

CDU GREATER DARWIN Campuses of the Future

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



MASTERPLAN PROJECT

Planning our Greater Darwin campuses of the Future

Charles Darwin University (CDU) is at a pivotal point in its development. With a strategy for substantial growth in place, the time is right to explore how our Greater Darwin campuses can best support positive outcomes for our University, our staff, students, partners and the wider Darwin community.

With the City Deal providing the opportunity for CDU to play a crucial role in revitalising Darwin's CBD through the proposed development of a CDU CBD campus at a new Education and Civic Precinct, we've embarked on a project to explore what's possible and feasible both in the City Centre and at our existing Greater Darwin campuses.



PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE SUCCESS

CDU has embarked on a significant planning process to inform its future footprint in Greater Darwin. The Greater Darwin campuses of the Future project considers:

- Planning for the CBD Education and Civic Precinct as part of the City Deal; and
- Planning for our existing campuses – Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront locations.

The result will be two Masterplans that are produced separately, but are driven by a unified vision for University growth, and will best position the University to respond to significant changes to its operating context including:

- Reshaping of the Northern Territory's economy
- Greater competition in the regional and global marketplace
- A change in the way people access further education and undertake research
- Opportunities for revitalisation of Darwin's CBD in partnership with all levels of government.

The proposed development of a CBD campus will see a range of existing education, research and training activities delivered from Darwin's CBD. A masterplan for the CBD campus has been drafted by a consultant team with input from stakeholders and will be released in due course.

With this planning well underway, it is timely to reflect on and review the usage of CDU's existing Greater Darwin campuses, focusing on their future role for CDU and the community; built form and public realm requirements; and opportunities to create great campus experiences.

Multi-disciplinary consultants Hames Sharley are leading the masterplanning process for the Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront campuses.

The process includes engaging with staff, students, stakeholders and neighbours to gain key insights of those who use the campuses and can best identify their potential.

Consultation will run over the coming months and the final plan for Greater Darwin's existing campuses is expected in the second quarter of 2020.

The following Frequently Asked Questions provide additional information about the planning processes for CDU's existing Greater Darwin campuses and the proposed CBD campus.

What is a Masterplan?

A Masterplan is a non-statutory, high-level plan that will help to ensure there is a cohesive and strategic approach to investment and development over time.

It considers how physical assets and environments can best be designed, used and activated to deliver desired outcomes. In the context of a University these outcomes may include the delivery of education, research, experiences, partnerships and knowledge creation.

The Charles Darwin University (CDU) Casuarina, Palmerston, and Waterfront Masterplans will have a 15-year planning horizon, framing change until 2035 and directions beyond.

What Masterplans is the University currently developing?

The University is undertaking two masterplanning projects. The first project focuses on the proposed CBD campus. The Masterplan for this campus has been drafted and will be released to the public after further stakeholder engagement.

The second project (launched in August 2019) focuses on CDU's existing Darwin campuses (Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront). This project is taking into consideration the outcomes of the CBD campus Masterplan.

Why is CDU developing Masterplans for the Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront campuses?

The context in which CDU operates has been changing. Reshaping of the Northern Territory's economy, greater competition in the regional and global marketplace, and a change in the way people access further education are among the drivers for CDU's planning for the future.

This, combined with the imminent potential for a new CBD campus as part of the City Deal initiative, provides a timely opportunity to reflect on and review the usage of the existing Darwin campuses to best position the University for future growth.

Why are the CBD campus and Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront Masterplans being developed separately?

It is important to note that while the two processes are being undertaken separately, they are closely linked and are being driven by a unified strategic direction focused on the future growth of CDU.

It was necessary to begin planning for the CBD campus earlier this year to understand the opportunities and constraints of relocating specific higher education, vocational training and administration functions to the CBD. Through this process a range of Colleges and Schools have been identified to shift to the new campus (refer to page 6 for further details).

This represents both opportunities and challenges for the planning of the Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront campuses. It was important to understand these considerations, before embarking on detailed planning for these sites.

The University Executive is committed to ensuring the best outcome for CDU and the Darwin community through the comprehensive and strategic planning for CDU's assets.

ABOUT THE CITY DEAL AND CBD CAMPUS

What is the City Deal?

The Darwin City Deal is a joint initiative between the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government (NTG) and City of Darwin to design a 10-year plan for the Darwin city centre that sets a long-term and sustainable vision for the future.

The City Deal presents an opportunity for the City to overcome the current challenges it faces and look ahead to becoming a prosperous northern hub of growth.

This 10-year plan for Darwin's future will position the City as a vibrant and liveable tropical capital city, supported by a growing population and diversified economy.

It will support catalyst projects to revitalise Darwin's City Centre, as well as the planning and collaboration necessary to support Darwin's growth. This will help to unlock investment in Darwin, grow its population, boost visitor economy and support greater business activity.

What opportunities does the City Deal provide for CDU?

CDU plays a key part in the City Deal. The new Education and Civic Precinct in the City Centre will provide a significant campus for CDU and has enabled a strategic review of Casuarina, Palmerston, and CDU Waterfront campuses.

What planning has been completed for the proposed CBD campus?

CDU has taken the first material steps towards realising its CBD campus as part of the Darwin City Deal. This has included the development of a Masterplan for the CBD campus, which is currently in draft format.

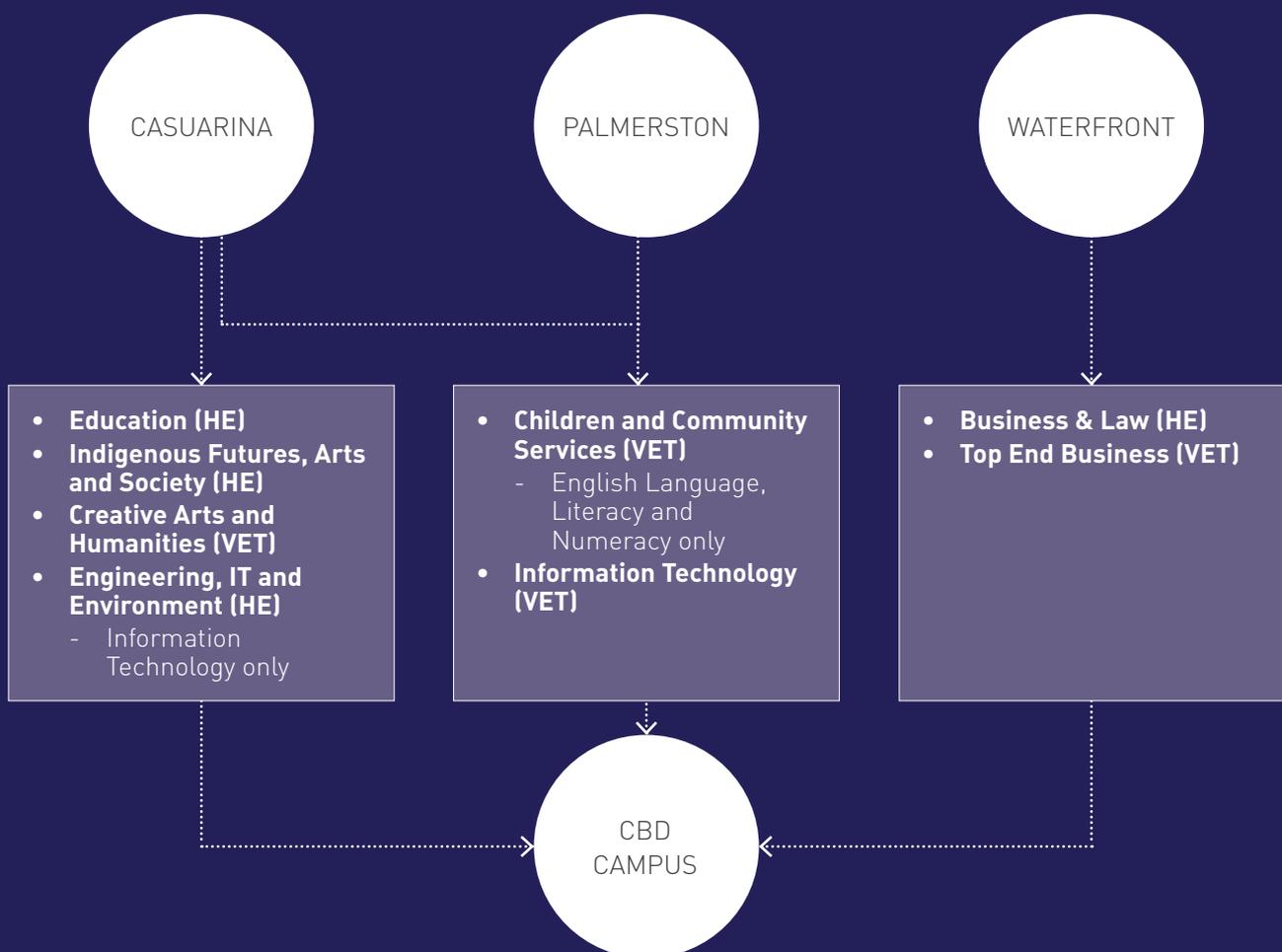
The second stage of the project, centred on strategy, planning and finance, is underway and is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2019.

The CBD campus will rely on the University accessing funds through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF). CDU will need an estimated additional \$150 million from NAIF, coupled with \$97.3 million grant from the Australian Government's Darwin City Deal, to create the CBD campus. Discussions with NAIF are well advanced and will assist with the development of a robust business case that will be presented to CDU Council for consideration.



What is currently planned to be located at the new CBD campus?

At present, the following functions have been proposed to move from the Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront campuses to the City Centre. It should be noted that **this list may be subject to change** through ongoing planning processes.



How does this impact the planning for the Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront campuses?

The planned movement of these education, research and administrative functions to the CBD campus will

impact the level of activity occurring on Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront campuses.

This results in the need to carefully consider: the strategic use and feasibility of each location moving forward; opportunities to create new value-adding activity at these locations; and a focus on how to ensure the sustainability of CDU assets in the future.

BENEFITS OF A MASTERPLANNING APPROACH FOR CDU

What are the benefits of having Masterplans for our campuses?

Masterplans help to ensure there is a cohesive and strategic approach to campus use, investment and development over time - reflecting CDU's Strategic Vision and responding to rapidly changing context and emerging opportunities.

The Masterplans will aim to achieve the following benefits:

- Deliver quality learning, teaching and research outcomes
- Create welcoming campuses that are integrated with their surrounding neighbourhoods
- Enrich campus experience
- Create sustainable approaches to our campuses
- Build campuses that have strong and enduring identities.

What is being considered in these Masterplans?

The Masterplans will consider the following elements:

- **Unique context** - An assessment of campus context including constraints and opportunities associated with uses; the natural environment; existing built form and landscape; and historical and cultural connections
- **Buildings and spaces** – Strategies for the way built form comes together to create unique places and connections, including: teaching and learning places, places for research activity and partners, and potential additional amenity for community use
- **Landscape and public areas** - Strategies for external spaces, connections and landscaping for great campus experiences
- **Access and wayfinding** - Identification of movement patterns within, around and between campuses with a focus on creating ease of connection and legibility

- **Implementation** - Suggested staging of investment delivery, taking into consideration the need for operational continuity
- **Community development and place activation** – Strategies to build community on campus, connect surrounding community into the campus, and create memorable experiences.

What has resulted from previous CDU Masterplans?

CDU has developed through the merger of various institutions including, in the North, TAFE, an Institute of Technology, the Menzies School of Health Research, and a Community College. A variety of buildings have been built over time to support these various purposes. Many of the buildings are now ageing, some also having gone through Cyclone Tracy and may not be fit for the University's future needs.

In January 1989 the NT University Act created the dual sector Northern Territory University (NTU). In this year it was also determined that Casuarina and not Palmerston would be the main site of the University. In 2003, NTU became Charles Darwin University with an expanded and external focus.

The first campus masterplan for Casuarina was developed in 1990 and a revision was undertaken in 1991 and again in 1994. This moved the location of the University from Myilly Point to Casuarina where some buildings were already located. From this masterplan significant spaces such as the Strand, Boab Court, the Mall and surrounding buildings were developed. Further preliminary work for a new masterplanning process was undertaken in 2012 and in 2014 and this information will feed into the 2020 Masterplan.

At Palmerston campus, TAFE buildings and the lake and weir were built in 1995. The first Palmerston Campus Masterplan was written in 1997 and since then the Bakery, Library and the Recreation Centre that were included on this plan have been built.

The Waterfront campus began in 2014 to provide a presence near the Darwin CBD.

PROCESS AND TIMINGS

When will the Masterplans be finalised?

The CBD campus Masterplan will be finalised and available for public viewing in the coming months.

The Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront Masterplans will be finalised in the second quarter of 2020.

Who approves the Masterplans?

The University's governing Council will be responsible for approving the Masterplans on advice from the Vice-Chancellor.

How will the Masterplans be implemented?

Both project scopes include the development of an implementation and activation plan, which will include the suggested staging of delivery taking into consideration operational needs. Further details regarding implementation will be made available following approval of the final Masterplans.

How will the community be consulted on the Masterplans?

Internal consultation has been undertaken on the CBD campus Masterplan. This included a series of workshops with students, staff and other stakeholders. Outcomes of the consultant has directly informed the draft Masterplan.

Over the coming months there will be a range of additional input opportunities available to staff, students, stakeholders, neighbours and the broader community to provide their feedback into the Casuarina, Palmerston and Waterfront Masterplanning process. This will help us to gain deep insights into each campus and the potential that each holds.

Initial engagement with key internal and external stakeholders begun in September, with broader engagement occurring throughout October. A dedicated Masterplanning project website will be launched and updates on how to get involved will be shared through various communications methods.

TO LEARN MORE VISIT

masterplan.cdu.edu.au

