

Darwin

Harbour Advisory

Committee Bulletin

Issue 4 | June 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the fourth issue of the DHAC Bulletin. We are pleased to advise good progress on our two major work programs:

- 1) A Strategy for Darwin Harbour; and
- 2) Darwin Harbour Integrated Reporting.

The Darwin Harbour Strategy

We are now working on an Implementation Phase that will develop actions and priority projects to implement the goals, key objectives and outcomes of the Strategy. A key goal is to work across Northern Territory Government Departments to ensure that DHAC's Strategy guides and informs projects in Darwin Harbour. We are particularly focussed on the need for a balance between sustainable development, a working harbour important to a range of Indigenous cultural, recreational and economic values, and the protection and maintenance of healthy environments and ecosystems in the harbour and its catchment.

Darwin Harbour Integrated Reporting

Working with partners we have progressed a framework for Darwin Harbour integrated reporting that will reflect the core values identified in the Darwin Harbour Strategy. We were successful in securing an Ian Potter Foundation grant for this project. Central to this is stakeholder engagement to foster ownership of the process and the indicators chosen for long term monitoring to report on the ecological, social, Indigenous cultural, and economic health of Darwin Harbour. Similar to a school report card, the Darwin Harbour Report Card will provide performance - driven numeric grades that reflect the health of the harbour on a regular basis. The NT Government has produced a [Darwin Harbour Report Card](#) focused on water-quality yearly since 2009 and we propose to broaden that vision.

Kind regards,

Karen Gibb
Chairperson
Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee

DHAC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Members of the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee (DHAC) welcomed new members to the table at their meeting on 4 June 2021:

- Dr Emma Young - City of Darwin
- Mr Wayne Sharpe - Power and Water Corporation;
- Mr Jamie Carle - INPEX; and
- Mr Leighton Randell - Santos.

Dr Emma Young is the Executive Manager of Environment, Climate and Waste Services at the City of Darwin.

Mr Wayne Sharpe is the Senior Water Quality Officer at Power and Water Corporation.

Mr Jamie Carle is an Environment Team Lead at INPEX, based in Perth, and is responsible for managing a range of environmental monitoring programs and environmental offset programs for the Ichthys LNG Project in the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Waters.

Mr Leighton Randell is a Senior Environment Advisor at Santos and is responsible for overseeing the environmental performance of their Darwin LNG Facility, including Darwin Harbour Activities.

DARWIN HARBOUR STRATEGY



The Darwin Harbour Strategy 2020 - 2025 was finalised in July 2020. The Strategy was released for public comment in December 2019 and closed on 28 February 2020. A [summary of the consultation feedback PDF \(722.7 KB\)](#) which has been incorporated into the final Strategy is available.

The purpose of the Strategy is to provide guidance for the integrated management of the Darwin Harbour to promote ecologically sustainable development, foster good stewardship of Darwin harbour and protect its environmental, Indigenous cultural, social and economic values.

The Committee continues to view the Strategy as a living document, and welcomes feedback from all users and stakeholders in the region. The continued support from the community is vital. It underpins the founding principles of this document and the approach to a sustainable future for the Darwin harbour.

DARWIN HARBOUR INTEGRATED REPORTING

The 'Towards integrated Reporting for Darwin Harbour' project is an initiative of the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee and funded by the Ian Potter Foundation with co-funding from the NT Government, Santos, Charles Darwin University, Darwin Port and the City of Darwin. The project team includes staff from CDU, the University of Maryland Centre for Environmental Science, the Larrakia Development Corporation, Griffith University and the Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security.



Photo credit: University of Maryland Centre for Environmental Science

Following the successful launch of the project in early 2020, there has been plenty of activity by this multi-institutional team, sourcing data for the twelve values identified at the first stakeholder workshops held in multiple locations in and around Darwin on 14-16 March 2020 [attendees at the Darwin workshop pictured above]. Stakeholders from government, industry, academia, Indigenous communities and NGOs collaborated to define the values of Darwin Harbour and options for assessing these values. While the process of creating this report card is stakeholder-driven, relying on local knowledge and expertise, the report cards are underpinned by data sourced from many different organisations/departments.

The project will be completed in the second half of 2021 with the launch of the Darwin Harbour Integrated Report Card. The report card will provide annual snapshots of the ecological, social, Indigenous cultural, and economic health of Darwin Harbour and surrounding catchment. Significant effort has been invested in Indigenous leadership and engagement throughout the process via workshops and surveys to identify Indigenous values of the harbour and ways to assess the health of these values.

A follow-up stakeholder workshop is being held on 29 July 2021 to present the work that has been undertaken over the past 18 months. Following receipt of feedback from the stakeholders, the first report card will be finalised and released to the public. The report card will be accompanied by a website which will be the ongoing home of the report card program.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED



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The DHAC aims to keep the community and stakeholders informed about the progress of the Committee. If you would like to be kept up to date, subscribe to our mailing list by clicking the picture above or emailing:

darwinharbour.DEPWS@nt.gov.au

The DHAC Bulletins are a timely, cost effective, environmentally friendly way of keeping you up to date with the Committee. You can also view the bulletins and other Committee information by visiting our [website](#).

Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee



Our vision: To protect and enhance the environmental, economic, Indigenous cultural and social values of Darwin Harbour

CONTACT US

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