



Darwin City Council Annual Report 2009 - 2010



Cover page

2009/2010 Darwin City Council Annual Report

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Lord Mayor's Message

The 20th Darwin City Council continues to work towards achieving our “Evolving Darwin: Towards 2020 and Beyond” Strategic Plan. The Plan sets out Council's vision for the municipality, the high level goals and outcomes that we want to achieve and the strategies that we have implemented to achieve this. Regular reports are produced to demonstrate Council's progress against this plan.

Darwin City Council has many high-level projects that are currently in various stages of development. These projects includes the planning of the Cavenagh Street car park and road works, the Youth Energy Precinct and the Parap Recreational master planning. In order to these projects it's important that Council continues to strengthen relationships with our neighbouring councils, the Northern Territory Government and the Australian Government. This is being achieved through participation in various forums such as:-

- TOPROC (Top End Regional Organisation of Councils) which is made up of the Darwin, Palmerston, Litchfield and Wagait Councils. TOPROC members work together on mutually beneficial activities that ensure that our communities are productive, sustainable, livable and socially inclusive and are well placed to meet future challenges and growth. Regular agenda items include regional development, including the progression of a regional waste management facility and climate change implications.
- The Capital City Committee which includes the Chief Minister, the Minister for Lands and Planning, Aldermen, Darwin City Council CEO, the Property Council and the Chamber of Commerce. Outcomes from this forum include funding assistance for the MY0800 City Centre Revitalisation, the secure taxi rank in Mitchell St, the graffiti removal service level agreement, just to name a few.
- The Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM) brings together the Australian Government and capital cities to progress initiatives to build national prosperity.

Darwin City Council is currently the ‘host city’ for the CCCLM. This has proven to be both challenging and exciting. The major agenda item this year for the CCCLM was it's submission to the Australian Government's National Urban Policy. Australia is now the most urbanised nation in the world and we all recognise that Australia is facing serious challenges in regards to climate change and a growing and ageing population. As Australia's population and economic hubs, our cities are at the forefront of these challenges. The capacity of our major cities to manage change and accommodate growth will determine the quality of life and economic prosperity of all Australians. A National Urban Policy will help prepare our cities for the future and collaborative partnerships are crucial.

I was proud to Chair the National Urban Summit in May which was held at Parliament House in Canberra, where the CCCLM “Towards a City Strategy”, National Urban policy submission was launched. The summit was attended by Australian Government Ministers and department head, all capital cities and a number of Australia's major cities.

During the year Council staff have completed Stage 1 of the Connecting Darwin: Building New Cycle Linkages. This project delivered new on and off street cyclepaths, additional bike parking facilities and water bubblers and way finding signage and was supported by funding from the Australian Government. Stage 2 of this project is

scheduled for later in 2010 and will deliver an additional 350 metres of shared pathway in East Point.

Council undertook a community Satisfaction Survey in July 2009 and in response to the results of the survey, implemented a number of improvement strategies. One of these was the introduction of a quarterly newsletter for residents entitled “My Darwin” The newsletter is a new means of keeping our community informed of key projects and Council services.

The list of Council activities is long and varied, most of which are outlined within this report, but I would like to highlight just two more.

Firstly, Council delivered another successful Bombing of Darwin Commemoration on the 19th February. Council is committed to raising the national profile of this historic event as we move towards the 70th anniversary in 2012.

Also, in this Year of Women in Local Government, Council is proud to be a gold partner. The “Year” is about raising the awareness of the significant role women play in the effectiveness and long term health of local government and the need to increase their participation.

We are now over half way through the four year term of this Council. As shown throughout this report much has been achieved so far, however there is still plenty left that this Council can achieve in order to make a positive impact for our community.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Aldermen and Council’s dedicated staff for their continued commitment and dedication. I also would like to thank all of the volunteers who contribute their time and efforts in assisting Council in a number of ways.

(insert electronic signature)

Graeme Sawyer
LORD MAYOR

Chief Executive Officer's Message

In 2009/2010 the focus has been on further improving governance processes and systems and through the development of partnerships, maximising grant funding.

Governance projects included:-

- The development of a revised policies and procedures framework. The integrated framework assures stakeholders that Council is pursuing its objectives and fulfilling its responsibilities with due diligence and accountability;
- Following the adoption of the framework, all 330 Council policies were reviewed and rationalised into just over 50 new policies. The revised framework enables the community to more easily locate policy information whilst at the same time increasing organisational efficiency;
- An independent review of financial sustainability. Council engaged Access Economics who determined that Darwin City Council is financially sustainable;
- An independent review of asset management. Council commissioned Jeff Roorda & Associates to undertake a review of Council's asset management practices. The review found that Darwin City Council is in the Top 20 of Australian Councils;
- An independent review of rating. Council commissioned Access Economics to review the rating system to ensure its ongoing efficiency and effectiveness. As a consequence of the review, further investigation will be undertaken into the possibility of changing from 'Unimproved Capital value (UCV) to "Improved Capital Value (ICV);
- Development of an organisational wide risk management framework, which considers strategic and operational risk has commenced; and
- Review of elector representation. Council has commenced a review of elector representation which will be completed and submitted to the Minister in March 2011.

In terms of grant funding, Council has been successful in obtaining a total of \$13.1 million in grants funds which is a record for Darwin City Council.

As a consequence, projects such as the MY0800 City Centre Revitalisation and the upgrade of the bicycle facilities have been able to proceed.

Another important project for Darwin City Council was the development of our new website. The new website has already scored the highest rating in a website useability study of Australia's capital City Council's websites.

This is just a very small snapshot of the work that has been undertaken throughout 2009/2010 and, I would like to congratulate and thank Darwin City Council for their dedication and commitment.

We are well placed to go forward into 2010/2011 with confidence.

(insert electronic signature)

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 grown into a thriving, vibrant destination, renowned for its tropical lifestyle 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 23,161¹ 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 March 2010*) shows that the current estimated resident population for the Darwin municipality has grown to 75,908, representing an increase of nearly 3% from last year.

124,800 people now reside in the "Darwin Statistical Division" (incorporating the three statistical sub divisions of Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield), an increase of 3,700 people or 3.1% since 2008. The Darwin Statistical Division (SD) was one of the top ten fastest growing SDs in Australia in 2008-09.

Between June 2008 and June 2009, all three statistical sub divisions (SSD) within Darwin SD continued to experience population growth. The fastest growth was in Palmerston-East Arm (4.5%). In the 12 month period to June 2009, the SSD of Darwin City experienced the largest population growth of all SSDs in the Northern Territory. Darwin increased to 75,908 people which accounted for a third of the Northern Territory population. The largest growth within this SSD occurred in the Statistical Local Areas of City - Inner (up 430 people or 13.3%) and Lee Point-Leanyer (300 people or 112.8%). The growth in Lee Point-Leanyer can be attributed to residents moving into the new suburb of Lyons.

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.

¹ This figure is per the 2006 Census data

	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	-	

Source: ABS 2006 Census data, based on usual place of residence

Darwin Economy

The Darwin and Northern Territory economies have had a positive year.

As at 30 June 2010, the Northern Territory continued to have a much lower unemployment rate than the Australian average - 2.7% as compared to 5.2%. The participation rate in the Northern Territory was 72.4% versus the Australian average of 65.3%.

It is predicted that the Territory economy is set to experience the second highest growth in Australia over the next five years. As at 30 June 2010 Access Economics forecast annual economic growth for 2010/2011 in the Territory to average 4.0% over the next five years compared to 3.2% nationally. Access Economics' June 2010 Quarter Business Outlook publication, estimates the Territory's gross state product (GSP) for 2009/2010 to have increased by 1%. The upward revision is a result of better than anticipated private equipment investment.

The Darwin Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 3.2% since last year, just slightly up from the Australian average of 3.1%. The main contributors to the annual increase in Darwin's CPI were housing (1.58 percentage points), tobacco and alcohol (0.86 percentage points) and financial and insurance services (0.36 percentage points). Darwin has the equal second highest (with Brisbane) annual inflation rate of the capital cities behind Perth at 3.5%. At 2.3% Canberra had the lowest inflation in 2009/2010.

In annual terms, seasonally adjusted retail trade turnover in the Territory increased by 4.4% in July 2010. This was the third highest growth rate of the jurisdictions behind Victoria (6.5%) and New South Wales (4.9%). Tasmania was the only jurisdiction to record a decline in retail trade over this period (-1.0%). Year on year growth in the Territory was driven by increases in the following categories:-

- Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and toiletries (up 14.2%);
- Other recreational goods (up by 17.6%);
- Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food (up 21.8%) and

- Household good retailing (up 6.5%).

This growth was partially offset by a decrease in newspaper and book retailing (down 31.5%).

The number of recorded sale of houses within the Darwin municipality is down 13.9% from 2008/2009 with the overall median house price being \$555,000, up 3.3% from last year. However, there has been an exceptional increase in the price of houses within the inner city – currently \$747,747, a rise of 22%. The number of unit sales within the Darwin municipality in 2009/2010 also decreased by 13% when compared to 2008/2009, with the majority of the decrease occurring within inner Darwin. Overall the median unit price has increased by over 14% within the municipality to \$437,500. The northern suburbs saw the biggest increase (21.14%) in the sale price.

In the rental market the cost of renting a 3 bedroom house in inner Darwin is currently \$723 per week an increase of just 3.3% from last year.

The commercial and residential building industry is still very strong. Throughout 2009/2010 the number of dwelling units approved in the Northern Territory was 1,344, up by 36.4% from 2008/2009. Council's own data reports that 390 development applications were reviewed by Council staff in 2009/2010.

The latest ABS data shows that Territorians are earning 8.7% more than the same period last year. As at May 2010, total earnings in the Northern Territory was \$1044.80 per week per person compared to the national average of \$982.80 which rose by 6.4% since last year.

The latest national regional Profile released by the ABS in April 2010 shows the total number of businesses in Darwin is 8,820 (as at 2007). This represents a growth of 7.2% from 2006.

Of these 8,820 businesses 5,472 (62%) are classified as 'non employing businesses', 1,905 (21.6%) employ between 1-4 employees and the remaining 1,443 (16.4%) employ more than five workers.

Highlights and Achievements

1. Council partnered with the NT Government and Charles Darwin University and other stakeholders to deliver the Darwin 200 program of events, celebrating 200 years since Charles Darwin birth throughout 2009.
2. An independent assessment of Council's financial sustainability was completed, demonstrating that Council is in a positive financial position
3. Council secured more than \$13m in Federal and Territory Government and private sector grant funding. Grant funding allows Council to implement key projects without any additional burden on our rate payers.
4. In partnership with the Australian Government, Council delivered new on and off street cyclepaths, additional bike racks and water bubblers along the cyclepaths, way finding signage and secure bike parking in the central business district. In partnership with the NT Government, the project also included the development of the Cyclepath Strategy
5. Council's \$8.1m project – the City Centre Revitalisation Project (branded MY0800) commenced, with Knuckey Street completed. Knuckey Street is the key pedestrian cross road in Darwin's central business district, which has now been transformed into a tree lined street with improved ground works and stone and timber seating, creating a more pleasant retail environment.
6. Darwin has by far the highest percentage of homeless in Australia. In recognition of this, Council, in partnership with the community services sector, hosted its inaugural "Homeless Connect" event to coincide with World Health day. 58 service providers participated in addition to a number of local businesses who donated goods. The aim of the event was to connect people who are homeless with service providers.
7. Council provided \$100,000 to local community organisations through its Community Grants Program
8. Council supported a variety of community events through the provisions of in-kind services including small cash donations, fee waivers for the use of Council facilities, subsidised hire of equipment and direct service provision of face painters and Council's Fun Bus.
9. Council launched its new website which has already scored the highest rating in a website usability study of Australia's Capital City websites.
10. Council launched its new "My Darwin" quarterly residents magazine as a new mechanism of keeping the community informed about key projects, events and Council services
11. Darwin's population grew by nearly 3% with the estimated resident population of the municipality now 75,908
12. Council continued to maintain its 673 hectares of green space, 442 kms of roads, 372 kms of footpaths, 63 kms of cyclepaths, 385 kms of stormwater pipes and 17,800 driveways.

Elected Members

The Lord Mayor, Graeme Sawyer
PO Box 84, Darwin NT 0801
Mobile: 0411 881 378
Email: lord.mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au



Chan Ward

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



Alderman Bob Elix
Mobile: 0417 800 332
Email: bobelix@bigpond.com



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



The Late Alderman Greg Jarvis (March 08 – February 2010)



Alderman Robin Knox (inaugurated April 2010)
Mobile: 0408 221 342
Email: r.knox@darwin.nt.gov.au

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
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Alderman Helen Galton
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Alderman Heather Sjoberg
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Richardson Ward

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



Alderman John Bailey
Mobile: 0412 892 237
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Alderman Joanne Sangster
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Waters Ward

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



Alderman Allan Mitchell
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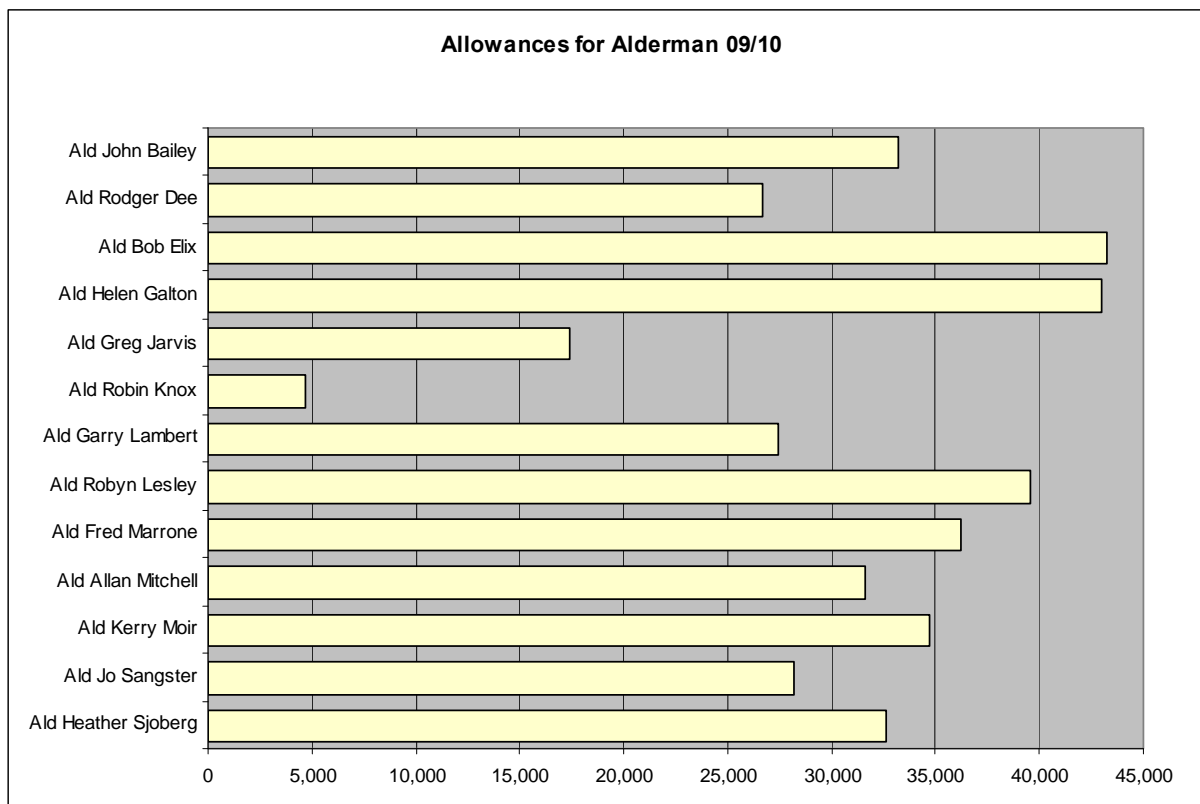


Alderman Robyn Lesley
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Alderman Fred Marrone
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Elected Member Allowances

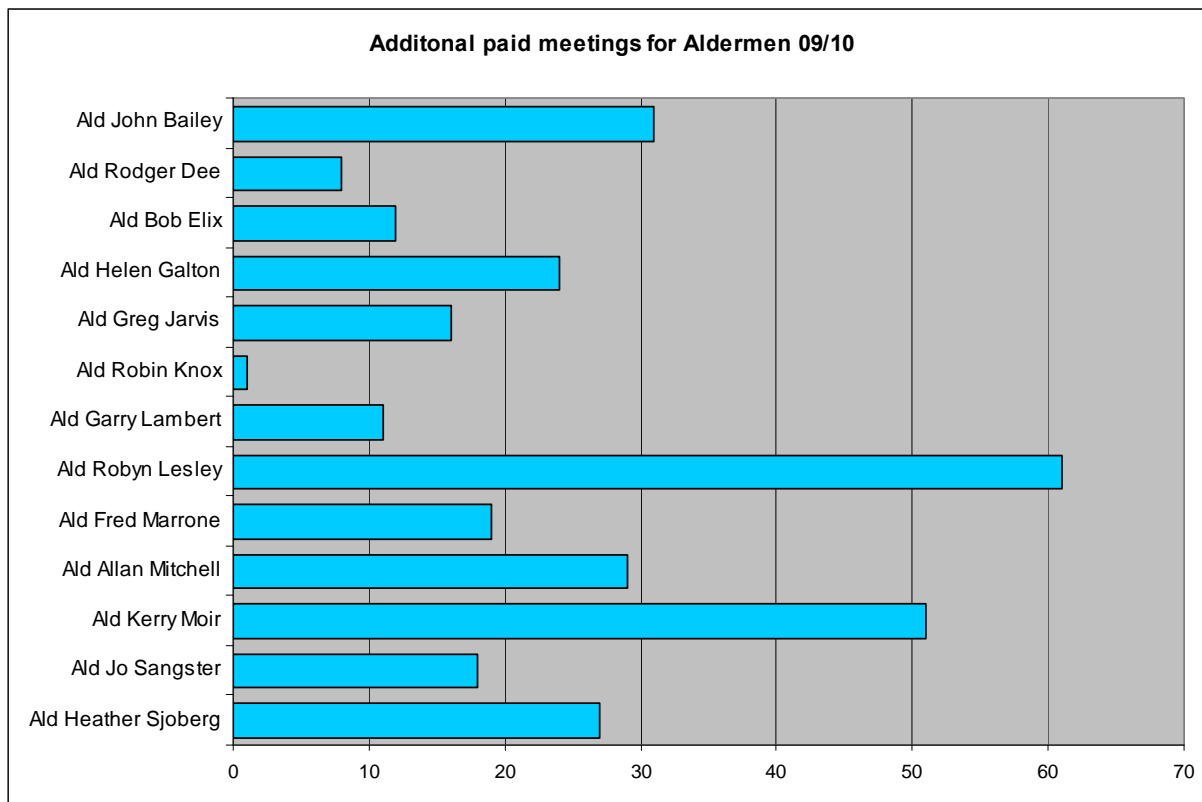


Pursuant to section 71 of the Local Government Act 2008, a member of the Council is entitled to be paid an allowance that is set at a fixed rate, subject to the guidelines issued by the Minister.

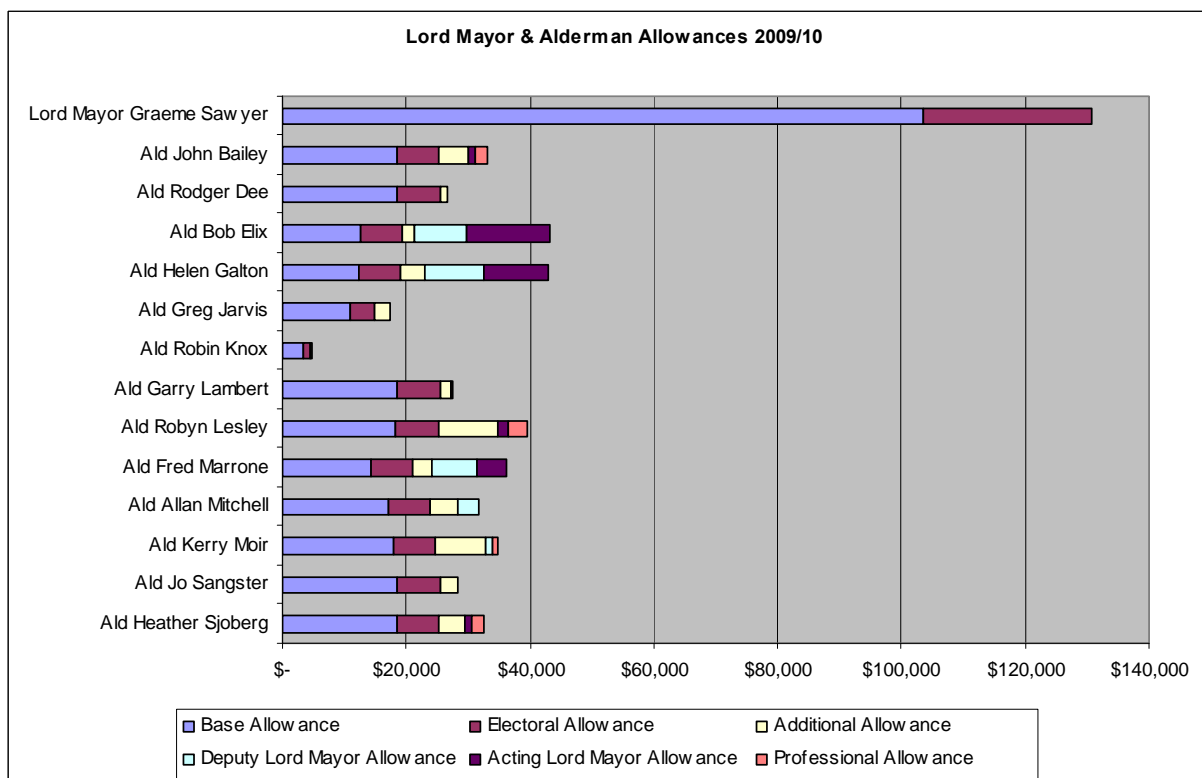
The Local Government Act also provides for differential allowances for the principal member (i.e. Lord Mayor) and the deputy principal member (i.e. Deputy Lord Mayor).

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



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.



The table below outlines groups and the additional meetings that Council Aldermen attended throughout 2009/2010.

Outside Committees with LGANT Appointed Representation

Administration and Legislation Advisory Committee

Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee

GoNT – Active Living in the NT

Human Services Training Advisory Council

Neighbourhood Watch NT Board of Management

NT Land Care Council

NT Regional Development Committee

NT Road Safety Co-ordination Group

NT Settlement Planning Committee

NT Water Safety Council

NT Weeds Advisory Committee

Place Names Committee

Public Library Advisory Committee

Outside Committees with DCC Appointed Representation

Capital City Committee

Council of Capital Cities Lord Mayors (CCCLM)

Council of the Ageing NT Board

Crime Stoppers Northern Territory Committee

Darwin Performing Arts Centre Ltd (Trading as Darwin Entertainment Centre)

Development Consent Authority

Festival of Darwin

Greening Australia NT Board

Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT)

Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee

NT Chamber of Commerce Top End Region Executive Committee

Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC)

Tourism Top End

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.

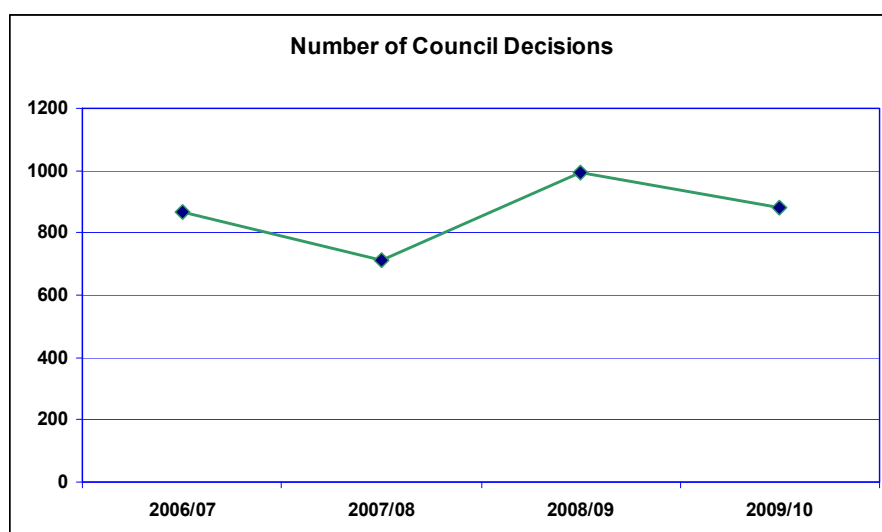
Activity / Conference	Venue	Dates	Number of Elected Members attending
Charles Darwin University – Associate Degree in Legal Studies	Darwin	01/07/2009 - 30/06/2010	1
Property Council of Australia - Future Directions Forum	Darwin	30/07/2009	1
Australian Motorcycle Council AGM	Brisbane	08/08/2009	1
Greening Australia Board Membership	Darwin	21/08/2009	1
Darwin Entertainment Centre Board Membership	Darwin	31/08/2009	2
Charles Darwin University Symposium Dinner Featuring the Charles Darwin Research and Innovation Medals	Darwin	23/09/2009	1
Property Council NT Division Luncheon	Darwin	25/09/2009	1
Top End Regional Committee Annual General Meeting	Darwin	09/10/2009	2
Representing the Lord Mayor at the International Moto X Challenge	Dili	16/10/2009 – 19/10/2009	1
Local Government Association of NT (LGANT) Conference, General Meeting and Annual General Meeting	Alice Springs	19/11/2009 – 20/11/2009	1
The Property Council of Australia Inaugural Future Directions Christmas Bash	Darwin	26/11/2009	1
Sister City Friendship Agreement and 70 th Anniversary of Bombing of Darwin Commemoration discussion	Honolulu	30/11/2009	1
Australian Local Government Women's Association – Strategic Planning Meeting	Adelaide	30/10/2009 – 31/10/2009	1
Green Cities 2010 – People, Places, Performance	Melbourne	21/02/2010 – 24/02/2010	1
Local Government Association of NT (LGANT) Conference and General Meeting	Darwin	25/03/2010	1
Chamber of Commerce Luncheon – Featuring Former NT Government Representative to East Timor	Darwin	15/04/2010	1
Local Government Managers Association – 2010 National Congress & Business Expo	Adelaide	17/05/2010 – 19/05/2010	1
Local Government Managers Australia – Women's Leadership Forum	Adelaide	19/05/2010	1

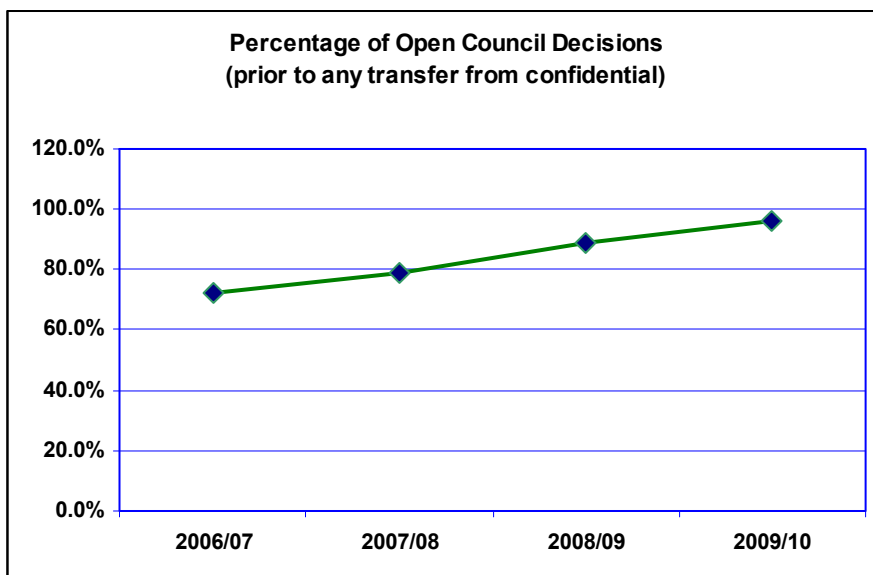
Council Decisions

Council Decisions July 2009 - June 2010						
Month	Number of Meetings	Number of Decisions	Number of Confidential Decisions	Number of Confidential Decisions Moved into Open	Number of Administrative Decisions Remaining in Confidential	Number of <u>Non</u> Administrative Decisions Remaining in Confidential
Jul-09	2	99	5	4	1	0
Aug-09	2	65	4	3	1	0
Sep-09	4	84	1	0	1	0
Oct-09	7	91	2	0	0	2
Nov-09	5	63	3	0	3	0
Dec-09	2	28	2	0	2	0
Jan-10	1	23	0	0	0	0
Feb-10	4	100	2	1	0	1
Mar-10	3	79	1	0	0	1
Apr-10	5	84	9	3	0	6
May-10	3	84	4	2	2	0
Jun-10	2	81	0	0	0	0
Total	40	881	33	13	10	10

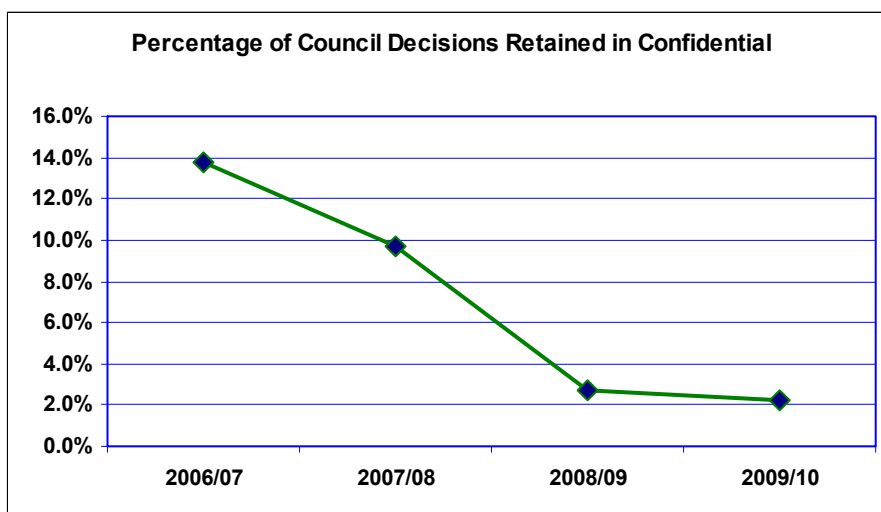
Council has made significant improvement in governance specifically relating to openness and transparency.

In 2008/2009 11.27% of all Council decisions were made in confidence with 75.9% of these then moved into open. As shown in the table above, just 3.7% of decisions were made in confidence throughout 2009/2010. It must be noted that there will always be matters that must be considered in confidence pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2008 and Part 4 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.



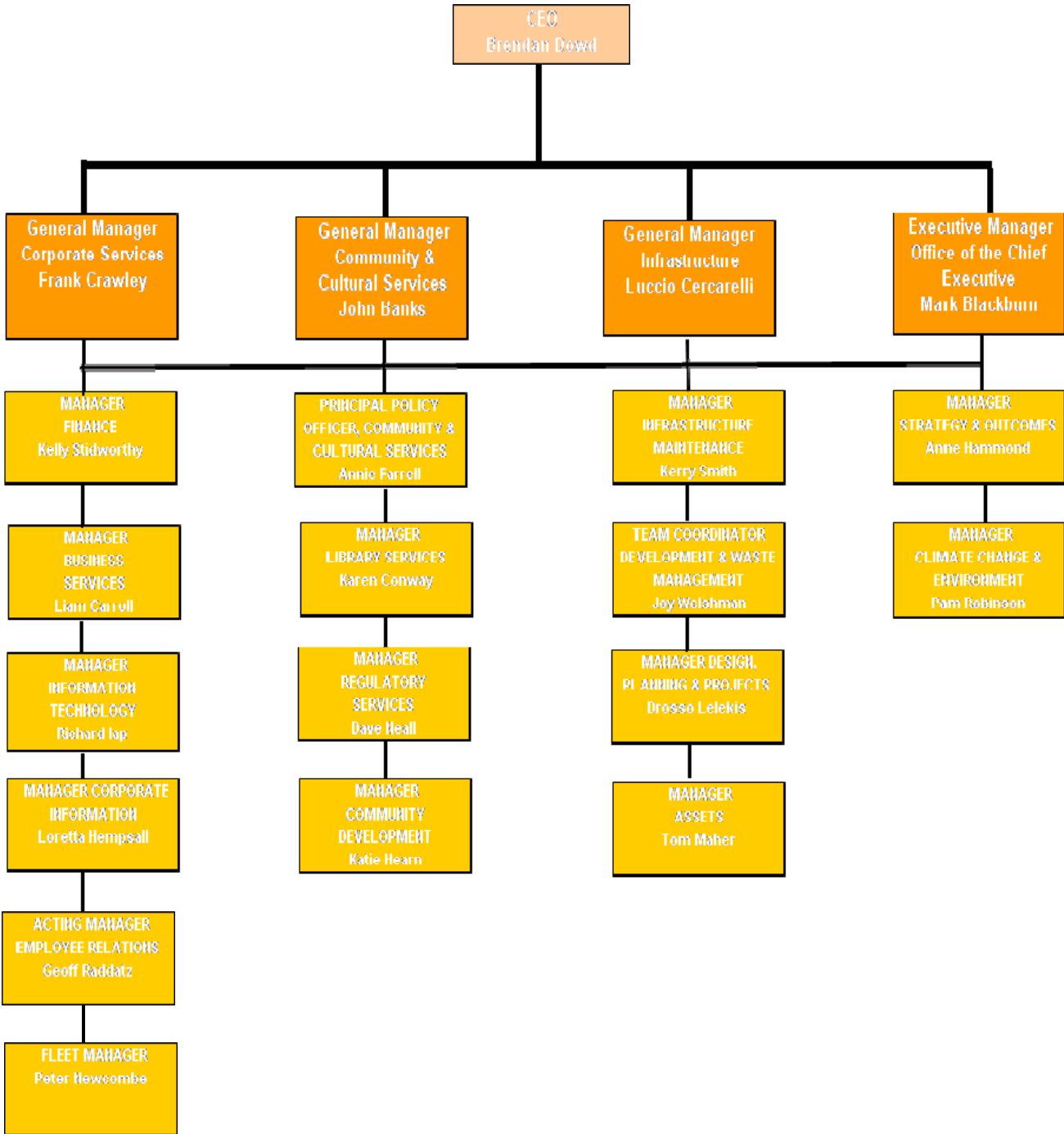


A second indicator of openness and transparency is the percentage of Open Council decisions prior to any transfers from Confidential. As clearly identified in the above graph improvements are made each year with a total of 96.3% of all Council decisions in 2009/2010 made in open.



The third indicator of openness and transparency is the percentage of decisions retained in confidential. As this graph indicates, very significant improvement have been made since 2006/2007.

Organisational Chart



Executive Staff

Chief Executive Officer Brendan Dowd

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the delivery of Council's strategy, policies and programs.

Executive Manager, Office of the Chief Executive Mark Blackburn

Program responsibility: -

- Strategic Services
- Climate Change and Environment
- Communications and Marketing
- Executive Support

General Manager Community and Cultural Services John Banks

Program Responsibility: -

- 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

Program Responsibility: -

- 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

General Manager Infrastructure Luccio Cercarelli

Program Responsibility: -

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

Staff Overview

Employee Numbers

Council employs 326 permanent full time equivalent employees, including 17 part-time employees and six trainees. Of these employees, 40% are female and 60% are male. Female employees occupy 58% of middle management positions and 45% of team leader positions.

Industrial Disputes

There were no industrial disputes during the period.

Personal Leave

On average, employees used 11 days personal leave. This represents an overall utilisation of 73% of budgeted personal leave provisions and remains the same as for the previous period.

Recruitment and Staff Turnover

39 employees terminated their employment, equalling a staff turnover of 13% for the year compared to 19% in 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: 30 for work environment issues; 53 for personal issues; 17 for family/relationship problems; and 4 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 9,679 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 29.28 hours, in line with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) all industry average of 27.6 hours. Based on actual training time, 63% 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. Total Training Costs were \$501,051, an average net cost of \$643.00 per employee. Training provided by external training providers accounted for 62% of the training undertaken. Council has been shortlisted as a finalist in the NT Training Awards 2010 Employer of the Year.

Occupational Health and Safety

Council had approximately 1,045 days lost time due to injury during the period. A total of 19 workers compensation claims were received representing a decrease of 3 over the previous period.

Council has commenced a comprehensive review of its occupational health and safety management system. The project involves development of an OHS Management System in line with the Australian Standard AAS 4804. Guidance standards and a

comprehensive library of safe operating procedures will also be developed to support the management system.

Risk Management

In February 2010 Council appointed a dedicated Risk and Occupational Health and Safety Advisor to undertake development of strategic and operational risk management systems. The operational risk assessment is to be based on business processes and outputs for the operational departments. Results from this project will be used to enhance Council's Audit Plan and Control Self Assessment program. The strategic risk assessment will be based on the objectives and strategies enunciated in Council's "Evolving Darwin: Towards 2020 and Beyond" Strategic Plan.

Progress is well underway with the identification of operational risks and control measures. It is expected that the process will be completed in August 2010 at which time an assessment of strategic risks will commence.

Corporate Compliance

Darwin City Council is one of five municipal councils in the Northern Territory. Operating under the Northern Territory Local Government Act, it is charged with the peace, order and good government of its council area.

The role of the Council is to:

- Provide public service
- Make decisions in the interests of the community in a balanced way for the greatest benefit
- Initiate, coordinate and service as a catalyst for local effort
- Represent the community in Territory and national contexts.

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, developing policy and representing the interests of residents and rate payers.

Pursuant to Section 23 (c) of the Local Government Act, Darwin City Council has commenced a review of constitutional arrangements for electoral representation. The independent will be completed and submitted to the Minister in March 2011.

Income for Darwin City Council is generated by rates, Federal Government grants, NT Government grants and subsidies, services fees and charges and penalties. Council has 29,661 rateable properties and a budget in the order of \$75 million. Darwin City Council is a corporate body. Formal budgets are prepared every year and the rates are set in July.

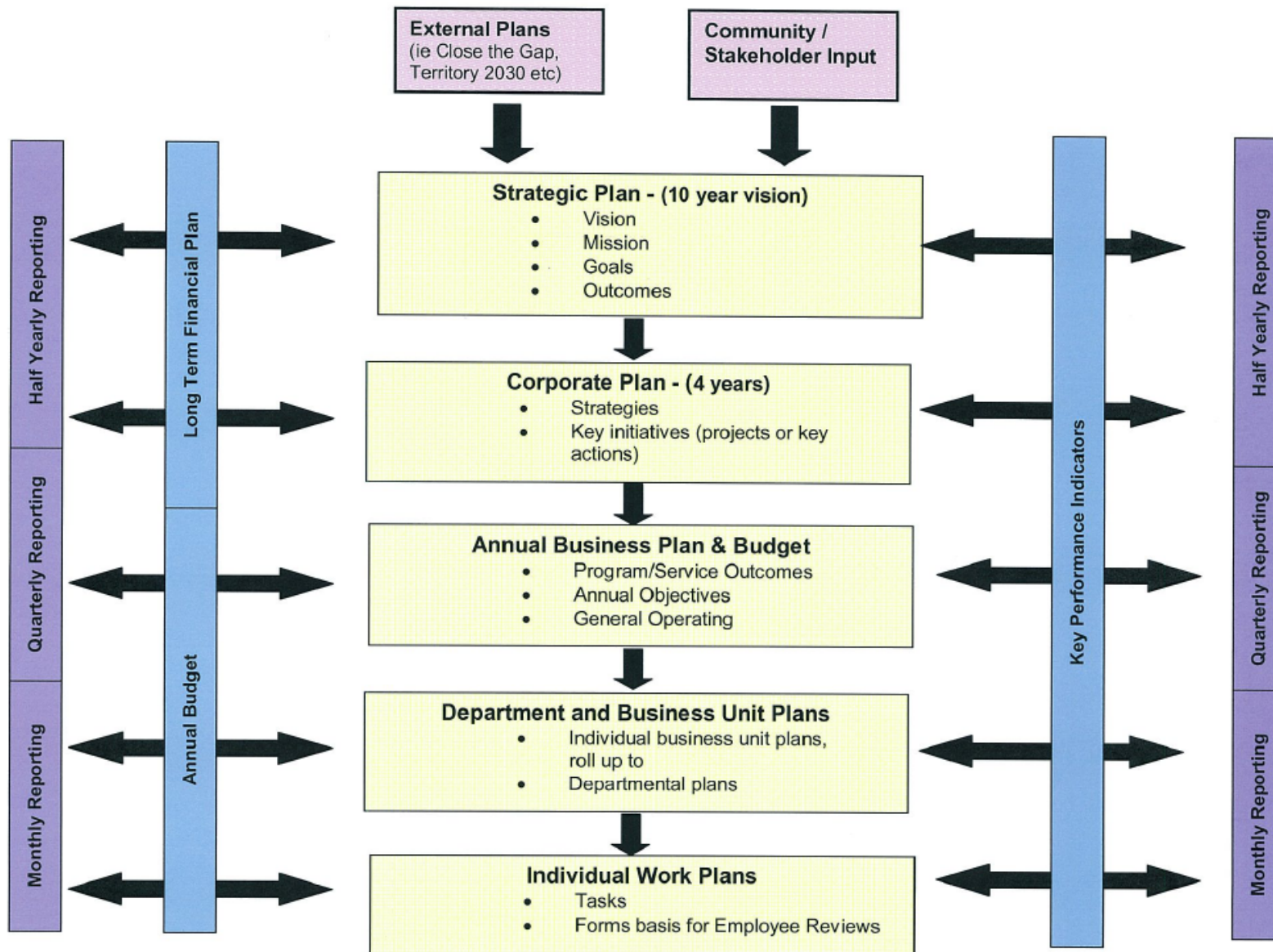
Program budgets provide information on the service and costs associated with each individual program. Full sets of budget papers are available for public scrutiny in Council's four libraries, on its website and at the Civic Centre.

The 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)
- an Annual Business Plan (the budget), and
- subsidiary plans (the detail).

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



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 human resources systems.

Project Area	Achievements for 2009-2010
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in a review of financial sustainability, which determined. Darwin City Council is financially sustainable. Undertook a review of rating and valuation options. Implemented a Control Self Assessment internal audit program. Revalued land and building assets.
Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade of Operation Centre's Telephone system. Upgrade of Authority to version 5.12. Completion of Payment Card Industry Audit. Development of an Information Security Framework.
Records Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalisation of a number of Records Management procedures. Finalisation of draft Disposal Schedule.
Human Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Workforce Wellbeing Committee. Commencement of a comprehensive review of the occupational health and safety management system. Commencement of the development of strategic and operational risk management system.

Information Act

Council responded to 5 information access requests in 2009-2010 as per table below.

Applications under the Information Act	2009-2010
Applications outstanding at the start of the year	1
Applications to access personal information	4
Applications to access Government Information or mix	2
Accepted applications withdrawn	1
Unaccepted applications	0
Accepted applications finalised	6
Open Applications at end of year	0

Compliance with Part 9 of the Information Act

The 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
- Alderman Helen Galton

The committee met four times during the year to consider, amongst other things:

- Introduction of a Control Self Assessment program
- Implementation of a Risk Management Framework
- Review of Asset Management
- Financial Sustainability Review which concluded that Council was financially sustainable

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

- Development of a Disposal Schedule
- HR Framework for Remuneration and Rewards/Performance
- Improvements to Car Park Management
- Formalisation of Rates Revaluation Process

These revised systems and procedures help to 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.

Vision, Mission and Values

Through its leadership Darwin City Council is committed to evolving with a united purpose to achieve our communities vision for the future.

The Council delivers services through more than 45 programs which reflect the nature and standard of service the public of Darwin demand. Additional to these programs, Council regularly reviews and implements new projects and programs to meet the changing needs of our community.

In all of the work that Council staff undertake, they are guided by the values shown below, it is these values that underpin all decision-making processes within the organisation.

Vision

We will enhance Darwin's unique lifestyle and tropical feel with a strong focus on the environment and sustainability.

Mission

By working in partnership with the community, Council will maintain and promote the City of Darwin as the tropical capital of the Northern Territory offering opportunities and a vibrant lifestyle for our residents and visitors.

Values / Principles

Service	Council will strive to achieve excellence, quality and pride of service to the community using commonsense, compassion and courtesy.
Responsiveness	Council will be responsive to the needs of the community.
Involvement	Council will provide avenues of participation for and be accessible to the community.
Responsibility	Council will act responsibly and with integrity in the interests of the community and public safety.
Equity	Council will treat and provide services to the community in an equitable manner.
Governance	Council will apply good governance principles.

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 2009/2010 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	
Business Services			
Cemeteries		N/A	✓
Children and Youth			
Climate Change and Environment			✓
Communications and Marketing			
Community Services and Support			✓
Contracts Administration			✗
Control of Domestic Animals			✗
Customer Services			
Darwin Entertainment Centre			✓
Design		N/A	✓
Development			✓
Employee Relations			✗
Executive Support			✗
Financial & Mgmt Accounting			✗
Fleet Management			✗
GM Community & Cultural Services		N/A	✓
GM Corporate Services			✓
GM Infrastructure		N/A	✗
Governance			
Information Technology			
Infrastructure Projects			✓
Libraries			

Program	Action Performance	KPI Performance	Budget Performance
Mosquito Control			
Off Street Parking			
On Street Parking			✓
Operations		N/A	
Parks and Reserves			
Pathways			✗
Planning			
Property Management			
Records & Information Mgmt			
Recreation and Leisure			
Regulatory Services			
Revenue Services			
Risk Management			✓
Road Construction & Traffic Mgmt			✓
Road Maintenance			✓
Sister Cities			✓
Sporting Areas			
Stormwater Drainage Maintenance			
Strategic Services			
Street Cleaning			
Urban Enhancement			✗
Urban Forest Management		N/A	
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 2009/2010 City of Darwin Municipal Plan – Progress report as at 30 June 2010, <http://www.darwin.nt.gov.au/council/Publications%20and%20Reports>

A 'traffic light' colour coding system has been adopted. In relation to action and key performance indicator (KPI) progress, green represents being on track or better, yellow represents a marginal variance of 5% - 10% from the target and a red icon highlights that actual performance was greater than a 10% variance from target.

Only two colours of the traffic light colour coding system have been used when recording budget performance – green and red. A red indicator denotes that the actual variance from the budget was either greater than 10% or \$10k (whichever was the greater).

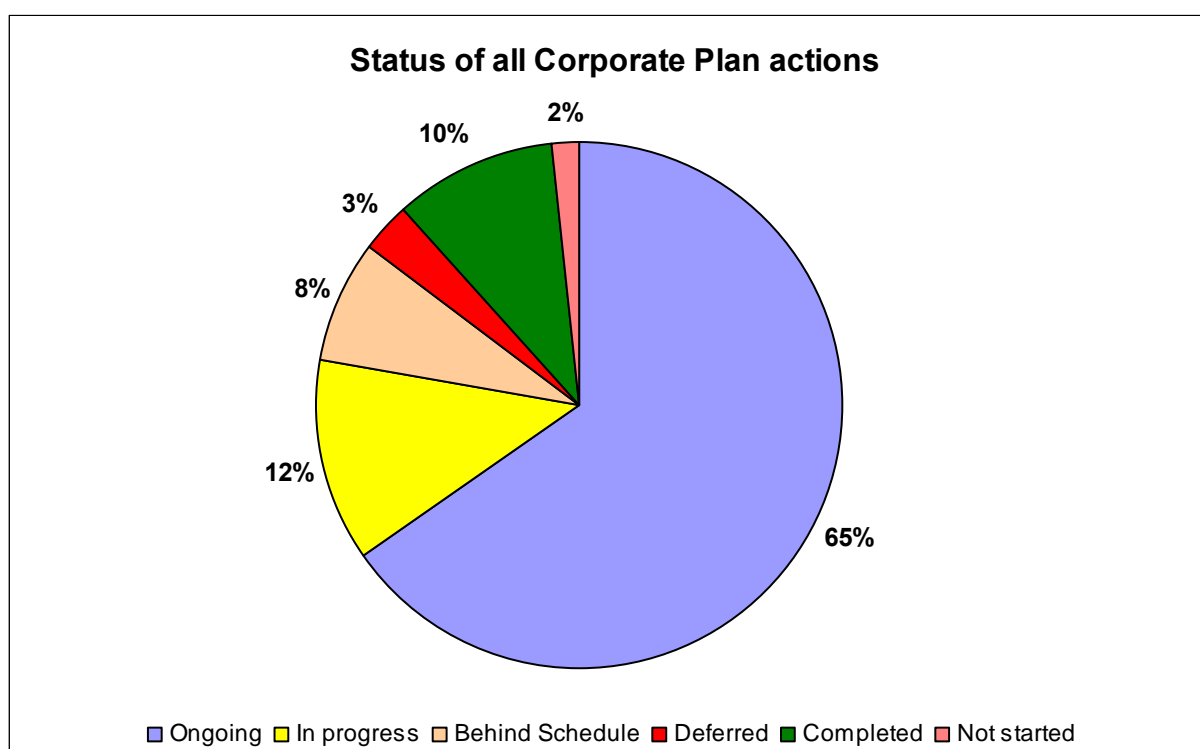
It should also be noted that a red indicator within "Budget Performance" can signify that the net program income and expenditure was either over or under budget. When

a program is 'under budget' it is identified as a positive (✓) variance, any programs that were 'over budget' are identified as negative (✗) variances.

This information is based on the unaudited figures as at 30 June 2010. The overall financial position for Council was a positive variance.

The graph below provides a simple overview of the current status of the 130 actions that are linked to Council's Corporate Plan.

The majority of actions are 'ongoing' which denotes that the action is part of Council's core service delivery and there is no end date, the action will continue for the life of this Council term. Of those actions that do have a fixed end date, 10% have already been completed, 8% have fallen slightly behind schedule, 3% have been deferred to the next financial year due to budgeting reasons and 2% are not yet due to commence.



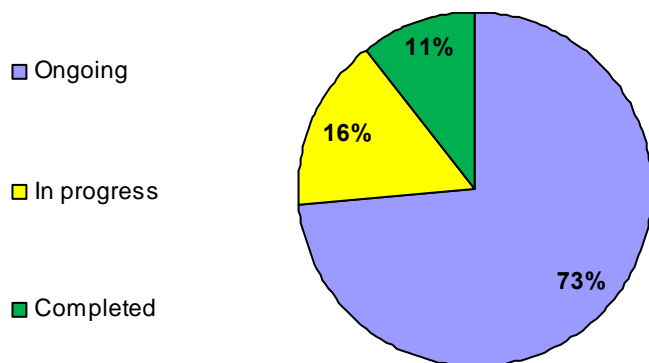
Within the ensuing sections of this report, a summary of performance is provided against each of the *Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 and Beyond Strategic Plan* goal areas.

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



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

Collaborative Relationships

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 term of this Council 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	Actions	Status	
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		
		Develop and maintain 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) meetings		
	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 NT Government		
		Identify partnership opportunities with the NT Government, 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 NT Government, 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 the 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)		
	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	

Collaborative Relationships

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						
				2009/10	2008/09	
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	100%	100%	
1.1	Improve relations with all levels of Government	Number of new joint initiatives initiated	Trend	23	20	
		Number of joint projects completed	Trend	8	2	
		Number of development applications received	Trend	390	520	
		Number of DCC recommendations adopted by DCA	Trend	N/A ²	360	
1.2	Effectively engage with community	Number of business development enquiries	Trend	6	3	
		Number of new community wellbeing initiatives recommended to Council based on community needs	Trend	369	288	
		Number of Youth Advisory Group meetings held	Trend	9	8	
		Youth Advisory Group meeting attendance	Trend	92	113	
		Community agreement rating that Council consults with community sufficiently	> 3.3	3.4	3.4	

² The previous method of calculation for this indicator was subjective and open to interpretation, therefore this indicator will be reviewed during 2010/2011 to develop an indicator with greater accuracy.

City Development

City Centre

Darwin City Council was successful in securing Australian and Northern Territory Government for funding for the City Revitalisation Project. The final project value being estimated at \$8.1million. This project is a reflection on how all tiers of Government and the private sector can successful work together. Funding for the project is as follows:

Australian Government	\$3.60 million
Northern Territory Government	\$1.82 million
Darwin City Council	\$2.10 million
Private Sector	<u>\$0.575 million</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$8.100 million</u>

The project has been branded MY0800 City Revitalisation. The project is aimed at revitalising the economic growth, social and cultural development of Darwin city.

Stage 1 - Knuckey Street has been completed. Knuckey Street is the key pedestrian cross road in Darwin's central business district and links three main streets – Mitchell, Smith and Cavenagh. It provides a strong retail and pedestrian spine for locals and the many tourists that visit Darwin each year.

Through the MY0800 project the busy inner-city thoroughfare has been transformed into a tree lined street with 15 *Allosyncarpia ternata* and *Syzygium armstrongii* trees, improved ground works and stone and timber seating. The introduction of the tree build-outs and seating has created a more pleasant retail environment, which in turn it will increase pedestrian traffic and ultimately add to the number of customers visiting Knuckey Street stores.

Stage 2 – Smith Street works have commenced in Smith Street from Knuckey Street to the China Town car park facility. Tenders were also called for the final two components being the Mall and Raintree Park. All works are to be completed by 30 November 2010.

Key outcomes of the revitalisation project will be:

- **The sustainable city** - recognising and valuing the role of street and park planting in defining the unique tropical character of the city and to promote Darwin as a walk-able city.
- **The event city** - creating streets and public spaces capable of staging important cultural and civic events.
- **The retail city** - building better, less cluttered connections whilst establishing a framework for private sector investment in street level retail.
- **The 24 hour city** - promoting a safe and covered pedestrian

Smith Street East

The Northern Territory Government in liaison with the Council completed the redevelopment of the Smith Street pedestrian link between the Darwin Waterfront and The Mall. The project included landscaping, shade, street furniture and public art.

Suburban Projects

Through funding received from the Australian Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Project (RLCIP) grant funding and Council's own financial contribution, Darwin City Council was able to complete a number of projects within the municipality. These were: -

- Duke Street Park - Delivered new car parking, street furniture and landscaping.
- Nightcliff foreshore – Replacement of aged and deteriorating pine logs with bollards made from recycled materials.
- Trower Road – Completed beautification of median strips, improved water efficient irrigation, provision of additional trees creating shady avenues and pathways.
- Bicentennial Park - Fenced the cliff foreshore, to protect against further erosion and to protect visitors from falling over the cliff face.
- Pathways through Parks - Provision of additional lighting in Dudley Park in East Point and also an additional light in Ken Water Park.

Specific design elements incorporated in the projects included:

- Recycled materials
- Water efficient irrigation
- Planting of additional trees to create shady pedestrian avenues
- Upgrade of median strip now complies with the standards for access and mobility

In addition to these projects, the Australian Government provided further funding through Round Two of the RLCIP program. The projects currently underway are: -

- Nightcliff Recreational Pool - Replacement of the Plant Room; and
- Casuarina Library - install a shade structure in the courtyard of Council's Casuarina Library and transform the courtyard into a functional meeting space that can be used all year round. This will be achieved through the replacement of doors and window furniture to create an indoor/outdoor space, painting, minor building works, landscaping and the installation of outdoor furniture and fittings.

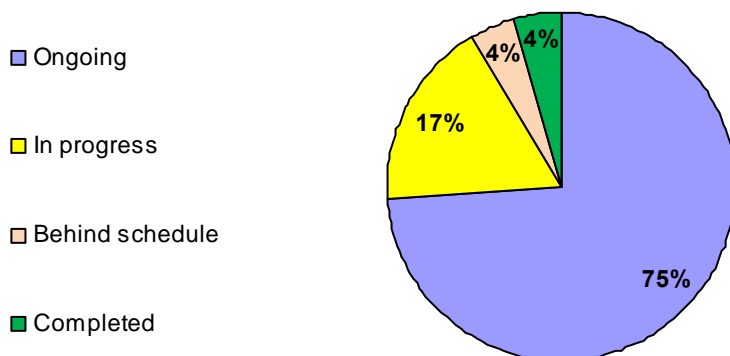
Darwin City Council would like to formally thank the Australian and Territory Governments for their continued support. Without their assistance Council would not have been able to deliver these projects which directly benefit our local community.

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



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 term of this Council 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	Actions	Status
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	No current actions as yet	N/A
	Support the NT Government's Ribbons of Green and CBD entry node upgrade initiatives	Support the NT Government'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	

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

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						
				2009/10	2008/09	
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	93.11%	97%	
2.1	Improve urban enhancement around Darwin	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of maintenance of suburban parks and playgrounds	> 3.8	3.8	3.8	
		Community rating against generally feel safe in their local suburb	> 70%	74%	72%	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of litter collection from public areas	> 3.5	3.4	3.5	
		Number of incidents resulting in an injury	Trend	38	13	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of street lighting	> 3.8	3.6	3.6	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of footpaths/ cyclepaths	> 3.8	3.6	3.4	
2.2	Increase recreational, leisure and heritage experiences	Community satisfaction rating with Library services	> 3.8	4.2	4.1	
		Library membership as a % of the population	Trend	47.40	43.99	
		Total number of library visits	Trend	465,135	509,442	
		Total swimming pool attendance	Trend	163,973	183,350	
		Total attendance to cultural institutions ³	Trend	2,862	2,458	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of recreation facilities such as tennis courts	> 3.8	3.9	3.9	
2.3	Promote family friendly and healthy activities	Total Fun Bus attendance numbers	Trend	15,146	9,812	
		Total Fun In The Parks attendance numbers	Trend	2,265	3,115	
		Average number of bookings for sporting areas per week	Trend	3,384	2,561	
		Total participation in ActivateNT	Trend	280	200	

³ At this stage visitation numbers are limited to just visitor attendance at Parliament House. It is planned to expand this to include other cultural institutions within the municipality during 2010/2011.

City Improvements and Maintenance

Development Applications

Council provided written responses to 390 development application 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 2009/2010 a total of 555,861 items were borrowed, an increase of 7.3% on the previous financial year, and over 466,500 visits were made to libraries. The libraries offer free membership to permanent residents. Visitors can become temporary library members with access to all membership rights upon payment of a \$60 deposit of which \$50.00 is refundable.

The Casuarina library meeting room is used by a wide range of both profit and not-for-profit organisations. With regular community groups using the room on a weekly basis, this year we have installed a hearing (induction) loop to assist the hearing impaired.

Events

Author talks are very popular at the libraries and this year we featured many local and interstate author visits to all four libraries. Of special note were visits by the walkabout chef Steve Sunk at both the City and Casuarina Libraries, Chick Lit author Lisa Heidke, nutritionist Cyndi O'Meara and Toni Jordan during the national Books Alive campaign. Karama Library had a very successful visit from author Judy Nunn to coincide with the release of her new book.

In May 2010 the libraries celebrated Library and Information week with a full program of events. A highlight of the week was the presentation of the Australian Library and Information Association, Northern Territory, ALIA NT Recognition Award 2010 to the Darwin City Council libraries staff in recognition of the Read Hot Readers (RHR) and Caught Read Handed (CRH) youth book clubs program held fortnightly at Casuarina Library. Events included an outside broadcast of the morning show by 105.7 ABC Darwin at Casuarina library and a writers workshop for adults by visiting author Goldie Alexander.

Other events throughout the year included a graphite pencil drawing workshop with local artist Jasmine Jan, and writing workshops for adults and children held by visiting author Goldie Alexander. A Cyber Safety awareness information session and an introductory training session in eBay were held at Casuarina Library, and an iPod/MP3 information session for the public was held as part of Adult Learners Week. Toastmasters presented a half day workshop on public speaking in October.

Seniors month events organised by the libraries included Yoga & Relaxation, a film showing at the Deckchair cinema, MP3/iPod information, an Historical Fiction writing workshop presented by author Linda Jaivin, and the highlight of the month, a bus tour of Darwin and lunch.

The City Library team was involved in the Happiness and Well Being market at Raintree Park during Disability Awareness Week. The library stand successfully promoted library collections, events and programs and informed the public on the services that the libraries offer people with disabilities or learning difficulties.

Music in the Library program, Friday lunchtime at both the City and Casuarina Libraries was ongoing throughout the year and attracted local artists who have proved very popular with library customers.

Exhibition space is available at Casuarina Library and community groups and schools displayed their work this year. The Charles Darwin University arts students participated in a number of public art displays including wearable art, a public art installation of small clay figurines and a large display of chairs made from recycled cardboard.

Services

PCs for public use to access the Internet and email continue to be heavily booked. Computers at Your Library sessions are conducted at Casuarina, Nightcliff and the City. Both Casuarina and the City libraries have an Internet Club to further assist customers who have attended Internet classes but require further assistance. A series of eBay workshops were held for the public.

There are four adult book clubs operating at the libraries that meet monthly. There is a lunchtime club at the City Library and evening clubs that meet at both Casuarina and City libraries. Two clubs for children and youth meet fortnightly after school at Casuarina Library.

Online resources are very popular and cover a wide range of subjects. Your Tutor is a real time online tutoring service for students from Year 4 to tertiary providing english, maths, science and research based subjects. Other online resources available from within the libraries and accessible remotely include Academic Search Premier, Health and Wellness Resource Centre, World Book Online, ANZ Reference Centre, TumbleBook Library, Grzimek's Animal Life, GREENR (Global Reference on the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources), 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 material that can be borrowed free of charge.

Over 800 visits were made to our housebound library customers. Housebound customers receive a regular supply of reading material from our Casuarina and City libraries. This year volunteers assisted library staff in the delivery of books to our customers.

Children and youth activities are well attended at all libraries. Storytimes are conducted every day of the week including Saturday morning at the City Library. Babes'n'Books, a storytime for new parents and babies up to 12 months is held at the Casuarina Library every Wednesday. Child care centres and crèches visit the libraries for storytime sessions. Breakfast with Books, a Saturday morning storytime, and evening bedtime stories are held during the school holidays. An Auslan interpreter visits all Darwin City Council Libraries' storytimes monthly and interprets stories and songs in Australian sign language. The local Panda Cubs held Mandarin storytimes at Casuarina Library on Sunday afternoons. National Simultaneous Storytime was celebrated at all libraries in May. Harmony Day on Saturday 21 March was celebrated at all our libraries with multicultural storytimes.

Children's authors are regular visitors to our Storytime sessions. This year we had visits from Australian children's storyteller Anne E Stewart, Robyn Crowe and Chantel the Fairy for the April School Holiday Program. The Little Big Book Club presented the 'It's ABC Time' show at Karama Library. Robyn Crowe also presented an information session for parents, teachers and caregivers.

An after school program for young children by Life. Be In It was conducted each Friday afternoon at Karama Library during the 3rd & 4th terms.

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

Over 3,000 children participated in holiday programs including the Summer Reading Club during December and January. The program included activities from the Corrugated Youth Iron Theatre and the Crocodile Man.

Each year Darwin City Council Libraries host 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. This year NT Crime Stoppers sponsored an award for best School Class Group.

Events for youth are held throughout the year, movie nights are held regularly. A Read 'em 'n Rock quiz night with live music was held at Casuarina library. A Healthy Youth, Healthy Future Expo was held where local organisations presented information to youth on a wide range of topics from sexual health, drugs and alcohol, mental health, and healthy eating and living. Two events were held during National Youth Week 2010, both were sponsored by a grant from the Northern Territory Government. First was the Manga drawing workshop followed by the Ani-Mo-Mation workshop at the BIG GIG in Browns Mart.

Karama Library hosts the monthly KAOS program for young people. KAOS is held on the last Wednesday of each month from 6pm to 8.30pm. It is open to children and youth aged 11 -18 years.

Community Safety Initiatives

Graffiti Management

In addition to Darwin City Council's rapid graffiti removal program from its infrastructure, this year has seen Council partner with the Northern Territory Government trialling a six month fee for service model for graffiti removal from selected Northern Territory Government assets. The trial which commenced in March is continuing with the view to extending. Council continues to report all incidents of graffiti vandalism to the Northern Territory Police for inclusion in to the graffiti intelligence database.

In terms of Council's own assets, 228 incidents of graffiti vandalism have been recorded and responded to for the four month March - June 2010.

Walkways

Council is committed to providing and maintaining a walkway network as part of a wider network that facilitates the movement of pedestrians and cyclists across the municipality. In May 2010, Darwin City Council adopted a new Walkway Policy (Policy Number 056). The policy was reviewed in response to concerns expressed regarding anti social behaviour in walkways. The purpose of the new Policy is to provide guidance in relation to the management of Darwin City Council's walkways.

Under the new Policy, current night time walkway closures will remain for the present, and the upgrade of these walkways will be considered in conjunction with adjoining residents with the aim of permanently opening the walkways.

Under the new Walkway Policy Council will be working closely with the affected residents and relevant authorities and stakeholders to address public safety issues rather than closing walkways. A temporary closure may be considered for up to 4 months where a request is supported by corroborating evidence and risk management assessment.

However, if residents have a problem with public safety in and around walkways, the Police should be contacted in the first instance and if the problem is not resolved by Police action, residents are encouraged to contact Council.

In conjunction with the new Policy, Council created a new position of "Community Development Officer – Liveability" to work with key stakeholders and the community to address safety concerns.

Community Safety

Darwin City Council is committed to ensuring the amenity and safety of the municipality and has achieved the following outcomes this year:

- participation in the development of an Alcohol Management Plan for the Darwin and Palmerston municipalities in conjunction with Palmerston City Council and the Northern Territory Government
- the conduct of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design audits of locations in the municipality to assess infrastructure and maintenance requirements to enhance community safety

- the commencement of a community engagement initiative to assist to resolve safety and amenity issues in walkways
- introduction of media and education campaigns as well as an enhanced enforcement of By-laws to successfully respond to the issue of illegal camping in the municipality by back-packers
- the commencement of a review of Council's provision of public toilet facilities in order to enhance the amenity of the municipality
- the development of partnerships with non-government agencies in support of their roles to assist vulnerable community members who may be homeless and/or challenged by alcohol abuse.

Community Wellbeing

Darwin City Council has continued support of the NT Department of Health and 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.

Family, Children and Youth Activities

Council hosted a series of face painting workshops to up skill local youth. The need for a series of face painting workshops emerged from a growing need of community groups seeking face painters from Council for local events. Due to the popularity of face painting, a series of creative skill sessions were held attracting many participants.

Building local capacity, Council now has access to a number of newly trained face painters for children's, recreation, corporate and community events along with fundraisers and celebrations.

Children's Week is an annual event celebrated in Australia during the fourth week in October. A Children's Family Fun Day was organised by Council collaboration with Early Childhood Australia – NT Branch and Territory Childcare Group. This event provided an excellent opportunity for parents and carers from all backgrounds to attend a venue where all activities are provided free of charge. Attracting some 750 – 1,000 people over the morning, this was almost double the attendance of the previous year.

Fun Bus

The Fun Bus is a mobile playgroup service for children 0 to 5 years and their parents and carers and continues to be very popular program. The Fun Bus provides an important informal opportunity for parents and carers to come together, share ideas and experiences, develop new friendships while the children learn through their play experiences.

Fun in the Parks

Fun in the Parks school holiday program has increased the involvement of community organisations into the program. This has proven to be very popular and well supported by families.

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 2009/2010, 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.

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.

2009/2010 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 2009/2010 the following events were supported:-

Date of Event	Name of Organisation /Group	Description
July 2009	Garden Point Association	2 x Face Painters for 20 th Anniversary Celebrations as part of NAIDOC Week Gardens
July 2009	NAIDOC Week	Cash Sponsorship of NAIDOC Week 2009 as per Council Decision 20\1708
July 2009	Tourism NT	Film Permit for Darwin Tourism Campaign
July 2009	Top End NAIDOC Committee	Access power in a public place x 4 venue's
July 2009	Indigenous Community Volunteers	2 x Face Painters for Office Opening – Event held at Bicentennial Park
July 2009	Beer Can Regatta	Fun in the Parks – 5 staff
July 2009	Darwin Show	2 x Face Painters
July 2009	Parap Family Centre Management Committee	2 x Face Painters provided for Parap Family Centre's 30 th Birthday Celebration
July 2009	Parap Family Centre Management Committee	Cash sponsorship of Parap Family Centre's 30 th Birthday Celebrations
July – September 2009	The Big Issue/Street Soccer	Use of Chrisp Street Oval for 2 hours per week for 12 weeks for Street Soccer Program for homeless and disadvantaged people
August 2009	Environment Section	Compost Bin to be used for a prize
August 2009	National Aboriginal & Islander Children's day	2 x Face Painters provided at Bagot Community
August 2009	Welcome Home Parade	2 x Face Painters provided at Cenotaph Bicentennial Park
August 2009	Camp Quality	2 x Face Painters for Camp Quality Seafood Beach Picnic
August 2009	The Big Issue	Use of Meeting Room Interview Room 1 for Darwin Big Issue Advisory Committee meeting
August 2009	Teddy Bear Picnic	Fun Bus 2 x Face Painters

Date of Event	Name of Organisation /Group	Description
August 2009	Darwin Fringe – Fringe @ The Bank	Donation of jewellery making materials and lend of jewellery making equipment – used by Carpentaria Disability Services
September 2009	Multicultural Youth NT	Hire of Malak Community Centre
September 2009	Cancer Council NT – Relay for Life	Hire Gardens Oval # 1 for Annual Relay for Life fundraising Event
September 2009	Charles Darwin Symposium	Loan of Darwin200 banner for display at the Darwin Convention Centre during the Symposium
Sept – October 2009	Camp Quality/Cruise4Kids	Hire Gardens Oval B/Site
October 2009	Camp Quality/Cruise4Kids	Hire 2 units Aluminium Staging + 2 steps
October 2009	National Seniors Australia Top End Branch	Cash sponsorship of National Seniors Australia Top End Branch Annual General Meeting to be held on 20/10/09.
October 2009	Children's Week	Power, Fun Bus and MC and stand, chairs, and bins
October 2009	Africa-Australia Friendship Association	Printing of 20 x A3 posters and 100 x A4 flyers for event scheduled for 31/10/09
November 2009	Wagaman Residents Committee	Two Face Painters – 3 & 1/2 hours
December 2009	Christmas in Darwin Assoc	Gardens Oval Banner Site 16/11-8/12/2009 : Ludmilla O/Pass Banner Site 30/11-6/12/2009 : McMillans/Bagot Rd Banner site 16-22/11/2009
December 2009	The Anula Community Christmas Party	Plastic Slippy Slide and Soap
December 2009	CatholicCare NT	10 units aluminium stage + 2 steps for 2009 Christmas for Kids Community Event
December 2009	Big Issue/Street Soccer	Use of Casuarina Library Meeting room for 2 hours from 5.30pm to 7.30pm
December 2009	Neighbourhood Watch	Loan of Fun in the Parks Waterslide for use at community event at Anula Park
December 2009	BreakItDown (sponsoring body Darwin Community Arts)	Printing of posters and flyers for BreakItDown's Dance competition
December 2009	Break Dance NT	Printing of 10 x A3 coloured posters and 10 x A4 (17 pages) coloured document for Break Dance competition
December 2009	Break Dance NT	Printing of 10 x A3 coloured posters and 10 x A4 (17 pages) coloured document for Break Dance competition
January 2010	Cradle NT & Sids for Kids NT	Gardens Oval Banner Site
March 2010	Swimming NT	Waiver of swimming pool hire fees for 2010 Corgee NT Open and Age Championships 11 to 14 March 2010
May 2010	Salvation Army	Gardens Oval, McMillans/Bagot Roads, Stuart H/Way and Trower Road Banner Sites – various dates
May 2010	RSPCA	Hire 4 Units + 1 Step Aluminium Staging for Million Paws Walk
May 2010	British Motorcycle Club	Hire 6 units aluminium stage + 2 steps for Vintage Motorcycle Display

Lifestyle

Date of Event	Name of Organisation /Group	Description
May 2010	Harmony Day	Fun Bus staff, Malak Community Centre fee waiver

Youth Services

Council's Youth Services have focussed on providing activities and opportunities that cater for *all* young people which are planned and hosted by and for young people. Council continues to support a traineeship position within Youth Services which has been instrumental in supporting the engagement of young people in Council activities. Key programs and events that Youth Services coordinated are:

Youth Advisory Group (YAG) & GRIND

The YAG has a diverse membership of 15 young people aged between 12 and 20 who meet monthly to inform and advise Council on issues affecting young people. A key achievement this year has been their increased collaboration with the GRIND team, which saw the hosting of a highly successful event during National Youth Week in April 2010, THE BIG GIG, which attracted over 1,000 attendees and significant external funding from *youth beyondblue*.

GRIND continues to grow and has completed its first and successful year online. The GRIND, which started as a A4 fold-over is now totally online and regularly produces vod and podcasts. GRIND-Online features an events calendar, an art gallery, sign up forms and up to date information on all of Council's youth projects, events and policies.

The Youth Energy Precinct (YEP)

Council's proposed establishment of a Youth Energy Precinct (YEP) has progressed significantly in the last twelve months with the community consultation, benchmarking, market analysis and site analysis undertaken. YEP now progresses onto the site selection, design phase and partnership building with local and federal stakeholders.

Publications

Youth Services has produced 25,000 Youth Information Cards, which are distributed free of charge at all schools and other places, venues and services accessed by young people. The cards are designed to be folded down to the size of a business card and contain the contact details of key youth service providers.

GIG Gear

A key achievement this year has been the creation of the GIG Gear initiative, part of Council's Youth Strategy: LOUD & CLEAR 2009-2014. The GIG Gear is a concert ready PA and lighting system that is available to young bands, community and not-for-profit organisations and charity groups for free loan for community events. In conjunction with Council's "Fun & Games" equipment, the GIG Gear marks an exciting and very direct way Council can help support the local community present and host events for their community.

Recreation Activities

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

The 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
- Live music acts, children's entertainers and local dance acts
- Community fund-raising opportunities

Date	Location – Event	Approximate Attendance
16/08/2009	Jingili Water Gardens – combined with DCC Seniors Month	300
13/09/2009	Casuarina Pool – end of dry season 'splash'	450
01/05/2010	Nightcliff Foreshore – as part of the Seabreeze Festival	1,750
06/06/2010	Jingili Water Gardens – combined with DCC Pet Micro-chipping Day	450

FREEPS provides the opportunity for not-for-profit organisations to be involved with food and drink sales as well as providing recreation, arts, dance and performance groups the opportunity to showcase their skills and activities. It 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 programs and resources.

Augusts' Seniors Month event enabled Recreation Services the opportunity for wider cross-generational promotion. In collaboration with Seniors Services this FREEPS event encouraged families to bring their grandparents to participate in activities and enjoy a relaxing afternoon tea together.

The end of the dry season 'splash' event at Casuarina Pool was well attended and included a range of activities scattered around the grounds of the pool with the stage set up as a focal point for visitors. Sanderson Scout Group conducted a barbecue as a fund-raising event.

The Nightcliff Foreshore event in May 2010 combined with the Seabreeze Festival and attracted approximately 1,750 people.

In June, FREEPS combined with Regulatory Services' Pet Micro-chipping Day and was held during the cooler morning for the comfort of the veterinarian staff and animals. The Cat Association was engaged to provide a barbecue.

Activate NT - MBF Healthy Lifestyle Challenge 2010

In 2010, Activate NT attracted 515 people comprised of 279 Darwin and 236 Palmerston participants compared to 2009 when the Darwin program attracted 200 participants.

Activate NT participants engaged in numerous physical activity sessions as well as health information sessions, cooking classes, a supermarket tour and other special events. Around 70 service providers supported the program by offering discounted or free activities to participants which increased the availability of physical activity sessions.

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

Heart Foundation Walking Groups

Darwin City Council's Recreation Services team is the Area Co-ordinator for some of the groups linked to the Heart Foundation Walking program.

Groups in Council's area 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 the year including a walk along Nightcliff foreshore and a healthy breakfast at Nightcliff Pool which involved each of the Heart Foundation Walking Groups in the Top End as well as Activate NT. The event was free to attend and pool entry fees were waived for all participants.

Playgrounds

Funding for playgrounds was utilised mainly for refurbishment rather than replacement in order to increase the number of existing playgrounds receiving additional equipment. Three playgrounds were replaced and nine were refurbished. These were:

Refurbished	Replaced
Vestys Beach	Calvert Park
Bicentennial Park	Killupa Park
Copeland Park	Sunset Park
Dwyer Park	
Greenwood Park	
Holzerland Park	
Mindil beach	
Moil Oval	
Peace Park	

Swimming Pools

Darwin City Council's three swimming pools have performed well throughout the year as a result of the excellent quality of the water, grounds and the well-trained and friendly contractors who manage the pool on Council's behalf.

	Parap	Casuarina	Nightcliff
2007/2008	61,118	58,720	67,748
2008/2009	63,630	64,391	71,812
2009/2010	50,324	63,930	69,458
TOTAL	175,072	187,041	209,018

While visitor numbers have decreased since 2008/2009 the pools were used for a number of special events where visitors would not have been counted. These included free aqua-aerobics at Parap Pool for nine weeks throughout the Activate NT program, Local Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA's) Community Christmas Party, Heart Foundation walks and healthy breakfasts at Nightcliff Pool, SIDS and Kids fundraising Car Rally finish and FREEPS at Casuarina Pool. A number of end-of-year and end-of-season functions were also held at the pools as were school swim carnivals and local swimming competitions.

Children's learn-to-swim classes accommodated approximately 900 children over two 12 week blocks between September and April.

Aqua-aerobics was held on Tuesday evenings at Parap Pool (averaging 25 participants), on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunch times and on Saturday mornings (each averaging 10 participants). Nightcliff Pool held classes from Monday to Thursday evenings and morning classes on Saturdays and Sundays averaging 30 participants.

Ovals

Darwin City Council maintains 17 ovals which were all in high demand by user groups throughout both the wet and dry seasons.

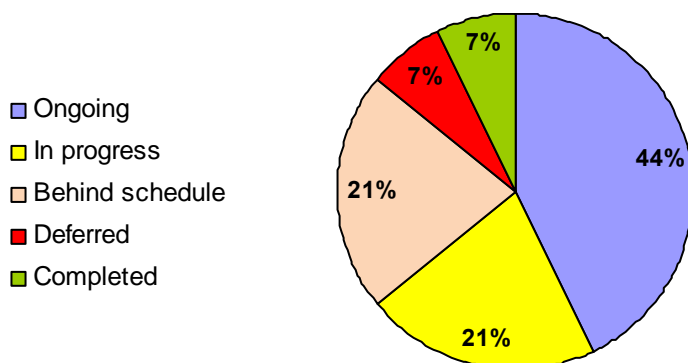
Gardens Oval held a number of special events including the Cancer Council's Relay for Life in September 2009 and the Chief Executive Officer's Sleep-out in June 2010.

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



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 term of this Council 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	Actions	Status
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 (historical, botanical, good and 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 3: Assist Individuals and the Community Stay Connected with the Darwin Region						
				2009/10	2008/09	
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	94.7%	97%	
3.1	Promote the use of public spaces	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of public toilet maintenance	> 3.0	3.2	3.1	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of maintenance of larger public parks, foreshores and beaches	> 3.9	3.8	3.8	
3.2	Enhance transport systems	Community satisfaction rating with the standard of car parking in the CBD	> 3.0	2.9	3.0	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of car parking in suburban areas	> 3.7	3.6	3.6	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of road maintenance	> 3.7	3.6	3.5	
		Percentage of road length resealed to total sealed roads	Trend	2%	3%	
		% utilization of public transport	Trend	18%	20%	
3.3	Increase and promote use of technology	Total number of on-line payments made via e-services	Trend	13,401	8,907	
		% of community surveyed who have accessed Council's website in the past 12 month	> 20%	30%	32%	
		% of community surveyed who made contact with Council via the internet or email	> 6%	11%	5%	
		Availability of agendas and minutes on Council's internet	> 99%	100%	100%	
		System uptime	> 99%	99.60%	99.62%	

City Roads and Public Spaces

Road Safety

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

- **Woolner Road Blackspot:** - 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 were completed in December 2009.
- **Local Area Traffic Management:** - Various local area works were undertaken throughout Darwin streets to improve safety these included devices such as roundabouts, intersection narrowing and pedestrian refuges. Suburbs where works were undertaken include:
 - Brinkin
 - Tiwi
 - Nightcliff
 - Alawa
 - Stuart Park
 - Nakara/Alawa
 - Karama
 - Frances Bay
 - Leanyer
 - Anula
 - Malak
 - Darwin
- Darwin City Council was successful in securing \$94,000 in Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) funding from the Northern Territory Government for the construction of various LATM projects in 2010/2011. The funding is on a dollar for dollar basis. Council has committed matched funds in the 2010/2011 budget;
- Darwin City Council was also successful in securing \$40,000 from the 2010/2011 Federal Black Spot Program to undertake upgrading works at the intersection of Woods Street and Lindsay Street in 2010/2011.

Footpaths and Cycleways

During the year Council constructed or refurbished 1,927sqm of footpath in various locations in Darwin's suburbs.

Darwin City Council undertook the *Connecting Darwin: Building New Cycle Linkages* project which was the result of a successful grant application to the Australian Government, through the Australian Government Jobs Fund. The grant was dollar for dollar and the Australian Government contribution is \$1,054,454.

The following works were undertaken under this project and completed by 30 June 2010:

- widening of sections of the Nightcliff coastal reserve shared path which runs from Trower Road to Progress Drive;
- widening of sections of the East Point coastal reserve shared path from Colivas Road. into East Point;
- constructing a new shared path along Fitzer Drive from Bagot Road to Dick Ward Drive;
- new on-road cycleway and associated works along both sides of Rothdale Road;
- 350 m extension of existing East Point coastal reserve shared path;
- providing road furniture and signage for the upgraded or new cycle path/way facilities;
- providing water bubblers at various locations along existing path routes;
- providing bicycle parking facilities along recreational cycle routes and secure bicycle parking within Council's largest off-street car parks;
- development of a cycle path/way strategy; and
- design, documentation, surveying, supervision and project management for the new or upgraded facilities.

An additional 350 metres of shared pathway in East Point was approved and construction is expected to be completed by November 2010.

Roads and Drainage

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

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

Road Resealing Program

Council continued its road resealing program with 88,471m² of roads being resealed and 7,592 m² being overlaid with Asphalt.

Parks, Reserves and Landscaping Works

Maintenance of Councils Parks and Reserves saw continuous improvement in the presentation of the 126 parks. 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.

Darwin City Council planted additional trees as part of the MY0800 City Centre Revitalisation Project and also the Connecting Darwin: Building New Cycle Linkages.

Connectivity

The Correctional Services Community Support Program continued throughout 2009/2010 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, East Point 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.

Darwin City Council's irrigation upgrade program continued throughout 2009/2010 to facilitate water efficiency throughout the municipality.

Council also 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

Council Rangers continued their public education program regarding responsible dog and cat ownership under the Animal Management By-laws.

The Animal Management By-Laws 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 section By-laws have created a great deal of interest with Council Rangers assisting Darwin residents in the trapping, removal and the impounding of stray cats.

During 2009/2010 Council received 905 calls from the public concerning dogs at large, 255 reported instances of dog attacks and 294 calls for barking including dogs causing nuisance.

The number of desexed dogs reflects the importance owners place on the desexing of their dogs. There were 9,180 registered dogs in Darwin, of these 6,868 were desexed.

A total of 503 infringements were issued for By-law offences involving dogs and cats. The operation of Darwin City Councils' Animal Pound continues to be a success with 930 dogs and 284 cats processed during 2009/2010. Ark Animal Hospital has been operating the facility over this period.

Another successful microchipping day was held at the Water Gardens 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.

Extensive training from specialist dog behavioral experts has been made available to the Animal Management Team during the 2009/2010 period.

Council Rangers were also involved in an ICETS (Investigation Compliance and Enforcement Training) a program which will give invaluable training in the principles of investigation techniques.

Parking

Rangers enforce compliance of the Northern Territory Traffic Act and Regulations and the Australian Road Rules. Rangers 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 25,072 on street parking penalty notices were issued in the CBD for the 2009/2010 period.

Suburban Rangers issued 591 parking penalty notices. Council Rangers regularly patrol the Rapid Creek, Nightcliff and Parap Market areas on the weekends in response to requests from residents regarding illegal parking practices that occur whilst the markets are being held.

Off-street car parks have a dedicated Ranger to ensure compliance with the Northern Territory Traffic Act and Regulations and the Australian Rules. A total of 2,824 off-street car park infringements were issued for the 2009/2010 period.

General Duties

Council's General Rangers 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. During 2009/2010 Rangers actioned a total of 623 By-law customer complaints ranging from abandoned vehicles, encroachment onto a public place, long grass on properties, stacking and storing of goods in a public place, abandoned shopping trolleys, litter and various other By-Law offences.

A total of 370 infringements were issued by Rangers for breaches of the Darwin City Council By-laws.

Council Rangers 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 Anzac Day march and the Bombing of Darwin Commemoration.

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 Rangers have been conducting regular camping initiatives. Rangers continue to assist other Government agencies in monitoring anti social behaviour within the Darwin municipality.

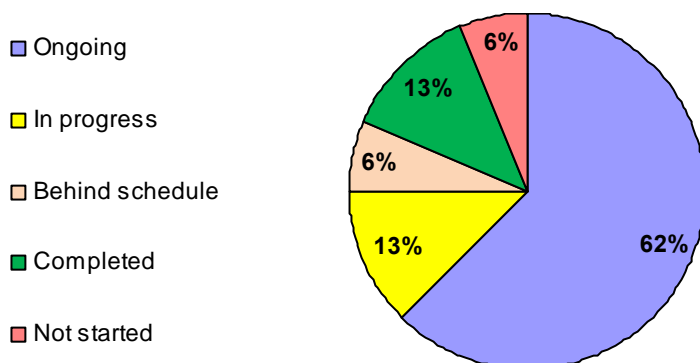
Council Rangers also attend monthly patrol network meetings which are hosted by the NT Police and involve other Government agencies such as Centrelink, Night Patrol, Bus link, and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure. Information on new hot spots for anti social behaviour, problem areas and 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.

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



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

Environmental sustainability

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 term of this Council 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	Actions	Status
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 NT GOVERNMENT 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 legislative regulatory to enhance, preserve and protect the Darwin environment	

Environmental sustainability

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						
				2009/2010	2008/2009	
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	96.52%	94%	
4.1	Be a leader with climate change policies	Decrease in greenhouse gas emissions*	Trend	N/A ⁴	12,777 CO2 emissions	
4.2	Improve water conservation	Quantity of water used per hectare of open space	Trend	1,936 kl	2,073 kl	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of storm water drainage	> 4.0.	3.7	3.8	
4.3	Increase efficiency of waste management	Increased volume of kerbside recycling	6% increase	4726.54 tonnes ⁵	1,885 tonnes	
		Increased participation in recycling	90%	N/A ⁶	83.9%	
		Community satisfaction rating with the standard of the wheelie bin emptying service	> 4.2	4.3	4.3	
4.4	Enhance, preserve and protect the Darwin environment	Number of environmental projects completed per annum	2	4	2	

⁴ This is a complex and resource intensive indicator to collect. The next time that this data will be calculated will be end September/ early October 2010. The result will be reported in Council's Annual Report for 2009/10.

⁵ An improved method of data collection was implemented in 2009/10 in relation to the Environment indicators, therefore these results are not strictly comparative with 2008/09.

⁶ Darwin City Council does not have an accurate method of capturing this data. This indicator will be reviewed during 2010/2011.

State of the Environment

The Climate Change and Environment section managed a wide range of sustainability issues in 2009-10. These included responses to, 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 and assets.

The breadth of issues now expected to be addressed by local government was recognised by Council and a 1% environmental levy was set by Council in the 2009-10 rates.

The levy provided additional support to the Climate Change & Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services Sections to respond even more widely to Climate Change and Environmental programs and activities required to help protect and enhance Darwin's natural and built environment.

A Climate Change Policy Officer was appointed January – May 2010. This position got the Framework underway for the Council Climate Change Policy to be in place by October 2010.

Major achievements included:

- The Australian Conservation Foundation's Sustainable Cities Index showed that Darwin has emerged as Australia's most sustainable city in 2010. The index provides a snapshot of comparative performance in each of Australia's 20 largest cities. Darwin scored highly on biodiversity, household repayments and employment.
- Winners of two Northern Territory Landcare Awards. "Zero Toads" won the Landcare Local Government Partnership Award and "Greening Mindil" the Australian Government Coastcare Award. Both projects received 'Caring for our Country' funding and the works were carried out by Council staff in partnership with the Larrakia Rangers. Both projects were finalists in the National Landcare Awards
- Energy Audits and Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory for 2009/2010 period. Ten major Council facilities have been audited with some facilities showing energy savings showing up to 15% on previous 2007 audits.
- Sea Level Rise seminar and presentation by Dr John Hunter, Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre for Elected Members, staff, government agencies and interested parties.
- Response to Government and Industry Draft Environmental Impact Statements including – BHP Billiton's proposed use of the Port of Darwin (Olympic Dam Extension), Darwin International Airport Preliminary draft 2009 Airport Environmental Strategy,
- Response to the Northern Territory Government's Draft Weed Management Plan for *Andropogon gayanus* (Gamba Grass).
- Provided support and input to Northern Territory Government Climate Change Policy Advisory Group and to final draft of the Northern Territory Climate Change Policy.

Environmental sustainability

- A Climate Change Action Plan was developed. This included 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 developed of an Energy Audit of all Council buildings and the implementation of recommendations.
- Participating through partnership with programs for air quality, water conservation, biodiversity and habitat monitoring to assess our progress and provide response through The State of the Environment Report.
- In response to the Climate Change and Environment Action Plan, two large riparian zone plantings at Rapid Creek were undertaken with the local Landcare Group, Conservation Volunteers Australia and Parks staff.
- A Lake Alexander water quality investigation program was continued. An increased number of days of jellyfish occupation were noted and required additional freshwater flushing.
- Two 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, continues to be monitored by the Larrakia Rangers.

Environmental education

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

Cane toad awareness programs were conducted by Frogwatch through the co-funded "Zero Toads" project.

Recycling education and awareness programs were run for schools, Indigenous communities and residents by the Council's funded Community Education Officer with Transpacific Cleanaway. The new education program was continued. This included promotional material depicting a clear pictorial representation of items that can be recycled.

Guided tours of the Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site were provided by Council's 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, Darwin Show, Butt Free Cities Week and CSIRO Science Fair. These opportunities allowed for face to face interaction with the community on Council climate change and environment activities and policies.

The Climate Change and Environment Section supported the school holiday program at Council's libraries through story, song and artworks that carried an environmental message.

The successful program 'Be Green – Turn off your PC and Screen' to staff at Civic Centre was again undertaken showing a major improvement by staff turning their computer equipment off at the end of each day.

Darwin City Council provided advice and assistance for the Energy Smart School Summit in May 2010.

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.

The Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site Renewable Energy Facility continued to mitigate methane emissions from the site and produce renewable energy to power 1000 homes in Darwin.

Council provided practical support to the NT Seafood Council's Darwin Harbour Clean Up Day through pre-project planning and 'hands on' support on the day plus encouraged community participation.

Environmental reporting

Reports were completed for the National Pollution Inventory (NPI) on air, water and land emissions at 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 Darwin.

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

Community and stakeholder collaboration

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

- Darwin City Council now has membership on the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee. Of particular note in the past year was the endorsement of the Darwin Harbour Strategy by the NT Government in May 2010.
- Involvement in the Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management through representation on the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee's Environmental Monitoring Group.
- Environmental Law and Policy Seminars were provided for Elected Members, Council staff, government agencies and the public. These seminars were coordinated by Council, the Environmental Protection Authority and the Environment Centre of the NT and held in the Council's function room.
- Environmental partnership programs were 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 councils, government departments and stakeholder organisations in the region, interstate and nationally.

Environmental sustainability

- Council provided staff support to the National Parks and Leisure Australia Conference held in Darwin in September 2009.
- Council supported the National NRM Knowledge Fair. Council provided a stand at the Fair and participated in the bus tour with the delegates. Council also organised the keynote speaker for the Fair – Stephan Bognar, CEO of the Maddox Jolie-Pitt Foundation.
- The George Brown Memorial Scholarship was awarded to a Charles Darwin University environmental studies student. The Award provided financial support to a part time student who successfully completed her delayed studies due to family commitments.
- An enhanced partnership was forged with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and discussions around Environmental Impact Assessment and Principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development were developed.
- Council partnerships for air quality monitoring was concluded with Charles Darwin University and the Departments of Health and Community Services and Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts.
- Council was on the Green Living Festival Development Committee and participated in 'Forum of Ideas' for the first Top End Sustainable Living Festival which was launched with the Tropical Garden Spectacular. Council provided sponsorship, display and staff presence for the successful event.
- Council was a finalist in the 2010 PowerWater Melaleuca Awards in the 'Community' category for the Protecting the Primary Dunes of Mindil Beach project.

Environmental rehabilitation and public health

- 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 5 gross pollutant traps at the Casuarina Drainage System.
- The mosquito control program continued.
- Development of catchment based weed management plan commenced and is nearing completion.
- Council continued the groundwater monitoring program and as part of regional information sharing, reported results to the Northern Territory Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport.

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 include:

Environmental sustainability

- In September 2009 Council investigated the extension of the Shoal Bay LMS plant and worked with other parties to progress increasing the extraction of landfill gases.
- Increased recycling through a lowered contamination rate in kerbside recycling as a result of a focused survey and education campaign;
- Recycling education continued to be effective and has become part of Darwin schools curriculum.
- Worked with Waste Management Coordinators from the Chamber of Commerce, Keep Australia Beautiful, Local Government Association (LGANT) and other Government and Non Government interests for collective response to Australian and Northern Territory Government policies and reporting.
- Annual Pre Cyclone Season Clean Up conducted in October provided a waste management and recycling opportunity to the residents of Darwin to clean up their gardens and yards. A total of 439 tonnes of unwanted items were collected. Many items went directly to the Recycle Shop and additionally approximately 30% of waste collected including a larger than usual amount of white goods was also recycled through external providers.
- Major maintenance works were undertaken on the Shoal Bay weighbridge.
- New landfill management contract commenced on the 1st January 2010. Macmahons Contractors were the successful contractor.

Economic Conditions and Trends

Development and growth

Darwin City continued to experience substantial development and growth during 2009/2010 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 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 to maintain 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 acted upon to foster environmental protection and respond to growing concerns from interested parties about environmental matters, including sustainable development.

Management milestones

Environmental management milestones included:

- Prioritising actions based on the Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee's priorities for the Action List and assessing issues impacting on Darwin's environmental values
- Continuing public places recycling trials
- 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.
- Input into Territory and Australian Government policies, strategies and programs. Advocating for stronger legislation for the protection of the Darwin Harbour environment, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Responded to the Australian Government's Draft National Waste Strategy updates.
- 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'.

- Respond to Australian Government, NT Government and Statutory bodies Draft Public documents on future environmental priorities.
- Advocated for the long term future of cost-effective, efficient and environmentally sound regional waste disposal site.
- Increase recycling rates and range of materials that are collected, reducing littering and improving public places waste services.
- Ongoing dialogue with residents and community participation in projects in all key environmental focus areas.
- Host events, such as the Big Aussie Swap Party which was held in all Capital cities. Held in November 2009 in Raintree Park it was a success with requests for additional Swap Parties to recycle, reuse and reduce articles. Participation in community and environment events to increase the profile of recycling and climate change mitigation.
- Initiate, participate, facilitate and encourage research and development projects that maintain or improve water quality and preserve fresh water resources, such as Water Sensitive Urban Design.
- Initiate, participate, facilitate and encourage projects that address the key issues of habitat and remnant vegetation protection, land and foreshore erosion and the spreading of weeds and pests.
- Implement energy management plans from the energy audits for Council-managed infrastructure and operations.

Environmental sustainability

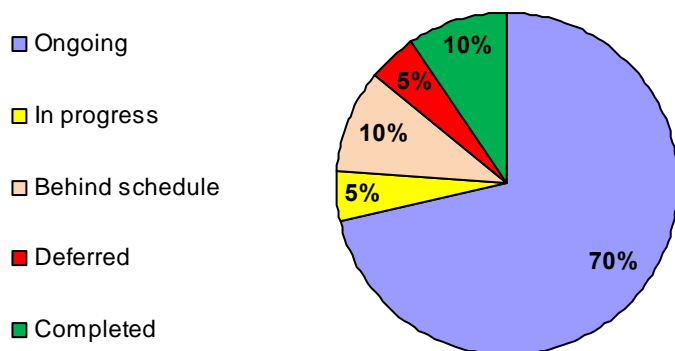
- Through the LMS Methane Extraction Facility at Shoal Bay, reduced landfill emissions and, in partnership with other levels of Government, continued long-term air quality monitoring programs for the city in partnership with stakeholders.
- Participate in any relevant schemes and programs for data capture and greenhouse gas reduction and alternative energy sources.
- Continue to explore options for funding sources to develop a Strategic Coastal Erosion Management Plan in particular, but also funding generally for other environmental projects.

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



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 term of this Council 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	Actions	Status	
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 2006-2010	
			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	Investigate and implement best practice programs that will promote community 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		

Cohesive community

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						
				2009/10	2008/09	
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	92.31%	98%	
5.1	Facilitate community access and inclusion	Total occupancy rate at the Community Centres	>95%	100%	100%	
		Community satisfaction rating with ability to contact Council staff out of office hours	> 3.5	2.7	2.9	
		Number of community groups supported (e.g. in-kind, advocacy, facilitation, financial)	Trend	72 ⁷	80	
5.2	Promote Darwin's culture	Number of Disability Advisory Committee decisions endorsed	Trend	5	18	
		Number of Arts & Culture Events Sponsored	Trend	33	52	
		Number of arts and cultural forums or projects	Trend	56	36	
5.3	Support harmony within the community	Total number of vandalism incidents reported (Graffiti)	Trend	228 ⁸	2,579	

⁷ The 2008/09 results was based on a sample of two months data and extrapolated out to produce a full year result. Changes were implemented in 2009/10 to ensure greater accuracy of data, therefore results should not be compared to the previous year.

⁸ A different method of calculating this indicator as a result of Council's new Service Legal Agreement with the Northern Territory Government for graffiti remediation which commenced in March 2010. This result therefore only represents 4 months of data and should not be compared to the previous years results

Community Grants Program

Darwin City Council's Community Grants Program, valued at \$100,000 per year, assists projects or events that directly benefit the Darwin community.

Community organisations were invited to apply for funding in two rounds and the money was disbursed in July 2009 and January 2010. The program attracted a staggering 77 applications seeking funding totalling \$423,458.62.

Council funded 32 applications from not for profit Incorporated Associations, to the total value of \$98,771.00. An out of round funding application was also funded to the value of \$2,300.00 and Parap Family Centre received funds of \$200.00 to assist with its 30th Birthday celebration event.

Council takes great pride in supporting the capacity of our not for profit community sector along with the many community groups who work tirelessly to enrich so many aspects of community life.

Organisation	Funding
Darwin Lions Beer Can Regatta Association Inc	\$5,000
The Beat Foundation Inc	\$5,000
Darwin Community Support Services	\$4,000
Cancer Council Inc	In-kind \$2,600
Tracks Inc	\$1,747
Australian Red Cross Society	\$5,000
Alzheimer's Australia NT	\$2,300
St John Ambulance Australia NT Inc	\$2,035
Arafura Ensemble (sponsoring body Music NT)	\$3,450
Total Recreation NT Inc	\$5,200
Disabled Sports Association	\$2,500
Neighbourhood watch NT	\$1,350
Wannabe Chefs (sponsoring body Darwin Senior Citizens Inc)	\$2,500
United Nations Association of Australia Northern Territory Inc	\$1,649
Vietnamese Community in Australia – NT Chapter Inc	\$1,500
Darwin Stingrays AUSSI Masters Swimming Club Inc	\$2,601
Catholic Care NT	\$1,500
Danila Dilba Health Service	\$4,000
Life Without Barriers	\$3,897
Life! Be In It	\$1,120
Darwin and Districts Pipes and Drums	\$2,694
Charles Darwin University	\$4,000

Cohesive community

Darwin Squash Association Inc	\$3,000
Wildcare Inc NT	\$2,000
Create Foundation	\$4,000
The Big Issue in Australia Limited	\$2,728
Arts Access Darwin	\$4,000
Rapid Creek Landcare Group Inc	\$2,400
Parap Village Traders Association	\$4,000
SIDS and Kids NT	\$2,000
Darwin Film Society	\$4,000
Corrugated Iron Youth Arts Inc	\$5,000
BreakItDown Dance Competition (sponsoring body Darwin Community Arts Inc)	\$2,300
Parap Family Centre	\$200.00

Arts and Culture

Council's Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee (ACDAC) meets five times per year at the Civic Centre. The Committee has overseen a range of projects this year including a Council commitment of 2 per cent of the Capital Works budget towards Public Art, and a Master Plan for Public Art in the Darwin City Centre.

Through Council's Public Art Program 20 local artists were given the opportunity to participate in free Public Art Theory and Practical workshops, delivered by Urban Art Projects at the Territory Craft studios. Council is expanding its Public Art collection with new Public Art commissioned for The Mall, while Casuarina Library initiated a temporary art project commissioning several works by Charles Darwin University students.

The Live Music in Libraries program was expanded with concerts held every Friday lunchtime at both Casuarina and City Libraries. A mix of local and visiting musicians have performed across a range of musical styles to appreciative audiences.

Council has now established a Community Art Space in the Civic Centre to host exhibitions of work by local artists, schools and community groups. This has been embraced by the Darwin Community and this year featured exhibitions of work by Anula Primary School, the Darwin Indigenous Arts Alliance and artist Deevya Desai.

As part of its Recycled Art Program, the community was invited to donate unwanted jewellery items for use at Recycled Jewellery workshops at community events, such as the Tropical Garden Spectacular and Sustainable Living Festival and Council's Fun in the Parks.

Council sponsored major Arts events including the Darwin Festival, Darwin Fringe, and *Origins*, a multi-media event performed in Civic Park to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin, which attracted around 3000 people on 1 July 2009. Live music and arts workshops were also featured at *Homeless Connect*.

Volunteers

Council has welcomed and appreciated the very generous support of a number of community volunteers who selflessly gave of their time and skills to enhance a range of services directly benefitting the broader community during 2009/2010.

Much of Council's community development work is complimented by volunteerism as is our very dynamic non government community sector network. Council is very grateful to our local volunteers who over the past year have supported the following initiatives: -

- Pre Cyclone Clean Up
- Homeless Connect, World Health Day
- Youth Advisory Group
- GRIND youth newspaper
- Youth Projects
- Darwin City Council Libraries
- Arts & Cultural Development Advisory Committee
- Disability Advisory Committee
- Various Advisory and Community Committees

The breadth of the work of volunteers is vast extending so to are the changing needs of the community. From supporting sister city fundraisers to providing hairdressing services to people who are homeless at Council's Homeless Connect event - whatever the task, Council is proud to recognise and acknowledge the highly valued contribution community volunteers provide.

Equity and Access Activities

Homeless Connect

The "Homeless Connect" program was developed to provide a pathway out of homelessness by bringing together services for a day to provide practical support, information and advice to this vulnerable client group.

On 7 April 2010 Darwin City Council, in partnership with the community services sector, proudly hosted the Northern Territory's inaugural Homeless Connect which coincided with World Health Day.

The event followed the release of the Federal Government's State of Australian Cities Report in March that found Darwin has the highest rate of homelessness in the country. It revealed more than 276 people in every 10,000 are homeless in the laid-back Northern Capital – a rate 39 times higher than Sydney. The number of people who are homeless in the NT on any one night is estimated at 4,785 people (Census of Population & Housing, 2006). Just as each state and territory is different with unique characteristics, Darwin, as Australia's most northern capital has a higher than national average youth population, Indigenous population and covers a huge geographic expanse.

Homeless Connect, facilitated by Darwin City Council brought together more than 58 service providers (both government, non government, community groups and not for profit organisations).

In the 3 month period leading into this day, Darwin City Council staff worked tirelessly to bring together the key partner agencies. The meetings were an important layer to the process; brokering interest, developing a shared vision and creating event parameters prior to inviting broader partnerships, which proved effective in shaping a culturally sensitive and responsive events.

The event ran from 10am to 1.00pm with the 58 service providers participating in addition to a number of local businesses who donated produce, food stuffs, staff and equipment. Darwin City Council staff also donated many goods such as groceries, toiletries, clothes and children's toys.

With the 35+ agency stalls a number of direct services were provided on the day including hair cuts, lice treatment and hair washing, pedicure services, range of vaccinations and cancer screening, provision of freshly cooked hot meals, provision of first aid kits, dental screening and referrals, Centrelink services, onsite op shop, children's activities plus much more.

The Northern Territory Government also supported the event by providing free public transport to and from the event.

The event was an outstanding success and delivered: -

- Provision of 160 swags to people who are homeless or without shelter (a national record)
- 40 dental checks by onsite dentist plus 2 clients sent for immediate treatment
- Provision of 200 hygiene packs
- Provision of approximately 100 haircuts
- Provision of approximately 60 massages and pedicures

Cohesive community

- Depending on the service provider, estimates of new client connections and referrals ranged from 3 new clients to 60 new client connections with over 58% of partners reporting that they may not have been able to connect with clients through existing channels.

This event achieved its aim of raising the profile of the issue of homelessness, it identified ways in which the community and governments can work together to provide assistance and support. In addition to this, it also provided positive interactions with the broader community.

Disability Advisory Committee

The Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) meets five times annually and its role is to inform and advise Council of its responsibilities to ensure equity of access for people with disability to Council procedures, services and facilities. The advice is provided through representatives selected for their awareness and specialist knowledge of disability issues and membership consists of one Council Alderman, ten community representatives and four specialist representatives.

Disability Awareness Week

Council sponsors and hosts Disability Awareness Week annually and provides a coordinating role for week long activities which are facilitated in conjunction with community members, representatives from a broad cross section of disability organisations and officers from City of Palmerston.

The 2009 theme of Disability Awareness Week was *Celebrating Ability and Inclusion*. The varied program of events held during the week celebrated the ability and inclusion of Territorians with a disability in all aspects of life and community. The events also raised awareness on disability issues whilst maintaining a festive atmosphere.

The Lord Mayor officially launched Disability Awareness Week 2009 at a free movie night at the Deckchair Cinema which was followed by a week filled with events and activities including markets, open days, a come and try sailing day and an employers' breakfast with guest speaker John Bennett OAM.

Seniors Month

Seniors Month was celebrated throughout the Territory during August. Council organised a varied program of activities including historical fiction writing workshops, yoga, aqua-aerobics, tai chi, boxercise and MP3/Ipod information sessions to name a few. All activities were free of charge for senior members of the community. Bookings were numerous for all activities with most being filled to capacity.

International Women's Day

Council sponsors the annual International Women's Day Walk and morning tea in March each year. The event is jointly facilitated by the United Nations Association of Australia and the Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory Inc. In 2010, the Lord Mayor and the Honourable Margaret Reynolds led the walk from the Darwin GPO along Cavenagh Street to the Civic Centre, where morning tea was served. The Hon.

Cohesive community

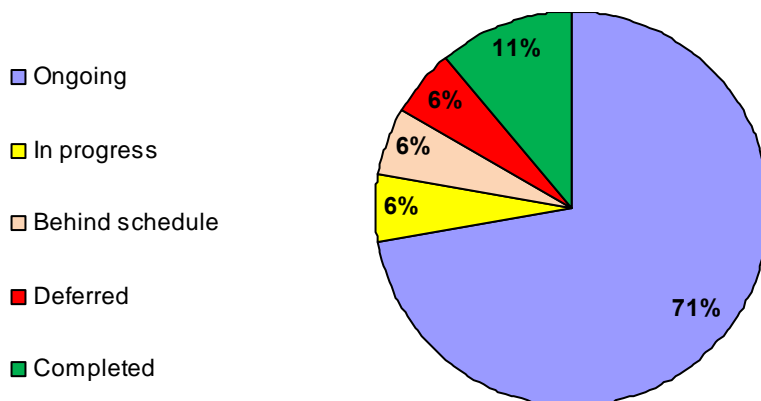
Margaret Reynolds, former Senator and Minister for Local Government and the Status of Women 1987-1990 was guest speaker at the morning tea.

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



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 term of this Council 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	Actions	Status
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 (NT Government, 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	
	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	

Branding Darwin

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						
				2009/10	2008/09	
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	97.88%	99%	
6.1	Increase Council's profile	Total value of sponsorships provided for major events	Trend	\$278k	\$68,932	
6.2	Promote our Darwin city	% of community that have attended special events and festivals (e.g. Bombing of Darwin) in the past 12 months	> 50%	43%	50%	
		Number of Sister City Committee decisions endorsed	Trend	29	32	
		Number of Sister City projects completed	Trend	2	N/A	

Events and Ceremonies

Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony

Darwin City Council hosts a Flag Raising and Citizenship Ceremony at the Darwin Entertainment Centre each year. 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 of the commemoration of the Bombing of Darwin during WWII. The service is held at the Cenotaph, and is attended by approximately 3,000 residents, guests and media. Council also held special tours for veterans to sites of WWII significance, including the war cemetery at Adelaide River.

Freedom of Entry

Throughout the year Darwin City Council hosts Freedom of Entries for the Australian Defence Force. 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

Darwin City Council recognised the contribution of the Darwin based troops that were deployed overseas. A march was held with over 3,000 troops marching along Knuckey and Cavenagh Streets in August 2009.

Darwin Show

Darwin City Council again sponsored the finale fireworks display for the Darwin Royal Show. This year's Council display featured the ABCs Bananas in Pyjamas. Other attractions were Mike Jackson the children's entertainer, Irish dancer, Crassic Park and Yuilana Pascoe. The Council Aldermen host a morning tea for the Senior Citizens.

Christmas Community Event

In November 2009 Darwin City Council held the Christmas Community event. Carols were performed by the Darwin City Brass Band and Lindy Lou entertained the children with song and dance. Christmas carols were also sung by the Essington Junior School Choir and the Arafura Calisthenics Club entertained the children with their dances. A jumping castle, face painting and free ice cups were supplied. Yuilana Pascoe and Shaun Hutton entertained with song throughout the evening.

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 for guests from the business, tourism, government and community sectors.

Sister Cities Program

The Sister Cities program continues to build on person-to-person friendships, cultural exchange and international goodwill. In 2009/2010 our annual Sister Cities fundraising event was held at the Deckchair cinema, coinciding with International Sister Cities day. All Sister City Community Committees were involved in the event which was very successful and well received by the general public. 449 tickets were sold at the event, making this one of the biggest fundraising event held at the Deckchair in recent times. Funds raised are allocated to the programs Sister City Community Committee projects.

Haikou

The Haikou Sister City Community Committee continues to provide support to Lao Ou Villages to maintain the Gull Force Memorial recognising POW held on Hainan. Council also sponsors 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

Yet again the Kalymnos Sister City Community Committee was involved in the Greek Glenti, one of Darwin's premier annual cultural events. Information about Council's longest sister city relationship was on display. The Committee sold traditional Greek dishes to raise funds for Kalymnian projects.

Ambon

This year we worked collaboratively with the Indonesian Consulate to promote the Ambon Sister City relationship through cultural community events held in Darwin such as the Persona Indonesia Festival. Council, through the Ambon Committee continues to support the annual Darwin Ambon Yacht Race.

Anchorage

During 2009/2010 the Sister Cities program purchased a special collection of Australian books and distributed them to Elementary Schools in Anchorage. Including Possum Magic, Warnayarra the Rainbow Snake and Snugglepup and Cuddlepie, the collection was designed to provide students with information about its Sister City nation.

Dili

Funds to purchase sewing machines have been donated to the Canossian Convent Orphanage in Dili by the Dili Sister City Community Committee on behalf of Council. These machines not only enable recipients to mend and sew their own clothes but provide them with the opportunity for micro-businesses such as tailoring and mending.

After being a part of the delegation to Timor Leste in May 2009, members of the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) and GRIND were enthusiastic about working on projects that benefited the youth of Dili. YAG and GRIND have been working closely with the Community Committee in developing sustainable projects with a particular focus on youth projects and supporting the Action For Change youth organization in Dili.

Friendships

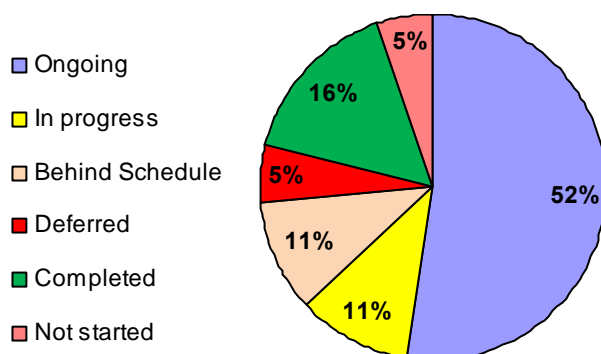
In view of the significance of the location and a multitude of shared characteristics, a friendship agreement was entered into with Gobierno Municipal de Santa Cruz in Galapagos-Ecuador. Lord Mayor Graeme Sawyer was invited and travelled to Santa Cruz Galapagos to participate in an international environment conference, which coincided with the signing of a friendship agreement.

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



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 term of this Council 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	Actions	Status	
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						
				2009/10	2008/09	
Completion of all key projects / initiatives within specified timeframes			>90%	96.69%	96%	
7.1	Effective governance	% of internal audit recommendations implemented within specified timeframes	> 90%	92%	99.95%	
		% of annual expenditure within budget	> 85%	93.72%	97.77%	
		% of rate debtors outstanding	< 4%	2.89%	2.84%	
		Debt Servicing Ratio	< 5%	1.13%	1.22%	
		Liquidity Ratio	> 1.0	1.33	1.16	
		Rates Ratio	> 65%	73.22%	70%	
		Investment earnings	> \$500k	\$2.02m	\$2.17m	
7.2	Display strong and effective leadership, within Council and across Government	% overall community satisfaction with DCC	> 65%	64%	62%	

Year of Women in Local Government

The year of Women in Local Government (YoWiLG) is a celebration of the significant contribution women make to local government. The primary focus of YoWiLG is to raise awareness and promote the need for increased participation of women into executive and elected leadership roles within councils and shires across Australia.

The year was jointly launched by the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, and the Hon. Tanya Pilbersek MP, Minister for the Status of Women in Sydney Town Hall on 20 January 2010.

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor General of Australia accepted the position of Patron for this very important celebration and encouraged all women and men to get involved and work together towards achieving greater representation of the gender balance within our communities.

As part of the YoWiLG, 21 Ambassadors were recruited from all parts of Australia to act as spokespeople and be a role model for the year. Two of the Ambassadors are from the Northern Territory, including Darwin City Council's Manager of Climate Change and Environment, Pam Robinson.

In 1982 Pam became the first female Councillor in Violet Town Shire Council's 86 year history. Pam held the position of Councillor for 10 years and President for two years. In 1990 Pam was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for services to Local Government and to Conservation.

So far in Pam's term as Ambassador, she has participated in a diverse range of activities and also created opportunities to ensure that her role as Ambassador is 'out and about' in the Darwin community. Pam has been focusing her efforts on encouraging school children to consider careers and jobs in Local Government. Pam has presented to Kormilda College, Taminmin College and the Girl Guides Association and events are planned for Darwin and Palmerston High Schools. Pam is also mentoring female staff who are considering progressing their careers within the organisation and has attended a number of conferences and teleconferences.

The national data shows that less than 30% of Councillors are women; 20% of Senior Management roles are filled by women and only 7% of Council Chief Executive Officers are women.

However, this is not the case in Darwin.

Darwin City Council is among the leading Councils who are showing a healthy gender balance in both elected members and staff. Of Council's 12 elected members plus one Lord Mayor, six are women. 50% of Council's Middle Management are women and when looking at Council's entire workforce 41% are women.

To demonstrate continued support for the 2010 YoWiLG, Darwin City Council became a Gold Partner.

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.

In 2009/2010 Darwin City Council has been successful in obtaining a total of \$13,118,264 in grant funding (20 projects) with a further \$506,608 (3 projects) waiting to be assessed, totalling \$13,624,872.

Where possible, 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	\$0	
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	\$0	
Local Roads Funding	General purpose funding for road works throughout the municipality		\$1,663,882	\$0	
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.	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Local Government Aust Govt	\$3,600,000	\$2,100,000 + \$75,518 in-kind contribution (Project Mgmt)	Northern Territory Government \$1,820,000 Private Developer \$575,000
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, NT Government	\$20,000	\$10,000	

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Pioneer Cemetery Restoration Works	Headstone and grave site restoration	Heritage Branch, Dept of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport, NT Government	\$10,000	\$0	
Public Art Professional Development Program	Mentorship which will deliver Public Art outcomes – linked with the commission of new Public Art for the The Mall	Dept of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport	\$10,000	\$0	
Sports and Recreation Grants Program	A feasibility study into the Parap Recreation Area Masterplan	Depart of Sports and Rec	\$32,500	\$32,500	
Connecting Darwin: Building New Cycle Linkages	This project will deliver the installation of new bike pods, new signage and the development of new bikes paths connecting key points within Darwin	Cycle Path Fund, Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Local Govt, Aust Govt	\$1,050,000	\$1,160,000	
Pods and Vods Program	To conduct a series of workshops on creating vodcasts and podcasts	Office of Youth Affairs	\$2,000	\$0	
Read em the Riot Act Program	Youth quiz night to follow on from previous year	Office of Youth Affairs	\$2,000	\$0	
Various projects	\$50,000 will go towards the demolition and construction of the pump house at the Nightcliff Swimming Pool, with DCC contributing an additional \$50k. \$69,000 will be spent in the Casuarina Library courtyard area – shade structure with lights and fan, demolition and replacement of fencing, landscaping etc.	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Local Government Aust Govt	\$119,000	\$50,000	
The BIG GIG	Funding to cover wages, venue hire, hire of equipment and posters for the staging of the BIG GIG event.	Office of Youth Affairs	\$2,000	\$15,000	
The BIG GIG	Funding to cover wages, venue hire, hire of equipment and posters for the staging of the BIG GIG event.	Office of Youth Affairs & BeyondBlue	\$10,000	\$0	
Recycled Art	DCC in partnership	Dept of the	\$9,284	\$10,000	

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Festival & Wearable Arts Workshops and Fashion Parade	with the Darwin community Arts will hold its inaugural Recycled Arts Festival which coincides with the National Recycling Week.	Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts Aust Govt			
Seniors Month	Guided Bus Tour of Darwin & Lunch	Dept of Health & Families	\$800	\$1,415	
The Mall – Light Pole Commissions	Design for lighting elements for 8 light poles in The Mall. This will supplement the MY0800 project by providing further opportunities for additional public art in The Mall.	Dept of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts & Sport (NRETAS)	\$50,000	\$0	
Governance Development Program	A suite of courses delivered by the AICD for Elected Members and Senior Managers specifically in relation to governance matters.	Special Purpose Grant, Dept of Local Govt & Housing, NT Government	\$24,000	\$0	
NT Heritage – Gardens Road Fencing	To fence Gardens Road	Dept of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts & Sport (NRETAS)	\$30,000	\$30,000	
TOTALS	20 Projects		\$13,118,264	\$4,692,433	\$2,395,000

Contracts

During 2009/2010 Darwin City Council awarded 24 contracts to the total value of \$20 million.

\$ Value Of Contracts 2009/2010	No Of Contracts Awarded 2009/2010	Service Provided	Contractor
Up To \$100,000	3	Lift modification at Westlane Carpark	Kone
		Provision of a courier service	Toll Priority
		Installation of Christmas tree lights	Ms Hd Masero
\$100,001 - \$250,000	6	Repairs and maintenance of air-conditioning in Various Buildings	Mobile Electrics
		Development of new Darwin City Council website	Captovate
		Provision of auditing services	KPMG
		Provision of insurance broking services	Marsh
		Parking machine maintenance	APARC
		Provision of a sweeping service	Jomajo Cleaning Services
\$250,001 - \$500,000	4	Supply and installation of exercise equipment Nightcliff foreshore	Omnitech
		Supply of irrigation equipment	Allied Irrigation
		Service of litter bins	Rural Rubbish Removals
		Earthmoving equipment hire	Mousellis And Sons
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	7	Provision of debt collection services	Territory Debt Collectors
		Bagot Oval upgrade	Water Dynamics
		Tree planting	R & T Trenching
		Building repairs and maintenance	MIM Investments
		Road reseal and overlay work 2009/2010	Asphalt Company Australia
		Provision of temporary labour service	Chandler Macleod
		MY0800 Smith Street hardworks and landscaping (Peel St to Knuckey Street)	McMahon Contractors
\$1,000,001 - \$2,500,000	1	MY0800 City Revitalisation Knuckey Street upgrade Stage 1	Wolpers Grahl
\$2,500,001 - \$5,000,000	2	Replacement and maintenance of on-street parking machines in Darwin CBD	APARC
		Woolner Road Upgrade, Stuart Highway to Brewery Place	Downer EDI Works
> \$5,000,000	1	Management And Operation Of Shoal Bay Waste Disposal Site	Macmahon Contractors

Financial Statements

Financial Overview

Audited Financial Statements