

Media Release

28 March 2025

March Council Meeting wrap up

Alice Springs Councillors met on Tuesday 25 March 2025 for their monthly Ordinary Council Meeting. The following is a summary of some of the matters discussed. To see full Council reports and minutes, visit the ASTC website. A full video of the meeting is available on Council's [website](#).

Temporary library location

Alice Springs Town Council, with support from the NT Government, is planning a brand new, purpose-built Library for our community.

The current Library is a much-loved and busy hub that has simply outgrown its space – a clear sign of how valuable it is and the wide range of services it provides.

As part of the planning, Council will need to find a temporary location for the Library while the new one is being built. Council Officers will now look into the costs and practicalities of three possible sites: the Civic Centre, Alice Plaza, or Charles Darwin University. A report will be developed and brought back to Elected Members at a later date.

Animal Shelter in good hands

The Alice Springs Town Council team has been busy over the past few months caring for animals at the local Animal Shelter — and that commitment is here to stay. Council has now resolved to take on full responsibility for running the Shelter, including operating the pound, on a permanent basis.

Significant upgrades have already been made to the facility, such as improved security, new ICT systems, a maintenance and capital works plan, and the recruitment and training of a dedicated animal management team. These changes give the Shelter greater stability and help ensure it continues to provide a safe, well-managed space for animals into the future.

Clarifying coordinator's role

The Northern Territory Government recently established the role of a Territory Coordinator. The Territory Coordinator Bill was passed without accepting a recommendation to exclude the Local Government Act from the Coordinator's oversight, something that was advocated for by the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.

Concerned about the potential impacts on councils, Alice Springs Town Council has decided to write to the new Coordinator and the Chief Minister to seek clarification on this matter.

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Working with the Redtails/Pinktails

The Redtails/Pinktails Right Tracks Program has recently received a major funding boost of \$57 million to support its work mentoring young people across Alice Springs and surrounding communities.

As part of the program's growth, there is potential for upgrades to TIO Traeger Park – a Council-owned facility. In response, Council has requested a report from officers to explore the development of a committee and governance structure that would guide any future developments to the facility with the aim of working with Redtails/Pinktails.

The Redtails/Pinktails Right Tracks Program helps marginalised young people build skills, gain employment, and become leaders in our community, a goal that Council is committed to working towards collaboratively.

Community Development update

Alice Springs Town Council's Community Development Directorate supports Alice Springs residents to live fulfilled lives through providing programs and events. Achievements between December 2024 and February 2025 include:

- Council, in collaboration with the Multicultural Community Services of Central Australia, hosted a Lunar New Year Pop Up Party on 7 February in the Todd Mall. This attracted approximately 1,500 attendees to the Todd Mall.
- Last year, Council successfully obtained a grant of \$100,000 through NTG's Tourism Town Asset Program to commission a second roundabout statue. This work is currently in fabrication, with the artist already having spent 300 hours on the project to date. Installation is currently planned for June 2025.
- The Ranger Unit responded to 91 reports of abandoned vehicles during this reporting period. Of these 91, 50 were impounded, with the rest removed by their owners following ranger intervention. The Unit also responded to 127 calls for service.
- During the December 2024 - February 2025 reporting period, Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre (ASALC) recorded 45,228 visitors to the Centre. This large number of attendances was significantly contributed to by the summer holidays free entry period, which was funded by the Northern Territory Government.
- The Alice Springs Public Library has continued to be an essential and valued hub for the community. During the reporting period, the library had 26,869 visitors through the doors, including 4,069 people attending specific events or programs.

Ends:

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