Indigenous communities and residents by Council in conjunction with Transpacific Cleanaway. A

new education program was developed and initiated. This included promotional material depicting a clear pictorial representation of items that can be recycled.

A six week recycling education survey was conducted by Council. Coloured stickers representing three strikes were placed on contaminated bins. This reduced the contamination of recycling bins by up to 30% in some areas of Darwin.

Guided tours of the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site were provided by Council's Environmental Officers and contractors for primary, secondary and tertiary students and community groups. The tours focused on best practice waste management and recycling.

Council participated in community and environmental events, including World Environment Day, the Darwin Show, Butt Free Cities Week and the CSIRO Science Fair. These opportunities allowed for face to face interaction with the community on Council climate change and environment activities and policies.

Council introduced the very successful internal program 'Be Green – Turn off your PC and Screen' for Council staff. This program has already resulted in improved energy efficiency by ensuring that staff turned their computer equipment off at the end of each day.

Pollution Mitigation

Campaigns continued to help reduce littering in public places and parks. These included participation in the Butt Free City Program, which was aimed at reducing cigarette butt littering and the Don't Waste Darwin Program aimed at increasing recycling and reducing rubbish and litter in parks and on foreshores.

Provision of free access to Shoal Bay Landfill was given to those registered with Clean Up Australia so they could dispose of their collected rubbish in the correct manner.

Public place recycling trials continued at Nightcliff and The Smith Street Mall.

Council installed modern cigarette butt bin infrastructure at East Point Reserve, The Smith Street Mall, Jingili and other shopping centres.



The Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site Renewable Energy Facility continued to mitigate methane emissions from the site and produce renewable energy to power 1,000 homes in Darwin.

Environmental Reporting

Reports were completed for the National Pollution Inventory (NPI) on air, water and land emissions from the Shoal Bay landfill.

Reports were completed for National Environmental Protection Measure requirements, Australian Bureau of Statistics and other government reports on recycling and waste management in the Darwin municipality.

Reports were provided to the community through fact sheets, displays and events.

The State of Environment Report was also completed.

Community and Stakeholder Collaboration

Council continued to be involved in community and stakeholder collaboration and consultation programs. Among them:-

- Involvement in the Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management through representation on the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee's Environmental Monitoring Group.
- Council provided a submission to the Darwin Harbour Regional Management Strategic Framework 2009-2013 and continued to work closely with the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee secretariat.
- Environmental partnership programs continued with industry and stakeholders, including the Australian Food and Grocery Council, Indigenous communities, Keep Australia Beautiful Council, Greening Australia, Frog Watch, Environment Centre NT, Coolmob, NT Chamber of Commerce, Charles Darwin University, Local Government Association NT, other local government councils, government departments and stakeholder organisations in the region, interstate and nationally.
- Successful application to Australian Government for funding under Caring for our Country, for project called "Zero Toads". Project employed Larrakia Rangers and worked with Frogwatch to ensure Toads deflected from Council parks, gardens and recreational areas.

- Successful application to Australian Government for funding under Coastcare, to employ Larrakia Rangers to undertake dune care work with Council at Mindil Beach. The project called "Greening Mindil" saw over 100 community members working together to revegetate Mindil Beach.
- The George Brown Memorial Scholarship was awarded to a Charles Darwin University environmental studies student. The Award provided financial support and valuable work experience in Council's Climate Change and Environment section.
- A new partnership was forged with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). Submissions were provided on the Framework for review on Environmental Impact Assessment and Principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development.
- Air quality monitoring was conducted with Charles Darwin University and the Departments of Health and Community Services and Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETAS).
- Council attended information sessions on the – Australian Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme; Northern Territory's Discussion Paper Green Buildings, Energy Efficiency Forum; and Principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design.
- Council funded Recycling Awareness advertisements for presentation at the Deckchair Cinema Season (May to October).
- Contributed to the TV advertisements presented by COOLmob for energy saving habits.

Environmental Rehabilitation and Public Health

A coastal erosion report for East Point and Nightcliff was completed by Southern Cross University. The recommendations are currently being progressed.

The Alawa drain rehabilitation program was completed and is currently voluntarily maintained by the Larrakia Sea Rangers with assistance by Council when required.

Catchment based vegetation and weed management activities were conducted in Council parks and reserves in partnership with NRETAS, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Greening Australia and Parks and Wildlife.

Environmental initiatives focused on actively protecting and enhancing the environment, and

included continued monitoring and reporting on the performance of five 'in pit' gross pollutant traps at the Casuarina Drainage System.

The mosquito control program continued.

The catchment based weed management plan was developed and is nearing completion.

The groundwater monitoring program continued throughout 2008/2009.

Waste Management and Recycling

Council continued to provide efficient, safe and environmentally responsible waste and recycling services for the community. Some major milestones for waste and recycling includes:-

- The renewal of the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site Operations ten year contract;
- The upgrade to the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site Weighbridge Office and equipment;
- The continued expansion and increase in the range and quantity of materials recycled and recovered by the Darwin Resource Recovery Facility (Recycle Shop);
- Increased recycling through a lowered contamination rate in kerbside recycling as a result of a focused survey and education campaign;
- Elevating the standing of the previously referred to 'tip shop' to that of a Recycle Shop;
- Working with Waste Management Coordinators from the Chamber of Commerce, Keep Australia Beautiful, Local Government Association (LGANT) and other government and non government interests to have a NT Branch of the Waste Management Association established in Darwin;
- Participating in the Planet Ark National Recycling Week for the first time;
- Providing advice and encouragement for drumMUSTER to set up a collection point at Shoal Bay Recycle Shop – further considerations are on-going;
- The Annual Pre Cyclone Season Clean Up in October each year which provides a waste management and recycling opportunity to the residents of Darwin to clean up their gardens and yards. A total of 460.38 tonnes of unwanted items were collected with 706 return trips to the landfill by Council trucks.

Many items went directly to the Recycle Shop and additionally some 30% of waste collected was recycled through Simsmetal; and

- The Recycling Education Program continues to be effective and has become part of Darwin schools curriculum.

Economic Conditions and Trends

Development and Growth

Darwin City Council continued to experience substantial development and growth during 2008/2009. The key challenge was supporting the expansion of residential development, tourism, industry and commerce without undue impact on our quality of life and the natural and built environment.

Environmental Planning

Environmental issues such as storm water and waste management are increasingly considered during Council's assessment of development applications, including:-

Appropriate management of storm water requires due consideration for quality as well as quantity issues to protect our wetlands, waterways and the Darwin Harbour. Water quality also has a significant impact on the maintenance requirements and life span of Council's stormwater infrastructure.

Effective and efficient waste management is essential in maintaining public and environmental health, particularly in an increasingly high density living environment.

Policies, guidelines and strategies, including Goal 4: Create and Maintain an Environmentally Sustainable City in Council's *"Evolving Darwin – Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond"* were introduced to foster environmental protection and respond to growing concerns from interested parties about environmental matters, including sustainable development.

Management Milestones

Environmental management milestones included:-

- The Weighbridge Office transition from having been contractor managed to being fully run by Council through the Climate Change and Environment section. This requires management of the office, full time and casual staff including operators training and rosters;
- Prioritising actions based on the Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee's priority list and assessing issues impacting on Darwin's environmental values;
- Continuing the public places recycling trials;
- Developing and awarding the new ten year Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site Operations Contract;
- Employment of one additional Environmental Officer;
- Continuing to expand and improve the first Renewable Energy Facility in tropical Australia at the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Facility and its methane gas power plant;
- Providing input into Northern Territory and Australian Government policies, strategies and programs. Advocating for stronger legislation for the protection of the environment, and climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Responding to the Australian Governments Draft National Waste Strategy; and
- Program funding successfully received for a range of environmental projects.

Future Action, Challenges & Priorities

Environmental management challenges will increase in line with growth and development in Darwin. The next 12 months will see the implementation of several issues identified in the Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee's 'Priorities for Action', such as:-

- Activating the 1% Climate Change and Environmental levy through initially providing a position for a Climate Change Policy Officer.
- Responding to Australian Government, Northern Territory Government and Statutory bodies Draft Public documents on future environmental priorities.

- Securing the long term future of cost-effective, efficient and environmentally sound waste disposal and collection services.
- Increasing recycling rates and the range of materials that are collected, reducing littering and improving public places waste services .
- Planning for a weighbridge duplication and improved access controls to the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site.
- Improving the management of the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal site through the implementation of the renewed ten year contract.
- Ongoing dialogue with residents and community participation in projects in all key environmental focus areas.
- Hosting events, such as Planet Ark Recycle Week 'Swap Party', and participation in community and environment events to increase the profile of recycling and climate change mitigation.
- Initiating, participating, facilitating and encouraging research and development projects that maintain or improve water quality and preserve fresh water resources, such as Water Sensitive Urban Design.
- Initiating, participating, facilitating and encouraging projects that address the key issues of habitat and remnant vegetation protection, land and foreshore erosion and the spreading of weeds and pests.
- Implementing energy management plans from the energy audits for Council-managed infrastructure and operations.
- Reducing landfill emissions and, in partnership with other levels of Government, continuing the long-term air quality monitoring programs for the city in partnership with stakeholders.
- Participating in any relevant schemes and programs for data capture and greenhouse gas reduction.
- Continuing to explore options for funding sources to develop a Strategic Coastal Erosion Management Plan in particular, but also funding generally for other environmental projects.



Cohesive Community

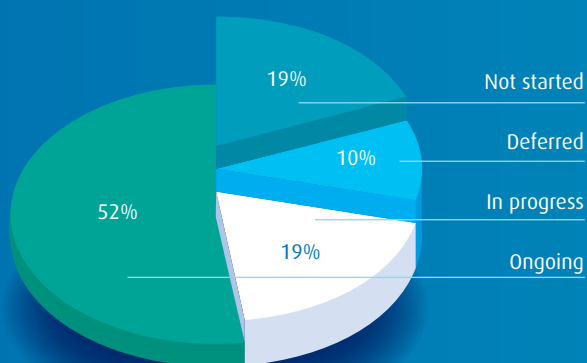
Goal 5:

Facilitate and maintain a cohesive community.

Darwin City Council will celebrate its cultural diversity and history by encouraging social inclusion and healthy communities through activities that promote a cohesive community.

Summary of Performance

Figure 10











This graph represents the current status of all of Council's actions that support the achievement of Goal 5.

This table outlines the goals, outcomes and strategies as described in the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan. This table also shows the key strategic initiatives that specifically describe what Council staff will be doing over the next 3 years to achieve the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan. Many of these actions are long term, high profile activities which will take several years to fully implement.

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Facilitate community access and inclusion	Create more opportunities for the community to access services and facilities	Undertake the Child Care Centre Review and determine Council's role in delivering child care services Investigate options for improving public accessibility to Council services
	Create employment opportunities within the Council for disadvantaged members of the Darwin community	Investigate and implement ways for marginalised members of the community to gain employment opportunities within Council
	Improve access for people with disabilities	Work with all relevant stakeholders to improve access for people with disabilities Facilitate Disability Services Forum Facilitate Disability Awareness Week Activities by Community Development and Library activities Commence revision of the Disability Action Plan Develop a 5 year strategy which will shape Council's community service scope and continuation of Council's Disability Action Plan
	Encourage and recognise volunteers	Investigate and implement strategies to increase volunteer numbers Hold annual Lord Mayoral reception to thank all volunteers
Promote Darwin's culture	Promote and support activities and programs that celebrate cultural diversity	Organise Citizenship Ceremonies Assist with in-kind support for NAIDOC Participate in Harmony Day Improve and coordinate the facilitation role of Council in its provision of arts, cultural development activities, in-kind supports and sponsorship
	Create opportunities for the expression of cultural diversity through art	Assist with support for the Darwin Festival Implement Council's Five Year Arts Plan and Public Art Policy which informs Council's direction and service scope in facilitating development of the arts in Darwin
Support harmony within the community	Develop and support programs to promote community spirit, cohesion and safety	Develop and implement an Annual Good Neighbour Award program Investigate and implement if appropriate services to assist neighbourhood dispute mediation Provide coordination of community markets and facilitate works as required Finalise the Senior Services strategy

A suite of strategic indicators were developed so that the Council and our community can understand the impact of the actions which have been implemented and the success of the strategies. The following table shows the current status of these indicators:

Outcome		Indicator	Target	Actual Result	
Goal 5: Facilitate and Maintain a Cohesive Community					
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	98%	
5.1	Facilitate community access and inclusion	Total occupancy rate at the Community Centres	>95%	100%	
		Community satisfaction rating with ability to contact Council staff out of office hours	> 3.5	2.9	
		Number of community groups supported (e.g. in-kind, advocacy, facilitation, financial)	Trend	80	
		Number of Disability Advisory Committee decisions endorsed	Trend	18 ⁶	
5.2	Promote Darwin's culture	Number of Arts & Culture Events Sponsored	Trend	52	
		Number of arts and cultural forums or projects	Trend	36	
5.3	Support harmony within the community	Total number of vandalism incidents reported (Graffiti)	Trend	2,579 ⁷	

⁶ This result has been based on a sample of two months of data and extrapolated out to produce a full year result. Changes have now been made to ensure greater accuracy for future reporting.

⁷ This program commenced during the 2008/2009 financial year and the results represents ten months of data.

Community Grants Program

Darwin City Council's Community Grants Program, valued at \$100,000 per year, assists projects or events directly benefiting and promoting the City of Darwin and which have broad community appeal.

Community organisations were invited to apply for funding in two rounds and the money was disbursed in July 2008 and January 2009. The program attracted 64 applications seeking funding totalling \$355,141.24. Council funded 41 applications from not for profit Incorporated Associations, to the total value of \$93,579.00.

Organisation	Funding
The Beat Foundation Inc	\$5,000
Alzheimer's Australia NT Inc	\$3,000
Down Syndrome Association of the Northern Territory Inc	\$910
Darwin Lions Beer Can Regatta Association Inc	\$5,000
Carers NT Inc	\$3,000
Australian Sign Language Interpreters Association NT	\$5,000
Malak Family Centre Inc	\$1,000
Top End Orienteer's Inc	\$2,000
National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN)	\$700
Darwin Dragons Rugby Union Club Inc	\$3,000
Rotary Club of Darwin North Inc	\$2,000
National Trust of Australia (NT)	\$2,000
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	\$1,000
Street Swags Ltd	\$2,000
Friends of the North Australia Railway Inc	\$1,000
Fist Full of Films	\$3,000
Ausdance NT	\$1,000
Brown's Mart Community Arts Inc	\$3,000
Vietnamese Community in Australia - NT chapter Inc	\$1,180
Catholic Schools Performing Arts Festival	\$1,000
Corrugated Iron Youth Arts Inc	\$3,000
Mindil Aces Soccer Club Inc	\$1,974
Legacy Club of the Northern Territory Inc	\$1,000
Swimming Northern Territory Inc	\$1,000
St John Ambulance NT Inc	\$2,035
Down Syndrome Association of the Northern Territory Inc	\$2,000
Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory Inc	\$1,400
Vision Australia	\$3,000
Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc	\$1,100
Darwin Dragons Soccer Club Inc	\$2,800

Organisation	Funding
Scout Association of Australia NT Branch – Alawa Scout Group	\$2,580
Scout Association of Australia NT Branch – 1st Berrimah Scout Group	\$1,500
Crafts Council of the NT Inc – Territory Craft Darwin	\$2,500
Carers NT Inc	\$2,790
Total Recreation NT Inc	\$2,000
Corrugated Iron Youth Arts Inc	\$5,000
Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club Inc	\$750
Happy Yess community Arts Inc	\$3,600
Radio Larrakia	\$4,000
Sailability NT Inc	\$1,760
Centacare Northern Territory	\$2,000

Arts and Culture

Darwin City Council's Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee (ACDAC) meets five times per year at the Civic Centre, providing advice to Council on Arts and Cultural Development issues.

The ACDAC membership is drawn from the community and local arts, culture, heritage and tourism organisations. During 2008/2009 ACDAC identified a number of priorities for the year ahead, including advocacy for the engagement of local artists through Council initiatives; undertaking a review of Council owned properties which could be available for temporary or permanent arts usage in the city; and the development of criteria for artists and arts organisations who wish to access Council support. Planning work will continue in 2009/2010 with the development of best practice guidelines for the commissioning of Public Art, an Acquisitions Policy and De-Accessioning Policy, and further work on a Per Cent for Arts Policy.

During 2008/2009 ACDAC oversaw the progress of significant arts initiatives including the establishment of a Recycled Art Program for Darwin in partnership with

arts organisations, with a Recycled Jewellery workshop held at the 2009 National Youth Week event, "The Big Gig"; the establishment of a Friday lunchtime live music program at Casuarina Library, providing a new opportunity for local musicians; and the installation and launch of the Charles Darwin Commemorative Artwork, "The HMS Beagle Ship Bell Chime" by Dr Anton Hasell, in Civic Park. As an interactive art piece and public musical instrument, the HMS Beagle Ship Bell Chime provides ongoing opportunities for the public to become involved through open days, live performance and the composition of new musical works for the bells. The inaugural musical commission, "Convergence" by Kris Keogh, was played at the official launch in June 2009. An investment of over \$300,000 has been made in the unique public artwork.

Darwin City Council was successful in receiving an Arts NT grant for the professional development of staff in managing public art projects, which will continue in 2009/2010.

Volunteers

Much of Council's community development work is enhanced and supported by a growing number of community members who very generously give of their time and skills by volunteering. Community volunteers form the backbone of Council's community services work and each and every volunteer plays an important role in partnering with Council to help deliver services to the community. The role of Council's volunteers is a dynamic and varied one.

Throughout 2008/2009 hundreds of volunteers supported community events, services and programs. The breadth of their work is vast extending from helping with fundraising for its sister cities program to helping young people run the backstage at a youth event.

Council is proud to recognise and acknowledge the highly valuable work of their community volunteers in the following program areas:-

- Darwin City Council Libraries
- Sister Cities Community Committees program
- Sister Cities fundraising events
- GRIND youth newspaper – see below
- Youth Advisory Group – see below
- Youth Projects
- Arts & Cultural Development Advisory Committee
- Disability Advisory Committee
- Communication & Marketing – major events program
- Ark Animal Hospital and the paws program helping to re-home abandoned and surrendered animals

The GRIND youth newspaper members have worked exceptionally hard over the past 12 months to transition the project from a quarterly A4 magazine to a new slick and live youth orientated website.

The Youth Energy Precinct (YEP) project has created significant opportunities for youth volunteers. Over the last twelve months a number of community consultations have taken place and over 40 youth volunteers have contributed their time and helped Council gather youth opinion.

We thank everyone who has volunteered their time to the community of Darwin.

Equity and Access Activities

Disability Advisory Committee

Darwin City Council's Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) meets five times per year at the Civic Centre. Its purpose is to inform and advise Council in relation to its responsibilities to ensure equity of access to people with a disability in the application of Council procedures or Council's provision of services and facilities. The advice is provided through representatives who are specifically selected for their awareness and specialist knowledge of disability issues. Membership consists of one Council Alderman, ten community representatives and three specialist representatives.

Disability Awareness Week

Disability Awareness Week was celebrated from 11 - 17 August 2008. Council, in conjunction with the Disability Advisory Committee and community sector organisations, arranged a varied program of events which highlighted the achievements of people with a disability and the positive contributions made to the Darwin community. The events also raised public awareness on disability issues whilst maintaining a festive atmosphere. The theme for Disability Awareness Week 2008 was *Celebrating Ability and Achievement*.

The Lord Mayor officially opened Disability Awareness Week at a free outdoor family movie night at the Water Gardens. Throughout the week there was an art exhibition, markets, open days, a come and try sailing day and a celebration breakfast.

Seniors Month

Seniors Month was celebrated throughout the Northern Territory during August 2008. Council organised a varied month long program of events and activities which included a memoir writing workshop, yoga session, meditation session, four water aerobic sessions and a film night at the Deckchair cinema. All activities were free of charge for senior members of the community and were very well attended.

Branding Darwin

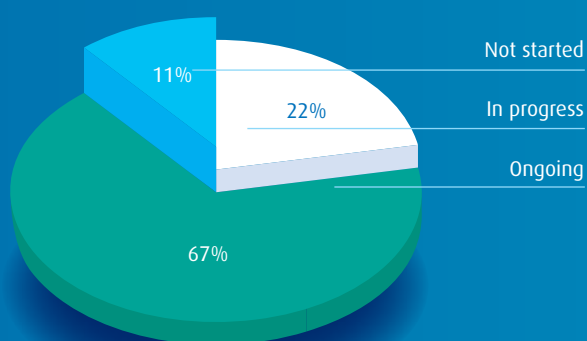
Goal 6:

Promote brand Darwin.

Darwin City Council will support activities that promote and raise awareness of Darwin as a place that offers benefits to citizens, business and visitors and which is dynamic, different and diverse.

Summary of Performance

Figure 11







This graph represents the current status of all of Council's actions that support the achievement of Goal 6.

This table outlines the goals, outcomes and strategies as described in the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan. This table also shows the key strategic initiatives that specifically describe what Council staff will be doing over the next 3 years to achieve the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan. Many of these actions are long term, high profile activities which will take several years to fully implement.

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Increase Council's profile	Provide strategic sponsorship for major events	Develop and implement a policy for strategic sponsorship of major events Provide in-kind support to community based events
	Implement a communications strategy that promotes Council and informs the community	Through media campaigns showcase Council's innovation and achievements Develop and implement a communication strategy which will keep the community informed Update Council's website and showcase Council's innovation and achievements
Promote our Darwin city	Promote Darwin's history, particularly its WWII experiences	Utilise the Bombing of Darwin Commemoration and other significant events to promote Darwin's history Support the World War II Museum initiative at East Point Develop initiatives with other key stakeholders (NTG, Tourism NT, Tourism Top End) to promote Darwin's history Utilise the website for promoting Darwin's history
	Promote Darwin as a place for tourists and residents to enjoy a tropical lifestyle	Promote Darwin's tropical lifestyle
	Celebrate the city's evolution	Promote and celebrate the city's evolution Support the Charles Darwin Symposium - Shaping our Science, Society and Future
Promote our Darwin city	Strengthen international relationships through Sister Cities and other activities	Facilitate Sister City relationships between schools Maintain the Sister Cities Calendar of Events and promote all significant events and holidays concerning our sister cities Promote sister cities through a range of community events and displays Host visiting delegations from sister cities
	Facilitate joint visits and delegations with business, government and the community to promote Darwin	Develop policy and guidelines for participating in visits Promote Darwin through facilitated and coordinated delegations



A suite of strategic indicators were developed so that the Council and our community can understand the impact of the actions which have been implemented and the success of the strategies. The following table shows the current status of these indicators:

Outcome		Indicator	Target	Actual Result	
Goal 6: Promote Brand Darwin					
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	99%	
6.1	Increase Council's profile	Total value of sponsorships provided for major events	Trend	\$68,932	
6.2	Promote our Darwin city	Number of Sister City Committee decisions endorsed	Trend	32	
		% of community that have attended special events and festivals (e.g. Bombing of Darwin) in the past 12 months	>50%	50%	

Events and Ceremonies

Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony

Darwin City Council hosted the 2008 Australia Day Citizenship and Flag Raising Ceremony at the Darwin Entertainment Centre, where 48 people from 14 different nationalities became citizens. The event was attended by 500 people. The Australia Day Local Government Awards were also presented, including the Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year, Community Event of the Year and Student Citizen of the Year.

Bombing of Darwin Commemoration

During February, Council hosted more than 100 interstate veterans for the landmark 67th commemoration of the Bombing of Darwin during WWII. The service, held at the Cenotaph, was attended by approximately 3,000 veterans, dignitaries, residents, guests and the media. Council also held special tours for veterans to sites of WWII significance, including the war cemetery at Adelaide River.

Freedom of Entry

In August 2008 Headquarter Northern Command exercised its 'Freedom of Entry' to the City of Darwin. While the custom has no legal right or privilege, it is the most honourable distinction a city can bestow on a contingent of the Australian Defence Forces. On entering the city, members were challenged by the Town Clerk for the right to enter the city bearing arms. The celebration included a parade down Knuckey Street.

Welcome Home Parade

In July 2008 Darwin City Council recognised the contribution of the Darwin based troops that had been deployed overseas. A march was held with over 1,400 troops marching along Knuckey and Cavanagh Streets.

Darwin Show

Council again sponsored the finale fireworks display for the Darwin Show. This year's Council display featured the ABCs Bananas in Pyjamas. Other attractions at the display included Buster and Frank – ABC Koala Brothers, Chantal the Fairy. Other activities Council participated in were a seniors morning tea entertained by Ali Mills and the Celebrity Cook Off.

Welcome Home Olympic Athletes

In September 2008, 15 Olympic athletes attended Darwin as part of the Welcome Home Parade. Introduction of the athletes and an autograph signing session took place at Raintree Park. The athletes then walked along The Mall to a reception at Parliament House.

Lighting the City's Christmas Tree

On Friday 28 November 2008 the lights of the city's Christmas tree were turned on, followed by a visit from Santa. Carols were performed by the Darwin City Brass Band and Chantal the Fairy entertained the children. Christmas carols were sung by the St Pauls Primary Choir and Arafura Calisthenics entertained the children with their dances. Council supplied a jumping castle, face painting and free ice cups.

The Darwin Cup Carnival

The Cup Carnival is an iconic Darwin event attracting thousands of interstate and overseas visitors. Council contributed to this event by hosting a function trackside for guests from the business, tourism, government and community sectors.

The Darwin Festival

Council invested over \$110k in cash and in-kind support for the Top End's premiere festival, which is known locally, nationally and internationally for its quality diversity and innovation. The festival showcased theatre, dance, music, comedy, cabaret, film and visual arts through events, outdoor concerts and workshops featuring local and visiting performers.

Tropical Garden Spectacular

Darwin City Council's Parks Team supported organisers to landscape the grounds for the tropical Garden Spectacular and staffed the Council display to assist residents with garden issues and advice.

Darwin 200 Launch of Program of Events

In September 2008, Council in partnership with the Northern Territory Government and Charles Darwin University launched the "Darwin 200" program of events to celebrate 200 years since the birth of Charles Darwin and to acknowledge his achievements and contribution to the modern world. Council commissioned "The HMS Beagle Ship Bell Chime" an interactive artwork was installed into Civic Park, and officially launched in June 2009.

Sister Cities Program

2009 Arafura Games

Darwin City Council encourages its Sister Cities to participate in a number of major events that occur in Darwin such as the Arafura Games. Council welcomed a large contingent of athletes from Indonesia and Timor-Leste that participated in the Arafura Games in May 2009.

Ambon

Darwin has enjoyed a strong Sister Cities relationship with Ambon for over 21 years. Links with Ambon date back as far as World War II and in years previous pilgrimages have left from Darwin to Ambon to commemorate ANZAC Day.

Over the past year the relationship with Ambon has continued to grow. Council continues to support the annual Darwin Ambon Yacht Race as well as Darwin based cultural events such as the Pesona Indonesia Festival.

Anchorage

This past year highlighted another successful Fire Officer Exchange between Darwin and Anchorage, making this the 4th exchange. This program enables an Anchorage Fire Officer the opportunity to live and work in Darwin with their family for a 12 month period, and a Darwin Officer to do the same in Anchorage.

During 2008/2009 the Sister Cities program purchased a special collection of books and materials themed on Darwin and the Northern Territory and distributed them to Elementary Schools in Anchorage to encourage students in Anchorage to learn about their Sister City, Darwin.



Dili

In May 2009 a Sister Cities delegation consisting of the Lord Mayor, Elected Members, community members and Council staff, visited Dili, Timor-Leste. The visit proved invaluable as it provided an opportunity for Council and community members to re-establish links and relationships with the Dili District Administration, local non government organisations and other community groups within the Dili District area that have been supported or assisted over the years at a grass roots level by the Sister Cities program.

The delegation included a small youth support team who spent the duration of the visit at Fundasaun Hafoun Rai Timor (FHRT), a small community based, youth ran English teaching school. The Darwin team helped create a small large mural, taught English and donated school equipment.

The Youth Advisory Group is now building on these links and further project work is developing.

Haikou

Darwin has a very strong relationship with Haikou that dates back to World War II. Through this Sister Cities relationship Council has provided assistance in the completion of road works from Lao Ou Village in Dongfang to the Gull Force Memorial (otherwise known as the Soldiers Memorial).

In October 2008 Council welcomed a delegation from Haikou to Darwin. During the visit issues relating to educational, economic and professional exchanges between both cities were discussed.

Council, through its Sister Cities program, continues to sponsor a perpetual trophy and prizes in both middle school and primary school divisions of the Language Teachers Association of the NT Annual Chinese Speaking Competition.

Kalymnos

Kalymnos is the first city that Darwin signed a Sister Cities agreement with due to the significant number of Kalymnians that live in Darwin.

This year the Kalymnos Sister City Community Committee were involved in the Greek Glenti which was held in Darwin in June 2009. An annual event, the Glenti attracts thousands of locals and tourists alike. The Kalymnos Sister City Community Committee sold traditional Greek dishes and raised funds towards the establishment of a Kalymnian Museum.



Governance

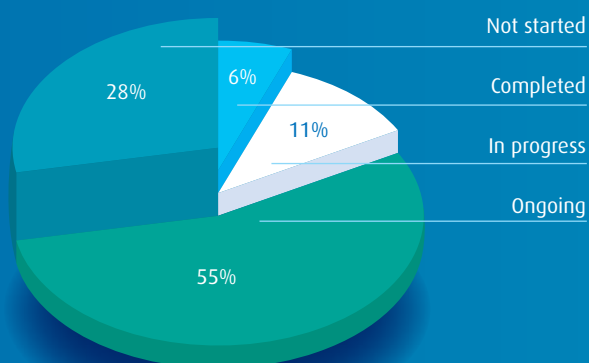
Goal 7:

Demonstrate effective, open and responsible governance.

Darwin City Council will continue to implement and develop systems to ensure Council's affairs are conducted in ways that are transparent, accountable and efficient and allows it to achieve its objectives.

Summary of Performance

Figure 12












This graph represents the current status of all of Council's actions that support the achievement of Goal 7.

This table outlines the goals, outcomes and strategies as described in the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan. This table also shows the key strategic initiatives that specifically describe what Council staff will be doing over the next 3 years to achieve the Evolving Darwin Strategic Plan. Many of these actions are long term, high profile activities which will take several years to fully implement.

Outcome	Strategy	Key actions / initiatives
Effective governance	Continuously review service delivery to meet communities needs and expectations	Undertake a whole of organisation review of program delivery to ensure outcomes are being achieved in a cost efficient and effective manner
	Minimise exposure of Council through effective risk management practice	Deliver the Internal Audit Plan within specified timeframes Ensure compliance with all relevant OHS legislation Finalise the Business Continuity / Disaster Recovery Plan Develop and implement an organisational Risk Management Strategy in accordance with Australian Standards Develop an All Hazards Emergency Management Plan
	Manage Council's affairs based on a sustainable financial strategy	Review and update the 10 Year Forward Financial Plan Review Council's long term financial sustainability
	Apply a total asset management approach to Council assets	Develop and implement a Corporate Asset Management Plan
	Be active in the review and development of relevant legislation	Participate in the Local Government Administration and Legislation Committee and the Local Government Accounting Advisory Committee
	Apply contemporary management policies and by-laws	Investigate the implications of the new Local Government Act on Council's regulatory functions Enforce new animal management by-laws
Display strong and effective leadership, within Council and across Government	Display contemporary leadership and management practices within Council	Identify, nominate and promote all awards that Council would be eligible to apply for
	Invest in our people so they can perform at their best	Develop and implement a Workforce Plan and Strategy
	Use contemporary community engagement techniques to inform decision making	Undertake annual Community Satisfaction Survey and ensure results inform future decision making Review the community consultation and engagement policy
	Keep abreast of Australian and world trends to ensure Darwin is prepared and can make informed decisions	Participate in domestic and international networking opportunities Encourage active participation in professional and industry associations Undertake a review of the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan, including undertaking an environmental analysis to identify any new external issues.



A suite of strategic indicators were developed so that the Council and our community can understand the impact of the actions which have been implemented and the success of the strategies. The following table shows the current status of these indicators:

Outcome		Indicator	Target	Actual Result	
Goal 7: Demonstrate Effective, Open and Responsible Governance					
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	96%	
7.1	Effective governance	% of internal audit recommendations implemented within specified timeframes	> 90%	99.95%	
		% of annual expenditure within budget	> 85%	97.77%	
		% of rate debtors outstanding	< 4%	2.84%	
		Debt Servicing Ratio	< 5%	1.22	
		Liquidity Ratio	> 1.0	1.16	
		Rates Ratio	> 65%	70%	
		Investment earnings	> \$500k	\$2,166,594	
7.2	Display strong and effective leadership, within Council and across Government	% overall community satisfaction with DCC	> 65%	62%	



Grant Funding Received

Successfully obtaining grant funding is an important function for Council. Sourcing additional funding provides Council a mechanism for delivering key projects that are aligned to achieving our Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 and Beyond Strategic Plan. Without this additional source of revenue many of these initiatives could not be completed within Council's approved budget.

During 2008/2009 Council has been successful in obtaining a total of \$12,232,334 in grant funding (12 projects) with a further \$2,601,193 (3 projects) waiting to be assessed, totalling \$14,833,527.

To date, Council has only been unsuccessful with three applications.

Where possible, a specific efforts are made to partner with our neighbouring Councils, other Territory Government agencies or community groups when applying for grant funding.

A breakdown of grant funding received is shown below.

Project Title	Project Description	Funding Agency	Funding \$	Council's Contribution	Other funding partners
Roads to Recovery	To upgrade roads in and around Darwin with the assistance of commonwealth funding	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Local Government Aust Govt	\$3,340,625	Nil	
Auslink blackspot project	To improve safety measures by upgrading current black spot areas around Darwin which have been identified as potential crash locations (Woolner road).		\$1,672,000	\$1,208,000	
General Purpose Funding	General Purpose Funding	Australian Government through the Northern Territory Grants Commission	\$1,470,173	Nil	
Local Roads Funding	General purpose funding for road works throughout the municipality		\$1,663,882	Nil	
Zero Toads - Community Control of Invasive Cane toads in Darwin	Continuation of cane toad control strategies to protect biodiversity and natural icons, protect critical aquatic habitats and continue to foster community skills, knowledge and engagement.	Caring for Our Country, Dept of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, Aust Govt	\$86,418	\$39,500	\$41,680 Frog Watch (North)



Project Title	Project Description	Funding Agency	Funding \$	Council's Contribution	Other funding partners
Protecting the primary dunes of Mindil Beach	Protect and enhance the primary dune system at Mindil Beach through weed removal, erecting fences, managing access to the beach and holding a community event to revegetate the area.	Caring for Our Country, Dept of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, Aust Govt	\$45,436	\$28,830	\$8,747 Larrakia Nation \$2,378 Greening Australia \$909 Mindil Beach Sunset Markets
Various Projects	Revised - Duke St Park, Pine Log Fencing Replacement, Trower Road Landscaping - Stage 3, Foreshore Fencing and Pathways through Parks	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Local Government Aust Govt	\$313,000	Nil	N/A
City Centre Revitalisation Project	Specifically the project will include hard and soft landscaping, street furniture, architectural structures, public art, signage and services in key areas throughout the CBD.		\$3,600,000	\$1,150,000 + \$75,518 in-kind contribution (Project Mgmt)	\$1,750,000 Dept of Planning & Infrastructure (NTG) \$500,00 Private Developer
Gardens Road Cemetery Site Restoration	Undertake the upgrade of the drainage infrastructure in the South East corner of the cemetery where pooling of water occurs each wet season.	Heritage Branch, Dept of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport, NTG	\$20,000	\$10,000	N/A
Pioneer Cemetery Restoration Works	Headstone and grave site restoration	Heritage Branch, Dept of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport, NTG	\$10,000	\$0	N/A
Public Art Professional Development Program	Mentorship which will deliver Public Art outcomes - linked with the commission of new Public Art for The Mall	Dept of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport	\$10,000	\$0	
Historical Fiction Writing Workshop	To assist with the workshop activities to be held as part of Seniors Month	Minister for Senior Territorians	\$800		N/A
TOTALS	13 PROJECTS		\$12,232,334	\$1,286,330	\$2,302,714

Contracts

During 2008/09 Darwin City Council awarded 48 contracts to the total value of \$23 million.

\$ Value of Contracts	# of Contracts Administered	Service Provided	Key Supplier
Up to \$100,000	15	Lift Maintenance – Civic Centre	Otis Elevators
		Native Vegetation Management	Greening Australia
		Shoal Bay Recycling	Darwin Resource & Recovery
		Provision of a Courier Service	Toll Priority
		Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete	Boral
		Road Shoulder Maintenance	Mousellis and Sons
		Lift Modifications Darwin Entertainment Centre	Kone
		New Book Shelving at Casuarina Library	Resource Furniture
		Supply of Tyres, Tubes and Associated Services	City Tyre Service
		Maintenance of Fire Protection Equipment	Ntess
		Provision of Electrical Services	G & T Electrical
		New Floor Coverings at Casuarina Library	Corporate Design Floors NT
\$100,001 - \$250,000	16	Parking Machine Cash Collection	MSC Guards & Patrols - Cash
		Supply of Hot Mix Asphalt	Downer Edi Works
		Provision of Travel Services	Travelworld
		Provision of Legal Services	Cridlands MB
		Provision of A Sweeping Service	Industrial Power Sweeping
		Construction of a New Animal Pound	Wolpers Grahl
		Parking Machine Maintenance	Cash Handling Systems
		Lift Modification at Westlane Carpark	Kone
		Backhoe and Tip Truck Hire	Mousellis and Sons
		Hire of Elevated Work Platform	Mabindi Pty Ltd
		Provision of Debt Collection Services	Territory Debt Collectors
		Operation of Animal Shelter	Ark Animal Welfare Services
		Supply and delivery of Ready Mixed Concrete	HB Concrete
		Charles Darwin Commemorative Artwork	Australian Bell Pty Ltd
		Cyclic Maintenance & CCTV Inspections of Stormwater Network	Mousellis and Sons
		Service of Litter Bins	Gikopoulos Pty Ltd

\$ Value of Contracts	# of Contracts Administered	Service Provided	Key Supplier
\$251,001-\$500,000	9	Provision of a Cleaning Service	Jomajo Cleaning Services
		Provision of Security Services	Chubb
		Trower Road Landscaping	Paradise Landscaping
		Tree Planting	R & T Trenching
		Miscellaneous Concrete Works	Gikopoulos Pty Ltd
		Replacement of Air Conditioner Plant, Cooling Towers and Associated Works At Casuarina Library	Mobile Electrics
		Provision of Arboricultural Services	The Stump Man
		Maintenance of Air-Conditioning & Mechanical Services	Mobile Electrics
		Building and Carpentry Services	NT Repairs & Painting
\$500,001-\$1,000,000	4	Provision of Painting Services	NT Repairs & Painting
		Electrical Services	G & T Electrical
		Road Resealing And Overlay Work 2008/09	Asphalt Company of Australia
		Casuarina Library Refurbishment	Wolpers Grahl
\$1,000,001-\$2,500,000	2	Management of Swimming Pools	J Dempsey
		Provision of Temporary Labour Services	Chandler Macleod
		Grounds Maintenance	Stronsay Mowing Pty Ltd
		Minor Civil Works	Poullas Constructions
\$2,500,001-\$5,000,000	2	Collection of Domestic Garbage & Recyclables For Darwin City Council	Cleanaway
		Operation of Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site	MacMahon Contractors



Financial Statements



DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

**Annual Financial Report
For the year ended 30 June 2009**



DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2009

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2008/09 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management Discussion and Analysis

INTRODUCTION

The 2008/09 management discussion and analysis focuses on the activities undertaken by Darwin City Council and does not take into account the activities of Darwin Entertainment Centre, which have been consolidated into Council's financial statements.

Council funding or revenue comes from various sources including rates and annual charges, fees and charges, grants and subsidies, investment interest and other income. A breakdown of Council's funding sources for 2008/09 is shown to the right. Total funding received for 2008/09 was \$78.21 million with rates and annual charges making up the largest component at \$43.75 million or 56% of total funding.

Non cash developer contributions of \$11.38 million were received during 2008/09 as a result of the handover of subdivision infrastructure by developers for management by Council. An equivalent amount is recognised as an addition to Council's non current assets. Developer contributions totalled \$14.55 million in the 2007/08 financial year.

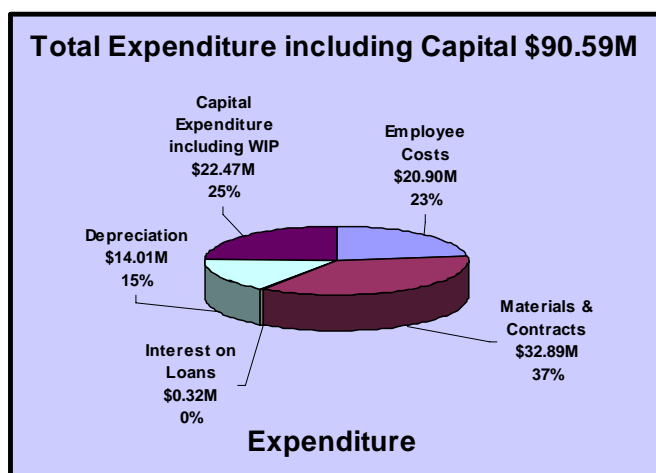
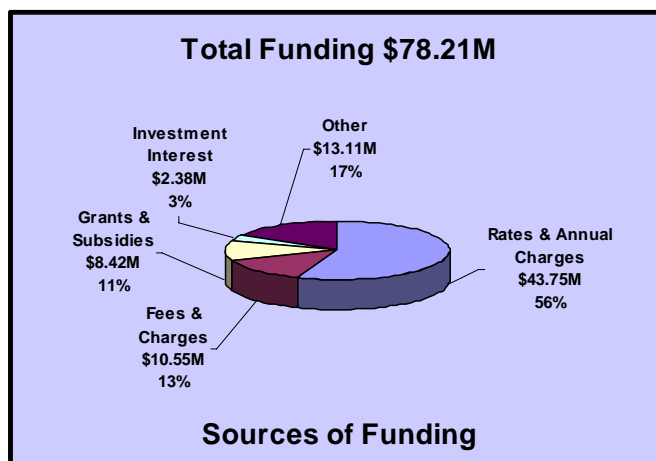
A further breakdown of revenues can be found in Note 2 of the financial statements.

The 2008/09 financial year saw Darwin City Council successfully deliver a comprehensive range of services along with infrastructure maintenance and capital works programs. Total operating expenditure for 2008/09 was \$68.12 million and net capital expenditure including work in progress (WIP) was \$22.47 million. Included in operating expenditure is non cash depreciation of \$14.01 million.

A further breakdown of operating expenditure can be found in Note 3 of the financial statements.

The net operating surplus for 2008/09 was \$10.09 million compared with \$8.69 million in the 2007/08 financial year. In both years the exclusion of non cash developer contributions would have resulted in an operating deficit of \$1.28 million and \$5.64 million respectively.

Net Assets increased by \$82 million in 2008/09 compared with \$29 million the previous year. The 2008/09 increase is largely due to a gain on revaluation of land of \$73 million, which is recognised as an increase in non current assets with the revenue recognised directly in equity.



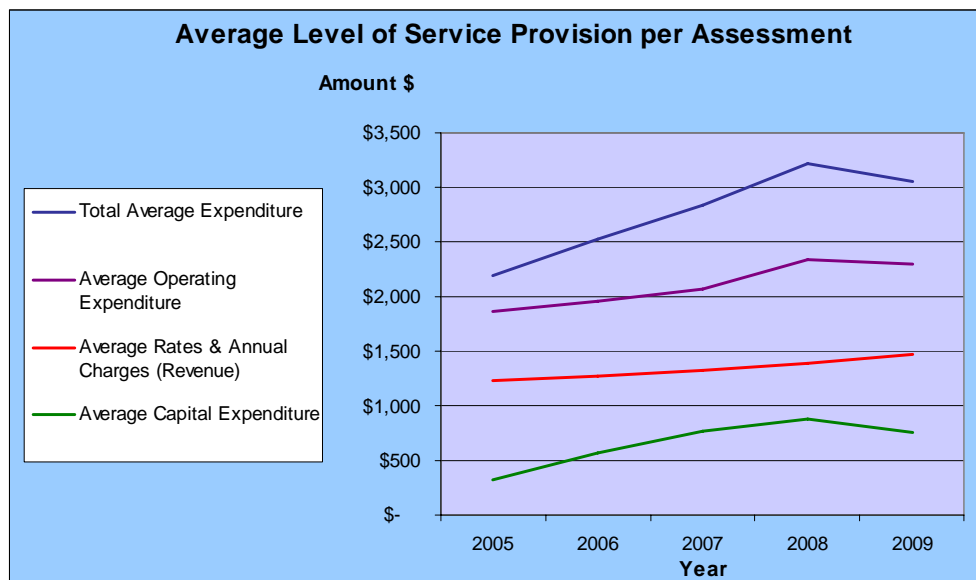
Council's cash and investments increased by \$4.67 million in 2008/09 compared with a decrease of \$3.2 million in 2007/08. The decrease in the 2007/08 financial year was in line with expenditure funded by asset maintenance and refurbishment reserves. The increase in the 2008/09 financial year was due to an increase in externally restricted cash assets including grant funding received for the revitalisation of the Darwin CBD of \$2.03 million.

COMMENTARY

In 2008/09 Darwin City Council had a total of 29,661 rate assessments divided into 25,991 residential assessments and 3,670 commercial/industrial assessments. Apart from general rates, Council levies special rates in the form of parking shortfall rates and annual charges for waste management services.

The average rates and annual charges levied per assessment in 2008/09 was \$1,475 with rates contributing \$1,317 per assessment. On average, \$2,297 was spent on operational costs and \$757 was spent on capital expenditure per assessment giving an average total expenditure per assessment of \$3,054 in 2008/09.

The average level of service provision per rate assessment over the last five years is shown graphically below.



Income Statement

Ordinary rate income for 2008/09 was 8.3% higher than the previous year, which is in line with the budgeted rate increase of 6.5% with an additional 2% growth factor. The number of rate assessments increased by 867 or 3% from 2007/08.

Annual charges for waste management services increased by 3.4% from the previous year, which is in line with the budgeted increase of 2.7% and anticipated growth resulting in an increased number of services.

TOTAL FUNDING	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Rates & Annual Charges	\$43.75M	\$39.94M	\$37.47M	\$35.16M	\$33.71M
Fees & Charges	\$10.55M	\$10.04M	\$9.58M	\$7.62M	\$6.61M
Grants & Subsidies	\$8.42M	\$7.47M	\$6.66M	\$8.45M	\$7.51M
Investment Interest	\$2.38M	\$2.96M	\$2.35M	\$2.19M	\$2.18M
Other	\$13.11M	\$15.67M	\$1.93M	\$0.81M	\$0.60M
Total	\$78.21M	\$76.08M	\$57.99M	\$54.23M	\$50.61M
No of Rate Assessments	29,661	28,794	28,189	27,703	27,400

Grants & subsidies totalled \$8.42 million for 2008/09 with \$3.33 million received specifically for capital projects. This is 12.7% higher than the previous year but includes once only funding received for the revitalisation of the Darwin CBD of \$2.03 million.

Fees and charges increased by 5.1% predominantly due to an increase in the total amount of waste disposal fees collected of 4.7%. This is in line with budget expectations.

Investment interest decreased in 2008/09 due to the decline in financial markets resulting from the downturn in the global economy. Other income included non cash developer contributions and excluding these contributions there was a slight increase of 1.4% from the previous year.

Employment costs increased in 2008/09 by 12% over the previous year. The number of full time equivalent employees increased by 34 from 270 in 2007/08 to 304 in 2008/09. However, the number of approved (budgeted) full time equivalent positions was 325 in 2007/08 and 333 in 2008/09. Not all positions are filled as at reporting date.

Materials and contracts expenses decreased in 2008/09 by 6% from the previous year. The decrease brings these costs back into line with longer term trends. On average, these costs have increased by 5% per annum over the last five years.

Depreciation expense increased by 5% in 2008/09 in line with the addition of contributed infrastructure assets resulting from subdivision works in 2007/08.

Council's operating surplus for 2008/09 was \$10.09 million, which is \$1.4 million higher than the previous year. Council would have reported an operating deficit of \$1.29 million in 2008/09 and \$5.65 million in 2007/08 if non cash developer contributions had not been received.

Balance Sheet

Cash and cash equivalents increased by \$3.72 million in 2008/09 as a result of the cash at bank balance being \$6.6 million at 30 June 2009 compared with \$1.6 million at 30 June 2008. Any investments with a maturity of less than 90 days at reporting date are classified as cash equivalents. The combination of these investments plus term deposits is the total of all Council's investments. At 30 June 2009 Council had \$31.3 million in funds invested in fixed interest term deposits.

Trade and other receivables have decreased in 2008/09 by \$0.74 million predominantly due to the inclusion of a \$0.55 million receivable in the previous year for grant funding associated with Cyclone Helen.

On 1 July 2008 Council withdrew from a joint venture with Litchfield Shire Council to manage the Thorak Regional Cemetery and therefore no joint venture interests have been included in the 2008/09 result.

In total non current assets excluding work in progress have increased by \$93 million in 2008/09 over the previous year. Land underwent an upwards revaluation as at 1 July 2008 due to evidence that there was a material change in land values for the Darwin area. The revaluation represented \$73 million of the increase with the handover of land and infrastructure by developers for management by Council representing an additional \$11 million. The remaining \$9 million are assets that Council purchased or constructed during the year.

Work in progress was high in 2007/08 due to the recording of \$14 million in land and infrastructure for the Lyons subdivision in WIP. This was transferred out of WIP and added to Council's asset register in 2008/09. The balance held in WIP at 30 June 2009 is the balance of various capital projects that Council has not yet completed but is scheduled to do so in the 2009/10 financial year.

OPERATING EXPENSES	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Employee Costs	\$20.90M	\$18.66M	\$17.41M	\$16.41M	\$15.89M
Materials & Contracts	\$32.89M	\$35.04M	\$29.18M	\$25.96M	\$26.25M
Interest on Loans	\$0.32M	\$0.40M	\$0.11M	\$0.00M	\$0.00M
Depreciation	\$14.01M	\$13.29M	\$11.63M	\$11.92M	\$9.10M
Total	\$68.12M	\$67.39M	\$58.33M	\$54.29M	\$51.24M

OPERATING RESULT	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Total	\$10.09M	\$8.69M	-\$0.34M	-\$0.06M	-\$0.63M

CURRENT ASSETS	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$16.04M	\$12.31M	\$11.59M	\$1.49M	\$1.13M
Term Deposits	\$21.86M	\$20.91M	\$24.83M	\$32.57M	\$36.23M
Trade & Other Receivables	\$2.93M	\$3.68M	\$3.40M	\$2.81M	\$3.02M
Inventories	\$0.14M	\$0.12M	\$0.12M	\$0.09M	\$0.10M
Share in Joint Venture		\$1.20M	\$0.97M	\$0.84M	
Total	\$40.97M	\$38.22M	\$40.91M	\$37.80M	\$40.48M

NON CURRENT ASSETS	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Land	\$228.71M	\$149.55M	\$149.55M	\$96.87M	\$93.36M
Buildings	\$51.90M	\$51.67M	\$46.28M	\$33.02M	\$33.26M
Other Assets	\$12.20M	\$11.66M	\$10.46M	\$9.76M	\$9.31M
Infrastructure	\$304.56M	\$291.74M	\$278.24M	\$281.64M	\$287.43M
Plant & Equipment	\$7.49M	\$7.28M	\$6.86M	\$6.86M	\$6.16M
Work in Progress	\$2.87M	\$16.09M	\$5.09M	\$8.73M	\$4.08M
Total	\$607.73M	\$527.99M	\$496.48M	\$436.88M	\$433.60M

The amount owed to trade creditors at 30 June 2009 decreased by \$0.88 million from the previous year but this was offset by an increase in payments received in advance of \$1.14 million. This increase was due to the early receipt of 2009/10 Grants Commission funding and the raising of Offstreet Parking Permit charges for 2009/10 in June 2009.

Total current and non current borrowings of \$4.74 million in 2008/09 represent the principal amount to be repaid for the loan taken out in 2006/07 to fund capital works at the Darwin Entertainment Centre and construction of a new animal pound. This loan is due to be repaid in 2027.

Total current and non current provisions of \$4.9 million in 2008/09 represent the amount required under the accounting standards to be set aside to fund employee entitlements for annual leave and long service leave.

For both borrowings and provisions where the amount is legally due and payable within the next 12 months this portion must be disclosed as current.

Total net assets and equity increased by \$82 million in 2008/09 over the previous year. This is due to the operating surplus being transferred to equity of \$10 million plus the gain on revaluation of land of \$73 million, which is transferred directly to equity.

Council's other reserves increased by \$4.46 million in 2008/09 due to an increase in externally restricted reserves. The use of these reserves is restricted by legislation or other externally imposed requirements. The unexpended grants reserve increased by \$1.93 million predominantly due to the receipt of \$2.03 million in funding for the revitalisation of the Darwin CBD, which has been scheduled to be utilised in the 2009/10 financial year. The waste management reserve increased by \$0.62 million and the parking shortfall reserves increased by \$1.87 million. These reserves are required to provide for the future upgrade or provision of new infrastructure within their respective operations.

Further information on reserves can be found in Note 9 of the financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement

Cash provided by operating activities increased by \$6.93 million in 2008/09 over the previous year. This brings the cash provided by operating activities back into line with longer term trends. In 2007/08 cash provided by operating activities decrease by \$4.9 million from the previous year due to the completion of a number of projects that had been deferred from previous years. On average, cash provided by operating activities has increased by 8.7% per annum over the last five years.

Cash used in investing activities fluctuates with the level of capital expenditure undertaken during the year, sales of non current assets and the sale or purchase of investments. Cash utilised for capital expenditure increased by \$0.78 million in 2008/09 from the previous year. Sales of non current assets increased by \$1.78 million due to two land sales that occurred during the year totalling \$1.56 million.

Cash used in financing activities are the principal portion of loan repayments made during the year.

CURRENT LIABILITIES	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Trade & Other Payables	\$7.90M	\$7.58M	\$7.98M	\$5.89M	\$6.14M
Borrowings	\$0.14M	\$0.17M	\$0.13M		
Provisions	\$4.25M	\$4.23M	\$4.00M	\$3.60M	\$3.44M
Total	\$12.29M	\$11.98M	\$12.11M	\$9.49M	\$9.58M
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Borrowings	\$4.60M	\$4.74M	\$4.91M		
Provisions	\$0.65M	\$0.56M	\$0.58M	\$0.70M	\$0.74M
Total	\$5.25M	\$5.30M	\$5.49M	\$0.70M	\$0.74M

NET ASSETS	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Total	\$631.16M	\$548.93M	\$519.79M	\$464.49M	\$463.76M
EQUITY	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Retained Surplus	\$261.82M	\$257.36M	\$245.81M	\$246.60M	\$242.27M
Revaluation Reserve	\$341.13M	\$267.82M	\$247.63M	\$192.09M	\$192.09M
Other Reserves	\$28.21M	\$23.75M	\$26.35M	\$25.80M	\$29.40M
Total	\$631.16M	\$548.93M	\$519.79M	\$464.49M	\$463.76M

CASHFLOWS	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Provided by:					
Operating Activities	\$14.18M	\$7.25M	\$12.15M	\$11.81M	\$9.87M
Used in:					
Investing Activities	-\$10.28M	-\$6.41M	-\$16.50M	-\$11.46M	-\$9.54M
Used in:					
Financing Activities	-\$0.18M	-\$0.12M	\$5.04M		
Net Increase in Cash Held	\$3.72M	\$0.72M	\$0.69M	\$0.35M	\$0.33M

Performance Against Budget

Council's budget is reviewed on a quarterly basis to ensure targets are being met for both income and expenditure. The analysis below is based on the revised 2008/09 budget.

Operating Income

Rates and annual charges, fees and charges, grants and subsidies and investment income all performed closely to budget expectations.

Other income was \$9.79 million higher than budget, which can be attributed to the non cash developer contributions of \$11.38 million received during the year as a result of the handover of subdivision infrastructure by developers for management by Council. This is partially offset by lower than expected revenue from land sales, as the sales were budgeted at gross value but only the profit on sale of assets is reported as revenue.

OPERATING INCOME	2008/09 Actual	2008/09 Budget	Variance	% Variance
Rates & Annual Charges	\$43.75M	\$42.88M	\$0.87M	1.99%
Fees & Charges	\$10.55M	\$9.90M	\$0.65M	6.16%
Grants & Subsidies	\$8.42M	\$8.47M	-\$0.05M	-0.59%
Investment Interest	\$2.38M	\$2.46M	-\$0.08M	-3.36%
Other	\$13.11M	\$3.32M	\$9.79M	74.68%
Total	\$78.21M	\$67.03M	\$11.18M	14.29%

Operating Expenses

Employee costs and materials and contracts performed closely to budget expectations.

Interest on loans was \$0.05 million lower than budget due to accrual adjustments.

Depreciation was \$2.32 million higher than budget as when the budget for depreciation was prepared the estimates were based on historical expenditure. The revaluation of infrastructure assets has increased underlying asset values and a higher depreciation expense has resulted.

OPERATING EXPENSES	2008/09 Actual	2008/09 Budget	Variance	% Variance
Employee Costs	\$20.90M	\$20.45M	\$0.45M	2.15%
Materials & Contracts	\$32.89M	\$31.87M	\$1.02M	3.10%
Interest on Loans	\$0.32M	\$0.37M	-\$0.05M	-15.63%
Depreciation	\$14.01M	\$11.69M	\$2.32M	16.56%
Total	\$68.12M	\$64.38M	\$3.74M	5.49%

Operating Result

The operating result was \$7.44 million higher than budget due to non cash developer contributions of \$11.38 million offset by the capital revenue from land sales not shown in the operating result (\$1.05 million) and higher than budgeted depreciation expense (\$2.32 million).

OPERATING RESULT	2008/09 Actual	2008/09 Budget	Variance	% Variance
Total	\$10.09M	\$2.65M	\$7.44M	73.74%

Capital Expenditure

Council budgeted to spend \$19.76 million on capital expenditure during 2008/09, which included \$8.7 million in deferred capital expenditure brought forward from 2007/08.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	2008/09 Actual	2008/09 Budget	Variance	% Variance
Total	\$11.09M	\$19.76M	-\$8.67M	-78.11%

Actual capital expenditure less non cash developer contributions (as these are not budgeted for) was \$11.09 million. Actual expenditure is lower than budget by \$8.67 million due to \$7.5 million in deferred capital expenditure (i.e. to be completed in (2009/10). In addition \$1.98 million of budgeted capital expenditure was expensed to operating because it did not meet the criteria to be capitalised being predominantly rehabilitation works.

Original vs Revised Budget

Analysis of the original 2008/09 budget to the revised budget shows the revised budget has a \$2.28 million higher operating result than the original budget, which is predominantly due to a positive budget variance of \$2.03 million for grant funding received for the revitalisation of the Darwin CBD. As the funding was for capital works the offsetting expenditure does not appear in the operating result.

BUDGET ANALYSIS	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance
Operating Income	\$62.66M	\$67.03M	-\$4.37M	-6.97%
Operating Expenditure	\$62.29M	\$64.38M	-\$2.09M	-3.36%
Operating Result	\$0.37M	\$2.65M	-\$2.28M	-616.22%

There is also a movement of approximately \$2 million between operating income and operating expenditure, which represents the recognition of additional income and offsetting expenditure via the budget variance process. In summary, there has been an acceptable level of variance to the original budget through the budget revision process.

Performance Indicators

The following indicators are based on the results contained in the 2008/09 financial statements for Darwin City Council only. They are designed to provide information of a financial nature only and are not indicative of non-financial performance.

Revenue Sources

This indicator is designed to provide information only on the dependency of Council on a particular revenue source.

It is performed on operating revenues only and excludes capital grants and non cash developer contributions.

Analysis of longer term trends show that over the last five years slightly less reliance is being placed on revenue generated by rates with more reliance placed on revenue generated by fees and charges. The reliance on investment interest fluctuates according to interest rates.

REVENUE SOURCES	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Ordinary Rates	58.81%	57.75%	57.86%	59.16%	59.83%
Special Rates	2.71%	1.56%	1.54%	2.72%	3.14%
Annual Charges	7.38%	7.59%	7.53%	7.83%	8.03%
Fees & Charges	16.61%	16.82%	17.11%	15.11%	13.93%
Grants & Subsidies	8.02%	9.09%	8.30%	9.23%	9.21%
Investment Interest	3.75%	4.96%	4.20%	4.34%	4.60%
Other	2.72%	2.24%	3.46%	1.62%	1.26%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Operating Result

This indicator is designed to provide information on the result of ordinary operations. Trend analysis may enable Council to determine if the current level of services can be sustained into the future.

OPERATING RESULT	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Before Capital Grants/Cont's	-\$4.62M	-\$7.69M	-\$2.36M	-\$3.85M	-\$3.77M
After Capital Grants	-\$1.28M	-\$5.64M	-\$0.34M	-\$0.06M	-\$0.64M

The operating result before capital grants & contributions is the net surplus or deficit excluding capital grants and non cash developer contributions. Council's operating result for 2008/09 is a deficit of \$4.62 million. An operating deficit before capital grants of \$2.07 million was budgeted for in 2008/09 and actual depreciation expense was \$2.3 million higher than budget.

The operating result after capital grants simply adds back in capital grants but leaves out non cash developer contributions as these are considered to be once only contributions that would distort the analysis. Council's operating result after capital grants for 2008/09 is a deficit of \$1.28 million. This is predominantly due to capital expenditure of \$1.98 million expensed to operating because it did not meet the criteria to be capitalised.

Depreciation Funding

This indicator is designed to indicate the ability of Council to fund annual depreciation.

DEPRECIATION FUNDING	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Total	0.91	0.58	0.97	1.00	0.93

The operating result before depreciation and non cash developer contributions is divided by the depreciation expense. An indicator of 1.00 means that annual depreciation can be fully funded. Council's indicator for 2008/09 was 0.91, which indicates that Council had the ability to fund 91% of the annual depreciation expense. The actual level of funding directed towards renewing assets is an asset management decision.

Asset Renewal Expenditure

This indicator is designed to indicate the extent to which Council is renewing its assets.

ASSET RENEWAL	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Total	0.90	1.04	1.94	1.36	1.03

The amount expended during the year on capital additions and upgrade and refurbishment of existing assets (as opposed to maintaining them) is divided by the annual depreciation expense. Contributed assets (non cash developer contributions) are excluded. An indicator of 1.00 means that the same level of expenditure is being incurred on new/replacement assets as annual depreciation of assets. An indicator of 1.00 or higher is considered to be satisfactory and this was not achieved in 2008/09 as the same level of large construction projects were not undertaken in 2008/09 as in previous years. In addition, depreciation expense has increased from \$9 million in 2004/05 to \$14 million in 2008/09 requiring a higher level of investment in capital renewal than five years ago to achieve an indicator of 1.00 or above.

Levels of funding directed towards asset renewal is an asset management decision made with regard to the current condition of assets.

Debt Service Ratio

This indicator is designed to show what proportion of revenue is required as a commitment to fund Council's long term capacity to repay loans.

DEBT SERVICE RATIO	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Total	0.72%	0.96%	0.42%	0.00%	0.00%

The interest expense for the year plus the current loan liability is divided by operating revenues, which exclude capital grants and non cash developer contributions. An indicator of less than 10% is considered satisfactory and Council's indicator in 2008/09 was 0.72% as it has only one loan, which had a balance of \$4.74 million at 30 June 2009.

Collection Performance

This indicator is designed to measure Council's effectiveness in recovering debts legally owed to it.

OUTSTANDING DEBTORS	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Rates & Annual Charges	1.81%	2.42%	2.50%	3.12%	3.91%
Other Debtors	12.50%	9.06%	11.14%	8.00%	12.59%

For each indicator, the outstanding receivables are divided by the appropriate revenues plus the arrears brought forward. For rates and annual charges an indicator of less than 4% is considered good and Council's outstanding rates and annual charges were 1.81% at 30 June 2009. For other debtors an indicator of less than 10% is considered good while an indicator between 10% and 15% is considered satisfactory. Council had outstanding other debtors of 12.5% at 30 June 2009 predominantly due to receivables relating to waste management fees and infringements.

Unrestricted Current Ratio

This indicator is designed to measure whether Council has the ability to pay its debts as they fall due and is expressed as a factor of 1.

CURRENT RATIO	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Total	2.1:1	2.3:1	2.4:1	2.7:1	3.1:1

Total current assets less externally restricted current assets as shown in Note 10 of the financial statements are divided by total current liabilities. The indicator should always be greater than 1:1 and an indicator greater than 2:1 is considered good. Council's indicator was 2.1:1 at 30 June 2009 indicating that it has sufficient capacity to pay debts as they fall due.

Cash/Liquidity Position

These indicators are designed to assess the available funds and capacity of the organisation to respond to opportunities or to react to unforeseen commitments as they arise.

The available cash less external restrictions is the total cash and investments less externally restricted cash assets as shown in Note 10 of the financial statements. The available cash less internal restrictions is the same but also has internally restricted reserves deducted.

AVAILABLE CASH	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Less External Restrictions	\$23.26M	\$23.01M	\$28.59M	\$22.72M	\$26.86M
% of Operating Revenues	36.63%	38.54%	51.07%	45.04%	56.58%
Less Internal Restrictions	\$9.69M	\$9.48M	\$10.07M	\$8.25M	\$7.97M
% of Operating Revenues	15.25%	15.87%	17.99%	16.36%	16.78%

These are then divided by operating revenues, which exclude capital grants and non cash developer contributions to provide an indication of the level of funds that may be available to respond to opportunities or to react to unforeseen commitments.

Working Capital

These indicators are a measure of how much liquidity Council has after deducting restricted reserves.

WORKING CAPITAL	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	2004/05
Unrestricted Cash Assets	\$0.46M	\$2.49M	\$2.46M	\$2.51M	\$1.50M
Working Capital Ratio	1.04:1	1.21:1	1.2:1	1.26:1	1.16:1

The amount of unrestricted cash assets is calculated by deducting total current liabilities from total current assets and then deducting externally and internally restricted reserves. This indicator should always remain positive but an indicator that is too high could indicate that Council is not in a position to utilise the funding it receives. The working capital as at 30 June 2009 was \$0.46 million. This is \$2.07 million less than the previous year due to the withdrawal from the Thorak Regional Cemetery joint venture resulting in the clearance of a \$1.2 million current asset and an increase in provisions of \$0.86 million.

The working capital ratio is calculated by dividing total current assets less restricted reserves by total current liabilities and is expressed as a factor of 1. The indicator should always be greater than 1:1. Council's indicator as at 30 June 2009 was 1.04:1, which is a slight decrease on the previous year due to the withdrawal from the Thorak Regional Cemetery joint venture as outlined above.

CONCLUSION

The analysis of Council's financial performance to budget demonstrates that there is a strong level of correlation between the budgeting process and actual results. Performance indicators show that in the key areas of asset renewal, debt management and receivables collection performance a satisfactory level of outcomes are being achieved. Liquidity performance indicators demonstrate that Council has a strong level of liquidity. These factors along with minimal levels of debt mean that Council is well placed to respond to opportunities or react to unforeseen events.

Council remains committed to responsible financial management and is undertaking a number of initiatives in the 2009/10 financial year to continue to enhance and improve upon our systems, processes and reporting.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL



**General Purpose Financial Report
For the year ended 30 June 2009**

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

OFFICER'S STATEMENT

I, John Paul Banks, the Acting Chief Executive Officer of Darwin City Council, hereby certify that the Annual Financial Statements:

- (a) have been drawn up in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations so as to present fairly the financial position of the Council and the results for the year; and
- (b) are in accordance with the accounting and other records of Council.

CERTIFIED at Darwin in the Northern Territory of Australia

This 3rd day of November 2009



J. P. BANKS
Acting Chief Executive Officer

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 30 June 2009

		Consolidated		Council	
		2009	2008	2009	2008
	Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
INCOME					
Rates	2	43,753,008	39,939,769	43,753,008	39,939,769
Statutory charges	2	1,447,135	1,368,670	1,447,135	1,368,670
User charges	2	10,664,599	10,349,527	9,101,989	8,672,627
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	5,094,579	5,425,535	5,094,579	5,425,535
Investment income	2	2,392,075	2,990,189	2,382,262	2,962,400
Reimbursements	2	172,101	345,524	172,101	345,524
Other income	2	1,182,327	989,773	1,182,327	989,773
Total Income		64,705,824	61,408,987	63,133,401	59,704,298
EXPENSES					
Employee costs	3	21,971,322	19,737,480	20,903,884	18,664,213
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	33,374,917	35,480,666	32,890,138	34,985,996
Finance costs	3	315,025	400,162	315,025	400,162
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	14,092,568	13,358,067	14,014,037	13,292,146
Total Expenses		69,753,832	68,976,375	68,123,084	67,342,517
OPERATING DEFICIT		(5,048,008)	(7,567,388)	(4,989,683)	(7,638,219)
Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets	4	373,231	(47,227)	373,901	(47,227)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	3,333,425	2,041,079	3,333,425	2,041,079
Physical resources received free of charge	2	11,376,076	14,339,317	11,376,076	14,339,317
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		10,034,724	8,765,781	10,093,719	8,694,950

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET as at 30 June 2009

	Notes	Consolidated		Council	
		2009	2008	2009	2008
		\$	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	5	16,716,126	13,190,648	16,037,581	12,314,853
Trade & other receivables	5	3,018,406	3,834,637	2,933,890	3,673,402
Other financial assets	5	21,858,432	22,110,239	21,858,432	22,110,239
Inventories	5	160,024	151,049	138,514	122,600
Total Current Assets		41,752,988	39,286,573	40,968,417	38,221,094
Non-current Assets					
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	7	605,011,274	512,097,575	604,862,595	511,901,658
Capital Work In Progress	6	2,871,981	16,093,213	2,871,981	16,093,213
Total Non-current Assets		607,883,255	528,190,788	607,734,576	527,994,871
Total Assets		649,636,243	567,477,361	648,702,993	566,215,965
LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities					
Trade & Other Payables	8	8,219,159	8,147,837	7,895,940	7,581,628
Borrowings	8	143,271	193,588	143,271	172,382
Provisions	8	4,313,321	4,290,619	4,254,505	4,225,758
Total Current Liabilities		12,675,751	12,632,044	12,293,716	11,979,768
Non-current Liabilities					
Borrowings	8	4,597,632	4,746,318	4,597,632	4,746,318
Provisions	8	664,829	575,921	646,293	558,475
Total Non-current Liabilities		5,262,461	5,322,239	5,243,925	5,304,793
Total Liabilities		17,938,212	17,954,283	17,537,641	17,284,561
NET ASSETS		631,698,031	549,523,078	631,165,352	548,931,404
EQUITY					
Accumulated Surplus		262,209,346	257,856,289	261,822,719	257,367,949
Asset Revaluation Reserve	9	341,131,656	267,815,763	341,131,656	267,815,763
Other Reserves	9	28,357,029	23,851,026	28,210,977	23,747,692
TOTAL EQUITY		631,698,031	549,523,078	631,165,352	548,931,404

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Notes				
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS				
Balance at end of previous reporting period	257,856,289	244,898,359	257,367,949	244,898,359
Adjustment for Opening Equity - Darwin Entertainment Centre	-	364,585	-	-
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	10,034,724	8,765,781	10,093,719	8,694,950
Withdrawal from Joint Venture Interest	(1,175,664)	-	(1,175,664)	-
Transfers to Other Reserves	(31,609,237)	(25,286,143)	(31,566,519)	(25,286,143)
Transfers from Other Reserves	27,103,234	27,938,043	27,103,234	27,885,119
Balance at end of period	262,209,346	256,680,625	261,822,719	256,192,285
Interest in Joint Venture Operations	-	1,175,664	-	1,175,664
Balance at end of period	262,209,346	257,856,289	261,822,719	257,367,949
ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE				
9				
Balance at end of previous reporting period	267,815,763	247,633,639	267,815,763	247,633,639
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	73,315,893	20,182,124	73,315,893	20,182,124
Balance at end of period	341,131,656	267,815,763	341,131,656	267,815,763
OTHER RESERVES				
9				
Balance at end of previous reporting period	23,851,026	26,346,668	23,747,692	26,346,668
Adjustment for Opening Equity - Darwin Entertainment Centre	-	156,258	-	-
Transfers to Accumulated Surplus	31,609,237	25,286,143	31,566,519	25,286,143
Transfers from Accumulated Surplus	(27,103,234)	(27,938,043)	(27,103,234)	(27,885,119)
Balance at end of period	28,357,029	23,851,026	28,210,977	23,747,692
TOTAL EQUITY AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD	631,698,031	549,523,078	631,165,352	548,931,404
<i>Total of all revenues recognised directly in Equity</i>	<i>73,315,893</i>	<i>20,182,124</i>	<i>73,315,893</i>	<i>20,182,124</i>
<i>Total of all expenses recognised directly in Equity</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
NET CHANGE IN EQUITY	73,315,893	20,182,124	73,315,893	20,182,124

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Rates - general & other	43,945,568	39,970,887	43,945,568	39,970,887
Fees & other charges	13,066,448	12,045,900	11,422,511	10,442,649
Interest receipts	2,711,217	3,593,885	2,701,404	3,566,096
Grants utilised for operating purposes	10,163,320	6,799,066	10,163,320	6,799,066
Other operating receipts	4,499,574	4,153,911	4,499,574	4,153,911
<u>Payments</u>				
Employee Costs	(21,795,802)	(19,402,884)	(20,731,151)	(18,354,272)
Contractual services & materials	(33,102,953)	(35,510,256)	(33,102,953)	(35,510,256)
Other operating payments	(5,173,768)	(3,553,583)	(4,440,588)	(3,304,470)
Finance payments	(277,231)	(509,691)	(277,231)	(509,691)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	14,036,373	7,587,235	14,180,454	7,253,920
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Sale of Property, Plant & Equipment	2,439,794	656,574	2,439,794	656,574
Sale of investment securities	-	3,918,088	-	3,918,088
<u>Payments</u>				
Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment	(11,802,299)	(11,093,246)	(11,770,336)	(10,985,340)
Net purchase of investment securities	(949,387)	-	(949,387)	-
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	(10,311,892)	(6,518,584)	(10,279,929)	(6,410,678)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Proceeds from Borrowings	-	21,206	-	-
<u>Payments</u>				
Repayments of Borrowings	(199,003)	(120,295)	(177,797)	(120,295)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities	(199,003)	(99,089)	(177,797)	(120,295)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held	3,525,478	969,562	3,722,728	722,947
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	13,190,648	12,221,086	12,314,853	11,591,906
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	16,716,126	13,190,648	16,037,581	12,314,853

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of Preparation

1.1 Compliance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) as they apply to not-for-profit entities, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group Interpretations (UIGs) and relevant Northern Territory legislation.

The financial report was authorised for issue by certificate under clause 11 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1999* dated (6 November 2009).

1.2 Historical Cost Convention

Except where stated below, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates, and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of this Note.

1.4 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

1.5 Native Title Issues

The Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) recognises the existence of native title in Australia and, among other things, prescribes procedures required for the validity of acts of government after 1 January 1994. Where native title claims have been lodged over Darwin City Council land, the provision of the Native Title Act may result in the following:

- The validity of tenements may be affected to the extent licences affect native title and were not granted in accordance with the provisions of the Native Title Act 1993; and
- The negotiation procedures set out in the Native Title Act 1993 may apply and may result in compensation being payable under those procedures.

The Council receives notifications of such claims when it is a stakeholder with an interest in their outcome. The Council will assess from time to time the significance or otherwise of the claims notified from its perspective to determine whether or not it wishes to join in the relevant proceedings.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

Darwin City Council is incorporated under the Northern Territory Local Government Act and has its principal place of business at the Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia. These financial statements include the consolidated fund and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

Trust monies and property held by Council but subject to the control of other persons have been excluded from these reports. Monies held in trust are disclosed in Note 20.

3 Income recognition

3.1 Initial Recognition

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Income is recognised when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising the income, or when the amount due constitutes an enforceable debt, whichever first occurs.

Where grants, contributions and donations recognised as incomes during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the amounts subject to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in these notes. Also disclosed is the amount of grants, contributions and receivables recognised as incomes in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the Council's operations for the current reporting period.

3.2 Contributed Assets

Where Council receives public property and infrastructure for no consideration, apart from an ongoing liability for maintenance, a contributed asset is recognised. Contributed assets normally result from new development such as subdivisions where new parks, roads, pathways and drainage assets are created. An equivalent amount is recognised as non-cash revenue. Contributed assets are measured at fair value in accordance with the measurement criteria of the asset class they belong to. Disclosure is contained in Note 2 under 'physical resources received free of charge'.

4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and other Financial Instruments

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Council's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Receivables for rates and annual charges are secured over the subject land, and bear interest at rates as determined by the Council on an annual basis. Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest.

All receivables are reviewed as at the reporting date and adequate allowance made for amounts the receipt of which is considered doubtful.

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments forms part of Note 13.

5 Inventories

Inventories held in respect of stores have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

6 Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

6.1 Transitional Provisions

As at 1 July 2008, Council has elected not to recognise any values for land under roads acquired before the commencement of AASB 1051 *Land Under Roads*. Details of the effects of this election are given in Note 7.

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use".

6.2 Initial Recognition

All assets are initially recognised at cost. Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including architects' fees and engineering design fees and all other costs incurred. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, cost is determined as fair value at the date of acquisition. The cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overhead.

Capital works still in progress at balance date are recognised as other non-current assets and transferred to *infrastructure, property, plant & equipment* when completed ready for use.

6.3 Materiality

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each type of asset. In determining (and in annually reviewing) such thresholds, regard is had to the nature of the asset and its estimated service life. Items of property, plant and equipment with a total value less than \$2,000, except for computer equipment as each component forms part of the Council's total computer network, are treated as an expense in the year of acquisition. All other items of property, plant and equipment are capitalised. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

6.4 Subsequent Recognition

Certain asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. For infrastructure and other asset classes where no active market exists, fair value is determined to be the current replacement cost of an asset less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired future economic benefits of the asset. Further detail of existing valuations, methods and valuers are provided at Note 7.

6.5 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Other than land, all infrastructure, property, plant and equipment assets recognised are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis. Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are shown below. Depreciation periods for infrastructure assets have been estimated based on the best information available to Council, but appropriate records covering the entire life cycle of these assets are not available, and extreme care should be used in interpreting financial information based on these estimates.

Plant, Furniture & Equipment	
Plant & Machinery	2 to 20 years
Furniture & Equipment	5 to 50 years
Fixtures & Fittings	3 to 35 years
Plant & Equipment under Lease	5 years

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

Building & Other Structures	
Buildings	20 to 60 years
Other Structures	4 to 50 years
Infrastructure	
Roads	70 years
Drainage	50 to 70 years
Footpaths	25 years
Walkways	25 years
Cycle Paths	20 to 30 years
Driveways	27 years
Other Infrastructure	15 to 100 years
Carparks	70 years
Traffic Signals	35 years
Other Assets	
Library Books	10 to 15 years
Artworks	indefinite

6.6 Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the present value of future cash outflows or value in use).

For assets whose future economic benefits are not dependent on the ability to generate cash flows, and where the future economic benefits would be replaced if Council were deprived thereof, the value in use is the depreciated replacement cost. In assessing impairment for these assets, a rebuttable assumption is made that the current replacement cost exceeds the original cost of acquisition.

7 Payables

7.1 Goods & Services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

7.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

8 Borrowings

Loans are carried at their principal amounts which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is accrued over the period to which it relates, and is recorded as part of Payables.

9 Employee Benefits

9.1 Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences

Liabilities for employees' entitlements to salaries, wages and compensated absences expected to be paid or settled within 12 months of reporting date are accrued at nominal amounts (including payroll based oncosts) measured in accordance with AASB 119.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

Liabilities for employee benefits not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based oncosts) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Present values are calculated using government guaranteed securities rates with similar maturity terms.

Weighted average discount rate	8.38% (2008, 8.74%)
Weighted average settlement period	1.3 years (2008, 1.37 years)

No accrual is made for sick leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. Council does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

9.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme. The superannuation expense for the reporting period is the amount of statutory and non-statutory contribution the local government makes to the superannuation plan which provides benefits to its employees. No changes in accounting policy have occurred during either the current or previous reporting periods.

10 Construction Contracts

Construction works undertaken by Council for third parties are generally on an agency basis where the third party reimburses Council for actual costs incurred, and usually do not extend beyond the reporting period. As there is no profit component, such works are treated as 100% completed. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance".

11 Controlled Entities

Council controls the operation of the Darwin Performing Arts Centre and as such, consolidates all transactions pertaining to the Centre for the current accounting period into the financial statements. Further information is disclosed in Note 17.

12 Joint Ventures and Associated Entities

Council was a party to only one joint venture being the Thorak Regional Cemetery along with Litchfield Shire Council. Council withdrew from this joint venture on 1 July 2008. Further information is disclosed in Note 18.

13 Leases

Lease arrangements have been accounted for in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 117.

In respect of finance leases, where Council substantially carries all of the risks incident to ownership, the leased items are initially recognised as assets and liabilities equal in amount to the present value of the minimum lease payments. The assets are disclosed as assets under lease, and are amortised to expense over the period during which the Council is expected to benefit from the use of the leased assets. Lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of the lease liability, according to the interest rate implicit in the lease.

In respect of operating leases, where the lessor substantially retains all of the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the leased items, lease payments are charged to expense over the lease term.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

14 GST Implications

In accordance with UIG Abstract 1031 "Accounting for the Goods & Services Tax"

- Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.
- Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.
- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.
- Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

15 Comparative Information

Comparative information has been reclassified to be consistent with the current year disclosure of equivalent information in accordance with AIFRS.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

16 New Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2009 reporting period.

- AASB 3 *Business Combinations*
- AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*
- AASB 123 *Borrowing Costs*
- AASB 127 *Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements*
- AASB 2007-6 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 123*
- AASB 2007-8 & AASB 2007-10 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101*
- AASB 2008-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Puttable Financial Instruments and Obligations arising on Liquidation*
- AASB 2008-3 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 3 and AASB 127*
- AASB 2008-5 & AASB 2008-6 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project*
- AASB 2008-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Cost of an Investment in a Subsidiary, Jointly Controlled Entity or Associate*
- AASB 2008-8 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Eligible Hedged Items*
- AASB 2008-9 *Amendments to AASB 1049 for Consistency with AASB 101*
- AASB 2008-11 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standard – Business Combinations Among Not-for-Profit Entities*
- AASB 2008-12 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Reclassification of Financial Assets – Effective Date and Transition*
- AASB 2008-13 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB Interpretation 17 – Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners*
- Interpretation 15 *Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate*
- Interpretation 16 *Hedges of a Net Investment in a Foreign Operation*
- Interpretation 17 *Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners*
- Interpretation 18 *Transfers of Assets from Customers*
- (Standards not affecting local government have been excluded from the above list.)

Council is of the view that none of the above new standards or interpretations will affect any of the amounts recognised in the financial statements, but that they may impact certain information otherwise disclosed.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 2 - INCOME

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
RATES REVENUES				
<u>General Rates</u>				
Residential	29,911,852	27,692,277	29,911,852	27,692,277
Business	7,435,353	6,786,068	7,435,353	6,786,068
	<u>37,347,205</u>	<u>34,478,345</u>	<u>37,347,205</u>	<u>34,478,345</u>
<u>Special Rates</u>				
Parking	1,718,293	929,514	1,718,293	929,514
	<u>1,718,293</u>	<u>929,514</u>	<u>1,718,293</u>	<u>929,514</u>
<u>Annual Charges</u>				
Waste Management Service	4,687,510	4,531,910	4,687,510	4,531,910
	<u>4,687,510</u>	<u>4,531,910</u>	<u>4,687,510</u>	<u>4,531,910</u>
	<u>43,753,008</u>	<u>39,939,769</u>	<u>43,753,008</u>	<u>39,939,769</u>
STATUTORY CHARGES				
Planning & building regulation	63,366	172,612	63,366	172,612
Animal registration fees & fines	479,675	398,629	479,675	398,629
Parking fines	602,842	508,583	602,842	508,583
Licence & permit fees	281,745	282,399	281,745	282,399
Other fines & penalties	19,507	6,447	19,507	6,447
	<u>1,447,135</u>	<u>1,368,670</u>	<u>1,447,135</u>	<u>1,368,670</u>
USER CHARGES				
Cemetery fees	43,017	98,231	43,017	98,231
Swimming pool fees	457,482	410,326	457,482	410,326
Waste disposal fees	4,825,334	4,609,757	4,825,334	4,609,757
Parking fees	3,369,177	3,248,418	3,369,177	3,248,418
Sales - general	150,816	136,126	150,816	136,126
Darwin Entertainment Centre	1,562,610	1,676,900	-	-
Sundry	256,163	169,769	256,163	169,769
	<u>10,664,599</u>	<u>10,349,527</u>	<u>9,101,989</u>	<u>8,672,627</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME				
Interest on investments				
Banks & other	2,176,407	2,806,967	2,166,594	2,779,178
Interest on overdue rates & annual charges	215,668	183,222	215,668	183,222
	<u>2,392,075</u>	<u>2,990,189</u>	<u>2,382,262</u>	<u>2,962,400</u>

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
REIMBURSEMENTS				
- for private works	172,101	345,524	172,101	345,524
	172,101	345,524	172,101	345,524
OTHER INCOME				
Insurance & other recoupments	120,811	75,972	120,811	75,972
Rental income council properties	634,339	458,834	634,339	458,834
Legal fees recovery - rates & charges	184,572	156,633	184,572	156,633
Sister cities	14,633	179,702	14,633	179,702
Sundry	227,972	118,632	227,972	118,632
	1,182,327	989,773	1,182,327	989,773
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS				
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	3,333,425	2,041,079	3,333,425	2,041,079
Other grants, subsidies and contributions	5,094,579	5,425,535	5,094,579	5,425,535
	8,428,004	7,466,614	8,428,004	7,466,614
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>				
Sources of grants				
Commonwealth government	2,244,852	425,143	2,244,852	425,143
Northern Territory government	6,010,128	6,767,608	6,010,128	6,767,608
Other	173,024	273,863	173,024	273,863
	8,428,004	7,466,614	8,428,004	7,466,614

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Conditions over grants & contributions				
<i>Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:</i>				
<i>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</i>	2,004,341	1,560,605	2,004,341	1,560,605
<i>Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>				
<i>Roads Infrastructure</i>	-	1,460,465	-	1,460,465
<i>Heritage & Cultural Services</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Other</i>	1,192,524	100,140	1,192,524	100,140
<i>Subtotal</i>	1,192,524	1,560,605	1,192,524	1,560,605
<i>Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>				
<i>Roads Infrastructure</i>	2,482,090	60,000	2,482,090	60,000
<i>Heritage & Cultural Services</i>	283,303	18,531	283,303	18,531
<i>Other</i>	355,003	1,925,810	355,003	1,925,810
<i>Subtotal</i>	3,120,396	2,004,341	3,120,396	2,004,341
<i>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period and</i>	3,932,213	2,004,341	3,932,213	2,004,341
<i>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</i>	1,927,872	443,736	1,927,872	443,736
PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE				
Land & Improvements	4,227,750	-	4,227,750	-
Roads, Bridges & Footpaths	-	14,339,317	-	14,339,317
Stormwater Drainage	7,148,326	-	7,148,326	-
TOTAL PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED	11,376,076	14,339,317	11,376,076	14,339,317

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 3 - EXPENSES

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
EMPLOYEE COSTS				
Salaries and Wages	19,650,688	17,543,317	18,731,663	16,639,640
Superannuation	1,749,854	1,600,373	1,670,595	1,519,529
Workers' Compensation Insurance	344,458	299,260	309,945	263,589
Training Costs (excluding Salaries)	299,667	322,551	296,997	320,525
Travelling	122,707	109,171	122,707	109,171
Fringe Benefits Tax	167,428	172,832	160,351	165,943
Other	163,255	126,286	138,361	82,126
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs	(526,735)	(436,310)	(526,735)	(436,310)
Total Operating Employee Costs	21,971,322	19,737,480	20,903,884	18,664,213
 Total Number of Employees	 319	 285	 304	 270
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>				
 MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES				
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>				
Auditor's Remuneration				
- Auditing the financial reports	22,969	43,690	7,469	30,008
- Other Auditors	145,903	190,033	145,903	190,033
Bad and Doubtful Debts	242,318	180,761	219,673	157,847
Elected members' expenses	522,752	445,272	522,752	445,272
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses	933,942	859,756	895,797	823,160
 <u>Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses</u>				
Contractors	15,480,471	16,024,878	15,480,471	16,024,878
Energy	2,217,187	1,804,608	2,217,187	1,804,608
Water & effluent	1,287,998	1,169,041	1,287,998	1,169,041
Fuel & registration	637,617	608,051	637,617	608,051
Insurances	719,036	663,866	719,036	663,866
Maintenance	7,890,174	10,838,631	7,890,174	10,838,631
Office expenses	800,981	672,965	800,981	672,965
Darwin Entertainment Centre	1,186,634	1,148,074	740,000	690,000
Donations & contributions	639,687	578,429	639,687	578,429
Professional services	845,558	784,356	845,558	784,356
Sundry	735,632	328,011	735,632	328,011
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses	32,440,975	34,620,910	31,994,341	34,162,836
	33,374,917	35,480,666	32,890,138	34,985,996

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 3 - EXPENSES (cont)

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
FINANCE COSTS				
Interest on Loans	315,025	400,162	315,025	400,162
	315,025	400,162	315,025	400,162
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT				
Depreciation				
Buildings	2,374,003	2,187,024	2,374,003	2,187,024
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
- roads, bridges & footpaths	5,146,669	4,972,054	5,146,669	4,972,054
- stormwater drainage	4,026,035	3,856,313	4,026,035	3,856,313
- other infrastructure	205,442	199,131	205,442	199,131
Plant & equipment	1,273,725	1,206,767	1,208,614	1,152,008
Other Assets	1,066,694	936,778	1,053,274	925,616
	14,092,568	13,358,067	14,014,037	13,292,146

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT				
<i>Assets renewed or directly replaced</i>				
Proceeds from disposal	2,420,294	656,574	2,420,294	656,574
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	2,047,063	703,801	2,046,393	703,801
Gain (Loss) on disposal	373,231	(47,227)	373,901	(47,227)

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS				
Cash on Hand and at Bank	7,229,065	2,450,239	6,550,520	1,574,444
Short Term Deposits & Bills, etc	9,487,061	10,740,409	9,487,061	10,740,409
	<u>16,716,126</u>	<u>13,190,648</u>	<u>16,037,581</u>	<u>12,314,853</u>
TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES				
Rates & Annual Charges	811,161	988,435	811,161	988,435
Fees & other charges	1,981,012	1,491,829	1,981,012	1,491,829
Accrued Revenues	320,251	680,545	319,319	676,099
Grants	130,000	551,049	130,000	551,049
Prepayments	52,224	106,793	52,224	106,793
Other Debtors	259,514	495,225	175,930	338,436
Total	<u>3,554,162</u>	<u>4,313,876</u>	<u>3,469,646</u>	<u>4,152,641</u>
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Debts	535,756	479,239	535,756	479,239
	<u>3,018,406</u>	<u>3,834,637</u>	<u>2,933,890</u>	<u>3,673,402</u>
OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS				
Term Deposits	21,858,432	20,909,045	21,858,432	20,909,045
Interest In Joint Ventures		1,201,194		1,201,194
	<u>21,858,432</u>	<u>22,110,239</u>	<u>21,858,432</u>	<u>22,110,239</u>
INVENTORIES				
Stores & Materials	160,024	151,049	138,514	122,600
	<u>160,024</u>	<u>151,049</u>	<u>138,514</u>	<u>122,600</u>

Aggregate write-downs and other losses recognised as an expense, and reversals of these, were not material in amount in either year. All such reversals occurred principally as a result of clerical inaccuracies during stores operations.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CAPITAL WORKS IN PROGRESS				
Capital Works-in-Progress	<u>2,871,981</u>	<u>16,093,213</u>	<u>2,871,981</u>	<u>16,093,213</u>
	2,871,981	16,093,213	2,871,981	16,093,213

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

COUNCIL	2008				2009			
	\$				\$			
	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	149,550,000	-	-	149,550,000	228,712,650	-	-	228,712,650
Buildings	54,079,708	-	(2,409,711)	51,669,997	54,079,708	2,603,233	(4,783,714)	51,899,227
Infrastructure	524,302,565	-	(232,558,175)	291,744,390	524,325,357	22,171,274	(241,941,552)	304,555,079
Plant & equipment	-	12,948,784	(5,672,026)	7,276,758	-	13,704,421	(6,211,928)	7,492,493
Other assets	-	18,827,167	(7,166,654)	11,660,513	-	20,423,074	(8,219,928)	12,203,146
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	727,932,273	31,775,951	(247,806,566)	511,901,658	807,117,715	58,902,002	(261,157,122)	604,862,595
2008 Totals	196,049,187	534,238,993	(238,894,278)	491,393,902	727,932,273	31,775,951	(247,806,566)	511,901,658

CONSOLIDATED	2008				2009			
	\$				\$			
	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	149,550,000	-	-	149,550,000	228,712,650	-	-	228,712,650
Buildings	54,079,708	-	(2,409,711)	51,669,997	54,079,708	2,603,233	(4,783,714)	51,899,227
Infrastructure	524,302,565	-	(232,558,175)	291,744,390	524,325,357	22,171,274	(241,941,552)	304,555,079
Plant & equipment	-	13,429,088	(5,972,959)	7,456,129	-	14,207,413	(6,575,423)	7,631,990
Other assets	-	18,877,553	(7,200,494)	11,677,059	-	20,477,957	(8,265,629)	12,212,328
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	727,932,273	32,306,641	(248,141,339)	512,097,575	807,117,715	59,459,877	(261,566,318)	605,011,274
2008 Totals	196,049,187	534,769,683	(239,229,051)	491,589,819	727,932,273	32,306,641	(248,141,339)	512,097,575

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

COUNCIL	2008	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR					2009
	\$	\$					\$
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions New/Upgrade	Disposals	Depreciation	Transfers	Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	149,550,000	6,896,760	(1,050,000)	-	-	73,315,890	228,712,650
Buildings	51,669,997	2,603,233	-	(2,374,003)	-	-	51,899,227
Infrastructure	291,744,390	22,171,270	-	(9,378,146)	17,565	-	304,555,079
Plant & equipment	7,276,758	2,420,742	(996,393)	(1,208,614)	-	-	7,492,493
Other assets	11,660,513	1,595,907	-	(1,053,274)	-	-	12,203,146
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	511,901,658	35,687,912	(2,046,393)	(14,014,037)	17,565	73,315,890	604,862,595
2008 Totals	491,393,902	14,321,579	(703,801)	(13,292,146)		20,182,124	511,901,658

CONSOLIDATED	2008	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR					2009
	\$	\$					\$
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions New/Upgrade	Disposals	Depreciation	Transfers	Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	149,550,000	6,896,760	(1,050,000)	-	-	73,315,890	228,712,650
Buildings	51,669,997	2,603,233	-	(2,374,003)	-	-	51,899,227
Infrastructure	291,744,390	22,171,270	-	(9,378,146)	17,565	-	304,555,079
Plant & equipment	7,456,129	2,446,649	(997,063)	(1,273,725)	-	-	7,631,990
Other assets	11,677,059	1,601,963	-	(1,066,694)	-	-	12,212,328
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	512,097,575	35,719,875	(2,047,063)	(14,092,568)	17,565	73,315,890	605,011,274
2008 Totals	491,393,902	14,321,579	(703,801)	(13,292,146)	-	20,182,124	511,901,658

This Note continues on the following pages.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 7 (cont) – INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Valuation of Assets

Council has five main classes of assets being land and land improvements, buildings, plant and equipment, infrastructure and other assets.

AASB 116.36 states that revaluations should be undertaken with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the reporting date. For a class of assets subject to price escalation similar to the Consumer Price Index in recent years, revaluations should be undertaken every 3-4 years. As such, Council undertakes a revaluation of land and land improvements, buildings and infrastructure every 3 years.

Land & Land Improvements

Council being of the opinion that it is not possible to attribute a value sufficiently reliably to qualify for recognition, land under roads has not been recognised in these reports. Land acquired for road purposes during the year is initially recognised at cost, but transferred to fair value at reporting date, effectively writing off the expenditure.

An independent valuation of land and improvements was obtained by the Australian Valuation Office, Northern Territory, as at 1 July 2008. Land and improvements have been valued at "Fair Value".

Buildings

An independent valuation of buildings was obtained by the Australian Valuation Office, Northern Territory, as at 30 June 2007. Council buildings have been valued at "Fair Value".

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment is carried at cost as it is turned over regularly and therefore represents a reasonable approximation of current replacement cost.

Infrastructure

Roads, Driveways, Cyclepaths, Footpaths, and Walkways

Roads includes all earthworks, substructures, seals, kerbs and traffic devices. The valuation of roads, driveways, cyclepaths, footpaths and walkways was undertaken by Gutteridge Haskins & Davey Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2008 and was based on current unit costs derived from similar works carried out within Australia.

Drainage

The valuation of stormwater drainage was undertaken by Gutteridge Haskins & Davey Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2008 and was based on current unit costs derived from similar works carried out within Australia.

Other Infrastructure

Other infrastructure comprises of assets not able to be classified into one of the other infrastructure categories. Assets currently incorporated in this category include boat ramps, a vehicle wash down pond and inlet structure, parking meters, traffic signals and other structures such as shade structures, pergolas and the like.

The valuation of other infrastructure was undertaken by Gutteridge Haskins & Davey Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2008 and was based on current unit costs derived from similar works carried out within Australia.

Other Assets

Other assets comprise of furniture, fixtures and fittings, and is carried at cost as it is turned over regularly and therefore represents a reasonable approximation of current replacement cost.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 8 - LIABILITIES

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES				
Goods & Services	1,947,689	2,884,139	1,794,935	2,357,026
Payments received in advance	1,465,516	318,986	1,441,399	299,477
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	534,980	462,442	518,327	448,576
Accrued expenses - other	3,445,939	3,764,578	3,445,939	3,764,578
Interest In Joint Venture Operations	-	25,530	-	25,530
Other	825,035	692,162	695,340	686,441
	8,219,159	8,147,837	7,895,940	7,581,628
CURRENT BORROWINGS				
Bank Overdraft		21,206		
Loans	143,271	172,382	143,271	172,382
	143,271	193,588	143,271	172,382
NON CURRENT BORROWINGS				
Loans	4,597,632	4,746,318	4,597,632	4,746,318
	4,597,632	4,746,318	4,597,632	4,746,318
<i>All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.</i>				
CURRENT PROVISIONS				
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	4,313,321	4,290,619	4,254,505	4,225,758
	4,313,321	4,290,619	4,254,505	4,225,758
NON CURRENT PROVISIONS				
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	664,829	575,921	646,293	558,475
	664,829	575,921	646,293	558,475

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 9 - RESERVES

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	01/07/2008	Transfers to Reserve	30/06/2009
	\$	\$	\$
Land	120,128,276	73,315,893	193,444,169
Buildings	1,853,468	-	1,853,468
Roads Bridges and Footpaths	51,837,337	-	51,837,337
Stormwater Drainage	76,119,556	-	76,119,556
Other Infrastructure	17,877,129	-	17,877,129
TOTAL	267,815,766	73,315,893	341,131,659

2008 Totals	247,633,639	20,182,124	267,815,766
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OTHER RESERVES	01/07/2008	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/06/2009
Restricted Reserves				
CBD Carparking Shortfall Reserve	2,718,387	1,858,532	-	4,576,919
Other Carparking Shortfall Reserve	227,019	8,899	-	235,918
Highway/Commercial Carparking Shortfall Reserve	48,103	1,886	-	49,989
Off Street Car Parking Reserve	4,456,603	4,321,651	3,934,145	4,844,109
Waste Management Reserve	5,216,155	9,738,684	9,118,312	5,836,527
Environmental Reserve	55,002	141,733	93,459	103,276
Unexpended Grants Reserve	2,004,341	8,327,004	8,426,404	1,904,941
CBD Revitalisation Reserve [grant funding]	-	2,027,273	-	2,027,273
Prepaid Subdivisional Works Reserve	517,140	14,698	284,380	247,458
Developer Contributions	-	101,000	24,000	77,000
Total Restricted Reserves	15,242,750	26,541,360	- 21,880,700	19,903,410
Asset Maintenance & Refurbishment Reserves				
DEC Air-conditioning Replacement Reserve	23,634	144,000	-	167,634
Mindil Beach Markets Site Development Reserve	-	124,352	-	124,352
Asset Maintenance & Refurbishment Reserve	961,555	610,990	1,466,339	106,206
Roads Reseal and Overlay Reserve	377,980	-	-	377,980
Nightcliff Community Hall Reserve	50,476	11,368	30,000	31,844
Plant Replacement Reserve	303,992	3,471,548	3,676,195	99,345
Computer Residual Reserve	596,931	378,262	-	975,193
Unexpended Capital Works Reserve	4,658,413	284,639	-	4,943,052
Total Asset Maintenance & Refurbishment Reserves	6,972,981	5,025,159	- 5,172,534	6,825,606
Specific Purpose Reserves				
Disaster Contingency Reserve	1,003,531	-	50,000	953,531
Watering Reserve	400,965	-	-	400,965
Election Expense Reserve	127,465	-	-	127,465
Total Specific Purpose Reserves	1,531,961	-	- 50,000	1,481,961
Total Council Reserves	23,747,692	31,566,519	- 27,103,234	28,210,977
Darwin Entertainment Centre	103,334	42,718	-	146,052
Total Consolidated Reserves	23,851,026	31,609,237	- 27,103,234	28,357,029

2008 Totals	26,502,926	25,286,143	(27,938,043)	23,851,026
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DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 9 (cont) - RESERVES

Purposes of Reserves:

Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements arising from changes in fair value of non-current assets and available-for-sale financial assets.

Other Reserves

Restricted Reserves

Restricted reserves are identified under legislation and the use of these reserves must comply with legislative requirements.

Car Parking Shortfall Reserves

The car parking shortfall reserve holds contributions from property developers for the provision of carparking.

Off Street Parking Reserve

The off street parking reserve holds funds from on and off street car parking operations to allow for future developments of car parking in the CBD.

Waste Management Reserve

The waste management reserve holds funds in the cleansing operations and is set aside for the future development of the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal site or alternative waste disposal methods.

Environmental Reserve

The environmental reserve has been created for future environmental projects relating to Council's Environmental Management Plan and other associated plans.

Unexpended Grants Reserve

The unexpended grants reserve holds unspent grants and contributions received subject to specific expenditure requirements. The funds are held in this reserve until expended in accordance with the grant conditions.

Prepaid Subdivisional Works Reserve

The prepaid subdivisional works reserve holds funds that will be used for specific subdivisional works.

All Other Reserves

All other reserves are generally identified by Council resolution or operational requirements for funds set aside for the future replacement or renewal of major assets or for unanticipated major expenditure such as a natural disaster. These reserves are not required under legislation and if required, can be utilised by the Council for other purposes.

Asset Maintenance & Refurbishment Reserves

Asset maintenance & refurbishment reserves are funds reserved for the future maintenance of Council's major assets.

Plant Replacement Reserve

The plant replacement reserve holds funds to meet the cost of replacement of plant. The balance is based on the anticipated required amount identified in Council's plant replacement program.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 9 (cont) - RESERVES

Computer Replacement Reserve

The computer replacement reserve holds funds that will be used to replace or develop major computer infrastructure.

Unexpended Capital Works Reserve

The unexpended capital works reserve holds funds relating to capital works that have not been completed in the current financial year but have been identified to be completed in a future period.

Disaster Contingency Reserve

The disaster contingency reserve holds funds to provide for possible insurance and other expenses associated with responding to a natural disaster.

Watering Reserve

The watering reserve holds funds to provide for future costs associated with irrigating Council's parks and gardens.

Election Expense Reserve

The election expense reserve holds funds to provide for holding the next Council election.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 10 - ASSETS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS

The uses of the following assets are restricted, wholly or partially, by legislation or other externally imposed requirements. The assets are required to be utilised for the purposes for which control was transferred to Council, or for which the revenues were originally obtained.

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CASH & FINANCIAL ASSETS				
Unexpended amounts received from other levels of Government	3,932,214	2,004,341	3,932,214	2,004,341
Domestic Waste Management	5,836,527	5,216,155	5,836,527	5,216,155
Parking	4,862,826	2,993,509	4,862,826	2,993,509
	14,631,567	10,214,005	14,631,567	10,214,005
RECEIVABLES				
Domestic Waste Management	829,424	926,199	829,424	926,199
Parking	252,917	37,995	252,917	37,995
	1,082,341	964,194	1,082,341	964,194
TOTAL ASSETS SUBJECT TO EXTERNALLY IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS	15,713,908	11,178,199	15,713,908	11,178,199

Unexpended amounts received from other levels of Government

This restricted asset represents funding amounts received from other levels of Government that were not expended as at 30 June 2009. All unexpended funding has been identified to be utilised in the 2009/2010 financial year.

Domestic Waste Management

This restricted asset represents reserved funding from waste management operations that is required to provide for future upgrades of the Shoal Bay Waste Management site and for possible future compliance obligations.

Parking

This restricted asset represents reserved funding from car parking shortfall operations that is required to provide for the upgrade of existing parking facilities and construction of new parking facilities in the future.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash Assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Cash Flow Statement is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total cash & equivalent assets	16,716,126	13,190,648	16,037,581	12,314,853
Balances per Cash Flow Statement	16,716,126	13,190,648	16,037,581	12,314,853

(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash from Operating Activities

Net Deficit	10,034,724	8,765,781	10,093,719	8,694,950
Non-cash items in Income Statement				
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	14,092,568	13,358,067	14,014,037	13,292,146
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits	111,610	219,235	116,565	200,666
Non-cash asset acquisitions	(11,376,076)	(14,339,317)	(11,376,076)	(14,339,317)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals	(373,231)	47,227	(373,901)	47,227
	12,489,595	8,050,993	12,474,344	7,895,672
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets				
Net (increase) decrease in receivables	(76,198)	(74,183)	(149,403)	27,770
Net (increase) decrease in inventories	(8,975)	(9,062)	(15,914)	(4,966)
Net (increase) decrease in other current assets	816,412	(304,756)	812,898	(337,564)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables	626,149	(139,505)	993,113	(385,019)
Net increase (decrease) in other provisions	56,517	36,056	56,517	36,056
Net increase (decrease) in other liabilities	132,873	27,692	8,899	21,971
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations	14,036,373	7,587,235	14,180,454	7,253,920

(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

Acquisition of assets by means of:

- Physical resources received free of charge	11,376,076	14,339,317	11,376,076	14,339,317
Amounts recognised in Income Statement	11,376,076	14,339,317	11,376,076	14,339,317

(d) Financing Arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Bank Overdrafts	500,000	521,206	500,000	500,000
Corporate Credit Cards	62,000	42,000	62,000	42,000

The bank overdraft facilities may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 12 - FUNCTIONS

REVENUES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES															
GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES			PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY			ECONOMIC AFFAIRS			ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES			
BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	
2009	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008	
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
OPERATING REVENUES															
Rates	37,324,413	37,347,205	34,478,345	-	-	891,633	1,718,293	929,514	4,660,704	4,687,510	4,531,910	-	-	-	
Statutory & User Charges	141,301	173,093	134,508	568,985	479,915	400,009	4,019,485	3,974,466	4,504,094	4,841,875	4,615,307	126,378	225,839	411,639	
Grants - NT recurrent	1,862,473	1,861,385	1,979,886	-	-	-	1,624,294	1,502,194	236,904	210,263	241,833	13,800	13,800	49,989	
Grants - NT capital	-	-	12,170	-	-	-	2,404,599	1,407,587	73,000	73,000	-	232,074	20,000	-	
Grants - Cwltb recurrent	-	-	14,869	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Grants - Cwltb capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	410,274	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Contributions & Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,000	101,000	211,049	
Investment Income	2,218,997	1,817,588	2,044,031	-	-	-	329,814	539,715	236,670	220,162	378,654	-	14,698	-	
Reimbursements & Other Revenues	1,118,561	190,958	203,827	-	-	-	1,719,000	484,900	62,976	55,035	495	397,146	11,653,538	14,867,564	
Total	42,665,745	41,390,229	38,867,636	568,985	479,915	400,009	10,659,011	11,599,499	9,248,650	9,774,348	10,087,845	9,768,199	825,398	12,028,875	15,540,241
OPERATING EXPENSES															
Employee Costs	6,547,875	6,609,152	5,761,944	657,227	757,197	857,767	3,656,633	3,559,549	3,484,111	1,553,332	1,858,471	1,470,822	1,094,677	1,134,992	1,014,600
Materials, Contracts & Other	2,587,319	3,030,738	2,705,039	442,091	526,957	1,128,757	5,564,446	6,812,742	9,242,509	10,992,787	11,109,495	11,172,011	1,933,148	1,450,695	1,178,216
Interest Charges	365,268	315,025	400,162	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	-	3,582,616	3,339,032	-	-	-	-	5,524,636	5,321,448	-	4,026,035	3,856,313	-	-	-
Total	9,500,462	13,537,531	12,206,177	1,099,318	1,284,154	1,986,524	9,221,079	15,896,927	18,048,068	12,546,119	16,994,001	16,499,146	3,027,825	2,585,687	2,192,816
TOTALS	33,165,283	27,852,698	26,661,459	(530,333)	(804,239)	(1,586,515)	1,437,932	(4,297,428)	(8,799,418)	(2,771,771)	(6,906,156)	(6,730,947)	(2,202,427)	9,443,188	13,347,425
TOTAL ASSETS UTILISED		321,248,695	246,504,125		-	-		160,229,483	160,637,182		150,699,771	141,608,798		3,759,947	5,371,567

HEALTH			RECREATION, CULTURE & RELIGION			EDUCATION			SOCIAL PROTECTION			ELIMINATIONS		TOTAL		
BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
2009	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING REVENUES																
Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,876,750	43,753,008	39,939,769
Statutory & User Charges	-	-	-	541,537	2,191,215	2,182,268	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,901,780	12,111,734	11,718,197
Grants - NT recurrent	-	-	-	1,753,732	1,769,862	1,636,763	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,491,203	5,479,604	5,410,665
Grants - NT capital	-	-	-	172,723	172,727	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,882,396	2,847,400	1,419,757
Grants - Cwltb recurrent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,869
Grants - Cwltb capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	410,274
Contributions & Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,000	101,000	211,049
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	9,813	27,789	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,455,667	2,392,075	2,990,189
Reimbursements & Other Revenues	-	-	-	63,754	58,576	70,601	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,361,437	13,103,735	15,627,387
Total	-	-	-	2,531,746	4,202,193	3,917,421	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67,025,233	79,788,556	77,742,156
OPERATING EXPENSES																
Employee Costs	-	-	-	6,936,291	8,051,961	7,148,236	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,446,035	21,971,322	19,737,480
Materials, Contracts & Other	-	-	-	10,357,904	10,444,290	10,054,134	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,877,695	33,374,917	35,480,666
Interest Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	365,268	315,025	400,162
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	-	-	-	-	959,281	841,274	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,092,568	13,358,067
Total	-	-	-	17,294,195	19,455,532	18,043,644	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,688,998	69,753,832	68,976,375
TOTALS	-	-	-	(14,762,449)	(15,253,339)	(14,126,223)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,336,235	10,034,724	8,765,781
TOTAL ASSETS UTILISED					13,698,347	13,355,689									649,636,243	567,477,361

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 12 (cont) - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

General Public Services

Focussed on internal governance, organisational, and administrative services. It includes the following programs:

Legislative and Executive – Implement policy, coordinate activities, support to Elected Members.

Administration - provide leadership and direction of Council's corporate programs and ensure sufficient and effective service delivery to all internal and external customers.

Public Order & Safety

Concerned with programs and services that deal with nuisance, safety and public behaviour. It includes the following programs:

Control of Domestic Animals – administer a responsible dog control program and educate the community in the responsible ownership of animals.

Other Public Order – promote responsible and safe use of public places.

Economic Affairs

Support for organisations and events that generate economic activity beneficial to Darwin. It includes the following program:

Economic Development - Support the local economy, implement business and investment strategies for Council.

Road transport – manage, maintain and develop road infrastructure.

Parking – facilitate and supply a sufficient amount of on-street and off street parking.

Other Transportation – provide and maintain footpaths, cycleway and access for people with disabilities.

Environmental Protection

Programs that deal with the natural environment, waste management and street cleaning, It includes the following programs:

Environment – monitoring and protection of foreshores within the municipality and the minimisation of the potential for mosquito breeding on Council's land in conjunction with Territory Health Services.

Waste Management – To collect and dispose of commercial and domestic waste in an efficient and environmentally safe manner and to provide for and encourage recycling wherever possible.

Sanitation – Maintain an anti-litter campaign and ensure that street cleaning is in accordance with community requirements.

Housing & Community Amenities

Functions and programs that deliver infrastructure, regulate activity and support community groups. It includes the following programs:

Community Development – review and comment on town planning matters, provide community services to special needs populations and assistance to community organisations, and foster and promote international understanding through Council's Sister Cities relationships.

Community Amenities – Management of urban infrastructure such as public toilets and memorials, and provide for the maintenance and upkeep of cemeteries within the municipality.

Recreation, Culture and Religion

Provision of sporting, recreation and cultural facilities, youth services, and the support of festivals. It includes the following programs:

Recreation Facilities – maintain sporting areas, recreation programs and public swimming pools.

Parks – maintain parks, reserves and beaches.

Cultural Services – Deliver library services and support the Darwin Entertainment Centre and other cultural activities.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Recognised Financial Instruments

Bank, Deposits at Call & Short Term Deposits	<p>Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values; Interest is recognised when earned.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 3.25% and 6.65% (2008: 6.35% and 8.40%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 38.55 days and an average interest rates of 3.92% (2008: 51.74 days, 8.27%).</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.</p>
Receivables Rates & Associated Charges (including legals & penalties for late payment)	<p>Accounting Policy: Carried at amortised cost less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 18.00% (2008: 18.00%) Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).</p>
Receivables Fees & other charges	<p>Accounting Policy: Carried at amortised cost less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any provision).</p>
Liabilities Creditors and Accruals	<p>Accounting Policy: Liabilities are recognised at their amortised cost for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value.</p>
Liabilities Interest Bearing Loans	<p>Accounting Policy: Carried at their amortised cost. Interest is charged as an expense as it accrues.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: secured over future revenues, loans are repayable by equal 6 monthly instalments of principal & interest; interest is charged at fixed rates of 6.62% (2008: 6.62%)</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value.</p>

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Risk Exposures

Credit Risk

Credit risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any provision for doubtful debts. In accordance with regulations, all Council investments are made with authorised deposit taking institutions. Except as detailed in Notes 5 & 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that fair values of financial assets will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. All of Council's financial assets are denominated in Australian dollars and are not traded on any market, and hence neither market risk nor currency risk apply.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that Council will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. Liabilities have a range of maturity dates based on cash inflows. Council also has available a range of bank overdraft and short-term draw down facilities that it can access.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Most of Council's financial instruments - both assets and liabilities - are at fixed rates. Any such variations in future cash flows will not be material in effect on either Council incomes or expenditures.

Net Fair Value

All carrying values approximate fair value for all recognised financial instruments. There is no recognised market for the financial assets of the Council.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

COUNCIL	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
2009	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets					
Cash Assets	16,037,581	-	-	16,037,581	16,037,581
Other Financial Assets	21,858,432	-	-	21,858,432	21,858,432
Loans & Receivables	2,614,571	-	-	2,614,571	2,614,571
Total	40,510,584	-	-	40,510,584	40,510,584
2008	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets					
Cash Assets	12,314,853	-	-	12,314,853	12,314,853
Other Financial Assets	22,110,239	-	-	22,110,239	22,110,239
Loans & Receivables	2,997,303	-	-	2,997,303	2,997,303
Total	37,422,395	-	-	37,422,395	37,422,395

	30 June 2009		30 June 2008	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
	%	\$	%	\$
Non Interest Bearing	-	1,890,325	-	3,272,807
Variable Rates	3.25%	6,539,520	6.35%	1,564,894
Fixed Interest Rates	3.92%	32,080,739	8.27%	32,584,694
		40,510,584		37,422,395

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

COUNCIL	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
2009	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	3,931,674	-	-	3,931,674	3,931,674
Current Borrowings	143,271	-	-	143,271	143,271
Non-Current Borrowings	-	674,450	3,923,182	4,597,632	4,597,632
Total	4,074,945	674,450	3,923,182	8,672,577	8,672,577
2008	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	3,342,944	-	-	3,342,944	3,342,944
Current Borrowings	172,382	-	-	172,382	172,382
Non-Current Borrowings	-	782,270	3,964,048	4,746,318	4,746,318
Total	3,515,326	782,270	3,964,048	8,261,644	8,261,644

	30 June 2009		30 June 2008	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
	%	\$	%	\$
Non Interest Bearing	-	3,931,674	-	3,342,944
Variable Rates	-	-	-	-
Fixed Interest Rates	6.62%	4,740,903	6.62%	4,918,700
		8,672,577		8,261,644

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Interest Rate Risk

At balance date the Council had the following financial assets exposed to Australian variable interest rate risk.

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Cash	6,539,520	1,564,894

The table below details the interest rate sensitivity analysis of the Council at the reporting date holding all other variables constant. A 50 basis point change is deemed to be a possible change and is used when reporting interest rate risk.

	Change	2009		Effect On	
		Profit or Loss	Equity	Profit or Loss	Equity
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Risk Variable: Interest	+ 0.5%	32,698	32,698	7,824	7,824
	- 0.5%	(32,698)	(32,698)	(7,824)	(7,824)

Credit Risk

	Not Past Due or Impaired		Past Due or Impaired	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rates Receivables	384,003	621,856	427,158	366,579
Other Receivables	1,380,000	877,736	601,012	614,093
Total	1,764,003	1,499,592	1,028,170	980,672

Ageing of Receivables that are past due but not impaired.

2009	Overdue	0-30 Days	31-60 Days	61-90 Days	90+ Days
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rates Receivables	427,158				
Other Receivables		74,183	355,033	43,025	128,771
Total	427,158	74,183	355,033	43,025	128,771

2008	Overdue	0-30 Days	31-60 Days	61-90 Days	90+ Days
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rates Receivables	366,579				
Other Receivables		36,185	390,301	90,052	97,555
Total	366,579	36,185	390,301	90,052	97,555

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

CONSOLIDATED	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
2009	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets					
Cash Assets	16,716,126	-	-	16,716,126	16,716,126
Other Financial Assets	21,858,432	-	-	21,858,432	21,858,432
Loans & Receivables	2,698,155	-	-	2,698,155	2,698,155
Total	41,272,713	-	-	41,272,713	41,272,713
2008	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets					
Cash Assets	13,190,648	-	-	13,190,648	13,190,648
Other Financial Assets	22,110,239	-	-	22,110,239	22,110,239
Loans & Receivables	3,154,092	-	-	3,154,092	3,154,092
Total	38,454,979	-	-	38,454,979	38,454,979
30 June 2009			30 June 2008		
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value		Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
	%	\$		%	\$
Non Interest Bearing	-	1,979,489		-	3,435,281
Variable Rates	3.25%	7,212,485		6.35%	2,435,004
Fixed Interest Rates	3.92%	32,080,739		8.27%	32,584,694
		41,272,713			38,454,979

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

CONSOLIDATED	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
2009	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	4,238,240	-	-	4,238,240	4,238,240
Current Borrowings	143,271	-	-	143,271	143,271
Non-Current Borrowings	-	674,450	3,923,182	4,597,632	4,597,632
Total	4,381,511	674,450	3,923,182	8,979,143	8,979,143
2008	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	3,895,287	-	-	3,895,287	3,895,287
Current Borrowings	193,588	-	-	193,588	193,588
Non-Current Borrowings	-	782,270	3,964,048	4,746,318	4,746,318
Total	4,088,875	782,270	3,964,048	8,835,193	8,835,193
30 June 2009			30 June 2008		
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value		Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
	%	\$		%	\$
Non Interest Bearing	-	4,238,240		-	3,895,287
Variable Rates	-	-		-	21,206
Fixed Interest Rates	6.62%	4,740,903		6.62%	4,918,700
		8,979,143			8,835,193

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Interest Rate Risk

At balance date the consolidated reporting entity had the following financial assets exposed to Australian variable interest rate risk.

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Cash	7,212,485	2,435,004

The table below details the interest rate sensitivity analysis of the consolidated reporting entity at the reporting date holding all other variables constant. A 50 basis point change is deemed to be a possible change and is used when reporting interest rate risk.

	Change	2009		Effect On	
		Profit or Loss	Equity	Profit or Loss	Equity
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Risk Variable: Interest	+ 0.5%	36,062	36,062	12,175	12,175
	- 0.5%	(36,062)	(36,062)	(12,175)	(12,175)

Credit Risk

	Not Past Due or Impaired		Past Due or Impaired	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rates Receivables	384,003	621,856	427,158	366,579
Other Receivables	1,380,000	877,736	601,012	614,093
Total	1,764,003	1,499,592	1,028,170	980,672

Ageing of Receivables that are past due but not impaired.

2009	Overdue	0-30 Days	31-60 Days	61-90 Days	90+ Days
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rates Receivables	427,158				
Other Receivables		74,183	355,033	43,025	128,771
Total	427,158	74,183	355,033	43,025	128,771

2008	Overdue	0-30 Days	31-60 Days	61-90 Days	90+ Days
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rates Receivables	366,579				
Other Receivables		36,185	390,301	90,052	97,555
Total	366,579	36,185	390,301	90,052	97,555

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Capital Commitments				
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:				
Land	2,660,064	290,909	2,660,064	290,909
Buildings	160,000	677,830	160,000	677,830
Plant & Equipment	251,772	-	251,772	-
	3,071,836	968,739	3,071,836	968,739
These expenditures are payable:				
Not later than one year	3,071,836	968,739	3,071,836	968,739
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	-	-	-	-
Later than 5 years	-	-	-	-
	3,071,836	968,739	3,071,836	968,739
Other Expenditure Commitments				
Other expenditure committed for (excluding inventories) at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:				
Audit Services	89,332	-	89,332	-
Waste Management Services	25,180,051	33,024,823	25,180,051	33,024,823
Employee Remuneration Contracts	8,338,977	5,756,032	8,338,977	5,756,032
Maintenance	7,107,934	11,845,825	7,107,934	11,845,825
Other	4,139,799	4,418,721	4,139,799	4,418,721
	44,856,093	55,045,401	44,856,093	55,045,401
These expenditures are payable:				
Not later than one year	15,005,005	18,325,121	15,005,005	18,325,121
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	22,752,200	29,634,737	22,752,200	29,634,737
Later than 5 years	7,098,888	7,085,543	7,098,888	7,085,543
	44,856,093	55,045,401	44,856,093	55,045,401

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 15 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Current Ratio				
<u>Current Assets - Externally Restricted Assets</u>	2.1:1	2.2:1	2.1:1	2.3:1
Current Liabilities				
Debt Service Ratio				
<u>Net Debt Service Cost</u>	126:1	123:1	128:1	115:1
Operating Revenue*				
* as defined				
Rate Coverage Percentage				
<u>Rate Revenues</u>	60%	58%	62%	59%
Total Revenues				
Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage				
<u>Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding</u>	1.81%	2.42%	1.81%	2.42%
Rates & Annual Charges Collectible				

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 16 - OPERATING LEASES

Leases providing revenue to the Council

Council owns various buildings, plant and other facilities that are available for hire or lease (on a non-cancellable basis wherever practicable) in accordance with the published revenue policy. Rentals received from such leases are disclosed as rent and hire of non-investment property in Note 2.

Lessees commitments under all non-cancellable lease agreements are as follows:

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Not later than one year	677,654	666,537	677,654	666,537
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	1,639,184	2,078,803	1,639,184	2,078,803
Later than 5 years	414,049	652,084	414,049	652,084
	<u>2,730,887</u>	<u>3,397,424</u>	<u>2,730,887</u>	<u>3,397,424</u>

Lease payment commitments of Council

Council has entered into non-cancellable operating leases for various items of computer and other plant and equipment.

No lease imposes any additional restrictions on Council in relation to additional debt or further leasing.

Leases in relation to computer and office equipment permit Council, at expiry of the lease, to elect to re-lease, return or acquire the equipment leased.

No lease contains any escalation clause.

Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases that have not been recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

	Consolidated		Council	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Not later than one year	160,211	154,980	160,211	154,980
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	114,046	210,183	114,046	210,183
Later than 5 years	4,130	-	4,130	-
	<u>278,387</u>	<u>365,163</u>	<u>278,387</u>	<u>365,163</u>

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 17 - CONTROLLED ENTITIES

DARWIN PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (Darwin Entertainment Centre)

The consolidated accounts of the economic entity include the accounts of the Darwin City Council, being the chief entity and the Darwin Performing Arts Centre, its controlled entity. The balances and effects of transactions between controlled entities included in the consolidated accounts have been eliminated.

Darwin Performing Arts Centre is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The Articles of Association state that the Board of Directors shall not be less than three nor more than seven, five of whom are appointed by the Darwin City Council and two of whom are elected by the ordinary members of the company. Furthermore, the company may not be wound up without the approval of the Darwin City Council.

The Memorandum of Lease between the Darwin City Council and Darwin Performing Arts Centre for the premises provides that the Darwin City Council may examine the books and records of Darwin Performing Arts Centre to satisfy itself as to the standard of business being carried on from the premises.

The Deed of Agreement between the Northern Territory and the Darwin City Council acknowledges that the Darwin City Council is responsible for the operation of the Darwin Performing Arts Centre and Council indemnifies the Northern Territory for any deficit beyond the agreed level of funding.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 18 - JOINT VENTURES & ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

Thorak Regional Cemetery

Council was a joint venturer in the operation of Thorak Regional Cemetery with Litchfield Shire Council. Council withdrew from this joint venture on 1 July 2008. The Thorak Regional Cemetery is now solely managed by Litchfield Shire Council.

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Thorak Regional Cemetery		
Council's respective interests are:		
- interest in outputs of the joint operation	-	81%
- ownership interest in the joint operation	-	81%
- the proportion of voting power in the joint operation	-	81%
<u>Movements in Investment in Joint Operation</u>	\$	\$
Opening Balance	1,175,664	915,351
New Capital Contributions	-	-
Share in Operating Result	-	260,313
Distributions Received	-	-
Adjustment to Equity Share	(1,175,664)	-
Share in Equity of Joint Operation	<u>-</u>	<u>1,175,664</u>

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 19 - CONTINGENCIES & ASSETS & LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position but knowledge of those items is considered relevant to user of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

BANK GUARANTEES

In conjunction with Palmerston City Council, Council has guaranteed a loan for the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory for the purchase of their business premises. Council's guarantee amounts to \$200,000 (2008: \$200,000) at reporting date. Council does not expect to incur any loss arising from this guarantee.

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2009

Note 20 - MONIES HELD IN TRUST

The Darwin City Council only performs a custodial role in respect of these monies and as they are subject to control outside of Council, they are not brought to account in these financial statements. Trust cash is held in a non-interest bearing account at the Commonwealth Bank.

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Balance of Trust Account	667,876	674,981
Comprising of:		
Security deposits	581,022	588,467
Steve Abala Role Model Funds	84,164	83,824
Other monies held in trust	2,690	2,690
TOTAL	<u>667,876</u>	<u>674,981</u>



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Independent auditor's report to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of Darwin City Council

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Darwin City Council (the Council), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2009, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes set out on pages 9 to 55.

Accountable Officer's responsibility for the financial report

The Accountable Officer of the Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Northern Territory of Australia Local Government Act (Local Government Act). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We performed the procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the Local Government Act and Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Council's financial position and of its performance.



We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements, and the Local Government Act.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion:

(a) the financial report of Darwin City Council is in accordance with the Northern Territory of Australia Local Government Act, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2009 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Northern Territory of Australia Local Government (Accounting) Regulations.

KPMG

KPMG

Clive Garland
Partner

Darwin

3 November 2009





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