2017|18

Annual Report

MacDonnell Regional Council

MacDonnell
Regional Council

MacDonnell Regional Council

Alice Springs Office

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Council Service Delivery Centres

Amoonguna

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Areyonga (Utju)

Phone: 08 8956 7311 Fax: 08 8956 7302

Mail: CMB 219 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: areyonga@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Docker River (Kaltukatjara)

Phone: 08 8956 7337 Fax: 08 8956 7338

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Finke (Aputula)

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Mail: CMB 184 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: finke@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)

Phone: 08 8956 8533 Fax: 08 8956 8534

Mail: CMB 211 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: haastsbluff@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Hermannsburg (Ntaria)

Phone: 08 8956 7411 Fax: 08 8956 7425

Mail: CMB 185 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: hermannsburg@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Imanpa

Phone: 08 8956 7454 Fax: 08 8956 7464

Mail: CMB 119 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: imanpa@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Kintore (Walungurru)

Phone: 08 8956 8566 Fax: 08 8956 8569

Mail: CMB 13 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: kintore@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)

Phone: 08 8956 8500 Fax: 08 8956 8589

Mail: CMB 97 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: mountliebig@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Papunya (Warumpi)

Phone: 08 8956 8522 Fax: 08 8956 8520

Post: CMB 225 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: papunya@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)

Phone: 08 8956 0999 Fax: 08 8956 0923

Mail: CMB 190 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: santateresa@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Titjikala

Phone: 08 8956 0844 Fax: 08 8956 0843

Mail: CMB 149 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: titjikala@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Wallace Rockhole

Phone: 08 8956 7415 Fax: 08 8956 7491

Mail: CMB 168 via Alice Springs NT 0872

Email: wallacerockhole@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Cover photo

Following flood damage our longest community access road, connecting Areyonga to the Mereenie Loop, was reformed and graded.

2017|18 Annual Report of the MacDonnell Regional Council is produced in accordance with the *Local Government Act*. MacDonnell Regional Council consistently works with its funding partners in an endeavour to achieve our shared goals, provide real employment and improve life opportunities for constituents.

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Message from the Council President

Welcome to the 2017/18 Annual Report for MacDonnell Regional Council.

Without taking our eyes off the work ahead this is a good moment to reflect. Not just on the past 12 months, but back over our 10 year history of local government across the region since the shires were introduced. Throughout this time I have been fortunate to be a councillor and visit our communities. I am pleased to have seen the many changes that have occurred in that period. I now see cleaner communities, rubbish collected regularly and residents getting better job opportunities – among many other great improvements MacDonnell Regional Council has delivered for our residents.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the recent retirement of Councillor Sid Anderson. Uncle Sid made a great contribution to Council, not only as a Councillor for the Luritja Pintubi Ward for 10 years, but particularly as our President from 2009 until 2016. During this time I was his deputy and I am thankful for what I learned from him about council, governance and working with the councillors to turn plans into results.

Our Council enjoys a productive relationship with our Local Authorities. Across our 13 communities, the Local Authorities take their role in facilitating projects to assist the communities into the future very seriously. This has resulted in local benefits, from public ablution blocks to facilities around sports grounds, and many more.

Local Authorities also assist with comprehensive input during our Regional Plan processes, helping to set targets and key performance indicators (KPIs) for things needed in their communities and guiding Council in their delivery.

Our young people continue to learn and become strong leaders as they engage through our Youth Boards. We trialled ways to link Youth Boards up with our Local Authorities. In one community the Local Authority invited the Youth Board to help it make project funding recommendations to Council, reserving a small portion of its funding for a project nominated by the Youth Board. Through these practical ways, we hope to get more young people involved in our Local Authorities and indeed elected to Council one day.

Ways to link Youth Boards up with our Local Authorities have also been trialled. In one community the Local Authority invited the Youth Board to help it make project funding recommendations to Council. Through this and other practical ways, we hope to get more young people involved in our Local Authorities and indeed elected to Council one day.

Making better job opportunities for our residents is another key achievement of MacDonnell Regional Council. I am particularly pleased to note the number of kungkas in leadership roles. Women in our communities are a strength in our workforce. Worth noting is that of our six Aboriginal Council Service Coordinators on communities, four of them are women. I also extend my gratitude to all of our workers across the region for continuing to do good work for your communities.

I continue to enjoy my role as President – travelling around our beautiful region and meeting with the residents in their communities. It is both a good chance to learn from them about their lives and to talk about how council could help.

I look forward to serving you in the coming years. Kela. Marra.

Roxanne Kenny
President, MacDonnell Regional Council

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

As MacDonnell Regional Council celebrates its tenth birthday I am extremely proud of the improvements we have brought to our remote Aboriginal communities.

Our Communities have been able to experience the reliable delivery of core municipal services, as well as the many associated services delivered on behalf of other stakeholders. Combined with high local Aboriginal employment, strong growth and fiscal management, MRC continues to deliver on its vision of *many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle*. All of Councils achievements for the year cannot be adequately covered on this page and I encourage all readers to review the entire report.

One of the greatest achievements of Council over the last ten years has been the strength of its community engagement. This has been demonstrated through our residents increased participation in local decision making, via our Local Authorities, and the development of our Youth Boards that introduce our future leaders to good governance and the democratic process. It was extremely gratifying to see that six of our recently elected Council members were previous Local Authority members. This collaboration between Council and Local Authorities will continue to direct a clear and consistent vision and mission to inspire and maintain the focus Councils future strategic direction.

Council continues to develop and promote Aboriginal leadership while maintaining our indigenous employment on community at 88.8%. MacDonnell Regional Council's service delivery continues to support community endeavour and promote economic development opportunities. Our municipal teams are working examples of place based leadership consultation in action. Our community services continue to strengthen the fabric of the community from within by assisting and supporting its growing, vulnerable and disadvantaged members.

Council continues to maintain it strong fiscal management, but is heavy reliant on our ability to win and deliver upon commercial contracts to fully resource our local government operations. Council acknowledges the support of the Commonwealth through the Financial Assistance General Purpose and Roads grants.

Local Government general elections were conducted in September 2017, and following these elections MacDonnell Regional Council held its first meeting where the newly elected members nominate and vote for the President and Deputy President. Roxanne Kenny was re-appointed as President and Greg Sharman was appointed as Deputy President. Sadly not long after this meeting, Councillor L Abbott passed away. Councillor Abbott was a foundation member and was re-elected 3 times to represent the Luritja Pintubi ward. His enthusiastic passion and dry wit is sadly missed.

MacDonnell Regional Council administration conducted the voting segment of the by-election, which resulted in a 17.5% increase in voter turnout. My special thanks go to Councillors Nangala, Cavanagh, Doolan and Hoosan for their tireless commitment to their constituents and I wish them every success in their future endeavours. I can only praise the 12 councillors I serve and thank them for their tireless commitment to the constituents of the MacDonnell Regional Council.

Finally and without hesitation, I thank our wonderful MacDonnell Regional Council staff who apply their efforts on a daily basis toward our goals and help deliver the great improvements Council brings to the lives of our residents.

Jeff MacLeod
Chief Executive Officer, MacDonnell Regional Council

About the Council

Situated in an arid desert environment at the centre of the Australian continent, MacDonnell Regional Council features many iconic, panoramic landscapes which are easily accessed from Alice Springs. The picturesque swimming holes, magnificent flora and fauna, captivating mountain ranges with changing hues and red desert sands are reasons why the MacDonnell Region is uniquely beautiful and has a deep and powerful strength that can only be felt when travelling across the land.

Our culture

At MacDonnell Regional Council we recognise and respect the fact that Aboriginal culture is the oldest continuing culture in the world and that Indigenous people have had their own form of governance for tens of thousands of years.

Having strong and effective Indigenous representatives on the Council has provided an opportunity to discuss and develop effective 'two-way' (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) communication and governance principles and practices. Council discussions are multi-lingual, moving easily between one of the Indigenous language groups spoken in the MacDonnell region (Luritja, Pintubi, Pitjantjatjara and Arrernte) and English. Councillors explore vastly different perspectives and expectations, and analyse the impacts of decisions made.

Our communities

	Council Workforce	Community Population*	Distance (km) from Alice Springs
Amoonguna	28	239	21
Areyonga (Utju)	34	195	240
Docker River (Kaltukatjara)	22	290	670
Finke (Aputula)	25	192	434
Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)	28	138	250
Hermannsburg (Ntaria)	40	605	130
Imanpa	11	151	200
Kintore (Walungurru)	28	410	530
Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)	26	169	325
Papunya (Warumpi)	35	404	240
Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)	40	579	85
Titjikala	38	227	130
Wallace Rockhole	10	67	102

*Population figures shown are from the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census.

We are committed to delivering quality services for all of our residents, with service delivery operating from Service Delivery Centres in all 13 communities. The coordination of all services and the administration of governance, finance, funding agreements and arrangements, program management and human resources is undertaken centrally in our Alice Springs office.

Our Council

MacDonnell Regional Council was established in 2008 and its area of 268,887km2 covers our 13 major remote communities as well as many outstations and numerous established and emerging enterprises in the pastoral, tourism and mining industries. The towns of Alice Springs and Yulara are excluded from the Council. The total population of MacDonnell Regional Council is 6029, of which 4955 are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people (based on the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census).

MacDonnell Regional Council has 12 elected members in four wards. Our current Councillors were elected to serve four year terms at the general election held in August last year. The President and Deputy President are elected from and by the Council.

The Council holds an Ordinary Council Meeting every two months, and Special Council Meetings as required. Meetings are held in Alice Springs, in one of the 13 communities or elsewhere within the Council's area. All Council meetings are open to the public unless confidential business is being considered. Along with our Local Authority members' attendance at Council meetings, we encourage attendance by residents of our communities, our region and other members of the public. Agendas and minutes are available on the MacDonnell Regional Council website.

Alice Springs (excluded)

Kintore
Walungurru

Mount Liebig
Watiyawanu

Papunya
Warumpi

Haasts Bluff
Ikuntji

Luritja Pintubi Ward

Hermannsburg
Ntaria

Areyonga
Utju

Wallace
Rockhole

Ljirapinta Ward

Amoonguna

Santa Teresa
Ltyentye Apurte

WA

Docker River
Kaltukatjara

Titjikala

QLD

Imanpa

Rodinga Ward

Iyarrka Ward

Finke
Aputula

SA
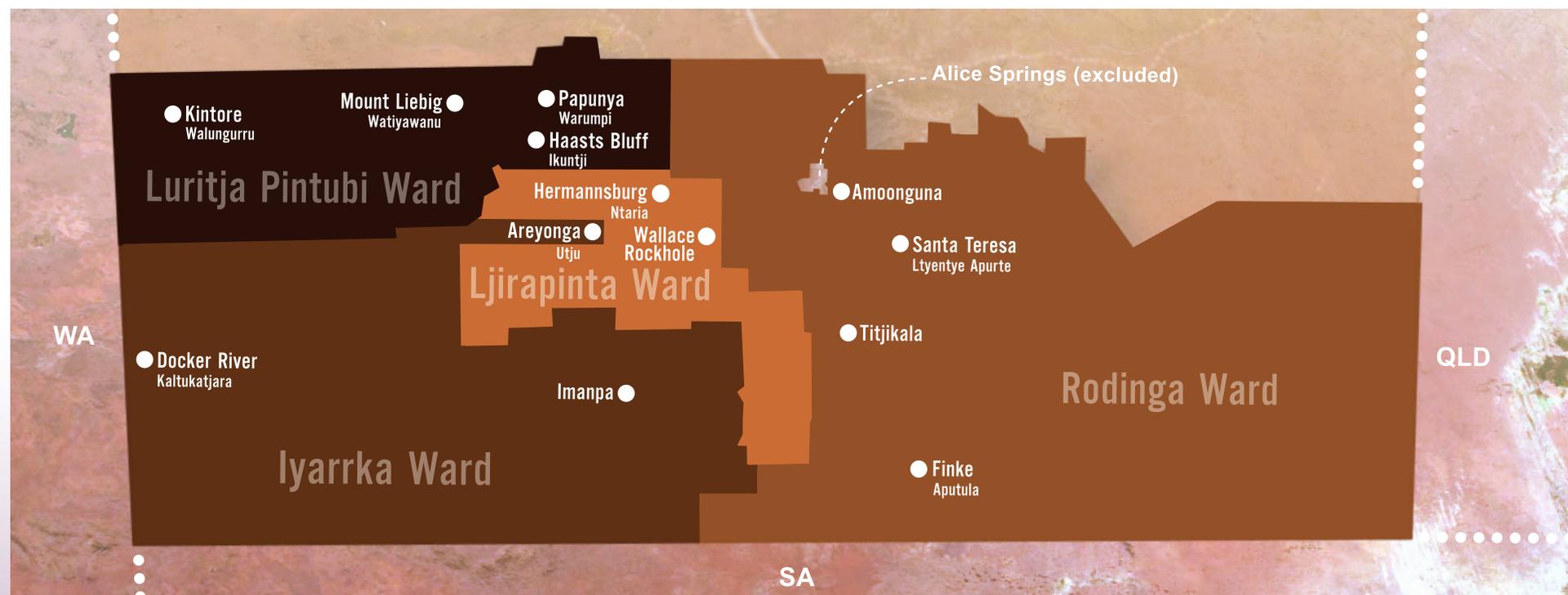
Services Offered by MacDonnell Regional Council by Community

	Amoonguna	Areyonga	Docker River	Finke	Haasts Bluff	Hermannsburg	Imanpa	Kintore	Mount Liebig	Papunya	Santa Teresa	Titjikala	Wallace Rockhole
Council Infrastructure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Municipal Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Libraries											✓		
Outstations					✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Swimming Pools		✓						✓			✓		
Airstrip Maintenance		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Australia Post	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Centrelink	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Community Store	✓												
Power		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Water	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sewerage	✓	✓	½*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Early Learning Centres	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Outside School Hours Care		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Community Night Patrol	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Aged and Disability Services	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	
School Nutrition		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓			✓	
Youth Services	✓	✓	✓⚓	✓⚓	✓	✓	✓⚓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

*Half the community recieves mains sewerage and half is on septic   ⚓ Limited Sport and Recreation service only

Ljirapinta Ward

Council President
Roxanne Kenny
via Hermannsburg (Ntaria)
Service Delivery Centre

Deputy President
Braydon Williams
via Hermannsburg (Ntaria)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Barry Abbott
via Wallace Rockhole
Service Delivery Centre

Iyarrka Ward

Councillor
Marlene Abbott
via Docker River (Kaltukatjara)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Selina Kulitja
via Docker River (Kaltukatjara)
Service Delivery Centre

Luritja Pintubi Ward

Councillor
L Abbott deceased
via Kintore (Walungurru)
Service Delivery Centre
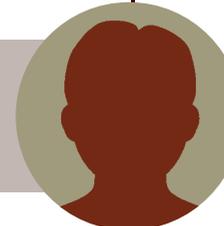
Councillor
Sid Anderson
via Papunya (Warumpi)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Irene Nangala
via Kintore (Walungurru)
Service Delivery Centre

Rodinga Ward

Councillor
Louise Cavanagh
via Santa Teresa (Ltyentye
Apurte) Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Richard Doolan
via Finke (Aputula)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Jacob Hoosan
via Finke (Aputula)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Greg Sharman
via Titjikala
Service Delivery Centre

The second council of **MacDonnell Regional Council** from 1 July to 4 September 2017

Ljirapinta Ward

Council President
Roxanne Kenny
via Hermannsburg (Ntaria)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Barry Abbott
via Wallace Rockhole
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Braydon Williams
via Hermannsburg (Ntaria)
Service Delivery Centre

Rodinga Ward

Deputy President
Greg Sharman
via Titjikala
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Susan Doolan
via Finke (Aputula)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Lynette Ellis
via Amoonguna
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Phillip Wilyuka
via Titjikala
Service Delivery Centre

Iyarrka Ward

Councillor
Marlene Abbott
via Docker River (Kaltukatjara)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Selina Kulitja
via Docker River (Kaltukatjara)
Service Delivery Centre

Luritja Pintubi Ward

Councillor
Sid Anderson
retired 25 May 2018

Councillor
Tommy Conway
via Kintore (Walungurru)
Service Delivery Centre

Councillor
Dalton McDonald
declared elected at bi-election
8 December 2017

L Abbott
deceased 18 September 2017

The third council of MacDonnell Regional Council from 4 September 2017 to 30 June 2018
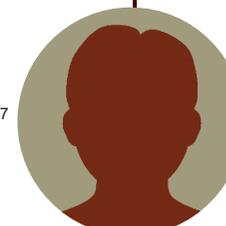
MacDonnell Council administration

Chief Executive Officer

Jeff MacLeod

Director Corporate Services

Bhan Pratap

Director Technical Services

Simon Murphy

Director Service Centre Delivery

Graham Murnik

Director Community Services

Rohan Marks

Manager Information Services	Manager Human Resources	Manager Finance	Manager Governance and Planning	Manager Property	Manager Infrastructure and Fleet	Area Managers x 3 positions	Manager Children's Services	Manager Youth Services	Manager Aged and Disability Services	Manager Community Safety
Information Services	Recruitment, Workplace Health and Safety, Employee Relations, Training and Development, Performance Management, Workplace Investigation	Grants, Rates, Accounts Payable and Receivable, Procurement, Payroll, Financial Reporting, Management Reporting, Audit and Risk Management	Governance, Planning, Media and Public Relations, Policy, Customer Service, Records Management	Council Buildings, Council Housing, Fencing Projects	Roads, Civil Contracts, Swimming Pools, Fleet and Plant, Workshops	Office Administration, Waste Management, Animal Control, Parks and Gardens, Cemeteries, Outstations, Project Management, Stores, Centrelink, Postal Services, Power and Water	MacKids: Early Learning Programs, Outside School Hours Care	MacYouth: Youth Development, Youth Diversion, Sport and Recreation	MacCare: Home Care, Home Support, Disability Services, School Nutrition	MacSafe: Night Patrol, Community Safety

Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning acknowledges the vision, mission and values of the MacDonnell Regional Council. The following assesses our performance against our goals, objectives and key performance indicators for the past financial year.

Our Vision

many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle

Our Mission

to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services

Our Values

open
we will build strong relationships and seek feedback and input on our work

respectful
we will respect and support our diverse cultures and heritage

accountable
our work must be transparent and accountable to MacDonnell Regional Council residents

inclusive
we will value and incorporate local knowledge, experience and perspectives into the work that we do

innovative
we will seek new ideas and ways of working to achieve our outcomes and improve our services

Strategic planning assessments

MacDonnell Regional Council's mission is *to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services* and our vision is *many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle*. In order to achieve this we set goals, outcomes and actions, supported by key performance indicators that provide a measure of our progress in fulfilling our mission and accomplishing our vision.

The 2017/18 financial year was one of further consolidation – building on the solid foundations established over the previous years, despite a challenging fiscal environment.

We acknowledge the importance of Federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) program to support our continued delivery of quality services. And we welcome the lifting of the indexation freeze on FAG late in the financial year. Council is faced with increasing constituent expectations against what is overall a shrinking income stream and rising costs. To address this, we have had to look to other sources of income and a reduction in expenditure. Our performance measured below should be seen in that context, a performance as a whole we remain very proud of.

In order to measure progress across all our goals, outcomes (sub-goals) strategies and key performance indicators (KPIs), MacDonnell Regional Council has again used a ratings system below to quickly show the progress.

Strategic rating key

A	Achieved completely or almost completed
B	Partially achieved
C	Not achieved or very little achieved

When committing to ambitious targets, success is not always guaranteed. From a total of 60 KPIs, we achieved 37 As, 20 Bs and 3 Cs. Of 9 outcomes, 5 had a majority of A key performance indicators, 3 had a majority or median of B key performance indicators, and 1 had a majority of A – B (where there were 2 As, 2 Bs within that outcome).

Rating summary

KPIs	60 total
A	37 achieved
B	20 partially achieved
C	3 not achieved
Outcomes	**9 total**
A	majority in 5 outcomes
B	majority or median in 4 outcomes

Goal 1 Developing communities

A **Outcome**

1.1 Residents receive quality services through continuous improvement in the standards of our services

Strategies	Target	Key Performance Indicators
Provide quality municipal services to residents	A	Roads maintained according to the MRC Transport Asset Management Plan
	A	Percentage of street lights operational
	A	Waste management maintained as per service level standards
Children are supported to grow and develop through the provision of quality early education and care programs	A	MacKids demonstrate continuous improvement against the National Quality Framework
Advocate for funding for expanded children's services	A	Representations to the NT and/or Federal Government for funding to expand MRC Children's services
Aged residents and residents with a disability are supported to live in their community through the provision of quality care	A	Home Care services demonstrate continuous improvement against the MRC Home Care Standards
Community safety is improved through the delivery of quality Community Night Patrols	A	Community Night Patrol service delivered in line with the Community Night Patrols Projects Operational Framework
Youth are engaged in their communities and are provided opportunities for development through quality youth programs	A	Youth Services are delivered in compliance with the Youth Model Standards

The basic functions of Council, although very important, have always been described with the colloquial expression of 'RR and R', but MRC is now certainly about much more than rates, roads and rubbish. In these latter two functions Council still consistently met the relevant standards, maintaining community roads and managing community waste. It similarly met high street light service level standards, important for community safety. Council has shown consistent progress if not full compliance in Children's, Home Care, Community Safety and Youth Services, working with other relevant stakeholders has developed and adopted a set of standards for youth service provision.

Developing communities
COUNCIL GOAL #1

1.2 Contribute to the economic development of the region

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Maximise Indigenous employment to support local communities	B	Percentage of employees that are Indigenous
	A	Percentage of employees in positions above entry level that are Indigenous
	A	Implement a special measures plan to encourage Indigenous employment
Local employment is supported through Council's procurements	B	Percentage of MRC contractors who employ Indigenous staff
Pursue opportunities for Council to deliver additional services that would create local employment	A	Number of additional contracts / services secured that create employment
	A	Number of days added in short term employment
	A	Number of positions created / and FTEs of positions created lasting six months or longer
Provide in-kind support to Indigenous enterprises developing tourist facilities in communities	B	Number of tourist facilities supported

Council attracted housing, fencing and outstation contracts and community service contracts that all generated jobs in our communities, including work or work opportunities for Aboriginal residents. Though not necessarily permanent, these are real jobs, meeting real needs and supplying much needed work in communities.

The only Indigenous tourist operation to receive in-kind support was the Finke community in the form of cross promotion through media exposure. ABC TV series Backroads was filmed an episode about Finke with specific mention of their developing tourism activities.

Council is pleased to have achieved a 78% indigenous employment rate, with a far greater percentage if the community employment alone (excluding Head Office) is considered.

Goal 2 Liveable communities

A Outcome

2.1 Community members love where they live

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Beautifying our communities	A	Trees and shrubs planted across 13 communities
Support active lifestyles through quality sporting facilities	C	Develop an asset management plan for Council's sporting facilities
	A	Number of sporting grounds developed to service level 4 standards
	A	Amount of funding for swimming pools secured
Parks developed for community use	A	Number of parks that meet the service level 5 standard
Providing in-kind support for community-wide events	A	Number of community-wide events supported

3900 trees and shrubs have been delivered across 13 communities. All funds have been acquitted. Develop an asset management plan for Council's sporting facilities AMP completed. Community Sports Grounds meet SL 4 13 x parks meet MRC SL 5. four new parks are being developed at Imanpa, Kintore, Docker River and Mt Liebig

Landscaping plans were developed in each of our 13 communities and hundreds of trees planted to shade and beautify, where (13) thirteen parks meet MRC service level 5 standard! Trees are welcome practical additions to our communities, especially in the desert's searing summer heat.

A **Outcome**

2.2 Building a quality desert lifestyle for our grandchildren

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Increase our use of solar energy across our communities	A	Number of community parks that have solar lighting
Reduce our energy consumption	C	Develop a set of energy standards for Council facilities
	C	Percentage reduction in kilowatts used by all Council facilities
Advocate for sustainable funding to our homelands / outstations	A	Representations to the Northern Territory Government on behalf of homelands/outstation residents for sustainable funding for homelands/outstations
	A	Applications for Special Purpose Infrastructure Grants for MRC outstations

The improved funding received together with MRC's push to increase community support for community swimming pools will continue to keep these popular and healthy community resources open and safe in the long spring and summer months. Homeland/outstation support remains an important aspiration as we seek to source reliable funding of these important community locations.

Liveable communities
COUNCIL GOAL #2

Goal 3 Engaged communities

B Outcome

3.1 Council and Local Authorities engaging with the community

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Community consultation guides Council's actions	B	Community surveys conducted every second year and every other year Local Authorities are surveyed
	B	Community feedback reports provided to Council, Local Authority and relevant government departments
Increase community understanding of what Council and Local Authorities do	B	Develop and implement education campaign for community members on Council and Local Authority roles and responsibilities
	A	Number of editions of MacNews newsletter circulated in all communities
Local Authority meetings are engaging for community members	A	Governance engagement strategy developed
	A	Average number of community residents per Local Authority meeting
Support the development of Local Authority members	B	Number of training sessions held per Local Authority

The Community survey was delayed due to a Council decision, however the required planning has been done and the documents are ready to go. Council is determined to engage and involve the local communities in determining their future needs and aspirations!
Council's education program and engagement strategy is now in final draft.

Training sessions in the form of informal discussions on various topics during each LA meeting have been taking place. Guidance on planning project funding has currently started and is already showing positive results as serious consideration and healthy discussions lead to ownership and community participation.

3.2 Council's methods and processes for engagement are improved

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Young people are engaged with Council and their community	A	Number of active Youth Boards
	A	Number of items raised by youth boards at Local Authority meetings
Councillors, Local Authority members, and staff are trained to deal with conflict	C	Percentage of Councillors and Local Authority members that receive conflict resolution and reduction training
	B	Percentage of staff that receive conflict resolution and reduction training
Council engagement improved through development of engagement planning processes	B	Engagement plan processes developed
	B	Implementation of engagement processes

All 9 IAS funded Youth services have Youth Boards which are meeting a minimum of quarterly. Some Youth boards are meeting monthly and engagement in general is improving. The Engagement plan is ready to be implemented in 2018/2019 year.

In addition to the engagement and training matters mentioned in 3.1, and notwithstanding the key challenges mentioned in Governance and Engagement below, Council strongly engaged with Local Authorities throughout the reporting period, facilitating their strong decision-making.

Council's Youth Services strongly supported Youth Boards to help guide youth activities in communities and as something of a governance training ground for the next generation of leaders in the Council region. Efforts were made to practically link local authorities up with Youth Boards, so that the membership of the Boards might one day feed into that of the local authorities. In one community the Local Authority invited the Youth Board to help it make project funding recommendations to Council, reserving a small portion of this funding for a project nominated by the Youth Board.

Engaged communities COUNCIL GOAL #3

Goal 4 A supportive organisation

A Outcome

4.1 Supporting our staff

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Promoting career pathways and staff satisfaction	B	Workforce development plan implemented
	B	Surveys conducted measuring staff satisfaction
	A	Review employee reward and recognition process
MacDonnell Regional Council is a safe workplace	A	Percentage of incidents reported within required timeframe
	B	Establish risk profile for Council
Compliant workplace health and safety policy and processes	B	Percentage of Council facilities where a risk assessment has been carried out
	A	Percentage of Council activities where a risk assessment has been carried out
	A	Continuous improvement in workplace health and safety
	B	Number of Health and Safety Representative group meetings occurring
Increase our understanding of the barriers to workforce participation amongst Indigenous staff	A	Implement a formal exit interview process for all staff
	A	Research has been conducted and recommendations made on reducing barriers to workforce attendance

From the 4.1 Supporting our staff table, on previous page:
While Council's special measures plan to promote Aboriginal employment is delayed, our rate of such employment was a very high 78 per cent at 30 June, just under our perpetual target of 80 per cent. Council is rightly very proud of this outcome, as it is about reaching the target of 50 per cent Aboriginal community-based team leaders. These are all real jobs for many Aboriginal people in the service of their communities.

B **Outcome**

4.2 Build our organisation culture

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Our values are ingrained in the organisation	A	Develop materials for values workshop
	B	Percentage of staff that have completed MRC values workshop
Staff are working together across services	B	Number of Inter-departmental staff meetings per community and in Alice Springs
New staff understand our Council, its role and identity	B	Implement a formal exit interview process for all staff
	B	Research conducted and recommendations made on reducing barriers to workforce attendance

As above, Council takes its human resources management very seriously. Workforce development planning workshops occurred throughout the reporting period towards a capability framework. Opportunities have been identified to improve work health and safety; and in this context, we have seen an increase in incident reporting. To assess job satisfaction, exit interviews have been implemented and their process is being reviewed. The renewal for short terms only of some Community Services contracts due to the funding bodies reviewing their policy direction, and thus the continued dependence of these important services on short-term funding, represented an increased financial risk to the organisation in this reporting period. Council has improved its induction processes to augment some excellent induction video material. A high number of staff have now completed Council's induction as a key initial measure towards their job satisfaction and productivity. Council values workshops towards a strong organisational culture have been delayed by the workforce development planning workshops, and Council's enterprise agreement negotiations.

B Outcome

A supportive organisation
COUNCIL GOAL #4

4.3 Support financial sustainability and compliance

Strategies	Rating	Key Performance Indicators
Opportunities found to increase the impact of our limited resources	A	Dollar value of additional contracts / services secured
	B	Dollar amount of external funding secured towards Council's operations
Compliant records management	B	New file structure approved and implemented
	A	All Alice Springs staff have received MagicDocs and records training

The dollar value of additional contracts to Council far exceeded the target, bringing additional infrastructure, services and jobs to our communities. In the Alice Springs office, however, records management changes were delayed partly because of relevant staff shortage and because NT Government mandated policy and procedure reviews took priority over the review of the documents to guide the records management transition. MagicDocs training has been provided and CouncilBiz training, implementation and updates are underway. Final implementation achieved in 2018/19 will enable head office staff to provide more efficient and effective services to Council.

Service Centre Delivery

The Service Centre Delivery directorate is responsible for the effective delivery of Council's municipal services and some non-Council services such as commercial operations or agency functions delivered on behalf of government agencies and other stakeholders.

Council Services

Waste Management

MacDonnell Regional Council strives to deliver best practice waste management services for 13 remote communities in its region. Services include general waste collection, landfill management, litter management, and staff training. Domestic kerbside collections are conducted twice weekly in all communities, with landfill sites effectively managed and maintained against the relevant service levels standard across all 13 remote locations.

Waste management operations are delivered in accordance with the Central Australian Remote Landfill Operating Manual (CARLOM), developed by MacDonnell, Central Desert, and Barkly Regional Councils, the Local Government Association of the NT (LGANT), and the NT Department of Environmental Health. They make up the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group whose aim is to work collaboratively to discuss regional waste management and environmental health issues, along with

developing sustainable and best practice waste management documents for Central Australian remote communities.

MacDonnell Regional Council continues to accommodate the Central Australian Waste Management Coordinator. This Coordinator reports quarterly to the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group. Through this regional collaboration, consistent and improved waste management practice are delivered across all three Councils in the group.

Key achievements

A total of 1352 waste collections occurred throughout 2017/18 across 13 locations. Waste collections are conducted twice weekly at each of our 13 communities.

650 new wheelie bins were distributed to communities.

13 Public Drop off Areas with tipper bins are in operation at each community landfill which is best practice waste operations for the region.

A new landfill site has been identified for Santa Teresa and a project plan generated and commenced for completion prior to June 2019.

An audit of scrap metals and abandoned vehicles was conducted in 2017 that identified approximately 31,000 tonnes of stockpiled material for removal from Central Australia.

A business plan was prepared for the removal of recycled materials from Central Australian remote communities. The plan includes sustainable methods for improving waste management income and to achieve cleaner communities and country.

A community litter and waste app has been developed and will be rolled out to each community in the 2018/19 financial year. The app was developed by the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group to help council implement community litter and landfill plans with audits of key performance

areas. The app helps council employees with language, literacy and numeracy skills to complete reports in the following areas:

- Bin audits
- Public Drop of Bays
- Council Landfill Compound
- Waste collection equipment
- Tidy Towns reporting

Landfill compliance audits conduct in 2017/18 recorded an average of 20% improvement in landfill management.

MRC, represented by the Regional Waste Coordinator and three Area Managers, attended the National 2018 Waste Conference in Coffs Harbour to present on the CAWMWG achievements. This was a four day conference, with the main topic being recyclables and China's refusal to take material from Australia due to contamination issues.

The Australian Government and Industry are currently working on options within Australia to ensure the recycling industry services and LG services remain. Contacts with Remondis, a national waste industry service provider, were established to investigate the removal of recyclable commodities from our community landfills.

Landfill design improvements were drafted and implemented for Amoonguna, Docker River, Haasts Bluff, Hermannsburg, Imanpa, Kintore, Mt Liebig, Papunya and Wallace Rockhole.

A new Centre for Appropriate Technology waste training package has been developed in conjunction with the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group Coordinator for implementation throughout all our communities.

A Central Australian Waste Management Working Group Waste and litter Matrix has been created to drive continued improvements in waste management best practice in Central Australia.

A Container Deposit Scheme processing plant is in operation at the Finke community landfill for the sorting of containers into their appropriate categories. The money received from this scheme is being returned into the community.

The Finke community won the NT Tidy Towns Award for 2018 and represented itself with distinction at the National Awards held in South Australia where it also won 2 Awards and a Highly Commended in Waste Management.

Key challenges

Monitoring landfills and who accesses them on a daily basis again proved challenging due to their locations necessarily outside communities. The landfills are of a size and volume where it is impractical to have them permanently staffed.

Improved waste separation achieved via the implementation of waste management best practice is seeing stockpiles of recycled material stored at communities landfills. The removal of these stockpiles from these communities continues to be challenging with the challenges of distance, road conditions and access to markets. Waste separation is a national strategy to protect the environment and also to reduce cost for the application of waste to landfill.

Animal Management

The MacDonnell Regional Council currently delivers its animal management services to all communities in the Council's region. The primary objective of the program is to improve human health and safety in Indigenous communities by implementing effective animal control measures, and to improve the health of animals in a culturally-sensitive and sustainable way.

The Council contracts veterinarians, Dr Robert Irving BVSc, and Dr Alexander Burleigh BSC (Vet) Hons BVSc Hons. Both vets visit remote communities treating animals for internal parasites and to conduct sterilisation treatments. In 2017-18 Council contracted a third veterinarian Dr Graeme Blanch BAgSc, BVSc (hons), MANZCVS, MRCVS which improves the level of service Council provides to communities.

Education is an essential component of dog health, welfare and control. Both formal and informal educational campaigns are administered by the vets when they visit, which includes engagement with schools, health centres, working with local service providers and/or community stakeholders. Vets are often accompanied and supported by Council Civil Works employees when they are in communities.

Key achievements

Full year of vet visits to communities		
	Number of visits	$ expenditure at June 2018
Amoonguna	2	7,127.55
Areyonga (Utju)	2	5,974.41
Docker River (Kaltukatjara)	2	9,247.63
Finke (Aputula)	2	4,180.43
Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)	3	6,000.00
Hermannsburg (Ntaria)	2	10,421.91
Imanpa	2	10,575.37
Kintore (Walungurru)	3	6,000.00
Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)	3	6,000.00
Papunya (Warumpi)	3	6,000.00
Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)	3	12,169.63
Titjikala	2	7,994.32
Wallace Rockhole	2	2,613.81
Totals	**31**	**94,305.06**

Papunya Surgical Program

MacDonnell Regional Council, AMRRIC, Four Paws and the community of Papunya made the collaborative decision to have a surgical de-sexing program from 4 to 10 March 2018. Papunya, being very remote, was in need of a more long term outcome for dog population management. AMRRIC's vet team visited Papunya and five outstations in the surrounding area, to successfully deliver the first surgical veterinary program in this community. The outcomes were great with 87 dogs and 6 cats being de-sexed, and 184 animals treated for internal and external parasites.

The AMRRIC vet team of seven, led by Dr Bob Irving arrived in Papunya on 4th March to undertake the first surgical veterinary program in the community. Dr Irving has provided injectable animal control in Papunya over the last 16 years and was crucial to the success of the program due to his on-going relationship with the community and his knowledge of the challenges faced in delivering remote veterinary programs.

The team included:

Dr Bob Irving – Principal veterinarian

Dr Jan Allen – AMRRIC vet and Program Manager

Dr Graeme Blanch – experienced AMRRIC volunteer veterinarian

Dr Jemima Amery-Gale – AMRRIC volunteer veterinarian and feral cat researcher

Erin O'Connor – experienced remote area veterinary nurse

Courtney Falls – AMRRIC Education Officer

Clint Healey – MRC Council Service Coordinator, Papunya

AMRRIC Education Officer, Courtney Falls, joined the team to promote knowledge around animal care and owner responsibility with the community of Papunya. During the course of the program Courtney delivered a variety of community and school education programs.

Door to door community engagement was delivered by Courtney, the principal vet and the local community liaison person, Clint Healey. Three education sessions, focusing on dog feelings, empathy and wellbeing, were delivered at the local school. A total of 67 students ranging from pre-school to year 12 attended the sessions. Students were engaged and participated in the lessons with enthusiasm. Parents and caregivers within the school grounds were also invited to participate and support the delivery of education, through translation assistance.

The *Bondi Vet* visits MRC community Finke.

The producers from *Animal Planet* visited Finke and Titjikala from 4 to 8 December 2017 to film a segment for their popular international cable television show featuring Dr Chris Brown (best known to Australian audiences for his appearances on the *Bondi Vet* and *The Living Room*). The producers travelled with Council's contracted vet Dr Alex Burleigh of NT Veterinary Services and filmed the outback veterinary services that Council provides to the communities.

Key challenge

A key challenge for Council is the level of funds available to deliver animal management services. Council currently fully funds these services from its operational funding. Increased funds would enable improved veterinary services, including enhanced education and de-sexing, to be delivered to communities. Council has lobbied for funding to deliver an enhanced program that would see a dedicated Animal Welfare Officer and thirteen Indigenous Animal Officers employed across the Council region.

Cemeteries

Cemetery management services are conducted in 12 MacDonnell Regional Council communities. Services include general maintenance of cemetery reserves and surrounds, preparation of burial plots, upkeep of burial details and identification of burial places within the cemetery.

Council has developed Cemetery Management Guidelines, providing the basis of a four level implementation plan for cemeteries. This outlines the service level standards that Council aims to achieve, taking into account the Council's goal of 'Developing Communities' and relevant legislation.

Service levels for the development of cemeteries include:

site identification and clearing, including fencing, car parks and grave shoring

shade structures, seating, wheelie bins and water

signage and plot markers, including a cemetery register and grid plan of grave locations

pathways and landscaping

Key achievements

The Areyonga cemetery has installed perimeter fencing and pedestrian gates from re-purposed fencing materials left over from the HMP program that provided new fences for Territory Government owned public housing.

Docker River has received approvals to expand the current cemetery and new perimeter fencing will be installed in the 2018-2019 year.

Hermannsburg purchased a coffin lowering device with Local Authority project funding.

Kintore works team erected a new perimeter fence around the community cemetery.

Parks, Open Spaces and Ovals

Parks and public spaces in each community are the responsibility of Council and work in this area includes upgrades and maintenance of facilities, such as shade structures, park furniture, signage, and playground equipment. It also includes the provision of lighting for public safety, conducting monthly safety audits on playground equipment, litter control and ensuring grass is kept short to mitigate fire risks.

A strong focus on safety and compliance with Australian standards has seen the introduction of rubber soft fall in many playgrounds on community. The installation of the rubber soft fall ensures playground equipment meets Australian Standards (AS 4422:1996). This has also reduced maintenance costs in associated playgrounds.

Community ovals are maintained by the Council. Many of the ovals received upgrades throughout the year including the installation of shade structures, seating, grand stands, fencing and lighting.

Key achievements

New Playground equipment and solar lights ordered for the development of a new park at Imanpa

Playground equipment was relocated in Kintore at the request of the Kintore Local Authority.

New park established at Mt Liebig including the installation of new playground equipment.

Council was successful in its application for a Special Purpose Grant from the Department of Housing and Community Development for $160,000.00 to install rubber soft fall at various playgrounds.

Rubber soft fall was installed at 2 x playgrounds in Santa Teresa and 2 x playgrounds in Finke (Aputula)

Fencing of community ovals completed
- Areyonga
- Docker River
- Haasts Bluff
- Kintore
- Papunya
- Santa Teresa
- Backstop netting at softball pitch completed
- Docker River
- Imanpa
- Kintore

Commentary Box installed at ovals in:
- Areyonga
- Hermannsburg
- Papunya

Volleyball court installed at Finke community using rubber soft fall.

20 GFS stealth solar street lights were purchased from a grant received from the Department of Housing and Community Development. The lights were distributed to communities to improve safety at night in community parks.

4000 Trees re-vegetation project status

Council received an NT Government grant in February 2016 of $100,000 to establish 4000 trees/shrubs across our 13 communities over a two year period. A total of over 3,900 trees and shrubs have been distributed across the 13 communities since the program commenced. This will provide much desired shade and dust suppression for all our communities. Alice Springs nurseries were commissioned to grow the plants which were distributed by the end of the financial year.

Tidy Towns

In an effort to improve the quality of life of the residents of its remote communities, Council registers each community in the Keep Australia Beautiful NT Tidy Towns Awards each year. The program encourages sustainable communities with better, healthier living conditions that improve the quality of life of residents.

The program enables Council to develop and promote effective partnerships with community stakeholder groups; and to acknowledge the hard work and efforts of the people living in the communities and working towards these better conditions.

Key achievements – Territory

The *NT Tidy Towns Awards* for 2017 saw all communities across the Northern Territory recognised for their outstanding efforts in achieving sustainable outcomes. To be recognised at the 2017 Northern Territory Tidy Towns Awards is testimony to the hard work and effort demonstrated by everyone in keeping their communities clean and tidy.

Council took out the *Best Regional Council Award* for the fourth consecutive year confirming the hard work each and every member of the organisation contributes towards the delivery of services.

Michael Davis was awarded the *Waste Management Award Champion* for his efforts coordinating the Central Australian Waste Management across three Regional Councils.

MRC communities collected seven major awards, and six commendations at the award ceremony held in Alice Springs, including the major accolade of *2017 Territory Tidy Town* going to Finke (Aputula) community. Finke went on to represent the Northern Territory at the national Tidy Towns awards held this year at Barmera in South Australia.

Finke, Santa Teresa, Areyonga, Wallace Rockhole and Imanpa were stand out communities on the night for MacDonnell Regional Council. Following is the list of commendations and major awards to our communities:

- *Litter Management (commendation)* – Areyonga
- *Litter Management (commendation)* – Imanpa
- *Litter Management (commendation)* – Santa Teresa
- *Community Participation (commendation)* – Areyonga
- *Community Participation (commendation)* – Finke
- *TTT School (commendation)* – Wallace Rockhole
- *Litter Management (Southern Region winner)* – Finke
- *Resource Recovery (winner)* – Finke
- *Community Participation (Southern Region winner)* – Santa Teresa
- *Waste Management Award (winner)* – Finke
- *TTT School (winner)* – Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte Catholic Education Centre)
- *Best Medium Community (winner)* – Finke
- *2017 Territory Tidy Town (winner)* – Finke

Key achievements – National

Representing the Northern Territory at the 2018 National Tidy Towns Awards, the Finke community went on to win two category awards and was highly commended in a third category. Following are the commendation and award categories:

- *Community Action and Well Being (joint winner)*
- *Heritage and Culture (winner)*
- *Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention – Waste Management and Resource Recovery (highly commended)*

For the community to be broadly recognised at a national level, judged against the Tidy Towns winners in the other states of Australia, is testimony to the hard work by all who reside and work at Finke. It demonstrates the community has a strong focus on sustainable practices and successful collaborations in their community. They are creating a healthy community that engages with groups from all sectors, and has a commitment to improving the lives of their residents.

Yamba Roadshow

As part of Council's commitment to clean and tidy communities, Council engaged Yangapi Productions to do a Yamba Litter Education performance at each community. The purpose of the performance was to raise community awareness, through key messaging, related to litter management and linked to better health outcomes. The performances were conducted throughout the school holiday period, and was a great opportunity for the whole community, kids, family, internal and external stakeholders to get engaged in the NT Tidy Towns program. The launch of the Yamba roadshow was held in Santa Teresa which included a family fun day with stalls, band, jumping castle for the kids and a community barbeque. The Yamba roadshow was delivered to all thirteen communities.

Local Authority Projects

Local Authority funded projects status

The Department of Housing and Community Development again provided the Council with funds for projects decided by Local Authorities and endorsed by Council to improve community life.

Amoonguna

Completed: Grandstands and shade shelters at basketball courts
Commenced: Larger plate for gas barbeque trailer
Commenced: Planting trees around community

Areyonga

Completed: Shade shelter, water tank and solar light at sorry camp
Completed: Perimeter fencing around softball field and commentary box at football oval
Commenced: Installation of seven solar lights in community

Docker River

Completed: Grandstands and shelters at footy oval
Completed: Perimeter fencing of footy oval
Commenced: Development of Lasseter Park with purchase of playground and seating

Finke

Completed: Decommission the BMX track
Completed: Install volleyball court, install solar light and fence perimeter

Haasts Bluff

Completed: Fence football oval and softball field

Hermannsburg

Completed: Commentary box at football oval
Completed: Coffin lowering device
Completed: Upgrade public toilet block
Completed: Shade at softball field
Completed: Repairs to fence at footy and softball ovals
Completed: Purchase of fruit trees
Commenced: Upgrade at racetrack with five shade shelters, solar lights and commentary box
Commenced: Two shade shelters and water tanks at sorry camp
Commenced: Installation of ten solar lights
Commenced: Installation of tyre changing shelter
Commenced: Permanent performance stage
Commenced: Shade shelter at church

Imanpa

Completed: Projector for church

Completed: Sorry camp upgrade with shade shelter, solar lights and water connection

Commenced: Development of Bottom Park – shade shelter, playground and solar light

Kintore

Completed: Shade structures (two at business camp and one at sorry camp)

Completed: Six solar lights for sorry camp, business camp and church

Completed: Concrete for shade structures

Completed: Concrete for solar lights

Completed: Fencing and backstop of softball oval

Completed: Meshless fencing around football oval

Completed: Relocate playground to be near basketball court

Completed: Fencing around cemetery

Mount Liebig

Completed: Resurface basketball courts and install lights

Completed: Purchase and install playground equipment

Papunya

Completed: Softball oval scoreboard

Completed: Football oval scoreboard

Completed: Stage at sports precinct

Commenced: Softball oval commentary box

Commenced: Second diamond for softball clearing, fencing and shade

Commenced: Cemetery upgrade

Commenced: Youth skate ramp

Santa Teresa

Completed: Coffin lowering device

Completed: Seven signs advising of restricted areas on community

Completed: Five solar lights in community black spots

Completed: Trees for community entrance

Completed: Fences around 2 parks

Completed: Additional play equipment for parks

Completed: Info booth at community entrance

Titjikala

Completed: Community tyre changing area

Completed: Rest area at entrance of community

Commenced: Install new playground

Wallace Rockhole

Completed: Install machinery shed

Completed: Purchase of two portable toilets

Non–Council Services

Outstations

Council is contracted and funded by the NT Government to deliver services to 21 occupied outstations or homelands. Services include municipal and essential services, housing maintenance services and special purpose infrastructure projects. The Council's focus is to ensure reliable delivery of power, water and sewerage and to provide a safe and healthy environment for outstation residents. Regular inspections of outstations are conducted by outstation works team members.

Municipal services provide waste collection, roads maintenance, animal management, fire breaks and environmental activities. Essential services maintain power, water, and sewerage provision. Housing maintenance services include both urgent repairs, to address electrical risks, loss of power, septic/sewerage issues or loss of water, and general structural, plumbing, electrical and gas repairs.

Key achievements

Major servicing of gen-sets all outstations

Replaced damaged electrical components ablution block – Ulumbara

Major repairs to bore – Mbunghara

Major repairs to bore pump – Oak Valley

Major repairs to ablution block – Warren Creek

Septic pump outs – 5 mile, 3 mile, Ulumbara, Black Water, Mbunghara, Town Bore, Green Valley, Warren Creek, New Bore, Walkabout Bore, Oak Valley

Replaced bore pump – Phillipson's Bore

Graded all access roads and fire breaks – all outstations

Connection to mains power – West Waterhouse

New solar pump array – West Waterhouse

Install solar lights – Papunya and Mt Liebig outstations

New landfill trenches – Papunya and Mt Liebig outstations

Commercial operations

Australia Post
The Council is the service provider of Australia Post services at 12 of its remote communities. Mail services are provided to each community weekly and are usually delivered by air services. Where airstrips are not available the Council organises a weekly mail collection from Alice Springs.

Centrelink
Council is contracted by the Department of Human Services to deliver remote Centrelink Agent services on behalf of the Commonwealth. These services are provided in 12 communities and include:

- accepting claim forms and other required documents
- responding to customer enquiries and provision of assistance, guidance or referral if needed
- assisting customers to access self service facilities

All sites are staffed by local Indigenous employees who receive remote agent training from the Department of Human Services.

Community Store

One community store is currently operated by the Council at Amoonguna community. The store ensures the community has access to fresh produce and offers a range of well-priced goods and healthy food with a strong focus on fresh fruit and vegetables.

Essential Services

The Council delivers essential services across all 13 Council communities under contract to the Power and Water Corporation (PowerWater). Council employs 13 Essential Service Officers (ESOs), with a strong focus on training and developing local Indigenous employees in the role. ESOs are responsible for the day to day maintenance and upkeep of power, water and sewerage infrastructure in their community.

Key achievements

Successful tender to deliver a three year period contract for PowerWater Essential Service Maintenance contract across thirteen sites.

30 per cent of Essential Service Officers employed under the PowerWater period contract are Indigenous.
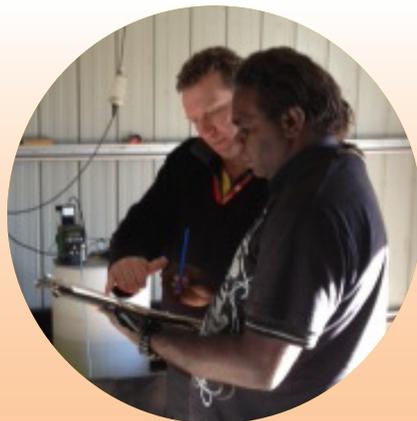
Technical Services

The Technical Services Directorate delivers services in Property and Tenancy, Fleet and Mechanical, Roads and Infrastructure as well as projects in all of these areas.

Property and Tenancy

The Property and Tenancy team is responsible for leasing, maintenance, repairs and upgrades of all MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) buildings and facilities as well as tenancy services for all staff housing. Our buildings include Service Delivery Centres, depots, Home Care and Childcare Centres, recreation halls, staff and outstation housing as well as swimming pools and other sporting facilities. Additionally, the team often deliver commercial and grant funded projects on behalf of NT Government Departments and other stakeholders.

Key achievements

Completion of 7 houses for the NTG 'Room to Breathe Program' at Kintore and Titjikala

Completion of replacement fencing to 40 flood affected houses on behalf of the NTG

Completion of utility connections to three staff short term accommodation demountable buildings at Areyonga, Finke and Titjikala

Major renovations to staff housing at Finke, Kintore, Santa Teresa, Docker River and Papunya.

Renovation to the Finke Service Delivery Centre

Multiple small projects to Early Learning Centres on behalf of the Childrens Services department

Design, purchase and installation of a staff housing duplex at Haasts Bluff

Award of NTG 'Strategic Local Government Infrastructure Fund' grant funds towards multiple Council building upgrades

Award of 53 HEA grants which fund housing upgrades and associated works on many outstations in the Council area

Key challenges

Limited budgets from untied Council funds are a constant challenge particularly given the ageing housing and building stock the Council has acquired through the Section 19 leasing process. Commercial contracts assist with funding these of these areas, however there are no guarantees from year to year that Council will win and be awarded such contracts. Contributions from our Community Services Directorate along with tenancy service fees do help with our funding base but does not keep pace with maintenance and upgrade requirements.

High mobilisation costs of specialist contractors to our remote locations are also a major challenge. The property team have to 'triage' maintenance to bank the less urgent issues for an upcoming trip by a trade such as a plumber or electrician. While this helps manage costs at times an urgent issue needs a trade allocated immediately resulting in high costs for the particular fault.

Fleet Services

The Fleet Services team maintain the Alice Springs based vehicles from their town workshop as well as performing major works on larger fleet items. The team are responsible for the large fleet of around 300 items including vehicles, trucks, garbage compactors, buses, tractors, skidsteers, backhoes and large earthmoving plant. Most of the time the team is on the road visiting all of the MRC communities to service and repair our large fleet of vehicles, plant and machinery. During the year the team covered almost 40,000 km visiting our communities.

The team of Coordinator, Fleet officer and four Mechanics performed over 1180 individual services during the 17/18 year and ensured that all of the eligible vehicles were registered and inspected as required.

The team use 'Fleetio' to manage the vast array of vehicles plant and machinery . Fleetio is a web based system that allows all staff with vehicles assigned to them to raise issues, update odometers and make comments. With up to date information the mechanics are able to prepare for trips to communities knowing what is needed for repairs and maintenance.

Key achievements

The newest fleet of vehicles since MRC commenced. The average age of the 120 dual cab utilities vehicles in the fleet is down to 18 months.

The number of issues logged in Fleetio is down to an average of 140, this is a reduction of 50% on previous years.

Delivery of NTG grant funded plant and equipment including a new backhoe, garbage compactor and deck widener semi-trailer for transporting large plant and equipment.

Addition of an extra mechanic to the team enabling more frequent and effective community visits.

Key challenges

Breakdowns present unique challenges when they occur in remote locations. The team often have to make a dedicated trip to trouble shoot an issue and assess for parts. With larger plant and machinery there are often then delays with parts that may have to come from overseas. Repairs then have to be scheduled around the teams other community visits. If the machine is a critical piece of equipment, such as a backhoe, then another visit is often postponed to ensure that repairs happen as soon as possible.

Another key challenge we face is damage other than normal wear and tear. Our 120 dual cab utilities vehicles average 10,000 km per year which in turn means 1.2 million km as a fleet. Much of that travel is in extremely harsh conditions not experienced by typical drivers which often results in damage such as differential housing cracks. One way we limit risk is to make sure our vehicles are disposed of as soon as warranty expires which is in accordance with our fleet plan. Recently warranty periods offered on Rangers by Ford Australia has extended to 5 years which will play an important part in how long we will now keep our vehicles. Records and usage patterns the Fleet team is able to assess under utilised assets or those beyond economic repair and recommend either moving the item to another community or sail by auction.

Infrastructure and Projects

Our Infrastructure and Projects department is responsible for management of the 1555km Council road network, maintenance of community street lighting and airstrips, operation of three swimming pools, as well as the delivery of numerous and diverse projects.

Key achievements

Delivery of 90% of the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) projects throughout the affected communities. The work included major earthwork repairs to:

- Kintore 9km access road and the community internal road network
- Haasts Bluff 9km access road and floodways
- Areyonga 20km access road and floodways

Internal bitumen road edge break, pothole and other bitumen repairs to:

- Kintore, Mt Liebig, Papunya, Haasts Bluff, Areyonga and Hermannsburg

Roads to Recovery funded projects complimented this work and included reseals to all internal road networks at:

- Kintore, Papunya, Hermannsburg, Titjikala and Santa Teresa

Grading of unsealed internal and outstation roads by the Council grader team (made up of 100 per cent Indigenous staff) was successfully completed based on the frequency schedule, priorities, annual plans and programs.

Introduction of 'Teamwork Projects', a web based project management tool which enables collaboration and notifications between multiple users on any given project. Teamwork is used widely throughout Council departments now.

Completion of the design phase and the award of the Papunya Service Delivery Centre new build to Murray River North

Design and construction of the Papunya stage Local Authority project. This is a 12m x 6m x 800mm high concrete structure at the football oval with a fully compliant disability ramp and stairs.

Completion of the new concrete basketball court and fencing at Mt Liebig

Successful delivery of numerous Outstation Capital projects including:

- Connection of West Waterhouse outstation to the Alice Springs mains power grid
- Bore upgrade and new elevated tank to Lizard Bore outstation
- Solar lighting installation at many outstations on the Mt Liebig and Papunya region
- Hybrid solar system installations at Walkabout Bore, Mt Peachy, Ngunpa, Green Valley, Lizard Bore and M'Bungara. The value of these solar projects was $496k

Successful operation of the three swimming pools for the full season including the employment of many community based pool assistants

Key challenges

Operation of the three MRC swimming pools without external funding is an ongoing challenge. After many years of operation without charging, the Council made the decision to commence user charges for the 2019 season. This will assist with funding the pools but will present many challenges in itself such as cash handling and centrelink deductions for users.

Ongoing training requirements for pool staff is also a huge challenge. Yearly updates for life guarding qualifications mean that community based pool assistant staff are not able to work until this takes place.

When our season starts in October there is often a delay before an on-site class can be offered in the community. Alice Springs based classes are often the only option but they don't align with the commencement of employment for the season resulting in delays or limited pool opening dates.

Community Services

The Community Services directorate delivers aged and disability services, children's services, community safety and youth services across 12 of our remote communities. These programs are delivered by our team of 298 dedicated staff, of which 249 (83%) are Aboriginal.

Community Services strives to deliver culturally sensitive programs that meet the needs of community residents, through innovative and sustainable service delivery models. We are committed to investing in our local Indigenous staff and seeing them progress into senior roles within the organisation.

Aged and Disability Services

Our Aged and Disability Service, known as MacCare, delivers services in eight of our remote communities. Through a person-centred approach, MacCare supports clients to live in their own communities and provides choice and flexibility in the way their care and services are delivered. Services include personal care, meals, transport, domestic assistance and social activities to assist clients to connect with their community.

The service also delivers a school nutrition program in six of our remote communities, to promote school attendance and achieve positive educational outcomes.

Programs delivered by Home Care in 2017/18 include:

- Community Aged Care Packages – funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health
- Commonwealth Home Support Program – funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health
- Disability in Home Support Program – funded by the NT Department of Health
- School Nutrition Program – funded by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Key Achievements

93 elderly community members supported to live in their community.

10 community members living with a disability supported to live in their community.

33,338 meals delivered

3,466 transports provided

4,347 hours of domestic care provided

1,170 hours of personal care provided

2,743 hours of social support provided

93 per cent Indigenous employment.

36 staff members progressed in a Certificate III Individual Support Community Services; 3 staff members undertook a Certificate II Community Services.

Implementation of cloud based client management system for all CHSP clients.

47,520 meals were delivered across six communities through the school nutrition program.

Key Challenges

Our Aged Care services are low volume and very high cost to operate. Council does not operate these services for profit and has had to subsidise the financial shortfall of these services over the past 3 years; as MRC is largely grant funded and has very little untied funds (a rates base of less than 4% of MRC's total operating costs), it is not possible for MRC to continue to subsidise aged care services.

Over the past 12 months MRC has been reviewing the Aged Care service in order to develop a maintainable model for service delivery that provides quality services for clients and is financially sustainable. Council values the welfare of our elderly residents very highly and Council's President, Director Community Services and Manager Aged and Disability met with Minister Wyatt in Canberra during February 2018 to discuss the challenges of remote service delivery under the current highly variable funding model. Council will continue to advocate for the Commonwealth Department of Health to transition our aged care services to the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has commenced rolling out in the Alice Springs region, however it is unlikely to roll out to Council's communities until mid-2019, with NT Department of Health's Disability in Home Support program being extended until June 2019.

Community members relocating to Council's communities (from areas with NDIS) with an NDIS package, are not eligible to access NT Department of Health's Disability in Home Support program. With Central Australia's highly transient population, this has already result in temporary service gaps for one resident living with a disability. Council is seeking early NDIS provider approved registration to ensure continuity of service provision for all clients living with a disability.

Children's Services

Children's Services is known on community as MacKids. It delivers an early learning program in 10 of Council's remote communities and outside school hours and vacation care programs in eight of those communities.

The early learning program is play-based and reflective of the children's interests, abilities, and culture. The program exists to provide all children from birth to school age access to quality early childhood education and care, and provides parents with opportunities to develop their parenting skills to support continued learning in the home environment.

In the outside school hours and vacation care programs educators work together with school aged children (5 – 12years) to provide play and leisure opportunities that are meaningful to children and support their well-being, learning and development. The children in the outside school hours programs are consulted on program development and actively contribute to the activities provided, expanding their life skills and developing their sense of social responsibility.

Programs delivered by MacKids in 2017/18 included:
- Early Learning Program – funded by the Federal Department of Education and Training
- Early Childhood Education and Care Program – funded by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Outside School Hours and Vacation Care Program – funded by the Federal Department of Education and Training

Key achievements

82 per cent Indigenous employment.

15 Indigenous educators undertook a Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care; three Indigenous educators have progressed to a Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care.

All services have continued to make significant progress towards the National Quality Standards for early childhood education and care, meeting all targets of their Quality Improvement Plans.

Significant improvement in attendance patterns of local educators; 78 per cent in 2015/16 to 89 per cent in 2016/17.

'Community yarning circles' were held in five communities. These community consultations have been invaluable in the continued development of programs across all communities that reflect local aspirations and culture. After extensive stakeholder consultation in 2015/16, weekly fees were implemented in all early leaning programs in accordance with funding requirements. There was no decrease in attendance and fees received exceeded the budget estimate by 200 per cent.

Key Challenges

The implementation of a new funding model for childcare (under the Jobs for Families Package) by the Federal Department of Education and Training, was deferred until 2018, after being scheduled for implementation during 2017. The funding targets the provision of childcare to enable parents to work, as opposed to Council's primary focus of providing quality early learning programs to as many children as possible (with childcare being a secondary benefit). Council has provided continuous feedback to the funding body around the viability of services under the new model and the potential for children to have reduced access to services if their parents are not working. Council will continue to work through the challenges of the new funding model with the funding body, as well as explore alternative options for funding.

Under the National Quality Standards (NQF) it is a requirement for all educators to hold a minimum of Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care. As we seek to meet the NQF, providing this training is a challenge as staff must travel to Alice Springs or Darwin to undertake the course. Two parallel training schedules have been developed to enable all staff the opportunity to attend the training while ensuring each centre remains adequately staffed to deliver the services. Community-based opportunities for this training are also being explored with registered training organisations (RTOs).

Community Safety

MacDonnell Regional Council's Community Safety program, MacSafe (formally known as the Community Night Patrol program), is delivered in 12 of Council's remote communities. The program is funded by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PMC) and provides takes a proactive and preventative approach to divert Indigenous people away from contact with the criminal justice system, increase personal and community safety, and to improve school attendance by ensuring children are at home or in a safe location at night so they are ready and able to go to school every day.

MacSafe is a responsive service, working collaboratively with the community, NT Police, service providers and other stakeholders, to ensure a partnership approach to addressing issues that the community identify as impacting on the safety of residents.

Key Achievements

14,688 hours of Community Safety services delivered across 12 communities.

92 per cent Indigenous employment.

38 per cent female employment.

Launch of MacSafe; with the logo having been designed by Kintore Team Leader Community Safety (a local senior community member), the launch of MacSafe was the result of extensive Authority and community consultation. MacSafe signifies a shift from a night focussed and largely reactive service, to an intentional service centred on improving community safety through addressing community identified issues.

No more cages! The securing of approval from PMC to replace the standard Community Night Patrol Vehicle (with Police style rear cage), with 7 seat four-wheel drive wagons, enabling the Community Safety team to transport children and other community members safely and respectfully. Three vehicles were replaced this year with the new vehicle type, the cages have begun being removed from the remaining fleet and these vehicles will be phased out over the next 2-3 years.

Services in 6 communities have increased from 5 to 6 days per week.

Support provided to 13 major community events, including community sports weekends, concerts and cultural events.

Language Literacy and Numeracy Training delivered to staff in all 12 communities, each community receiving 3 weeks of training.

15 staff progressing in Certificate III in Community Night Patrol and on track complete in November 2018.

All Team Leaders and Senior Officers successfully completed Adaptive Leadership training.

Key Challenges

The refocussing of the service as MacSafe has resulted in a significant increase in the demand to expand the hours of service delivery, driven by Local Authorities, community members and our staff. Although we have been able to expand services in 6 of the 12 communities, the lack of indexation to the program funding over the past 4 years makes this difficult to sustain and limits options for future expansion. Council thanks PMC for the continuity of this service and will continue to work with PMC to seek resourcing that enables the service to continue to develop and respond to community need.

Youth Services

MacDonnell Regional Council's Youth Service is known in communities as MacYouth. MacYouth operates in nine of our remote communities, delivering structured activities for young people as effective diversion from at-risk behaviours and meaningful opportunities for development. MacYouth also delivers the Remote Sport Program in three additional communities.

Programs delivered by MacYouth in 2017/18 included:

- Youth Development Program - funded by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Remote Sport Program – funded by the NT Department of Tourism and Culture Sport and Recreation Division
- Remote Sport Vouchers Scheme – funded by the NT Department of Tourism and Culture Sport and Recreation Division
- Youth Diversion Services – funded by the NT Department of Corrections
- Volatile Substance Abuse Program (Kintore) – funded by the NT Department of Health
- Tjilirra Men's Camps – funded through the NT Department of Health – Alcohol Action Initiative
- Youth Engagement Strategy (Papunya, Hermannsburg and Santa Teresa) – funded by Central Australian Youth Link Up Service (CAYLUS)

- Hermannsburg Holiday Programs – funded by Tjuwanpa Outstation Resource Centre Aboriginal Corporation (facilitating partner for Stronger Communities for Children Program)
- Santa Teresa Holiday Programs – funded by Atyenhenge Atherre Aboriginal Corporation (facilitating partner for Stronger Communities for Children Program)
- Santa Teresa Youth Engagement Officer - funded by Atyenhenge Atherre Aboriginal Corporation (AAAC, (facilitating partner for Stronger Communities for Children Program)
- National Youth Week Events – funded by the NT Office of Youth Affairs
- Youth Vibe School Holiday Programs – funded by the NT Office of Youth Affairs

Key Achievements

75% per cent Indigenous employment

11,167 hours of youth programming delivered across nine communities, averaging 17 young people engaged per activity (6,095 hours of sport and recreation, 1,876 hours of leadership and culture, 1,461 hours of safety and diversion, 759 hours of jobs, education and training, and 976 hours of staff development)

29 young people supported through the Youth Diversion Services across nine communities, preventing them from entering the criminal justice system.

Active Youth Boards in all nine communities. Young leaders provide regular input into programming of youth activities, discussion of community issues and present agenda items to Local Authority meetings.

Nine young people travelled to Melbourne as part of a cross cultural exchange enabled through a partnership with the Glen Iris Football Club. As a result, these young people from the Pintubi - Luritja ward had the opportunity to explore new boarding school opportunities in Melbourne.

9 cultural camps were delivered for young men and women identified as being at risk of harm from substance misuse or at risk of entering the criminal justice system.

4 regional sports competitions delivered (Soccer, 9's AFL, Softball and Basketball).

Kintore and Hermannsburg Youth softball teams represented MacYouth at territory wide competitions (the NT Softball Championships and Barunga Softball Competition).

20 employees progressed in a Certificate III in Sport and Recreation.

Key Challenges

There has been numerous youth suicide and self-harm attempts in Central Australia over the past year and there are very few supports available for young people who are showing signs of being at risk. MacYouth has sought to develop training resources specific to workers in remote Indigenous communities, however has so far been unsuccessful in securing funding for this project. MacYouth will continue to work collaboratively with other stakeholders to advocate for increased support services for youth at risk.

Young people under the age of 12 wishing to access MacYouth programs continue to present a challenge for staff trying to effectively engage the target group aged 12-25. This service gap has been previously identified,and in 2018/19 the delivery of the Outside School Hours Care program will transition from MacKids to MacYouth, enabling MacYouth to resource separate programs and increase the effectiveness of engagement with both cohorts.

Corporate Services

The Corporate Services directorate provides professional support to Council's service delivery across the region through the provision of administrative, information technology (IT), human resources (HR), accounting and finance, and governance and planning sevices.

The activities of the Corporate Services directorate ensure that Council and its 13 Local Authorities have a strong governance framework and are compliant with the *Local Government Act*, other relevant legislation and related regulations and guidelines. This is achieved by good regional planning, consistent and accurate secretariat support for Council and Local Authority meetings, training for Councillors and Local Authority members, and the development and review of a wide range of policies to guide Council operations and services in communities. Strong human resource practices, financial management and reporting systems, and IT management, enable and provide critical support for these operations and services.

In 2017/18 financial year the corporate services directorate has launched a number of projects which include records management, HR, and IT projects. These will gain momentum in 2018/19 and will strengthen Corporate Services' capability on service excellence, employee and community satisfaction, and sustainable operations. Accounting and finance staff continued to strive to manage the council's finances through regular reviews of the budgets, accounting systems and processes.

Human Resources

The Human Resources department of MacDonnell Regional Council manages recruitment, staffing, inductions, performance management, employee relations, training and development, Human Resources Information System, exit process, work health and safety and employee wellbeing.

As at 30 June 2018, the Council had a total of 491 employees with demographic breakdowns per gender, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) origin and employment catergory are indicated below:

Staff	number	percentage
Male	244	49.7
Female	247	50.3
ATSI	381	77.6
Non ATSI	110	22.4
Full Time	153	31.16
Part Time	148	30.14
Casual	190	38.7

Excluding Alice Springs based employees, Council has 421 employees of which 374 (or 88.8%) are Aboriginal. The Council is a very significant and consistent employer of Aboriginal people.

Key achievements

The Council's Enterprise Agreement was approved by the Fair Work Commission. The Agreement is valid from 2017 to 2021. Transition to new Enterprise Agreement was done smoothly.

The Council's Workforce Development Plan was completed and is now in implementation stage.

Council managed to maintain a high percentage of Indigenous staff, with 88.8% of community based roles occupied by Indigenous staff. Of the Council's 13 communities, eight are led by Indigenous Coordinators. Indigenous employees above entry level roles increased from 63 in 2016/7 to 72 in 2017/8.

A total of 208 employees left Council during the period under review, while 167 new employees were hired.

Incident reporting continues to improve, especially in the quality of information provided in the incident reports which has enabled more effective control measures to be implemented across all communities. Monthly safety talks are well received by staff, providing the opportunity for supervisors to engage their teams and discuss specific work health and safety topics. Staff are responding positively to the talks by identifying issues and solutions within their respective work areas. First aid and fire extinguisher training has been completed at six communities, with the remaining seven communities scheduled for the training this year.

Key challenges

The key challenge for Human Resources remains the attraction and retention of skilled candidates, particularly Essential Services Officer, Team Leader and Coordinator positions. Recruiting for community based positions is a challenge given the remoteness of our communities. The Human Resources department is preparing Induction Manuals for new staff, reviewing performance management system, undertaking research into barriers to workplace participation and will be conducting regular climate surveys.

Governance and Engagement

Governance ensures compliance by the organisation, with its regulatory, statutory and legal obligations, as well as ensuring its management and staff work towards achieving the organisation's objectives, while working within the ethical and cultural framework defined by the governing body, our elected members.

Secretariat support to Council and its 13 Local Authorities as well as strategic/regional planning, records management, policies and procedures, reporting, communications and customer service are carried out by the Governance and Planning department.

Council gratefully acknowledges Local Authority support by the NT Department of Housing and Community Development through its various grants. Noteworthy is the grant to facilitate projects, mostly infrastructure projects, in Council's communities. To streamline decision making and enable ownership, Council delegates decision making on this funding to the Local Authorities in each community. Supported by Governance and Planning, this leads to projects that are not only responsive to local needs, but that have come from the community and that meet it's needs and aspirations.

The Governance department includes the important task of communication and engagement by: circulating staff efforts and successes around the Council's far flung, remote offices in the staff newsletter *MacNews* six times annually; promoting Council in mainstream media coverage; maintaining and improving Council's website, now including the likes of mini videos of each of Council's 13 communities presented by community members; a range of sharp graphic design material for consistent Council badging and messaging; and the preparation, close to completion, of an important engagement strategy document.

Our communication strategy, as we strive for more effective stakeholder engagement, increasingly contributes to organisational resilience and flexibility, to learning and innovation, to the identification of new opportunities, and ultimately to the improvement of sustainable performance to the benefit of all our constituents.

Key achievements

The Governance team's close secretariat support of its 13 Local Authorities helped thorough discussion, decision-making and documentation in four meetings each per year, leading to a range of community beneficial projects, from playgrounds to public ablution blocks, solar street lighting and more.

In order to achieve this our governance staff have had to travel close to 23,000 km in the past year, create agendas for 59 meetings and consistently compiling accurate minutes of these meetings, following up on and ensuring that the actions that flow from the decisions made are correctly worded and actioned to the responsible staff members. Once this is done and before the next meeting at this location, the agenda needs to be compiled and these actions followed up and included.

For these meetings to take place scores of other chores and arrangements need to take place behind the scenes. From confirming member attendance and quorums, making arrangements for meals and accommodation, flight and other travel arrangement to ensuring that all the financials related to these arrangements are calculated, available and in place to cover costs and attendance, this requires a concerted effort and attention to detail. Being able to have accomplished this is indeed an achievement, and I commend and thank my committed, dedicated and very hard working team members for doing so!

In this financial year alone, our elected members clocked up an incredible 95,000 km in travel, and often on unsurfaced roads in order to perform these duties, and we commend them for their dedication and service to their communities and constituents!

Local Authorities have also provided valuable input into Council's 2018-2022 Regional Plan and together with the feedback provided at workshops held with elected members Council was able to design a Regional Plan that provides a way forward for our communities that is clear, robust and provides a liveable environment and opportunities to thrive, and by providing local input and say in these directions and choices, engendering the commitment that ownership brings about.

Communications achievements, in addition to those highlighted above, include support for and coverage of Finke's bid for the National Tidy Towns Award.

A systematic review of key policies among Council's many is currently making good progress, and improved procedures adopted to guide further such review which will be greatly enhanced by the appointment of a dedicated person to specialise in and focus on policy development.

Continuous improvement is being made as is evident by Council having recently adopted a policy to allow and make provision for the audio recording of Council meetings to ensure accurate minute taking.

Council has embarked on a records management project where a new filing system, based on Keywords for Council, will be implemented. New recordkeeping procedures will ensure Council is compliant and follows local government standards and legislation, in addition to facilitating digitisation processes and streamlining workflows. Training of key staff in the record management system has been undertaken and will continue to be undertaken as we strive for improved and more efficient document handling, retrieval and storage.

Council held elections in September 2017, and following these elections MacDonnell Regional Council held its first meeting on Friday 15 September. Newly elected councillors joined with re-elected councillors to nominate and vote for their principal members, the President and Deputy President. Roxanne Kenny was re-appointed as President of MacDonnell Regional Council and Greg Sharman was appointed as Deputy President.

Contrary to previous methods employed by electoral commission staff, MacDonnell Regional Council provided the electoral service in their council offices on each community for the week leading to the Election Day of Friday 1 December 2017 in the Luritja Pintubi ward by-election, resulting in a 17.5% voter increase from the general local government election held in August.

Governance is particularly pleased with the fact that we have the highest employment of indigenous staff in our area at head office, and this we believe contributes towards and enhances our ability to engage with and relate to the most important people in this relationship, our communities.

Key challenges

A key challenge remains, as illustrated above, the current requirement for each of Council's 13 Local Authorities to hold four meetings annually with Governance and Planning department support. Together with the department's preparation of these, including agendas, then writing minutes and carefully following up their many actions – plus like work for six Council meetings annually amid other governance requirements – leaves less time for value adding at Local Authorities: capacity building, communicating with the relevant communities and better local planning than we need or would have liked. It can mean meetings taking place too fast and in terms not always suitable for people whose first and/or second language may not be English. In this regard we are hopeful that our engagement of an increasing number of indigenous staff, and of which some have knowledge of a number of the local languages, could improve our ability to understand and be understood, but this remains a challenge.

The huge workload has had its effect on staff turnover in the past as it has this year, but we will continue to strive to employ staff suited, motivated and empowered to perform the vital and life enhancing functions we believe our Council performs, while looking at methods to make the performing of these functions easier and more effective.

In this context, high compliance demands amounting to reporting 'up' to the NT Government and in relation to the Local Government Act can be at the expense of good community development, including suitably and thoroughly reporting 'down' to the communities that Council serves.

Although staff shortage, new appointments and changes in the Governance and Planning department have presented challenges, they also provides opportunity to introduce new ideas and strategies and approaches to this function which we endeavour to continue doing with the enthusiasm and commitment we have shown in the past.

Information Technology

The Information Technology department manages the Council's information and communications technology across its 14 locations (13 remote communities and the Alice Springs office). This includes ensuring connectivity through close relations with providers such as Telstra and CouncilBiz, Council's computer network provider; and continuous enhancement of the IT operating environment through equipment improvements while reducing capital and ongoing costs.

Key achievements

Modernisation of operational systems and computer equipment at the Alice Springs Office and Community Offices. Standardisation of ICT Operating environment, computers, monitors and printers in all major office spaces.

The Federal Government/Telstra implemented communications black spot program has seen improvements to our community communications and mobile coverage.

Network upgrades to Meraki Routers and Switches so the system can be monitored remotely from Alice Springs are complete, except for Papunya as the office is being relocated.

Mobile coverage under the Black Spot program has been installed as follows:

- Amoonguna, Hermannsburg, Papunya, Santa Teresa and Titjikala are on mobile coverage at the commencement of FY 2017 – 2018

Mobile Black spot upgrade plan for remainder of communities below:

- Areyonga – Not Listed – Mobile coverage not available
- Docker River – Completed in Sep 2017
- Finke – Listed to be commenced in 2019
- Haasts Bluff – Listed to be commenced in 2019
- Imanpa – Listed to be commenced in 2019
- Kintore – Was originally not listed however it is expected to be operational by December 2018
- Mount Liebig – Expected to be operational by Oct 2018
- Wallace Rockhole – Operational in Oct 2017

Staff House internet : All satellite serviced communities have had NBN Installed so that staff do not have to get their own service installed. This supports the high turnover of staff in the NT as you can only get one installation at one site. Staff are required to pay for their network connectivity on a monthly basis

Video Conferencing equipment is still in the process of being installed by Telstra, which has become an issue as they continually have staff changes and shortfalls in the area. We are working to implement all network upgrades and equipment set to works to reduce the travel necessary to

Key challenges

MacDonnell Regional Councils vast distances and Staff Turnover in community still manages to challenge the IT department, however with remote access and other methods of communications becoming more available, the repair time has decreased immensely. Weather is still a contributing factor to remote travel and repair,

Finance

The Finance department ensures that Council income, payments and financial reporting is done in a timely and accountable manner. The Finance department manage all payments and receipts across the 14 offices of the Council, as well as the acquittal of all grant money received.

The MacDonnell Regional Council finished the year with an operating deficit of ($131,505). This includes the early receipt of $1,402,541 of Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance General Purpose and Roads funding for the 2018/19 year.

At the end of the 2017/18 financial year the Council holds $6.58 in current assets for every $1 owed in current liabilities. The result provides a clear indication that Council is in a good position to pay its debts when due.

The application of AASB1004 from 1 July 2016 means that spending of grant funding does not necessarily occur in the year in which the grants were received, potentially resulting in significant fluctuations in the operating results from year-to-year, depending on when funding was received and when it was spent. Consequently, contract labour fees increased significantly in 2017/18 due to the fact that roads repair and maintenance, for which funding was received in 2016/17 was carried out and paid for in the 2017/18 financial year. These factors have resulted in the abnormally high surplus in 2016/17 and is also the major reason for the huge swing to an operating deficit in 2017/18.

Grant funding received during the financial year, but which remains unspent at year end is included in Grants, Subsidies and Contributions. During the 2016/17 financial year the unexpended grants, included in Grants, Subsidies and Contributions increased by $3,668,567 – this can be found in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

Key achievements

Throughout the 2017/18 financial year:

- Council had issued 1,119 rates notices and made four budget refeshes
- The Grants Coordinator submitted approximately 300 grant acquittals to various funding bodies
- Payrol processed 12,182 fortnightly pays including terminations and final pays
- Accounts Payable processed 10,973 invoices while Accounts Receivable processed 1,078 invoices

Key challenges

The income from grants and subsidies in 2017/18 increased to 79.2% of total revenue and was offset by a significant decrease in self-generated funds. This area continues to be a challenge and unless the decline is reversed it could leave the Council once again being at risk of being reliant on too few income streams.

The Council's 2017/18 Asset Refresh or Depreciation ratio of $1.30 was up on the previous year when expenditure on new assets was at a rate of $1.23 for every $1 of depreciation. The challenge for Council in the 2018/19 year will be to ensure this increase continues so the longer term replacement of assets keeps pace with, or exceeds, depreciation.

Asset Refresh Rate

Year	Value
2013/14	1.25
2014/15	1.07
2015/16	0.95
2016/17	1.23
2017/18	1.30
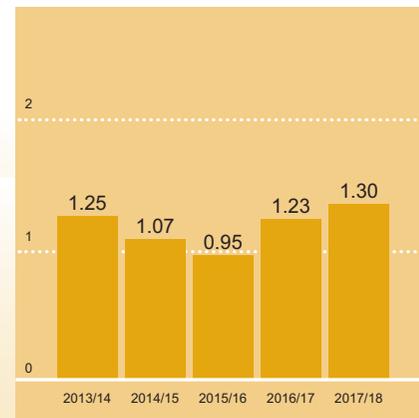
Sources of Income 2017/18

- 1.1% = $419,006 Reimbursements and Other Income
- 2.3% = $860,320 User Charges and Fees
- 2.4% = $883,197 Rates
- 2.2% = $851,797 Waste Management Charges
- 1.5% = $549,920 Interest
- 11.3% = $4,280,652 Commercial Operations
- 79.2% = $29,926,447 Grants and Subsidies

100% = $37,771,339
Total Income
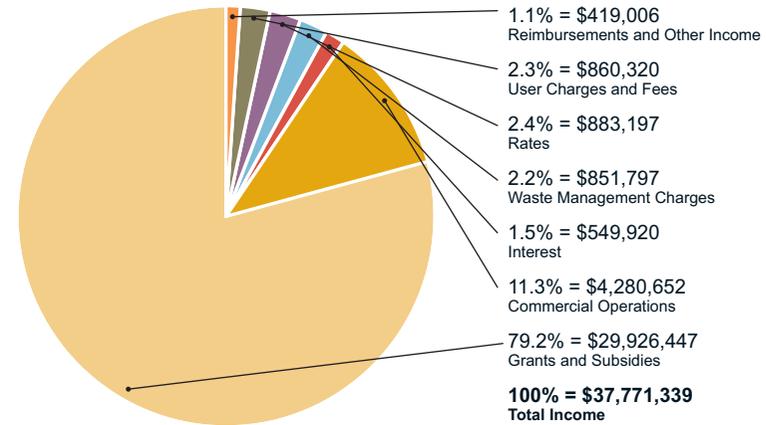
Operating Expenditure 2017/18

- 10.0% = $3,806,701 Materials and Consumables
- 5.6% = $2,138,385 Depreciation, Impairment and Amortisation
- 30.7% = $11,618,140 Other Operating Expenses
- 53.7% = $20,339,618 Employee Costs

100% = $37,902,884
Total Expenditure
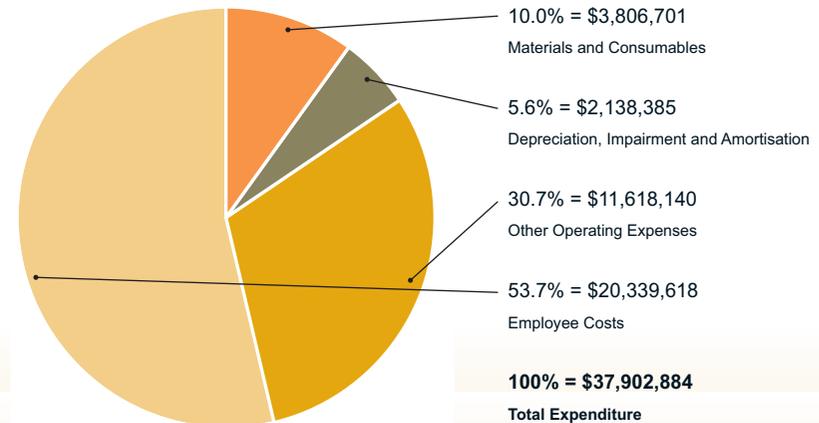
General Purpose Financial Report

MacDonnell Regional Council

MacDonnell Regional Council

General Purpose Financial Reports

for

Year Ending 30 June 2018

MacDonnell Regional Council

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MacDonnell Regional Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

a)   The Financial Statements have been properly drawn up in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act, and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations so as to present fairly the financial position of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2018, and

b)   the Financial Statements are in accordance with the accounting and other records of the Council, and

c)   there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Council will be able to pay its debts when they become due and payable.
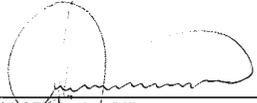
_____
Chief Executive Officer

28.9.18
Date

Deloitte.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MACDONNELL REGIONAL COUNCIL

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of MacDonnell Regional Council (the "Council"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration, as set out on pages 6 to 27.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Northern Territory Local Government Act.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The Responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer for the Financial Report

The chief executive officer of the Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Northern Territory Local Government Act and for such internal control as the chief executive officer determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the chief executive officer is responsible for assessing the ability of the Council to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless chief executive officer either intend to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Deloitte.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the chief executive officer.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of chief executive officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Deloitte.

We communicate with the chief executive officer regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

EDry

E Dry
Partner
Chartered Accountants

Alice Springs, 28/ 09 /2018.

MacDonnell Regional Council

INCOME STATEMENT
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
INCOME			
Rates		883,197	850,436
Statutory Charges - Waste Management		851,797	837,880
User Charges & Fees - Other	3a	860,320	880,603
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	3b	29,926,447	28,795,941
Interest		549,920	548,722
Income from Commercial Operations	3c	4,280,652	5,182,467
Reimbursements & Other Income	3d	419,006	942,731
Total Income		**37,771,339**	**38,038,780**
EXPENSES			
Employee Costs	4a	20,339,618	19,018,645
Materials & Consumables	4b	3,806,701	3,331,286
Depreciation & Amortisation	4c	2,138,385	1,941,702
Other Operating Expenses	4d	11,618,140	8,160,151
Total Expenditure		**37,902,844**	**32,451,784**
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		**(131,505)**	**5,586,996**
Grants Received for New or Upgraded Assets	3b	-	-
Net Gain or (Loss) from Disposal of Assets	5	429,445	403,323
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		**297,940**	**5,990,319**

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	2018	2017
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	297,940	5,990,319
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	**297,940**	**5,990,319**

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

Note: grant funding received during the financial year, but which remains unspent at year end is included in Grants, Subsidies & Contributions. During the 2016/17 financial year the unexpended grants, included in Grants, Subsidies & Contributions increased by $3,668,567 - please refer to the Statement of Changes in Equity.

The application of AASB1004 means that spendinig of grant funding does not necessarily occur in the year in which the grants were received, potentially resulting in significant fluctuations in the operating result from year-to-year, depending on when funding was received and when it was spent. Consequently, contract labour fees increased significantly in 2017/18 due to the fact that roads maintenance, for which funding was received in 2016/17 was carried out and paid for in the 2017/18 financial year. These factors have resulted in the abnormally high surplus in 2016/17 and is also the major reason for the huge swing to an operating deficit in 2017/18.

MacDonnell Regional Council

BALANCE SHEET
At 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand & at Bank	6	1,871,039	2,521,355
Investments - Term Deposits	7	20,000,000	20,000,000
Trade & Other Receivables	8	1,056,920	1,050,312
Inventories & Work in Progress	9	500,924	252,427
		23,428,883	23,824,094
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipment	10	6,701,367	6,186,149
		6,701,367	6,186,149
TOTAL ASSETS		**30,130,250**	**30,010,243**
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables & Accruals	11a	1,560,800	1,871,984
Employee Benefits	11b	2,000,059	1,852,156
		3,560,859	3,724,140
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee Benefits	11c	439,413	454,065
		439,413	454,065
TOTAL LIABILITIES		**4,000,272**	**4,178,205**
NET ASSETS		**26,129,978**	**25,832,038**
EQUITY			
Unexpended Grants Reserve		7,028,521	7,063,204
Accumulated Funds		18,400,754	15,362,776
Future Works Reserve		700,703	3,406,058
TOTAL EQUITY		**26,129,978**	**25,832,038**

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

MacDonnell Regional Council

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	2018 $	2017 $
Unexpended Grants Reserve		
Unexpended Grants Reserve at Beginning of the year	7,063,204	3,394,637
Transfers (From)/To Reserve	(34,683)	3,668,567
Unexpended Grants Reserve at End of the year	**7,028,521**	**7,063,204**
Future Works Reserve		
Future Works Reserve at Beginning of the year	3,406,058	5,542,188
Transfer (From)/To Reserve	(2,705,355)	(2,136,130)
Future Works Reserve at End of the year	**700,703**	**3,406,058**
Accumulated Surplus		
Accumulated Surplus at Beginning of the year	15,362,776	10,904,894
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	297,940	5,990,319
Transfer To / (From) Unexpended Grants Reserve	34,683	(3,668,567)
Transfer To / (From) Future Works Reserve	2,705,355	2,136,130
Accumulated Surplus at End of the year	**18,400,754**	**15,362,776**
Total Equity	**26,129,978**	**25,832,038**

MacDonnell Regional Council

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Rates		880,398	900,809
Statutory Charges - Waste Management		850,000	848,815
User Charges & Fees - Other		860,320	880,603
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions		29,926,447	28,795,941
Income from Commercial Operations		4,278,216	5,012,837
Reimbursements & Other Income		419,006	940,177
Payments			
Employee Costs		(20,194,375)	(19,003,077)
Materials & Consumables		(3,806,701)	(3,026,131)
Other Operating Expenses		(12,189,389)	(8,315,715)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	12a	**1,023,922**	**7,034,259**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Interest received		549,920	548,722
Sale of Replaced Property, Plant, Equipment & Vehicles		570,044	345,788
Sale of Surplus Property, Plant, Equipment & Vehicles		111,403	57,535
Work in Progress		-	114,046
Payments			
Purchase of Replacement Property, Plant, Equipment & Vehicles		(2,905,605)	(2,388,785)
Purchase of New/Upgraded Property, Plant, Equipment & Vehicles		-	-
Net Cash Provided By (or Used In) Investing Activities		**(1,674,238)**	**(1,322,694)**
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Repayments of Borrowings		-	-
Net Cash Provided By (or Used In) Financing Activities		**-**	**-**
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held		(650,316)	5,711,565
Cash & Cash Equivalents at Beginning of the Reporting Period		22,521,355	16,809,790
Cash & Cash Equivalents at End of the Reporting Period	12b	**21,871,039**	**22,521,355**

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

MacDonnell Regional Council

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation
The financial report is a general purpose report, which has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act, Local Government Regulations and Australian Accounting Standards.

Accounting Standards include Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards ('A-IFRS') as they apply to "not for profit" entities. AIFRS include certain specific provisions relating to not for profit entities that are not included in the International Financial Reporting Standards.

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical cost and except where stated, does not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The financial report has been adjusted to align to the Local Government Association of South Australia's Model Financial Statements. In doing so current year and comparative figures have been amended where necessary.

Date of authorisation for issue
The date the financial statements were authorised for issue is as shown on the Chief Executive Officer's Certificate.

Critical accounting estimates
In the application of the Australian Accounting Standards management is required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstance, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Judgments made by management in the application of the Australian Accounting Standards that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustments in the next year are disclosed, where applicable, in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

Because the major assets and liabilities are carried at historical cost, there are no key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Rounding
All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

MacDonnell Regional Council

The Local Government reporting entity

MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) is a not-for-profit local government authority incorporated under the Local Government Act of the Northern Territory of Australia. The principal place of business and registered address of MRC is:

1 Bagot Street, Alice Springs, NT, 0870.

All funds through which MRC controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

In the process of reporting on the local government as a single unit, all balances between activities have been eliminated.

CouncilBiz
MRC is a member of CouncilBiz, a local subsidiary operating under the auspices of the Local Government Act (NT). The other members are Barkly, Central Desert, East Arnhem, Roper Gulf, Tiwi Islands, Victoria Daly, West Arnhem and West Daly Regional Councils and the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.

CouncilBiz provides an Information Technology support service and charges its members on a user-pays basis based on a formula agreed to by all members.

Under the terms and conditions of CouncilBiz Constitution, the debts and liabilities of CouncilBiz are guaranteed by the members in equal shares or on the basis of the formula agreed by the members.

The CouncilBiz Constitution also provides that all income and property, however derived, must be applied solely towards promoting their objectives.

Upon the dissolution of CouncilBiz, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the settlement of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation, as agreed to by the members, with similar purpose and with similar rules prohibiting the distribution of assets and income to its members.

Information regarding CouncilBiz can be found on MRC's Web Site: www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Income tax
MRC is not subject to income tax.

Revenue recognition
Revenue from the sale of goods and disposal of other assets is recognised when MRC has passed control of the goods or other assets to the buyer.

Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the services have been provided.

Revenue from investments is recognised on an accrual basis.

Government grants
Grants, contributions and donations are recognised as revenues when MRC obtains control over the assets comprising the contribution.

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

Where contributions recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the amounts pertaining to those undischarged conditions are included as a liability for Deferred Income.

Unexpended grants at year end which are refundable to the funding body are also transferred to current liabilities.

Economic dependency

A significant proportion of the Council's revenue is derived from Government grants.

Income from commercial operations

For works undertaken on a contract basis, revenues and expenses are recognised on a percentage of completion basis. Costs incurred in advance of future claimed entitlement are classified as work in progress.

Financial instruments

Trade receivables, trade payables and other financial liabilities are measured at cost.

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that as a result of one or more events that the estimated future cash flows of the investment have been impacted. The amount of the impairment is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate.

The carrying amount of the financial asset is reduced by the impairment loss directly for all financial assets with the exception of trade receivables where the carrying amount is reduced through the use of an allowance account.

Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are recorded at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment, with revenue recognised on an effective yield basis.

Inventories

Finished goods are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs have been assigned to inventory on hand at balance date using the first in first out basis.

Property, plant and equipment

At each reporting date, MRC reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the asset does not generate cash flows that are independent from other assets, MRC estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre- tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but only to the extent that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years.

A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Depreciation

Items of property, plant and equipment are depreciated over their estimated useful lives using the straight line method. The main rates used are:

Buildings	10%
Plant	20%
Motor vehicles	20%
Furniture and equipment	20%

Accounts payable

Trade payables and other accounts payable are recognised when MRC becomes obliged to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services.

Employee benefits

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, and sick leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

The current portion of employee benefits is the portion to which employees will become unconditionally entitled to within 12 months from balance date.

Provisions made in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and other employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months, are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Provisions made in respect of other employee benefits which are not expected to be settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by MRC in respect of services provided by employees up to reporting date.

The superannuation expense for the reporting period is the amount of the contributions MRC makes to the superannuation plans which provide benefits to its employees plus provision for superannuation in respect of leave entitlements owed.

Council does not have any employees who are members of defined benefit funds.

All superannuation schemes to which Council makes contributions on behalf of employees are of the accumulation type, where the superannuation benefits accruing to the employee are represented by their share of the net assets of

MacDonnell Regional Council

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when MRC has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that MRC will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows.

Leases

Section 19 leases held are treated as operating leases as the value of the lease is calculated purely on the land which remains the property of the lessor who substantially retains all of the risks and benefits incidental to ownership, lease payments are therefore charged to expense over the lease term.

Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST. Receivables and payables are recognised inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables. Operating receipts and payments in the cash flow statement are stated inclusive of GST.

Adoption of new and revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, MRC has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to their operations and effective for the current annual reporting period.

Standards and Interpretations in issue not yet adopted

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective. These standards are not expected to result in any material impact on the financial statements.

Standard/Interpretation	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Expected to be initially applied in the financial year ending
IFRS 9 Financial Instruments	01 Jan 2018	30 Jun 2019
IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (and related clarifications)	01 Jan 2018	30 Jun 2019
IFRS 16 Leases	01 Jan 2019	30 Jun 2020
AASB 1058 Income of Not-For-Profit Entities	01 Jan 2019	30 Jun 2020

MacDonnell Regional Council

2a ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

The MacDonnell Regional Council commenced operations on 1st July 2008, it undertakes all local government functions in the following communities:

Amoonguna
Areyonga (Utju)
Docker River (Kaltukatjara)
Finke (Aputula)
Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)
Hermannsburg (Ntaria)
Imanpa
Kintore (Walungurru)
Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)
Papunya (Warumpi)
Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)
Titjikala
Wallace Rockhole

The major functions undertaken are:

General public services
Corporate management, administrative support and governance.
Public order and safety
Community Safety, Companion animal management.
Economic affairs
Centrelink services, Essential services, Local roads maintenance, Amoonguna Community store. Postal services, Commercial fuel sales.
Housing, Community Amenities
Outstation and Staff Housing repairs and maintenance, Fencing.
Health
Child Nutrition program.
Recreation, Culture & Religion
Provision of sports, recreation and leisure facilities, Swimming pools.
Social Protection
Children's Services, Public Behaviour & Youth Program, Home Care

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

2b FUNCTION RESULTS

	General Public Services Actual 2018 $	General Public Services Budget 2018 $	Public Order & Safety Actual 2018 $	Public Order & Safety Budget 2018 $	Economic Affairs Actual 2018 $	Economic Affairs Budget 2018 $	Environmental Protection Actual 2018 $	Environmental Protection Budget 2018 $	Housing & Community Actual 2018 $	Housing & Community Budget 2018 $	Health Actual 2018 $	Health Budget 2018 $	Recreation, Culture & Religion Actual 2018 $	Recreation, Culture & Religion Budget 2018 $	Social Protection Actual 2018 $	Social Protection Budget 2018 $	Total Actual $	Total Budget $
OPERATING REVENUES																		
Rates	883,197	892,310	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	883,197	897,310
Statutory Charges - Waste Management	851,797	862,000	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	851,797	862,000
User Charges & Fees - Other	74,606	89,900	26,000	28,360	40	-	-	-	195,055	170,300	163,686	169,810	21,230	21,000	379,703	423,680	860,320	903,050
Grants - Cth Operational	-	-	3,248,154	3,248,150	855,124	1,747,390	-	-	-	-	460,265	460,000	-	-	9,110,410	9,095,840	13,673,953	15,833,080
Grants - Cth Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-		-
Grants - NT Operational	9,331,503	8,296,059	75,000	-	3,362,722	2,853,795	102,152	50,000	647,075	634,980	-	-	39,100	39,100	1,084,380	962,540	14,641,932	14,677,900
Grants - NT Capital	752,390	751,310	11,151	22,310	366,079	2,018,740	-	-	-	-	-	-	152,735	152,740	328,207	177,420	1,610,562	5,608,290
Interest	549,920	400,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	549,920	400,000
Income from Commercial Operations	18,515	25,000	-	-	4,262,137	4,048,818	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	4,280,652	4,073,820
Reimbursements & Other Income	217,403	185,140	1,813	-	23,285	45,350	50,000	99,115	95,487	86,500	-	-	891	16,000	30,127	-	419,006	432,110
	12,679,331	11,501,719	3,362,118	3,298,820	8,869,387	10,714,093	152,152	149,115	937,617	891,780	623,951	629,810	213,956	228,840	10,932,827	10,659,480	37,771,339	43,687,560
OPERATING EXPENSES																		
Employee Costs	8,993,335	9,757,023	2,348,577	2,406,160	2,025,510	2,084,115	110,488	111,580	137,427	141,330	67,564	82,350	284,225	297,112	6,372,492	6,471,330	20,339,618	21,351,000
Materials & Consumables	1,009,650	1,335,080	116,235	109,120	47,651	643,110	16,781	29,040	192,680	254,330	170,719	153,160	178,813	296,290	1,674,172	1,684,510	3,806,701	4,504,640
Depreciation & Amortisation	2,138,385	1,778,910	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,138,385	1,778,910
Other Operating Expenses	(672,024)	649,450	1,305,558	1,310,830	6,212,910	6,134,690	42,449	65,640	1,228,231	1,534,420	388,230	394,300	136,383	119,090	2,976,399	2,924,700	11,618,140	13,133,120
	11,469,346	13,228,052	3,770,369	3,825,250	8,686,071	10,416,701	169,718	207,019	1,558,338	1,986,623	626,514	629,180	599,424	711,581	11,023,064	11,092,103	37,902,844	40,767,670
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	1,209,985	(1,726,333)	(408,251)	(526,430)	183,316	297,392	(17,566)	(57,904)	(620,721)	(1,094,843)	(2,563)	630	(385,468)	(482,741)	(90,237)	(432,623)	(131,505)	2,919,890
TOTAL ASSETS	29,579,011	-	32,916	-	249,352	-	10,121	-	59,847	-	-	-	176,001	-	23,002	-	30,130,250	

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
3a USER CHARGES & FEES - OTHER			
Equipment Hire		44,346	78,113
Landfill Tipping Fees		22,607	61,251
Property Fees		226,420	286,285
Service Fees		545,717	440,279
Other User Charges & Fees		21,230	14,675
Total User Charges & Fees - Other		**860,320**	**880,603**
3b GRANTS, SUBSIDIES & CONTRIBUTIONS			
Commonwealth of Australia Government Agencies			
Operating Grants		855,124	939,639
Special Purpose Grants		-	-
Capital Grants		-	-
Agency Services Grants		12,818,829	12,865,916
Sub-total		**13,673,953**	**13,805,555**
Northern Territory Government Agencies			
Operating Grants		12,135,331	11,038,283
Special Purpose Grants		1,113,396	1,981,627
Capital Grants		1,496,180	585,878
Grants Received for New or Upgraded Assets		-	-
Agency Services Grants		1,507,587	1,384,598
Sub-total		**16,252,494**	**14,990,386**
Grants Received for Operating Purposes		29,926,447	28,795,941
Grants Received for New or Upgraded Assets		-	-
Total Grants Revenue	13	**29,926,447**	**28,795,941**
3c INCOME FROM COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS			
Contract Fees		4,018,551	4,959,060
Fuel Sales		18,515	24,338
Sales - Amoonguna Store		243,586	199,069
Total Income from Commercial Operations		**4,280,652**	**5,182,467**
3d REIMBURSEMENTS & OTHER INCOME			
Fuel Tax Rebate		36,236	32,193
Fundraising & Donations		5,000	1,903
Insurance Recoveries		112,658	518,805
Reimbursements		243,958	371,251
Other Income		21,154	18,579
Total Reimbursements & Other Income		**419,006**	**942,731**

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
4a EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries, Wages, Leave and Allowances, including On-Costs		17,547,594	16,565,940
Employer's Superannuation Contributions		1,667,207	1,565,301
Workers Compensation Insurance		335,069	369,914
Protective Clothing		3,893	7,503
Recruitment Expenses		64,244	78,317
Training Programs		400,070	176,852
Employee Benefits & Other Employee Costs		321,541	254,818
Total Employee Costs		**20,339,618**	**19,018,645**
4b MATERIALS & CONSUMABLES			
Building Materials		125,728	579,180
Buildings Repairs & Maintenance		277,361	167,471
Cleaning Services & Materials		66,278	82,473
Community Infrastructure		1,033,883	658,630
Food for Services & Catering Costs		655,659	637,316
Furniture & Fittings		178,711	139,553
Plant & Equipment		75,773	107,861
Purchases - Amoonguna Store		160,418	133,134
Road Furniture & Signage		4,610	13,213
Tools, Equipment & Minor Assets		512,122	449,783
Vehicles Parts & Tyres		203,349	209,832
Other Materials & Consumables		512,809	152,840
Total Materials & Consumables		**3,806,701**	**3,331,286**

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
4c DEPRECIATION & AMORTISATION			
Buildings & Facilities		141,401	133,451
Furniture & Fittings		109,775	98,314
Plant & Equipment		475,850	422,666
Vehicles		1,411,359	1,287,271
Total Depreciation & Amortisation		**2,138,385**	**1,941,702**
4d OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES			
Advertising & Promotional Activities		27,611	15,534
Audit Services		61,000	61,000
Computer Services		410,399	423,503
Consulting Fees		385,300	152,377
Contract Labour		6,676,120	3,235,315
Elected Members' Allowances & Training		330,446	345,655
Freight Charges		184,970	172,821
Fuel for Plant & Vehicles		485,989	468,407
Gas, Power, Sewerage & Water		717,736	720,615
Insurance Premiums & Fees		530,082	500,682
Legal & Professional Services		61,819	44,648
Local Authority Members' Allowances		17,817	20,024
Memberships & Subscriptions		61,575	57,364
Operating Leases		301,644	308,297
Repayment of Unaccrued Grant Liabilities		8,304	45,805
Telephone & Internet Services		585,307	772,527
Transaction Fees & Taxes		14,973	8,968
Travel, Accommodation & Entertainment		389,241	408,662
Vehicle Registration, Repairs & Maintenance		367,807	397,947
Total Other Operating Expenses		**11,618,140**	**8,160,151**

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
5 ASSET DISPOSALS			
PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
Assets renewed or directly replaced			
Proceeds from disposal		111,403	56,087
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		-	-
Gain (Loss) on disposal		**111,403**	**56,087**
Assets surplus to requirements			
Proceeds from disposal		-	-
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		-	-
Gain (Loss) on disposal		**-**	**-**
VEHICLES			
Assets renewed or directly replaced			
Proceeds from disposal		570,044	347,236
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		(93,108)	-
Gain (Loss) on disposal		**476,936**	**347,236**
Assets surplus to requirements			
Proceeds from disposal		-	-
Less: Carrying amount of assets disposed of		(158,894)	-
Gain (Loss) on disposal		**(158,894)**	**-**
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS		**429,445**	**403,323**
6 CASH ON HAND AND AT BANK			
Westpac Operating Account		106,671	11,794
Westpac Trust Account		1,714,324	2,501,699
Westpac Territory Housing Account		47,110	1,112
Bank Accounts for Community Stores		641	2,393
Westpac Centrelink Processing Account		93	357
Petty Cash		1,000	1,000
Amoonguna Store Float		1,200	3,000
Total Cash on Hand & at Bank		**1,871,039**	**2,521,355**

MacDonnell Regional Council

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
7 INVESTMENTS - TERM DEPOSITS			
Analysis of term deposits			
Restricted funds			
Future Works Reserve		700,703	3,406,058
Unexpended Grants Reserve		7,028,521	7,063,204
Unrestricted funds		12,270,776	9,530,738
Total Term Deposits		**20,000,000**	**20,000,000**
8 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Trade Receivables		427,511	246,544
Allowance for Doubtful Debts		(133,618)	(150,000)
Rates & Charges Receivable		247,739	243,079
Accrued Income		288,719	463,525
GST Receivable		221,921	247,164
Prepayments		4,648	-
Total Trade & Other Receivables		**1,056,920**	**1,050,312**

The average credit period on sales of goods and rendering of services is 60 days.

No interest is charged on the trade receivables.

Ageing of past due but not impaired trade debtors			
30-90 days		181,990	15,038
90-180 days		5,747	-
Greater than 180 days		2,365	18,320
		190,102	**33,358**
Movement in the Allowance for Doubtful Debts			
Balance at the Beginning of the Year		150,000	150,000
Adjustment		(16,382)	-
Balance at the End of the Year		**133,618**	**150,000**

A loyalty fund has been set up on Council's behalf by Telstra as part of a contract entered into in the 2015/16 financial year. The remaining balance as at 30 June 2018 available to Council under this loyalty funds is $148,240. The fund has not been recorded in these accounts as an asset as the actual amount of benefit the Council will receive is unknown

9 INVENTORIES & WORK IN PROGRESS			
Goods for Sale Held at Community Stores & in Bulk Fuel Tanks		85,174	79,784
Work in Progress		415,750	172,643
Total Inventories & Work in Progress		**500,924**	**252,427**

MacDonnell Regional Council

10 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Year Ended 30 June 2018	Land	Buildings & Facilities	Furniture & Fittings	Plant & Equipment	Vehicles	Total
Gross Carrying Amount at Cost						
Opening balances at 1 July 2017	404,250	20,304,422	888,986	5,812,602	7,696,323	35,106,583
Additions	-	174,574	8,818	699,894	2,022,319	2,905,605
Less: Disposals	-	(43,202)	-	(267,454)	(2,127,786)	-2,438,442
Adjustment to correct asset classification balance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2018	404,250	20,435,794	897,804	6,245,042	7,590,857	35,573,747
Accumulated Depreciation						
Opening balances at 1 July 2017	-	19,824,076	561,275	4,477,744	4,057,339	28,920,434
Charge for the year	-	141,401	109,775	475,850	1,411,359	2,138,385
Less: Accumulated depreciation on disposals	-	(43,203)	-	(267,454)	(1,875,782)	(2,186,439)
Adjustment to correct asset classification balance	-	-	-	-	-	0
Balance at 30 June 2018	-	19,922,274	671,050	4,686,140	3,592,916	28,872,380
Net Book Value						
Carrying value at 1 July 2017	404,250	480,346	327,711	1,334,858	3,638,984	6,186,149
Carrying value at 30 June 2018	404,250	513,520	226,754	1,558,902	3,997,941	6,701,367

Year Ended 30 June 2017	Land	Buildings & Facilities	Furniture & Fittings	Plant & Equipment	Vehicles	Total
Gross Carrying Amount at Cost						
Opening balances at 1 July 2016	404,250	20,304,422	803,958	6,073,781	8,522,931	36,109,342
Additions	-	-	85,028	827,831	1,475,926	2,388,785
Less: Disposals		-	-	(1,089,010)	(2,302,534)	(3,391,544)
Balance at 30 June 2017	404,250	20,304,422	888,986	5,812,602	7,696,323	35,106,583
Accumulated Depreciation						
Opening balances at 1 July 2016	-	19,690,625	462,961	5,144,088	4,958,556	30,256,230
Charge for the year	-	133,451	98,314	422,666	1,287,271	1,941,702
Less: Accumulated depreciation on disposals	-	-	-	(1,089,010)	(2,188,488)	(3,277,498)
Balance at 30 June 2017	-	19,824,076	561,275	4,477,744	4,057,339	28,920,434
Net Book Value						
Carrying value at 1 July 2016	404,250	613,797	340,997	929,693	3,564,375	5,853,112
Carrying value at 30 June 2017	404,250	480,346	327,711	1,334,858	3,638,984	6,186,149

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 $	2017 $
11a PAYABLES & ACCRUALS			
Creditors		808,221	844,626
Unearned Income		-	36
Accruals & Other payables		752,579	1,027,322
Total Trade and Other Payables		**1,560,800**	**1,871,984**
11b CURRENT EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			
Annual leave, including on-costs		1,435,554	1,311,881
Long service leave		564,505	540,275
Total Current Employee Benefits		**2,000,059**	**1,852,156**
11c NON CURRENT EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			
Long service leave		439,413	454,065
Total Non Current Employee Benefits		**439,413**	**454,065**
12 RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS			
Net Surplus / (Deficit)		297,940	5,990,319
(Profit) loss on disposal of assets		(429,445)	(403,323)
Depreciation of non-current assets		2,138,385	1,941,702
Interest received		(549,920)	(548,722)
Changes in Net Assets:			
Change in assets and liabilities			
(Increase) / Decrease in trade and other receivables		(6,608)	1,094,167
Decrease / (Increase) in Inventory		(248,497)	9,390
Increase / (Decrease) in trade and other payables		(311,184)	(682,187)
Increase / (Decrease) in provisions		133,251	(367,087)
12a Net cash provided by operating activities		**1,023,922**	**7,034,259**
Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Cash on Hand & at Bank		1,871,039	2,521,355
Investments - Term Deposits		20,000,000	20,000,000
12b Cash & Cash Equivalents at End of the Reporting Period		**21,871,039**	**22,521,355**

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MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

		2018 $		2017 $

13 UNEXPENDED GRANTS RESERVE

The following grants and other income have been paid to the Council for specific purposes. Any unexpended amounts are treated as deferred income at the end of the financial year. This is because funding bodies will require either that the unused funds be returned or be applied against activities undertaken in future periods.

	Closing Balance at 30 June 2018	Movements		Opening Balance at 1 July 2017
		Income	Expenses	
General Purpose				
FAA General Purpose	894,208	1,760,443	1,759,676	893,441
FAA Roads	1,031,322	992,722	913,951	952,551
NT Operational Subsidy	-	3,725,766	3,725,766	-
Specific Purpose				
Active Remote Communities (ARC) - NRETAS	-	525,000	525,000	
Black Spot Funding	-	159,568	86,891	(72,677)
Baby Fast NT	3,931		2,684	6,615
Childcare Support Program - PM&C				40
Children's Services - DoE	-	2,479,322	2,620,610	141,288
Children's Services - IAS	-	780,662	780,662	
Children's Services Transition Grant - BBF	-	75,000.00	75,000	0
Community Safety Program	-	3,345,632	3,605,571	259,939.00
CTG Video Conferencing		176		- 176.00
Hazerdous Wste Facillity Papunya - NTEPA		23		- 23.00
Community Night Patrol Core Training Varition (DPMC)	-	38,144.00	38,144	0
Community Safety Vehicles,Core,LLN,Cert III	-	446,991.00	446,991	0
Disability in Home Support Services (DIHS) - DOH	-	206,076	206,076	-
Haasts Bluff Roof	-	20,000	20,000	-
Holiday Program Ntaria - TORCAC	-	34,900	56,432	21,533
Holiday Program Santa Teresa	-	45,863	55,252	9,390
Home and Community Care (CHSP) - DOHA	-	675,449	675,449	-
Home Care Services	660,578	833,961	715,071	541,688
Housing Management Program Fencing Grant	-		963	963
HR Community Info Induction Package			(474)	474
Indigenous Jobs Package Funding	-	1,335,000	1,335,000	-
Imanpa Playground & Solar Light Installation	-		45,151	45,151
Litter and Recycling Hotspot Infrastructure - NTEPA		108.00		(108)
Improved Emergency Response Capabilities	(11,152)	11,151	22,303	-
Local Authority Project Funding	509,029	571,710	688,941	626,260
Mount Liebig Basketball Court Upgrade	-		83,904	83,904
Natural Disaster Relief Fund	455,728	2,370,000	2,414,272	500,000
Ntaria Bush Camps	18,003	22,727	4,725	
NT Jobs Package Aged Care - DOHA	-	962,052	1,079,666	117,614
NT Library Grant Santa Teresa	37,392	39,100	6,321	4,613
NT Youth Week	-	9,900	11,900	2,000
Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) - DoE	-	1,154,886	1,194,886	40,000.00

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MacDonnell Regional Council

13 UNEXPENDED GRANTS RESERVE (continued)

	2018 $			2017 $
	Closing Balance at 30 June	Movements		Opening Balance at 1 July 2017
		Income	Expenses	
Outstations - Homelands Extra Allowance	362,435	324,000	342,091	380,526
Outstations - Housing Maintenance Program	69,981	323,075	307,065	53,971
Outstations - Municipal and Essential Services Program	184,613	1,000,505	860,726	44,834
Outstations - MES SPG	645,414	377,800	720,808	988,422
Papunya Harm Reduction Program	75,000	75,000		
Papunya SDC Building	730,737	600,000	8,108	138,845
Remote Aboriginal Development Fund	3,000	3,000		
Remote Sport Voucher Scheme - DSR	-		7,500	6,551
Roads to Recovery	-	855,124	1,747,390	892,266
School Nutrition Program - IAS	-	623,948	623,948	
Self Funded Sport & Rec	927		482	1,409
Shade Picnic Area Titjikala	595		30,601	31,196
Solar Park Lighting in 13 Communities	100		48,000	48,100
SLGIF Projects	557,129	731,380	174,251	-
SPG Backhoe	-		167,530	167,530
SPG Backhoe	200	164,800	164,600	
SPG 20T Excavator	-		450	450
SPG Compactor Truck Mt Liebig	-		134	134
SPG 45' Drop Deck Trailer	136,254	-	-	136,254
SPG Install Softfall at various parks	152,735	152,735		
SPG 8m Refuse Compactor Truck	-		142,094	142,094
SPG Re-vegetation Project	10		61,049	61,059
SPG Waste Management Coordinator	-	50,000	56,812	6,812
Support Youth Boards	100,000	100,000		-
Tjilirra Camps	-		20,000	20,000
Tjilirra Camps 2	-	18,000	18,000	
Volatile Substance Abuse (VSA) - DOH	-	80,403	80,403	
Youth Development - CAYLUS	186,668	176,166	130,912	141,414
Youth Diversion Services - DCS	-	132,030	132,030	
Youth Engagement Officer - Santa Teresa	30,191	62,378	32,187	
Youth Papunya - CAYLUS	8,900	8,900		
Youth Program - IAS	(3,448)	2,602,172	2,622,665	17,045
Youth Vibe Grant	9,404	21,980	12,576	
Waste Management Co-Ordinator - Council	42,008	50,000	57,107	49,115
Waste Management Co-Ordinator - Health	-	52,152	52,476	324
Other Purposes				
Other Committed Funds 17-18 FY	87,301	786,023	225,486	(473,236)
2016-17 Transfer from Reserve	-			
Tech Services Projects	47,938	258,890	243,668	32,716
Social Club Funds	1,389	1,657	1,160	892
Total Unexpended Grants Reserve	**7,028,521**	**32,254,451**	**32,289,094**	**7,063,204**

MacDonnell Regional Council

14 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Council is exposed through its financial instruments to liquidity risk, credit risk, and interest rate risk.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will not be in a position to meet its financial obligations as and when they fall due. The Council manages its liquidity risk by monitoring cash flows and through budget management. Liquidity is also supported by the fact that a high proportion of government subsidies and grants are received before the activities and projects to which they relate are undertaken.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Council in the event of the failure by a commercial debtor or funding agency to meet its contractual or statutory obligations. Credit risk is greatly mitigated by the fact that the only parties with whom the Council has material dealings are agencies of the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments.

Interest rate risk management

The entity has no material exposure to interest rate risk.

2018	Average interest rate	Variable Interest rate	Fixed Interest rate		Non-Interest Bearing	Total
	%	$	Less than 1 year	1 to 5 years		
Financial Assets						
Cash	0.6	1,871,039				1,871,039
Term deposits at Bank	2.64		16,500,000	3,500,000		20,000,000
Trade Receivables					293,893	293,893
Rates Receivable					247,739	247,739
Total Financial Assets		1,871,039	16,500,000	3,500,000	541,632	22,412,671
Financial Liabilities						
Trade Payables					808,221	808,221
Total Financial Liabilities	-	-	-	-	808,221	808,221

2017	Average interest rate	Variable Interest rate	Fixed Interest rate		Non-Interest Bearing	Total
	%	$	Less than 1 year	1 to 5 years		
Financial Assets						
Cash	1.05	2,531,355				2,531,355
Term deposits at Bank	3.06		20,000			20,000
Trade Receivables					96,544	96,544
Rates Receivable					243,079	243,079
Total Financial Assets		2,531,355	20,000	-	339,623	2,890,978
Financial Liabilities						
Trade Payables					844,626	844,626
Total Financial Liabilities		-	-	-	844,626	844,626

* Interest is calculated on the closing daily balance on each account in excess of $2,000. Tiered rates of interest apply to the credit balance. Interest is calculated daily and credited monthly in arrears on the last business day of each calendar month.

There is no foreign exchange risk.

MacDonnell Regional Council

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

15 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the President, Vice President, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the *Local Government Act 1999*. In all, 18 persons were paid the following total compensation:

	2018 $	2017 $
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	1,706,681	1,270,824
Post-employment benefits		-
Long term benefits		-
Termination benefits		-
TOTAL	1,706,681	1,270,824

Other than amounts paid as ratepayers or residents (e.g. rates, swimming pool entry fees, etc.), Council received the following amounts in total:

	2018 $	2017 $
Contributions for fringe benefits tax purposes	-	-
Planning and building applications fees	-	-
Rentals for Council property	-	-
TOTAL	-	-

PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Eight close family members of key management personnel are employed by Council in accordance with the terms of the Award, and as recorded in the Publice Register of Salaries maintained in accordance with the *Local Government Act.*

16 POST BALANCE DATE EVENTS

There were no Post Balance Date Events