

# DARWIN HARBOUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE BULLETIN

ISSUE 2 | JANUARY 2019

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the second issue of the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee (DHAC) Bulletin.

During 2018 DHAC established working groups to advance two work programs: 1) A 2019 Strategy for Darwin Harbour and 2) Darwin Harbour and Catchment Integrated Reporting.

The strategy is progressing well – the first stage is complete and has been submitted to the Minister. This first section provides a robust vision for the Darwin Harbour Region with clear guiding principles to underpin its stewardship. It outlines a contemporary management framework for Darwin Harbour and its catchment to ensure a balance between sustainable development, a working harbour important to a range of cultural, recreational and economic values, and the protection and maintenance of healthy environments and ecosystems in the harbour and its catchment, now and into the future. Stage 2 is underway and will include stakeholder engagement and an implementation strategy.

Working with partners we have progressed a framework for Darwin Harbour integrated reporting that will reflect the core values identified in the DH Strategy. Central to this is stakeholder engagement to foster ownership of the process and the indicators chosen for long term monitoring. We are currently working on securing funds to realise our vision for DH Integrated Reporting.

## DHAC WELCOMES A NEW MEMBER

Members of the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee welcomed a new member to the table; Dr Sam Buchanan, Paspaley, who was formally appointed to the committee by the Minister. We thank outgoing member Mr Nick Hanigan for his commitment and support while serving on Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee.

Dr Buchanan is the Chief Operating Officer for the Paspaley Pearls group of companies. Like many local businesses he has a deep interest in the sustainable development of the Darwin Harbour. Dr Buchanan has a PhD in Marine Biology with specialist skills in bivalve ecology, and a broad experience in aquaculture and maritime sector business both in Australia and overseas.

Dr Buchanan brings this experience to the committee and to encourage appropriate engagement of all stakeholders ensuring that balanced, fact based advice is provided to the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources, in respect to the environmentally sustainable development of the harbour.

## DARWIN HARBOUR STRATEGY

The outcome of Stage 2 will be to deliver a refreshed Darwin Harbour Management Strategy.

The revised strategy will build sensibly on the foundation that has already been built by the 2010 Darwin Harbour Management Strategy, while ensuring future challenges and emerging issues are captured.

Importantly for key stakeholders, this will include engagement through the DHAC internet portal and key stakeholders including DHAC member networks.

Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee members are being supported by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources on delivery of the strategy.

## NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON!!

The committee has been working on the development of a new and improved website. The new website will be more user friendly and include meeting minutes and regular bulletins to keep you informed.



## PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

The committee has welcomed presentations from various relevant organisations.

Some recent speakers have included:

Meeting 6 – 23 August 2018

- Julia Fortune, Senior Scientist, Aquatic Health Unit, Water Resource DENR. Julia provided a presentation on the Darwin Harbour Nitrogen Loads.
- Michelle Skarlatos-Simoes, Aquatic Biosecurity Officer, NT Fisheries, provided a presentation on Aquatic Pest Monitoring.

Meeting 7 – 1 November 2018

- Karen Avery, Environment Policy and Support DENR provided a presentation on the Draft Environment Protection Bill.
- Ian Satchwell, Economic and Environment Policy, DCM provided a presentation on the Climate Change Strategy Paper.



## DARWIN HARBOUR INTEGRATED REPORTING WORKSHOP

Integrated web based reporting for Darwin Harbour and the Territory coast has been scoped and costed by two providers; the Integration and Application Network of the University of Maryland Centre for Environmental Science and the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

Members from the Darwin Harbour Integrated Reporting working group held a workshop to meet with representatives from the Integration and Application Network and the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

The workshop was held at Development House on Tuesday, 11 December 2018. The purpose of the workshop was to identify synergies within the two complementary scopes and discuss the program of activity, including any issues or concerns.

The workshop had presentations from the following:

Dr Simon Costanzo – Integration and Application Network, University of Maryland Centre for Environmental Science

Dr Richard Brinkman – Sustainable Coastal Ecosystems & Industries, Australian Institute of Marine Science



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## CONTACT US

The Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee  
C-/O The Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
PO Box 496, Palmerston NT 0831  
Email: [darwinharbour@nt.gov.au](mailto:darwinharbour@nt.gov.au)