

Gerald McCarthy

Minister for Housing and Community Development



Media Release

## New Councils to Build Strong and Vibrant Communities

6 September 2017

The Minister for Housing and Community Development, Gerry McCarthy, today congratulated the Northern Territory's new and re-elected mayors, presidents and councillors and welcomed them to their roles as representatives of their local communities.

"I congratulate and welcome incoming council members – it is a privileged position to hold the community's trust to make decisions in their best interests," Mr McCarthy said.

"With the declaration of the polls this week formally wrapping up the previous term, I would also like to thank the outgoing council members for their contributions and achievements they have made in shaping their communities."

Mr McCarthy paid particular credit to the people of Belyuen community who voted for the first time after a 10-year hiatus.

"It was a great pleasure for me to reinstate the Belyuen Shire Council in July this year, ending its official management status, to allow the community to have an elected council to strongly represent their interests," he said.

Mr McCarthy said he was pleased all council positions had been filled, apart from the Palmerston Council who will have their election in March next year.

"I applaud all candidates for their nomination and interest in improving their local communities – it was great to see so many people from right across the Territory nominate and acknowledge the importance of local government services in their areas," Mr McCarthy said.

"I look forward to the positive outcomes across the Territory that all elected mayors, presidents and councillors will deliver over the next four years – to foster vibrant and harmonious communities.

"I encourage all new councillors to put your community first, listen and consult and then take decisive action."

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