



Ordinary Council

Business Paper for October 2023

Tuesday, 24 October 2023
Civic Centre

Mayor Matt Paterson
(Chair)

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alicesprings.nt.gov.au



**ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF THE FOURTEENTH COUNCIL
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023
8.30AM (CONFIDENTIAL) & 11.00AM (OPEN), CIVIC CENTRE, ALICE SPRINGS**

- 1. *OPENING OF THE CONFIDENTIAL MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY***
- 2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 3. PETITIONS**
- 4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**
- 5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - 5.1. [Minutes of the Ordinary Confidential Meeting held on 26 September, 2023](#)
 - 5.2. Business Arising from the Minutes
- 6. CONFIDENTIAL MAYORAL REPORT**
 - 6.1. [Confidential Mayor's Report
Report No. 190 / 23 cncl](#)
 - 6.2. Business Arising from the Report
- 7. ORDERS OF THE DAY**
 - 7.1. That Elected Members and Officers provide notification of matters to be raised in General Confidential Business
- 8. CONFIDENTIAL NOTICES OF MOTION**
- 9. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
 - 9.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
 - 9.1.1 [Confidential CEO Report
Report No. 191 / 23 cncl](#)
 - 9.1.2 Business Arising from the Report
 - 9.1.3 [ICT Update
Report No. 187 / 23 cncl](#)
 - 9.1.4 Business Arising from the Report

9.2. CORPORATE SERVICES

9.2.1 [Audited Financial Report
Report No. 203 / 23 cncl](#)

9.2.2 Business Arising from the Report

9.2.3 [UNCONFIRMED Minutes – CONFIDENTIAL Risk Management and Audit
Committee - 11 October 2023](#)

9.2.4 Business Arising from the Report

9.2.5 [Recommendations of Risk Management and Audit Committee – 11 October
2023](#)

9.3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

9.3.1 [Proposed Upgrade to Alice Springs Tennis
Report No. 197 / 23 cncl](#)

9.3.2 Business Arising from the Report

9.4. TECHNICAL SERVICES

9.4.1 [Liquid Waste at the Alice Springs Regional Waste Management Facility
Report No. 196 / 23 cncl](#)

9.4.2 Business Arising from the Report

9.4.3 [Underground Drain Cleaning 2024-2026
Report No. 201 / 23 cncl](#)

9.4.4 Business Arising from the Report

10. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

11. GENERAL CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

12. MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN

13. CLOSING OF CONFIDENTIAL MEETING

14. RESUMPTION OF MEETING IN OPEN

15. *OPENING OF THE OPEN MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY*

16. PRAYER

17. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

18. WELCOME

19. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

20. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

21. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

21.1 [Minutes of the Ordinary Open Meeting held on 26 September, 2023](#)

21.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

22 MAYORAL REPORT

22.1 [Mayor's Report](#)
[Report No. 192 / 23 cncl](#)

22.2 Business Arising from the Report

23 ORDERS OF THE DAY

23.1 That Elected Members and Officers provide notification of matters to be raised in General Business.

24 MEMORIALS

25 PETITIONS

26 NOTICES OF MOTION

27 FINANCE

27.1 [Finance Report](#)
[Report No. 186 / 23 cncl](#)

27.2 Business Arising from the Report

28 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

28.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

28.1.1 [CEO Report](#)
[Report No. 193 / 23 cncl](#)

28.1.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.1.3 [Economic Development Plan](#)
[Report No. 205 / 23 cncl](#)

28.1.4 Business Arising from the Report

28.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

28.2.1 [Municipal Plan 2023/2024 Quarterly Review](#)
[Report No. 194 / 23 cncl](#)

28.2.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.2.3 [Adoption of 2022/2023 Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report](#)
[Report No. 202 / 23 cncl](#)

28.2.4 Business Arising from the Report

28.2.5 [Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference](#)
[Report No. 204 / 23 cncl](#)

28.2.6 Business Arising from the Report

28.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- 28.3.1 [Community Development Update
Report No. 198 / 23 cncl](#)
- 28.3.2 Business Arising from the Report
- 28.3.3 [Multicultural Action Plan 2023-2026 Update
Report No. 199 / 23 cncl](#)
- 28.3.4 Business Arising from the Report
- 28.3.5 [UNCONFIRMED Minutes – Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – 27
September 2023](#)
- 28.3.6 Business Arising from the Report
- 28.3.7 [Recommendations of Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – 27 September
2023](#)
- 28.3.8 [Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Nominations
Report No. 189 / 23 cncl](#)
- 28.3.9 Business Arising from the Report
- 28.3.10 [Liquor Licence Application
Report No. 195 / 23 cncl](#)
- 28.3.11 Business Arising from the Report

28.4 TECHNICAL SERVICES

- 28.4.1 [Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy Performance Review
Report No. 200 / 23 cncl](#)
- 28.4.2 Business Arising from the Report

29. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

30. GENERAL BUSINESS

31. MATTERS FOR MEDIA ATTENTION

32. NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 28 November, 2023

33. CLOSING OF OPEN MEETING



Andrew Wilsmore – Chief Executive Officer
Wednesday 18 October, 2023

Petitions – Pursuant to Clause 9 of the Alice Springs (Council Meetings and Procedures) By-law where a member presents a petition to a meeting of the council, no debate on or in relation to it shall be allowed and the only motion which may be moved is:

- that the petition be received and consideration stand as an order of the day for the meeting or for a future meeting;
- or the petition be received and referred to a committee or officer for consideration and a report to Council.

Open Minutes of Council – *Unconfirmed Open minutes of the meeting and associated reports not prescribed as Confidential, will be available for public inspection within ten days after the meeting pursuant to Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2019.*

Notice of Motions by Elected Members – *Notice must be given so that it can be included with the Business Paper circulation on the Tuesday prior to the Council meeting. Clause 6 of the By-Law requires that the Notice of Motion shall be included with the Business Paper.*

MINUTES OF THE **ORDINARY** MEETING OF THE FOURTEENTH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
26 SEPTEMBER 2023 IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, ALICE SPRINGS

14. RESUMPTION OF MEETING IN OPEN

15. Opening of the Open Meeting by the Mayor (Chair) and Acknowledgement of Country

Mayor Matt Paterson declared the meeting open at **11.03am** and welcomed all present to the meeting.

Mayor Matt Paterson acknowledged the Central Arrernte people who are the traditional owners and custodians of Alice Springs.

Mayor Matt Paterson advised that this meeting is being recorded and will be placed on Council's website. By speaking at a Council meeting, you agree to being recorded. Alice Springs Town Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures made during the course of this Council meeting.

Media present – ABC Alice Springs

PRESENT

Mayor M. Paterson (Chair)
Deputy Mayor A. Bitar (via Zoom)
Councillor M. Banks
Councillor S. Brown
Councillor M. Coffey (via Zoom)
Councillor K. Hopper
Councillor M. Liddle
Councillor E. Melky
Councillor G. Morris (via Zoom)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr A. Wilshire – Chief Executive Officer
Mr J. Andrew – Director Technical Services
Ms N. Battle – Director Community Development
Mr J. McCabe – Acting Director Corporate Services
Mrs E. Williams – Executive Assistant (Minutes)
Mrs M. Woods – Executive Support Officer (Observing)
Mr A. Geppa – Media Officer

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16. PRAYER

Pastor Bruce Mahlangu, Amazing Grace Church

Councillor Banks arrived at 11.08am

17. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

18. WELCOME

The Mayor acknowledged and congratulated the former Mayor, Damien Ryan who was present to receive the Honorary Life Membership from the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT).

19. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

19.1 Edan Baxter – The Voice Referendum

Mr Baxter asked what the feeling of Elected Members was around the upcoming Voice referendum.

The Mayor responded that Council as a whole don't have a collective view, it's up to Elected Members if they wish to share their position.

Councillor Hopper, Councillor Morris and Deputy Mayor Bitar spoke in support of the Voice.

20. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Nil

21. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

21.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Open Meeting held on 22 August, 2023

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 22 August, 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED (22758)

3 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

21.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

21.2.1 Councillor Banks – Mayor Credit Card transactions

Councillor Banks asked around the transaction with Iris Capital and if the meeting had appeared in the Mayor's report.

The Mayor responded that this discussion was mainly around child-care development support and was an oversight for not being in the August Mayors report.

21.2.2 Councillor Hopper – Development Applications

Councillor Hopper asked for an update on this item.

Director Technical Services advised that, the internal processes are being updated to reflect Council papers at the time.

21.2.3 Councillor Hopper – Local Buy Parameters

Councillor Hopper asked for an update on this item.

Acting Director Corporate Services took the question on notice.

21.2.4 Deputy Mayor Bitar – Off-leash Dogs

Deputy Mayor Bitar asked for an update on this item.

Director Community Development responded that the Rangers have been undertaking a blitz on off-leash dogs which includes the cemetery.

22 MAYORAL REPORT

22.1 Mayor's Report
Report No. 175 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That the Mayor's report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22759)

22.2 Business Arising from the Report

22.2.1 Councillor Hopper – Meeting with Michael Murphy

Councillor Hopper asked if this meeting involved discussion on the recent bushfires.

The Mayor responded that this was the first meeting held with Mr Murphy since becoming NT Police Commissioner and at that stage there were no fires in Tenant Creek.

4 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

22.2.2 Councillor Hopper – Meeting with Dorrelle Anderson

Councillor Hopper asked for context on this meeting.

The Mayor responded that it was to discuss the current funding commitments.

22.2.3 Councillor Coffey – NT Cattleman's Association

Councillor Coffey asked if their upcoming 40-year celebrations were discussed.

The Mayor responded that the 40-year celebration is scheduled for March 2024 over several days in Alice Springs and how Council can assist was discussed.

22.2.4 Councillor Brown – 2023 National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress

The Mayor gave a verbal update on his attendance at the conference held recently in Canberra.

22.2.5 Councillor Hopper – Correspondence from the Member for Araluen, Robyn Lambley

The Mayor responded that he has advised the Member for Araluen that her queries were mainly operational.

The CEO advised that correspondence will appear in the October Ordinary Meeting of Council around her queries.

23. ORDERS OF THE DAY

23.1 That Elected Members and Officers provide notification of matters to be raised in General Business.

23.1.1 Councillor Melky – Community Football

23.1.2 Councillor Banks – Community Football

23.1.3 Councillor Banks – Social Order Response

23.1.4 Councillor Hopper – Gap Road, Road Safety

23.1.5 Councillor Hopper – Correspondence Received from Buffel Grass Action Group

24. MEMORIALS

Nil

5 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

25. PETITIONS

Nil

Councillor Liddle arrived at the meeting at 11.44am

26. NOTICES OF MOTION

26.1 Councillor Hopper – Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy (LMMS)

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Councillor Banks

1. **Request a formal review of performance against all KPIs as set out in the LMMS Evaluation Framework, including recommendations for improvement.**
2. **Provide a report to Elected Members that;**
 - a. **summarises Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) performance against its obligations contained in the LMMS and the ATSC Trusteeship of the Todd and Charles Rivers.**
 - b. **identifies potential risk (reputational, financial, other) and legal liability in meeting or failing to meet ASTC obligations**
 - c. **provides recommendations to improve management of the Todd and Charles Rivers including immediate and long-term solutions.**

CARRIED (22760)

26.2 Business Arising from the Motion

26.2.1 Councillor Coffey – Disaster Response Funding

Councillor Coffey asked around available disaster response funding.

The Mayor took the question on notice.

27. FINANCE

27.1 Finance Report
Report No. 171 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Morris

Seconded – Councillor Brown

That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22761)

6 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

27.2 Business Arising from the Report

27.2.1 Councillor Hopper – Item 3.2

Councillor Hopper asked for further detail on the P&L statement.

The Acting Director Corporate Services responded that the figures are indicative only due to year end rollover still needing to be completed.

Councillor Melky left the Chamber at 12.01pm

Councillor Melky returned to the Chamber at 12.05pm

27.2.2 Deputy Mayor Bitar – Reserves Transfers

Deputy Mayor Bitar asked why the movements aren't indicated

The Mayor responded that this will be tidied in October with all movements shown.

27.2.3 Mayor Paterson – Approved Operating Budget

The Mayor noted that the approved annual budget did not reflect the adopted budget.

The Acting Director Corporate Services responded that treatment of income from audit review had altered and that was being fixed to reflect adopted budget.

28. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

28.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

28.1.1 CEO Report

Report No. 177 / 23 cncl

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

1. **That this report be received and noted.**
2. **That pursuant to section 38(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Council resolves to authorise the Mayor and CEO to affix and attest its common seal to the Northern Territory of Australia Variable Term Standard Grant Funding Agreement - Housing, Municipal and Essential Services Grant 2023-25 - Grant Number HMES00003.**

CARRIED (22762)

Councillor Melky left the Chamber at 12.06pm

Councillor Melky returned to the Chamber at 12.07pm

7 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

28.1.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.1.2.1 Councillor Hopper – Business Support for Central Australia

Councillor Hopper asked for more information around this and how does it align with organisations such as the Chamber of Commerce.

The CEO responded that its an initiative of the Department.

28.1.2.2 Deputy Mayor Bitar – Summer Program

Deputy Mayor Bitar asked if further funding can be obtained from the NIAA for Summer holiday programs, such as free entry to the pool.

The Mayor asked that a request needs to be sent to Territory Families rather than NIAA.

28.1.2.3 Councillor Banks – Crown Land and Fire Breaks correspondence

Councillor Banks asked for an update on the fire breaks around the properties that share boundaries with Crown Land.

The CEO gave a response on what parties are responsible and where.

Councillor Coffey asked how residents are able to gather information on when and who will assist with fire breaks.

Director Technical Services responded that he will request information through the working group he sits on.

8 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

28.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

28.2.1 Adoption of Council Policies
Report No.182 / 23 cncI

Moved – Councillor Melky
Seconded – Councillor Brown

That Council adopts the following policies:

- 1. Shared Services Policy (*Attachment A*) amended so that any Shared Services arrangement takes into account the impact of local business.**
- 2. Sufficient Interest in the Assessment Record Policy (*Attachment B*)**
- 3. Rates Concession Policy (*Attachment C*)**
- 4. Confidential Information and Business Policy (*Attachment D*)**
- 5. Accountable Forms Policy (Members and CEO) (*Attachment E*)**
- 6. Filling Casual Vacancies Policy (*Attachment F*)**
- 7. Conflict of Interest – CEO and Employees Policy (*Attachment G*)**
- 8. Elected Member and Staff Interaction Policy (*Attachment H*)**
- 9. Investment Policy (*Attachment I*)**

CARRIED (22763)

28.2.2 Business Arising from the Report

28.2.2.1 Councillor Coffey – Legislative Requirements

Councillor Coffey asked if legal advice is sought on those policies that involve legislative requirements.

The Acting Director Corporate Services responded that the Local Government Department have provided overview and advice on the policies where required.

28.2.2.2 Councillor Coffey – Shared Services Policy

Councillor Coffey asked that Local Buy be included in this policy to support locally where possible.

The Acting Director Corporate Services will include this detail in the policy

28.2.2.3 Councillor Melky – Rates Concession Policy

Councillor Melky asked if this a Council Policy or Elected Member Policy.

Acting Director Corporate Services responded it is an Elected Member Policy as its adopted by Council. Operational policies aren't presented to Council as they are approved by the CEO and not Council.

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28.2.2.4 Councillor Coffey – Accountable Forms Policy

Councillor Coffey asked if this includes credit cards.

The CEO responded that there is a separate policy for credit cards but this will be included in this policy acknowledging this.

Councillor Banks left the Chamber at 12.32pm

Councillor Banks returned to the Chamber at 12.40pm

Director Technical Services left the Chamber at 12.35pm

Director Technical Services returned to the Chamber at 12.37pm

28.2.2.5 Mayor Paterson – Casual Vacancies Policy

With a change to the Filling Casual Vacancies policy to change the word “will” to “may” in relation to filling Ordinary Member casual vacancy <18 months but not >6 months before the next general election.

28.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

28.3.1 Community Development Update to Council
Report No. 169 /23 cncl

Moved – Deputy Mayor Bitar

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

That this report will be received and noted

CARRIED (22764)

28.3.2 Business Arising from the Report

The Mayor thanked the Director and her team for the recent successfully held events.

Councillor Coffey asked that it be noted that the Deputy Mayor and himself read at the Pawsome Tales event co-hosted by the Library and Ranger Unit.

28.3.2.1 Councillor Hopper – Hard Rubbish Collection

Councillor Hopper asked if the discussion around the collection of hard rubbish is still continuing.

Director Technical Services responded that he's not aware of this.

Councillor Hopper asked that it be raised in the working group discussions to assist in the illegal dumping of hard rubbish.

11 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

28.4 TECHNICAL SERVICES

28.4.1 Alice Springs Town Council CCTV, Security Lights and Security Fencing Upgrades

Report No. 168 / 23 cncl

Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.4.3

Moved – Councillor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Coffey

That this report be received and noted.

CARRIED (22747)

28.4.2 Park Upgrades and Shade Sail Installation

Report No. 179 / 23 cncl

Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.4.5

Moved – Councillor Brown

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

1. **That Council approve the upgrades of Finlayson Park and Oleander Park for 2023/2024FY.**
2. **That Council approve the installation of shade structures in Campbell Park and Grant Park.**
3. **That this report be moved from Confidential to Open.**

CARRIED (22748)

28.4.3 Road Re-seal Program

Report No.181 / 23 cncl

Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.4.7

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Deputy Mayor Bitar

1. **That Council approve Council Officers going to tender for the FY 2023-24 to 25-26 Road Reseal Program at a cost of \$2,150,000 across three years.**
2. **That Council approve the commitment to the budget for the road reseal in the 2025 and 2026 financial years.**
3. **That the resolution be moved from Confidential to Open.**

CARRIED (22749)

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28.4.4 Frances Smith Memorial Park – Pump Track and Skill Trail Upgrade
Report No.180 / 23 cncI

Item transferred from Confidential Agenda Item 9.4.11

Moved – Councillor Coffey

Seconded – Councillor Hopper

1. **That Council allocate \$200,000.00 from the parks budget line for the development of the Frances Smith Memorial Park, pump track, and skill trail.**
2. **That this report be moved from Confidential to Open.**

CARRIED (22751)

29. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

Council recessed for lunch at 12.50pm and returned at 1.20pm

30. GENERAL BUSINESS

30.1.1 Councillor Melky – Community Football

Councillor Melky asked for information to be presented to Council around the community football held in town vs the increase in crime.

The Mayor advised that this process has commenced with the information being tabled for discussion at a future Forum.

30.1.2 Councillor Banks – Community Football

Councillor Banks gave an overview of the positive behaviour inside the grounds of both the players and supporters at the recent community football grand final.

30.1.3 Councillor Banks – Social Order Response

Councillor Banks reiterated her concerns that were raised at recent meetings with NT Police and the Police Minister around the response times following criminal damage at the Araluen precinct.

Councillor Banks asked the Mayor to speak with the Police Minister asking her to speak with the individuals impacted by the recent criminal damage at the Araluen precinct.

Councillor Banks will supply the Mayor with the contact details.

13 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

30.1.4 Councillor Hopper – Gap Road, Road Safety

Councillor Hopper tabled correspondence received from a resident of Gap Road around street lighting and speed limit concerns.

As an Alice Springs resident of almost 5 years I remember being advised by a local upon moving to avoid driving along gap road at night. I was warned that due to the poor lighting and location, it was more common that pedestrians were hit by cars along the road, and it is not uncommon for pedestrians to be unconscious or in distress on the road itself.

Gap road attracts some of our communities most vulnerable - with the hospital, AHL hostel, youth drop in centre, hospital laws, KFC and Gap View Hotel. It's also the road connecting town to the south - creating significant foot traffic. And yet - it is a 60km/hour zone in some part with no enforcement of the 40km zone, and arguably the poorest lit main street in Alice Springs.

Just two weeks ago I pulled over on Gap Road to respond to a woman in mental health crisis laying in the middle of the road. I stood holding my hand out to traffic as the sun went down hoping the ambulance would arrive before dark, knowing full well we would both be in danger given the inadequate lighting.

As a social worker within 18 months two women known to me have been killed in hit and runs on the road. One begs to question whether these deaths may have been avoidable should the driver had better visualisation with more adequate street lighting.

A brief google search brings up 5 serious incidents on the road in the last 5 years, several of which involve the death of Aboriginal women. I am certain a freedom of information request would highlight that this is one of the most dangerous roads for pedestrian fatalities in Central Australia.

- *Sept 2023 - Fatal Hit and run of woman*
- *June 2022 - Woman dragged on to road in DV incident, serious spinal injuries*
- *May 2022 - Fatal Hit and run of woman escaping family violence*
- *Jan 2021 - Ms Rubuntja killed outside the hospital*
- *January 2018 - Fatal hit and run of woman*

I am writing to you in the hopes you will raise my concerns with fellow counsellors and propose urgent attention to:

1. *Upgrade street lighting on gap road and*
2. *Propose adequate traffic management initiatives such as a 50km speed limit and speed bumps around the hospital and Gap Youth/Piggleys area*

I appreciate your time in considering my concerns, and welcome any feedback you may have in how best to proceed in drawing the right attention to this issue.

Warmly,

Amy

Councillor Hopper asked for a please explain letter be sent to Power and Water on the lack of street lighting along Gap Road and request an update from DIPL on what is being done around traffic safety in that area.

The Mayor will write a response to the author of the original letter.

14 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

30.1.5 Councillor Hopper – Correspondence Received from Buffel Grass Action Network

Councillor Hopper tabled correspondence received from the Buffel Grass Action Network.

Dear Elected Members,

Buffel grass invasion poses a serious risk to our community. This grass dramatically increases the risk from fire, impacts health and impedes our access to, and enjoyment of, many special places.

Many members of the community spend a significant amount of time and energy clearing buffel grass from private and public places.

The ongoing damage to important sites across town caused by buffel grass invasion and buffel- fueled fires has caused great distress.

The Lhere Mparntwe is burning. Trees that are hundreds of years old are being lost and damaged. These fires are a real and ever-present threat to cultural heritage, residents, property, tourism, local businesses, and of course, the natural environment and its biodiversity. The Alice Springs Town Council must act now.

We call on our Town Council to respond with urgency to this crisis. We call on you to take the following actions:

- 1. Respond to the fires in the Lhere Mparntwe*
 - a. ensure fallen branches are left in place. Fallen branches are an important habitat element, especially in the context of fire, as they provides shelter and support flora and fauna recovery.*
 - b. institute careful use of herbicides to poison emergent buffel in order to halt positive fire-invasion feedback as recommended in best practice buffel management guidelines e.g. https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/275906/4108_PIRSA_factsheet_Buffel_Grass_Control.pdf*
- 2. Implement short-term fire risk mitigation for ecosystems and public safety - e.g. ensuring cleared collars around the river gums*
- 3. Implement long-term fire risk mitigation - including implementation of the Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy (see questions on the implementation of the Strategy below)*
- 4. Encourage and support big picture and big ideas. Some ideas already put forward by the community are:*
 - a. Raising community awareness through information and education campaigns*
 - b. Encouraging and supporting private and public buffel removal and native plantings*
 - c. Aiming for Alice Springs to be a buffel-free municipality*

Councils can respond decisively to the threat of buffel grass. Please see this Annual Report from Roxby Council SA as an example: <https://lgasa-web.squiz.cloud/?a=279194>

Questions to ASTC regarding their responsibilities under the Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy 2019 (Town Area Management Zone)

Objective 1: Protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of the river

Could you please explain what action the ASTC is taking to fulfil the responsibilities listed below:

Prioritise buffel and couch grass hazard reduction for fire management into areas important for tree protection and re-emergence of native species?

Conduct fire and vegetation management for targeted sub-zones on the basis of biological and cultural values as well as expected intensity and type of use?

Expand support for the existing efforts undertaken by Alice Springs Landcare between Gosse Street and Stott Terrace on the eastern bank and by the Olive Pink Botanic Garden between Stott Terrace and Tuncks Road?

Include weed management been in the vegetation and fire management for the town area?

We understand a formal Vegetation and Fire Management Plans for each management zone has been drafted and presented to the Lhere Mparntwe Advisory Group.

When will this Plan be finalised / endorsed?

Objective 2: Encourage more locals and visitors to use the rivers in culturally and ecologically sensitive ways for recreation and relaxation.

Has a series of communication products to assist the community to understand and celebrate the cultural and ecological values of the rivers been developed?

Where can we find these products?

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Objective 3: Governments, business and the community to work collaboratively to care for the rivers.

Could you please explain what action the ASTC is taking to fulfil the responsibilities listed below:

Encourage and facilitated commitment by individuals, schools and community groups in managing fuel loads in small sections of the rivers?

Encourage recurrent funding from all levels of government and philanthropists to promote maintenance and eventual expansion of the management area?

Encourage and support the development of an Mparntwe Ranger Group in conjunction with relevant organisations in accordance with the aspirations of Mparntwe sacred site custodians?

Thank you for considering our concerns and requests. We look forward to your response.

Councillor Hopper asked that a response from Council be sent to the Network on the strategies Council are using, or plan to use around weed management.

30.1.6 Councillor Liddle – Tangentyere Council

Councillor Liddle asked what is being done to encourage Tangentyere to meet with Council.

The Mayor responded that many requests to meet have been sent with no response from Tangentyere.

Councillor Coffey asked that the lack of engagement be raised with the Northern Territory Government and/or funding bodies.

That Council request assistance from the Northern Territory Government to broker a meeting with Tangentyere Council to address service delivery within the municipality of Alice Springs and community concerns around safety.

Moved – Councillor Liddle

Seconded – Councillor Melky

CARRIED (22766)

30.1.7 Councillor Liddle – Illegal Gambling

Councillor Liddle raised concerns around the increase in illegal gambling on the various grassed areas in town and asked who is responsible, is it Rangers or Police, or both.

The Director Community Development took the question on notice.

30.1.8 Councillor Liddle – Statues

Councillor Liddle asked for an update on the statues.

Director Community Development advised that an EOI has been circulated with responses pending.

16 -- CNCL 26/09/2023

30.1.9 Deputy Mayor Bitar – ASALC Free Entry in January

Councillor Bitar asked that Territory Families be approached to provide funding to support free entry to ASALC in January.

That Council writes to Territory Families to request funding to support free entry inclusive of staff costs to the Alice Springs Aquatic Leisure Centre (ASALC) for the Summer school holidays.

Moved – Deputy Mayor Bitar

Seconded – Mayor Paterson

CARRIED (22767)

Director Community Development will investigate the staffing requirements if there is free entry to ASALC throughout the Summer school holidays.

Councillor Liddle left the Chamber at 2.30pm

Councillor Liddle returned to the Chamber at 2.32pm

31. MATTERS FOR MEDIA ATTENTION

Media matters will be covered via the media attendance at this meeting.

32. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 24 October, 2023

33. CLOSURE OF OPEN MEETING

Mayor Paterson declared the meeting closed at **2.33pm.**

Moved – Councillor Melky

Seconded – Councillor Brown

The Council meeting be closed.

CARRIED (22768)

Confirmed on _____

CHAIRPERSON _____

REPORT

Report No. 192 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: MAYOR’S REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor’s report be received and noted.

1. MEETINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

- 1.1 Hon Kate Worden MLA, Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services**
- 1.2 Mary Jane Warfield, Director of Programs and Events, Red Hot Arts Central Australia**
- 1.3 SFAC Meeting**
- 1.4 Bi-monthly meeting with Joshua Burgoyne MLA and Andrew Wilshire, Chief Executive, Alice Springs Town Council**
- 1.5 Alice Springs and Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation Partnership Committee Meeting**
- 1.6 Annie Tyler, Regional Coordinator, NT Shelter and Frances Paterson-Fleider, Chief Executive Officer, Community Housing Central Australia**
- 1.7 Tania Tandora, Chief Executive Officer, Tennis NT**
- 1.8 CBD Regeneration Public Consultation – Initial Key Stakeholders Workshop and Final Presentation**
- 1.9 Tony Edmondstone, Chief Executive Officer, Airport Development Group Pty Ltd**
- 1.10 Council Forums**
- 1.11 RMAC Meeting**
- 1.12 2023 Asia Pacific Cities Summit & Mayor’s Forum**
- 1.13 Norelle Clark - Pickleball**
- 1.14 LGANT Meeting with the City of Palmerston**
- 1.15 LGANT Board Meeting**
- 1.16 Place Naming Committee**

2. FUNCTIONS ATTENDED & PARTICIPATED IN

- 2.1 Alice Springs Major Business Group and Regional Industry Roundtable Luncheon
- 2.2 National Police Remembrance Day 2023
- 2.3 Desert Festival Pop Up Park
- 2.4 Desert Rose Cup
- 2.5 The Warm Up for Masters Games
- 2.6 Clontarf Foundation Super Training

3. INTERVIEWS / MEDIA COMMITMENTS

- 3.1. ABC Alice Springs with Stewart Brash
- 3.2. 8CCC Breakfast Show with Andy
- 3.3. Sky News Interview
- 3.4. Blind Magic Interview with Murray Stewart
- 3.5. 360 Interview with Katie Woolf
- 3.6. Royston's Sporting Round-up 8CCC

4. DUTIES PERFORMED IN THE MAYOR'S ABSENCE

MHACA Stress Less in the Park 2023



Matt Paterson
MAYOR

Attachment A: [Correspondence from Mayor Paterson to BIZCOM re. Support Letter for Round 3 RCP](#)

Attachment B: [Correspondence from Minister Lawler to Mayor Paterson re. Regional Skate Park Funding](#)

Attachment C: [Correspondence from Mayor Paterson to Minister Paech re. Meeting with Tangentyere](#)

Attachment D: [Correspondence from Mayor Paterson to Minister Worden re. ASALC Summer School Holidays](#)

Attachment E: [Correspondence from Minister Clare to Mayor Paterson re. Regional University Study Hubs program](#)

Attachment F: [Correspondence from Chief Minister Fyles to Mayor Paterson re. Invitation from SARC](#)

Attachment G: [Correspondence from Mayor Paterson re. Support Letter for International Children's Games](#)



Office of the Mayor

22 September 2023

To whom it may concern,

Letter of Support

I write to provide support for the application by BIZCOM (NT) Pty Ltd. for Round 3 of the Regional Connectivity Program (RCP) for the installation of the fibre to the home rollout project extending to the rural suburbs of Alice Springs.

BIZCOM is the first Internet Service Provider in Alice Springs, which has built a long-standing and respected business in Central Australia over 27 years and a licensing carrier with the ACMA since 2015. They have also identified the needs of the rural communication networks and have made significant improvements in various services provided to rural areas in Alice Springs in the past.

The current home rollout project at the White Gum area, funding from the RCP Round 2 is in progress and is estimated to be completed by the end of 2023. The upcoming RCP Round 3 funding will be covering broader rural suburbs such as Ross, Ilparpa and Connellan.

There are foreseeable significant improvements from the project:

- Local contractors will be utilised which will increase employment opportunities within the region
- Businesses and entrepreneurs from rural areas will receive better network capacity and capability to enhance local economics
- Rural communities will benefit from reliable high-speed internet to access online educational resources and to reach greater educational outcomes
- Better access to telehealth services and contributing to improved healthcare at residential premises

I fully support BIZCOM in its grant application and I look forward to the level of improvement of substantial social and economic benefits from the upgrade project to Alice Springs communities. Please feel free to contact myself at executive@astc.nt.gov.au for further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Paterson
MAYOR

Alice Springs Town Council
ABN 45 863 481 471
93 Todd St, Alice Springs
Northern Territory 0870

P. (08) 8950 0500
F. (08) 8953 0558
E. astc@astc.nt.gov.au
PO Box 1071, Alice Springs, NT 0871



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MINISTER FOR SPORT

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

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8936 5553

His Worship the Mayor of Alice Springs
Mr Matt Paterson
Alice Springs Town Council

Via email: eaexecutive@astc.nt.gov.au

Dear Mayor Paterson

Matt

I write to you in response to your letter of 5 June 2023 to the Hon Eva Lawler MLA, Treasurer, regarding a request for the Northern Territory Government to contribute funding towards a regional skate park in Alice Springs. Minister Lawler has referred your correspondence to me as the Minister responsible for Sport.

The Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities (the Department) has recently completed a business case template and guidelines for sport and recreation infrastructure proposals. A representative from the Department will contact your office and provide the necessary documents to complete a business case to enable this project to be considered for inclusion on the Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Plan.

Inclusion on the Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Plan will allow for consideration to fund the project.

If you have any further questions regarding this process please contact Mr Danny De Paul, Senior Manager, Sport Infrastructure, on telephone 8982 2310 or via danny.depaul@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

KATE WORDEN

27/09/23





Office of the Mayor

5 October, 2023

Hon Chansey Paech
Minister for Local Government
GPO Box 4592
Alice Springs NT 0870

via email – Minister.Paech@nt.gov.au

Dear Minister Paech, *Chansey,*

At the meeting of Alice Springs Town Council on 26 September 2023, it was resolved that:

“Council request assistance from the Northern Territory Government to broker a meeting with Tangentyere Council to address service delivery within the municipality of Alice Springs and community concerns around safety”.

As you may be aware, our Council and Tangentyere Council have a Memorandum of Understanding that, among other things, requires the parties to enter joint and co-operative initiatives and to work together.

Operationally we have a functional relationship in a few areas, but despite multiple and repeated attempts for our Elected Members and their Board to meet, we have been unable to motivate them into action for this to occur and focus a discussion on strategic issues.

As the responsible Minister, we are now writing to you for assistance in brokering a meeting between our two Councils, so we can maximise the provision of local government services to all residents and visitors of Alice Springs.

We appreciate any assistance you may be able to provide.

Yours faithfully

Matt Paterson
Mayor

Cc: The Hon Natasha Fyles, Northern Territory Chief Minister
Chief.Minister@nt.gov.au

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alicesprings.nt.gov.au



6 October, 2023

Office of the Mayor

Hon Kate Worden
Minister for Police,
Fire and Emergency Services
GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801

via email – Minister.Worden@nt.gov.au

Dear Minister *Kate* Worden,

During the most recent school holiday program, Council made a decision to include a day of free entry to our pool. It turned out it was the biggest Splash Party we have ever hosted with 1130 people through the gate!

It, therefore, gives me great pleasure to expand on that idea and advise you that at a meeting of Alice Springs Town Council on 26 September 2023, it was resolved that:

“Council writes to Territory Families to request funding to support free entry inclusive of staff costs to the Alice Springs Aquatic Leisure Centre (ASALC) for the Summer school holidays”.

As you would appreciate, the pool is a popular central feature for Alice Springs during our hot dry summer months, and the new covered outdoor exercise area has also been well received. The \$150,000 Northern Territory Government investment to support the \$1.1 million Adventure Park will make the centre even more attractive and compelling.

Your Government will shortly be separately briefed on our wider responsibilities as part of a coordinated “Summer in Alice” approach from all agencies, but further “Splash Parties” feature in our proposed Summer School holiday program as a key activity to combat social order issues and a disengaged youth. The opportunity to expand on that is likely to have wider dividends in improving the liveability of the town.

On behalf of Alice Springs residents and visitors to our regional centre, we would appreciate your consideration of our request for funding to support free entry to the pool for the Summer school holiday period.

We ask this in the spirit of equity and for Alice Springs to experience a little of what Darwin has all year round at Leanyer Recreation Park.

Yours faithfully

Matt Paterson
Mayor

Cc: The Hon Natasha Fyles, Northern Territory Chief Minister
Chief.Minister@nt.gov.au

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From: [EDUC - Minister.Clare](#)
To: [Matt Paterson](#)
Subject: Regional University Study Hubs program
Date: Friday, 6 October 2023 2:59:29 PM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)



The Hon Jason Clare MP

Minister for Education

Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm

Assistant Minister for Education

Assistant Minister for Regional Development

Reference: MB23-

000467

Cr Matt Paterson
Mayor
Alice Springs Town Council
mpaterson@alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Dear Cr Paterson

We write to you regarding the expansion of the Regional University Study Hubs program, and opportunities for organisations in your Local Government Area to apply for funding.

Following a period of extensive consultation, the Australian Universities Accord Panel has provided their Interim Report in July 2023. The Australian Government accepted and is now well advanced in implementing all five Priority Actions identified in the Interim Report.

Priority 1 is to extend visible, local access to tertiary education by creating additional Regional University Study Hubs and establishing a similar concept for suburban/metropolitan locations. In response, the Government is doubling the number of University Study Hubs across Australia, with up to 20 more in the regions, and for the first time, up to 14 in the outer suburbs of our major cities.

Regional University Study Hubs are community-owned facilities in regional and remote locations that provide facilities and wrap-around support, including academic skills and wellbeing support, for students studying at any Australian university or vocational education and training provider. Regional University Study Hubs aim to improve and support diversity, equity of access and participation, and to improve student outcomes, whilst allowing students to remain in their local community while studying.

In 2023, the 34 existing hubs are supporting more than 3,400 students to undertake further study. Of these students, 41 per cent identified as being the first in their family to undertake tertiary study and 11 per cent identified as First Nations students. Comparatively in 2021, First Nations students represented 2.11 per cent of all higher education students.

Evidence shows that university participation has risen in the areas of existing hubs. A 2021

evaluation of the program found early evidence to suggest that Regional University Study Hubs improve student completion and retention and have a positive impact on local economies and employment outcomes.

We are pleased to advise that a competitive application process to establish the first of up to 10 additional Regional University Study Hubs is now open. Community-owned organisations interested in establishing a hub in regional or remote Australia are invited to apply.

Information on how to apply and eligibility requirements is available on the Department of Education's website at www.education.gov.au/regional-university-study-hubs. Applications will close at **5:00pm AEDT on 15 December 2023**.

We note your Local Government Area may include regional and/or remote areas which could be suitable for establishment of a new Regional University Study Hub, and we encourage you to engage with local community-owned organisations regarding this funding opportunity.

An application process to establish a further up to 10 additional Regional University Study Hubs will take place in 2024–25. Communities who may not be ready to apply for this first round of funding are encouraged to consider applying in this later application process.

We are excited to be expanding this very important initiative. By bringing university closer to where students live, the Government is supporting more people to engage in life-changing study.

We trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

JASON CLARE

6/10/2023

ANTHONY CHISHOLM

6/10/2023

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CHIEF MINISTER

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

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

His Worship the Mayor of Alice Springs, Mr Matt Paterson
Alice Springs Town Council
mpaterson@alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Dear Mayor

On behalf of the NT Health Central Australia Region Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in Alice Springs, I am pleased to extend an invitation to you to attend the open day launch of the *16 days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence* and the *International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women* campaign in Alice Springs on 24 November 2023.

SARC is participating in and supporting the recognised international campaign, promoting awareness about gender-based violence and highlighting that violence against women is a fundamental violation of human rights.

Gender-based violence continues to be a grave concern in Australia and the community of Alice Springs. The campaign is an important opportunity to acknowledge the challenging work, as well as an opportunity to unite with partner organisations and reflect on what we can each do in our communities.

I hope you will be able to support the open day launch that will be held at the SARC offices at 44 Railway Terrace, Alice Springs from 10 am to 12 midday. The event will include a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and Morning Tea. Several partner organisations will be holding stalls to share information and network on the day.

For catering purposes, please RSVP for this event by 17 November 2023 to AliceSpringsSARC.THS@nt.gov.au.

Kind regards

NATASHA FYLES

12 OCT 2023





Office of the Mayor

16 October 2023

To whom it may concern,

Letter of Support

I write to support Alice Springs to participate in the 2024 International Children's Games (ICG) in Mexico. Alice Springs has a strong sporting culture in our youth competitions and the vision of the ICG aligns closely with our sporting values of friendship, respect and understanding. Alice Springs has excellent sporting facilities and the resources to provide competitions in a wide variety of sports.

I would also like to pursue the opportunity to host the ICG in Alice Springs in 2027. Located in the Central Desert of Australia, Alice Springs is not only the third largest city in the Northern Territory but also one of the most unique cities with a valuable and long history of Aboriginal culture within Australia.

I fully support the application and look forward to seeing Alice Springs to be a part of the worldwide communities for youth development and providing solid cultural knowledge.

Please feel free to contact me at executive@astc.nt.gov.au for further queries.

Yours sincerely,

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

Matt Paterson
MAYOR

Alice Springs Town Council
ABN 45 863 481 471

93 Todd St, Alice Springs
Northern Territory 0870

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PO Box 1071, Alice Springs, NT 0871



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Agenda item 27.1

REPORT

Report No. 186 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 September 2023

AUTHOR: MANAGER FINANCE – LILY DY-IRWIN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides financial information for the period ended 30 September 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this report be received and noted.

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report includes the following financial information for the period ended 30 September 2023:

- Council Financial Position Reports
- Cash Reserves and Cash Analysis Reconciliation
- Monthly Payments Listing (EFT & Cheque)
- Investments report

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

Nil

3. DISCUSSION

3.1 BACKGROUND

The **Council Financial Position Reports** are a summary of the above reports in the required format. These include:

- The **Income & Expenditure Statement** reflects how Council's overall income and expenditure is tracking against the budget.
- The **Balance Sheet** outlines what Council owns (assets) and what it owes (liabilities), with the difference (Equity) being Council's net worth.

The **Cash Reserves and Cash Analysis Reconciliation** provides the balances of the reserves and a reconciliation of cash.

The **Monthly Payments Listing** provides details of all expenditure (excluding payroll), listing who payments were made to and a brief description of the payment.

The **Investments report** shows the financial institutions Council has funds invested with, the term of the investment, the interest rate being received and also shows Council's compliance with its Investment Policy.

3.2 STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

<p>Noting Purpose</p>	<p>Results for the period ending 30 September 2023 are summarised as follow:</p> <p>Investments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council currently have a mix of A-1+ and A-2 investment rating term deposits. Interest in the books is showing as (\$120,986) as it includes last financial year's accrued interest adjustment. Actual interest as of September is \$340,325. Once we earn more interest in future months, it should show as positive interest. <p>Profit and Loss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Variance in operating income refers to reversal of year end accrual adjustments for interest income and fuel tax credits for last financial year. ○ Cash collections show that 35% of rates have been received to date, being slightly higher than previous year's 33%. <p>Other Operating Revenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ User Charges and Fees that are above budget for the period, includes fines \$53,756, workers compensation claims \$28,108 and TIO sponsorship for naming rights for Traeger Park \$54,545. ○ Other operating revenue is below budget due to end of financial year's fuel tax credit accrued adjustment. This is expected to increase throughout the year. <p>Rates as at 30 September 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rates were generated in July and all instalment notices have been distributed with first instalment due for payment on 1st of September 2023. ○ Total rates collectible is currently tracking at 65% as of September. Approximately, 9% of this relates to previous years' outstanding amounts and 56% refers to current year's rates accounts. The rate should go down as more instalment payments come in and progressively reduces throughout the year. <p>Grants and Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NTG Pensioner Concession Grant for rates rebate has been invoiced but not paid to date. Library grant for 2023-2024 of \$624,860 has not been received. In addition, all carry forward unexpended grant income and grants received in advance have now been journaled into this financial year. <p>Financial System and reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Civica online leave application works in progress and training ongoing for implementation within the next two months pending testing going well.
------------------------------	--

Monitoring Required	<p>Operational Expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials and Contracts expenditure is slightly below year to date budget. Committed costs total \$11,028,597 which included works carried over from previous year forwarded to this year for commencement and completion of works in progress. Other Operating Expenses include utilities \$584,996 and annual insurance premiums \$662,062. <p>Employee Expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employee Costs are slightly below budget for the period. <p>Capital expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital expenditure for the period includes Hydralada 802 Maxi Elevated Work Platform \$85,798, Toyota Hilux \$52,976 and Depot New Fire alarm system \$24,749. Note: Items listed in top 20 Contractor Payments report are shown as GST Inclusive, however financial reports amounts are all GST exclusive. <p>Reserves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil reserve transfers for the period of September.
Priority	<p>Ongoing upgrade to Civica for BIS reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades being discussed to improve on Civica BIS reporting for customised template to comply with LGANT monthly reports.

The content and presentation of the financial reports are progressively being reviewed and updated to provide improved information to Elected Members and stakeholders.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 5 – Governance and Civic

5. FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS

This report provides an overview of the budget and resource implications.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Regulation 17(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* requires the CEO each month to give Council a report setting out the actual income and expenditure for the year to date; the most recently adopted annual budget; and details of any material variances between the most recent actuals and the most recently adopted annual budget.

There are no other risks, legal and legislative implications relating to this report.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Nil

8. STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS

The financial reporting documents are developed in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.

9. COUNCIL POLICIES

Nil

10. STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS

Financial reports as listed are in the Open Council with the aim of ensuring public transparency.

11. CONCLUSION

This report provides financial information for the month-end figures as at 30 September 2023.

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: *Council Financial Position Reports including Income & Expenditure Statement (Budgeted Statement of Financial Performance) and Balance Sheet*

Attachment B: [Cash Reserves and Cash Analysis Reconciliation](#)

Attachment C: [Monthly Payment listing](#)

Attachment D: [Investments Report](#)



Lily Dy-Irwin
MANAGER FINANCE



Joe McCabe
ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES



Certification by the CEO to the Council

Council Name:	ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
Reporting Period:	30-Sep-23

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

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

CEO Signed

Date Signed


17.10.23

Note: The monthly financial report to council must either be accompanied by a written certification by the CEO to the council, as set out above, or the CEO is to provide written reasons for not providing the certification. (Regularion 17(5) of the General Regulations)



Table 1.1 Monthly Income and Expenditure Statement

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 September 2023	September 2023 YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Approved Annual Budget \$	NOTE
OPERATING INCOME					
Rates	6,830,944	6,853,328	(22,384)	27,413,311	
Statutory Charges	1,138,356	1,137,611	745	4,550,443	
User Fees and Charges	1,572,509	1,470,623	101,886	5,882,492	1
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,045,858	1,201,038	(155,181)	4,804,152	2
Interest / Investment Income	(120,986)	417,935	(538,921)	1,671,738	3
Other Operating Revenue - Includes reimbursements, proceeds from sale of assets, fuel rebates, insurance claims, infringements etc	99,480	145,291	(45,811)	581,162	4
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	10,566,161	11,225,825	(659,664)	44,903,298	
OPERATING EXPENDITURE					
Employee Expenses	4,271,330	4,972,405	701,075	19,889,621	5
Materials and Contracts	2,659,224	3,257,927	598,703	13,031,709	6
Elected Member Allowances	101,115	104,875	3,760	419,500	
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,392,890	2,392,889	(1)	9,571,557	
Other Operating Expenses - Includes advertising, contribution or donation made, electricity, freight, insurance, legal fees, postage, sewerage charges, telephone, travel & accommodation expenses, vehicle expenditure, water charges etc	1,404,467	1,391,448	(13,019)	5,565,792	7
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	10,829,026	12,119,545	1,290,519	48,478,179	
OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	(262,865)	(893,720)	630,855	(3,574,881)	

Reasons for the variation between Year to Date (YTD) actual performance and YTD budget

Note 1

Revenue from RWMF Weighbridge for September \$1,082,209 has exceeded YTD budgeted income. Some User Fees like License/permit fees and Fines tracked higher than YTD budget.

Note 2

Total grant as of September is \$4,183,430 including funds rolled over from last year's unspent funds \$3.9M. YTD income is shown as \$1,045,858.

Note 3

Interest rates have been sitting at average of 4.8%. Investments have been placed in term deposit accounts for average of 6 to 12 months. To note, interest as of September is \$340,325, however due to yearend adjustment reversal for last year's accrued interest, it is currently showing as (\$120,986).

Note 4

Other operating revenue includes Insurance Claims for workers compensation for \$28,108 and TIO sponsorship \$54,545.

Note 5

Employment expense is tracking slightly below the budget.

Note 6

Materials and contracts are under budget as of September. However, a total of \$2,364,232 in committed purchase orders reflects future expenditure as at September.

Note 7

Other operating expenses include utilities for \$472,656, Fuel and Oil \$101,987 and Insurance premiums \$340,962.

Above net operating position is exclusive of:

Committed expenditure (purchase orders) of \$4,593,243 is showing at the end of September.



Table 1.2 Monthly Operating Position

	September 2023 YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Approved Annual Budget \$	NOTE
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	(262,865)	(893,720)	630,855	(3,574,881)	
<i>Remove NON-CASH ITEMS</i>					
<i>Add Back Non Cash Expenses - Depreciation</i>	2,392,890	2,392,890	0	9,571,557	
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	2,392,890	2,392,890	0	9,571,557	
<i>Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS</i>					
Capital Expenditure	863,920	2,762,658	1,898,738	11,050,633	4
Transfers to Reserve	300,000	125,000	(175,000)	500,000	1
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	1,163,920	2,887,658	1,723,738	11,550,633	
Capital Grants Income	0	423,489	(423,489)	1,693,957	3
Transfers from Reserve	9,398,795	965,000	8,433,795	3,860,000	2
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	9,398,795	1,388,489	8,010,306	5,553,957	
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	10,364,900	-	10,364,900	-	

Reasons for the variation between Year to Date (YTD) actual performance and YTD budget

Note 1

Transfers are only undertaken through council resolutions.

Transfer to Reserve includes \$200,000 for Major Project Seed Fund and SFAC budgeted transfer \$100,000, being Council's contribution.

Note 2

Transfer from reserve \$9,198,795 refers to the program rollover from last year, as well as \$200,000 budgeted transfer for SFAC for this year.

Note 3

Funding agreements for ASALC LRCI Phase 3 for ASALC Adventure Park \$1.2M and Road to Recovery \$444K are still in progress.

Note 4

Capital expenditure is underspent by \$1.1M as most technical works take time to plan and procure at start of the year and will just be raised as Purchase Request at this stage.



Table 2.1 Capital Expenditure and Funding by class of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

Capital Spend per Revision budget FY 2023-2024	YTD Actual Expenditure \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Annual Budget 2024 \$
Land and Buildings	418,091	208,889	(209,202)	1,253,333
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	53,275	1,149,833	1,096,558	6,899,000
Plant and Machinery	339,577	422,050	82,473	2,532,300
Fleet	52,977	0	(52,977)	0
Other Assets (including furniture and office equipment)	0	61,000	61,000	366,000
Leased Assets	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	863,920	1,841,772	977,852	11,050,633
Capital Expenditure Detail (projects over \$150K)	Actual \$	Grant Funded	Funded by OPEX	Capex funded by Reserve
Hartley Street Public Toilets works in progress	399,964			399,964
Total Capital Expenditure (Over \$150K)	399,964	-	-	399,964
Capital Expenditure Detail (below \$150K)	Actual \$	Grant Funded	Funded by OPEX	Funded by Reserves
July				
Elevating Work Platform	21,450			21,450
Granulator	55,814	55,814		
ASALC Adventure Play initial works	54,545			54,545
2 x Hooklift Bins	25,560			25,560
Depot Key Safes	7,942		7,942	
August				
Road linemarking	31,275			31,275
Crimsafe to external windows Civic Centre	18,127			18,127
Library Study Booth	12,114			12,114
Park Concept Design	1,000		1,000	
September				
Granulator	11,004		11,004	
Netball courts design	25,235			25,235
Toyota Hilux	52,977		52,977	
Elevated Work platform x 5	85,798		85,798	
Recycling granulator	14,366		14,366	
Park concept design	22,000	22,000		
Fire Alarm system-deposit	24,749		24,749	
Total Capital Expenditure (Under \$150K)	463,956	77,814	197,836	188,306
TOTAL	863,920	77,814	197,836	588,270

Note 1 -This includes the Exeloo public toilet started last year but finalised this financial year.



Table 3. Monthly Balance Sheet

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 September 2023	YTD Actuals \$	Note Reference
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	52,594,884	(1)
Accounts Receivable	24,313,789	
-Trade Debtors	914,499	(2)
-Rates & Charges Debtors	23,278,696	
-Other Items/Tax	120,594	(4)
Other Current Assets		
Inventories	274,896	
Prepayments and accrued Income	0	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	77,183,569	
Non-Current Financial Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	290,800,261	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	290,800,261	
TOTAL ASSETS	367,983,830	
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	230,975	(3)
ATO & Payroll Liabilities		
Current Provisions (Employee Leave Provisions)	2,041,657	
Accrued Expenses	0	
Other Current Liabilities	428,599	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,701,231	
Non-Current Liabilities		
Long Service leave provision	767,202	
Provision for the Rehab/Cap of the Landfill Site	18,594,359	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	19,361,561	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	22,062,792	
NET ASSETS	345,921,038	
EQUITY		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	292,272,474	
Reserves	14,585,116	(5)
Accumulated Surplus	39,063,448	
TOTAL EQUITY	345,921,038	



NOTES TO BALANCE SHEET

Note 1. Details of Cash and Investments Held

Term deposit investment and cash at bank totals \$52,594,884. Investments are with major banks with A-1+ and A-2 ratings. Trust funds held total \$425,459 and are included in other current liabilities.

Note 2. Statement on Debts Owed to Council (Accounts Receivable)

	1-30 Days	31-60 Days	61-90 DAYS	>90 DAYS	Total
Trade Debtors	24,870	667,622	23,906	476,856	1,193,255
Less Provision for Doubtful Debts					(280,174)
					913,081

Note 3. Statement on Debts Owed by Council (Accounts Payable)

	1-30 Days	31-60 Days	61-90 Days	> 90 Days
Trade Creditors	230,975	\$	\$	\$
Other Creditors	\$	\$	\$	\$

Note 4. Statement on Australian Tax Office, Payroll and Insurance Obligations

GST Collected	184,069
GST paid	(63,609)
	120,460

The GST and PAYG Withholding tax obligations were paid by the due date. All FBT obligations have been paid to date. All superannuation obligations have been paid to date. All insurance premiums, including Work Health and Directors and Office Holders' cover, have been paid to date.

Note 5. Reserves Movement

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES	
Reserve Balance at 31 August 2023-adjusted	14,585,116
Closing Reserve Balance at 30 September 2023	14,585,116



Table 4 - Member and CEO Council Credit Card Transactions for the Month

Cardholder: Matthew Paterson

Transaction Date	Amount	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
31/08/2023	\$ 52.50	GM Cabs	Transport-National Local Roads, Transport & Infrastructure Congress in Canberra
8/09/2023	\$ 10.00	Coffee Lab	Meeting @ Caberra Congress
11/09/2023	\$ 36.15	Uber trip	Transport Canberra Congress
14/09/2023	\$ 116.37	Coles	Morning tea supply to Ordinary Council Meetings
14/09/2023	\$ 45.86	Coles	Morning Tea for Civic Centre
21/09/2023	\$ 131.82	Iris Stott Terrace	Mayor & CEO meals for attendance - The Outback Way AGM Dinner
28/09/2023	\$ 9.00	Card fee	
TOTAL	401.70		

Cardholder: Andrew Wilsmore

Transaction Date	Amount	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
30/08/2023	\$ 538.00	Mercure Alice Springs	Staff accommodation
11/09/2023	\$ 1,331.68	QT Canberra	Mayor accommodation - Sydney Conference
13/09/2023	\$ 150.00	Novita Gifts	Service Recognition
26/09/2023	\$ 101.35	Coles	Catering OCM 26/9/23
27/09/2023	\$ 24.00	Coles	Catering OCM 26/9/23
28/09/2023	\$ 181.01	Mailchimp	Subscription
28/09/2023	\$ 9.00	Card fee	
TOTAL	2,335.04		

Table 5. Highest 20 Contractor Payments/ Items paid in the month of September 2023

The table is to include top 20 payments to contractors made in the month (excluding taxes and employment related costs such as superannuation, and utilities) distinguishing

Supplier Name	Council Project Title	Territory enterprise or industry supplier \$	Interstate / overseas enterprise or industry supplier \$	TOTAL
AON Risk Services Australia Ltd	Worker Compensation & Liability Insurance	365,727		365,727
Power & Water Corporation	Water & Sewerage	102,439		102,439
VG Group Pty Ltd	Operational Plant & Vehicle		94,378	94,378
Cleanaway Pty Ltd	Waste	91,914		91,914
Northern Territory Cricket Limited	Contract Materials & Labour	82,500		82,500
Alice Car Centre Pty Ltd	Operational Plant & Vehicle	58,040		58,040
RIMFIRE Energy	Electricity	50,298		50,298
NT Recycling Solutions Pty Ltd	Removal of liquid waste	46,398		46,398
Hastings Deering	Contract Materials & Labour	40,509		40,509
MMCK Pty Ltd t/a Jensen Plus	CBD Revitalisation- Contract Materials & Labour		39,577	39,577
Clayton Utz	Professional Services	30,355		30,355
Waste Initiatives	Capital Expense-Granulator for RWMF		27,907	27,907
2MH Consulting Pty Ltd	Contract Materials & Labour-Netball Court		27,759	27,759
Deloitte Private Pty Ltd	Professional services	26,928		26,928
Power Retail Corporation t/a JAGANA	Electricity-Street Lights	25,788		25,788
Alice Springs Hockey Association In	Contract Materials & Labour-Hockey Facility	25,000		25,000
Clontarf Foundation	12 Months Funding Agreement		25,000	25,000
The Trustee for Wallis Family Trust	Capital Expense- Park Redevelopment		24,200	24,200
Kingswood Aluminium Pty Ltd t/a Nea	Contract Materials & Labour	22,808		22,808
Recharge Petroleum Div of Fuel Tran	Fuel	22,402		22,402
Other (expenses to numerous to list but as per EFT listing not included above)		188,900		188,900
TOTAL		1,180,006	238,820	1,418,826

Cash Reserves & Cash Analysis Reconciliation 30 September 2023

INTERNALLY RESTRICTED RESERVES

Assets Reserve

1a - Asset Management, Maintenance and Renewal

Aquatic & Leisure Centre	788,604
Library IT Upgrade Reserve	58,350
Parks & Playgrounds	-
Cricket Wicket Replacement	44,694
	<u>891,648</u>

1b Civil Works and Projects

Ilparpa Road capital works	133,207
Open Drains	350,792
Pedestrian Refuge	1,442
Town Beautification	719,346
Tree Planting Reserve	53,925
	<u>1,258,712</u>

1c Waste Management Reserve

RWMF Future Landfill Site	3,023,332
	<u>3,023,332</u>

Upgrades and New Developments

Capital (Infrastructure)	-
Todd Mall Redevelopment	508,118
Map Signage	52,823
CBD Revitalisation Project	1,281,835
Baler Concrete Slab	9,828
Civic Centre Upgrade	202,145
Garden Cemetery Future Development Plan Reserve	105,645
Netball Facility Upgrade Reserve	41,085
Public Toilet Project	58,410
City Deals Project	53,850
Security and Safety Lighting Upgrade	3,141,260
Kerbside Collection	955,952
Regional Waste Management Plant & Equipment	-
Major Projects Seed Funding Reserve	400,000
	<u>6,810,950</u>

Operations, Community and Strategic Investment Reserve

Working Capital	50,000
Investment (Interest) Reserve-proportioned to the Reserves bi-yearly	88,283
Public Art Advisory Committee	2,790
	<u>141,073</u>

Disaster Relief

Disaster & Emergency	940,801
	<u>940,801</u>

TOTAL COUNCIL RESERVES (INTERNALLY RESTRICTED) 13,066,515

Externally Restricted (relates to external funding/restricted for specific purpose)

Sports Facility Advisory Committee (SFAC)	421,726
Developer Contributions	140,946
Employee Entitlements	284,067
Town Camp Waste Collection	132,214
Solar Initiatives	304,648
South Edge Estate Defective Works	50,000
South Edge Subdivision Concrete Footpath Works	75,000
Mount Johns Development Road Maintenance	110,000
	<u>1,518,601</u>

Total Reserves 14,585,116

CASH ANALYSIS RECONCILIATION AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Cash at Bank	15,251,874
Cash Investments Held (as per Balance Sheet)	37,343,011
Total Cash	52,594,884
Less: Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	(2,701,231)
Non Current Liabilities	
Provision for Landfill	18,594,359
Long Service Leave Liability-Long Term	767,202
	<u>(19,361,561)</u>
Total Liabilities (as per Balance Sheet)	(22,062,792)
Balance	30,532,092
Less: Cash Restricted Reserves	(14,585,116)
Less: Operating Funds for a quarter	(10,080,000)
Less: Grant Funding Received for Specific Projects	(3,172,438)
Total Unallocated Funds	2,694,537
Add: Long Term Landfill Rehabilitation provision net of annual amortisation	13,461,427
Less: Expenditure forecast for the year	
Committed Expenditures as at 30 September 2023	(4,593,243)
Unrestricted/Unallocated Funds	11,562,721



EFT Payment Summary Report for Month Ending Sep-23

<u>EFT No.</u>	<u>Trans Date</u>	<u>Invoice/Ref #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Payment >= \$100,000					
4522.4450-01	11/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	111784708	AON Risk Services Australia Ltd	Workers Compensation NT & Local Gov Liability Insurance - 30.6.2023 to 30.6.2024	365,726.59
4516.1752-01	5/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	84287495	Power & Water Corporation	Water Bill- Various Parks- 07.09.23	102,438.95
Payment \$50,000 to \$99,999					
4515.6713-01	4/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	INV-0893	VG Group Pty Ltd	Hydralada 802 Maxi Elevated Work Platform	94,377.94
4522.1296-01	14/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	15759524	CLEANAWAY PTY LTD	RWMF-Domestic Clearances,Town Camps August 2023,Rent of Truck Hire	91,913.55
4515.2855-01	1/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	00001054	Northern Territory Cricket Limited	NT Cricket Curation of ASTC Grounds - As per Resolution #22666	82,500.00
4515.131-01	5/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	RI11107242	Alice Car Centre Pty Ltd	Toyota Hilux 4x4 SR 2.8L Diesel Auto Double	58,040.30
4516.5065-01	6/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	10083	RIMFIRE Energy PL	ASALC - Electricity Charges for August 2023	50,298.42
Payment \$10,000 to \$49,999					
4515.6838-01	8/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	39009	NT Recycling Solutions Pty Ltd	RWMF Removal of Liquid Waste Tender 2023-07ST	46,398.00
4520.257-01	21/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	40100216142	Hastings Deering (Australia) Ltd	RWMF - Axle overhaul on 928G Loader,Repair coolant leak compactor,Variation 928 repairs	40,509.20
4515.6800-01	8/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	P3023/3	MMCK Pty Ltd t/a Jensen Plus	CBD Revitalisation Master Plan Stage 1 works,Variation - Optional Task: Retail & Governance	39,576.90
4515.5776-01	8/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	4222897	Clayton Utz	Professional Services	30,354.89
4515.4812-01	6/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	9201/2	Waste Initiatives	Balance Remaining - on PO D123551	27,907.00
4515.6643-01	4/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	KYN2317	2MH Consulting Pty Ltd	Netball Courts replacement design and tender	27,758.50
4515.390-01	11/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	8003793614	Deloitte Private Pty Ltd	Fees for Professional Services as per Engagement	26,928.00
4522.4730-01	7/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	1011935010	Power Retail Corporation t/a JACANA	Street Lights - 1.7.23 to 30.09.23	25,787.57
4515.3168-01	13/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	INV-2359	Alice Springs Hockey Association In	Upgrades to the Hockey Facility as per Council Resolution	25,000.00
4515.6886-01	4/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	101523	Clontarf Foundation	12 Months Funding Agreement - Council ResolutionInvoice BW133144229082307-P	25,000.00
4515.6650-01	6/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	2360_sd1	The Trustee for Wallis Family Trust	Concept Design and Detailed Drawings for ASP Regional Skate Park	24,200.00
4522.571-01	15/8/2023 12:00:00 AM	84421	Kingswood Aluminium Pty Ltd t/a Nea	Civic Centre - Reglaze Broken window screen,Installation of Crimsafe on External windows	22,808.00
4515.5415-01	9/8/2023 12:00:00 AM	788668	Recharge Petroleum Div of Fuel Tran	2x RWMF - Diesel x 6,000Ltrs	22,401.72
4520.5001-01	1/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	P1054013	Vocus Pty Ltd	Internet Services - September 2023	22,058.84
4512.4680-01	4/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	INV-0086	Childbirth Education Association (A	12 Months Funding Agreement - Council Resolution	20,000.00
4515.3484-01	14/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	998	The trustee for Harris Discretionar	Supply & Install damaged fence sheets,53Ragonesi Rd Temporary Traffic sign installation,repairs	17,845.00
4522.4764-01	6/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	AU-PSI-196793	SoftwareONE Australia Pty Limited	Autodesk License Renewal x10 - AutoCAD LT-Sub 1YR	17,509.38
4516.2499-01	15/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	23	Alice Springs Rotary Henley-On-Todd	Henly on Todd Regatta Society Sponsorship	15,000.00
4522.1238-01	4/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	INV-0246	Alice Springs Animal Shelter Inc	Pound Management - August 2023	14,920.40
4511.2385-01	31/8/2023 12:00:00 AM	83260	Lane Communications	FYE23/24 Rates Printing /Send, Programming, Sort	13,217.33
4515.5200-01	6/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	02363211	Geraldton Fuel Company PL	RWMF - 6,000Ltrs Delivered	12,570.00
4515.6569-01	4/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	202	Sandman Innovations c/o Peter Illma	Motorola TLK100/POC Portable incl HKAN4003A,Motorolla Charger MUC 6-way TLK 100 X2	11,776.84
4522.2982-01	21/8/2023 12:00:00 AM	21542	SHAMROCK CHEMICALS (N.T.) PTY. LTD.	Depot - Stock Toilet Rolls-GV4750 (48/ctn) 3 x pal, Stock Order for Cleaning Items	11,705.31
4515.5229-01	7/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	MIDSEPT2023	Mayor M J Paterson	Mayoral Allowance - Sept 2023,Travel Allowance - Lunches for 4/9,6/9 & 7/9/23	11,441.62
4512.2232-01	4/9/2023 12:00:00 AM	6809	Ace Treelopping & Tree Care	remove tree on verge at 1 willshire street,10 Zeil street	10,846.00
4522.2394-01	15/8/2023 12:00:00 AM	IN187475	Alice Hosetech Pty Ltd	RWMF - Fix leaking ram on Hooktruck, Forklift Jib & slings,Zeolite bags & degreaser	10,009.56
Total Approval Cheques					1,418,825.81

Alice Springs Town Council

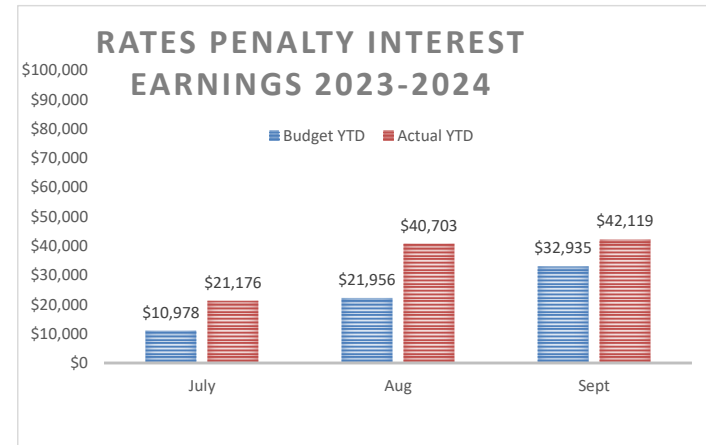
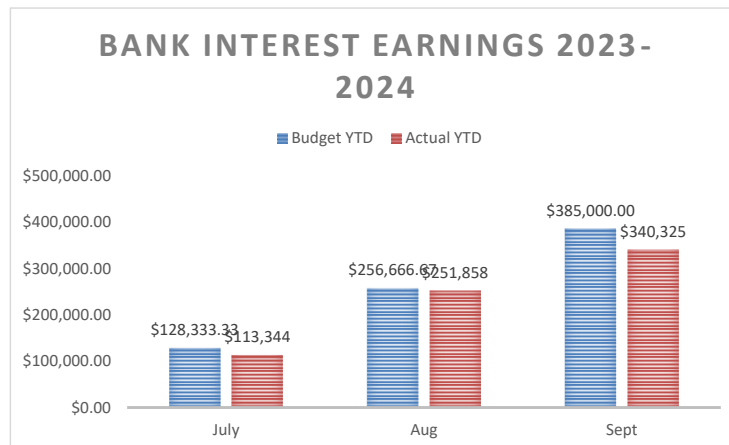
Attachment D

Investments Report as at 30 September 2023

Term Deposit Details							
Date invested	Invested Amount	Time Invested	Invested with	Interest rate	Due date	Credit rating	Expected interest at maturity of term deposit
15/05/2023	\$ 3,204,538	182	NAB	4.75%	Monday, 13 November 2023	A-1+	\$ 75,899
30/05/2023	\$ 1,603,978	184	Bank of QLD	4.95%	Thursday, 30 November 2023	A-2	\$ 40,025
21/04/2023	\$ 3,136,660	180	NAB	4.55%	Wednesday, 18 October 2023	A-1+	\$ 70,381
21/08/2023	\$ 8,000,000	122	NAB	5.12%	Monday, 19 February 2024	A-1+	\$ 204,239
25/07/2023	\$ 2,063,265	272	Bendigo	5.45%	Monday, 22 April 2024	A-2	\$ 83,797
4/11/2022	\$ 3,327,128	367	NAB	4.45%	Monday, 6 November 2023	A-1+	\$ 148,868
4/05/2023	\$ 1,532,000	300	Bendigo	4.95%	Wednesday, 28 February 2024	A-2	\$ 62,329
4/05/2023	\$ 1,500,000	177	NAB	4.70%	Tuesday, 31 October 2023	A-1+	\$ 34,767
6/06/2023	\$ 4,000,000	181	NAB	5.00%	Monday, 4 December 2023	A-1+	\$ 99,178
5/01/2023	\$ 5,150,182	365	NAB	4.50%	Friday, 5 January 2024	A-1+	\$ 231,758
7/02/2023	\$ 2,325,260	365	Bank of QLD	4.40%	Wednesday, 7 February 2024	A-2	\$ 102,311
28/04/2023	\$ 1,500,000	180	Bendigo	4.75%	Wednesday, 25 October 2023	A-2	\$ 35,137
Total term deposits	\$ 37,343,011				Total Expected Interest on Maturity	\$	1,188,691

Short Term	Policy Max.	Actual Portfolio
A-1+	100%	76%
A-1	45%	0%
A-2	25%	24%
<A-2	10%	0%

Interest Summary:				Cash & Investment Summary:			
Interest earnings as at month end were as follows:				Cash Holdings as at month end were as follows:			
		Actual YTD	Budget YTD				
Bank Interest:		\$ 23,144	\$ 256,667	Cash at Bank :	\$	15,251,874	
Interest on Rates:		\$ 42,119	\$ 21,956	Short Term Investments :	\$	37,343,011	
Totals		\$ 18,975	\$ 278,623	Totals	\$	52,594,885	



Agenda Item 28.1.1 cncI

REPORT

Report No. 193 / 23 cncI

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

AUTHOR: ANDREW WILSMORE – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received and noted.

REPORT

1. CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SEASON CLOSURES

In preparation for Summer in Alice, Town Council is committed to playing our role in addressing the potential for social unrest over this period.

As such, we are putting more effort into our rostering and management of teams annual leave during this period than would normally be the case.

We will be having the usual mandated Christmas closure as follows:

- Civic Centre and Depot closed 3.30pm, Friday 22 December 2023. Reopen Tuesday 2 January 2024.
- Public Library closed Christmas Eve Sunday 24 December 2023. Reopen Tuesday 2 January 2024.
- Aquatic & Leisure Centre closed Christmas Eve Sunday 24 December 2023 and Christmas Day Monday 25 December 2023. Reopen Tuesday 26 December 2023.
- Regional Waste Management Facility closed Christmas Day Monday 25 December 2023, Tuesday 26 December 2023 and Monday 1 January 2024.
- Rediscovery Centre closed Christmas Day Monday 25 December 2023. Reopen Wednesday 3 January 2024.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

SERVICE LANEWAY CONCERNS

On 15 September 2023, I received correspondence from a concerned resident in relation to the service laneway between McMinn Street and Mills Street, East Side. Upon investigation Council were able to, in a timely manner, put in place a strategy to mitigate the issue with dust and undertake an analysis of speeding vehicles.

Please find attached for reference all correspondence in relation to the service laneway and proposed rectification.

3. MEETINGS ATTENDED

The following meetings were attended by the CEO as well as other officers (not an exclusive list):

- Stephanie Hawkins – Director Prevention and Engagement, Office of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (NT) – introduction meeting
- Sports Facilities Advisory Committee meeting
- Paul Coates – Industry Director for Local Government, Technology One, Joe McCabe – Acting Director Corporate Services, Jason Atherinos – Acting Manager ICT, Sarah Rhodes – Manager People and Culture and Lily Dylrwin – Manager Finance, Alice Springs Town Council – overview of Technology One suite of applications
- Bi-monthly meeting with Joshua Burgoyne MLA, Member for Brainting and Mayor Matt Paterson
- Michael McKeown – Director, Jensen Plus, Peter Jones – Chair, The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (N.T.), Sondra Lowing, Eric Neil, Alice Springs Uniting Church Representatives, Dr Bruce Walker, Joel Andrew – Director Technical Services, Alice Springs Town Council – discussion on Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project
- Alice Springs Town Council and Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation Partnership Committee meeting
- Roundtable discussion with key stakeholders hosted by Shaun Drabsch - Chief Executive Officer, Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, Northern Territory Government
- Monthly catch-up meeting with Bruce Fyfe – Regional Manager – Local Government Central Australia, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
- Shaun Drabsch - Chief Executive Officer, Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, Northern Territory Government – introduction meeting
- Regular catch-up meetings with Mayor Matt Paterson
- Brad Smart – Consultant, Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA) and Anthony Geppa – Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Alice Springs Town Council – introduction meeting
- Central Australia Regional Coordination Committee Summer in Central Australia Meetings
- Council Forums
- Brenden Boyce – Acting Executive Director, Housing and Communities, Andrew Walder – Acting General Manager, Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities, Nicole Battle – Director Community Development, Alice Springs Town Council – introduction meeting
- Marilyn Smith – Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Lhere Artepe Enterprises and Sarah Rhodes – Manager People and Culture, Alice Springs Town Council – discussion on Indigenous Employment
- Chris Goldstone – Managing Director, Strategic Directions and Jason Atherinos – Acting Manager ICT, Alice Springs Town Council – discussion on review into Enterprise Resource Management systems
- Erika Hamilton – Chief Operations Officer, HutSix, Nicole Battle – Director Community Development, Jason Atherinos – Acting Manager ICT, Alice Springs Town Council – demonstration on youth program service delivery system

- Sam Mead – Managing Director, Mind Street – discussion on culture survey
- Central Australia Regional Coordination Committee Meeting
- Luke Snowdon – Partner, KPMG, Joe McCabe – Acting Director Corporate Services, Laura Sebastiani – Consultant and Lily Dylwin – Manager Finance, Alice Springs Town Council – Year-End Audit Report
- Safe-Tea Staff Morning Tea for National Safe Work Month
- Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting
- Anna Malgorzewicz – Acting Executive Director – Local Government, Hugh King – Acting Director Legislation and Policy, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet – introduction meeting
- Meeting with Leslie Manda – Chief Executive Officer, Central Desert Regional Council – CentreROC discussion
- Jonathan Shellabear – Managing Director, Fergus Kiley – General Manager Operations, Kim Pervan – Stakeholder Manager, Nico Resources Limited and Joel Andrew – Director Technical Services, Alice Springs Town Council – development brief on Wingellina Nickel-Cobalt project
- Monthly catch-up meeting with Sarah Fairhead – Executive Director Southern Region, Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics, Northern Territory Government
- Ryan Kogelman – Managing Director, RDK Sports International, Mayor Matt Paterson and Nicole Battle – Director Community Development – opportunities for visiting sports teams
- Meeting with Maree De Lacey – Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet – introductory meeting
- Alice Springs Town Council Elected Members and Place Names Committee
- Newland Park Redevelopment Community Consultation Session

4. **COMMUNICATIONS UNIT ACTIVITY**

Marketing and Communications Office - October 2023

Council's Marketing and Communications Office actively promotes the vision and values of Council. We display authenticity and respect in all communications from Council, promoting a brighter future for our community while celebrating the unique place of Alice Springs.

Consultation opportunities

The Marketing and Communications Unit has worked closely with the Technical Services Directorate to promote key projects among the community, including opportunities for consultation. This is particularly applicable with the *Regenerating the Alice Town Centre* project with consultation opportunities being extensively advertised through the following channels:

- Social media channels
- Printed newspapers
- Printed flyers and posters throughout the community
- ASTC Website
- Council Connects newsletter
- Digital screens throughout the Alice Springs CBD

Advertising has also begun for consultation opportunities in the development of Council's Greening Strategy. Two surveys have been created and distributed, one for members of the general public and another for practitioners with a strong knowledge base in this area. In-person consultation opportunities will take place in November with further advertising to be rolled out in coming weeks.

Informing the community of key projects

Creating a greater understanding of Council's role and key Council projects among the community is a key objective of the Marketing and Communications department.

A recent initiative to assist in this area is a monthly communique that is distributed following Council Meetings. This communique gives a small summary of key points discussed in the Meeting, giving residents an opportunity to gain an insight into Council's priorities. This allows individuals to engage with Council with minimal effort and increases the accessibility of Council. At current the communique is distributed to local media outlets, and in future they will be published to the Council website.

Council's Marketing and Communications Unit has also made attempts to work with the Northern Territory Government to communicate progress on the two concurrent CBD projects, Council's *Regenerating the Alice Town Centre* project and the government's *CBD Revitalisation Project*. There is currently confusion in the community about the stages of the

projects, and ownership. Unfortunately, we have been unable to secure the support of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics for this initiative.

Council Connects

September edition:

- Council distributed approximately 250 printed copies of Council Connects. We also encouraged distribution through other channels, including NT Government departments as part of our collaborative approach.
- The September edition had 439 online impressions at time of print.

Facebook & Instagram data - September

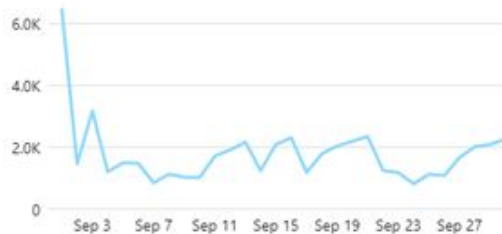
The Communications Unit along with representatives from various Council business units undertook social media training. This will assist in Council delivering more strategic and engaging content across social media channels. A drop in engagement through the month of September can be attributed to staffing constraints resulting in less consistency across our social media channels.

Reach:

Reach

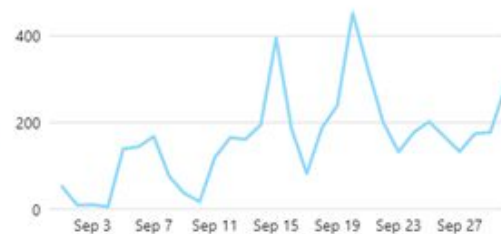
Facebook reach ⓘ

19,442 ↓ 54.3%



Instagram reach ⓘ

1,169 ↓ 97.5%

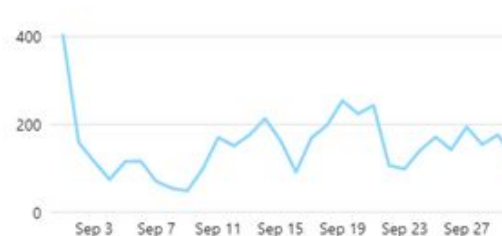


Page visits:

Page and profile visits

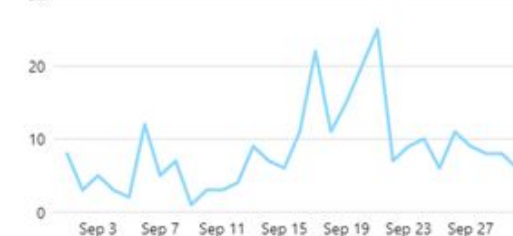
Facebook visits ⓘ

4,611 ↓ 13.3%



Instagram profile visits ⓘ

256 ↓ 12.6%



Website data - September

Council's website had a total of 35,262 page views for the month of September with 11,267 unique users. These numbers are both improvements on the prior month of August. The homepage, Library page and Jobs page were the top three landing pages within the month. The Marketing and Communications unit use Council's website as the primary source of truth for all Council information and as such, monthly audits of content will be conducted. There is also an emphasis within the team to drive members of the community to the website for all Council information to ensure the correct information is accessed by the public.

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Landing page	↓ Sessions 17,829 100% of total	Users 11,267 100% of total	New users 10,213 100% of total	Average engagement time per session 0m 06s Avg 0%
1 /	3,979	2,588	2,044	0m 07s
2 /recreation/library	1,562	1,029	990	0m 01s
3 /council/opportunities/jobs	1,331	713	548	0m 10s
4 /recreation/aquatic-leisure-centre	1,000	794	692	0m 09s
5 /about-alice-springs/council-events/night-markets	610	395	357	0m 02s
6 /about-alice-springs/calendar/bush-bands-bash-2023	598	414	392	0m 02s
7 /about-alice-springs/calendar	492	368	253	0m 08s
8 /about-alice-springs/more/a-brief-history	425	354	339	0m 01s
9 /about-alice-springs/council-events/todd-mall-markets	414	278	254	0m 00s
10 /contact-us	388	280	238	0m 08s

5. ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment A: [Correspondence in relation to Service Laneway between McMinn Street and Mills Street, East Side](#)



Andrew Wilsmore
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Office of the Chief Executive



27 September, 2023

East Side, NT 0870

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: Service Laneway between McMinn Street and Mills Street, East Side

Thank you for your correspondence received on 15 September 2023 in which you raised concerns over the service laneway between McMinn Street and Mills Street.

Following an investigation of the laneway, we have ordered and will apply two applications of dust suppressant to the laneway to minimise the dust caused by vehicles. The product that will be used is non-toxic, non-corrosive, plant based and fully biodegradable.

When our speed detection unit is next available, it will be placed in the laneway for the purpose of gathering traffic data. We will then consider all options noting that speed calming devices can have unintended consequences such as creating more noise and inhibiting emergency vehicles.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Wilsmore
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Working for the community

Alice Springs Town Council
93 Todd St, Alice Springs, NT, 0870
PO Box: 1071, Alice Springs, NT 0871

ABN: 45 863 481 471
Phone: (08) 8950 0526
Email: awilsmore@astc.nt.gov.au

9 October 2023

Mr. Andrew Wilshire
Chief Executive Officer
Alice Springs Town Council

Dear Mr Wilshire,

Thank you for your consideration of the issues I raised with you in my letter of September 15th concerning traffic in the McMinn/Mills service laneway.

I look forward to the implementation of the Council's proposed actions in this matter.



**ENTERED
INTO TRIM**

REPORT

Report No. 205 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

AUTHOR: ANDREW WILSMORE – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Elected Members to approve the Scope of Works for an Economic Development Plan.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Council resolves to approve the Scope of Works for an Economic Development Plan and for \$200,000 to be allocated towards this project at budget revision.

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Delivery of an action from the 2030 Liveability and Sustainability Plan

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

Not Applicable

3. DISCUSSION

The last well-regarded Economic Plan for Alice Springs was the “Alice in Ten” plan developed in 1999.

The development of Economic Plans for our region has often been the province of the Northern Territory Government, but with a focus on social issues over recent years, this has not been seen as a priority.

In developing the 2030 Liveability and Sustainability Plan, Councillors recognised the importance of the economy being central to a brighter future for Alice Springs residents and included the development and implementation of an Economic Development Plan for Alice Springs as a key action under its Economy Pillar.

Importantly the scope of works makes it clear that this is a plan for Alice Springs, and not for Council.

It seeks to work with all local stakeholders, and in particular key commercial operators, to grow the economy of Alice Springs by both a collective approach of what is within our own hands to deliver, and by partnering with Governments to unlock our full potential.

Proposed Scope of Works can be found in Attachment A which will then go to tender should Council endorse the recommended resolution.

Council has not allocated a budget for this Financial Year so will be required to approve during budget revision process. It would be anticipated that an approach made to the Northern Territory Government to co-contribute would be well received.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 4 – Economy

- *Develop and implement an Economic Development Plan for Alice Springs*
 - *In developing this Plan, it is expected to cover a number of other actions within the Economy pillar, including the night time economy, working with key commercial stakeholders, development and growing small business, initiatives for increasing the population, and involvement in planning*

5. FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS

During the budget review process, Council will budget \$200,000 towards an Economic Development Plan for FY23/24. With the proposed timeframe spanning financial years, further budget can be allocated in FY24/25.

It would be anticipated that an approach made to the Northern Territory Government to co-contribute would be well received.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Economic Plans succeed or fail dependent on the quality of advice and input that informs them. It will be important that Council engage broadly across the community with both major representatives of various industry, but also with participants who may have a large footprint, but a small voice.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The Economic Development Plan may result in initiatives that have environmental impacts. In finalising the Plan, these impacts will need to be considered

8. STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS

The tender for an Economic Development Plan complies with regulation 36 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

9. COUNCIL POLICIES

Not Applicable

10. STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS

The economic development plan will require a broad and diverse group of stakeholders including business, industry groups, and key government agencies. It is expected that the local and surrounding region business community will comprise the most significant engagement. Working with industry bodies such as the Chamber of Commerce, Cattleman's, Minerals Council, Master Builders, Tourism Central Australia, etc will be important to ensure strong participation from them and their membership.

There is likely to be media and community interest in the Plan, particularly at its launch when the agreed goals and actions are released.

The Plan will identify areas that will require Government partnerships to deliver. It will be important that key Government stakeholders are engaged through the process to help drive collaboration and goodwill.

11. CONCLUSION

The attached Scope of Works will be used in tendering for an economic consultancy to undertake work to create an Economic Development Plan

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: [Scope of Works](#)



Andrew Wilsmore

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SCOPE OF WORK

Executive Summary

Alice Springs Town Council (ASTC) seeks proposals from suitably qualified and highly reputable economic consultancies to assist in the development of an Economic Development Plan ("The Plan") to build growth and resilience for business and industry that operate in Central Australia. Importantly, it will be a Plan that showcases opportunity and a driver for new investment from outside the region.

To be clear, while we will be the authors, the Plan is not one to be titled or branded "ASTC". It must be a vision for the entire value and supply chain operating in the local Alice Springs economic zone and a driver for new investment into the region.

The engagement of an economic consultancy will be critical to the substance and credibility of the publication. Specifically, ASTC seeks the following to enable the success of the project.

1. The **facilitation of workshops** to finalise key policy priorities and ambitions for a whole-of-Alice vision. These workshops will include ASTC staff, ASTC elected, business, Government, and indigenous groups and other key parts of the Alice Springs value-chain. Their success will also be driven by the consultant bringing a fresh perspective to propose and challenge ideas to ensure The Plan is credible, relevant and achievable.
2. An **economic impact study** that highlights the economic contribution of the Alice Springs region and relevant supply chains: primary production; minerals; manufacturing; Government procurement and investment; marketing and advertising; retail; tourism; exports, etc. The study will need to capture the current economic footprint of our industries as well as forecasts for 2035 under different policy scenarios.
3. **Development of written content** to ensure consistency of tone and language in the report.

The ultimate scope of work is flexible and be dependent upon factors including the economic consultant demonstrating value for each aspect of the project. It is envisaged that the economic consultant will be required for the economic impact study at a minimum. It is also highly likely that the project will benefit from the consultant facilitating workshops as described in paragraph (1) above in order to inform the economic impact study.

ASTC may ultimately elect to develop written content in-house or use a communications consultancy to do so, but there may also be synergies in the economic consultant completing this aspect of the project.

Background and context

The enormous social changes that has occurred around Alice Springs in the past two years has created both a need and an opportunity for our local economy to provide to the Northern Territory and Australian Governments an economic, environmental and social vision which highlights our current and future impact on the importance of the Central Australian economy to the National and Northern Territory interests with regard to employment, productivity, sustainability and positive economic impact.

Importantly, as the key driver of this Project, the Plan should also identify areas that the Alice Springs Town Council can lead improvements in the attraction and retention of economic interests within its role and responsibilities of the Local Government Act 2009.

The Alice Springs community is challenged with a lack of competition and its isolation. These challenges are not uncommon for remote communities, however, with Alice Springs acting as a hub for all of Central Australia, these barriers often find us in a reactive mode: complaining about lack of service, high prices, and time and project delays.

As a result, the Alice Springs community has a challenge in telling our story as to how things have changed, our importance to the wider Australian economy and culture, and the value we can bring for the future.

Negative news stories about crime, and youth disengagement have created perceptions about Alice Springs that do not reflect contemporary reality.

Our business, government and indigenous leaders are forward thinking, committed to the responsible growth of the region, promoting diversity and at the forefront of sustainable practices. Our offerings, particularly the unique 'red centre' iconography of the region and our deep connection with indigenous culture make us synonymous to how Australians and overseas visitors view Australia.

We need to change the narrative about Alice Springs being unsafe and pigeon-holed as dealing with crime, police and liquor problems to one which is an integral part of the Australian way of life and necessary for future economic prosperity. This require a broadening of our remit and a diversification of issues relevant to all Australians.

Positively, when it comes to the dealing with issues around crime and youth disengagement, our local community plays a strong and active role. The collaboration that exists between Australian, Territory and Local Government in dealing with the social issues of the region is rarely seen anywhere else in Australia.

This project will enable Alice Springs and surrounding regions to present a positive, engaging, forward-looking vision to government, media, potential investors and other stakeholders to facilitate greater engagement, more favourable perceptions and ultimately an improved business environment for Central Australia over the next decade.

About Alice Springs

The Aboriginal Arrernte (pronounced arrun-da) people are the traditional custodians of Alice Springs and the surrounding region. Mparntwe (pro-nounced m'barn-twa) is the Arrernte name of Alice Springs.

Following the path of Scottish explorer John McDougall Stuart, the Overland Telegraph was constructed to enable pastoralists to take up leases in the red centre. Completed on 22 August 1872, the Overland Telegraph is considered 'the greatest engineering feat of 19th century Australia'.

Attachment A

Between 1871 and 1933, Alice Springs was simply the name of a waterhole adjacent to the telegraph station, until the township of Stuart was officially gazetted by government administrators in Adelaide on 31 August 1933.

In more modern times, life in Alice Springs has boomed with an increase in tourism and the introduction of large events. Today, Alice Springs is a home to close to 30,000 people from many countries and cultures, with an Aboriginal population of 17.6% and almost 19% of residents speaking a language other than English at home.

ASTC Economic Develop Plan

As outlined in the Executive Summary of this document, ASTC seeks to produce a document that sets out an economic, social and environmental vision for what Alice Springs could look like in 2035 with the right policy settings.

The publication must be a positive, forward-looking vision aimed at our key stakeholders: Government Ministers, bureaucrats, investors and entrepreneurs, and media.

It must not be a recital of challenges Alice Springs and the region faces with its remoteness; or a 'laundry list' of requests of Government.

It must be about commitments from industry to achieve certain outcomes (e.g. Indigenous employment to increase by 10 per cent; a certain amount invested in the training of hospitality staff, etc). And what could potentially be 'unlocked' above and beyond business-as-usual with the right partnership policy setting by Governments.

Whilst the policy priorities of The Plan will be settled through stakeholder engagement facilitated by the consultant, some likely areas of interest are:

- Tourism
- Employment (current/future, footprint by state, urban v regional, industrial relations reform)
- Trade (overcoming remoteness barriers, export opportunities)
- Competitive taxation (but not individual sector taxation)
- Infrastructure
- Investment
- Planning laws and development constraints
- Renewable energy
- Mining
- Sustainability and Environmental stewardship
- Water security and drought resilience
- Competition and Regulation (e-commerce/delivery, supply chain competitiveness, access, licensing, "buying local" policies)
- Indigenous enterprise
- Community and culture (local and regional identity, cultural customs)

Language will be critical in the drafting of the report. It must use emotion and place people at the centre of our economic and strategic direction. The report will be supported by appropriate imagery and graphic design.

Deliverable(s)

1. Workshop facilitation

Part A: Strategic objective setting

The economic consultant will be required to facilitate a workshop to develop overall strategic priorities for The Plan. This initial workshop will include a broad range of stakeholders across all major sectors of the Alice Springs economy and will ensure the bigger picture for the entire region is represented, understood and prioritised.

To prioritise business interests and ensure the highest level of buy-in and contribution, ASTC will ensure those with “actual skin in the game” are present for these workshops to set overall strategic direction. It is expected that there will be 10 to 12 strategic priorities.

Part B: Policy priority development

Upon the strategic priorities being settled, the economic consultant will facilitate workshops on each key policy area with subject matter experts from local industry and, where desirable, the economic consultancy.

For example, the tourism policy focus would involve tourism operators and representative bodies to provide information on access, supply, capacity, etc; and then develop policy for what reforms or enabling environment is needed to achieve certain positive outcomes. The knowledge of a subject matter expert from the economic consultancy could also be leveraged to assist in these workshops.

Where possible, a ‘champion’ would be identified within the local economy who would co-host and lead the session.

To help guide each workshop, a short background paper will be required to be prepared by the economic consultancy on each identified topic area.

2. Economic Impact Study

Building upon the key policy priorities, an economic impact study will be required to support The Plan. Data and information that may be required from the economic impact study may include, but not be limited to:

- The number of jobs supported by the Alice Springs region, both overall and within certain demographic and geographic groups;
- The regions contribution to GDP;
- Taxes paid by the industry (corporate income tax, mining royalties, excise, duties, etc);
- Capital investment of the industry (e.g. historic and future);
- The cost to industry of certain forms of red tape (e.g. licensing, development restraints, and planning approval);
- Quantification of the benefits of certain policy priorities being implemented
- Change in the demographic of town, FIFO/Short-term workforce, and how these changes can be best utilised to drive growth.
- Northern Territory \$40B Economy Plan and how that aligns to economic future of Alice Springs
- Any other statistic or estimate the economic consultant may view as useful, in consultation with the ASTC Project Team.

Attachment A

ASTC has source material and data for some of these areas, but this may need updating to be contemporary or generated directly.

Most importantly, the economic impact study must be relevant to the Pillars of ASTC's *Liveability and Sustainability 2030 Plan*, and assist the ASTC and the local business community in justifying the case for a more favourable regulatory environment in order to realise the whole-of-region vision.

The Plan must create a “baseline” for where we are today, and where we will be by 2035 with no change and normal growth projections. The most important piece of work will be developing the delta – the difference – in a ‘no change’ scenario compared to what would be the case for all levels of Government and industry to adopt the key recommendations for policy and regulatory change developed as part of the vision.

The economic consultancy will need to engage with key stakeholders to develop a headline “goal” (and sub-goals) that the delta will achieve and lead to a partnership approach with Governments. For example, this may be an overall industry value, export sales number, tourism visitor number, or key jobs, social or environmental hurdle(s) to be achieved.

3. *Written content development*

The economic consultancy may also be required to prepare written content for the ASTC publication to ensure consistency of tone and language. This will need to commence following the settling of key policy priorities and the economic impact statement.

Whilst not forming an essential component of this Scope of Works, consideration will also be given to any relevant support that can be provided for the launch of The Plan; in particular, public advocacy at a launch event or through the media.

Timeframes

Project Component	Timing	Lead
Workshop facilitation <i>Part A: Strategic objective setting</i> <i>Part B: Development of policy priorities</i>	February 2024 March – April 2024	Economic consultancy
Economic Impact Study Part A: Baseline Part B: Delta from Policy	December 2023 June 2024	Economic consultancy
Content development	June – July 2024	Economic consultancy
Review of content by ASTC Elected Members	Mid July 2024	ASTC Project Management Office
ASTC Council approval	July 2024	ASTC Council
Launch of The Plan	August 2024	ASTC Project Management Office

Project Governance

The governance framework for the project is as follows:

<i>Project Sponsor:</i>	Matt Paterson, ASTC Mayor
<i>Project Manager:</i>	Andrew Wilshire, ASTC CEO
<i>Steering Committee:</i>	ASTC Member Council
<i>Project Management Office:</i>	ASTC staff, external consultants

Format of responses to this Tender

Responses to this Tender should ideally be presented in PowerPoint format. Proposals should also be prepared with the following requirements:

- A clearly defined scope for each component of the project that align to fixed fees.
 - Scope and fees should be provided with as much granularity as practical.
 - For example, the cost of each workshop should be delineated from the preparation of a background paper for those workshops, etc.
- Detail of any relevant experience in relation to working with remote communities of scale and/or similar regional areas.
- Detail of any relevant experience in driving consensus amongst external organisations (including industry associations) that have diverse interests and commercial priorities.
- Confirmation that the project can be undertaken and completed within the timeframes referred to above.
- Examples of any similar work produced for other clients (to the extent publicly available) or published by the economic consultancy.
- Examples of demonstrated influence of project team leaders on public policy debates in Australia, whether on behalf of clients or as an opinion shaper more broadly.
- Government relations services or the development of a government relations strategy for the ASTC publication should not form part of any proposal.

Responses to this Tender are due by **15 November 2023**.

For further information, please contact Andrew Wilshire, Chief Executive Officer, Alice Springs Town Council at awilshire@astc.nt.gov.au or +61 492 800 821.

REPORT

Report No. 194 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: MUNICIPAL PLAN 2023/2024 QUARTERLY REVIEW

AUTHOR: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES – JOE MCCABE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a quarterly status report on progress made on implementing Municipal Plan actions, and provide Council with the opportunity to make any amendments to the actions.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Municipal Plan 2023/2024 Quarterly Review Report be received and noted.

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Not Applicable

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

Council Meeting, 27 June 2023 (resolution 22678 part 4):

That Council adopt the Alice Springs Town Council 2023/2024 Municipal Plan as per section 35(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

3. DISCUSSION

The annual Municipal Plan is developed by Council to guide operations and progress Council's medium-term goals as set out in its Strategic Plan, *Alice Springs Liveability and Sustainability 2030*. It is an important part of Council's planning; and links Council's overarching long-term plans with its annual budget.

While quarterly reporting on Municipal Plan actions is not a legislative requirement, it is certainly good governance. This status reporting, together with other similar reporting on specific strategies and plans, allows Council to monitor progress in implementing its overall Strategic Plan, *Alice Springs Liveability and Sustainability 2030*.

Attachment A lists all the actions included in the Municipal Plan 2023/2024 and the status of each.

4. **ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN**

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 1 – Liveability

Pillar 2 - Safety

Pillar 3 – Environment

Pillar 4 – Economy

Pillar 5 – Governance and Civic

The Municipal Plan includes actions for 2023/2024 which will contribute towards to all pillars in the overall achievement of *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030*.

5. **FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS**

Specific funding required for actions included in the Municipal Plan is reflected in the adopted annual budget.

6. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Specific risks associated with each action are identified and mitigated as part of delivering the particular actions.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Any environmental impacts are assessed as part of delivering the particular actions.

8. **STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS**

The Municipal Plan complies with the *NT Local Government Act 2019* and *the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

There is no legislative requirement for a quarterly report on the Municipal Plan actions to be considered by Council.

Delegations included in the Register of Delegations be will utilised as required.

9. **COUNCIL POLICIES**

Municipal Plan actions are to comply with the relevant policies.

10. **STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Communication and consultation with relevant internal and external stakeholders will be in accordance with requirements for each specific action.

11. CONCLUSION

It is good governance for Council to monitor progress towards achieving the actions included in the Municipal Plan, which is important in delivering the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030*. The attachment report represents good process in implementing the required actions in a timely fashion.

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: [Municipal Plan 2023/2024 Quarterly Review – Pillars & Service Delivery](#)



Joe McCabe

ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Municipal Plan 2023/2024 Quarterly Review - Pillars Service Delivery

Attachment A

✓	Action start date
☑	Action end date
◆	Action revised end date

Liveability

Name	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	End Date	Revised End Date	Status Update / Comments	Responsible Officer
Roads									
Complete the 2023/24 Road Reseal Program	In Progress	✓	◆	☑		Mar-2024	Nov-2023	Tender documentation being prepared	Director Technical Services
Storm Water									
Complete Cromwell Drive Drainage Works	In Progress	✓	☑	◆		Dec-2023	Feb-2024	Tender has been awarded	Director Technical Services
Undertake annual stormwater maintenance and develop a 3-year maintenance program	In Progress	✓			☑	May-2024		Planning for 3 year tender underway	Director Technical Services
Parks & Recreation									
Complete Skate Park Design and Tender documents	In Progress				☑	May-2024		Design development underway	Director Technical Services
Upgrade shade to three parks	In Progress	✓			☑	Jun-2024		Tender documentation underway	Director Technical Services
Complete design and tender of Araluen Park upgrade	In Progress				☑	Jun-2024		Concept options for grant application complete. Design tender being developed	Director Technical Services
Complete upgrade of three parks	In Progress	✓			☑	Jun-2024		Tender documentation underway	Director Technical Services
Undertake consultation and submit planning application for consolidation of one park identified in the Parks Masterplan	To Commence			✓		Jun-2025		Park implementation plan being finalised to identify park	Director Technical Services
Accessibility									
Complete one accessibility upgrade to a Council owned facility	To Commence			✓	☑	Apr-2024		Options for upgrades being assessed	Director Technical Services
Libraries									
Development of a Library Masterplan	In Progress	✓				Aug-2024		Consultant onboarded to undertake an initial needs assessment, which is the first stage in informing the development of an overarching Masterplan	Director Community Development
Aquatic & Leisure Centre									
Complete the Adventure Playground at the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre	In Progress		✓	☑		Feb-2024		Works to commence October 2023	Director Community Development
Delivery of an Australia Day Pool Party	In Progress		✓	☑		Jan-2024		Planning underway as part of the Dec/Jan School Holiday program.	Director Community Development
Community and Cultural Development									
Implementation of Year One of the Multicultural Action Plan	In Progress			☑		Dec-2023		Twelve month status report due to go to Council in October	Director Community Development
Delivery of two cross-cultural training sessions	In Progress			☑		Mar-2024		Working with MCSCA to find qualified facilitators suited to educate around the multicultural community	Director Community Development
Delivery of three orientation sessions for migrants and new arrivals	In Progress				☑	Mar-2024		Two pilot sessions held - currently working on an online version to be accessed continuously by migrants and new arrivals	Director Community Development
Development of a Reconciliation Action Plan	In Progress					Dec-2024		Reflect RAP has been submitted and approved by Reconciliation. Next stage due to commencing in early 2024	Director Community Development
Public Art									
Employment of a part-time Public Arts officer	Completed	✓☑				Jul-2023		Part-time Public Arts officer commenced July 2023.	Director Community Development
Workshop held for the education of officers on artistic and practical considerations when creating public art	In Progress				☑	Jun-2024		Subscription renewed to National Association for the Visual Arts to use as a guideline for best practice in public art commissioning.	Director Community Development
Professional development program developed for local artists	In Progress				☑	Jun-2024		In progress	Director Community Development
Installation of ten additional banners	In Progress				☑	Mar-2024		Additional funding currently being sought from external stakeholders	Director Community Development
Installation of Todd River functional art seating, signage and sculptures	In Progress				☑	Jun-2024		Waiting to see the consultation outcomes from Revitalize the Town Centre as this location is included.	Director Community Development
Installation of roundabout art	In Progress			☑		Dec-2023		Artwork currently being manufactured for installation in December	Director Community Development
Delivery of new mural	In Progress				☑	Jun-2024		To be delivered as part of next year's Street Art Festival which is currently being planned by Red Hot Arts	Director Community Development
Events									
Delivery of Five night markets	In Progress			☑		Dec-2023		Three Night Markets already delivered in 2023.	Director Community Development
Delivery of Five Pop-Up Parks	In Progress			☑		Dec-2023		3 x pop up soccer screenings occurred in July and August in both the CBD and Ross Park. Partnered with Red Centre Nats to deliver the Fringe Festival in Todd Street on Thursday 31st August, as well as Larapinta. Halloween pop up (Todd Mall) to occur in October.	Director Community Development
Christmas Carnival	In Progress	✓	☑			Dec-2023		Public art EOI occurred for the painting of the tree base. Project Santa EOI open currently to engage artists to develop works for the Carnival.	Director Community Development
Delivery of Finke Street Party	Completed			✓	☑	Jun-2024		Budget to be confirmed for Street Party 2024	Director Community Development
Delivery of Big Day Out in Harmony	In Progress			✓	☑	May-2024		Planning will commence in 2024 for the event in May	Director Community Development
Delivery of a Reconciliation Week event	In Progress			✓	☑	Jun-2024		Planning will commence early 2024	Director Community Development
Delivery of Seniors Week events	Completed			☑		Feb-2024		Mayoral Morning tea, Seniors Leathercraft sessions, Still got Rhythm and High Tea Bingo all took place successfully during Seniors Month.	Director Community Development
Delivery of Mayoral Awards for International Day of People with Disability	In Progress	✓	☑			Dec-2023		Grant application submitted to assist with this event. To be located at ASTC Function room this year.	Director Community Development

Municipal Plan 2023/2024 Quarterly Review - Pillars Service Delivery

✓	Action start date
☑	Action end date
◆	Action revised end date

Liveability cont.

Name	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	End Date	Revised End Date	Status Update / Comments	Responsible Officer
Delivery of International Women's Day event	In Progress			✓☑		Mar-2024		Planning will commence early 2024	Director Community Development
Delivery of three school holidays programs	In Progress	✓			☑	Jun-2024		Ongoing planning. September/October school holidays to include craft and gaming sessions, 10pin lock in event and skateboarding workshops.	Director Community Development
Delivery of Phoney Film Festival	Completed	☑				Jul-2023		Held in July 2023 with 2 workshops held and 100 pax in attendance at the screening night	Director Community Development
Delivery of Recycled Art Prize event	In Progress				✓☑	Jun-2024		Planning will commence early 2024	Director Community Development
Delivery of Summer SAM program	Completed		✓	☑		Jan-2024		Summer SAM Program currently being planned for summer school holidays	Director Community Development

Safety

Name	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	End Date	Revised End Date	Status Update / Comments	Responsible Officer
CCTV									
Rationalisation of Council's CCTV Infrastructure	In Progress	✓				Oct-2024		Project planning and scoping complete. Tender documentation being prepared	Director Technical Services, Director Corporate Services
Community Lighting									
Upgrades to community lighting (subject to grant funding)	In Progress	✓			☑	Jun-2024		Lighting upgrade underway. Awaiting further pricing from contractor	Director Technical Services

Environment

Name	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	End Date	Revised End Date	Status Update / Comments	Responsible Officer
Environment									
Complete the Alice Springs Greening Strategy	In Progress	✓			☑	Jun-2024		Consultant engaged and initial investigation works complete	Director Technical Services
Complete programmed works in the Climate and Environment Implementation Plan	In Progress	✓			☑	Jun-2024		24FY plan developed and underway. To go to Council for endorsement	Director Technical Services
Undertake Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) trial at the Regional Waste Management Facility	Completed								Director Technical Services
Implement an internal Alice Springs Town Council FOGO at Council run facilities	In Progress	✓		☑		Mar-2024		Works underway	Director Technical Services

Economy

Name	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	End Date	Revised End Date	Status Update / Comments	Responsible Officer
CBD Revitalisation									
Undertake Concept Design and Consultation of the Alice Springs CBD Revitalisation	In Progress			☑		Feb-2024		Consultation phase underway	Director Technical Services

Governance & Civic

Name	Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	End Date	Revised End Date	Status Update / Comments	Responsible Officer
Asset Management									
Implement an Asset Management System and undertake complete condition assessments of three facilities	In Progress		✓		☑	Apr-2024		The Asset Management System is on hold pending an assessment of current architecture, business requirements and options for ERP solutions that will meet current and future business needs and deliver value to the organisation. External assistance has been engaged to conduct condition assessment of at least three facilities with an overall plan to be developed.	Director Corporate Services, Director Technical Services
Information Management									
Implement an Asset Management Information System	To Commence				✓	Dec-2024		The Asset Management Information System is on hold pending an assessment of current architecture, business requirements and options for ERP solutions that will meet current and future business needs and deliver value to the organisation.	Director Corporate Services
Implement the Information Management actions	In Progress	✓			☑	Jun-2024		Actions are being progressively implemented with progress being reported to the Risk Management and Audit committee. A temporary Records Management Project Officer has been appointed to implement the Information Management Governance Framework, which will accelerate completion of actions.	Director Corporate Services
Upgrade of the electronic Records Management system	In Progress							Content Manager to be updated to the latest version. The most appropriate technical solution being investigated.	Director Corporate Services
Governance									
Undertake an internal review and implement a schedule to update Council policies	In Progress		✓		☑	Jun-2024		Priority policies are being progressively developed/updated and referred to Council for approval. A full review will be undertaken once the Governance Unit is established, with policies to be developed/reviewed on the basis of a risk assessment.	Director Corporate Services
Workforce									
Development of a Workforce Plan	To Commence				✓	Dec-2024		Immediate focus is on other People and Culture priorities such as staff inductions, Team Member Handbook, recruitment forms and staff onboarding. Workforce Plan will commence once these People & Culture priorities are completed and resources are available.	Director Corporate Services
Wellbeing, Health and Safety									
Review and refine the Workplace Health & Safety Management System, and implement Wellbeing Health & Safety initiatives	In Progress	✓				Nov-2024		External assistance has been engaged to develop a WHS management system which is due to be completed by January 2024 and will be embedded during 2024.	Director Corporate Services

REPORT

Report No. 202 / 23 cncI

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF 2022/2023 ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

AUTHOR: MANAGER GOVERNANCE – NAOMI BRENNAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides the Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report 2022/2023, inclusive of the audited financial statements, for Council adoption.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Council receive and endorse the draft Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report 2022/2023.
2. That Council adopt and publish the Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report 2022/2023 as provided in Attachment A, with the audited financial statement and certification to be included upon adoption by Council.
3. That Council forward a copy of the Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report 2022/2023 to the Minister for Local Government no later than 15 November 2023.
4. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments.

REPORT

1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- *Not Applicable*

2. **PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS**

Note: As per Regulation 15 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, Council must resolve to accept the audited financial statement and the CEO's certification of the statement.

3. **DISCUSSION**

The Annual Report is a statutory document reporting on Council's financial and non-financial performance and describes priorities, activities, program achievements and governance arrangements for the 2022/2023 financial year. The Annual Report is a key element of Council's integrated planning and reporting framework, measuring the outputs of the Strategic Plan and transparently reporting its performance to the community.

The Annual Report 2022/2023 (Report) provides a detailed review of Council's operations, projects and programs carried out throughout the year. It provides the measures of Council's performance against the Strategic Plan 2018-2021 as outlined in Alice Springs Town Council's Municipal Plan 2022/23. This Report will be the last to report against the Strategic Plan 2018-2021 as Council adopted the new Strategic Plan, Alice Springs Liveability and Sustainability 2030, on 29 June 2022.

In accordance with Section 290 and 291 of the Local Government Act 2019, Council must on or before 15 November of each year, provide an annual report including an audited financial statement to the Minister for Local Government.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 5 - Governance and Civic

- *Municipal Plan 2022/2023*

5. FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS

- Nil.

It is noted that Alice Springs Town Council has received an unqualified audit opinion for the 2022/2023 Financial Statements.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

- The Report was reviewed internally to meet the relevant legislative requirements.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- Nil.

8. STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS

Local Government Act 2019:

- Section 290 – Annual reports
- Section 291 - Content of annual report

9. COUNCIL POLICIES

- Nil.

10. STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS

- The Report will be published on the Alice Springs Town Council website and a notice will be published in the local newspaper Centralian Today informing the public that copies of the report are available on Council's website or can be obtained at the Civic Centre.
-

11. CONCLUSION

- The Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report 2022/2023 reports Council's performance for the 2022/2023 financial year.

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: [Draft Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report 2022/2023](#)



Naomi Brennan

MANAGER GOVERNANCE



Joe McCabe

ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES



2022/23

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
Annual Report



Acknowledgement of Country

Mparntwe tantype Council-arenye mapele itele-areme, apmere nhenhe Arrernte-kenhe, itne ampereke-artweye arrwekelenye uthene mape itele-aretyeke.

Alice Springs Town Council acknowledges the Central Arrernte people who are the traditional owners and custodians of Mparntwe/Alice Springs.

Translation provided by the Alice Springs Language Centre



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Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Vision for the Town of Alice Springs

A brighter future, a prosperous and cohesive community.

We aspire to be modern, inclusive and innovative, bridging divides and forging new paths.

We want to bring our community together, to celebrate this unique place of gathering where the world meets the oldest living culture on Earth.

Our Mission

We will be a smart and efficient Council. We will deliver our services to the Community whilst constantly improving our practices and procedures to achieve our vision.

We will always be accountable to the Community whom we serve.

Our Values

Leadership: Our culture, values and accountability are present throughout the organisation.

Collaboration: We work in partnership and are better together.

Trust: Nothing is more important than the trust between the community and ourselves.

Respect: We respect people and genuinely care.

Authenticity: What we do rings true and we do what we say.

Inclusion: We value all people to create a more equal world.

Commitment: We consistently strive towards our mission.

Determination: We endeavour to continuously improve.





Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**



Message from the Mayor

On behalf of Alice Springs Town Council, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2022/23.

This past year has been one of planning and progress for Alice Springs Town Council, and we have put some tremendous things in place to ensure our community lives up to its potential.

The 14th Alice Springs Town Council has planned for the development of our organisation into one that is holistic in its service delivery. We have begun to see the fruits of that planning in 2022/23 with some exciting projects well and truly underway.

A major focus of this past year has been infrastructure, and that will continue moving forward. We began a revamp of our Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre by installing an Outdoor Gym, really putting the Leisure back into the facility. We also announced plans to build a brand-new Adventure Play Park at the facility, featuring a playground, mini golf, basketball, volleyball and climbing walls. Work on the Adventure Play Park will continue this year, but it shows we are truly invested in improving the liveability of our town.

We know that families in Alice Springs deserve the opportunity to access free parks and gardens all year around, and have taken steps to improve these amenities across our town. Across the past year, we have installed shade in 12 parks in Alice Springs so our playgrounds can be used every day of the year. We will continue this work moving forward, as well as upgrading play equipment.

As well as improving infrastructure, we have also supported community organisations thrive in our community. Last year Council issued a total of \$107,000 in cash sponsorship to community organisations to assist in delivering services and events in Alice Springs. We also delivered more than \$390,000 in in-kind support to groups and organisation, assisting with the delivery of diverse community events and projects.

In looking back at our achievements across the year, it's clear to see both Elected members and the Council team work hard for our community. This is something that will continue moving forward as we aim to make our region prosper.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Elected Members and the entire dedicated Council team for their contributions in making Alice Springs a better place to live. Rest assured that our work continues each and every day.



Mayor Matt Paterson



Message from the Chief Executive Officer

It gives me great pleasure to present Alice Springs Town Council's 2022/23 Annual Report.

The Annual Report gives us a chance to reflect on the work we have achieved as a Council across the past year and acknowledge the achievements of Elected Members, our Council team and our volunteers. We have made some wonderful strides this year toward delivering on our Strategic Plan 2018-2022. Our collective efforts have continued to further our mission of making Alice Springs a liveable and sustainable community.

It is no secret that our community faces challenges. Despite these challenges, our team has remained steadfast in our commitment to our duties and responsibilities. We have successfully implemented infrastructure improvements, and continued to deliver a range of programs and events for people from all walks of life, whether that be assisting people to learn English through the Library's Read, Write Chat program, or engaging young people in a range of positive programs through our Youth Team. Our care for this community is clearly evident in all things we do.

Of course, we recognise that our achievements as a Council are not ours alone - they are the result of the collaboration between the Council team and the members of the community we serve.

I would like to thank our Mayor Matt Paterson, Elected Members and every Council team member who have supported me in hitting the ground running this year. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue our work, armed with the lessons from the year just passed and the promise of a brighter future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Wilsmore'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

CEO Andrew Wilsmore

Our Town, Our History

The Central Arrernte (pronounced arrunda) people are the traditional custodians of Alice Springs and the surrounding region. Mparntwe (pronounced m'barn-twa) is the Arrernte name of Alice Springs. Mparntwe has a history which was born in the Altyerre (dreamtime). Athereyurre (Telegraph Station) was where the Central Arrernte people survived for 1000s of years because of the source of water reliability. Athereyurre provided this necessity to the Central Arrernte people.

The Mparntwe people of the Central Arrente tribe lived in this area because of the availability of water and all types of foods this particular area offered, including amerne (vegetables) and akure (meat).

The original town of Stuart, which is also known as the Telegraph Station, was the original location of Alice Springs. The township started under the name of Stuart and between 1871 and 1933 Alice Springs was simply the name of a waterhole adjacent to the Telegraph Station. It was named after Alice Todd, the wife of Sir Charles Todd, who was the driving force for constructing the Overland Telegraph Line that revolutionised communication across the country.

Today, the town of Alice Springs is a home to people from many countries and cultures, with an Aboriginal population of 20% and almost 25% of residents speaking a language other than English at home. Our residents exude creativity, resilience, resourcefulness and cultural understanding as we live together in unison.

Our community is always striving for something greater, as it has become the service centre for the region and pastoralists, an inland capital, a destination known for its Aboriginal culture and landmarks and above all, a unique and happy place to live. A town and population that does not stand still, but is driven to be modern and always welcoming.





Alice Springs today

Population: 28,922 (2022 ABS)

Target Population Growth: 3.5%

Land area: 328.3 km²

Population density: 88.09 persons per square km

Median Age: 35

Aboriginal population: 20%

Population born overseas: 26.2%

Language at home other than English: 24.5%

Median weekly household income: \$2,142

2022 mean maximum temperature: 28.9 °C

2022 mean minimum temperature: 12.6 °C

Local businesses: 1,941 (2021 ABS Census)

Employed residents: 13,727

Top industry sector of employment:

1. Healthcare & Social Assistance (3,095)
2. Public Administration and Safety (2,394)
3. Education and Training (1,295)



Part One: About the Council

Council in Focus

Council History

Alice Springs officially became a Municipality on 1 July 1971, with the first Council Meeting of the newly-elected Aldermen held a few days later on 5 July. The 1st Council comprised several high-profile identities, such as the popular pastoralist and former Federal Member for the NT, Jock Nelson, who was voted in as the first Mayor in a landslide victory over five other candidates. The Jock Nelson Centre at 16 Hartley Street recognises Mr Nelson, who resigned from Council in late-1973 to take up the Darwin-based position of Administrator of the Northern Territory.

Elected Aldermen of the 1st Council were: Marlene Brown, a local business woman; barrister/solicitor Brian Martin; future inaugural Chief Minister of the NT, Paul Everingham; transport identity Len Kittle; timber merchant Dave Baldock; architect Andrew McPhee; businessman Peter Leunig; and, teacher Allan Dunstan.



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Council Structure

The Council sets the strategic and policy direction for the organisation, monitors the performance of its functions, and has the responsibility of financial allocation and resourcing. Their role is to represent the people in their area providing leadership and guidance to the community. The monthly Ordinary Council Meetings are open to the public who may sit in the public gallery or watch the meeting streamed live.

Council Representatives

There are nine Elected Members who represent the community of Alice Springs. They have specific powers, responsibilities and duties as set out in the *Local Government Act 2019*. The Mayor is elected during the local government elections held every four years and the Deputy Mayor is elected by the Council every 12 months as per Council policy.



Committees, Advisory Groups and Representation of External Bodies

To assist with risk management and decision-making, the Council has two advisory committees that make recommendations to them about any matters the committee believes require the Council's consideration as a result of the committee's functions.

Risk Management and Audit Committee

The Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) is an advisory committee with an objective to provide independent assurance and advice regarding the integrity of Council's financial management and risk, internal control and compliance frameworks. RMAC continues to be independently chaired by Mr Bryan Whitefield, and supported by the Chief Executive Officer and senior Council officers.

The committee met three times during the 2022/23 financial year and provided oversight of the following:

- ☐ Annual financial statements
- ☐ Compliance review
- ☐ External audit reporting
- ☐ Internal audit assurance
- ☐ Risk management.

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee

The Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC) provides advice on the provision, appropriate development and management of Council Sporting Facilities within our community.

Other Committees

The following Committees were dissolved in August 2022 to allow for a more community consultative approach.

- ☐ Access Advisory Committee
- ☐ Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre Committee
- ☐ Cemetery Advisory Committee
- ☐ Community Grants / Araluen Access Grants Committee
- ☐ Creative Arts Recovery Grants Committee
- ☐ Development Committee
- ☐ Environmental Advisory Committee
- ☐ Library Consultative Committee
- ☐ Parks Coordinating Committee
- ☐ Public Arts Advisory Committee
- ☐ Regional Waste Management Committee
- ☐ Senior's Coordinating Committee
- ☐ Tourism Events and Promotions Committee

Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Elected Members

14th Alice Springs Town Council

As at 30 June 2023



Mayor

Matt Paterson

0424 652 640

mpaterson@alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Internal Committee Representation

Alice Springs Town Council and Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation (LAAC) Partnership Committee
Alice Springs Town Council and Tangentyere Council Steering Committee
Parks Coordinating Committee
Risk Management and Audit Committee
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee

External Committee Representation

50+ Community Centre Committee
Development Consent Authority
Local Government Association Northern Territory (LGANT)
Outback Highway Development Council Inc (Outback Way)
Tourism Central Australia



Deputy Mayor

Eli Melky

0427 012 699

emelky@alicesprings.nt.gov.au



Councillor

Marli Banks

0417 681 111

mbanks@alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Internal Committee Representation

Parks Co-ordinating Committee



Councillor

Allison Bitar

0491 055 224






abitar@alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Internal Committee Representation

Alice Springs Town Council & Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation (LAAC) Partnership Committee
Parks Co-ordinating Committee
Risk Management and Audit Committee

External Committee Representation

Alice Springs Art Foundation
Local Government Association Northern Territory (LGANT)

	<p>Councillor Steve Brown</p> <p>0427 792 194 sbrown@alicesprings.nt.gov.au</p>	<p>Internal Committee Representation Sports Facilities Advisory Committee</p>
	<p>Councillor Mark Coffey</p> <p>0401 116 166 mcoffey@alicesprings.nt.gov.au</p>	<p>Internal Committee Representation Alice Springs Town Council and Tangentyere Council Steering Committee Risk Management and Audit Committee Sports Facilities Advisory Committee</p> <p>External Committee Representation Outback Highway Development Council Inc (Outback Way)</p>
	<p>Councillor Kim Hopper</p> <p>0423 397 235 khopper@alicesprings.nt.gov.au</p>	<p>Internal Committee Representation Alice Springs Town Council and Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation (LAAC) Partnership Committee</p> <p>External Committee Representation RedHOT Arts Central Australia Inc.</p>
	<p>Councillor Michael Liddle</p> <p>0456 529 769 mliddle@alicesprings.nt.gov.au</p>	<p>Internal Committee Representation Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Alice Springs Town Council and Tangentyere Council Steering Committee</p> <p>External Committee Representation Heritage Council</p>
	<p>Councillor Gavin Morris</p> <p>0413 964 838 gmorris@alicesprings.nt.gov.au</p>	<p>Sworn in to the 14th on the 22 November 2022. Elected in via the by-election held as a result of the vacancy created by the resignation of Jimmy Cocking.</p>

Organisational Structure

There were no changes made to the Alice Springs Town Council's organisational structure during this financial year.







Part Two: Reporting Performance

Strategic Framework

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The Alice Springs Town Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework guides the planning process to deliver accountable and measurable links between community aspirations, financial and resource sustainability including effective asset management, and practical service delivery.

The *Annual Report* measures the outputs of the *Municipal Plan* and facilitates a review of the *Business Plan*.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework is outlined below.



2022/23 Year in Review

Projects

Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre's Outdoor Gym

With funding assistance from the Northern Territory and Federal Government, Council proudly unveiled a new outdoor gym at the Aquatic and Leisure Centre (ASALC) to help promote healthy lifestyles and make the facility more of a holistic experience. The gym has a range of different equipment from kettlebells to elliptical machines for people of all abilities to access.

Shade sails in parks

Shade structures were placed over play equipment in 12 of our local parks for the safe and comfortable enjoyment of our outdoor spaces.

Oleander Park • Noonie Park • Beefwood Park • Campbell Park • Dixon Park • Ashwin Park • Roberts Park • Gilbert Place Park • Plowman Park • Forrest Park • Ruffino Park • Walmulla Park

Upgraded play equipment

More time for outdoor play...

Walmulla Park – Upgraded with slides, climbing equipment, see saw and a flying fox.

Willoby Park on Gilbert Place - now has the additional features of a dual slide and climbing equipment fit for young children.

Regional Skate and Play Park

Council completed the first phase of community consultation gathering feedback on the skating elements of the proposed Regional Skate and Play Park project for Newland Park. Further consultation is to follow on the wider design of the park.

Public Art

Many Hands Art Centre panels were installed to beautify the Hartley Street Carpark, in collaboration with the Itjja Ntjarra (Many Hands) Art Centre.

Youth Summit

Council held its first Youth Summit in September 2022 where young people got together and shared ideas to help create change for the better. The theme of the summit was IMAGINE which stands for 'Integrity & Mindset Achieves Goals, Ideas, Needs & Education'.

Todd Mall Traders

Local businesses were supported with administrative assistance and the coordinating efforts of Council's CBD & Public Arts Officer to establish a Todd Mall working group that will advocate for the revitalisation of the town's centre.



Performance Targets

Alice Springs Town Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 outlined Council's direction and priorities to guide focused activity towards achieving below desired objectives:

1. Create a dynamic community
2. Provide a great place to live
3. Provide leadership in sustainability
4. Operate a dynamic Council

Key Performance Indicators for each of the strategies can be found in the Strategic Plan 2018-2022 accessible from the Civic Centre or Council's website at www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au.

During the financial year, Elected Members developed a new *2030 Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan* which will form the basis of reporting in future years.



Objective 1: A dynamic community

At its best, Alice Springs is a prosperous community where everyone is included and welcomed. We are a vibrant town, a place of true cultural inclusion and collaboration. Council strives to help our town live up to this potential, bringing the community together and creating a place where everyone feels like they belong.

A dynamic, prosperous community where everyone is included underpinned by safe, reliable infrastructure and social investment.

- 1.1. Inclusiveness & support
- 1.2. Economic growth & prosperity
- 1.3. Safe & reliable public infrastructure

Indicator	2022/23 Target	Results
Develop and implement short term strategies of Council's Multicultural Action Plan to ensure the inclusivity of Council services and programs	Establish key indicators and yearly improvement targets for inclusion and diversity for Council programs	→
1:4 return on investment met with increased sponsorship applications expected for local events and increased governance around assessment criteria and process	Council funding on sponsorship initiatives achieve at least a 1:4 return on investment	✓
Increase Alice Springs Town Council website sessions from a baseline of 250,000 by 10% per annum	Increase website sessions from 400,000 to 440,000	×
Achieve more consistent responses and reduced response times to NeatStreets notifications throughout the municipality.	100% response rate to NeatStreets notifications	✓
Develop an updated Traffic and Parking Strategy that assists in the Activation of the CBD in partnership with Northern Territory Government Activation projects	New Traffic and Parking Strategy developed to assist in the activation of the CBD in partnership with Northern Territory Government Activation projects	→
Grow the proportion of lifetime animal registrations compared to annual registrations from 4:1 to 5:1	Proportion of 5:1 lifetime animal registration to annual registrations achieved	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved

Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23****Objective 2: A great place to live**

Alice Springs as a region has a great deal of potential and Council is committed to working with key stakeholders to see the town fulfil it. We want to create a thriving and accessible town for people to live, work, study and play. Through investment in our infrastructure, parks, events and programs, Council continues to bring Alice Springs' unique character to life and deliver on the promise of a brighter future.

A great place to live that attracts and retains residents because of our unmatched leisure and healthy living opportunities and embracing our unique landscape and culture.

- 2.1. Community life, promoting a healthy vibrant culture
- 2.2. Sense of place & public amenity
- 2.3. Enhance life-long learning, library & technology services

Indicator	2022/23 Target	Results
All primary-aged children to have access to a swim and water safety program to enable them to reach the Level 5 target of 25m continuous swim freestyle, breaststroke, survival backstroke and backstroke	All primary-aged children to have access to a swim and water safety program to enable them to reach the Level 5 target of 25m continuous swim freestyle, breaststroke, survival backstroke and backstroke	→
Increase STEAM and digital engagement event participants by 25% per annum	Increase STEAM and digital engagement event participants by 25% per annum	✓
Implement <i>Public Art Master Plan</i> endorsed through Council and strengthening of existing strategic relationships across arts and culture, education, health, tourism, community and local enterprise	Completion of short and medium-term Arts and Cultural Plan strategic actions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and implementation of a <i>Public Art Master Plan</i>. - Development and implementation of a Public Art Interpretation Plan. - Strengthen existing strategic relationships across arts and culture, education, health, tourism, community and local enterprise. 	✓
Increase participation in healthy communities' activities by 10% per annum	Promotion of Healthy Communities activities to increase movement and exercise for minority groups, increased by 10%	×
Develop a Greening Strategy for Alice Springs Park, open spaces and CBD	Strategy developed and priorities identified and funded in 2023/24	→
Work with partners to increase organised sporting participation by 5% per annum	To have participation of all sports target of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3,000 adults - 1,700 juniors 	✓
Budgeted stormwater upgrades delivered	Deliver key stormwater upgrades	→
Work with the community safety committee and key stakeholders to progressively improve safety related infrastructure such as public lighting	Meet with key stakeholders including NTG and the community regarding safety related infrastructure held as required	→
Parks are progressively upgraded	At least three shade structures installed annually	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved



Objective 3: Leadership in Sustainability

Alice Springs Town Council recognises its role in Climate Action and preserving the liveability of our town. We are dedicated to reducing our overall environmental footprint and finding ways to help Alice Springs become a more sustainable and liveable town in the future.

A leader in sustainability and best practice, living well in our desert context and minimising our impact.

- 3.1. Community life, promoting a healthy vibrant culture
- 3.2. Sense of place & public amenity
- 3.3. Enhance life-long learning, library & technology services

Indicator	2022/23 Target	Results
Climate action and environment priority actions commenced	Recommence a commercial Food and Organic (FOGO) Waste Trial Work on climate and heat research with Charles Darwin University Develop a Greening Strategy along with a Verge Stewardship Program Redesigning the treatment of liquid wastes so they can be safely disposed of locally, and avoiding the transport thousands of kilometres for subsequent disposal Working with Power Water Corporation to investigate ways to introduce the use of recycled water	✓
Develop a renewable energy plan to enable strategic planning of Council's investment in renewables	Increase proportion of solar generated electricity at Council facilities or reduce consumption to achieve energy savings from the grid of 50% by 2022/2023	×

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved

Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23****Objective 4: A dynamic Council**

Alice Springs Town Council aims to be a well governed Council that leads by example, advocates for our community, innovates and delivers excellent services, and works with others collaboratively to help create the community we want to live in. We are on the path to achieving this through investment in our organisation, creating a more efficient Council that supports the community.

A well governed Council that leads by example, advocates for our community, innovates and delivers excellent services, and works with others collaboratively to help create the community we want to live in.

- 4.1. Leadership & advocacy excellence
- 4.2. People & workplace excellence
- 4.3. Service excellence
- 4.4. Governance excellence

Indicator	2022/23 Target	Results
Meet all financial reporting requirements to the specified compliance level	Compliance to regulatory reporting deadlines	✓
Outstanding Rates Ratio equal or better than 0.3 (being the total rates outstanding divided by total rates revenue)	Achieve a Rates Ratio targeted to be equal or better than 0.3	✓
Ensure Current Ratio at better than 1:1 (being the total rates outstanding and a measure of how quickly Council can convert current assets into cash to satisfy Council financial commitments)	Maintain the current ratio targeted to be better than 1:1	✓
Ensure Council maintains a strong capacity to service its loans (if any) by having a Debt Equity Ratio of less than 0.1 (being the outstanding debt divided by operating income)	Maintain debt equity ratio targeted to be less than 0.1	✓
Elected Members participate in all Ordinary Council and Standing Committee meetings and 80% of Advisory and other committee meetings as appointed (to be reported on in the Council's Annual Report)	Ensure participation of Elected Members in all Ordinary Council and Standing Committee meetings and 80% of Advisory and other committee meetings	✗

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing ✗ Not achieved

Yearly surveys of Advisory Committee members show an increase in satisfaction and motivation rates, reflected in increased attendance rates	Conduct an annual survey of Advisory Committee members, and improve the system to formally track attendance	×
Develop and Implement a Workforce Strategy, Capability and Leadership Framework to ensure a consistent approach and commitment to ongoing measuring of and accountability to organisational expectations for culture, values and behaviour	Workforce Strategy, Capability and Leadership Framework developed and implemented	→
Develop a Reconciliation Action Plan for Council, setting clear progressive measurable targets, strategies and actions including achieving increased employment of Indigenous Australians in Council positions	Develop and implement an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan	→
Improve staff satisfaction benchmarks established in 2018/19 by 5% per year Report against established staff satisfaction benchmarks	Establish staff satisfaction benchmarks. Report against staff satisfaction benchmarks	×

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved





Council Manages

73 parks and gardens | 8 sporting grounds and ovals | 250+km of roads | 120km of stormwater | 400km of verges | 3 cemeteries | 8 netball courts | 2,735 solar panels | 4 swimming pools, 1 whirlpool, 1 indoor spa |

Service Delivery

Service delivery is a core function of Alice Springs Town Council and we are constantly reviewing practices and procedures to ensure programs run efficiently and cost effectively.

We are committed to providing value to the community and we care about our town. Through engaging events to enliven public spaces, we activate our infrastructure and facilities that are impressive for a remote town.



Community Development

The following programs, events and services were delivered by the Community Development Directorate.

Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre (ASALC)

Infant, Toddler, Children and Adult Learn to Swim classes | Aqua-fit classes | Summer School Holiday Wild Wednesdays | New Year's Eve Party | Fab Friday | Australia Day Pool Party | Heating of outdoor pool | Royal Life Saving Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment (Pool Audit) | Adventure Play Park tender awarded and concept design endorsed | Preventative Maintenance Tender awarded 2022/23 – 2024/25 | Plantroom Asset Report completed | Operational Review Consultant appointed

Programs

ASALC provides water safety education through a variety of swimming programs that caters for all ages and ability. These include Learn to Swim classes for infants, toddlers, children and adults. School-based programs, regional and remote Aqua-Fit classes, access and inclusion considerations and meeting multicultural needs are integrated in our services.

Events

In collaboration with the Youth Programs Team, six free entry events were held across 2022/23 and funded through various Northern Territory Government grants. Free sausage sizzles and fruit were available and activities included inflatables, aquatic basketball, arrow tag, water slides and music. These family and youth orientated events remain a popular highlight of the school holiday breaks.

2022/23 Deliverables	Results
Provide and build programs incorporating water safety education and basic swimming skills to Access and Inclusion/CALD groups and individuals	✓
Provide professional training facilities for provision of training courses to increase employment opportunities in Council and the Central Australia region	✓
Provide Health & Wellbeing programs, facilities and equipment	✓
Provide facility for physiotherapy/exercise groups - aquatic and land-based programs	✓
Provide facilities for sporting groups, community groups and private community celebrations	✓
Provide facilities, equipment and staff for school carnivals and other community events	✓
Provide aquatic programs for remote community groups and schools	✓
Develop risk management aquatic-based programs for middle to upper primary aged students to engage and educate	→
Promote safe behaviour, active supervision and respectful hygiene messages through video and signage	✓
Offer safe program for special needs clients and carers that encourage engagement and wellbeing in the aquatic environment	✓
Provide program/facilities to engage new mums and infants under 6 months of age	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing ✗ Not achieved

Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Alice Springs Public Library

STEM programs, such as Robotics & 3D Printing Workshops, Questacon Windtunnel, Try Fly Drones and our Science Playday | Read. Write. Chat | Summer Reading Club | Bike Maintenance | Craft @ the Library | Narrative Writing Workshop | Reptile Centre | Storytime & Baby Rhyme Time | School holiday programs | The Australian Ballet | NT Writer's Festival Author Talks | RoboCup Junior | Tax Help

Our Year in numbers

During 2022/23:

- ☐ The Alice Springs Public Library (ASPL) welcomed **91,965 visitors** through our doors.
- ☐ We were open to the public for a total of **2,267 hours**.
- ☐ Visitor and patrons have booked **16,274 sessions** on our public PCs.
- ☐ We have hosted **573 programs** with **19,867 participants**.
- ☐ We have welcomed **1,734 new members**.
- ☐ Members have checked out **123,582 items**.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Programs

Our STEM programs, such as Robotics & 3D Printing Workshops, Questacon Windtunnel, Try Fly Drones and our Science Playday have significantly contributed to enhancing the educational and community engagement aspects of our library. These programs have successfully combined technology, science and creativity to provide valuable learning opportunities for patrons whilst also promoting digital inclusion and fostering a sense of community.

Partnerships

ASPL celebrated successful partnerships with multiple community-focused initiatives, including RoboCup Junior, Tax Help programs, the NAIDOC Committee and the NT Writers Centre. These partnerships are a great example of the Library as a dynamic and adaptable multipurpose activity centre that responds to the needs of our diverse Alice Springs community.

2022/23 Deliverables	Results
Deliver a bi-annual "Youth Engagement through Technology Expo" involving key stakeholders in the COUNCIL community	✓
Deliver programs to diverse cohorts to strengthen ASPL as a place to meet, share and keep	✓
Deliver Seniors activities, including "Be Connected" in consultation with Seniors Committee	✓
Maintain and grow ASPL relationships with NT Writers' Centre, NAIDOC Committee, NTES and other external stakeholders	✓
Deliver school holiday programs	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing ✗ Not achieved



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Community & Cultural Development

Programs

Arrernte Language and Culture Workshops | Summer SAM (Sport, Art, Music) | Artship Mural Project | Youth Recycled Art Prize | Phoney Film Festival | Keep You Moving Exercise Program | Movers and Groovers | Heart Foundation Active in Alice Walking Group



Events

Night Markets incorporating the Finke Street Party | FABalice | Desert Festival and Christmas Carnival | Seniors Month| Seniors Still Got Rhythm | International Day of People with a Disability | Mayoral Awards | Christmas Window Competition | Pop-up Parks series | International Women's Day Panel and Morning Tea | Big Day Out in Harmony | Celebrating IDAHOBIT Day (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersex discrimination and Transphobia)



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Big Day Out in Harmony

Alice Springs Town Council once again collaborated with MCSCA (Multicultural Community Services of Central Australia) to deliver their Big Day Out in Harmony, celebrating our richly diverse community of Alice Springs. A day enjoyed by approximately 1,000 people filled with colours, sounds, fragrances and tastes from across the world.

Multicultural Action Plan

In March 2023 Council's Multicultural Action Plan was endorsed. Annual short-term strategies have been implemented successfully, such as increased Council multicultural programs and events by 10%. Annual strategies will be reviewed each year for continuous improvement. This plan ensures Council stays abreast of multicultural social and community trends, initiatives and priorities by developing strategic alliances with key community stakeholders to ensure our projects and events are culturally appropriate, and aligned with our diverse community's needs.

Celebrating IDAHOBIT Day

(International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersex discrimination and Transphobia).

Council joined workplaces and organisations around Australia in raising awareness and strengthening inclusion, by providing a free inclusive language workshop facilitated by the Northern Territory AIDS and Hepatitis Council. Ten community members joined the workshop which covered defining and understanding identities, exploring language, and inclusive practice.

Healthy Communities

Council's Keep You Moving exercise program at the Health & Wellness Centre (at ASALC) assists people with chronic health conditions to thrive. The program received almost 3,000 visits and continues to receive ongoing new referrals from local allied health services. For residents at the Old Timers Village, free exercise programs were delivered twice weekly. Movers and Groovers dance sessions continued as part of Healthy Communities (HC) programming for seniors at the 50 Plus Community Centre. HC continues to support the Heart Foundation's Active in Alice Walking Group which is now a volunteer run program with an average attendance of 32 people per walk. Celebrating Multicultural Fitness, COUNCIL provided a free fitness session which comprised of West African Dance, followed by a drumming workshop with 55 people attending.

Volunteers

After the development of Council's Volunteer Framework and volunteer position descriptions, recruitment for new volunteers continues. A total of 18 new volunteers were engaged in 2022/23 and Council volunteers as a whole have donated over 150 hours to assist Council in delivering on its commitments to the local community. Council's volunteers were awarded Certificates of Appreciation and celebrated at a National Volunteer Week event.



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Community & Cultural Development

2022/23 Deliverables	Results
Deliver the 2023 Community Grants program	✓
Deliver the 2022 Mayoral Awards	✓
Deliver the 2023 Centralian Awards	✓
Finalise and implement year one initiatives of Council's Multicultural Action Plan to ensure inclusivity and accessibility of Council's programs, services and events.	→
Deliver Seniors activities, including Seniors Month activities and attend the 50+ Management Committee	✓
Deliver a range of Community Events, including the Night Markets, Christmas Carnival and Pop up Parks	✓
In collaboration with Ranger Unit and Alice Springs Animal Shelter support Many Paws Walk in 2023.	✓
Implement a Volunteer Framework to support Alice Springs Town Council activities and programs and increase Council's Volunteer database by 10%	→
Launch an external event guide for the Alice Springs community	✓
Partner with local seniors' service providers and advocacy groups to promote World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	✓
Expand the online mobility map on Council website to include surrounding suburbs	→
Administer and organise in-kind support requests in line with community guidelines for local events and projects	✓
Build awareness for International Women's Day and support local women's organisations	✓
Increased detection and enforcement of Council By-Laws	✓
Deliver programs during school holidays including, Splash Parties at ASALC	✓
Implementation of Summer SAM (Sports, Arts and Music) festival	✓
Deliver activities during youth week, including Youth Recycle Art Prize, Wild Wednesday and Shooting of Undead Central	✓
Implementation of Film project for the youth	×
Implementation of Youth Forum	✓
Deliver Phoney Film Festival	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved

Ranger Unit

Managed 1,153 calls-for-service | Removed 162 abandoned vehicles from public spaces | 427 Parking infringements issued | Drafted and approved 755 Permits for events | Issued 57 animal management and 6 Public Places infringements | Processed 586 lifetime registrations | Achieved the target of 6:1 lifetime dog and cat registrations to annual registrations

2022/23 Deliverables	Results
Increased detection and enforcement of Council By-Laws	✓
Continue to deliver on-call assistance to support Animal welfare groups and Veterinarians	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing ✗ Not achieved

Council's Ranger Unit is responsible for upholding the By-laws that are in force within the municipality, conducting parking compliance activity, supporting community events, and the administration of Public Places Permits. Rangers supported many community events, including providing a dedicated presence at all Night Markets. Rangers, working closely with the Northern Territory Police Force, conducted several high visibility patrols in the CBD to support Operation Thayer. This collaboration involved Rangers patrolling at night in teams to identify and notify of any issues that may have required Police assistance.



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Technical Services

The following programs, events and services were delivered by the Technical Services Directorate.

Rediscovery Centre and the Regional Waste Management Facility

National Recycling Week | Youth Recycled Art Prize | 45,569.67 tonnes of waste received | 6,581.45 tonnes of waste recycled out | 14% of total waste received recycled | 144.70 tonnes of cardboard waste | 37.48 tonnes of e-waste | 2110.60 tonnes of green waste | 888.86 tonnes of metal waste | 334.80 tonnes of glass | 70.92 tonnes of firewood | 8 tonnes of paint waste | 157.49 tonnes of liquid waste | 28 tonnes recycled through the Container Deposit Scheme | Installation of Bio Bins | Removal of Liquid Waste and Shredding of Materials Tenders Awarded | Purchase of a Tipper and Excavator | Installation of Air-conditioning in the Rediscovery Centre | 10 year Masterplan Completed |



Technical Services Directorate

2022/23 Deliverables	Results
Provide twice-yearly free waste collection to people with disabilities and to aged people through the Aged Pensioner Pruning Services	✓
Deliver the EqualiTea Program in partnership with NT Friendship and Support	✓
Install improved public safety lighting across the CBD and in community safety "hot spots"	✓
Complete Todd Mall pavement maintenance works in line with Zoned Maintenance	✓
Expand the water reduction technology of irrigation on Sporting Ovals	×
Replace aged equipment to more fuel-efficient Plant and Equipment	✓
Meet a tree-planting target of 750 trees per annum	→
Conduct impact assessment of developments to permit sustainable growth	×
Review the NT Planning Scheme and recommend changes that have impacts on the economic growth in Alice Springs	→
Finalise Council acceptance for asset inheritance of Ilpeye Ilpeye Town Camp	✓
Work with Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) on Kilgariff Master Plan for future stages	→
Encourage developers to contain water onsite to permit infiltration and to improve water table	×
Encourage developers to use alternative options to concreting, where possible	×
Climate action plan developed and priorities established	✓
Encourage use of electric vehicles	→
Facilitate the development, endorsement and implementation of the Alice Springs Town Council – Climate Action Plan 2022-2025	✓
Develop a Greening Strategy for funding and implementation	→
Promote the installation of vehicle charging stations	✓
Coordinate community events that promote environmental awareness such as Clean Up Australia Day, Great Northern Clean Up and National Tree Planting Day	✓
Encourage Northern Territory Government and local businesses to adopt sustainable initiatives	→
Waste reduction strategy – Environment and Regional Waste staff working on a range of reduction strategies for funding and implementation	✓
Develop an updated Traffic and Parking Strategy that assists in the Activation of the CBD in partnership with Northern Territory Government Activation projects	×
Park infrastructure is inspected and maintained to required standards	✓
Deliver key stormwater upgrades, in locations of periodic flooding	→
Work with the community safety committee and key stakeholders to progressively improve safety related infrastructure such as public lighting	✓
Complete Ilparpa Road shared path network (Stage 1)	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved

Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

2022/23 Deliverables	Results
Upgrade Ragonessi Road Stormwater Drain	→
Upgrade Council's open drainage network to mitigate flooding impacts	×
Work with the NT Government to jointly improve intersection serviceability – Schwarz Crescent and Stuart highway	✓
Upgrade, refurbish and renovate library internal and external infrastructure	→
Complete the delivery of the CBD and Todd Mall revitalisation projects	→
Complete upgrades on Norris Bell and Lovegrove Drive railway crossings secure funding for seven remaining Council controlled railway crossings to bring up to current standards	✓
Implement the annual Road Reseal program	✓
Complete the new pedestrian footpath along Herbert Heritage Drive	✓
Liaise with community and stakeholders on the proposed Regional Community Park, select preferred location and commenced design	✓
Increase the number of shade structures in public areas such as parks	✓
Continue to facilitate community use of sporting facilities, including shared use and improving infrastructure	✓
Work in partnership with Northern Territory Government in the development of new parks in the Kilgariff residential estate	✓
Introduce new FOGO trial	→
Increase recycled out waste by a further 5%	×
Reuse 35% of the crushed glass collected from 100 tonne of wine and spirit bottles under the Cash for Containers scheme annually	×
Increase reuse/recycling rates of waste presented at the Regional Waste Management Facility by 5% per annum	×
Provide safe and effective solutions to support the community's participation in recycling and removal of waste from landfill	✓
Facilitate the monthly White Goods Drop-off Day at the Regional Waste Management Facility	✓
Work with key stakeholders to develop a strategy to mitigate illegal dumping in the Alice Springs area	✓
Develop/update the Traffic and Parking Strategy	×
Support major sports events including Masters Games, Big Bash league, Imparja Cup & National Indigenous Cricket Carnival, AFLW and AFL matches	✓
Identify and seek funding to support the implementation of the recommendations in the Alice Springs Sports Facilities Master Plan 2020-2030	✓
Support the objectives of the Master Plan for Mountain Biking in the Northern Territory and supplementary infrastructure plans	×
Implement a Food Organics Garden Organics service for the community	→
Parks maintained, green, shady and actively used by sporting groups and members of the public	✓
A focus on clean streets and zero graffiti	✓

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23****Corporate Services**

The following programs, events and services were delivered by the Corporate Services Directorate.

2022/23 Deliverables	Results
Deliver a robust Work Health and Safety System to ensure the health and safety of all Council employees, subcontractors and community members while we work in our open spaces.	→
Continue to provide security CCTV monitoring activity and work closely with Police to provide safety to persons in public areas	→
Provide high-level risk assessment on matters of public safety for community events	✓
Provide advice to subcontractors and community groups on Safety Management Planning for the safe delivery of works and events in public areas.	✓
Work closely with external event providers on Work Health and Safety planning to deliver the safest possible outcomes for Council and employees at community events	✓
Deliver at least two internal audits in line with the Internal Audit plan; and four assurance reviews, supporting Council's commitment to continuous improvement	→
Implement requirements of the new Local Government Act 2019 to achieve compliance by the end of 2021/22, the legislative transition period	✓
Implement improved operational risk management systems and tools that improve Council's risk culture and efficiency	→
Complete historical policy reviews and ensure all policies are appropriate, reviewed and current	→
Review and update all Council committee terms of reference	✓
Develop a Council and Committees Charter to assist Elected Members and Committee members to deliver effective and efficient meetings	→
Update Alice Springs local by-laws	→
Conduct annual Advisory Committee member survey to inform improvement	×

Performance: ✓ Achieved → Progressing × Not achieved

Activities

Live Work Alice Advertising Campaign | Council Connects Newsletter | 15 media releases | Enterprise Agreement approved | WHS Coordinator role | 186 employees participated in training activities |

Job Expo

In July 2022, Council facilitated a Job Expo in collaboration with Workforce Australia – Local Jobs and local employment agencies, registered training organisations, schools and other local councils to promote local job opportunities and where job seekers could engage directly with employers and support services.

Safety Culture

Council has recruited a WHS Coordinator to lead the newly created WHS Unit to focus on the redevelopment of the Work Health and Safety Management System and drive key safety-related initiatives throughout the organisation.

Team Emboldening

Council endeavours to promote diversity and inclusion. Council employees and the cultural diversity within Council was recognised with a Diwali celebration. All Council team members were encouraged to participate in and enjoy a traditionally inspired lunch and dance, with the real enthusiasts wore the traditional Indian ethnic wears.

Diversity and Inclusion

Council has an organisational strategic plan to promote cultural diversity and social cohesion, acknowledging the strengths and opportunities which cultural diversity provides to both Alice Springs Town Council and the broader community.



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Part Three: Legislative Requirements

This annual report has been produced in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019* to provide a comprehensive account of the activities and achievements of Alice Springs Town Council.

Council's performance for the 2022/23 is assessed against its Strategic Objectives (*Strategic Plan 2018-2021*) and budget (*Municipal Plan 2022/2023*, adopted at the Ordinary Meeting, held 28 June 2022).

Alice Springs Town Council utilises records and archives management practices compliant with Part 9 of the *Information Act 2002*.

While this annual report is primarily produced to comply with statutory requirements, the report also provides a relevant overview for residents, visitors, employees, government, and other interested parties.

Delegations

In March 2023, Council reviewed its Delegations and updated its delegations to Council Committees and the Chief Executive Officer.

Freedom of Information

There were no Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to Alice Springs Town Council in 2022/23 under the Information Act.

Allowances and expenses paid to elected members

For the 2022/23 financial year, Elected Members were paid allowances permissible under the *Local Government Guideline 2A: Council member allowances* (Guideline 2A) and as outlined in the table below.

Allowance Claimable Elected Member	Base	Electoral	Extra Meeting	Total	Professional Development
Mayor Paterson	87,636	23,066	-	110,702	2,607
Deputy Mayor Melky	32,405	5,768	-	38,173	
Councillor Banks	15,762	5,768	7,906	32,042	3,753 ¹
Councillor Bitar	15,762	5,768	5,865	27,395	3,753 ²
Councillor Brown	15,762	5,768	-	21,529	
Councillor Coffey	15,762	5,768	4,335	25,865	3,575
Councillor Hopper	15,762	5,768	1,785	23,314	
Councillor Liddle	15,762	5,768	3,825	25,355	
Councillor Morris *	10,070	3,685	-	13,755	
Councillor Cocking *	-		255	255	
Total Allowances Paid	224,681	67,125	26,579	318,385	14,225

* Partial Term

Note 1. 2023/24 Professional Development Allowance will be reduced by \$71.57

Note 2. 2023/24 Professional Development Allowance will be reduced by \$465.01

Elected Members' meeting attendance

Council meeting attendance

Elected Member	Attendance	% Attendance
Mayor Paterson	16/16	100%
Deputy Mayor Melky	16/16	100%
Councillor Banks	13/16	81%
Councillor Bitar	16/16	100%
Councillor Brown	16/16	100%
Councillor Coffey	15/16	93%
Councillor Hopper	13/16	81%
Councillor Liddle	13/16	81%
Councillor Morris *	10/12	83%

* Partial Term

Council forum attendance

Elected Member	Attendance	% Attendance
Mayor Paterson	22/22	100%
Deputy Mayor Melky	20/22	90%
Councillor Banks	20/22	90%
Councillor Bitar	20/22	90%
Councillor Brown	16/22	72%
Councillor Coffey	15/22	68%
Councillor Hopper	19/22	86%
Councillor Liddle	10/22	45%
Councillor Morris *	9/11	81%

* Partial Term

Committee meeting attendance

Committee	Sports Facilities Advisory		Risk Management and Audit	
Elected Member	Attendance	% Attendance	Attendance	% Attendance
Mayor Paterson	4/4	100%	3/3	100%
Deputy Mayor Melky				
Councillor Banks				
Councillor Bitar			3/3	100%
Councillor Brown	2/4	100%		
Councillor Coffey	1/4	25%	3/3	100%
Councillor Hopper				
Councillor Liddle	0/4	0%		
Councillor Morris *				



Grants, assistance and benefits provided

Grants Program: Council's annual grants program included delivery of a Grants Workshop which resulting in a total of \$77,620 distributed to community groups.

Cash Sponsorship: Council issued a total of \$107,000 cash sponsorships to 17 recipients, supporting the development and staging of a diverse range of community events and projects taking place in Alice Springs.

In-kind Sponsorship: Council delivered a total value of \$390,551.30 in in-kind support to community groups and organisations. This comprised equipment loans, public places and sporting oval permits, assisting with the delivery of diverse and vibrant events and projects.



Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23****Grants Received**

Successful Applications 2022/23		Description	Received \$
Commonwealth Grants			
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	Roads to Recovery	Alice Springs Roads	37,000
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	Todd Mall Revamp LRCI Phase 2	Todd Mall upgrade	92,985
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	ASALC Upgrades LRCI PHASE 3	ASALC upgrades	433,129
National Library of Australia	Community Heritage Grant	Library Significant Assessment AS Collection	5,500
		Subtotal	868,614
Northern Territory Government Grants			
Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities	Town Camp Funding	Town Camp Rubbish Collection	203,318
Territory Families-Office of Senior Territorians	Senior Month Event	Still Got Talent	2,000
Territory Families-Office of Youth Affairs	Alice Springs Youth Skate and Phoney Film Festival	Youth skate workshops; short film festival	6,000
Territory Families-Office of Senior Territorians	Library- Celebrating Seniors Month	High Tea Bingo; Self Defense for Seniors	1,300
Territory Families-Office of Youth Affairs	Recycled Art Prize	Youth Recycled Art Prize 2023	2,000
National Australia Day Council Ltd	Australia Day Community Events 2023	Australia Day pool party ASALC	29,905
Department of the Chief Minister & Cabinet-Office of Aboriginal Affairs	Celebrating Aboriginal Culture	Arrernte Culture and Language Workshop	2,500
Territory Families	ASALC & Library Youth Project	ASALC Splash Parties; STEM Play Days	40,000
NT Major Events Company	Pop Up Park		5,000
Territory Families-Office of Youth Affairs	Fly, Try Drones & Push Bike Maintenance Workshop	Youth drone learning and bike workshops	6,000
Territory Families	International Women's Day	International Women's Day panel discussion and morning tea	1,500
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade	Capital Grant Funding	Granulator for RWMF	6,300
Australia Day Council NT	Australia Day Community Grant	Australia Day activities	3,000
		Subtotal	308,823
Non-Government Grants			
Heart foundation	Healthy & Active Community		1,000
		Subtotal	1,000
		Total Grants Received	1,178,437

Summary of Financials

Table 1.1 Income and Expenditure Statement

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023	Financial Year Original Budget \$	Financial Year Final Budget \$	Actual Performance \$	Variation - Final Budget and Actuals \$
OPERATING INCOME				
Rates	25,290,001	25,461,229	25,460,966	(263)
Charges	4,224,761	4,229,529	4,229,418	(111)
Fees and Charges	5,080,229	5,451,530	5,544,770	93,240
Operating Grants and Subsidies	2,288,932	4,318,710	3,785,000	(533,710)
Interest / Investment Income	248,525	441,684	1,640,032	1,198,348
Commercial and Other Income	526,568	676,622	1,097,814	421,192
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	37,659,016	40,579,304	41,758,000	1,178,696
OPERATING EXPENDITURE				
Employee Expenses	20,966,596	19,338,088	19,366,000	27,912
Materials and Contracts	16,413,050	16,893,748	10,349,742	(6,543,776)
Elected Member Allowances	406,915	406,915	332,610	(76,855)
Elected Member Expenses			20,491	20,491
Council Committee Allowances *				
Council Committee Expenses **			7,939	7,939
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(1,659,096)	-	9,251,753	9,251,753
Interest Expenses				
Other Expenses	5,287,930	5,372,632	5,440,235	67,603
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	41,415,395	42,011,383	44,769,000	2,757,617
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(3,756,379)	(1,432,079)	(3,011,000)	(1,578,921)

*Council Committee and LA Allowances are to equal the relevant total expenditure line in Table 1.3

**Council Committee and LA Expenses are to equal the relevant total expenditure line in Table 1.3

Alice Springs Town Council **Annual Report 2022/23**

Table 1.2 Annual Operating Position

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023	Financial Year Original Budget \$	Financial Year Final Budget \$	Actual Result \$	Variation - Final Budget and Actuals \$
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(3,756,379)	(1,432,079)	(3,011,000)	(1,578,921)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS				
Less Non-Cash Income			70,000	70,000
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses		0	9,251,753	9,251,753
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS		0	9,321,753	9,321,753
Adjusted Operating Surplus	(3,756,379)	(1,432,079)	6,310,753	7,742,832
Non-adjusted Operating Surplus/Deficit			(4,284,700)	(4,284,700)
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS				
Capital Expenditure	0	8,236,997	2,396,246	(5,840,751)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)				
Transfer to Reserves	773,000	300,000	10,991,152	(10,699,152)
Depreciation			9,251,753	9,251,753
Other Outflows			(2,956,387)	2,956,387
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	773,000	8,536,997	19,690,764	(11,153,767)
Add ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS				
Capital Grants Income	583,129	2,228,241	869,414	(1,358,827)
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding				
Other Inflow of Funds			70,000	70,000
Transfers from Reserves	3,946,250	7,740,835	8,155,897	415,062
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	4,529,379	9,969,076	9,095,311	(9,095,311)
NET OPERATING POSITION	0	0	6,310,753	6,310,753

Table 1.3 Total Expenditure for Each Council Committee

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023	Council Committee Allowances *	Council Committee Expenses **	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Risk Management and Audit Committee		7,545	7,545
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee		394	394
Public Art Advisory Committee			
Parks Advisory Committee			
Library Consultative Committee			
TOTAL		7,939	7,939

*Total council committee and LA allowances are to equal the relevant operating expenditure line in Table 1.1

**Total council committee and LA expenses are to equal the relevant operating expenditure line in Table 1.1



Part Four: Financial Reports

Audited financial statements

**

[To be inserted]



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Independent auditor's report

[To be inserted]

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Contact Us

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Monday to Friday

8am – 5pm

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**ALICE SPRINGS
TOWN COUNCIL**

REPORT

Report No. 204 / 23 cncf

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

AUTHOR: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES – JOE MCCABE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides to Council the updated Risk Management and Audit Committee's Terms of Reference, recommended by the committee for Council endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. **That Council adopt the updated Risk Management and Audit Committee's Terms of Reference as provided in Attachment A.**

REPORT

1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Not Applicable

2. **PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS**

Ordinary Council Meeting, 10 November 2020, Resolution 21294: *That the revised Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference be adopted.*

3. **DISCUSSION**

An updated Terms of Reference has been drafted to align with the Local Government Act 2019 (the Act) and the functions of the committee.

Specifically,

- a) be compliant with subsection 86(4) of the Act;
- b) confirm that the second external member will act as Chair on occasions when the Chair is unavailable and the Chief Executive may elect a delegate to attend the meeting in their stead;
- c) allow the Committee to consider certain financial matters that it can then recommend to Council; and
- d) update the review and monitoring of the committee's performance.

It is envisaged that the changes will support the committee's ability to provide independent assurance to the Council.

The Risk Management and Audit Committee resolved at the 11 October 2023 meeting that the updated Terms of Reference be presented to Council for endorsement.

4. **ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN**

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 5 – Governance and Civic

- *Alice Springs Town Council Risk Management Framework*

5. **FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS**

Nil

6. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Improved governance of the Risk Management and Audit Committee's functions and formal oversight of the risk and control environment as well as adherence to relevant statutory, regulatory and compliance obligations.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Nil

8. **STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS**

Subsection 86(4) of the *Local Government Act*

9. **COUNCIL POLICIES**

Nil

10. **STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Not applicable

11. **CONCLUSION**

The updated Risk Management and Audit Committee's Terms of Reference (Version 2.1) aligns to legislation and outlines the overall functions of the committee.

12. **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: [Report to RMAC meeting 11 October 2023: Terms of Reference](#)



Joe McCabe

ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Agenda Item 4.4

TO: RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING – 11 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE

AUTHOR: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES – JOE MCCABE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides to the Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) an updated Terms of Reference for review and proposes a recommendation of these terms for endorsement to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report entitled Terms of Reference be received and noted.

That the updated Terms of Reference be presented to Council for endorsement.

REPORT

An updated Terms of Reference has been drafted to align with the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act) and the functions of the committee.

Specifically,

- a) be compliant with subsection 86(4) of the Act;
- b) confirm that the second external member will act as Chair on occasions when the Chair is unavailable and the Chief Executive may elect a delegate to attend the meeting in their stead;
- c) allow the Committee to consider certain financial matters that it can then recommend to Council; and
- d) update the review and monitoring of the committee's performance.

It is envisaged that the changes will support the committee's ability to provide independent assurance to the Council.

ATTACHMENTS

- **Attachment A:** Proposed Alice Springs Town Council Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference
- **Attachment B:** Alice Springs Town Council Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference - tracked changes
- **Attachment C:** Current Alice Springs Town Council Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference



Joe McCabe
ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Risk Management and Audit Committee

1 Purpose

The Risk Management and Audit Committee (the Committee) is a Council advisory committee established in accordance with section 86 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act).

2 Objective

The Committee's objective is to provide independent assurance and advice to Council regarding:

- The integrity of Council's financial management
- Council's risk, internal control and compliance frameworks.

3 Functions

The Committee's functions include:

- Review and endorsement of the external audit plan
- Review and endorsement of the annual financial statement before sign-off by the auditors
- Meeting with the external auditor at least once per year to receive direct feedback about any key financial management issues and to provide feedback about the auditor's performance
- Monitoring of external audit outcomes, management's responses and the implementation of agreed recommendations
- Providing advice to Council regarding the appointment of an external auditor (auditor appointment terms must be between 2 and 5 years)
- Endorsement of Council's Risk Management Framework and monitoring the performance of the framework
- Monitoring council's fraud, corruption prevention, compliance and governance frameworks
- Monitoring the adequacy of internal control policies, practices and procedures
- Oversight of the outsourced internal audit function, including:



- adequacy and scope of audit coverage
 - monitoring of audit outcomes, management's responses and the implementation of agreed recommendations
- Monitoring Council's compliance with Regulatory requirements, standards and best practice guidelines
- Providing recommendations to Council about any matters the Committee considers require Council's consideration as a result of the Committee's functions.

4 Authority

With consideration to legal and confidentiality implications the Committee is authorised, within the capacity of its objective and functions, to:

- Make recommendations to the Council
- Endorse internal and external audit plans
- Request via the Chief Executive Officer information, relevant council staff access and support it reasonably requires to carry out its functions
- Discuss matters with the external auditor, or other external parties already contracted or engaged by Council
- The Committee has no powers with regard to its findings and recommendations and can ultimately only make recommendations to Council.

5 Confidentiality and use of information

Committee members will from time to time deal with confidential reports and sensitive information. All information obtained during the course of Committee meetings must be handled in compliance with the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulations, *Information Act 2002* information privacy principles, and Council policies.

Section 118 of the Act outlines the penalties applicable for the improper use of confidential information acquired as a member of an audit committee.

6 Due diligence and induction

All proposed and new members of the Committee will be entitled to receive relevant information and briefings prior to, and shortly after, their appointment.

Council will provide an induction to all new members specifically relating to the Committee's functions and Terms of Reference.



7 Membership

7.1 Committee Members

Maximum of (five) 5 members including:

- Up to three (3) Elected Members of Council, one (1) of which is the Mayor
- Two (2) external members, one (1) of whom is the independent Chairperson.

8 Terms and conditions of membership

8.1 Membership requirements

Membership consideration will be given to skills, personal attributes and practical experience, including:

- level of understanding of local government and the council's operations and the environment in which it operates
- level of knowledge and practical exposure on risk management, governance and financial management practices
- depth of knowledge of regulatory and legislative requirements
- one (1) external member of the Committee, preferably a member of CPA Australia (CPA) or Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ), or can demonstrate significant financial experience in the absence of those qualifications
- one (1) external member of the Committee preferably possessing formal Risk Management qualifications, or can demonstrate significant experience in risk management and/or governance
- capacity to dedicate adequate time on the Committee.

The Committee members and Chairperson are to be appointed by Council, per sections 86 and 98 of the Act.

8.2 Term of office

An Expression of Interest will be sought and selection panel convened by the Chief Executive Officer. A written report on the selection process, detailing the qualifications and experience of all eligible external applicants will be provided to Council, with a recommendation for appointment. Appointment to the Committee is for a 2-year term.

Membership of the Committee ceases either:

- upon completion of the 2-year term;



- where an external independent member appointment is terminated by resolution of Council;
- at any time if the person no longer holds office by virtue of which the person became a member;
- where Council, by resolution, abolishes the Committee.

9 Meetings

9.1 Attendance

Should a member be unable to attend a Committee meeting, an apology shall be provided to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the scheduled meeting time.

The Chief Executive Officer or delegate will attend all meetings. Council Directors and other relevant officers may attend Committee meetings in an administrative capacity.

9.2 Chairperson

Should the Independent Chairperson not be available to attend a meeting, in accordance with *Local Government Act 2019*, the other Independent Member shall act as Chairperson. Should neither Independent Members be available, the meeting must be rescheduled or cancelled.

9.3 Quorum

A quorum is achieved by attendance of over 50% of the appointed members.

If the Chairperson is absent, the members present shall elect a person to chair the meeting.

9.4 Postponement of meeting

If quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the start time the meeting may be postponed in accordance with section 100 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

9.5 Decisions

A decision of the Committee is to be by majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

9.6 Meetings Not Open to the Public

To foster frank and fearless discussion the meetings of the Committee will be held in confidential unless otherwise decided.



9.7 Frequency

The Committee will meet at least 4 times per year for typically 2 hours, and meetings of the Committee are to be convened by the Chief Executive Officer.

The Chief Executive Officer may, at the request of the Chairperson of the Committee, convene an additional meeting if required.

A meeting plan will be agreed to by the Committee each year.

9.8 Notice

A notice convening a meeting is to be in writing and include the date, time and place of the meeting and the Agenda for the meeting.

9.9 Minutes

The Chief Executive Officer is to ensure that proper minutes of the meeting are kept and they comply with section 101 of the Act.

The minutes of the Committee (including the prior confirmed minutes not yet tabled and the recent unconfirmed minutes which are cleared marked as "unconfirmed") are to be tabled at the next meeting of the Council.

9.10 Remuneration

Elected Members may be eligible for Extra Meeting Allowance as per Council policy.

External members are eligible for remuneration per meeting at the 'Daily rate' for Class C1 (Advisory and Review Bodies – Critical issues) of the "NTG statutory bodies classified for remuneration purposes" as per *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*. Payment at the daily rate (4 hours or more) will apply to account for meeting preparation and the meeting itself.

10 Evaluation and Review

10.1 Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed every two years by the Committee and formally approved by Council.

10.2 Performance evaluation

The Chief Executive Officer will initiate a review of the performance of the Committee at least once every two (2) years. The review will be on an internal assessment basis with appropriate input from the Council, Chief Executive Officer and senior staff, internal and external auditors, and any other relevant stakeholders.



Performance will be assessed against the functions of the Committee to determine if its objectives have been met at an acceptable level.

An evaluation process will be facilitated by the Chief Executive Officer, with a report provided to Council including any recommendations. The Terms of Reference will also be reviewed at this time and any revision recommendations will also be included in the report given to Council.

11 Responsible Directorate

Corporate Services

12 Reporting to

Ordinary Council

Version	Date	Action/Description of changes made	By
1.0	15 June 2015	Adopted	Council
1.1	October 2017	New Charter template adopted	Council Solicitor
1.2	28 May 2018	Internal Audit responsibilities added	Governance
2.0	August 2020	New Terms of reference developed in line with current and new legislation	Governance
2.1	September 2023	Updates to align with legislation	Governance

<i>Adopted by Council - Date</i>	10 November 2020	<i>Resolution #</i>	21294
<i>Document Owner</i>	Chief Executive Officer	<i>Controller</i>	Governance Unit



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Risk Management and Audit Committee

1 Purpose

The Risk Management and Audit Committee (the Committee) is a Council advisory committee established in accordance with section 86 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act).

2 Objective

The Committee's objective is to provide independent assurance and advice to Council regarding:

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The Committee's functions include:

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- Monitoring Council's compliance with Regulatory requirements, standards and best practice guidelines
- Providing recommendations to Council about any matters the Committee considers require Council's consideration as a result of the Committee's functions.

4 Authority

With consideration to legal and confidentiality implications the Committee is authorised, within the capacity of its objective and functions, to:

- Make recommendations to the Council
- Endorse internal and external audit plans
- Request via the ~~CEO~~ Chief Executive Officer information, relevant council staff access and support it reasonably requires to carry out its functions
- Discuss matters with the external auditor, or other external parties already contracted or engaged by Council
- The Committee has no powers with regard to its findings and recommendations and can ultimately only make recommendations to Council.

5 Confidentiality and use of information

Committee members will from time to time deal with confidential reports and sensitive information. All information obtained during the course of Committee meetings must be handled in compliance with the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulations, *Information Act 2002* information privacy principles, and Council policies.

Section 118 of the Act outlines the penalties applicable for the improper use of confidential information acquired as a member of an audit committee.

6 Due diligence and induction

All proposed and new members of the Committee will be entitled to receive relevant information and briefings prior to, and shortly after, their appointment.

Council will provide an induction to all new members specifically relating to the Committee's functions and Terms of Reference.



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7.1 Committee Members

Maximum of (five) 5 members including:

- Up to three (3) Elected Members of Council, one (1) of which is the Mayor
- Two (2) external members, one (1) of whom is the independent Chairperson.

8 Terms and conditions of membership

8.1 Membership requirements

Membership consideration will be given to skills, personal attributes and practical experience, including:

- level of understanding of local government and the council's operations and the environment in which it operates
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- one (1) external member of the Committee, preferably a member of CPA Australia (CPA) or Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ), or can demonstrate significant financial experience in the absence of those qualifications
- one (1) external member of the Committee preferably possessing formal Risk Management qualifications, or can demonstrate significant experience in risk management and/or governance
- capacity to dedicate adequate time on the Committee.

The Committee members and Chairperson are to be appointed by Council, per sections 86 and 98 of the Act.

8.2 Term of office

An Expression of Interest will be sought and selection panel convened by the ~~CEO~~Chief Executive Officer. A written report on the selection process, detailing the qualifications and experience of all eligible external applicants will be provided to Council, with a recommendation for appointment. Appointment to the Committee is for a 2-year term.

Membership of the Committee ceases either:



- upon completion of the 2-year term;
- where an external independent member appointment is terminated by resolution of Council;
- at any time if the person no longer holds office by virtue of which the person became a member;
- where Council, by resolution, abolishes the Committee.

9 Meetings

9.1 Attendance

—Should a member be unable to attend a Committee meeting, an apology shall be provided to the ~~CEO~~Chief Executive Officer.

prior to the scheduled meeting time.

The ~~CEO~~Chief Executive Officer or delegate will attend all meetings. Council Directors and other relevant officers may attend Committee meetings in an administrative capacity.

9.2 Chairperson

Should the Independent Chairperson not be available to attend a meeting, in accordance with Local Government Act 2019, the other Independent Member shall act as Chairperson. Should neither Independent Members be available, the meeting must be rescheduled or cancelled.

9.3 Quorum

A quorum is achieved by attendance of over 50% of the appointed members.

If the Chairperson is absent, the members present shall elect a person to chair the meeting.

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If quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the start time the meeting may be postponed in accordance with section 100 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

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A decision of the Committee is to be by majority vote of the members present at the meeting.



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A meeting plan will be agreed to by the Committee each year.

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A notice convening a meeting is to be in writing and include the date, time and place of the meeting and the Agenda for the meeting.

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External members are eligible for remuneration per meeting at the 'Daily rate' for Class C1 (Advisory and Review Bodies – Critical issues) of the "NTG statutory bodies classified for remuneration purposes" as per *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*. Payment at the daily rate (4 hours or more) will apply to account for meeting preparation and the meeting itself.

10 Evaluation and Review



10.1 Terms of reference

The ~~Committee's performance and~~ Terms of Reference will be ~~externally evaluated 12 months following~~ reviewed every two years by the ~~appointment of new members.~~
Committee and formally approved by Council.

10.2 Performance evaluation

The Chief Executive Officer will initiate a review of the performance of the Committee at least once every two (2) years. The review will be on an internal assessment basis with appropriate input from the Council, Chief Executive Officer and senior staff, internal and external auditors, and any other relevant stakeholders.

Performance will be assessed against the functions of the Committee to determine if its objectives have been met at an acceptable level.

~~Evaluation~~An evaluation process will be facilitated by the ~~CEO~~Chief Executive Officer, with a report provided to Council including any recommendations. The Terms of Reference will also be reviewed at this time and any revision recommendations will also be included in the report given to Council.

11 Responsible Directorate

Corporate Services

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<u>2.1</u>	<u>September 2023</u>	<u>Updates to align with legislation</u>	<u>Governance</u>
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<i>Adopted by Council - Date</i>	10 November 2020	<i>Resolution #</i>	21294
<i>Document Owner</i>	Chief Executive Officer	<i>Controller</i>	Governance Unit

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

Risk Management and Audit Committee

Purpose

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With consideration to legal and confidentiality implications the Committee is authorised, within the capacity of its objective and functions, to:

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- Endorse internal and external audit plans

- Request via the CEO information, relevant council staff access and support it reasonably requires to carry out its functions
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Committee Members

Maximum of (five) 5 members including:

- Up to three (3) Elected Members of Council, one (1) of which is the Mayor
- Two (2) external members, one (1) of whom is the independent Chairperson.

Terms and conditions of membership

Membership requirements

Membership consideration will be given to skills, personal attributes and practical experience, including:

- level of understanding of local government and the council's operations and the environment in which it operates
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- capacity to dedicate adequate time on the Committee.

The Committee members and Chairperson are to be appointed by Council, per sections 86 and 98 of the Act.

Term of office

An Expression of Interest will be sought and selection panel convened by the CEO. A written report on the selection process, detailing the qualifications and experience of all eligible external applicants will be provided to Council, with a recommendation for appointment. Appointment to the Committee is for a 2-year term.

Membership of the Committee ceases either:

- upon completion of the 2-year term;
- where an external independent member appointment is terminated by resolution of Council;
- at any time if the person no longer holds office by virtue of which the person became a member;
- where Council, by resolution, abolishes the Committee.

Meetings

Attendance

Should a member be unable to attend a Committee meeting, an apology shall be provided to the CEO.

prior to the scheduled meeting time.

The CEO will attend all meetings. Council Directors and other relevant officers may attend Committee meetings in an administrative capacity.

Quorum

A quorum is achieved by attendance of over 50% of the appointed members.

If the Chairperson is absent, the members present shall elect a person to chair the meeting.

Postponement of meeting

If quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the start time the meeting may be postponed in accordance with section 100 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Decisions

A decision of the Committee is to be by majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

Meetings Not Open to the Public

To foster frank and fearless discussion the meetings of the Committee will be held in confidential unless otherwise decided.

Frequency

The Committee will meet at least 4 times per year for typically 2 hours, and meetings of the Committee are to be convened by the CEO.

The CEO may, at the request of the Chairperson of the Committee, convene an additional meeting if required.

A meeting plan will be agreed to by the Committee each year.

Notice

A notice convening a meeting is to be in writing and include the date, time and place of the meeting and the Agenda for the meeting.

Minutes

The CEO is to ensure that proper minutes of the meeting are kept and they comply with section 101 of the Act.

The minutes of the Committee (including the prior confirmed minutes not yet tabled and the recent unconfirmed minutes which are cleared marked as “unconfirmed”) are to be tabled at the next meeting of the Council.

Remuneration

Elected Members may be eligible for Extra Meeting Allowance as per Council policy.

External members are eligible for remuneration per meeting at the ‘Daily rate’ for Class C1 (Advisory and Review Bodies – Critical issues) of the “NTG statutory bodies classified for remuneration purposes” as per *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*. Payment at the daily rate (4 hours or more) will apply to account for meeting preparation and the meeting itself.

Evaluation and Review

The Committee’s performance and Terms of Reference will be externally evaluated 12 months following the appointment of new members. Performance will be assessed against the functions of the Committee to determine if its objectives have been met at an acceptable level.

Evaluation process will be facilitated by the CEO, with a report provided to Council including any recommendations. The Terms of Reference will also be reviewed at this time and any revision recommendations will also be included in the report given to Council.

Responsible Directorate

Corporate Services

Reporting to

Ordinary Council

Version	Date	Action/Description of changes made	By
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1.1	October 2017	New Charter template adopted	Council Solicitor
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<i>Adopted by Council - Date</i>	10 November 2020	<i>Resolution #</i>	21294
<i>Document Owner</i>	Chief Executive Officer	<i>Controller</i>	Governance Unit

REPORT

Report No. 198 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2024

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – NICOLE BATTLE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides a summary of recent key activities and achievements within the Community Development Directorate.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That this report be received and noted

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Not applicable

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

Not applicable

3. DISCUSSION

Community & Cultural Development

Desert Festival Street Party

On Thursday 21 of September, ASTC held a Night Market in conjunction with Desert Festival to mark the opening of Desert Festival 2023. Approximately 2,000 people attended the event. Overall, a total of 36 market stalls registered their interest, with 30 attending on the night. This is an increase from 23 stalls in 2022, largely as a result of stallholder fees being waived by Council. In addition, the Night market also included the introduction of a Retail Trail, where local CBD businesses opened and offered discounts throughout the night, with lots of positive feedback being received by all involved.

Larapinta Pop-Up Park

A pop-up park was delivered at Lyndavale Park on Friday 29 September in collaboration with Desert Festival. The entertainment on the night centred around celebrating local musical talent, including a youth showcase event. Approximately 250 people attended the pop-up, where they enjoyed a free BBQ, free ice blocks, face painting and giant games.

Youth Programs

School Holiday Program – ArtShip

Throughout the Spring School Holiday period (September 26 – October 7) a renovated shipping container, referred to as the ArtShip, was placed at the Todd Mall Reflection Pond. During this time, the ArtShip became a hub for a variety of school holiday activities including:

- Ten art and craft workshops delivered by Central Craft
- Two gaming sessions
- Two soft play workshops for children aged 1-5 years
- Four chess workshops delivered by the Alice Springs Library
- Four free play ArtShip and Chill Sessions

Overall, approximately 350 young people (many with their parents and/or grandparents) passed through and utilised the ArtShip over the two-week period.



School Holiday Program - End of Term Lock-in at Red Dust Bowl

On Friday 21 September, ASTC hosted an end-of-term lock-in at Red Dust Bowl. The session was attended by 112 young people from a diverse range of backgrounds, along with a number of families. Once again, it was pleasing to have involvement from a number of local Youth Services, including Tangentyere and Gap Youth Centre, with attendance numbers doubling from the previous event held in June.

NTG Youth Roundtable Visit

On Friday 21 September, ASTC hosted a total of 20 Members of the NT Youth Round Table and associated staff for a Mayoral BBQ at the Civic Centre Function Room. During this event members of the NT Youth Round Table had the chance to meet the Mayor, CEO and Community Services staff while enjoying a BBQ dinner cooked by Clontarf Foundation staff and live music. Members of the Round Table then attended the End of Term Lock-In at the Dust Bowl to complete their evening.

Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre

World No Tobacco Day Splash Party

On Wednesday 27 September, staff from ASTC worked in partnership with Congress to run a World No Tobacco Splash Party at ASALC. Over 1,100 young people took advantage of the warm weather to attend the event, which also boasted a variety of free stalls and activities, including bubble soccer.

Despite being somewhat cooler, a further 680 young people and their families also attended Wet Wednesday during the second week of the school holidays, making this ASTC's most successful school holiday program ever!



Alice Springs Public Library

Author Talk with Gary Baxter

In September, the Library had the pleasure of hosting an Author Talk featuring Gary Baxter, a remarkable individual who is a stunt car driver and racing champion, as well as being an author. Gary's unique background promised an entertaining blend of literary expertise and thrilling adventure for the audience.

The event was expertly hosted by ASTC's very own Director of Community Development, who brought delightful finesse and a curious spirit to the discussion. Gary Baxter's books, set in the backdrop of Alice Springs, added a local touch to the event and are now available for loan in our Library.



School Holiday Program

During the spring school holidays, the Library was incredibly active, offering a total of 17 programs over two weeks. These programs were marked by a strong emphasis on STEAM and were consistently fully booked, demonstrating their popularity among the community. One notable aspect of the Library's efforts during this holiday was the spirit of collaboration. Both external and internal partners played a key role in making these programs a success. For instance, the Library partnered again with Red Dirt Robotics, greatly enriching our 3D Printing Workshops. Additionally, we ventured into the water at ASALC for a delightful "Splish Splash Storytime at the Pool," adding a unique and enjoyable twist to our offerings.

**Library Upgrades**

This month the Library introduced a new study pod to provide patrons with a self-contained, quiet space. Indeed, in recognising that the library regularly hosts as many as 10,000 visits per month, this innovative solution was much needed by visitors looking for a convenient spot to work and/or study.

In addition, ASTC's Library and IT teams have recently combined to provide patrons with a new option to print from their own devices, including smartphones, tablets and laptops. Not only does this transformation empower users to independently manage their printing jobs by simply scanning a QR code, but it also frees up staff to allocate their time more productively, whilst positioning Alice Springs Public Library at the forefront of innovative printing solutions within the Northern Territory public library system.



Rangers**Current Operations**

Throughout September, the Ranger Unit conducted an operation targeting leash requirements at our parks and other open spaces. Locations included Rhonda Diano Oval, Ross Park, and the Garden Cemetery. Rangers provided education on leash requirements to over 50 pet owners during this period, as well as providing alternate locations for off-leash exercise.

4. **ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN**

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 1 – Liveability

5. **FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS**

As per approved budgets. Major expenditure for the quarter most notably included:

Item	Amount Expended
School Holiday Program	\$8,300
Larapinta Pop-Up Park	\$2,300
New Study Pod	\$15,890

6. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

As per individual projects and plans

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

As per individual projects and plans

8. **STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS**

All work undertaken as per Alice Springs Town Council Register of Delegations Policy

9. **COUNCIL POLICIES**

- Alice Springs Town Council Municipal Plan 2022/203
- Alice Springs Town Council Four-Year Business Plan 2022/23 – 2025/26

10. **STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS**

As per individual projects and plans

11. **CONCLUSION**

This report has sought to provide Elected Members and residents of Alice Springs with an overview of recent work undertaken by the Community Development Directorate.

12. ATTACHMENTS

Nil

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Battle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole Battle

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

REPORT

Report No. 199 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: MULTICULTURAL ACTION PLAN 2023-2026 UPDATE

AUTHOR: COMMUNITY INCLUSION OFFICER - ABBY MCCRICKARD

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides a summary of the progress that has been made in relation to Alice Springs Town Council's Multicultural Action Plan 2023-2026 over the past twelve months.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That this report be received and noted.

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Not Applicable

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

December 2022 - #22449 That the Multicultural Action Plan be reviewed and endorsed by Council.

3. DISCUSSION

Alice Springs Town Council's Multicultural Action Plan 2023-2026 was officially endorsed by Council in December 2022. Overall, the plan established seventeen (17) key actions, under the following six (6) key headings:

- Community Harmony
- Access and Equity
- Consultation
- Advocacy
- Diversity
- Funding

As per the information provided in Attachment A, it can be reported that eleven (11) of the identified key actions have been progressed since implementation of the plan commenced in December 2022.

4. **ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN**

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 1 – Liveability

Create and implement a Multicultural Action Plan

5. **FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS**

A budget of \$5,500.00 has been allocated for each year of the plan in order to achieve each of the key actions as required.

6. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

As per individual projects and plans

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

As per individual projects and plans

8. **STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS**

All work carried out as per Alice Springs Town Council Register of Delegations Policy.

9. **COUNCIL POLICIES**

Council's Elected Member Multicultural and Diversity Policy 2019

10. **STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The implementation of Council's Multicultural Action Plan 2023-2026 draws on cooperation from a number of key external and internal stakeholders from across the organisation.

11. **CONCLUSION**

Since its endorsement by Council in December 2022, implementation of Alice Springs Town Council's Multicultural Action Plan 2023-2026 is on track, with eleven (11) out of the seventeen (17) key actions already being progressed to various stages of completion.

12. **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – [MAP Reporting Template](#)



Abby McCrickard
COMMUNITY INCLUSION OFFICER

Multicultural Action Plan 2023-2026 Progress Report			
POLICY PRINCIPLE 1: Community Harmony			
Objective	Actions	Measures	Progress/ Outcomes for 2023
Proactively support and encourage the participation and visibility of migrants and refugees across Alice Springs, including opportunities for meaningful cultural exchange.	Continue to support and develop targeted multicultural programs and events such as Big Day Out in Harmony, Multicultural Fitness Month and Citizenship ceremonies.	Number of events and programs supported or facilitated – 10 percent increase each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Big Day Out in Harmony •Citizenship Ceremonies x 3 •Multicultural Fitness Month •Nepalese New Year Three additional events already scheduled for 2023/24 as follows;
	Investigate opportunities to support other multicultural festival and events, including Chinese New Year, Diwali, Holi, Ramadan and Eid.	Number of events and programs supported or facilitated – 10 percent increase each year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Diwali Night Market in November •Lunar New Year Pop-Up Park •Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Forum
To increase feelings of cultural safety and belonging amongst migrants and refugees in Alice Springs.	Increase visibility and community awareness, by continuing to promote relevant programs and events via Council's various communication channels, including the ASTC website, Council Connects and social media.	Number of promotional posts - 10 percent increase each year	Ongoing – regular promotion of relevant programs and events to increase participation of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community members through email, targeted poster drops and social media.
	Investigate opportunities to create Sister City relationships founded on the global Sister Cities movement.	Report prepared for Council for consideration	Sister City presentation to Council Forum and report arranged for November.
	Investigate the possibility of Alice Springs becoming recognised by the Refugee Council of Australia as a 'Refugee Welcome Zone'.	Report prepared for Council for consideration.	Not progressed – although some discussions held with MCSCA in relation to Welcoming Cities.
POLICY PRINCIPLE 2: Access nd Equity			
Objective	Actions	Measures	Progress/ Outcomes for 2023
Enable access and equity to Council services, facilities, events, communication information and promotional materials in order to support cultural maintenance and celebration.	Develop a strategy to provide access to additional community space to accommodate the needs of both multicultural and multi-faith groups.	Development of strategy for Council's consideration.	Not progressed.
	Increase accessibility of Council website for CALD communities by improving navigation, increasing the use of Simple English and more translation options.	Updated website, including more translation options as required.	Currently liaising with MCSCA for best translation options and ICT Department for implementation.
	Provision of regular training for staff and Elected Members with regards to: -Cross cultural communication (in addition to First Nations Cultural Competency training) especially for community facing roles - Unconscious bias.	Number of training sessions held – i.e. at least two per annum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Arremnte Cultural Awareness training sessions held for staff and community. • Currently liaising with MCSCA regarding its ability to deliver other training as required.
	Provision of free orientation sessions by Council for migrants and other new arrivals to assist with their transition and to ensure that they are aware of relevant programs and services offered by ASTC.	Number of sessions held – i.e. at least 3 per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered to 200 people during the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Information Session on the 7 Oct 2023. • Currently investigating options for making this available on demand on the ASTC website.
POLICY PRINCIPLE 3: Consultation			
Objective	Actions	Measures	Progress/ Outcomes for 2023
Ensure that the CALD community is meaningfully consulted in relation to Council planning and decision-making processes.	Ensure that Council works collaboratively with MCSCA, government bodies and NFP's to facilitate regular consultation mechanisms with the CALD community.	Number of meetings held.	Ongoing – staff attendance at three MCSCA Meet & Greets in order to consult with CALD residents.
	Ensure that all consultation is undertaken in an accessible and culturally appropriate manner to enable maximum engagement, including support for translators, advance notice etc.	Attendance/ participation by the CALD community.	Ongoing – best practice protocols to be included with Council's Community Engagement Framework for use across the organisation as required.
	Maintain regular communication with MCSCA to ensure the needs and perspectives of migrants and refugees continue to inform Council decision making, including the ongoing participation of a Council delegate as a non-voting member of MCSCA's Board.	Number of meetings held/ attended	Ongoing – Director CD has attended three board meeting during 2023.
POLICY PRINCIPLE 4: Advocacy			
Objective	Actions	Measures	Progress/ Outcomes for 2023
Advocate on behalf of migrants and refugees who visit and live in Alice Springs to ensure access, equity and safety.	Work collaboratively with MCSCA and other NFPs to advocate to other areas of government on pertinent issues as required.	Advocacy undertaken.	Letter of support provided for Federal funding to construct a multi-cultural community/events centre in Alice Springs.

POLICY PRINCIPLE 5: Diversity			
Objective	Actions	Measures	Progress/ Outcomes for 2023
Acknowledge the strengths and opportunities which cultural diversity provides to both Alice Springs Town Council and the broader community.	Council to survey its staff with a view to ensuring that its workforce continues to reflect the cultural diversity of Alice Springs – i.e. people from CALD communities currently make up 23 percent of the population of Alice Springs.	Diversity of Council Staff is reflective of the local population.	Not progressed.
	Ensure Council utilises images that appropriately represent the Alice Springs CALD community for use in its promotional materials, fliers, posters and corporate reports.	Diversity of Council marketing material.	Ongoing.
	Actively support initiatives that serve to strengthen relationships and cross-cultural understanding by bringing together First Nations, migrant and refugee groups. Where possible, make resources available to enable such initiatives including the use of appropriate venues and/or participation by Council staff.	Number of events and/or meetings held.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big Day Out in Harmony • Night Markets – including a specific focus on securing vendors from a diverse range of backgrounds, including Ethiopian, Indian, Turkish, Serbian, Thai and Middle Eastern. • Mayoral Awards
	Develop and promote Council's Language Aides (both telephone and face-to-face) guidelines and support implementation.	Roll-out of Language Aides program within Council.	To be included within internal staff survey in order to identify those staff members who are multi-lingual.
POLICY PRINCIPLE 6: Funding			
Objective	Actions	Measures	Progress/ Outcomes for 2023
Maximise access and engagement with Council funding programs to support CALD group programs, events and activities.	Increase visibility and access to information about the Community Grants Program, including application support and training, in order to increase the number of CALD individuals and groups who apply.	Number of grant applications received from CALD groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of two applications were received from CALD organisations as part of the first funding round for 2023-24. • Email sent to all CALD associations and societies regarding Council's Grant Information Session and suitable external grant programs to encourage participation.

SFAC 27/09/2023

Page 1

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SFAC) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2023 – ARUNTA ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE.

PRESENT

Mayor Matt Paterson (Acting Chair)
Councillor Michael Liddle
Mr Joel Crawford
Mr PJ Mabasa
Ms Kelli Zaleski
Mr Tama Wakelin
Mr Tim Pearson
Mr Michael Trull
Mrs Norelle Clark – via zoom
Mr Phillip Preece

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Andrew Wilshire – CEO
Ms Nicole Battle – Director Community Development
Mr David Hair – Sports Facilities Officer
Mrs Kate Walsh – Manager Community and Cultural Development
Mrs M Woods – Minutes

14 th Alice Springs Town Council Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Attendance 2023 / 2024							
	27 Sept 23						
Mayor Matt Paterson	✓						
Councillor Michael Liddle	✓						
Councillor Mark Coffey	A						
Councillor Steve Brown	A						
Aaron Blacker - Rugby Union / League	A						
Joel Crawford - Tennis	✓						
PJ Mabasa - Hockey	✓						
Jenny Nixon - Netball	-						
Kelli Zaleski - AFL Northern Territory	✓						
Katie Knapstein - NT Government	A						
Tama Wakelin - NTG Sport & Rec	✓						
Tim Pearson - Touch Football	✓						
Michael Trull –Cricket	✓						
Mrs Norelle Clark - Pickleball	✓						
Phillip Preece - Basketball	✓						

✓

Attended

A

Apology received

--

No attendance and no apology recorded

Not a member of the committee at this time (Visitor)

The Meeting opened at **12.05pm** with Mayor Matt Paterson (Acting Chair) welcoming attendees.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor Mark Coffey

Councillor Steve Brown

Aaron Blacker – Rugby Union / League

Katie Knapstein – NT Government

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1. Minutes of the SFAC Meeting held on 29 June 2023

That the minutes of SFAC held 29 June 2023 be accepted as a true record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Moved – Matt Paterson

CARRIED

3.2. Business arising from previous meeting minutes

Director Community Development circulated a memorandum and provided a verbal update in regards to required works at the Alice Springs tennis courts.

Overall it was noted that it would cost an additional \$370,000, in addition to the \$230,000 that had already been committed through SFAC and the CBF, in order to overlay the six main courts with both asphalt (i.e. Hotmix) and acrylic, with a view to the facility being competition-ready for the Masters Games in October 2024.

Item deferred for further discussion as part of General Business.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1. SFAC Income and Expenditure – 31 August, 2023

That the SFAC Finance Report be received and accepted.

Moved – Tim Pearson

Seconded – Joel Crawford

CARRIED

Michael Trull (ASP Cricket) raised questions about capital expenditure (i.e. lights for Flynn Drive) and the levies.

The Director Community Development took the question on notice.

ACTION

Sports Facilities Officer David Hair to investigate the participation levies.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Pickleball – Joel Crawford and Norelle Clark

Norelle Clark advised a large uptake in participation, which has resulted in her exploring other venues where games could potentially be played (i.e. basketball stadium, Marian Centre etc). They have also been applying for external funding to secure additional equipment, which can be used to further promote the game through various come & try activities.

Overall it is hoped that Pickleball will continue to grow in Alice Springs, with a view to having a presence at next year's Masters Games.

Director Community Development suggested a pop-up court in the CBD as part of a broader activation plan, with Community Development staff to follow up with Norelle offline.

ACTION

Sports Facilities Officer David Hair to discuss with Norelle about a come and try event in Todd Mall.

6.2 Participation Levy's – Nicole Battle

Paper presented by Director Community Development in which it was recommended that adult participation levies be increased by 10% to \$34.27 for 2023/24, with junior participation levies to remain the same.

That the adult participation levies be increased by 10% to \$34.27 for 2023/24 with the junior participation levies to remain the same.

Moved - Tim Pearson

Seconded - Joel Crawford

CARRIED

ACTION

Sports Facilities Officer David Hair to follow up.

6.3 Member Nominations

Sports Development Officer, David Hair, has managed to secure up-to-date nomination forms for the vast majority of sports, with only some sports remaining outstanding.

Nominations to be taken to the next Ordinary Council Meeting in October for endorsement.

ACTION

Sports Facilities Officer David Hair to confirm updated nominations for all sports before the October Council Meeting.

6.4 Tennis Infrastructure Update

Further discussion was had with regards to the required upgrade of the tennis courts, including an approximate timeline for the works, which is currently estimated at 6-8 weeks. This does not, however, include the 12-16 weeks that will be required in order for the works to go out to tender.

In recognising the importance of having fit-for-purpose, competition-ready tennis courts in Alice Springs, there was discussion that SFAC should make a recommendation to Council for it to consider making additional funding available to finance the current shortfall of approximately \$370,000 – which would ensure that the six main courts can be overlaid with both asphalt and acrylic in the first instance.

That a paper be submitted to Council on behalf of SFAC requesting that additional funding of up to \$370,000 is made available to complete required remediation works at the Alice Springs tennis courts.

Moved – Joel Crawford

Seconded – Tim Pearson

CARRIED

ACTION

Director Community Development to submit a paper to Council on behalf of SFAC requesting additional funding for complete resurfacing of the Alice Springs tennis courts.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 The Mayor advised of additional funding of \$2.8million, which has been allocated to lighting, fencing and CCTV across a number of facilities.

7.2 Michael Trull – Cricket provided an update on facilities

7.3 Tim Pearson – Touch Football advised of the dangerous fencing around a broken shade structure that he would like removed.

7.4 Phillip Preece – Basketball requested an update regarding solar panels on the basketball stadium roof. Director Community Development advised this was a Power and Water issue, but will follow up with Phillip Preece offline to discuss next steps.

ACTION

Sports Facilities Officer David Hair to follow up with Power and Water.

- 7.5 Kelli Zaleski – AFL Northern Territory raised concerns about the lack of drinking water at Traegar Park, as well as issues with the AV system, which the CEO confirmed would be addressed as part of upcoming budgeted works.
- 7.6 Tama Wakelin – Northern Territory Sport and Recreation provided an update on the Community Benefit Fund (CBF).
- 7.7 PJ Mabassa – Hockey thanked SFAC for its \$25,000 investment to address a number of issues at the facility.
- 7.8 Joel Crawford – Tennis advised ongoing issues with regards to their fence continually being vandalised during the AFL season. Strengthening works to be investigated by ASTC during the off season.
- 7.9 Director Community Development advised that Council is currently in the process of updating license agreements for all facilities as they come due.

8. NEXT MEETING

30 November, 2023 @ 12:00noon, Arunta Room, Alice Springs Town Council

Mayor Paterson (Acting Chair) declared the meeting closed at **1.06pm**.

Agenda Item 28.3.7

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2023

28.3.7 SFAC Income and Expenditure – 31 August, 2023 (Agenda Item 1.1)

RESOLVED:

That it be a recommendation from Sports Facilities Advisory Committee to Council:

That the SFAC Finance Report be received and accepted.

28.3.7 Participation Levy's – Nicole Battle (Agenda Item 6.1)

RESOLVED:

That it be a recommendation from Sports Facilities Advisory Committee to Council:

That the adult participation levies be increased by 10% to \$34.27 for 2023/24 with the junior participation levies to remain the same.

28.3.7 Tennis Infrastructure Update (Agenda Item 6.2)

RESOLVED:

That it be a recommendation from Sports Facilities Advisory Committee to Council:

That a paper be submitted to Council on behalf of SFAC requesting that additional funding of up to \$370,000 is made available to complete required remediation works at the Alice Springs tennis courts.

REPORT

Report No. 189 / 23 cncI

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: NOMINATIONS – SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SFAC)

AUTHOR: SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER – DAVID HAIR

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the opportunity to endorse the nominations that have been received for membership of the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC) as per the conditions outlined within the current Terms of Reference.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council endorse the following nominations for the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC):

Summer Sports

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---------------|
| a. | Alice Springs Cricket Association | Michael Trull |
| b. | Central Australian Rugby Union | Aaron Blacker |
| c. | Alice Springs Baseball Association | Peter Dorambo |

Winter Sports

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------|
| a. | Australian Football League Northern Territory | Kellie Zaleski |
| b. | Central Australian Rugby Football League | Aaron Blacker |
| c. | Football in Central Australia | Allison Huhs |
| d. | Alice Springs Hockey Association | Peter Mabasa |
| e. | Alice Springs Netball Association | Jenny Nixon |

All Year Sports

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| a. | Alice Springs Basketball Association | Phillip Preece |
| b. | Alice Springs Tennis Association | Joel Crawford |
| c. | Alice Springs Touch Association | Tim Pearson |

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Not Applicable

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

Not Applicable

3. DISCUSSION

Membership of SFAC for all sports had expired, requiring new nominations to be sought as per the following conditions as identified within the current Terms of Reference:

SFAC Terms of Reference (extract)

Term of Office

Membership to the committee is for 2 years.

Representation is determined through endorsed local nominations from each Sports Facilities Fund member association.

Winter Sport representative terms - 1 April through to 31 March

Summer Sport representative terms - 1 October through to 30 September

Membership of the committee ceases upon the completion of 2 years; unless renominated, or sooner if the person is no longer an endorsed nominee by virtue of which the person became a member.

Where a vacancy is for more than 6 months of the 2-year term, a new person meeting the membership requirements will be elected to fill the vacancy.

Quorum Requirements

A quorum is achieved by:

- a. Attendance by at least one nominated Elected Member
- b. Attendance by the Director Community Development or Director Technical Services or CEO
- c. Attendance by over 50% of the appointed voting members (including nominated Elected Member/s)

It should be noted that no nominations were received for either netball or softball despite numerous requests being made by Council staff.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar One - Liveability

Continue to develop, maintain and renew Council-owned assets that encourage active lifestyles

5. FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS

Not Applicable

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Not Applicable

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Not Applicable

8. STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS

All work undertaken as per Alice Springs Town Council Register of Delegations Policy.

9. COUNCIL POLICIES

SFAC Terms of Reference

10. STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS

Representation on SFAC from local sporting bodies will ensure that the Committee is better able to achieve its objectives in relation to the ongoing maintenance and development of sporting facilities in Alice Springs.

11. CONCLUSION

If endorsed, all of the attached nominations will be eligible to participate on SFAC for a period of not less than two years.

12. ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A –** [Representative Nomination Form – Australian Football League Northern Territory \(AFLNT\)](#)
- Attachment B –** [Representative Nomination Form – Alice Springs Baseball Association](#)
- Attachment C –** [Representative Nomination Form – Alice Springs Basketball](#)
- Attachment D –** [Representative Nomination Form – Alice Springs Cricket Association Inc.](#)
- Attachment E –** [Representative Nomination Form – Alice Springs Hockey Association Inc.](#)
- Attachment F –** [Representative Nomination Form – Central Australian Rugby Football League](#)
- Attachment G –** [Representative Nomination Form – Central Australian Rugby Football Union](#)
- Attachment H –** [Representative Nomination Form – Football in Central Australia](#)
- Attachment I –** [Representative Nomination Form – Alice Springs Touch Association](#)
- Attachment J –** [Representative Nomination Form – Alice Springs Tennis Association Inc.](#)
- Attachment K –** [Representative Nomination Form – Alice Springs Netball Association](#)



David Hair
Sports Development Officer



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative Nomination form

As a member of the Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) Sports Facilities Fund (SFF) your sporting association is entitled to nominate one local representative to the ASTC's Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC). SFAC Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix 1.

Sports Facilities Fund Association Member	Australian Football League Northern Territory (AFLNT)
Sporting Association Contact	Kellie Zaleski
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative Nominee	Kellie Zaleski
Endorsement	<p>We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided.</p> <p>Approved by the Committee on</p> <p>Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.</p>
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <u>Katrina Kawaljenko</u> Position Held: <u>Facilities & Government Partnerships</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>6/10/23</u>
	Name: <u>Sam Gibson</u> Position Held: <u>Head of AFLNT</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>9/10/23</u>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

If you have any queries please contact the Sports Officer on 8950 0563.

APPENDIX 1 – SFAC Terms of Reference

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative Nomination form

As a member of the Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) Sports Facilities Fund (SFF) your sporting association is entitled to nominate one local representative to the ASTC's Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC). SFAC Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix 1.

Sports Facilities Fund Association Member	Alice Springs Baseball Association
Sporting Association Contact	Anthony Geppa - Secretary ASBA@outlook.com
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative Nominee	Nominee: Peter Parambo
Endorsement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided. Approved by the _____ Committee on Click here to enter text.. Alice Springs Baseball Association 11/7/23
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <u>Anthony Geppa</u> Position Held: <u>Secretary</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>11/7/23</u>
	Name: <u>Ethan Scobie</u> Position Held: <u>Vice President</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>20/7/23</u>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at info@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

If you have any queries please contact the Sports Officer on 8950 0563.

APPENDIX 1 – SFAC Terms of Reference

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative Nomination form

As a member of the Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) Sports Facilities Fund (SFF) your sporting association is entitled to nominate one local representative to the ASTC's Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC). SFAC Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix 1.

Sports Facilities Fund Association Member	Philip Preece
Sporting Association Contact	Lance Aene
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative Nominee	Philip Preece
Endorsement	<p>We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided.</p> <p>Approved by the Committee on</p> <p><i>Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.</i></p>
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <u>Kaye Heenan.</u> Position Held: <u>Treasurer</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>3 / 10 / 23</u>
	Name: <u>Kahlia Preece</u> Position Held: <u>JUNIOR PORTFOLIO</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>3 / 10 / 2023.</u>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

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Sports Facilities Fund Member - Full Name of Association	Alice Springs Cricket Assn Inc
Sporting Association Main Contact Details (Name / Email / Phone)	Michael Trull
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative - Nominee Name	Michael Trull
Endorsement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided. Approved by the (name of Committee): Committee on date: Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <u>My Trull</u> Position Held: <u>President</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>29/6/23</u>
	Name: <u>Matt Henderson</u> Position Held: <u>Vice President</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>22/9/23</u>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

If you have any queries please contact the Sports Officer on 8950 0563.

APPENDIX 1 – SFAC Terms of Reference

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative Nomination form

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Sports Facilities Fund Member - Full Name of Association	<i>Alice Springs Hockey Association Inc</i>
Sporting Association Main Contact Details (Name / Email / Phone)	<i>Matthew Pena - 0432 052 012 president@alicespringshockey.com.au</i>
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative - Nominee Name	<i>Peter Mabasa</i>
Endorsement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided. Approved by the (name of Committee): Committee on date: <i>Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.</i>
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <i>Matthew Pena</i> Position Held: <i>President</i> Signature: <i>[Signature]</i> Date: <i>30/6/23</i>
	Name: <i>Elizabeth Rowland</i> Position Held: <i>Treasurer</i> Signature: <i>[Signature]</i> Date: <i>30/6/23</i>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

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APPENDIX 1 – SFAC Terms of Reference

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative Nomination form

As a member of the Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) Sports Facilities Fund (SFF) your sporting association is entitled to nominate one local representative to the ASTC's Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC). SFAC Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix 1.

Sports Facilities Fund Member - Full Name of Association	Central Australian Rugby - Football League - Union
Sporting Association Main Contact Details (Name / Email / Phone)	Aaron Blacker - BLACKERCONTRACTING.NG@GMAIL.COM
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative - Nominee Name	Aaron Blacker
Endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/> We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided. Approved by the (name of Committee): Committee on date: Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <u>Amanda Fitzsemanu</u> Position Held: <u>Secretary</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: Name: <u>Chris Blacker</u> Position Held: <u>President</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>13-8-23</u>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

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APPENDIX 1 – SFAC Terms of Reference

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative Nomination form

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Sports Facilities Fund Member - Full Name of Association	Central Australian Rugby - Football League - Union
Sporting Association Main Contact Details (Name / Email / Phone)	Aaron Blacker - BLACKERCONTRACTING.NG@GMAIL.COM
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative - Nominee Name	Aaron Blacker
Endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/> We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided. Approved by the (name of Committee): Committee on date: Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <u>Amanda Fitzsemanu</u> Position Held: <u>Secretary</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: Name: <u>Chris Blacker</u> Position Held: <u>President</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>13-8-23</u>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

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Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



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Sports Facilities Fund Association Member	FOOTBALL IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA
Sporting Association Contact	ALLISON HUHS
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative Nominee	ALLISON HUHS
Endorsement	<p>We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided.</p> <p>Approved by the Committee on</p> <p>Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.</p>
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: <u>ALLISON HUHS</u> Position Held: <u>PRESIDENT</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>26/09/23</u>
	Name: <u>Alex Duff</u> Position Held: <u>Public officer/Secretary</u> Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Date: <u>26/9/23</u>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

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Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Sports Facilities Fund Association Member	ALICE SPRINGS TOUCH ASSOC
Sporting Association Contact	TIM PEARSON
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative Nominee	TIM PEARSON
Endorsement	<p>We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided.</p> <p>Approved by the Committee on _____</p> <p>Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.</p>
Signed on behalf of the Association:	<p>Name: <u>CARRINA DAWSON</u></p> <p>Position Held: <u>TREASURER</u></p> <p>Signature: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Date: <u>22/9/23</u></p>
To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association	<p>Name: <u>PETA NELSON</u></p> <p>Position Held: <u>VIC PRESIDENT</u></p> <p>Signature: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Date: <u>22/9/23</u></p>

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

If you have any queries please contact the Sports Officer on 8950 0563.

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Sports Facilities Advisory Committee – Representative Nomination form



SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative Nomination form

As a member of the Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) Sports Facilities Fund (SFF) your sporting association is entitled to nominate one local representative to the ASTC's Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC). SFAC Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix 1.

Sports Facilities Fund Member - Full Name of Association	Alice Springs Tennis association
Sporting Association Main Contact Details (Name / Email / Phone)	Joel Crawford (president) (M) 0432826185 (E) joel.crawford43@gmail.com
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative - Nominee Name	Joel Crawford
Endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/> We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided. Approved by the (name of Committee): Committee on date: Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: Tom Neville Position Held: Treasurer Signature: Tom Neville Date: 16/8 / 2023
	Name: Kasper Chen Position Held: Vibe President Signature: Kasper Date: 17/08/2023

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

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Sports Facilities Fund Association Member	ASNA
Sporting Association Contact	Jenny Nixon
Sports Facilities Advisory Committee Representative Nominee	Jenny Nixon
Endorsement	<p>We confirm that our nominee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the purpose and functions of SFAC as detailed in the terms of reference provided.</p> <p>Approved by the Committee on 18/10/23</p> <p>Please attach an approved copy of the minutes.</p>
Signed on behalf of the Association: <i>To be signed by two current committee members on behalf of the Association</i>	Name: John Gwynne Position Held: Board Member Signature: [Signature] Date: 18/10/23
	Name: Karla Goodman Position Held: Vice President Signature: [Signature] Date: 18/10/2023

Appointment to the SFAC committee is subject to approval of Council. Once appointed the nominee will be contacted and provided with committee induction documentation.

Please submit this nomination to the ASTC Sports Officer at astc@astc.nt.gov.au or hand deliver in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Sports Officer' to ASTC Civic Centre.

If you have any queries please contact the Sports Officer on 8950 0563.

APPENDIX 1 – SFAC Terms of Reference

REPORT

Report No. 195 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR NEW LIQUOR LICENCE – THE TROPIC OF CAPRICORN

AUTHOR: MANAGER RANGERS – LUKE ALLEN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide information on a new liquor licence application for a proposed restaurant and bar, The Tropic of Capricorn.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That no objection is lodged by Council against the liquor licence application for the Tropic of Capricorn.

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Not Applicable

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

Not Applicable

3. DISCUSSION

Epilogue Enterprises Pty Ltd has given public notice that they have applied to the Northern Territory Director of Liquor Licensing to grant a liquor licence with the following authorities:

- Restaurant bar;
- Public bar; and
- Late night.

The licence relates to the proposed bar and restaurant, The Tropic of Capricorn, to be located at 62 Todd Mall, Alice Springs. The following excerpt is taken from the public notice, and speaks to the nature of the venue:

“A family friendly modern restaurant, with an outback edge, featuring two (2) alfresco dining areas catering for breakfast, lunch and dinner, acoustic live music and a children’s play area. The premises will offer a range of non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks including zero, light, medium, and heavy beers with an emphasis on craft beers, a selection of mid and high range Australian and international wines, selection of standard and craft spirits, cocktails and mocktails.”

The public notice, including the completed application, can be found as attachment A to this report, and provides a more in-depth look at the planned venue.

The applicant in this instance also holds a current alfresco dining permit, giving them a good understanding of the requirements and process should their application be successful.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 4 – Economy

The attached application speaks to the potential economic benefits of this venue, which includes local jobs and activation of another site within the Todd Mall.

5. FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS

Not Applicable

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The attached application outlines the various areas of risk relevant to the proposal and how these are intended to be mitigated against by the Licensee. Specifically, it is noted that the Licensee holds another long-term liquor licence within Alice Springs and is therefore familiar with the provisions of the Liquor Act 2019 (NT), as well as all other laws and provisions affecting the operation of the business being proposed and its associated premises.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Not Applicable

8. STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS

Section 56(4)(c) of the *Liquor Act 2019* places a requirement on the Director of Liquor Licensing to notify the Chief Executive Officer of a local Council if an application relates to premises within a local government area. Once received, pursuant to sections 61(2) and 61(4)(c), Council may only object to the application on the following grounds:

- a) That issuing the licence or authority, varying the conditions, substituting other premises or making the material alteration would adversely affect:
 - i. the amenity of the neighbourhood of the licensed premises or proposed licensed premises; or
 - ii. the health, education, public safety or social conditions in the community of the licensed premises or proposed licensed premises;
- b) that the applicant is not a fit and proper person.

Noting that the location is already home to other licensed premises, and the consultation with other users of the Todd Mall and surrounds completed by the applicant, it is unlikely that the grant of this licence will have a negative impact on the area. Further to this, the applicant has held a liquor licence for a significant period of time as the operator of another venue, and is likely well equipped with the skills and experience required to manage this new licence, should their application be successful.

9. COUNCIL POLICIES

Not Applicable

10. STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS

Some consultation by the applicant has already been undertaken as part of the application process.

No consultation is required to be undertaken by Council at this time.

11. CONCLUSION

In recognising the previous experience of the applicant, as well as the potential economic benefit to the town, it is recommended that no objection is lodged by Council in relation to the new liquor licence application for the proposed Tropic of Capricorn Restaurant located at 62 Todd Mall, Alice Springs.

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A:

[Notice of Application for Grant of Liquor Licence – The Tropic of Capricorn](#)



Luke Allen

Manager Rangers

LIQUOR ACT 2019

Attachment A

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF LIQUOR LICENCE

Epilogue Enterprises Pty Ltd, gives notice that they have applied to the Director of Liquor Licensing for the grant of a liquor licence with a restaurant bar authority, public bar authority, and late night authority for the proposed premises to be known as The Tropic of Capricorn Restaurant at 62 Todd Mall, Alice Springs NT 0870.

PROPOSED LICENCE AND CONDITIONS

A family friendly modern restaurant, with an outback edge, featuring two (2) alfresco dining areas catering for breakfast, lunch and dinner, acoustic live music and a children's play area,. The premises will offer a range of non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks including zero, light, medium and heavy beers with an emphasis on craft beers, a selection of mid and high range Australian and international wines, selection of standard and craft spirits, cocktails and mocktails.

Proposed trading hours are as follows:

Sunday 12:00 hours to Monday 01:00 hours
Monday 12:00 hours to Tuesday 01:00 hours
Tuesday 12:00 hours to Wednesday 01:00 hours
Wednesday 12:00 hours to Thursday 01:00 hours
Thursday 12:00 hours to Friday 01:00 hours
Friday 12:00 hours to Saturday 01:00 hours
Saturday 12:00 hours to Sunday 01:00 hours

Objections:

An objection may only be made on the following grounds:

- (a) that issuing the licence or authority, varying the conditions, substituting other premises or making the material alteration would adversely affect:
 - (i) the amenity of the neighbourhood of the licensed premises or proposed licensed premises; or
 - (ii) the health, education, public safety or social conditions in the community of the licensed premises or proposed licensed premises;
- (b) that the applicant is not a fit and proper person.

Only the following may make an objection:

- (a) a person residing or working in the neighbourhood of the licensed premises or proposed licensed premises;
- (b) the owner or occupier of land in the neighbourhood of the licensed premises or proposed licensed premises;
- (c) a local council of the local government area where the licensed premises or proposed licensed premises are located;
- (d) a Member of the Legislative Assembly;
- (e) a police officer or employee of the Police Force, acting in that capacity;
- (f) a member or employee of the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service, established under the Fire and Emergency Act 1996, acting in that capacity;
- (g) an Agency or public authority that performs functions relating to public amenities, including health, education and public safety;
- (h) a charity or a community-based organisation or body.

The objection must be lodged with the Director within 28 days of the publication of the last notice and:

- (a) be in writing or in a form approved by the Director that is suitable for someone unable to effectively communicate in writing; and

(b) be signed by or on behalf of the person or body making the objection; and

(c) set out the grounds of the objection and the facts relied on to support those grounds.

Objections are to be lodged with the Director by email at DirectorLiquorLicensing.DITT@nt.gov.au.

Applicant's right to respond to objection

The Director must provide the applicant with any objections lodged and notice of their right to respond to the objection.

Dated 23 September 2023

DIVISION 4 4

Section 49 (1)

b. + c. Why the grant of a relevant application is in the public interest and how the additional liquor outlet will benefit the local and broader community.

Section 49 (2)

- a. Harm or ill-health caused to people, by the consumption of liquor is to be minimised.**

The Tropic of Capricorn is a proposed family-friendly restaurant and bar to be located in the Todd Mall. The proposed establishment will be located adjacent to Epilogue Lounge, a well-established venue that has been trading for ten years. The new venue will be operated by the same management team as Epilogue Lounge.

The new venue will feature a small fenced off al fresco area on the Todd Mall, with the main area of the business located to the rear of the premises.

It intends to operate a safe and inclusive establishment with strong community values. It does not intend to trade 7 days a week or seek to maximise alcohol consumption, nor seek to cater to patrons who wish to drink excessive amounts of alcohol or gamble.

Security at the entrance during periods of alcohol service will eliminate any anti-social behaviour entering the establishment. We intend to use the IDU software to digitally scan IDs to monitor further potentially troublesome patrons and any minors attempting to use fake identification. We currently issue banning notices accordingly.

The Tropic of Capricorn is acutely aware of the issues of harm and ill health that the consumption of alcohol can cause. The proprietor does not consider that this type of proposed venue contributes negatively to this respect. On the contrary, it considers that these types of venues remain necessary as venues where alcohol can be enjoyed in a controlled environment.

In recent months much attention, both locally and nationally, has been made to the media regarding anti-social behaviour in Alice Springs. This attention focused heavily on alcohol-related crime in Alice Springs and the NT. The NT Police figures pertaining to this are disconcerting, to say the least. The research conducted and reported by the ABC media showed some revealing statistics regarding the period since June 2022.

A summary of this reporting revealed that since the relaxation of the Stronger Futures alcohol-related restrictions, there were the following key findings:

- Take-away alcohol sales had increased as much as 200% in some instances.
- Alcohol-related crime increased.
- Large groups of residents of remote communities accumulated in Alice Springs to take advantage of these laws.

During this same period, we saw a reduction in on-premise alcohol consumption with the closure of Montes, Bojangles, and Rock Bar reduced hours. Epilogue closing over the Christmas period.

As a long-term resident of the town who is deeply concerned by the current high levels of alcohol-related anti-social behaviour, this is an issue that I follow closely in the media or anywhere else that data is available. In doing so, it is clear and apparent to be true that most of the harm caused to people by the consumption of alcohol in Alice Springs appears to have a strong correlation to take-away sales. There appears to be causation here.

b. Liquor is to be sold, supplied, served and consumed on or in a licensed premises in a responsible manner.

The Tropic of Capricorn will develop and maintain the highest standards of staffing and staff training which includes responsible service of alcohol training and certification (RSA). These principles have been established in managing Epilogue Lounge with successful delivery. It has policies in place that exclude irresponsible patrons from the premises.

The Tropic of Capricorn nominee and its staff will be fully informed of their obligations under the NT Liquor Act 2019. Regular training and support will be offered and encouraged.

c. Public order and safety must not be jeopardised, particularly where circumstances or events are expected to attract large numbers of persons to a licensed premise or an area adjacent to those premises.

The Tropic of Capricorn restaurant will be located adjacent to the Epilogue Restaurant in the old Red Dog Café. The majority of patrons will be seated in the newly renovated rear of the premises, not visible from the Todd Mall or surrounding areas.

The alfresco dining area of the Tropic of Capricorn is relatively small, catering for approximately 45 people.

The venue will not exceed its patron limit which will ensure that large crowds will not occur. The opening of the Tropic of Capricorn will provide a safe additional culinary option in the mall during external events from Council, NT Government and the community. During any such events that occur on the Todd Mall the primary interactions will be with the small alfresco seating area facing the front. This area will be enclosed and designed to create a clear definition of the licensed area and reduce any incidents of antisocial behaviour towards patrons. These areas are always monitored by security guards during times of alcohol service.

d. The safety, health and welfare of people must be protected.

Applicable staff will have mandatory RSA and regular training based on our RSA guidelines. (Attachment RSA Guidelines)

The new venue offers a nice hideaway in the heart of the CBD. Our business has been concerned with the recent negative public perception of people frequenting the CBD at night. However, there is a large and necessary contingent of our target clientele who wish to enjoy social outings with the responsible consumption of alcohol. The new venue caters perfectly to this by offering a secluded place to enjoy in the heart of the CBD.

In addition to this, ID scanning software will assist in excluding people who have exhibited behaviour that may include the propensity to be aggressive and showing any signs of any type of harassment toward staff or Patrons.

The Tropic of Capricorn will partner with NT Music's 'All Good Program' to promote and train staff in the safety of key minority groups in the music industry.

The company is sensitive to the community values that seek a safe environment in which to dine and be entertained. Staff have support from senior management to help identify and respond to instances of domestic violence, unruly behaviour, and patrons showing any signs of being disrespectful or troublesome.

A CCTV system will be installed and maintained according to the act.

e. The cultural, recreational, employment and tourism impacts for the local community.

The Tropic of Capricorn aims to significantly contribute to the town's recreational activity by offering a fresh new dining and entertainment option for locals and tourists. Located prominently on the Todd Mall, the new restaurant will help contribute to the NT Government's current revitalisation initiatives, encouraging more people to the mall and increasing patrons' positive engagement with the CBD. Young families will receive the indoor play area well and offer an experience currently unavailable in the CBD.

There has been, and currently is, a lot of discussion about the necessity of improving Alice Springs's liveability and vibrancy, with a particular focus on the CBD¹. The government's \$20 Million CBD revitalisation concept aims to rejuvenate the town centre, improve liveability and attractiveness for residents and visitors.

The mall's southern end was previously popular for tourists as the bus stops were located on Gregory Terrace. Currently, any tourists arriving from the traditional southern end will be greeted with mostly roller shutters. The Tropic of Capricorn will

¹ [NT Revitalising Alice](#)

permanently remove a shuttered-up business and create a fourth dining option for tourists and locals.

The NT Governments Northern Territory Growth Strategy² has identified low population growth and a net decline of interstate migration before the Covid-19 Pandemic. Alice Springs is competing with major cities to attract young professionals and their families and the recent national media attention focusing on anti-social behaviour has negatively impacted tourism with many reports of 'grey nomads' and travellers now bypassing Alice Springs altogether. To combat these negative trends Alice Springs needs more businesses to invest in the CBD to make the town appealing and attractive for locals, tourists, employees. The Tropic of Capricorn is one small step in this direction. A vibrant hospitality scene is an essential and key part of the modern Australian lifestyle, it is almost an expectation to most Australians and a key consideration for any relocating individual or family.

Epilogue Lounge already has a strong relationship with tour operators with many bookings throughout the year. Being relatively small in size the venue cannot accommodate all the peak season requests. The opening of The Tropic of Capricorn will be welcomed by tour operators as it creates another option and also has an appropriate brand, the name referring to the well-known latitudinal marker which passes just north of the town and marks the lowest point on the globe where the sun can be seen directly overhead and also the dividing line between the tropics of the north and the temperate zones to the south. Its northern equivalent being the Tropic of Cancer.

Cultural Impacts:

- The opening of the new restaurant and bar will create a more diverse selection of dining and entertainment options, encouraging locals to explore the offerings of the Alice Springs community.
- The new restaurant and bar will provide a place for locals and visitors to gather, offering a greater sense of connection between the community and its diverse residents.
- The new venture is sure to bring a unique and vibrant atmosphere to the area, broadening the cultural landscape of Alice Springs.

Recreational Impacts:

- The restaurant and bar will provide an enjoyable and relaxing atmosphere for catching up with friends, family, and new faces.
- The Indoor Play area offers a recreational experience not currently available in the CBD.
- A unique menu and variety of drinks and entertainment options will give customers the opportunity to experience something new and exciting.

² [NT Governments Northern Territory Growth Strategy](#)

- The new restaurant and bar will be a source of nightlife and entertainment for the Alice Springs community, providing an outlet for leisure and recreation.
- Establishment of social infrastructure to sustain and increase the centres liveability.

Employment Impacts:

- The restaurant and bar would create jobs for hospitality workers, other staff members, and supply chain staff. We currently employ up to 35 staff members, and the Tropic of Capricorn will provide an additional 10 positions.
- The new venture would also have a positive economic impact on the area, stimulating local businesses and providing new opportunities to the area.

Tourism Impacts³:

- The restaurant and bar would add to the allure of Alice Springs as a tourist destination, allowing travellers to get a more immersive experience of the area's culture and cuisine.
- The new venue would also promote local businesses, as tourists often patronise the venues near their accommodation.
- The new venue is also sure to increase foot traffic in the area, as locals and visitors come to enjoy its unique offerings.

Economic Impacts

- 10 direct new positions in the hospitality industry
- \$600,000 investment to infrastructure with local trades
- Ongoing maintenance expenses within the local trades industries
- In-direct sales from patron purchases at neighbouring businesses
- Growth enabler to support the NT's plan to create a \$40bn economy by 2030

- f. **A licensee must comply with the provisions of this Act and any other law in force in the NT, which regulate in any manner the sale or consumption of liquor or the location, construction or facilities of the licensed premises, including the Local Government Act and the Planning Act.**

The Tropic of Capricorn agree to comply with the provisions of the *Liquor Act 2019(NT)* and all other laws and provisions which affect the operation of the business and the premises themselves.

- g. **Each person involved in the business conducted at licensed premises must receive suitable training relevant to the person's role in the conduct of the business.**
The Tropic of Capricorn will comply with the mandatory requirement of an RSA.

³ See letters of Support – NT Tourism

Each person involved in the restaurant and bar business will receive training specific to their roles, such as food handling and safety, bartending, customer service, and money management. Additionally, the employees may receive training in areas relevant to our unique cooking style, pressed juices. Non-alcoholic beverages and cocktail making. Management will receive additional training in staff scheduling, budgeting, and other related managerial processes.

Senior staff will always be on-site to supervise and support staff and ensure high quality and responsible service standards. This will be continuously practised at The Tropic of Capricorn.

h. The use of credit in the sale of liquor must be controlled.

We have not ever or intend to, use any form of credit system in our business.

i. Practices which encourage irresponsible drinking must be prohibited.

The Tropic of Capricorn will not promote or encourage irresponsible drinking practices in any way. The Tropic of Capricorn does not intend to market irresponsible drinking behaviours, with any drinks promotions always being auxiliary to food promotions. Any drinks promotions are very limited and are intended to ease inflationary pressures on customers and provide a marginally cheaper alternative to customers with more limited budgets.

Responsible practices include:

1. Ensuring that all alcohol is sold at the appropriate legal drinking age.
2. Providing bar staff with responsible service of alcohol training.
3. Having a strict policy of no sales or service of alcohol to anyone who appears intoxicated.
4. Promoting moderation and providing food to slow the absorption of alcohol.
5. Displaying informative signs promoting responsible drinking and not selling large quantities of alcohol in a single sitting.
6. Offering non-alcoholic drinks.
8. Encouraging customers to drink lower-alcohol options and serve drinks in smaller servings.
9. Supporting initiatives to raise public awareness of the risks associated with drinking alcohol.

Excessive or inappropriate liquor consumption is not only in violation of the principles of responsible service of alcohol, but also completely averse to The Tropic of Capricorn's management practises. The Tropic of Capricorn will not engage in practices that would be considered excessive or inappropriate as The Tropic of Capricorn are reliant, necessary for the success of The Tropic of Capricorn business, on a clientele that expects a high level of service provided safely and responsibly.

- j. **That any sale of additional liquor due to a grant of a license or the relaxation of restrictive conditions will not increase anti-social behaviour.**

The Tropic of Capricorn will not necessarily increase alcohol sales in Alice Springs, as fundamentally, it only provides an alternative venue. Our target clientele may be already consuming alcohol at another venue or at home.

The proposed venue will be in the CBD, which can experience anti-social behaviour. The majority of this anti-social behaviour regularly occurs in the early hours of the morning, and from our own research and a decade of experience operating in this area, this behaviour is not attributable to our venue or from patrons coming or leaving our venue.

The Tropic of Capricorn will be differentiated from others in the area by its business philosophy. With respect to liquor, the focus lays on quality products and not quantity. The Tropic of Capricorn will be operated by the same management team as Epilogue Lounge providing a safe, social, and sophisticated space for the community of Alice Springs.

SECTION 49 (3)

- a. **Business conducted at license premises must not cause undue offence, annoyance, disturbance or inconvenience to persons reside or work in the neighbourhood of the premises or who are making their way to or from, or using the services of public worship, hospital or school.**

The new venue will conduct business in a manner that is not offensive or disruptive to those in the vicinity of the premises and surrounding area. The management has run successful businesses in the CBD for a decade.

Over our ten years of trading on the Todd Mall, we have worked hard to build solid, respectful, and supportive relationships with our neighbours and neighbouring businesses, of which many strongly support the opening of The Tropic of Capricorn.⁴

Flynn Memorial Uniting Church is located near the Todd Mall with The Tropic of Capricorn liquor hours not impacting the church services. Members of the congregation are welcome to visit, as they do with Epilogue Lounge for coffee and meals after morning services.

The Tropic of Capricorn will be located in the CBD, where surrounding businesses are mostly non-residential. There are no schools or hospital located in the neighbouring

⁴ See Letters of Support

area, with some hotels, motels and backpackers located nearby. This area is not commonly used to access either schools or the hospital.

b. The social impact in and the impact on the amenity of, the locality of the premises or proposed premises.

The very conspicuous and sad decline of the southern end of the Todd Mall is obvious to every resident and tourist visiting the town. There are now several hundred metres of roller shutters in this area whereas 5 years ago these shops were tightly held and fully occupied.

Having operated here and paid close attention to the area it is a deeply concerning issue for us. This was perhaps the key driving factor for this business decision.

It is our genuine intention and hope that our relatively small investment here may encourage others to do the same, and hopefully, we can reinvigorate this area to its former self.

From our perspective, this project's impacts on the area's amenities are very positive. The presence of an additional venue will contribute to increased foot traffic and local business activity. An improved local aesthetic can boost pride in the area, which can lead to a more vibrant and prosperous community.

Several neighbouring business owners have often reported to us that they have higher customer visitation and sales on the days Epilogue is open compared to the days Epilogue is closed. Even going so far as to consult with us and choose the same dates for the Christmas closing period and any public holidays on which we may close. The Tropic of Capricorn will build on this positive collaboration with other businesses in the area.

Additionally, the opening of The Tropic of Capricorn is in line with and will positively contribute to the much needed CBD revitalisation Initiative. Which ultimately has the objective of encouraging business activity in the CBD.

c. The harm that might be caused (whether to the community as a whole group or within the community) due to excessive or inappropriate consumption of liquor.

The Tropic of Capricorn will not encourage irresponsible drinking practices in any way. The business philosophy, operations, location, and style of the business does not attract or cause harm to the community.

The Tropic of Capricorn acknowledges that excessive or inappropriate liquor consumption can negatively impact a community. It can lead to increased crime rates, increased risk of alcohol-related health problems, financial strain on

individuals and families, increased risk of domestic violence, and social disruption. The Tropic of Capricorn management has considered ways to minimise the negative effects of such consumption. The style of the establishment is the main deterrent to these impacts, it is not a bar or a promotion of heavy drinking. This is a vibrant, family-friendly venue that is focused on food and food tourism. Measures will be implemented such as:

- All Staff members must hold a current RSA certificate.
- All Staff members get a copy of the RSA guidelines. (Attachment)
- RSA Training Register is kept on site.
- Signs with the conditions of entry are placed at the entrance. (Attachment)
- A modern CCTV system is in place, and all footage is recorded for 4 weeks.
- Security will be on the premises at all times during opening hours.
- Anyone who cannot show proof of ID, is dressed inappropriately, or is intoxicated is not allowed on the premises.
- The *NT Liquor Act 2019* is followed.
- Introduction of alcohol awareness campaigns.
- Providing resources for community problem-solving initiatives – working with groups to support measures.
- The product range and price range of liquor will be aimed at a clientele which is preferring an epicurean experience over irresponsible drinking practices.
- No engagement in practices that would be considered excessive or inappropriate as for the success of the business, the marketed clientele expects a high level of service provided safely and responsibly.
- Excessive or inappropriate liquor consumption is not only in violation of the principles of RSA but also completely averse to business practices, proven over ten years.

d. The groups or communities who could potentially be at risk from the adverse effects of liquor consumption.

At risk groups or communities who could potentially be affected by the effects of liquor consumption in Alice Springs CBD include:

- Children and young people,
- People living with chronic medical conditions,
- Pregnant women,
- Indigenous Australians,
- Elderly people,
- Persons in socially or economically vulnerable situations

The venue offers menu choices of a variety of options to cater for all demographics, with non-alcohol beverages, pressed drinks and hot drinks available. Additionally,

the average spend per head and style of the venue does not attract those dependent on alcohol and/or at risk from harm to themselves or others in their household or community.

e. Culture, recreation, employment or tourism will not be negatively impacted.

The Tropic of Capricorn management believes that the opening of the new venue will have positive impacts on culture, recreation, employment and tourism as outlined in the section 49 (2) e.

f. The safety, health and welfare of persons who use licensed premises must not be put at risk.

Applicable staff have mandatory RSA, renewed every three years under current legislation and regular training. The Tropic of Capricorn is sensitive to the community values that seek after a safe environment in which to dine and be entertained and reduces the risk to the safety, health and welfare of persons who are entitled to be in the business e.g. patrons, staff, entertainers, contractors, inspectors and other invited guests.

As outlined in Section 49 (2) d the Tropic of Capricorn will participate in the All Good Project (funded by MusicNT).

g. The density of existing liquor licenses within the community area.

The density of alcohol outlets in the area is quite low in comparison with the capital cities, Darwin and other regional centres with similar populations. The CBD has seen a considerable decline in on premise drinking in comparison to pre COVID levels. Montes has closed, Rock Bar has significantly reduced trading hours, Uncles tavern has seen a significant decline in patronage and Bo Jangles has only recently reopened.

Currently in the CBD there are:

Restaurants: Epilogue Lounge, Bella Alice, Grill me crazy, Locals, Sporties

Taverns: Uncles, Todd Tavern

Public Bar: The Rooftop (Epilogue Lounge first floor), The Rock Bar, Bojangles

Take away: Woolworths, Todd Tavern

- h. The volume of the alcohol sales within the community area, and any increase in volume within the community area arising from the license the subject of the application.**

The increasing trend comes from take-away sales as shown in NTPOL data and ABC data. This venue is marketed towards food tourism and family-friendly spaces. The Tropic of Capricorn supports the Riley Review recommendation that licensed premises and take away outlets make public and report to the Department of Licensing annually the volume of alcohol sold. This would help identify many important factors which would be helpful in determining not only future applications but also government policy with respect to liquor licenses.

SECTION 49 (4)

Limitations on the kind of liquor that may be sold.

The Tropic of Capricorn proposes to sell a range of low, mid and high-strength beers with a focus on craft beer.

Focus on craft beers and higher spending per head per customer. In general, craft-style likers are willing to pay a higher price for beer and enjoy a wide variety of beer styles and flavours. The clientele is not heavy drinkers but those that wish to consume a premium product.

- a. Limitations on the manner that liquor may be sold.**

Alcohol will be sold by way of suitably qualified and RSA certificated staff.

- b. Limitations on the containers, or number or types of containers, in which liquor may be served.**

NA

- c. Limitations on the days on which and times at which liquor may be sold.**

The Tropic of Capricorn proposes to operate from Monday to Sunday from 12:00 pm to 1:00 am

- d. Necessity or desirability to prohibit persons or limit the number of persons who may be on the licensed premises on any particular part of the licensed premises or in an adjacent area subject to the control of the licensee.**

Occupancy restricts the number of patrons on-site to approx. 200

This small venue is not aimed at large numbers and welcomes patrons to enjoy the atmosphere and space to dine and chat with friends and family.

- e. Necessity or desirability to prohibit or limit the entertainment or kind of entertainment, which may be provided on licensed premises or in an adjacent area under the control of the licensee.**

The entertainment will be appropriate for the venue, providing an enjoyable experience without becoming disruptive or excessively loud for patrons. The Tropic of Capricorn will adhere to only activities permissible under the *Liquor Act 2019* within the licensed premises.

- f. Necessity or desirability to prohibit or limit promotional activities in which drinks are offered free or at reduced prices.**

The Tropic of Capricorn may offer food and drink-related promotions, but these will be limited in nature and aimed at dining experiences. The target market would be tourists and locals to come and try a new dish, menu or experience within the venue.

Public interest and community impact assessment summary

Under sections 49 to 52 of the *Liquor Act 2019*

Before you fill in the form

This form has been approved by the Director of Liquor Licensing under section 317 of the *Liquor Act 2019*.

Type your answers or use clear, printed writing.

We may make this information available to the public, so you should not include people's sensitive or personal information in the form.

Attach extra pages if your answer/s don't fit into the space provided.

If you need help with this form, call Licensing NT on 08 8999 1800 or email ditt.lrascompliance@nt.gov.au.

Fields marked with asterisk (*) are mandatory.

Applicant name*

Epilogue Enterprises Pty Ltd

Brief description of the application, including the proposed nature of the business and authorities sought*

The Tropic of Capricorn is a proposed family-friendly restaurant and bar to be located in the Todd Mall. This exciting new venture will see the former Red Dog café renovated into a modern and tasteful new venue.

The alterations to the space propose to compliment other food venues and add a new alternative eatery to Alice Springs dining and entertainment scene. It will offer a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere, in the heart of Alice Springs CBD.

Restaurant, Public Bar, Late Night Authority

Address of premises*

62 Todd Street, Alice Springs, Northern Territory 0870

Public interest and community impact assessment summary

<p>Tell us about the impact you think your proposed liquor licence or licence-related authorisation will have on the local community*</p>	<p>The Tropic of Capricorn aims to significantly contribute to the town's recreational activity by offering a fresh new dining and entertainment option for locals and tourists. Located prominently on the Todd Mall, the new restaurant will help contribute to the NT Government's current revitalisation initiatives, encouraging more people to the mall and increasing patrons' positive engagement with the CBD. Young families will receive the indoor play area well and offer an experience currently unavailable in the CBD.</p> <p>There has been, and currently is, a lot of discussion about the necessity of improving Alice Springs's liveability and vibrancy, with a particular focus on the CBD¹. The government's \$20 Million CBD revitalisation concept aims to rejuvenate the town centre, improve liveability and attractiveness for residents and visitors.</p> <p>The mall's southern end was previously popular for tourists as the bus stops were located on Gregory Terrace. Currently, any tourists arriving from the traditional southern end will be greeted with mostly roller shutters. The Tropic of Capricorn will permanently remove a shuttered-up business and create a third dining option for tourists and locals.</p> <p>The NT Governments Northern Territory Growth Strategy² has identified low population growth and a net decline of interstate migration before the Covid-19 Pandemic. Alice Springs is competing with major cities to attract young professionals and their families and the recent national media attention focusing on anti-social behaviour has negatively impacted tourism with many reports of 'grey nomads' and travellers now bypassing Alice Springs altogether. To combat these negative trends Alice Springs needs more businesses to invest in the CBD to make the town appealing and attractive for locals, tourists, employees. The Tropic of Capricorn is one small step in this direction. A vibrant hospitality scene is an essential and key part of the modern Australian lifestyle, it is almost an expectation to most Australians and a key consideration for any relocating individual or family.</p> <p>The restaurant will incorporate safe and responsible service and sales practices and will support the Alice Springs Town Council's \$20 million investment to upgrade the Todd Mall. It will provide employment and income opportunities for staff, as well as a unique experience for locals and tourists alike. From these considerations, we believe that the liquor licence and licence-related authorisation for this proposed business will have a positive impact on the local community.</p>
<p>Have you consulted people who live or work in the neighbourhood?*</p>	<p>Yes / No</p>

¹ NT Revitalising Alice

² NT Governments Northern Territory Growth Strategy

Public interest and community impact assessment summary

<p>If yes, explain who you consulted (e.g. local residents and businesses, clinics, etc.), how (e.g. in person, by phone or email) and what their feedback was</p>	<p>We have consulted a variety of local residents, business owners, shop owners and Todd Mall traders and have received overwhelming support. The response has been entirely positive with local community and stakeholders all eager to see the project take form.</p> <p>Please find attached the letters of support we have received.</p>	
<p>Have you consulted the local council?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>If yes, explain who you consulted, how and what their feedback was</p>	<p>We had extensive consultations with the Alice Springs Mayor, who has given us his full support for the project– see attached Letter of Support.</p>	
<p>Have you consulted the local police officer in charge (OIC) and/or the NT Police major events office?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>If yes, explain who you consulted, how and what their feedback was</p>	<p>We have not yet contacted the Alice Springs Police Department, as it is commonly understood that they will have the opportunity to voice any concerns during the application process.</p>	
<p>Have you consulted people who use, or travel to or from, places of worship in the area?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>

Public interest and community impact assessment summary

<p>If yes, give the name of the place/s of worship and explain how you consulted people who access it and what their feedback was</p>	<p>Yes, we have consulted with the Uniting Church and they have not raised any objections to the project.</p>	
<p>Have you consulted people who use, or travel to or from, hospitals in the area?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>If yes, give the name of the hospital and how you consulted people who access it and what their feedback was</p>	<p>No we have not as the proposed area is not commonly used to access the Alice Springs Hospital.</p>	
<p>Have you consulted people who use, or travel to or from, schools in the area?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>If yes, give the name of the school and how you consulted people who access it and what their feedback was</p>	<p>No we have not as the proposed area is not commonly used to access schools in the area.</p>	
<p>Have you consulted other stakeholders about the risk of undue offence, annoyance, disturbance or inconvenience to people who live or work in the vicinity of the proposed licensed premises or who are using or travelling to or from a place of public worship, a hospital or a school?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>

Public interest and community impact assessment summary

<p>If yes, explain who you have consulted and how</p>	<p>We have reached out formally to other traders and our neighbours on the Todd Mall as we value these relationships and garnering their support was crucial in us moving forward with the project. This was done formally by providing a detailed description of the project and giving them the opportunity to voice any concerns. Most consultations resulted in the stakeholders volunteering a positive support letter, which can all be found attached.</p>	
<p>If you answered no to consulting with any of the above, explain why you decided not to consult with them*</p>	<p>See relevant sections.</p>	
<p>Were any issues or concerns raised during the consultation?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>If yes, describe what they were and whether or not they were resolved</p>	<p>We have consulted formally and informally with a very broad and extensive cross section of the Alice Springs Community. This includes professionals working in Government Agencies, adjacent business owners, Todd Mall traders, tourism operators, and residents of Alice Springs and the CBD. The overwhelming response has been entirely positive, and the community is eager to see the project delivered. Not a single objection or concern has been raised.</p>	
<p>Were all issues and concerns raised by the people and/or organisations you consulted resolved?*</p>		<p>Yes / No</p>

Public interest and community impact assessment summary

<p>If no, what measures will be / have been implemented or maintained to address the potential for undue offence, annoyance, disturbance, or inconvenience to people who live or work in the vicinity of the proposed licensed premises or who are using, or travelling to or from, a place of public worship, a hospital or a school?</p>	<p>N/A</p>		
<p>Is there any other information that you think the Commission should know about your application?</p>			<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>If yes, please share it here</p>	<p>The construction and fit out of the new venue will occur in 2 stages as can be seen in the attached plans. Please see additional supporting documents.</p>		
<p></p>			
<p>I have read the privacy statement at the end of this form and declare that I have made reasonable efforts to make all third parties aware of the information in the privacy statement.</p>			
<p>Signature of applicant</p>		<p>Date</p>	

Public interest and community impact assessment summary

Privacy statement

For the applicant:

You have been asked to provide personal information as part of this application. You do not have to provide us with your personal information but if you choose not to, we might not be able to accept or process your application, or your application may be refused. As part of this application, you are also providing personal information about other persons ('third parties').

Please ensure that you let all third parties know that you are providing their information as part of your application, and ensure they are aware of the information set out below.

For the applicant and third parties:

We collect and use your personal information to process and manage this application (and, if approved, any subsequent licence/registration) under the *Liquor Act 2019*. Third party information is required by law to enable consideration of the applicant's suitability to hold a licence / registration. If the applicant does not provide this information, it may affect their ability to obtain and maintain a licence / registration.

We may share your information with the Liquor Commission, NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services, local council, the Department of Health and/or other authorities or people, but only if we are required or authorised by law to do so. We will also not use your personal information unless that use is required or authorised by law. You have a right to access the information we hold about you. To learn more about this, or if you would like to access or correct the information we hold about you or make a privacy complaint about us, visit the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade website: <https://industry.nt.gov.au/publications/business/policies/privacy-policy>

To specifically discuss how your information is used and shared by Licensing NT, you can call us on 08 8999 1800 or email us at ditt.lrascompliedwn@nt.gov.au.

End of form

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

EVERY PERSON WISHING TO ENTER OR REMAIN UPON THESE PREMISES MUST COMPLY WITH ALL CONDITIONS OF ENTRY AS SUMMARIZED BELOW:

Our Right to Refuse Entry or Refuse Service

Management and staff reserve the right to refuse entry to these premises and/or refuse service to any person who, in their judgement:

- shows signs of intoxication or being under influence of an illicit substance
- fails to provide acceptable identification when requested
- fails to meet our minimum Dress Standards
- does not comply with our House Rules or behaves inappropriately
- is aggressive, argumentative or known to be violent or disorderly
- is banned from entering these or other licensed premises
- has been required to leave these premises within the past 24 hours
- is prohibited from entering or being upon these premises by law
- may be refused entry or service for any other lawful reason

Dress Standards

Management and staff reserve the right to refuse entry to these premises and/or refuse service to any person who fails to satisfy any of the following minimum Dress Standards:

- clean, neat, tidy casual attire to be worn at all times
- suitable footwear to be worn at all times (no unclean or untidy footwear)
- no lewd, offensive, inappropriate, damaged or soiled attire
- no manual work clothing or work boots (including hi-vis or steel cap boots)

Acceptable ID

Management and staff reserve the right to ask for ID at any time.

The following are acceptable forms of identification at these premises:

- current Australian Drivers License with photograph
- current Proof of Age Card
- current Passport

If you can't provide any of the above, we reserve the right to refuse entry

Lockout – Thursdays 11.30pm, Fridays & Saturdays 1:00am

Tropic of Capricorn

Smoking Management Plan for Licensed Premises

Premises/Business name:	Tropic of Capricorn	
Situated address:	62 Todd Mall, Alice Springs, NT 0870	
Postal address:	P.O. Box 5366, Alice Springs, NT 0870	
Licensee:	Epilogue Enterprises Pty Ltd	
Registered Licensee address:	1/58 Todd Mall, Alice Springs, NT 0870	
Nominee:	Chris Wilkinson	
Licence number:		
Licence type:		
Extent of licence:	Whole property licence to boundary fence – see diagram on last page	
For more information about this plan contact:	Chis Wilkinson 0408 112 397	
Licensee's signature:	Print name: Chis Wilkinson	Date: 17 August 2023

Smoking Management Plan for Licenced Premises

Reasons for plan

In accordance with the *Tobacco Control Regulations 2002* of the *Tobacco Control Act 2002* of the Northern Territory, smoking is banned in all enclosed areas and most of the licensed outdoor areas of The Tropic of Capricorn.

As a premises that holds a general liquor license under the *Liquor Act 2019*, certain areas of The Tropic of Capricorn that satisfy the conditions outlined in the *Tobacco Control Regulations 2002* have been designated as an exempt area allowing patrons to smoke within those exempt areas.

The Tropic of Capricorn has developed this smoking management plan to comply with the legal requirements for having Outdoor Smoking Areas. This plan provides detailed information on the OSA(s), including location and boundaries of the OSA(s), how smoking is managed on the premises and measures for assisting compliance.

This plan also promotes and supports the venue's Commitment to preventing children from smoking and minimising exposure of the staff and patrons to environmental tobacco smoke.

This plan is made to comply with Part 2 of the *Tobacco Control Act 2002* and the *Tobacco Control Regulations 2002* and the Enclosed Area Guidelines.

Tobacco Hotline NT: 1800 888 564

Outdoor Smoking Areas (OSAs)

	No. of OSAs and % of total outdoor liquor licensed area:
Location(s):	OSA #1 Are to the very rear and southern side of the premises
Buffer(s):	OSA #1 has a two-metre-wide buffer

Signage

Type of sign	Display location
No-smoking*	To cover all non smoking areas
Smoking area*	In OSA
Notice of availability of Smoking Management Plan*	In OSA
Other	

*Legal requirement

Smoking Management Plan for Licenced Premises

Management of smoking *(Minimising environmental tobacco smoke)*

The Tropic of Capricorn is managing smoking and smoking issues through the following actions:

- Establishing one OSA where smoking, drinking and eating is allowed, and banning smoking at all other licensed areas at the venue.
- Directing patrons who wish to smoke to the OSA
- Instructing staff who wish to smoke to use OSA
- Identifying compliant buffer areas.
- Ensuring appropriate signage is in place to identify the buffer areas and OSA
- Ensuring that within the OSA there is no:
 - Serving of food or drink.
 - Provision of prohibited entertainment.
 - Gaming machines.
- Ensuring that ashtrays, smokers' bins are located only in the OSA.
- Ensure there is no service of food or drinks into the buffer areas.
- Ensure there is no smoking in the buffer areas.
- Providing training to staff so that they know how to immediately and adequately address non-compliance (see Staff Training and Complaint Handling sections of this plan)
- Ensuring that tobacco retailing legal requirements are met, including: not selling tobacco products to children (under the age of 18 years) ; always asking for identification unless satisfied the customer is an adult; locating tobacco vending machines in the correct areas; and taking reasonable action to prevent access to tobacco vending machines by a child.
- Making available information on smoking and passive smoking to patrons, upon request.

Staff training *(List of staff training and instruction provided)*

The Tropic of Capricorn is providing training and regular instruction to staff to ensure that the tobacco laws are met.

- Staff are made aware of where patrons and staff can and can't smoke at the venue.
- Staff are made aware if they or patrons smoke in a no-smoking area they can be subject to an on the spot infringement notice of 0.8 penalty units.
- Staff are made aware that the licensee of The Tropic of Capricorn can be held responsible if a person smokes in a no-smoking area. Penalties of up to 20 penalty units for an individual or five times the penalty unit for a body corporate may apply if an offence is proven in court.
- Staff are instructed that if they see a patron smoking in a no-smoking area they must:
 - direct the patron to stop smoking immediately, and tell them that they are breaking the law if they don't stop smoking
 - immediately cease food or drink service to the patron if the patron does not follow their direction to stop smoking.
 - involve the Duty Manager if the situation is escalated or the complaint is complex.

Smoking Management Plan for Licenced Premises

- Staff are instructed that if they see a staff member smoking in a no-smoking area they must report it to their supervisor.
- Staff are instructed that there is no service to be provided into the buffer area or the OSA(s).
- Staff are instructed that patrons are permitted to take their own food and drinks into the buffer area and OSA(s). (Note: for Special Event Licences, patrons are not permitted to take their own food and drinks into the buffer area and OSA(s), as per Regulation 15D).
- Staff are instructed that there is no smoking permitted in the buffer areas.
- At staff meetings there are discussions about how staff are going with enforcing the no smoking rules, and practical ways to solve any problems they may be having.
- Staff are trained in tobacco retailing legal requirements, and a written record of this training is placed on their staff file.

Complaints procedures

The Tropic of Capricorn resolves complaints about smoking on the premises quickly and in a transparent manner. While all staff at The Tropic of Capricorn enforce the tobacco laws by directing patrons to stop smoking in no-smoking areas, difficult situations and complaints are referred to the Duty Manager.

Upon receiving a complaint, the Duty Manager determines the nature of the complaint. If it is legitimate, the following measures are taken:

- inform the patron about the legal requirements, including an on-the-spot-fine
- stop food or drink service while the patron is smoking in a no-smoking area
- keep a written record of the incident and action taken.

If the complaint has no basis the Duty Manager will take no further action. If the patron is not satisfied with the outcome, the Duty Manager will direct them to the Tobacco Hotline NT 1800 888 564.

Implementing, monitoring and reviewing the plan

The Tropic of Capricorn will know that this Smoking Management Plan is being implemented successfully by obtaining regular feedback from staff at staff meetings, and by monitoring the number of incidents where patrons smoke in no-smoking areas.

The Smoking Management Plan will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure the document remains current.

List of attachments *(if relevant)*

- Site Plan identifying areas of the licensed premises.
-
-
-
-

Smoking Management Plan for Licenced Premises

Smoking management plan compliance

This plan has been sighted by an Inspector of liquor licensed premises and has been identified as being compliant with the requirements of the *Tobacco Control Act 2002* and the *Tobacco Control Regulations 2002*.

Name of Inspector:

Signature

Date:

Smoking Management Plan for Licenced Premises

Diagram/illustration of outdoor area(s)

Please show and label the following:

- Outdoor eating area(s)
- Outdoor smoking area(s)
- Buffer(s)
- Footprint of the liquor licensed area*





Epilogue Lounge & The Rooftop Bar

RSA Policies & Procedures

As a licensed venue, our priorities are:

- The safety, security and wellbeing of our customers, our staff members and the community in general
- Providing a pleasant atmosphere to Alice Springs residents and visitors where everyone can enjoy a peaceful but cheerful time

To ensure these objectives are met, we strongly enforce responsible service of alcohol (RSA) at all times and provide extensive training to all our staff members.

We specifically ask our staff members to refuse the service of alcohol to any person who is exhibiting one of the following behaviours:

- A person who appears to be intoxicated.
- A person who appears to be under 18 years of age and can't provide proof of their age.
- A person who is dressed in a manner that could offend other customers or that could put their safety at risk (for example: not wearing shoes).
- A person who is displaying any type of anti-social behaviour (for example: being physically or verbally aggressive to other customers or staff members; damaging, vandalizing or stealing other people or the venue's property)
- A person who, by their behaviour, is making other customers feel uncomfortable or unsafe and is not contributing to the positive atmosphere of the venue (for example: shouting loudly in the venue, harassing or humbugging after being asked to leave by customers or staff members, smoking outside of the designated smoking area)

Agenda Item 28.4.1

REPORT

Report No. 200 / 23 cncl

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

SUBJECT: LHERE MPARNTWE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PERFORMANCE REVIEW

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES – JOEL ANDREW

PURPOSE OF REPORT

A formal review of Alice Springs Town Council (ASTC) obligations in the Todd and Charles River and how well Council is performing against those obligations.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That this report be received and noted.

REPORT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's obligations and performance against the Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy and Trusteeship have been reviewed and recommendation to short term and longer-term performance improvement measures have been provided.

2. PREVIOUS APPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution was passed in the September 2023 Council Meeting:

28. NOTICES OF MOTION

28.1 Councillor Hopper – Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy (LMMS)

Moved – Councillor Hopper

Seconded – Councillor Banks

- 1. Request a formal review of performance against all KPIs as set out in the LMMS Evaluation Framework, including recommendations for improvement.**
- 2. Provide a report to Elected Members that;**
 - a. summarises Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) performance against its obligations contained in the LMMS and the ATSC Trusteeship of the Todd and Charles Rivers.**
 - b. identifies potential risk (reputational, financial, other) and legal liability in meeting or failing to meet ASTC obligations**
 - c. provides recommendations to improve management of the Todd and Charles Rivers including immediate and long-term solutions.**

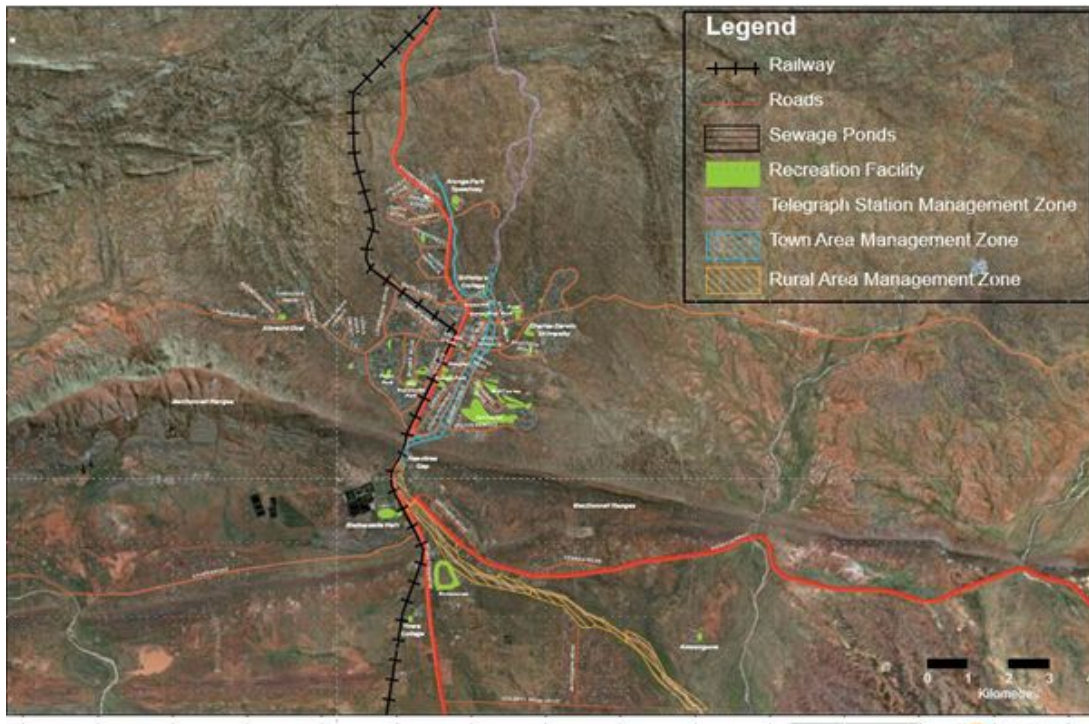
CARRIED (22760)

3. **DISCUSSION**

Council Officers have reviewed the current and historical works in the Todd and Charles River to understand the Council's performance against its obligation in the LMMS and Trusteeship of the reserve areas.

A notice published in The Northern Territory Government Gazette No G3, 24 January 1984, by the Minister for Community Development Daryl Manzie, acting under section 339A (1) of the (then) Local Government Act, appointed ASTC to be trustee of the reserved land.

The areas of Trusteeship include the area noted as the Town Area Management Zone in the below map from the LMMS.



The Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy (LMMS) strategy was adopted by Council in January 2020 with the following resolution:

16 -- CNCL 28/01/2020

14.4.4 Lhere Mparntwe (Todd River) Management Strategy Report No. 5/20cncl

Moved – Councillor Cocking

Seconded – Councillor Auricht

1. That Council provide in-principle support for the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019.
2. That Council Officers continue to work with Northern Territory Government (NTG) representatives regarding the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019 to clarify logistical and fiscal concerns pertaining to the plan's implementation.

CARRIED (20786)

During the development of the strategy, reports provided by Officers raised concerns about the Council's resourcing to undertake the strategy. The report (No. 149 / 19) from September 2019 raised key concerns regarding the Council's expertise and resources to undertake the objectives in the strategy. Based on reviews of Council Operations post adoption by Council of the LMMS, it appears many of these concerns were not addressed and additional resources were not funded to adequately meet the objectives of the plan. The full version of this report can be found in Attachment A of this report.

Excerpts from report No. 149 / 19 from September 2019:

After reviewing the proposed Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019, Council Officers have identified the following items that need to be resolved before Council can endorse the document:

Action	Lead Responsibility
Prepare Fire Management Plans for each management zone, to be reviewed annually by the proposed Ministerial Advisory Committee	ASTC/DIPL/PWC

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and has no capacity to prepare or implement a fire management plan for each management zone. This is out of Council's level of expertise.

Expand buffel and couch grass control for fire management into areas important for revegetation with native species.	ASTC/DIPL/PWC
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COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and does not have the capacity to expand buffel and couch grass control measures for revegetation with native species. Council's requirement is to undertake litter control, weed management around the trees and islands.

Develop revegetation plans for targeted zones on the basis of expected intensity of use.	ASTC/DIPL/PWC
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COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and does not have the capacity to develop revegetation plans for targeted zones on the basis of expected intensity of use.

Identify the location of discarded infrastructure and arrange for its removal.	DIPL/ASTC
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COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council does not have the financial capacity to undertake this component of the project

Based on an assessment of current erosion risks, formalise and stabilise pedestrian and vehicle access tracks to mitigate erosion, including through the installation of additional bollards and/or other barriers where required.	ASTC/DIPL/DENR
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COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and does not have the financial capacity to conduct assessment on erosion.

Summarises Alice Springs Town Council's (ASTC) performance against its obligations contained in the LMMS and the ATSC Trusteeship of the Todd and Charles Rivers.

Council's performance has been reviewed against the LMMS in a traffic light table provided below. In summary, of the 25 objectives of the strategy that relate to ASTC, 19 have been achieved or partially achieved and 6 are not yet achieved.

LMMS Objective Summary	
Achieved	7
Partially Achieved	12
Not yet Achieved	6
Total	25

LMMS Objectives Assessment Table

Objective 1: Protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of the rivers				
Issue	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe	Current Status
Uncontrolled fires destroy mature red gums that are a visual signature of the town and support a multitude of native plant and animal species and have significant cultural values.	Prepare Vegetation and Fire Management Plans for each management zone, to be reviewed annually by the proposed advisory committee	ASTC/DEPWS/DIPL/DTSC/NTFRS	6 months	Draft Vegetation and Fire Management Plan has been produced, not yet adopted by the LMMS IAG but followed as a management guideline.
Introduced buffel and couch grasses have invaded and dominate large sections of the river banks to the almost complete exclusion of native understory species.	Prioritise buffel and couch grass hazard reduction for fire management into areas important for tree protection and re-emergence of native species.	ASTC/DIPL/DTSC	Ongoing	ASTC through its MOU with Corrections undertake fuel load management in key areas of the town section of the Todd River. DEPWS has facilitated various ASCC Work Crew 'operations' to intensively manage fuel loads, including collaring of trees and cutting of fire breaks in the lower Todd and Charles Rivers, and through

				Parks and Wildlife the management of the AS Telegraph Station vegetation in keeping with the ASTS Plan of Management. DEPWS has also conducted regular post rain opportunistic herbicide treatments in the lower Todd and Charles Rivers to maintain the slashed collars. This action is in keeping with the agreed approach detailed in the Fire and Veg Management pan.
These grasses accumulate much larger fuel loads than native species causing more intensive and more frequent fires and substantially greater ecological damage. Management of both grasses is critical to minimising loss of river red gums and encouraging return of native species.	Develop a Fire and Vegetation Management Plan for targeted sub-zones on the basis of biological and cultural values as well as expected intensity and type of use.	ASTC/DIPL/DTSC/community	Subsequent to Vegetation and Fire Management plans	Draft Vegetation and Fire Management Plan has been produced but not adopted by the IAG. Notwithstanding, the processes described in the plan are followed as management guidance.
	Landcare to work with partners to restore identified target sections of the Todd River.	Landcare/ASTC/DIPL	Ongoing	Landcare actively supported by ASTC through partnership and MOU. One off NTG Environment Grants provided to various groups

				to manage specific areas of high ecological or cultural value.
	Expand support the existing efforts undertaken by Alice Springs Landcare between Gosse Street and Stott Terrace on the eastern bank and by the Olive Pink Botanic Garden between Stott Terrace and Tuncks Road.	All	Ongoing	Landcare actively supported by ASTC through partnership and MOU. Area of river outside Botanical Gardens looked after by Olive Pink Botanical Gardens in previous years, but funding for this is no longer available.
Woody weeds (White Cedar, Albizzia, etc.) have invaded the town's large open stormwater drains and have potential to impede water flow. Discharging into the rivers these drains are already a source for downstream weed infestation.	Include weed management in the Vegetation and Fire Management Plan for the town area.	DIPL/ASTC/DTSC/	6 months	Draft Vegetation and Fire Management Plan has been produced but not adopted by IAG. Used as guidance material.
Mexican poppy is a Class B and Class C prickly weed that affects amenity of the river. The weed is being	Work with responsible authorities and interested parties in removal and monitoring of Mexican poppy in the areas of the	DIPL/ASTC/DEPWS	Ongoing	Ongoing monitoring and weed spraying taking place.

managed by Landcare groups and is still sparse in the areas of high public use north of Heavitree Gap. It is important to exclude this invasive species to maintain public amenity in this part of the river through town.	river upstream from John Blakeman Bridge and the town drains.			
	Ensure litter crews able to identify and treat infestations.			Achieved and ongoing
Objective 2: Encourage more locals and visitors to use the rivers in culturally and ecologically sensitive ways for recreation and relaxation.				
Some residents and visitors avoid walking in the rivers due to concerns about rubbish and safety.	Ongoing proactive management of rubbish within the river and along the banks.	ASTC/DIPL	Ongoing	Litter crews undertaking daily litter pickup. Improvements could be made to key areas where substantial amounts of rubbish accumulate due to rough sleepers. Charles Creek and Lower Todd Rivers remain a significant area of concern for litter, living waste and illegal residential dumping.
Redundant infrastructure within the river is an eyesore and gives the impression the rivers are not valued.	Identify the location of redundant or discarded infrastructure and plan for its removal.	DIPL/ASTC	1 year	Not yet actioned - mainly abandoned bore infrastructure

<p>While the rivers are used for recreation, relaxation, camping and community events such as the Henley on Todd, the river beds are generally ignored. Little information is accessible for locals and visitors to gain an understanding of the importance of the rivers.</p>	<p>Develop a series of communication products to assist the community to understand and celebrate the cultural and ecological values of the rivers, including:</p>	<p>Advisory group with assistance from DEPWS/DIPL/DTSC/ASTC</p>	<p>Develop a communications plan to include a series of communication products within 1 year</p>	<p>Master Plan publication produced and "Natures Boarding House Posters reproduced and distributed to schools. Strategy should be ongoing.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •improved interpretative facilities along the rivers 			<p>Not yet actioned</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •education materials for use in schools (including redevelopment of the Nature's Boarding House and Birds of the Todd checklist posters) 			<p>Natures Boarding House reproduced and distributed.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •materials that improve understanding of the connections between stormwater drains and the rivers behaviour 			<p>Not yet actioned</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •promotion of nature-based activities in the rivers 			<p>Not yet actioned</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •develop Community Recreation Zones 			<p>Not yet actioned</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •contribute to the discussion on the impact of camping in the rivers. 			<p>ASTC bylaws being enforced with education to campers on alternative options</p>
<p>Commercial developments along the rivers mostly face away as</p>	<p>Encourage and advocate to businesses located along the river,</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>As part of communications plan</p>	<p>Not yet actioned</p>

if to avoid an interface with this outstanding natural feature.	schools and interested organisations to become involved in care of the river corridor.			
There has been considerable development of public amenity along the river corridor in recent years including well-used bicycle and pedestrian paths. Potential remains to further enhance the rivers for public use.	Careful placement of street furniture lighting and landscaping features combined with selected replanting of targeted areas to improve visitor experiences, increase safety and would encourage locals to value the rivers Leichhardt Terrace and area adjacent to Olive Pink Botanical Gardens should be prioritised.	DIPL/ASTC	Dependant on review below, then ongoing	New lighting and structure recently completed and blend in well with the environment.
	Review previous proposals and past public consultations to identify priority projects for additional infrastructure along the rivers.	DEPWS/DIPL/ASTC	1 year	Recent project of lighting and river structure has been completed. Reinvigorating the Alice Town Centre looking at the areas along Leichardt Tce
Vehicle movements in and along the river banks are largely unrestrained creating an ugly network of wheel tracks.	Based on an assessment of current erosion risks, formalise and stabilise pedestrian and vehicle access tracks to mitigate erosion, including	ASTC/DIPL/DEPWS/ PFES/DTSC/AAPA		Preferred entry and exit points to the river have been identified together with bollard requirements to limit access in other areas. Some bollards complete. Areas

	through the installation of barriers where required.			of concern being actioned on a need's basis.
These destroy remnant native vegetation, spread weeds and have potential to channel water and erode the banks, especially after prolonged dry periods.	Work towards the exclusion of unnecessary vehicle traffic.	ASTC/DIPL	Over 5 years	
	Develop a prioritised erosion repair program.	DTSC/ASTC/DIPL	Over 5 years	DEPWS has conducted an audit and provided an erosion action plan identifying three key areas for remediation by ASTC and DIPL. Not yet actioned
Objective 3: Governments, business and the community to work collaboratively to care for the rivers.				
	Encourage and facilitate commitment by individuals, schools and community groups in managing fuel loads in small sections of the rivers. Encourage recurrent funding from all levels of government and philanthropists to promote maintenance	Advisory group	Ongoing	not yet achieved - ongoing - small grants provided from time to time to Landcare and other groups to manage specific sections of the river. opportunities through ABA and NTG environment and ranger grants to be explored subject to outcome of LAAC Ranger Program development and Buffel Grass

	and eventual expansion of the management area.			Technical Working Group recommendations.
	Encourage and support the development of an Mparntwe Ranger Group in conjunction with relevant organisations in accordance with the aspirations of Mparntwe sacred site custodians.	Advisory group/CLC/ AAPA/DIPL/DTSC/ ASTC	Ongoing	There Artepe (LAAC) has received time limited ABA funding to work in partnership with CLC to develop a Land Management Ranger Program - anticipated. Ideally LAAC will take over the management of the LMMS and carry out care, protection and maintenance of the river corridor based on service agreements with respective land holders responsible for care & protection of the river. (P&W, ASTC, DIPL)
Key management activities should be monitored to determine the level of achievement and whether modifications are indicated.	Establish a monitoring program for assessing progress and achievement in the implementation of the Strategy.	Advisory group/ community with support of DEPWS	1 year	Evaluation framework developed

Identify potential risk (reputational, financial, other) and legal liability in meeting or failing to meet ASTC obligations.

The obligations of Council regarding the Trusteeship of Todd and Charles Rivers holds the higher duty of care that the LMMS and are summarised by Council's Solicitor below:

1. Obligations of Council in relation to Trusteeship of Reserve 1708

Section 183(1) of the Local Government Act NT 2008 (now section 268 of the Local Government Act NT 2019), provides that:

"If Council agrees, the Minister may...by gazette notice...place a reserve in the Council's area under the care control and management of Council." If the Minister does so, then Council has the powers and functions of trustees appointed under section 79 of the Crown Lands Act.

"Reserve" is defined as a reserve under section 76 of the Crown Lands Act. Without setting out the whole of the lengthy provision and taking the gazette on face value I am satisfied that Reserve No. 1708 does meet the definition of a reserve.

We then return to section 79 of the CLA to see what Council's "powers and functions" as a Trustee are. Those are set out in sub-sections (7) onwards, by and large:

- (7) The trustees of reserved land mentioned in subsection (1) must, at the times directed by the Minister, forward the Minister a report on the administration of the trust and on any related matters as specified by the Minister from time to time, and must give the Minister a statement of revenue received and expenditure made during the period specified by the Minister.*
- (8) Notwithstanding this Act or any law in force in the Territory, the trustees of land so reserved as referred to in subsection (1) may use or authorise other persons to use the land for sporting or other functions, and may charge or authorise other persons to charge for the admission of persons and vehicles to the land or a part of the land when the land is so used.*
- (9) The trustees of any land reserved as referred to in subsection (1) or for any other public purposes certified by the Minister to be a like purpose, may make by-laws, not inconsistent with this Act for the control and management of the reserve and, in particular, providing for or in relation to:*
 - (a) the times at which the reserve or portions of the reserve are to be open and closed; and*
 - (b) the conduct of persons when on the reserve; and*
 - (c) the days on which, and the limits within which, sports and games, or training for sports and games, may be permitted on the reserve and otherwise regulating or prohibiting sports and games, or training for sports and games, on the reserve; and*
 - (d) the prevention or the regulation of the admission of vehicles or animals to the reserve, and for the destruction of such animals if trespassing on the reserve; and*
 - (e) the speed of vehicles and the parking of vehicles within the reserve; and*
 - (f) the prohibition or the regulation of the sale or display for sale of goods, wares or merchandise on the reserve; and*
 - (g) the prevention of damage or injury to, or destruction of, trees and other vegetation on the reserve; and*
 - (h) the prevention of damage or injury to, or destruction or defacement of, buildings, structures or erections or natural features on the reserve; and*

- (j) *the prevention of nuisances on the reserve; and*
 - (k) *the charging of fees by the trustees, or by other persons, for admission to the reserve or a part of the reserve; and*
 - (m) *the authorisation of persons to demand the names and information as to the place of abode of persons who are believed on reasonable grounds to have contravened or failed to comply with a by-law and requiring persons to comply with such a demand made by a person so authorised; and*
 - (n) *the removal from the reserve of persons who are believed, on reasonable grounds, to have contravened or failed to comply with a by-law; and*
 - (p) *the imposition of maximum penalties of, or of not more than an amount equal to, 4 penalty units for the contravention of, or failure to comply with, a by-law.*
- (10) *A by-law made under subsection (9) must be signed by the Chairperson of the trustees and section 57 of the Interpretation Act 1978 does not apply to or in relation to it...*

This outline looks much more similar to the exercise of the usual powers Councils have in respect of their general catchment areas. However, Council is now considering the proposed management strategy, which seeks to include further duties and obligations on Council to care for, preserve and manage the land, which Council does not necessarily have the expertise or budget to provide.

In determining the breadth of Council's responsibilities where land is generally under its "care management and control", we have only the ordinary meaning of those words to look to, and common sense dictates that Council will perform its functions in relation to the particular land to the extent required under the legislation having regard to practical and budgetary restraints. However, a Trustee has a higher duty than a regulatory body exercising its basic statutory functions, so we need to look further at the relevant statutes and the general law of Trusts to ascertain where the duties might lie.

Section 106(f) of the CLA provides that regulations may be made in respect of:

"...matters in relation to the control, care, protection, preservation, improvement and management by the Minister, or by trustees, as the case may be, of any lands reserved for the recreation or amusement of the public or for any other public purpose and for the preservation of good order and decency on any such lands;"

I assume no such regulations have been made, however this section does widen the concept of care management and control relation to reserves, through use of the additional words "protection, preservation, improvement...", which may indicate an intention of Parliament to have reserves cared for to a higher standard, that is, more in keeping with the relationship of Trust.

At common law, where property is held on Trust, the Trustee is the legal owner, but the stated beneficiaries, charitable objects, or in this case, the public and Aboriginal interest holders, are entitled to the benefit of the Trust. The relationship between the Trustee and the entitled beneficiaries is a fiduciary one, meaning "of the utmost good faith", which requires the Trustee to act in the best interest of the beneficiary at all times.

The nature of the property is that it carries Aboriginal interests, is vulnerable to weather events, effects of neglect of the environment, and vandalism/criminal or offensive behaviour generally. It is therefore not unreasonable to say that the proper exercise of the duty as Trustee extends well beyond a base level of management in relation to this property. This is especially so given the fragility of the area, and the fact that vulnerable areas in which local Aboriginals have very significant interests in have clearly been thought about by Parliament, viz the regulation making power referred to above, and also supported by section 5 of the LGA which says:

5. Rights and interests of Aboriginal traditional owners

The rights and interests of Aboriginal traditional owners, as set out in the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 (Cth) and the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), are to be recognised and the delivery of local government services must be in harmony with those Acts.

While the legislation has not specifically prescribed patently higher duties than would ordinarily be expected of a Council, it does have the power to do so, and in my view the obligations of Council when acting as Trustee should probably be pitched somewhere between its general “care control and management” duties and the very high duty that a Trustee owes to a beneficiary.

In light of all the surrounding circumstances, I am of the view that the matters expressed by Council’s response to the Memorandum from Director Technical Services (Report no. 149/19) as being over and above its expertise and capacity, for example, fire prevention and management strategy (including control of grasses as noted in the report), addressing revegetation for erosion control are nonetheless within the responsibility of the Trustee to address as part of its obligation to act in the best interest of the beneficiaries of the property, and deliver if not the highest and best, then at least a reasonable level of protection strategy commensurate with Council’s reasonable ability.

6. Ramifications of Resignation and Legal Liability

Council should consider the wide powers of the Trustee to control the Reserve (including the power to charge fees for entry and make by-laws enforceable by the issue of penalty notices). There is a question as to whether the management of the Reserve is better left in the hands of Council so that it controls those matters (including the ability to take revenue, plan and to ensure continued availability of the Reserve to the general public for events as well as potentially being better placed to make and enforce by-laws, receive complaints and manage the Reserve generally, then Aboriginal representatives may be. If Council resigns, that power will all transfer to the new Trustee. A risk analysis needs to be undertaken that considers whether in divesting itself of the responsibility, Council might suffer unforeseen circumstances.

In terms of the practical effect of the legal liability (assuming my analysis is correct, a breach of Council’s duty as Trustee would essentially amount to a breach of statutory duty), there may be little or none, given the unlikelihood of public or Aboriginal interest holders taking action, which might be assumed to only be a risk in very serious circumstances. It is highly unlikely that the NT Government would take any action even if it did consider Council in breach (and it may not). It would surely use its regulation making power to impose greater obligations on Council if it were concerned that the Reserve was not being properly cared for. In the meantime, I would suggest that in the absence of actual decay of the Reserve being evident, it is reasonable for Council to consider its budgetary restraints reason enough not to take certain action, however, given report 149/19, it would appear timely for government, Council and the TO’s to consider who is best placed to act as Trustee going forward, and where the money is going to come from to address at the very least the critical needs of the Reserve raised in the proposed management strategy.

Council not only holds the obligations of the of the Trusteeship, but also the expectation of the residents of Alice Springs who hold Alice Springs Town Council to a high standard maintain the natural and environmental features of towns landscape, including the Todd and Charles Rivers. This expectation of Council and other government agencies can be seen in the concerns raised which led to the creation of the LMMS, and more recently with concerns raised regarding the fires in the Todd River. Concerns regarding the failures to protect sacred trees from fire have highlight a reputational risk to Council and highlight the resources required to meet the objectives Council has under its Trusteeship and committed to in the LMMS.

Provides recommendations to improve management of the Todd and Charles Rivers including immediate and long-term solutions.

Immediate efforts have focused on protecting trees and Council Officers have completed an audit of the river to establish key areas to prioritise efforts. Council has engaged casual labour and assigned some of Council's Works Teams to the river to cut grasses and provide a protection buffer around large established trees. Ongoing discussion are underway with Corrections to get teams to assist with efforts to clear grass prior to summer.

Long-term solutions have been investigated and options discussed with key stakeholders and interest groups. As the river is a key environmental and cultural asset a number of stakeholders have shown interest in being involved in more active land management in the river. Key long-term solutions for the river include the following:

1. Council undertakes review of budget requirements to meet its obligations under the trusteeship and LMMS as part of the 24/25 FY.
2. Council undertake community events to encourage Landcare and protect trees. Such as buffel busting days
3. Work with Traditional Owner (through Lhere Artepe) to develop and ranger program to provide Landcare in the Todd and Charles River.
4. Council investigate resigning its trusteeship of the rivers in favour of the Northern Territory Government taking over responsibility of the whole river corridor as they currently manage north and south of Town Area Management Zone.
5. Work with Alice Springs Landcare to provide further support for their efforts in the river.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH ALICE SPRINGS LIVEABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

This item pertains to relevant components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Liveability and Sustainability Strategic Plan 2030* as follows:

Pillar 3 – Environment

Engage and work with Traditional Owners (through Lhere Artepe) to improve ecosystem management.

5. FUNDING, WHOLE OF LIFE COSTS & RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS

Currently Alice Springs Town Council budgets for 2 River Crew staff to undertake litter collections.

Alice Springs Town Council has an MOU with Corrections to undertake works which include grass cutting in the Todd and Charles Rivers.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Council's risk are highlighted in the report under its obligations as Trustee of the Todd and Charles River. Additionally, Council is held to a high standard by the community to meet its obligations under the Trusteeship and strategies such as the LMMS.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Council has obligations to maintain the Todd and Charles Rivers under its Trusteeship and failure to do so can increase the effects of fires, floods and erosion in the river.

8. STATUTORY MATTERS / DELEGATIONS

Council has the powers and functions of trustees appointed under section 79 of the Crown Lands Act.

9. COUNCIL POLICIES

Not Applicable

10. STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / PUBLIC RELATIONS

Key Stakeholders of the Todd and Charles River:

- LMMS Advisory Group
- Lhere Artepe
- Alice Springs Landcare

11. CONCLUSION

Council is achieving or partially achieving 19 of its 25 actions in the LMMS. However, a number of deficiencies in the resourcing requirements to fully undertake the LMMS and obligations under the trusteeship have been noted and Council will investigate alternative models of management of the Todd and Charles River.

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: [Report \(No. 149 / 19\) from September 2019](#)

Attachment B: [Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy 2019](#)



Joel Andrew

DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

Agenda Item No: 9.2

Report No. 149 / 19 ts

TO: TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2019

SUBJECT: LHERE MPARNTWE (TODD RIVER) WORKING GROUP

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES – SCOTT ALLEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council an update on the proposed Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019

RECOMMENDATION

That it be a recommendation to Council:

That Council awaits the decision of the Minister in regards to the adoption of the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019

REPORT

1. BACKGROUND

Lhere Mparntwe (the Todd and Charles Rivers) form the backbone along which the town of Alice Springs is both built and defined. The rivers are an integral part of the town's image and of how residents view their community. The rivers intersect the town's other key iconic natural feature - the MacDonnell Range – at its gateway in Ntaripe (Heavitree Gap).

However, while the MacDonnell Range is a timeless and enduring geological feature, the rivers form a living ecosystem that requires care and management to sustain its ecological health and value to the town's community and visitors.

The rivers are normally dry and quiet allowing people to use and enjoy the peaceful beauty of the fringing river gums and open bed. Occasionally the rivers burst forth in a flow that quickly turns community attention to an excited and more active engagement.

Recreational use by local residents and visitors has expanded appreciably in recent years following installation of shared pedestrian and cycle pathways. This network continues to expand providing attractive and convenient access for recreation, exercise, and as a route for getting to and from school or work.

The open sandy river beds are already widely used for recreation and events such as the Henley on Todd (the first Camel Cup also took place in the river bed). If properly managed to mitigate the destructive fires and other degrading environmental influences, the Todd and Charles River systems provide untapped opportunity for improving the amenity of the town, particularly in the CBD area, and in promoting their place as a defining part of the town's image.

Despite the place of the Todd and Charles in the town's imagery there is a tendency for businesses to avoid engagement with or to "turn their backs" to the rivers. Similarly, and despite their widespread use, the local community often lacks respect for the health and integrity of the rivers. But this is steadily changing.

In March 2018 the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources established the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Working Group tasked with preparing a strategy to address management requirements. This formally established Committee comprised representation from traditional Aboriginal owners, representatives from both the NT Government

and the Alice Springs Town Council, and community members of Alice Springs. Establishment of the Committee followed a summer period of major loss of large river red gums due to fire, and substantial community concern for this loss.

The Director Technical Services has been a Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Working Group Member since the working groups inception.

Council has been the trustee of the Todd and Charles Rivers since June 2000 and as such has assumed the care, control and management accordingly. Council's obligations as Trustees are the same responsibilities as it has for the rest of the Town under Council's control. This includes:

- Approval of any infrastructure works taking place within the confines of the Rivers, e.g. Eastside Levee Bank
- Landscaping and mowing and irrigation of parks on the banks of the Todd River management and maintenance of causeway crossings
- Town outflow drain maintenance
- Weed control
- Litter control
- Management of the natural environment including damage or injury to trees and other vegetation
- Entry of vehicles
- Animal control

Council has been undertaking the above duties since June 2000.

After reviewing the proposed Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019, Council Officers have identified the following items that need to be resolved before Council can endorse the document:

Action	Lead Responsibility
Prepare Fire Management Plans for each management zone, to be reviewed annually by the proposed Ministerial Advisory Committee	ASTC/DIPL/PWC

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and has no capacity to prepare or implement a fire management plan for each management zone. This is out of Council's level of expertise.

Expand buffel and couch grass control for fire management into areas important for revegetation with native species.	ASTC/DIPL/PWC
--	---------------

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and does not have the capacity to expand buffel and couch grass control measures for revegetation with native species. Council's requirement is to undertake litter control, weed management around the trees and islands.

Develop revegetation plans for targeted zones on the basis of expected intensity of use.	ASTC/DIPL/PWC
--	---------------

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and does not have the capacity to develop revegetation plans for targeted zones on the basis of expected intensity of use.

Identify the location of discarded infrastructure and arrange for its removal.	DIPL/ASTC
--	-----------

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council does not have the financial capacity to undertake this component of the project

Based on an assessment of current erosion risks, formalise and stabilise pedestrian and vehicle access tracks to mitigate erosion, including through the installation of additional bollards and/or other barriers where required.	ASTC/DIPL/DENR
--	----------------

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE – Council is responsible for the care, control and management of the Todd and Charles Rivers and does not have the financial capacity to conduct assessment on erosion.

An action item was for the Director Technical Services to meet with the Lhere Mparntwe Working Group to discuss Council concerns.

Ordinary Council Meeting – 24 June 2019

13.3.3. *Lhere Mparntwe (Todd River) Working Group (Agenda Item 9.2)*
Report No: 87/19ts (DTS)

This report provides Council an update on the proposed Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019

That Council Officers seek clarification from the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Working Group regarding the Council identified concerns in the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019.

(4551 ts)
CARRIED(20414)

2. **DISCUSSION**

The Director Technical Services meet with the Lhere Mparntwe Working Group and raised Council concerns. The working group made changes to the document. It must be noted that the Lhere Mparntwe Working Group made the decision to adopt the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019 and forward to the Minister for approval.

Council Officers did not support the adoption of the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019 as the document needed to return to Council for its approval.

Council Officers recommend to await the outcome from the Minister regarding the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019 and then can determine its position moving forward. The strategy has financial implications on Council that have not been budgeted for.

3. POLICY IMPACTS

All projects relate to and reflect the appropriate policies and components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021*

Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan – 2018 to 2021

OBJECTIVE 2: A great place to live

2.2: Sense of place and public amenity

2.2.1: Maintain and improve built and social infrastructure in open spaces, by adopting placemaking strategies¹

2.2.2: Ensure vibrant, multi-functional options in dedicated public open spaces

4. FINANCIAL IMPACTS

This increase in expectation of this document will have an impact on the budgetary considerations for Council. It must be noted that Council employed two additional staff in the 2018 / 2019 budget with concentrated work priorities on the Todd and Charles Rivers.

NTG has stated that it will cover the costs of writing the Todd and Charles Rivers Fire Management Plan. It must be noted that the recommendations from the Todd and Charles Rivers Fire Management Plan will need to be completed by Council which could have significant financial implications for the community of Alice Springs.

5. SOCIAL IMPACTS

Lhere Mparntwe (the Todd and Charles Rivers) forms an integral part of Alice Spring's identity. The rivers have both cultural and heritage significance.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Protection of the Todd and Charles Rivers dominants considerations for the community and the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Working Group.

7. PUBLIC RELATION

Lhere Mparntwe (the Todd and Charles Rivers) form the backbone along which the town of Alice Springs is both built and defined. The rivers are an integral part of the town's image and of how residents view their community.

8. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Council Report – 15 November 2012 (ASTC's Trusteeship of the Todd and Charles Rivers)

Attachment B: Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019



Scott Allen
DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

Memorandum

COPY



ATTACHMENT A

TO: Rex Mooney – Chief Executive Officer

DATE: 15 November 2012

FROM: Chris Turner – Council Solicitor

EDM REF:

RE: ASTC'S TRUSTEESHIP OF THE TODD AND CHARLES RIVERS

Proclamation as reserve

By notice published in *The Northern Territory Government Gazette* No G50, 16 December 1983, the Administrator Eric Johnston proclaimed under the *Crown Lands Act* certain Crown land constituted by the Todd and Charles Rivers within the Alice Springs municipality (north of Heavitree Gap to the boundary of the Telegraph Station) to be Reserve 1708 for municipal purposes (Attachment A.).

Appointment as trustee

By notice published in *The Northern Territory Government Gazette* No G3, 24 January 1984, the Minister for Community Development Daryl Manzie, acting under section 339A(1) of the (then) *Local Government Act*, appointed ASTC to be trustee of the reserved land (also Attachment A).

Local Government Act 2009

ASTC's appointment as trustee was made under a provision of a repealed *Local Government Act*. Interestingly, there is no provision in the present Act preserving trustee appointments made under previous Acts. An argument is therefore available that an appointment made under a previous Act does not survive under the present Act. However, this is largely academic considering the ease in which a trusteeship may be relinquished under the present Act (see below).

Section 183

If one sets aside the argument that ASTC's trusteeship has not survived under the present Act, the legislative provision now governing its functioning as trustee is presumably section 183 of the *Local Government Act*:

183 Reserves

- (1) If a council agrees, the Minister may, by *Gazette* notice, place a reserve in the council's area under the care, control and management of the council.
- (2) The council has, in relation to the reserve, the powers and functions of trustees appointed under section 79 of the *Crown Lands Act*.

ASTC's duties as trustee

The extent of ASTC's duties as trustee may therefore be taken from subsection (1): to be responsible for the care, control and management of the reserve.

However, it does not follow that this terminology requires the same level of service provision as where that same terminology is used in other sections of the Act that impose exclusive responsibilities on councils in the normal course; for subsection 3(d)

of section 79 of the *Crown Lands Act* (imported into section 183(2) of the *Local Government Act*) permits a trustee to resign at any time by notice in writing to the Minister and it would be strange if the Northern Territory Government expected an enhanced level of service provision over Crown land from a trustee occupying that position on a voluntary basis only.

Nor is a consideration of the powers and functions conferred on a trustee by section 79 (Attachment B) in any way helpful in providing a clue as to the extent of ASTC's responsibilities as trustee in relation to the Todd and Charles Rivers. This is perhaps indicative that a trusteeship is an awkward or inappropriate legal mechanism to support the management of riverine Crown land.

Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee

Also pointing to the collaborative and co-extensive reality of issues surrounding management of the Todd and Charles Rivers is that in the early part of the last decade a project committee was established to develop projects to dovetail into the Northern Territory Government's then Alice in 10 strategies.

At its June 2000 Ordinary meeting, this Council considered a report from Director Economic and Community Development Susan Lollback to form a Trustee Committee to work with the Alice in 10 Todd and Charles River Committee (Attachment C). Whilst I am not immediately aware of the outcome of this recommendation, the report is interesting in that (at pages 1 and 2) it details the responsibilities that Council considered it held at the time in relation to the management of the two rivers.

Legal professional privilege

Legal professional privilege is asserted in relation to this advice.



Chris Turner
COUNCIL SOLICITOR

ATTACHMENT A

Northern Territory Government
Gazette G50
10 December 1983

Northern Territory Govt
Gazette No G3
24 January 1984

Crown Lands Act
PROCLAMATION

Northern Territory of Australia
ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON
Administrator

By His Honour the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia

I, ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, acting with the advice of the Executive Council, in pursuance of Section 103(1)(c) of the Crown Lands Act, reserve the land described in the Schedule for municipal purposes, to be known as Reserve No. 1708.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT parcel of land in the Town of Alice Springs Northern Territory of Australia containing an area of 139.1 hectares more or less being Lots 5140, 5141, 5142, 5804, 5805, 5806, 5807, 5808, 5809 and 5810 being more

particularly delineated on Survey Plans S76/13A, S76/13B, S76/13C, S82/29A, S82/29B, S82/29C, S82/29D, S82/29E, S82/29F and S82/29G respectively lodged with the Surveyor-General Darwin.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Northern Territory of Australia on the eighth day of December, 1983.

(L S.) E. E. JOHNSTON
Administrator

By His Honour's Command
P. A. E. EVERINGHAM
Minister for Lands,
Industrial Development
and Tourism

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

Local Government Act

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL TO ACT AS TRUSTEE
OF CERTAIN RESERVED LAND

WHEREAS the land contained in Reserve No. 1708 —

(a) is land within the boundaries of the municipality of Alice Springs; and

(b) has been reserved under section 103 of the Crown Lands Act by a proclamation dated 8th December 1983 appearing at pages 4 and 5 of Gazette No. G50 dated 16 December 1983.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DARYL WILLIAM MANZIE, the Minister for Community Development, in pursuance of section 339A(1) of the Local Government Act, appoint The Alice Springs Town Council to act as the trustee of that land.

Dated this sixteenth day of January, 1984.

DARYL MANZIE
Minister for
Community Development

ATTACHMENT B

Agenda Item 9.6

**REPORT
ACTION**

Report No. 121/00ecd

TO:
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 13 JUNE 2000

COPY

File No: GE1846

SUBJECT: TODD AND CHARLES RIVER TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of elected members a discussion on issues relating to the Todd and Charles Rivers. The Council is the Trustee of the Rivers and thus is responsible for its management. At the same time the NT Government has identified the Rivers as being a key strategy of Alice in 10. A project committee has been established consisting of many stakeholders and they have been developing projects which relate to Council's management of the Rivers. To date a Council elected member and the Director Economic and Community Development, and at times a number of other officers have been working in collaboration with the committee.

However, as the Council is the Trustee and therefore has to approve works carried out, the Council may wish to form a Trustee Committee to assess the implications as arising from the Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee. This may assist the process of Council's approval process being well informed and be seen to assist in collaboration and cooperation between the NT Government's initiative and the Council's legal responsibilities.

BACKGROUND

Several reports have been prepared concerning the Todd and Charles River. Not least of these reports are the *Urban Todd and Charles Rivers, Masterplan and Management Guidelines* (1994) and the *Alice Springs Flood Plain Management Plan*.

Both of these documents contain significant strategies for the management of the rivers. A number of other reports also relate to the rivers.

Council's Management Obligations

Alice Springs Town Council is the Trustee of the Todd and Charles Rivers under the Crown Lands Act 1992. See Attachment A. In short, this means that the Council is responsible for the management of the Rivers North of Heavitree Gap to the Telegraph Station boundary.

The Council's obligations as Trustees are the same responsibilities as it has for the rest of the Town under Council's control. This includes:

- Approval of any infrastructure works taking place within the confines of the Rivers, eg the Eastside Levee Bank.
- Landscaping and mowing and irrigation of parks on the banks of the Todd River

Report No.121/00

2.

- Management and maintenance of causeway crossings.
- Town outflow drain maintenance.
- Weed control.
- Litter control.
- Management of the natural environment including damage or injury to trees and other vegetation. Note: this does not preclude other organisations such as Greening Australia carrying out work in the Rivers with the Council's permission.
- Entry of vehicles.
- Animal control.

Regulatory Control

The Council's obligations extend to its by-laws relating to illegal camping between the hours of 9pm and 6am and animal control.

The NT Police are responsible for any alcohol related issues under the 2km law and behaviour of an illegal nature.

Tangentyere Council manage the Night Patrol and the Wardens which assist people to return to their place of living.

Tangentyere Council through its Wardens scheme and Council's by-laws officers conduct patrols together in relation to illegal camping.

Note: Officers of the Council, NT Police and Tangentyere Council have for many years worked in close cooperation with each other.

Native Title

The following notes are based upon an address from Mr Greg Borchers from the Central Land Council.

The Federal Court on 9 September brought down its judgement which found that Native Title exists on 113 lots of 1666 parcels in the application.

The judgement has given legal expression to the Arrernte people's underlying interest in the land prior to development in Alice Springs. As such the title holders may support projects such as weed eradication but not river camping since Arrernte did not traditionally camp in the river.

Whilst Native Title rights and titles exist they do not allow exclusive rights and must coincide with other rights.

It is proposed that Native Title be held by the Native Title Owners and administered by a non incorporated association. This is a requirement of the Act. However, it may be some time before this association comes into being due to appeals processes.

It was stressed that both Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority and CLC must be consulted for clearances before works may proceed.

Sacred Sites

All works undertaken in the area of the Todd and Charles Rivers must be approved by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority. This is to ensure that sacred sites are protected.

Alice in 10 Project

Develop the Todd and Charles Rivers as Community areas was identified in the NT Government's The Face of Alice in 10 Years Project as a key strategy for Alice Springs.

The Alice in 10 Todd and Charles Committee is being coordinated by the NT Government. Dr Ken Johnson from Parks and Wildlife has been the Chairperson up until recent times when Peter McDonald of Lands Planning and Environment took over. Wayne Hoban of Lands Planning and Environment is the Project Officer. The Director Economic and Community Development has attended meetings of the committee to date with the Director Planning and Infrastructure attending in recent times to discuss infrastructure and works related projects. Elected member representation to the Committee has included David Koch and Geoff Miers.

The Committee consists of membership of the following organisations:

Department Lands Planning and Environment
 Department of Transport and Works
 Department of Parks and Wildlife
 Alice Springs Town Council (Elected member and Council Officer)
 Greening Australia
 Tangentyere Council
 Arrernte Council
 Central Land Council
 Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
 Office of Aboriginal Development
 NT Police
 CATIA
 Northern Territory Tourism Commission
 Department Industry and Business
 ATSIC
 Arid Lands Environment Committee (ALEC)

Key Areas

The committee has identified three key areas to address as part of its responsibility. These are:

- **Natural Environment**
 - Fire management
 - Weeds management
 - Regeneration
 - Community education
- **Built Infrastructure**
 - Pathworks
 - Lighting
 - Amenities
 - Signage and interpretation, etc
- **Cultural Issues**
 - Sacred Sites
 - Native Title
 - Interpretation

Report No.121/00

4.

Social Issues

It is important to note that social issues are not being addressed as part of this committee. Social issues are being considered as part of the Alice in 10 Quality of Life Committee and the Alcohol Representative Committee. The Director of Economic and Community Development is a member of all of these committees and therefore provides a link and coordination role between committees on behalf of the Council.

OPTIONS

- A. To form a Trustee Committee to assess issues arising from Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee and other organisations as they arise. This committee could make recommendations to the Council.
- B. Not form a Trustee Committee and determine an alternate way to address issues arising from the Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee.

PROPOSAL

The proposal is that the elected members discuss an appropriate way for considering, in depth, actions being proposed by the Alice in 10 Committee. The proposal suggested by officers is that a Trustee Committee be formed to consider issues arising from the Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee (See Recommendation). The benefits of such a committee would be that three elected members are kept fully informed directly of Alice in 10 activities and are able to relay information to Council.

Cooperation and Collaboration

It is important to mention that members of the Alice in 10 Committee have adopted a cooperative and collaborative approach to finding solutions and developing policies for the long term sustainable management of the Rivers. Council officers have been working closely with the committee at many levels from fire management plans to river cleanups, to strategy development.

It is not intended that this should change. However, the proposal for the formation of a reference committee is in recognition of the fact that the Council is the Trustee and thus manager of the Rivers and as such must approve works and activities to be undertaken in the Rivers. Thus it is considered important that elected members consider the recommendation for a Trustee Committee.

FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

It is difficult to estimate accurately the full amount spent by the Council on the rivers as programs such as mowing, drainage works etc link with other areas of Council's works. It is estimated that the Council's expenditure is in the vicinity of \$200,000.

It should also be noted that currently Correctional Services are undertaking litter collection which is at a considerable saving to the Council.

The NT Government in its 2000/2001 budget has committed \$355,000 towards works along the Todd River. This work includes a footpath along Barrett Drive and contributions towards restoration works of the natural environment. These works will be presented to the Council in due course for approval.

SOCIAL IMPACTS

Social issues such as anti-social behaviour are not being considered under the Alice in 10 Todd and Charles River Committee. Alcohol-related issues, for example are being considered through the Alcohol Issues Forum and the Alice Alcohol Community Survey. The results of this survey will be released in July and will contain a raft of possible projects for the Council and other agencies to consider.

The Alice in 10 Committee is working closely with the Central Land Council and Tangentyere Council to look at cultural awareness. For example the Arrernte people have expressed an interest in interpretation of the Rivers.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The works and long term management plans such as for weed control and fire management being discussed and worked upon by the committee will contribute significantly to the long term management of the Rivers. It is recognised that the River is a significant environmental feature of the Town and as such needs a concerted effort from all stakeholders.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policies relating to the Todd and Charles Rivers relate closely to the Open Space Management Plan.

CONSULTATION

Chief Executive Officer
Director Economic and Community Development
Director Planning and Infrastructure

CONCLUSION

This report proposes a way for elected members to be informed in depth of issues relating to the management of the Todd and Charles Rivers.

RECOMMENDATION

That it be a recommendation to the Council that:

- A. A Trustee Committee be established to assess the implications of activities arising in the Alice in 10 Todd and Charles River Committee as the Council is the Trustee of the Rivers and as such is responsible for approving works and activities taking place in the Rivers.
- B. The Trustee Committee be charged with assessing works and activities as they arise and make recommendations to the Council.
- C. The Trustee Committee membership consist of the following representatives:

Alderman ...
Alderman ...
Alderman ...
Director Planning and Infrastructure
Director Economic and Community Development

Report NO. 12/00

6.


**Chairperson Alice in 10 Committee
Central Land Council**

Prepared by:



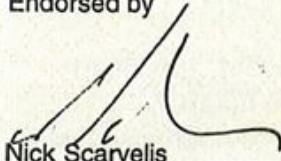
**Suzanne Lollback
DIRECTOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Endorsed by:



**Roger Bottrall
DIRECTOR PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Endorsed by



**Nick Scarvelis
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

SL/to

Schedule of Attachments

Attachment A - Gazetted articles and Crown Lands Act 1992

ATTACHMENT C

79 Appointment, &c., and powers of trustees

(1) Where land has, before or after the commencement of this Act, been reserved for the recreation or amusement of the public or for any other public purpose, the Minister may, by notice in the *Gazette*, appoint to be trustees of the land so reserved not less than 3 nor more than 7 persons, as the Minister thinks fit, and may appoint one of the trustees to be Chairman of the trustees.

(2) The Minister may, by notice in the *Gazette*, terminate the appointment of a trustee.

(3) The office of a trustee shall become vacant if the trustee:

(a) becomes bankrupt or insolvent, applies to take the benefit of a law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors, compounds with his or her creditors or makes an assignment of his or her salary or other remuneration for their benefit;

(b) becomes permanently incapable of performing the duties of office;

(c) is convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment for a period exceeding 6 months;
or

(d) resigns office by writing under his or her hand addressed to the Minister.

(4) Where the office of a trustee becomes vacant or a trustee dies, or an appointment of a trustee is terminated, the Minister may, by notice in the *Gazette*, appoint a person to the vacant office.

(5) The persons for the time being holding office as trustees shall be a body corporate.

(6) All bodies corporate constituted in pursuance of this section shall, under their respective corporate names, as determined by the Minister, have perpetual succession and a common seal and shall be capable of suing and being sued.

(7) The trustees of land reserved as referred to in subsection (1) shall, at such times as the Minister directs, forward to the Minister, a report on the administration of the trust and on such matters in connection therewith as the Minister from time to time specifies, and shall furnish to the Minister a statement of revenue received and expenditure made during such period as the Minister specifies.

(8) Notwithstanding this Act or any law in force in the Territory, the trustees of land so reserved as referred to in subsection (1) may use or authorise other persons to use the land for sporting or other functions, and may charge or authorise other persons to charge for the admission of persons and vehicles to the land or a part of the land when the land is so used.

(9) The trustees of any land reserved as referred to in subsection (1) or for any other public purposes certified by the Minister to be a like purpose, may make by-laws, not inconsistent with this Act for the control and management of the reserve and, in particular, providing for or in relation to:

(a) the times at which the reserve or portions of the reserve shall be open and closed;

(b) the conduct of persons when on the reserve;

(c) the days on which, and the limits within which, sports and games, or training for sports and games, may be permitted on the reserve and otherwise regulating or prohibiting sports and games, or training for sports and games, on the reserve;

(d) the prevention or the regulation of the admission of vehicles or animals to the reserve, and for the destruction of such animals if trespassing on the reserve;

(e) the speed of vehicles and the parking of vehicles within the reserve;

(f) the prohibition or the regulation of the sale or display for sale of goods, wares or merchandise on the reserve;

(g) the prevention of damage or injury to, or destruction of, trees and other vegetation on the reserve;

(h) the prevention of damage or injury to, or destruction or defacement of, buildings, structures or erections or natural features on the reserve;

(j) the prevention of nuisances on the reserve;

(k) the charging of fees by the trustees, or by other persons, for admission to the reserve or a part of the reserve;

(m) the authorisation of persons to demand the names and information as to the place of abode of persons who are believed on reasonable grounds to have contravened or failed to comply with a by-law and requiring persons to comply with such a demand made by a person so authorised;

(n) the removal from the reserve of persons who are believed, on reasonable grounds, to have contravened or failed to comply with a by-law; and

(p) the imposition of penalties, not exceeding \$500, for the contravention of, or failure to comply with, a by-law.

(10) A by-law made under subsection (9) shall be signed by the Chairman of the trustees and section 57 of the *Interpretation Act* does not apply to or in relation to it.

(11) Where:

(a) a by-law has been made in relation to a reserve under this section and is in force; and

(b) there is an inconsistency between a by-law and the *Crown Lands (Recreation Reserve) Regulations* in force at the date of commencement

Greg Buxton

From: Stephen Baloban
Sent: Tuesday, 16 October 2012 2:28 PM
To: Greg Buxton
Subject: FW: OPBG Sites works in 2012/13
Attachments: img-822084732-0001.pdf, OPBG - Sacred Sites Program EOI.docx

From: Rex Mooney
Sent: Monday, 24 September 2012 12:47 PM
To: Stephen Baloban
Subject: FW: OPBG Sites works in 2012/13

Steve, Your comments please.

Regards,
 Rex Mooney
 Chief Executive Officer
 Alice Springs Town Council
 (08) 89 500 525
 0427 161 956
www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au

From: Benjamin Convery [mailto:curator@opbg.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 24 September 2012 12:24 PM
To: Rex Mooney; Damien Ryan
Subject: OPBG Sites works in 2012/13

Good morning Damien and Rex,

I am writing with regards to a program that the Olive Pink Botanic Gardens is running in the area known as the Coolabah Swamp off Stott terrace. This is the beginning of the Sites Management program that I spoke with Scott Allan about some months ago.

We have now received our AAPA authority certificate and are commencing works at this site. I have attached a copy of this for your information as well as a copy of our expression of interest for this program.

Over the next 8 weeks we will be conducting rehabilitation works in this area. Our aim is to remove the rubbish, conduct fire prevention measures and begin rehabilitation works on the site, whilst delivering accredited training through civiltrain SA. Participants are enrolled in a certificate II in Horticulture which they will be completing whilst undertaking these works.

I would hope that these current and any future works could be conducted in collaboration with ASTC.

- ✕ • I would like to request access to ASTC waste management services for this program for dumping of waste collected from these sites.
- ✕ • Would it be possible for the ASTC to place and collect lockable skip bins from these sites as we progress?
- ? • Would ASTC consider employment pathways for outstanding participants into parks and gardens or future ASTC ranger programs?
- ✓ • Would ASTC consider strategic joint management ventures where works could be aligned to create

16/10/2012

greater impact and outcomes?

- Would ASTC consider having a representative on a management committee for this program? X
- Would ASTC consider having a representative on the Olive Pink Botanic Gardens Board of Trustees? X

I look forward to hearing back from you sincerely,

Sincerely,

Ben.

Benjamin Convery

Curator
Olive Pink Botanic Garden
Tuncks Rd
Alice Springs NT Australia

(p) +61 8 8952 2154

(m) +61 0422 920 125

(e) curator@opbg.com.au www.opbg.com.au



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16/10/2012

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AGREEMENT

This agreement is made on 6 June 2012, between
Mparntwe Estate Aboriginal Custodian Group for Alice Springs Township Area
And
Olive Pink Botanic Gardens (Crown Land Management Trust)

The area of works covered by this Agreement/Certificate is the Municipality of Alice Springs.

The Authority Certificate will cover works on any Sacred Site in Alice Springs where the works have been requested by custodians and are undertaken strictly in the presence of a supervising Aboriginal Custodian of the Mparntwe Estate Custodian Group at all times.

The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority at 20 Bath Street Alice Springs is the point of contact for the Mparntwe Estate Aboriginal Custodian Group.

The following Sacred Sites are specifically identified as areas for regular proposed works:

GENERAL SITES		
Site No	Site Name	Description
5650-378	AYEPE-ARENYE TREES (TODD RIVER)	Includes all River Red Gums (Eucalyptus camaldulensis) in and around the Todd River (including those mature trees on the high water mark along the western side of South Terrace between Heavitree Gap (Ntaripe) and the junction of the Todd River with Charles Creek (Tywerretye)
5650-37	ANKERRE-ANKERRE	Belt of Coolibah trees in Boxwood/Coolibah Swamp stretching from Undoolya Road south to Annie Meyer Hill.
5650-5	THARARLE TNAME (ANNIE MEYER HILL)	Annie Meyer Hill and ranges to the east of the Todd River, north of the Alice Springs Golf Course. A steep sided rocky hill on the 3east bank of the Todd River; the hill is a point in the Sadadeen Range.
5650-43	UNTYEYE-ARTWILYE	ANZAC Hill - Large hill on Lot 8199, north of Wills Terrace
5650-13	NTYARLKARLE TYANEME – LOT 1492 6 GAP ROAD	A small hill on Lot 1492
5650-472	CORKWOOD TREE – SMITH STREET	Corkwood tree located at approx. railway chainage 2.922ASR, 25m east of the railway centre line, on lot 9176, Alice Springs
5650-9	BILLYGOAT HILL	Billygoat Hill including bloodwood trees, at south east corner Stuart Highway/Stott Terrace intersection.
5650-236	NTYARLKARLE TYANEME 3	A rocky ridge extending from the east bank of the Todd River, across Barrett Drive and through the golf course (lot 5782)
5650-237	TYURETYE	Spencer Hill and associated features including a River Red Gum tree north of Gosse Street, near the bank of the Todd River.

1/5/12

General Sites cont.		
Site Number	Site Name	Description
5650-426	NTYARKLE TREES	Four River Red Gums on the southern side of the Alice Springs power station – Tunks Road access road, just south-west of the junction with the track leading to the tank on Annie Meyer Hill.
5650-483	THARE-TNEMELEAREME	A small rocky hill/ridge on Lot 5783 which separates hole 2 and hole 9 of the Alice Springs Golf Course, and six associated mature River Red Gum trees within the golf course, all of which are to the north of Cromwell Drive.
5650-484	ARTEPEATUNGA	A rocky ridge/hill which runs east-west north of Cromwell Drive, within the Alice Springs Golf Course.
5650-231	NTYARLKARLE TYANEME (1)	Rocky ridge extending across the golf course area south of Cromwell Drive, on lot 7859
5650-236	NTYARLKARLEY TYANEME 3	Rocky ridge extending from the east bank of the Todd River, across Barrett Drive and through the golf course (lot 5782)
5650-34	MPWETYERRE	A hill and surrounding rocks approximately 200m south of Cromwell Drive and 600m east of Barrett Drive, within Lot 5782 and 7393.
5650-82	KWETENARRE	A hill located directly east of Spicer Crescent and south of Elder Street
5650-2	AYEPE-ARENYE APWERTE	A small hill and cave located on lot 5242 Plumbago Crescent, in the Sadadeen subdivision.
5650-9	AKEYULERRE	Billygoat Hill and bloodwood trees, located on the south east corner of the Stuart Highway and Stott Terrace intersection.
5650-33	AKNGWELYE AHARLE	A small rocky rise between the Stuart Highway and Schwartz Crescent opposite Smith Street.
5650-20	APWERTE AHINTETYE	Hill located south-west of the Stuart Highway between Smith Street and Hele Crescent.
5650-26	AKNGWELYE LHENPE	A large hill located on the west side of the Stuart Highway, north of Smith Street and south of Woods Terrace
5650-428	ALYWEKE (1) (SITE COMPLEX)	A series of low hills and narrow valleys mostly extending eastwards from the northern end of Burke Street and north of Kurrajong Drive. Rocky ridges, soaks, creeks, ceremony grounds, caves, ironwoods, corkwoods and specific ghost gums and river red gums, and a bloodwood are all significant features of this site.

2/5/24

General Sites cont.		
Site No.	Site Name	Description
5650-487	ALYWEKE TREES	Sacred trees within the vicinity of lot 8027 Kurrajong Drive (part of the Alyweke sacred site)
5650-8	NTARIPE	A gap in the McDonnell Ranges known as Heavitree Gap, at the southern end of Alice Springs township.

Women's Sites		
Site No.	Site Name	Description
5650-92	BIG SISTER HILL	A hill located at the southern end of Lot 8033 and extending east into Lot 8035
5650-210	LITTLE SISTER HILL	Small hill located on Lot 5711
5650-109	MPWALTYE	Irrpalpe swamp west of the Stuart Highway around Ilparpa Road. Also known as Ilparpa Swamp.
5650-157	YWERARE	Swamp area south of Karnte town camp.
5650-100	KARNT/ANTHEPE	Two hills and trees located about 3km south of Heavitree Gap to west of Stuart Hwy, directly south of Blatherskite Range.

PROPOSED WORKS

- A. The following limited works are permitted only where expressed permission has been granted by Aboriginal custodians. A record of permission for specific works on specific Sacred Sites must be kept in writing. A copy of this signed and dated record may be requested for review by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority at any time. Failure to keep such records will be considered a breach of the Authority Certificate issued as a result of this agreement.
- B. Removal of fallen tree branches, solid logs, small fallen dead tress (less than 80cm in trunk circumference) and other debris and rubbish as approved by custodians.
- C. Grass and weed control by chemical spray (including hand held and quad bike mounted spray packs) and hand tools (including but not limited to, mechanical hand tools, mowers, whipper-snippers, and brush-cutters).
- D. Maintenance of existing infrastructure (fencing, bollards, signage, etc) where necessary chainsaws to aid the removal of large branches, fallen trees or logs disrupting the normal function and maintenance of such infrastructure.
- E. Revegetation, tree planting, tree trimming as approved by custodians.
- F. Other works deemed by custodians to be in aid of the health of a Sacred Site (e.g. removing stagnant water, removing weeds and non-native species of tree)

3/5/23

AGREEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. All works are to be supervised by a custodian representative of the Mparntwe Estate (as nominated by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority in writing).
- B. Gender restrictions as outlined by custodians with regard to entry and works on specific Sacred Sites are to be observed.
- C. Only hand held tools may be used on a Sacred Site. This includes: brush cutters, whippersnippers, chainsaws, shovels, rakes and other hand held tools.
- D. No machinery or vehicles are to be driven onto any Sacred Site.
- E. Custodians will be paid at least \$135 per day for their presence to identify Sacred Sites (AAPA 2012 rate of custodian attendance for site identification).
- F. Custodians will be paid the current award rate for their work as supervisors or workers on site or other rate as negotiated.
- G. Non-native trees or shrubs which custodians identify as not belonging to a Sacred Site may be able to be cut down and carefully removed in a manner that does not cause disturbance to any other part of the Sacred Site where custodians recommend it. A suitably qualified arborist or other professional may be contracted to do this work.
- H. Public statements and media releases will acknowledge the support of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.
- I. This agreement is subject to review by all parties within 24 months from commencement date (6 June 2012). The Authority Certificate issued as a result of this agreement will remain valid until such time as it is withdrawn or superseded by another certificate issued by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.
- J. Additional signatories to this agreement may be collected after 6 June 2012. The date that the party became a signatory to the agreement is to be noted next to the signature.

NOTES

- 1. This agreement does not provide any form of indemnity or advice about non-native species which may be protected under other legislation such as NT Heritage Conservation Act.
- 2. This agreement does not provide general community consent and you should consider wider consultation processes.
- 3. This agreement does not consider Native Title Rights and Interests – you should contact Lhere Artepe and the Central Land Council regarding these interests.

TIME FRAME

The items agreed to on this day will stand as an agreement between Mparntwe Estate Aboriginal Custodian Group and Olive Pink Botanic Gardens (Crown Land Management Trust) into the future. This agreement stands as the basis for an Authority Certificate that will be issued by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority for the abovementioned works. All conditions in the Authority Certificate are the legally binding conditions for the conduct of works.

Either party may call for a review of the agreement at any time.

This agreement may be cancelled by either party at any time by notice in writing – such an act would render the Authority Certificate void.

This Agreement was made on the 6th day of June in the year 2012.

Signed on behalf of the Mparntwe Estate Aboriginal Custodian Group

Doris Stuart 6/7 Anema Place Alice Springs

John Philip Naluk 21 WARBURTON STREET

Alison Ferber Burt Creek 6/6/12 ALICE Springs

E. Peckham Alice Springs 24/7/2012

BENEDICT STEVENS - ~~Ben Stevens~~ 31/07/2012

Kathleen Miller Amangyura 9/8/2012

Audrey Miller Amangyura 9/8/2012

Maria McMillan 17 Hidden Valley 9/8/2012

Edward Rice - Priscilla Ferber 15/8/2012

Matthew Furber 15/8/2012 Dicine Ferber 15/8/12

Signed



Benjamin Convey on behalf of Olive Pink Botanic Gardens (Crown Land Management Trust)

Witnessed

 6/6/12

Dr Sophie Creighton, Manager Research Alice Springs, Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority

Final Version 22/6/12 5/5. AC

Greg Buxton

From: Jade Kudrenko [jade.kudrenko@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, 21 October 2012 8:46 PM
To: Greg Buxton
Cc: Damien Ryan; Rex Mooney; Steve Brown
Subject: Re: EAC - Agenda item and guest presenter request

Hi Greg,

I have a few queries regarding Mark's response to the agenda item request for the November EAC meeting.

Firstly Mark indicates that management of the Todd River and Charles Creek are not primarily ASTC concern and that as crown land should be directed to DLPE, AAPA and Lhere Artepe. My understanding was that as trustee's of the Todd and Charles the ASTC have direct responsibilities for their management. Can you please clarify exactly what agreements we have in place with the NTG and specifically what and where are ASTC responsibilities for the Todd and Charles?

I am very interested in ensuring collaborative and longterm approaches to the protection and management of Todd and Charles, so I welcome Jimmy's request for a report. I would be interested in a report addressing ASTC current management practices and outcomes, particularly focusing on issues such as:

- protecting trees from fire,
- weed control,
- storm water drainage and
- cultural heritage and sacred site protection.

I was disappointed by the way in which these agenda requests were dismissed by Mark. I haven't received any introduction or terms of reference when commencing as a new member of the EAC, but I had been assuming that the EAC exists to ensure community awareness of environmental issues, provide a forum for community concerns to be raised and to foster new environmental initiatives. If that's the case I would have thought both these request where very relevant and should have been welcomed. Is it not the Chairs and/or Director's responsibility to address new agenda requests?

Thanks Greg, I look forward to your advice.

Regards,
 Jade Kudrenko

On 15/10/2012, at 11:56 AM, ALEC Coordinator <info@alec.org.au> wrote:

Thanks Mark for your reply.

I understand the context of broader land management issues being directed to DLPE, AAPA and/or Lhere Artepe but as the local government entity responsible for the management of the Todd and Charles Creek between Schwartz Cres and the Blakeman bridge, (which from my understanding extends beyond 'sand management' (?? whatever that is) and 'fire management' plans), I think it is important that activities carried out and the 'management plans' that dictate what these should be are discussed at the next EAC in November.

Given that we are entering the fire danger period and 74% of the municipality is Crown

22/10/2012

Land - would it not make sense that reporting on management issues/concerns/activities on Crown Land in the municipality be discussed or at least reported on. I don't know if this is something that Peter Somerville can give some insight into - but the lack of management of Crown Land in and around Alice Springs reflects more on the Town Council in the public eyes than the DLPE. I have said this before and I'll say it again, the Alice Springs Town Council needs to play a stronger role in bringing the aforementioned parties together to develop a Working Group or similar to review previous management plans and develop new ones together to ensure that an integrated and holistic approach is taken in managing the natural and cultural assets of Alice Springs. Failing this and continuing piecemeal approaches will only cause longterm damage to the natural features that define this town.

I have some serious concerns about the lack of an Environmental Officer at the Alice Springs Town Council until at least 2013-14 and the lack of motions being put up by the Environment Advisory Committee to the elected members, I hope that we have some time to discuss this at the next meeting.

The EAC could really benefit by opening up to presentations similar to Glenn Marshall's on rural lighting that kicked off a standing agenda item for a couple of years and through commitment by the EAC, staff and Councillors - outcomes were achieved. The same could be possible for the Todd River and areas of Crown Land within the municipality. So much can be achieved if the will is there...the community garden, Alice Solar City, Alice Water Smart the list goes on. I am hoping that this Council will take a longview on the management of the natural environment and start the conversation with the other players and not simply write-off key stakeholders and custodians because of a different worldview or legislative jurisdiction.

I look forward to catching up with you all on November 5.

Cheers

Jimmy

On 15 October 2012 09:04, Mark Pierson <MPierson@astc.nt.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Jimmy

Broader land management issues regarding Crown Land, including the Todd and Charles Rivers, should probably be directed to DLP, AAPA and/or Lhere Artepe in the first instance.

The EAC might want to consider management of the Todd and Charles Rivers in the context of Council's involvement in the sand management program and/or the fire management plan.

There are no plans to invite Ben to talk about the Sacred Sites Management Training Program.

Thanks and regards.

Mark

Mark Pierson

22/10/2012

Manager Developments

Alice Springs Town Council

PO Box 1071 ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

Ph: (08) 8950 0538 Mob: 0438 892 237

www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au

From: ALEC Coordinator [mailto:info@alec.org.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 9 October 2012 2:47 PM

To: Sade Cook; Alan.Whyte@powerwater.com.au; Damien Ryan; David; ian.fox@nt.gov.au; Jade Kudrenko; alec; jude.pringle@nt.gov.au; keade@chambernt.com.au; peter@araluenplumbing.com.au; Peter Somerville; Rex Mooney; Rod Cramer; Rod Gobbey (rod.gobbey@nt.gov.au); Sam Latz; Steve Brown; Neil Phillips; Reinier Laan; Mark Pierson

Subject: EAC - Agenda item and guest presenter request

Hi all,

I am writing to you all to request that the management of the Todd and Charles Creek be reported to the EAC from the coming November meeting onwards. Given that the minutes of the previous meeting reflected the committee's desire to combine soil conservation and fire management into 'Land Management' - could I request that management activities associated with the management of the Todd and Charles be included in this agenda item.

Further to this, I think it would be beneficial for the committee to hear from Ben Convery, the Curator at Olive Pink Botanic Gardens to update the committee on the training programs operating in partnership with CivilTrain and the new Sacred Sites Management Training program that is currently being undertaken in the Ankerre Ankerre (Coolibah Swamp on the corner of Stott Tce and Undoolya rd). Ben's email is curator@opbg.com.au. I must declare an interest in this, in that I am on the Board of Trustees for the Botanic Gardens and have an intimate understanding of the developments that are occurring on the other side of the river.

I would ask that the EAC formally invite Ben to attend the next EAC meeting on November 5 to present on the work they're doing and how it could synergise with land management activities of ASTC.

Thank you.

I am more than happy to discuss this request with any EAC members either online or by phone, 8952 2497 or 0423511931.

Cheers

Jimmy

Jimmy Cocking

22/10/2012

"Healthy futures for arid lands and people"

Coordinator
Arid Lands Environment Centre (ALEC)
PO Box 2796 ASP 0871
Office: Cnr Warburton St and Lindsay Ave, Alice Springs NT 0870
Phone: 08 8952 2497
Fax: 08 8953 2988
Email: info@alec.org.au
Website: <http://www.alec.org.au>

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--
Jimmy Cocking

"Healthy futures for arid lands and people"

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22/10/2012

Greg Buxton

From: Stephen Baloban
Sent: Tuesday, 16 October 2012 1:01 PM
To: Greg Buxton
Subject: FW: Olive Pink Botanical Gardens

Hi Greg
I will come talk with you

Regards
Steve

From: Greg Mair [<mailto:greg.mair@opbg.com.au>]
Sent: Tuesday, 16 October 2012 9:12 AM
To: Stephen Baloban
Subject: Olive Pink Botanical Gardens

Hello Steve,

Thanks for your offer of help with our mulch problems over at Olive Pink Botanical Gardens (OPBG), given that we only get limited funding for the running of the gardens from the Government we always seeking any help with roar materials and items we could improve the structure of the soils and reduce water wastage in our systems.

We would like a one off large load of say 50m2 , followed by a regular once a month load at the end of each month of 8m3 to continue our works in the garden.

We have some 50 acres of land to cover and given our comitance to training with local groups to implement best practice this would greatly help in water reduction and the overall general appeal of the garden to the community at no cost.

We currently have no means of mulching or turning over the roar material and the need for this material to be clean and free is high given that we are after all a "Botanical Garden"

I can be contacted on my mobile most times (0458814109) or our Curator " Ben" in the office on 8952 2154. We are also seeking a donation of a bath tub or some item of similar size so we could in store in the grounds as a water point for our local mood of kangaroo's.

Yours faithfully
Greg Mair
Grounds Manger
Olive Pink Botanical Gardens

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16/10/2012

OPBG
EOI

August 12

2012

Olive Pink
Botanic Garden
Alice Springs

An expression of interest in a
Sacred Sites management
Program for Alice Springs

Vision

Our vision is to establish a sacred sites management program for Alice Springs run by the Olive Pink Botanic Garden working with Traditional Owners; Civiltrain and Jobfind. We will initially be working with groups of aboriginal trainees to actively manage sacred sites within the central Arnernte boundaries (Alice Springs municaipality) with the object of creating ongoing emplyment opportunities after 24 months. After extensive consultation with Custodians we have been given an Authority certificate by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) for works to be conducted on several hundred sites around Alice springs.

This initiative will embrace the opportunity for the establishment of:

- An engaging and informative training program that leads to real employment outcomes for participants
- A detailed management strategy for neglected areas of urban real estate demonstrating how natural and cultural values can be successfully managed in cooperation with traditional Aboriginal owners.
- Ongoing employment opportunities for working on country
- Opportunities for participants to complete a certificate II in horticulture, White Card and other accredited units

The first stage, to commence in 2012, will include a certificate two in horticulture and focus on Annie Meyers Hill, Areas of the Todd River and the Coolabah Swamp. We would like to explore the possibility of running 6 - 8 of these three month programs back to back.

The second stage in 2014/15 will create ongoing employment opportunities with the objective of establishing between 8 and 12 fulltime positions to create a Town based Sacred Sites ranger group. This will be funded through a combination of sources which may include; The Aboriginal benefits account, Caring for country, Carbon farming initiatives, Tourism income through guided ranger programs, license fees for GPS interpretive applications , physical guidebooks etc. We will also explore opportunities for local organisations to sponsor positions within this program.

The Proposal

History of Olive Pink Botanic Garden

After intense lobbying by the Garden's founder, and first honorary curator, Miss Olive Muriel Pink, the 16 ha area that is now Olive Pink Botanic Garden was gazetted in 1956 as the Australian Arid Regions Flora Reserve.

The Garden became part of a substantial area of contiguous Crown Land that extends east from the Todd River on the south-eastern edge of the Alice Springs Central Business District. Prior to 1956 the land was unoccupied and grazed by goats, rabbits, and cattle, such that the vegetation on the floodplain area was heavily modified and devoid of tree and shrub cover when Miss Pink took up occupancy.

Miss Pink (an anthropologist, artist and campaigner for Aboriginal rights) and her Warlpiri assistant gardeners spent the next two decades battling drought conditions and almost non-existent operational funding to develop Miss Pink's vision for the Reserve. After her death in 1975, the NT Government assumed control of the Reserve and set about fulfilling her vision of a public area for the appreciation of native flora. During the next decade networks of walking tracks were established, the Visitor Centre built and an interpretive display installed, extensive plantings completed, a waterhole and sand dune habitat created.

The Garden opened to the public in 1985 as the Olive Pink Flora Reserve, renamed Olive Pink Botanic Garden in 1996. The Garden is managed by a voluntary Board of Trustees whose responsibilities include providing expert governance for the garden and employing a Curator to manage the Reserve. Olive Pink Botanic Garden was listed on the Register of the National Estate in 1995, and included in the Northern Territory Heritage Register in 2007.

The Garden holds significance for local residents as a place of enjoyment, and also attracts numerous national and international visitors. People interact and respond in differing ways to the differing layers of visitor experience in the Garden. The Garden contributes to the conservation of the flora of central Australia, provides opportunities for people to learn about arid zone plants, horticulture, landscapes and conservation, and encourages respect for the heritage of Miss Olive Pink. Furthermore, Tharrarletneme, the northern ridge of the garden, known as Annie Meyers Hill, is of great significance to the Arrernte people.

The Garden is a place of special ambience and safety, a quiet reflective place for recreation and relaxation. There is great integrity in the Garden and in its works.

Partners

Civil Train – Certificate II Horticulture training

Desert People Knowledge Centre – Social/Business enterprise advice and support/commercial engagement/develop online interpretation aspects

IAD Press – develop materials for interpretation, story telling and translators

CDU – ongoing maintenance partnership

Greening Australia /Tungenyere Nursery – ongoing plant and seedling support

Land Care – ongoing maintenance partnership

Tourism NT – income stream from tourism, employer

AAPA – managers of Sacred Sites & NT Govt commitment for Enterprise

Central Land Council – Employer and supporter

Alice Springs Desert Park – Employer and supporter

NT Cattle Association Employers and supporters

Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority – Support for land usage agreements, support to re-vegetate the sacred sites.

Tourism NT – Provide employment, supply tourist

Goals

The option of establishing a sacred sites management program presents a truly outstanding opportunity to provide a new and exciting level of service to the Central Australian community and beyond. The goals of this project are:

- To provide a vehicle for the engagement of traditional owners in caring for significant sites, and their interpretation.
- To provide training and employment opportunities in partnership with registered training organisations.
- To increase the area land actively managed by of Olive Pink Botanic Garden and build on its role in the conservation and land management
- To enhance Alice Springs reputation as a 'must-see' tourism destination for visitors to central Australia;
- To develop a greater sense of pride for culture in Alice Springs creating a higher level of respect from local and visiting Aboriginal Peoples
- To establish an engaging and readily accessible network of recreational walks with complementary interpretation of the natural and cultural environment for use by the local community and visitors.
- To develop partnerships with local business to support ongoing employment opportunities for Aboriginal People

Analysis and Risk Assessment

Resourcing

(a) Present situation

Patronage of the Olive Pink Botanic Garden has been growing rapidly with over 50,000 visitors through the garden recorded in 2011. More than any other factor, this progress is testament to the dedication, quality and hard work of its staff and management group over the past 25 years. Significantly, the support of community members has been paramount. However, it is important to note the fundamental role that the Northern Territory Government's annual NRETAS grant has in keeping the Garden alive.

(b) The Proposal

The proposal will require adequate additional project funding if it is to succeed. Under current staffing levels, employees are stretched to capacity and if this program was to occur without sufficient additional funding, the project will not be viable. Hence, it is fundamental for further development of the proposal that options for additional resourcing from Government, business and philanthropic trusts are explored.

Tourism Market

(a) Present situation

Alice Springs is currently undergoing a slump in tourism due to the ongoing global financial instability as well as a National and International perception of Alice Springs as an unsafe environment.

(b) The Proposal

Establishing a sacred sites management program for Alice Springs will assist in reinventing Alice Springs image for National and International visitors. The majority of the Sacred Sites around Alice Springs are on vacant Crown Land and are currently neglected. These unmanaged areas become centres of antisocial behaviour and create tension between local and visiting aboriginal groups. Actively managing these sites and providing detailed interpretation through GPS Smart phone applications and in-situ signage has the potential to become a major drawcard for tourism in central Australia.

Community Access

(a) Present situation

Many of these sites are significant places for residents of Alice Springs. In the past decade, strong links have been created between the Garden and the Traditional Owners of these sites.

(b) The Proposal

Active management of these Sacred Sites will substantially enhance the opportunities for the local community and Traditional Aboriginal Owners to engage in a meaningful manner. The subsequent reduction in antisocial behaviour in these spaces will provide greater social inclusion through an increased level of safety and sense of ownership. Developing comprehensive interpretive material will provide the opportunities for a greater sense of understanding and therefore respect for traditional cultural practices and the science behind the Cultural Stories.

Partnerships

(a) Present situation

The Garden is developing strongly as a locus of significant partnerships including but limited to; NRETAS, Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority, Alice Springs Desert Park, Civiltrain, Jobfind, Alice Spring Town Council, The Arid Lands Environment Centre, Land for wildlife, Central Land Council, The Australian Plant Society; horticultural groups; and educational and training institutions.

(b) The proposal

The development of the Sacred Sites Management Program would allow these existing partnerships to flourish as well as new partnerships to develop.

Key Performance Indicators

The table below begins to scope out more detailed objectives under the proposition to expand the Olive Pink Botanic Garden.

Goals	KPI	Annual Targets			
		Current	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a vehicle for the engagement of traditional owners in caring for significant sites, and their interpretation. 	T/O's employed	0	1	3	6
	Sites interpreted	3	12	36	72
	Number trainees completing program cert II or above	0	30	45	60
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide training and employment opportunities in partnership with registered training organisations. 	Number of Aboriginal people employed internally in a full time position	0	4	8	12
	Number of Aboriginal people employed externally as a direct result of training at OPBG	0	20	30	45
	Number of sites managed	3	15	40	72
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the area of land actively managed by Olive Pink Botanic Garden and build on its role in the conservation and land management 	Conservation works undertaken by OPBG	5 hectares	20 hectares	60 hectares	250hectares
	Tourism surveys conducted	0	500	1000	2000
	Visitor numbers to sites	10000	20000	20000	40000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To establish an engaging and readily accessible network of recreational walks with complementary interpretation of the 					

natural and cultural environment for use by the local community and visitors.					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop partnerships with local business to support ongoing employment opportunities for Aboriginal People 	Business partners	2	8	12	15

	Goals→	To provide a vehicle for the engagement of traditional owners in caring for significant sites, and their interpretation.	To provide training and employment opportunities in partnership with registered training organisations.	To increase the area of land actively managed by Olive Pink Botanic Garden and build on its role in the conservation and land management	To enhance Alice Springs reputation as a 'must-see' tourism destination for visitors to central Australia;	To establish an engaging and readily accessible network of recreational walks with complementary interpretation of the natural and cultural environment for use by the local community and visitors.	To develop partnerships with local business to support ongoing employment opportunities for Aboriginal People
Strategies↓							
Build Partnerships with Government		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Build Partnerships with Non – government sector		✓	✓	✓	✓	x	
Promote the Sacred Sites Program		x	x	✓	✓	✓	
Develop philanthropic relationships		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Develop Training Program		✓	✓	x	✓	✓	

Northern Territory Government
Gazette G50
10 December 1983

Northern Territory Govt
Gazette No G3
24 January 1984

Crown Lands Act
PROCLAMATION

Northern Territory of Australia
ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON
Administrator

By His Honour the
Administrator of
the Northern Territory
of Australia

I, ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, acting with the advice of the Executive Council, in pursuance of Section 103(1)(c) of the *Crown Lands Act*, reserve the land described in the Schedule for municipal purposes, to be known as Reserve No. 1708.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT parcel of land in the Town of Alice Springs Northern Territory of Australia containing an area of 139.1 hectares more or less being Lots 5140, 5141, 5142, 5804, 5805, 5806, 5807, 5808, 5809 and 5810 being more

particularly delineated on Survey Plans S76/13A, S76/13B, S76/13C, S82/29A, S82/29B, S82/29C, S82/29D, S82/29E, S82/29F and S82/29G respectively lodged with the Surveyor-General Darwin.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Northern Territory of Australia on the eighth day of December, 1983.

(L.S.)

E. E. JOHNSTON
Administrator

By His Honour's Command

P. A. E. EVERINGHAM
Minister for Lands,
Industrial Development
and Tourism

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

Local Government Act

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL TO ACT AS TRUSTEE
OF CERTAIN RESERVED LAND

WHEREAS the land contained in Reserve No. 1708 —

(a) is land within the boundaries of the municipality of Alice Springs; and

(b) has been reserved under section 103 of the *Crown Lands Act* by a proclamation dated 8th December 1983 appearing at pages 4 and 5 of *Gazette No. G50* dated 16 December 1983.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DARYL WILLIAM MANZIE, the Minister for Community Development, in pursuance of section 339A(1) of the *Local Government Act*, appoint The Alice Springs Town Council to act as the trustees of that land.

Dated this sixteenth day of January, 1984.

DARYL MANZIE
Minister for
Community Development

→ Rex Mooney

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Agenda Item 9.6

**REPORT
ACTION**

Report No. 121/00ecd

TO:
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 13 JUNE 2000

COPY

File No: GE1846

SUBJECT: TODD AND CHARLES RIVER TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of elected members a discussion on issues relating to the Todd and Charles Rivers. The Council is the Trustee of the Rivers and thus is responsible for its management. At the same time the NT Government has identified the Rivers as being a key strategy of Alice in 10. A project committee has been established consisting of many stakeholders and they have been developing projects which relate to Council's management of the Rivers. To date a Council elected member and the Director Economic and Community Development, and at times a number of other officers have been working in collaboration with the committee.

However, as the Council is the Trustee and therefore has to approve works carried out, the Council may wish to form a Trustee Committee to assess the implications as arising from the Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee. This may assist the process of Council's approval process being well informed and be seen to assist in collaboration and cooperation between the NT Government's initiative and the Council's legal responsibilities.

BACKGROUND

Several reports have been prepared concerning the Todd and Charles River. Not least of these reports are the *Urban Todd and Charles Rivers, Masterplan and Management Guidelines* (1994) and the *Alice Springs Flood Plain Management Plan*.

Both of these documents contain significant strategies for the management of the rivers. A number of other reports also relate to the rivers.

Council's Management Obligations

Alice Springs Town Council is the Trustee of the Todd and Charles Rivers under the Crown Lands Act 1992. See Attachment A. In short, this means that the Council is responsible for the management of the Rivers North of Heavitree Gap to the Telegraph Station boundary.

The Council's obligations as Trustees are the same responsibilities as it has for the rest of the Town under Council's control. This includes:

- Approval of any infrastructure works taking place within the confines of the Rivers, eg the Eastside Levee Bank.
- Landscaping and mowing and irrigation of parks on the banks of the Todd River

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- Management and maintenance of causeway crossings.
- Town outflow drain maintenance.
- Weed control.
- Litter control.
- Management of the natural environment including damage or injury to trees and other vegetation. Note: this does not preclude other organisations such as Greening Australia carrying out work in the Rivers with the Council's permission.
- Entry of vehicles.
- Animal control.

Regulatory Control

The Council's obligations extend to its by-laws relating to illegal camping between the hours of 9pm and 6am and animal control.

The NT Police are responsible for any alcohol related issues under the 2km law and behaviour of an illegal nature.

Tangentyere Council manage the Night Patrol and the Wardens which assist people to return to their place of living.

Tangentyere Council through its Wardens scheme and Council's by-laws officers conduct patrols together in relation to illegal camping.

Note: Officers of the Council, NT Police and Tangentyere Council have for many years worked in close cooperation with each other.

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The following notes are based upon an address from Mr Greg Borchert from the Central Land Council.

The Federal Court on 9 September brought down its judgement which found that Native Title exists on 113 lots of 1666 parcels in the application.

The judgement has given legal expression to the Arrernte people's underlying interest in the land prior to development in Alice Springs. As such the title holders may support projects such as weed eradication but not river camping since Arrernte did not traditionally camp in the river.

Whilst Native Title rights and titles exist they do not allow exclusive rights and must coincide with other rights.

It is proposed that Native Title be held by the Native Title Owners and administered by a non incorporated association. This is a requirement of the Act. However, it may be some time before this association comes into being due to appeals processes.

It was stressed that both Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority and CLC must be consulted for clearances before works may proceed.

Sacred Sites

All works undertaken in the area of the Todd and Charles Rivers must be approved by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority. This is to ensure that sacred sites are protected.

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Alice in 10 Project

Develop the Todd and Charles Rivers as Community areas was identified in the NT Government's The Face of Alice in 10 Years Project as a key strategy for Alice Springs.

The Alice in 10 Todd and Charles Committee is being coordinated by the NT Government. Dr Ken Johnson from Parks and Wildlife has been the Chairperson up until recent times when Peter McDonald of Lands Planning and Environment took over. Wayne Hoban of Lands Planning and Environment is the Project Officer. The Director Economic and Community Development has attended meetings of the committee to date with the Director Planning and Infrastructure attending in recent times to discuss infrastructure and works related projects. Elected member representation to the Committee has included David Koch and Geoff Miers.

The Committee consists of membership of the following organisations:

Department Lands Planning and Environment
 Department of Transport and Works
 Department of Parks and Wildlife
 Alice Springs Town Council (Elected member and Council Officer)
 Greening Australia
 Tangentyere Council
 Arrernte Council
 Central Land Council
 Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
 Office of Aboriginal Development
 NT Police
 CATIA
 Northern Territory Tourism Commission
 Department Industry and Business
 ATSIC
 Arid Lands Environment Committee (ALEC)

Key Areas

The committee has identified three key areas to address as part of its responsibility. These are:

- **Natural Environment**
 - Fire management
 - Weeds management
 - Regeneration
 - Community education
- **Built Infrastructure**
 - Pathworks
 - Lighting
 - Amenities
 - Signage and interpretation, etc
- **Cultural Issues**
 - Sacred Sites
 - Native Title
 - Interpretation

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Social Issues

It is important to note that social issues are not being addressed as part of this committee. Social issues are being considered as part of the Alice in 10 Quality of Life Committee and the Alcohol Representative Committee. The Director of Economic and Community Development is a member of all of these committees and therefore provides a link and coordination role between committees on behalf of the Council.

OPTIONS

- A. To form a Trustee Committee to assess issues arising from Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee and other organisations as they arise. This committee could make recommendations to the Council.
- B. Not form a Trustee Committee and determine an alternate way to address issues arising from the Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee.

PROPOSAL

The proposal is that the elected members discuss an appropriate way for considering, in depth, actions being proposed by the Alice in 10 Committee. The proposal suggested by officers is that a Trustee Committee be formed to consider issues arising from the Todd and Charles River Alice in 10 Committee (See Recommendation). The benefits of such a committee would be that three elected members are kept fully informed directly of Alice in 10 activities and are able to relay information to Council.

Cooperation and Collaboration

It is important to mention that members of the Alice in 10 Committee have adopted a cooperative and collaborative approach to finding solutions and developing policies for the long term sustainable management of the Rivers. Council officers have been working closely with the committee at many levels from fire management plans to river cleanups, to strategy development.

It is not intended that this should change. However, the proposal for the formation of a reference committee is in recognition of the fact that the Council is the Trustee and thus manager of the Rivers and as such must approve works and activities to be undertaken in the Rivers. Thus it is considered important that elected members consider the recommendation for a Trustee Committee.

FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

It is difficult to estimate accurately the full amount spent by the Council on the rivers as programs such as mowing, drainage works etc link with other areas of Council's works. It is estimated that the Council's expenditure is in the vicinity of \$200,000.

It should also be noted that currently Correctional Services are undertaking litter collection which is at a considerable saving to the Council.

The NT Government in its 2000/2001 budget has committed \$355,000 towards works along the Todd River. This work includes a footpath along Barrett Drive and contributions towards restoration works of the natural environment. These works will be presented to the Council in due course for approval.

SOCIAL IMPACTS

Social issues such as anti-social behaviour are not being considered under the Alice in 10 Todd and Charles River Committee. Alcohol-related issues, for example are being considered through the Alcohol Issues Forum and the Alice Alcohol Community Survey. The results of this survey will be released in July and will contain a raft of possible projects for the Council and other agencies to consider.

The Alice in 10 Committee is working closely with the Central Land Council and Tangentyere Council to look at cultural awareness. For example the Arrernte people have expressed an interest in interpretation of the Rivers.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The works and long term management plans such as for weed control and fire management being discussed and worked upon by the committee will contribute significantly to the long term management of the Rivers. It is recognised that the River is a significant environmental feature of the Town and as such needs a concerted effort from all stakeholders.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policies relating to the Todd and Charles Rivers relate closely to the Open Space Management Plan.

CONSULTATION

Chief Executive Officer
Director Economic and Community Development
Director Planning and Infrastructure

CONCLUSION

This report proposes a way for elected members to be informed in depth of issues relating to the management of the Todd and Charles Rivers.

RECOMMENDATION

That it be a recommendation to the Council that:

- A. A Trustee Committee be established to assess the implications of activities arising in the Alice in 10 Todd and Charles River Committee as the Council is the Trustee of the Rivers and as such is responsible for approving works and activities taking place in the Rivers.
- B. The Trustee Committee be charged with assessing works and activities as they arise and make recommendations to the Council.
- C. The Trustee Committee membership consist of the following representatives:
 - Alderman ...
 - Alderman ...
 - Alderman ...
 - Director Planning and Infrastructure
 - Director Economic and Community Development

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6.

**Chairperson Alice in 10 Committee
Central Land Council**

Prepared by:



**Suzanne Lollback
DIRECTOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Endorsed by:



**Roger Bottrall
DIRECTOR PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Endorsed by



**Nick Scarvelis
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

SL/to

Schedule of Attachments

Attachment A - Gazetted articles and Crown Lands Act 1992

Northern Territory Government
Gazette G50
16 December 1983

Northern Territory Govt
Gazette No G3
24 January 1984

Crown Lands Act
PROCLAMATION

Northern Territory
of Australia
ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON
Administrator

By His Honour the
Administrator of
the Northern Territory
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I, ERIC EUGENE JOHNSTON, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, acting with the advice of the Executive Council, in pursuance of Section 103(1)(c) of the Crown Lands Act, reserve the land described in the Schedule for municipal purposes, to be known as Reserve No. 1708.

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ALL THAT parcel of land in the Town of Alice Springs Northern Territory of Australia containing an area of 139.1 hectares more or less being Lots 5140, 5141, 5142, 5804, 5805, 5806, 5807, 5808, 5809 and 5810 being more

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Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Northern Territory of Australia on the eighth day of December, 1983.

(L.S.)

E. E. JOHNSTON
Administrator

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Minister for Lands,
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DARYL MANZIE
Minister for
Community Development

**Chairperson Alice In 10 Committee
Central Land Council**

Prepared by:




**Suzanne Lollback
DIRECTOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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**REPORT
ACTION**

Agenda Item 9.6

Report No. 121/00ecd

TO:
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 13 JUNE 2000

COPY

File No: GE1846

SUBJECT: TODD AND CHARLES RIVER TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION

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- Landscaping and mowing and irrigation of parks on the banks of the Todd River

Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Strategy 2019

BACKGROUND

Lhere Mparntwe (the Todd and Charles Rivers) form the backbone along which the town of Alice Springs is both built and defined. The rivers are an integral part of the town's image and of how residents view their community.

The Todd River (Lhere Mparntwe) and Charles River (Anthelke Ulpeye) are sacred sites and central features in the cultural landscape of Mparntwe Aboriginal custodians, protected by the Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act. Key features of these sacred sites are the majestic river red gums that mark the travels of caterpillar and other Dreaming ancestors through the town. Respecting and caring for the rivers is a central part of cultural maintenance for Mparntwe custodians, who regard these trees as their kin.

The rivers intersect the town's other key iconic natural feature - the MacDonnell Range – at its gateway in Ntaripe (Heavitree Gap).

However, while the MacDonnell Range is a timeless and enduring geological feature, the rivers form a living ecosystem that requires care and management to sustain its ecological health and value to the town's community and visitors.

The rivers are normally dry and quiet allowing people to use and enjoy the peaceful beauty of the fringing river gums and open bed. Occasionally the rivers burst forth in a flow that quickly turns community attention to an excited and more active engagement.

Recreational use by local residents and visitors has expanded appreciably in recent years following installation of shared pedestrian and cycle pathways. This network continues to expand providing attractive and convenient access for recreation, exercise, and as a route for getting to and from school or work.

The open sandy river beds are already widely used for recreation and events such as the Henley on Todd (the first Camel Cup also took place in the river bed).

If properly managed to mitigate the destructive fires and other degrading environmental influences, the Todd and Charles River systems provide untapped opportunity for improving the amenity of the town, particularly in the CBD area, and in promoting their place as a defining part of the town's image.

Despite the place of the Todd and Charles in the town's imagery there is a tendency for businesses to avoid engagement with or to "turn their backs" to the rivers. Similarly, and despite their widespread use, the local community often lacks respect for the health and integrity of the rivers. But this is steadily changing.

In March 2018 the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources established the Lhere Mparntwe (Todd and Charles Rivers) Management Working Group tasked with preparing a strategy to address management requirements. This formally established Committee comprised representation from traditional Aboriginal owners, representatives from both the NT Government and the Alice Springs Town Council, and community members of Alice Springs. Establishment of the Committee followed a summer period of major loss of large river red gums due to fire, and substantial community concern for this loss.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The **aim** of this strategy is to have well managed, ecologically healthy rivers that are widely recognised as an iconic symbol of Alice Springs and which are enjoyed by locals and visitors as a natural urban space with significant Aboriginal cultural values.

To achieve this aim, the strategy identifies a series of actions grouped by the following **Objectives**:

1. Protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of the rivers.
2. Encourage more locals and visitors to use the rivers in culturally and ecologically appropriate ways for recreation and relaxation.
3. Local and Territory governments, traditional owners, business and the community to work collaboratively to care for the rivers.

A PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO MANAGEMENT

There is a broad and disparate range of parties with formal and informal responsibilities and interests in the rivers. These parties include government agencies, local government, traditional Aboriginal owners, business, non-government organisations, river users and the general public. Coordination of effort among these interest groups is critical if the rivers are to be effectively and efficiently managed.

This strategy provides a way for the activities of these interest groups to be co-ordinated to achieve the shared aim of ecologically healthy rivers.

The Committee identified fire management as a key element affecting river health and it forms a major component of the strategy. Effective management of fuel loads will have a positive effect on the ecological health of the river, maintain its cultural value, protect the large red gums of advanced age, enhance the visual beauty of this iconic asset, improve both the amenity of the town and its value to tourism, actively demonstrate to the community that the rivers are a valuable resource, and will contribute to the management of issues of antisocial behaviour in the rivers.

Three management zones are proposed with recommendation for the more intensive management of fuel loads in the Town area where there is highest public use.

Growth of the grassy fuel loads depends on good summer rains, but these are highly variable year to year. Similar year on year variability and flexibility is thus required in the level of resourcing needed in fire management – little in low growth years and appreciably more in years of abundant growth.

Formal responsibility for management in the strategy area is shared across the Parks, Wildlife & Heritage Division of the Northern Territory - Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture, the Alice Springs Town Council and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics. This strategy provides guidance to these authorities and includes actions that address the broader responsibility of the community of Alice Springs to respect and care for the rivers for our shared benefit.

Investment in river maintenance needs to be directed to activities that are sustainable over the long term. As there are portions of the strategy area that have not been actively managed for fuel loads for some time, there will be a requirement for increased initial effort, with reduced resources required for maintenance of effort.

This strategy is a first and overarching step towards effective management of the rivers. The next steps will be for stakeholder development of specific plans designed to address each key management requirement.

Management zones

The strategy area has been split into three zones, with a scaled approach to management.

[insert diagram showing 3 zones, overlaid with management responsibility. Zone 1: Telegraph Station southern boundary to John Blakeman Bridge on the Todd and Herbert Heritage Drive to the confluence with the Todd on the Charles; Zone 2: John Blakeman Bridge to Colonel Rose Drive; Zone 3: Telegraph Station]

Zone 1 – Town Area

This zone receives the highest level of public use and thus the highest level of human impact – including the incidence of destructive fire.

It is the most visible portion of the river, both for residents and tourists, and includes the ‘entrance’ to Alice Springs (for rail, road and air visitors) at Ntharipe (Heavitree Gap).

Protection of large River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) in this zone is of critical importance and management must focus on reduction of fuel loads across this entire zone. Together with planting operations, fuel management, over time, will lead to a resurgence of attractive native vegetation along the river banks and on the many river islands.

Zone 2 – Rural Area

The Rural Area south of Heavitree Gap has a low intensity of use but has high visibility from the Stuart Highway that has a high level of public use. This area generated significant public feedback in response to the major loss of large River Red Gums from fire during the summer of 2017-18. Management focus for this zone is on minimising further loss of trees by reducing fuel loads in their near vicinity. Extended grassy areas with few trees are of lower priority and as a first step, should have fire risk mitigation through the use of fire breaks.

Zone 3 – Telegraph Station

The Telegraph Station zone receives high public use and receives fire management by the Parks and Wildlife Operations based at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station. It is important to ensure that the management of fire in this reserve is integrated with management of the river in the two zones to the south.

ACTIONS

Objective 1. Protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of the rivers.

Issue	Action no.	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe
Uncontrolled fires destroy mature red gums that are a visual signature of the town and support a multitude of native plant and animal species and have significant cultural values. Reducing fuel loads will lessen the frequency and destructive impact of fires and will reduce call-outs on fire agencies to extinguish wild fires.		Prepare Vegetation & Fire Management Plans for each management zone, to be reviewed annually by the proposed Advisory Committee	ASTC/DENR/DIPL/DTSC/NTFRS	6 months
		Document appropriate techniques and procedures for managing fuel loads	DENR / NTFRS	3 months
Quick response to fires can be hampered by confusion about what actions are permitted around sacred sites		Document standard procedures and protocols for relevant authorities in meeting requirements of the <i>Sacred Sites Act</i>	AAPA/NTFRS/DENR	3 months
Fires in the river are not always reported quickly to NTFRS for response		Provide guidelines and encouragement for community members to report the occurrence of uncontrolled fire	AAPA/NTFRS/DENR	3 months
Introduced buffel and couch grasses have invaded and dominate large sections of the river banks to the almost complete exclusion of native understory species. These grasses accumulate much larger fuel loads than native species causing more intensive and more frequent fires and substantially greater ecological		Prioritise buffel and couch grass hazard reduction for fire management into areas important for tree protection and re-emergence of native species.	ASTC/DIPL/DTSC	Ongoing
		Develop a Fire and vegetation management Plan for targeted sub-zones on the basis of biological and cultural values as well as expected intensity and type of use.	ASTC/DIPL/DTSC/community	Subsequent to Vegetation and Fire Management plans
		Alice Springs Landcare to work with partners to restore	AS Landcare / ASTC /	Ongoing

damage. Management of both grasses is critical to minimising loss of river red gums and encouraging return of native species.		identified target sections of the Todd River	DIPL	
		Expand support the existing efforts undertaken by Alice Springs Landcare between Gosse St and Stott Tce on the eastern bank and by the Olive Pink Botanic Garden between Stott Tce and Tuncks Rd.	All	Ongoing
Woody weeds (White Cedar, Albizia, etc.) have invaded the town's large open stormwater drains and have potential to impede water flow. Discharging into the rivers these drains are already a source for downstream weed infestation.		Include weed management in the Vegetation and Fire Management Plan for the Town area Work with responsible authorities and interested parties in removal and monitoring of weeds of concern in the storm water drains and in the management area.	DIPL/ASTC/DTSC/DENR	6 months
Mexican Poppy is a Class B and Class C prickly weed that affects amenity of the river. The weed is only just establishing in the area of high public use north of Heavitree Gap. It is important to exclude this invasive species to maintain public amenity in this part of the river through town.		Work with responsible authorities and interested parties in removal and monitoring of Mexican Poppy in the areas of the river upstream from John Blakeman Bridge and the town drains. Ensure litter crews able to identify and treat infestations.	DIPL/ASTC/DENR	Ongoing
The periodically high water table and salinity levels in the Town Basin aquifer have impacted the ecological health of the rivers. This risk is being mitigated by managed extraction for irrigation of parks, reserves, and other areas to encourage recharge by better quality waters.		Ensure the next review of the Alice Springs Water Allocation Plan includes an assessment of how well the existing controls on extraction from the Town Basin are affecting water table height, tree health and salinity levels	DENR	18 months

Objective 2. Encourage more locals and visitors to use the rivers in culturally and ecologically sensitive ways for recreation and relaxation.

Issue	Action no.	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Some residents and visitors avoid walking in the rivers due to concerns about rubbish and safety		Ongoing proactive management of rubbish within the river and along the banks	ASTC/DIPL	Ongoing
Redundant infrastructure within the river is an eyesore and gives the impression the rivers are not valued		Identify the location of redundant or discarded infrastructure and plan for its removal.	DIPL/ASTC	1 year
While the rivers are used for recreation, relaxation, camping and community events such as the Henley-on-Todd, the river beds are generally ignored. Little information is accessible for locals and visitors to gain an understanding of the importance of the rivers		<p>Develop a series of communication products to assist the community to understand and celebrate the cultural and ecological values of the rivers, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved interpretative facilities along the rivers • Education materials for use in schools (including redevelopment of the “Nature’s Boarding House” & “Birds of the Todd Checklist” posters) • Materials that improve understanding of the connections between stormwater drains and the rivers behaviour • Promotion of nature based activities in the rivers • Develop Community Recreation Zones. • Contribute to social service solutions to reduce reliance on open space for basic needs. 	Advisory Group with assistance from DENR / DIPL / DTSC / ASTC	Comms Plan in 6-12 months Rollout over 5 years
Commercial developments along the rivers mostly face away as if		Encourage and advocate to businesses located along the river, schools and interested organisations to	All	As part of comms plan

to avoid an interface with this outstanding natural feature.		become involved in care of the river corridor.		
There has been considerable development of public amenity along the river corridor in recent years including well-used bicycle and pedestrian paths. Potential remains to further enhance the rivers for public use.		Careful placement of street furniture lighting and landscaping features combined with selected replanting of targeted areas to improve visitor experiences, increase safety and would encourage locals to value the rivers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leichhardt Tce and area adjacent to OPBG should be prioritized 	NTG/ASTC	Dependant on review below then ongoing
		Review previous proposals and past public consultations to identify priority projects for additional infrastructure along the rivers	DENR/DIPL/ASTC	1 year
Vehicle movements in and along the river banks are largely unrestrained creating an ugly network of wheel tracks. These destroy remnant native vegetation, spread weeds and have potential to channel water and erode the banks, especially after prolonged dry periods.		Based on an assessment of current erosion risks, formalise and stabilise pedestrian and vehicle access tracks to mitigate erosion, including through the installation of barriers where required.	ASTC/DIPL/DENR/NTFRS /DTSC	
		Work towards the exclusion of unnecessary vehicle traffic	ASTC / DIPL	
		Develop a prioritised erosion repair program	DTSC / ASTC / DIPL	

Objective 3. Governments, business and the community to work collaboratively to care for the rivers.

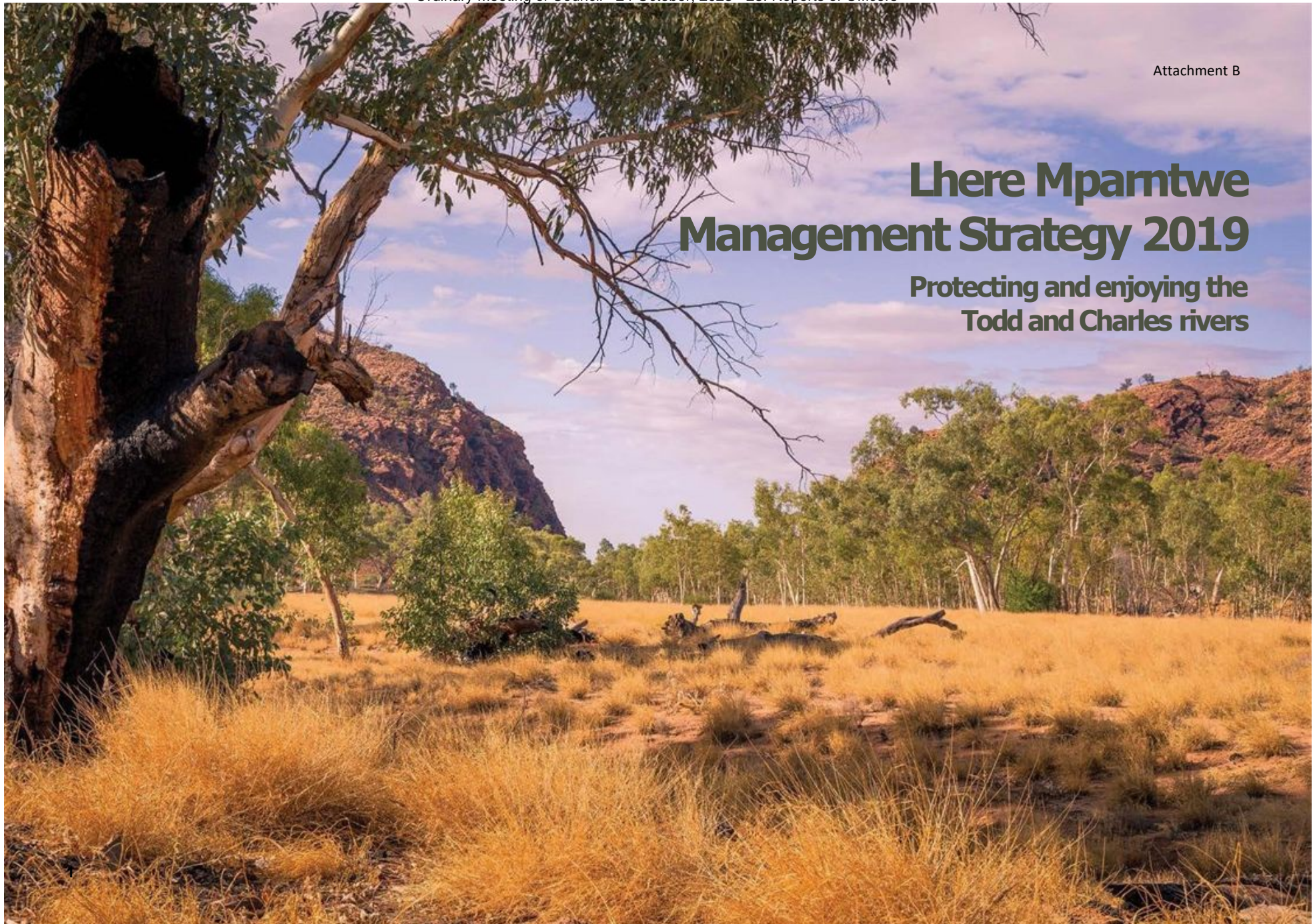
Issue	Action no.	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Over recent decades the level of effort put into caring for the rivers has fluctuated, and focus on the rivers' management has ebbed and flowed based on the efforts of individuals and/or availability of outside funding		Establish and resource an ongoing advisory group to monitor the strategy implementation and to focus public and government attention on the rivers.	Supported by DENR	4 Months
		Encourage and facilitate commitment by individuals, schools and community groups in managing fuel loads	Advisory Group	Ongoing

<p>programs. Consistent effort and strategic oversight is required to ensure that management is sustainable.</p>		<p>in small sections of the rivers</p> <p>Encourage recurrent funding from all levels of government and philanthropists to promote maintenance and eventual expansion of the management area</p>		
		<p>Encourage and support the development of an Mparntwe Ranger Group in conjunction with relevant organisations in accordance with the aspirations of Mparntwe sacred site custodians.</p>	<p>Advisory Group, CLC, AAPA, DPIL, DTSC & ASTC</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>
<p>Based on the results of a flood mitigation geomorphologic study of the Todd River, A flood mitigation plan is currently being prepared by DIPL. It is important for coordination to occur between this plan and the Lhere Mparntwe Strategy.”</p>		<p>Ensure that the advisory group is consulted regarding management of sedimentation for flood mitigation purposes (including maintenance targets) to ensure that effects on erosion and vegetation control considered</p>	<p>DIPL</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Key management activities should be monitored to determine the level of achievement and whether modifications are indicated.</p>		<p>Establish a monitoring program for assessing progress and achievement in the implementation of this strategy.</p>	<p>Advisory Group/Community with support of DENR</p>	<p>1 year</p>

Attachment B

Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy 2019

Protecting and enjoying the
Todd and Charles rivers



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Alice Springs Landcare

Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority

Arid Lands Environment Centre

Alice Springs Town Council

Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics

Department of Tourism Sport and Culture

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Services





Background

The Todd and Charles Rivers form the backbone along which the town of Alice Springs is both built and defined. The rivers are an integral part of the town's image and of how residents view their community.

The Todd River (Lhere Mparntwe) and Charles River (Anthelke Ulpeye) are sacred sites and central features in the cultural landscape of Mparntwe Aboriginal custodians, protected by the Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989. Key features of these sacred sites are the majestic river red gums that mark the travels of caterpillar and other Dreaming ancestors through the town. Respecting and caring for the rivers is a central part of cultural maintenance for Mparntwe custodians, who regard these trees as their kin.

The rivers intersect the town's other key iconic natural feature, The MacDonnell Ranges, at its gateway in Ntaripe (Heavitree Gap).

The MacDonnell Ranges is a timeless and enduring geological feature, the rivers form a living ecosystem that requires care and management to sustain its ecological health and value to the town's community and visitors.

The rivers are normally dry and quiet

allowing people to use and enjoy the peaceful beauty of the fringing river gums and open river beds. Occasionally the rivers burst forth in a flow that quickly turns community attention to an excited and more active engagement.

Recreational use by local residents and visitors has expanded appreciably in recent years following installation of shared pedestrian and cycle pathways. This network continues to expand providing attractive and convenient access for recreation, exercise, and as a route for getting to and from school or work.

Majestic river red gums mark the travels of caterpillar and other Dreaming ancestors through the town

The open sandy river beds are already widely used for recreation and events such as the Henley on Todd Regatta, and the first Camel Cup.

If properly managed to mitigate the destructive fires and other degrading

environmental influences, the Todd and Charles River systems provide untapped opportunity for improving the amenity of the town, particularly in the central business district, and in promoting their place as a defining part of the town's image.

Despite the place of the rivers in the town's imagery there is a tendency for businesses to avoid engagement with or to "turn their backs" to the rivers. Similarly, and despite their widespread use, the local community often lacks respect for the health and integrity of the rivers. This is steadily changing.

In March 2018 the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources established the Lhere Mparntwe Management Working Group tasked with preparing a strategy to address management requirements. This formally established Committee comprised representation from traditional Aboriginal owners, representatives from both the Northern Territory Government and the Alice Springs Town Council, and community members of Alice Springs. Establishment of the Committee followed a summer period of major loss of large river red gums due to fire, and substantial community concern for this loss.

Aims and objectives

The Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy 2019 (the Strategy) aims to have well managed, ecologically healthy rivers that are widely recognised as an iconic symbol of Alice Springs and which are enjoyed by locals and visitors as a natural urban space with significant Aboriginal cultural values.

To achieve this, the Strategy identifies a series of actions grouped by the following:

1. Protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of the rivers.
2. Encourage more locals and visitors to use the rivers in culturally and ecologically appropriate ways for recreation and relaxation.
3. Local and Territory governments, traditional owners, business and the community to work collaboratively to care for the rivers.



A pragmatic approach to management

There is a broad and disparate range of parties with formal and informal responsibilities and interests in the rivers. These parties include government agencies, local government, traditional Aboriginal owners, business, non-government organisations, river users and the general public. Coordination of effort among these interest groups is critical if the rivers are to be effectively and efficiently managed.

The Strategy provides a way for the activities of these interest groups to be co-ordinated to achieve the shared aim of ecologically healthy rivers.

The committee identified fire management as a key element affecting

river health and it forms a major component of the Strategy. Effective management of fuel loads will have a positive effect on the ecological health of the river, maintain its cultural value, protect the large red gums of advanced age, enhance the visual beauty of this iconic asset, improve both the amenity of the town and its value to tourism, actively demonstrate to the community that the rivers are a valuable resource, and will contribute to the management of issues of antisocial behaviour in the rivers.

The 3 management zones are proposed with recommendation for the more intensive management of fuel loads in the town area where there is highest public use.

Growth of the grassy fuel loads depends on good summer rains varying from year to year. Consequently, flexibility in the way that resources are needed and used to manage the fire risk is required.

Formal responsibility for management in the Strategy area is shared across the Parks, Wildlife and Heritage Division of the Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture, the Alice Springs Town Council and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics. The Strategy provides guidance to these authorities and includes actions that address the broader responsibility of the community of Alice Springs to respect and care for the rivers for our shared benefit.

Investment in river maintenance needs to be directed to activities that are sustainable over the long term. As there are portions of the Strategy area that have not been actively managed for fuel loads for some time, there will be a requirement for increased initial effort, with reduced resources required for maintenance of effort.

The Strategy is a first and overarching step towards effective management of the rivers. The next steps will be for stakeholder development of specific plans designed to address each key management requirement.

Management zones

The Strategy area has been split into 3 zones, with a scaled approach to management.

Zone 1 - Town area

The zone receives the highest level of public use and thus the highest level of human impact, including the incidence of destructive fire.

It is the most visible portion of the river, both for residents and tourists, and includes the 'entrance' to Alice Springs (for rail, road and air visitors) at Ntharipe (Heavitree Gap).

Protection of large river red gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) in this zone is of critical importance and management must focus on reduction of fuel loads across this entire zone. Together with planting operations, fuel management, over time, will lead to a resurgence of attractive native vegetation along the river banks and on the many river islands.

Zone 2 - Rural area

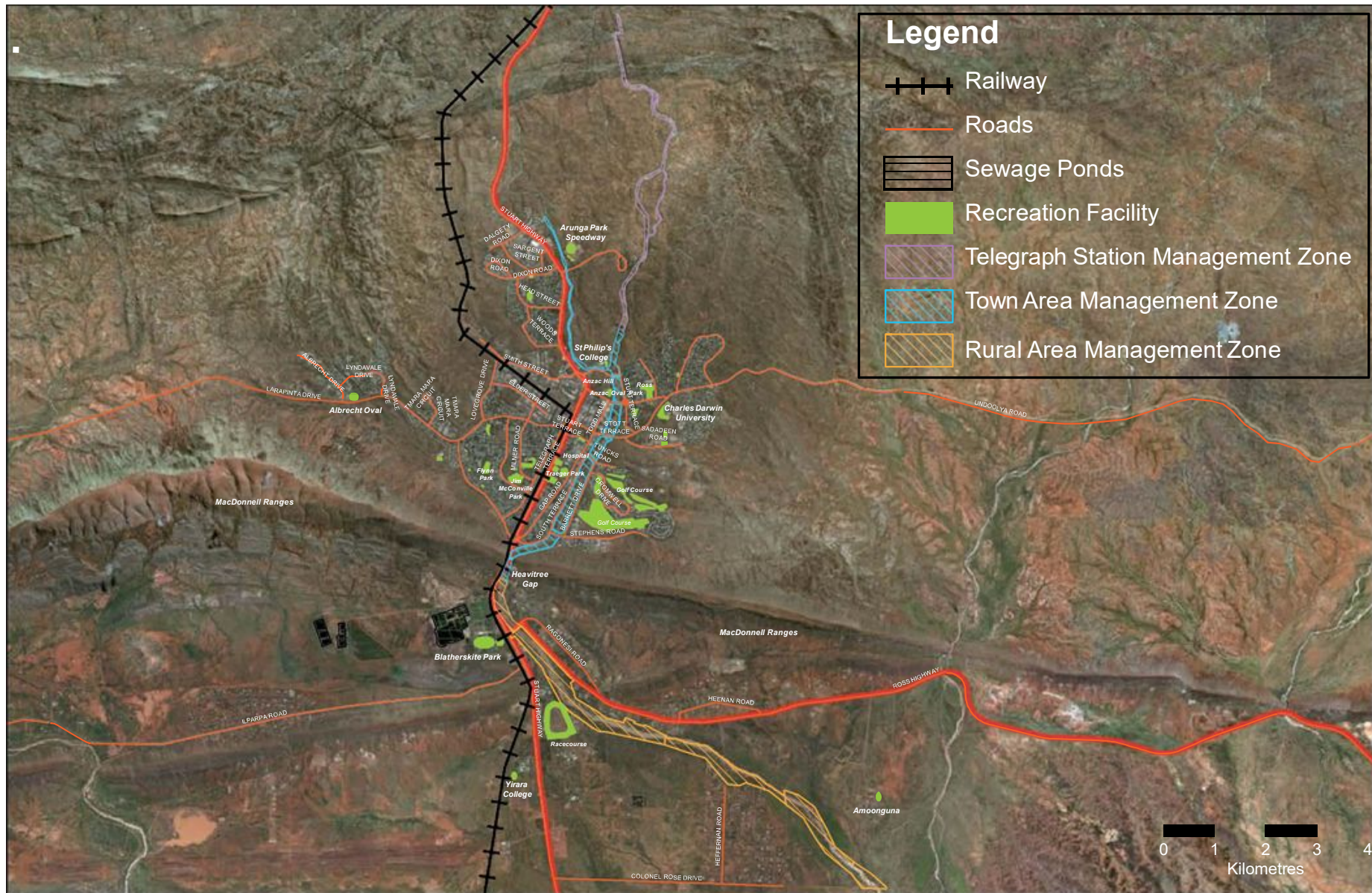
The Rural Area south of Heavitree Gap has a low intensity of use but has high visibility from the Stuart Highway that has a high level of public use.

This area generated significant public feedback in response to the major loss of large river red gums from fire during the summer of 2017-18.

Management focus for this zone is on minimising further loss of trees by reducing fuel loads in their near vicinity. Extended grassy areas with few trees are of lower priority and as a first step, should have fire risk mitigation through the use of firebreaks.

Zone 3 – Telegraph station

The Telegraph station zone receives high public use and receives fire management by the Parks and Wildlife operations based at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station. It is important to ensure that the management of fire in this reserve is integrated with management of the river in the 2 zones to the south.















Protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of the rivers.

Issue	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe
Uncontrolled fires destroy mature red gums that are a visual signature of the town and support a multitude of native plant and animal species and have significant cultural values.	Prepare Vegetation and Fire Management Plans for each management zone, to be reviewed annually by the proposed advisory committee	ASTC/DENR/DIPL/DTSC/NTFRS	6 months
Reducing fuel loads will lessen the frequency and destructive impact of fires and will reduce call-outs on fire agencies to extinguish wild fires.	Document appropriate techniques and procedures for managing fuel loads.	DENR/NTFRS	3 months
Quick response to fires can be hampered by confusion about what actions are permitted around sacred sites.	Document standard procedures and protocols for relevant authorities in meeting requirements of the Sacred Sites Act 1989.	AAPA/NTFRS/DENR	3 months
Fires in the river are not always reported quickly to Northern Territory Fire Rescue Service for response.	Provide guidelines and encouragement for community members to report the occurrence of uncontrolled fire	AAPA/NTFRS/DENR	3 months
Introduced buffel and couch grasses have invaded and dominate large sections of the river banks to the almost complete exclusion of native understory species.	Prioritise buffel and couch grass hazard reduction for fire management into areas important for tree protection and re-emergence of native species.	ASTC/DIPL/DTSC	Ongoing
These grasses accumulate much larger fuel loads than native species causing more intensive and more frequent fires and substantially greater ecological damage. Management of both grasses is critical to minimising loss of river red gums and encouraging return of native species.	Develop a Fire and Vegetation Management Plan for targeted sub-zones on the basis of biological and cultural values as well as expected intensity and type of use.	ASTC/DIPL/DTSC/community	Subsequent to Vegetation and Fire Management plans
	Landcare to work with partners to restore identified target sections of the Todd River.	Landcare/ASTC/DIPL	Ongoing
	Expand support the existing efforts undertaken by Alice Springs Landcare between Gosse Street and Stott Terrace on the eastern bank and by the Olive Pink Botanic Garden between Stott Terrace and Tuncks Road.	All	Ongoing

Issue	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe
Woody weeds (White Cedar, Albizia, etc.) have invaded the town's large open stormwater drains and have potential to impede water flow. Discharging into the rivers these drains are already a source for downstream weed infestation.	Include weed management in the Vegetation and Fire Management Plan for the town area. Work with responsible authorities and interested parties in removal and monitoring of weeds of concern in the storm water drains and in the management area.	DIPL/ASTC/DTSC/DENR	6 months
Mexican poppy is a Class B and Class C prickly weed that affects amenity of the river. The weed is being managed by Landcare groups and is still sparse in the areas of high public use north of Heavitree Gap. It is important to exclude this invasive species to maintain public amenity in this part of the river through town.	Work with responsible authorities and interested parties in removal and monitoring of Mexican poppy in the areas of the river upstream from John Blakeman Bridge and the town drains. Ensure litter crews able to identify and treat infestations.	DIPL/ASTC/DENR	Ongoing
The periodically high water table and salinity levels in the Town Basin aquifer have impacted the ecological health of the rivers. This risk is being mitigated by managed extraction for irrigation of parks, reserves, and other areas to encourage recharge by better quality waters.	Ensure the next review of the Alice Springs Water Allocation Plan includes an assessment of how well the existing controls on extraction from the Town Basin are affecting water table height, tree health and salinity levels.	DENR	18 months

Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority(AAPA)

Alice Springs Town Council (ASTC)

Central Land Council (CLC)

Department of Environment and Natural Resources(DENR)

Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics(DIPL)

Department of Tourism Sport and Culture (DTSC)

Alice Springs and Olive Pink Landcare (Landcare)

Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS)

Northern Territory Police, Fire & Emergency Services (PFES)

Encourage more locals and visitors to use the rivers in culturally and ecologically sensitive ways for recreation and relaxation.

Issue	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe
Some residents and visitors avoid walking in the rivers due to concerns about rubbish and safety.	Ongoing proactive management of rubbish within the river and along the banks.	ASTC/DIPL	Ongoing
Redundant infrastructure within the river is an eyesore and gives the impression the rivers are not valued.	Identify the location of redundant or discarded infrastructure and plan for its removal.	DIPL/ASTC	1 year
While the rivers are used for recreation, relaxation, camping and community events such as the Henley on Todd, the river beds are generally ignored. Little information is accessible for locals and visitors to gain an understanding of the importance of the rivers.	<p>Develop a series of communication products to assist the community to understand and celebrate the cultural and ecological values of the rivers, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved interpretative facilities along the rivers • education materials for use in schools (including redevelopment of the Nature's Boarding House and Birds of the Todd checklist posters) • materials that improve understanding of the connections between stormwater drains and the rivers behaviour • promotion of nature based activities in the rivers • develop Community Recreation Zones • contribute to the discussion on the impact of camping in the rivers. 	Advisory group with assistance from DENR/DIPL/DTSC/ASTC	Develop a communications plan to include a series of communication products within 1 year
Commercial developments along the rivers mostly face away as if to avoid an interface with this outstanding natural feature.	Encourage and advocate to businesses located along the river, schools and interested organisations to become involved in care of the river corridor.	All	As part of communications plan

Issue	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe
There has been considerable development of public amenity along the river corridor in recent years including well-used bicycle and pedestrian paths. Potential remains to further enhance the rivers for public use.	Careful placement of street furniture lighting and landscaping features combined with selected replanting of targeted areas to improve visitor experiences, increase safety and would encourage locals to value the rivers Leichhardt Terrace and area adjacent to Olive Pink Botanical Gardens should be prioritised.	DIPL/ASTC	Dependant on review below, then ongoing
	Review previous proposals and past public consultations to identify priority projects for additional infrastructure along the rivers.	DENR/DIPL/ASTC	1 year
Vehicle movements in and along the river banks are largely unrestrained creating an ugly network of wheel tracks. These destroy remnant native vegetation, spread weeds and have potential to channel water and erode the banks, especially after prolonged dry periods.	Based on an assessment of current erosion risks, formalise and stabilise pedestrian and vehicle access tracks to mitigate erosion, including through the installation of barriers where required.	ASTC/DIPL/DENR/PFES/DTSC/AAPA	
	Work towards the exclusion of unnecessary vehicle traffic.	ASTC/DIPL	Over 5 years
	Develop a prioritised erosion repair program.	DTSC/ASTC/DIPL	Over 5 years



Governments, business and the community to work collaboratively to care for the rivers.

Issue	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe
Over recent decades the level of effort put into caring for the rivers has fluctuated, and focus on the rivers' management has ebbed and flowed based on the efforts of individuals and/or availability of outside funding programs. Consistent effort and strategic oversight is required to ensure that management is sustainable.	Establish and resource an ongoing advisory group to monitor the Strategy implementation and to focus public and government attention on the rivers.	Supported by DENR	4 Months
	Encourage and facilitate commitment by individuals, schools and community groups in managing fuel loads in small sections of the rivers.	Advisory group	Ongoing
	Encourage recurrent funding from all levels of government and philanthropists to promote maintenance and eventual expansion of the management area.		
	Encourage and support the development of an Mparntwe Ranger Group in conjunction with relevant organisations in accordance with the aspirations of Mparntwe sacred site custodians.	Advisory group/CLC/AAPA/DIPL/DTSC/ASTC	Ongoing
Based on the results of a flood mitigation geomorphologic study of the Todd River, a flood mitigation plan is currently being prepared by Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics. It is important for coordination to occur between the flood mitigation plan and the Lhere Mparntwe Strategy.	Ensure that the advisory group is consulted regarding management of sedimentation for flood mitigation purposes (including maintenance targets) to ensure that effects on erosion and vegetation control considered.	DIPL	Ongoing
Key management activities should be monitored to determine the level of achievement and whether modifications are indicated.	Establish a monitoring program for assessing progress and achievement in the implementation of the Strategy.	Advisory group/ community with support of DENR	1 year

