



Media Release

Darwin City Council

Communications & Marketing Ph. (08) 8930 0504 Fax (08) 8930 0669

Darwin City Matters

Two issues of public concern raised in the media will be dealt with at the first normal council meeting held tonight (16/06/09).

Darwin City Council raised concerns about people being released in the Centre of Darwin after being in protective custody over night. Responses were forthcoming from both the NT Police and Chief Minister Paul Henderson. As a result the Larrakia Intervention and Transport Service was employed to remedy the situation.

Lord Mayor, Graeme Sawyer congratulated the NT Government on dealing with the problem "The co-ordinated NT Government and NT Police response has been effective in mitigating the problem, I encourage the NT Government to continue the LITS response" he said.

Other issues raised at tonight's will be a request from Council Officers to have the waiting period before abandoned vehicles are removed from public streets. Council is seeking the period be reduced from 7 days to 24 hours notice. Darwin City Council General manager for Community & Cultural Services, John Banks commented on the need to shorten the process "The administrative reality of identifying problem vehicles, then trying to contact owners and then giving notice mean at present it can take 3 weeks for a vehicle to be removed" he said "We generally have a good result from the public, 60% of vehicles are removed within 72 hours of owners being contacted".

Darwin City Council Agendas and Minutes are available online at www.darwin.nt.gov.au