



## **AGENDA**

# **AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2026**

The Areyonga Local Authority Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Areyonga Council Office on Tuesday 31 March 2026 at 10:30 AM.

Belinda Urquhart  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



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**14 NEXT MEETING – 4 JUNE 2026**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

### **3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

**ITEM NUMBER** 3.1  
**TITLE** Attendance, Apologies and Leave

#### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and to table, for the Authority's record, any apologies received from Members for this meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes the Member's attendance at this meeting;**
- b) tables apologies received for this meeting;**
- c) records the Member absences, without notice, for this meeting; and**
- d) receives requests for future leave of absence.**

#### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

The Authority can choose to accept the apologies as presented, or not accept them. Apologies that are not accepted will be recorded as absent without notice.

## 4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	4.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Membership
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
 Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
 Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
 Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This purpose of this paper is to highlight the vacancies on the Local Authority (the Authority) and to apprise the Local Authority of any legislative changes to appointments introduced in the Local Government Act 2019 (the Act).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority;

- a) notes the members’ attendance at the previous meeting;
- b) considers any nominations received;
- c) calls for community nominations to remain open to fill the vacancy; and
- d) notes that memberships may be revoked if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

### **BACKGROUND**

The chart below shows the current membership of the Local Authority:

Appointed Members Areyonga LA	Meeting Attendance 15 October 2025
Sarah Gallagher – Chairperson	Present
Jonathan Doolan	Present
Joy Kunia	Present
Garnet Djana	Present
Hilda Bert	Present
Jacob Carol	Present
Vacant	
Elected Members Iyarrka Ward	
Cr Abraham Poulson	Present
Cr Peter Wilson	Apology

### **Local Authorities Overview:**

Local Authorities are composed of community members and convene **four times per year** to discuss:

- Council service delivery
- Project funding and progress
- Community project ideas

**Functions of Local Authorities (as per the Local Government Act 2019, Section 78):**

- Engage communities in local government issues
- Provide a platform for community opinions
- Influence local, regional, and area-wide policy development
- Represent and advocate for community views to the council
- Contribute to regional planning
- Make recommendations on council budgets and local matters
- Carry out additional functions as assigned by the Minister

This framework ensures that Local Authorities act as a conduit between communities and Council, fostering inclusive governance and informed decision-making

**ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Council's Local Authority Meeting Procedure, para.4.14: Nominations and Appointments states:

- a) nominations will be tabled at the next local authority meeting and considered. A recommendation on the nominations to Council will be recorded and presented with the nomination forms at the next Council meeting.
- b) in the case that there is a nomination, or nominations submitted but no timely local authority meeting (that is before the next council meeting), nominations will still be presented to the next Council meeting. The Council may appoint based on the submitted nominations.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

If Local Authorities do not maintain their membership numbers, their ability to make quorum for their meetings is impaired and they may not be able to commit funds to Community projects and events.

All members must attend at least 75% of the Local Authority meeting to qualify for the meeting allowance.

For non-employees of Council, the allowance is usually paid on Friday, after a meeting. For Local Authority Staff, you may be eligible for the allowance at the next scheduled pay date of MRC.

**CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

**ITEM NUMBER** 5.1  
**TITLE** MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report contains all of the details about the MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct Policy.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority notes the Council Code of Conduct.**

### **MacDonnell Regional Council Code of Conduct**

#### **Interests of the Council and Community come first**

A member must act in the best interests of the community, its outstations and the Council.

#### **Honesty**

A member must be honest and act the right way (with integrity) when performing official duties.

#### **Taking care**

A member must be careful to make good decisions (diligence), and must not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, when performing official duties.

#### **Respect/Courtesy**

A member must be respectful to other members, council staff, constituents and members of the public.

#### **Conduct towards council staff**

A member must not direct, reprimand, or interfere in the management of council staff.

#### **Respect for culture**

A member must respect different cultures, families and language groups (cultural diversity) and not be unfair towards others, or the opinions of others, because of their background.

#### **Conflict of interest**

A member must, if possible, avoid conflict of interest between the member's private interests (family, other job, business etc.) and duties.

Where a conflict exists, the member must inform the Council, Local Authority or Council Committee and not take part in the discussion or vote.

#### **Respect for private business**

A member must not share private (confidential) information that they heard as a member, outside of meetings.

A member must not make improper use of confidential information to gain a benefit or to cause harm to another.

**Gifts**

A member must not ask for or encourage gifts or private benefits from anyone who might want to do business with or obtain a benefit from Council.

**Accountable**

A member must be able to show that they have made good decisions for the community, and have allocated the Council's resources carefully and to benefit the region.

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

The Code of Conduct Policy helps Council to ensure that the:

- MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) exercises strong and accountable governance;
- constituents of MRC are aware of the behaviours they can expect from members.

## **6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**ITEM NUMBER** 6.1  
**TITLE** Confirmation of Previous Minutes

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 15 October 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 15 October 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.**

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 15.10.2025 - MINUTES [ 9 pages]

MINUTES OF THE AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE  
AREYONGA COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:46AM

Minute Note: A minute’s silence was observed to honour the memory of the Chairperson mother.

**2 WELCOME**

Roxanne Kenny – President MRC

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Attendance, Apologies and Leave</b>

Local Authority Members

Sarah Gallagher - Chairperson, Garnet Djana - Member, Hilda Bert - Member, Jonathan Doolan - Member and Joy Kunia – Member and Member Jacob Yarma

Councillors

Councillor Abraham Poulson and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Stuart Miller – Area Manager, Ryan Rosenberg – PMO Office and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator (Minute Taker)

Guests

Dr Vishnu Khanal - Menzies School of Health Telehealth Project and Martin Chicaton – Oral Health

Raymond Walters and Nicki - Penangke Consultancy

Penieli Dovoivoi - Tjuwanpa Representative (left the meeting at 11:20am)

Deepika Mathur - Charles Darwin University Research Department

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and to table, for the Authority’s record, any apologies received from Members for this meeting.

**ARLA2025-55 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes the Member’s attendance at this meeting;**
- b) tables apologies received from Councillor Peter Wilson for this meeting; and**
- c) records no Member absent, without notice, for this meeting.**

#### **4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Membership</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This purpose of this paper is to highlight the vacancies on the Local Authority (the Authority) and to apprise the Local Authority of any legislative changes to appointments introduced in the Local Government Act 2019 (the Act).

##### **ARLA2025-56 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jacob Yarma)**

That the Local Authority;

- a) congratulates returning Councillor Abraham Poulson and welcomes newly elected Councillor Peter Wilson to the Authority;
- b) accepts the following appointments of Council;
  - o Roxanne Kenny as President
  - o Maryanne Malbunka as Deputy President;
- c) calls for community nominations to open to fill the one vacancy; and
- d) notes that memberships may be revoked if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

#### **5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct</b>

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report contains all of the details about the MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct Policy.

##### **ARLA2025-57 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jacob Yarma)**

That the Local Authority notes the Council Code of Conduct.

#### **6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b>

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 16 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

##### **ARLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Jacob Yarma/Joy Kunia)**

That the Local Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 16 July 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

## **7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Agenda papers are submitted for acceptance by the Members for this Local Authority Meeting.

### **ARLA2025-59 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jonathan Doolan)**

That the agenda papers for this Local Authority meeting as presented, be received for consideration at this meeting.

## **8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Conflict of Interest</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected of the Local Authority in relation to declaring personal or family financial interest that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.

### **ARLA2025-60 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)**

That the Local Authority Meeting:

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
- b) that members declare any conflicts of interest.

## **9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Charles Darwin University - Disaster Waste Management Plan</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Charles Darwin University (CDU) is seeking permission from members to collect data from community residents on a Disaster Waste Management project.

**ARLA2025-61 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes the presentation from the Representatives of Charles Darwin University; and
- b) gives consent by signing the ATSIRA form for the researchers to collect data in relation to a disaster waste management plan.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>ORVAC and Thrive Studies - Menzies School of Health</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an opportunity for the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research to provide a brief update on the ORVAC study led by Dr Bianca Middleton, and to introduce the THRIVE study, also led by Dr Bianca Middleton.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) accepts the information provided by the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research; and
- b) considers the request for MSHR staff to visit community to invite families to participate in the THRIVE study.

Minute Note: Representatives presenting the Thrive Study did not attend this meeting.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Menzies School of Health Research - Telehealth Project</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Researchers are sharing the implementation research on the Telehealth Project conducted through the Clinic and how it has been working.

**ARLA2025-62 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) accepts the information on the Digital Health Project shared by Menzies School of Health; and
- b) discusses and agrees on further development of the initiatives for Health using technology.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Community Alcohol Planning Engagement</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Representatives from Penangke Cultural Consultants are attending the Local Authority meeting to begin a consultation process regarding Community Alcohol Planning.

#### **ARLA2025-63 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Jonathan Doolan)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants;
- b) agrees to move forward with the consultation process, recommending that community is given advance notice of the consultation meeting.

### **10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Action Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides a running list of Local Authority action items as raised in previous meetings.

#### **ARLA2025-64 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Jonathan Doolan)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the updates to the actions to move the action – Invite CLC to Non-Council Business; and
- b) agrees to close completed actions as follows:
  - Invite Tjuwanpa, noting that the Representative had departed just before this report was discussed;
  - Invite Chansey Paech, noting that he has been invited to attend the first meeting of 2026;
  - Invite the Childcare Manager, noting that the members were pleased with the efforts of the Childcare Coordinator.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Project Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Northern Territory Government (NTG) and invested in projects and development to benefit and improve the community.

#### Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

- Repairs and maintenance of community assets controlled or owned by the council. e.g. park fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. e.g. trailers, graders, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures/stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community facilities, e.g. sporting venues, upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation; upgrade of women's or men's sheds /shelters.
- Festivals or other events – to be conducted only within the Local Authority area LAPF has been provided for.
- Community based programs – including music, art or dance; uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

*At risk funds'* are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

### ARLA2025-65 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Joy Kunia)

#### That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledges that \$45,976.51 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) notes the progress on their current projects as of 22 September 2025; as follows:
  - 2112 – Water Bubbler, noting that the bubbler is expected to be installed by December.
  - 2114 – Solar light at Entrance, noting that the contractor's expected installation timeframe is prior to December 2025.
  - 2261 – Community Healthy event, that it is still in the planning stages.
- c) notes completion and closes:
  - 2114 – Install a GFS 200 Solar light, returning \$3,500.00 to unallocated; and
  - 2260 – Waste Trailer, returning \$4,274.54 to unallocated.
- d) did not discuss the wishlist items;
- e) creates a new project – Maintenance and Registration of trailer, allocating \$3,500.00.

Minute Note: The PMO Office will investigate the feasibility of constructing a partial wall along one side of the basketball court to mitigate flooding during heavy rainfall.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Discretionary Funds</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each financial year, MacDonnell Regional Council grants a discretionary fund allocation of \$4,000.00 to the Local Authority. These funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

### **ARLA2025-66 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Abraham Poulson)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes the spending of their Discretionary funds;
- b) accepts the thanks received from Principal Anton Devaratnam for the funds that were used to support school trips as part of the Caring For Country learning units this year;
- c) notes the top up to their 2026 funding allocation to cover the deductions from the previous financial year;
- d) discusses to allocate their available funds of \$4,000.00 at this meeting towards the purchase of music equipment, with members in agreement for Councillor Poulson to source the quote and pass onto Governance to raise the PO. Cr Poulson and Member Joy Kunia be responsible for the equipment; and
- e) acknowledges that all funds must be spent with goods received by the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

## **11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>MRC Position Vacancies Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The attached list of vacancies are opportunities for community members to contribute to the community needs, and the People and Capabilities team asks those present at the Local Authority meeting to encourage community members to apply.

### **ARLA2025-67 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jacob Yarma)**

**That the Local Authority accepts the attached list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Areyonga as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Council Services LA Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Areyonga across the area of Local Government Council Services.

**ARLA2025-68 RESOLVED (Jonathan Doolan/Jacob Yarma)**

That the Local Authority of Areyonga notes and accepts the attached report,

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Youth And Community Safety Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety and Youth Services.

**ARLA2025-69 RESOLVED (Garnet Djana/Joy Kunia)**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Safety and Youth Services report.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.4</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Aged and Children's Services Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Aged Care.

**ARLA2025-70 RESOLVED (Garnet Djana/Hilda Bert)**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Aged Care report.

**12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>General Council Business</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to give Members the opportunity to discuss General Council Business items.

**ARLA2025-71 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Jonathan Doolan)**

**That members did not raise any matters for discussion.**

**13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>13.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>General Non-Council Business</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide members with the opportunity to raise matters relating to Non-Council Business.

**ARLA2025-72 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Jonathan Doolan)**

**That the Local Authority did not raise any matters for further discussion.**

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2026**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 12:30 pm.

This page and the preceding 8 pages are the minutes of the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 15 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

## **6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

**ITEM NUMBER**        6.1  
**TITLE**                Acceptance of Agenda

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Agenda papers are submitted for acceptance by the Members for this Local Authority Meeting.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the agenda papers for this Local Authority meeting as presented, be received for consideration at this meeting.**

## **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	7.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Conflict of Interest

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected of the Local Authority in relation to declaring personal or family financial interest that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
- b) that members declare any conflicts of interest.**

### **BACKGROUND**

Conflicts of interest arise when members are influenced, or appear to be influenced, by personal interests when doing their jobs. The perception of a conflict of interest – the way it seems to the public - can be as damaging as an actual conflict, because it undermines public confidence in the integrity and fairness of MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC).

Under the *Local Government Act*, not declaring a conflict of interest or improperly disclosing information can lead to imprisonment.

### **Examples of conflicts of interest and improper disclosure of information:**

Tendering and Purchasing – financial conflict of interest

- Example: Council has advertised for a contractor for irrigation of a football oval. A member is employed by a company which has tendered for the contract. This may affect, or it may reasonably be suspected that it could affect, their ability to make an unbiased or fair decision when the contract choice is considered by Council.

Tendering and Purchasing – non-financial conflict of interest

- Example: A contractor tendering for a Council contract for road works offers to seal the road to a member's house. The member would not be seen as impartial or fair when choosing the contractor for the job.

Information and Opportunities

- Example: a member may know a lot of information about tenders for contracts coming up in the MRC area before the tenders are made public. Conflicts can arise if the member gives this information to a friend or relative working for a company so they can have a better chance of winning the contract.

Undue Influence

- Example: a member tries to pressure a hotel in Alice Springs into providing free accommodation, because they are a member of Council.

### **Declaring a Conflict of Interest**

As soon as practical after a member becomes aware of a conflict of interest in a matter that has come up or is about to come up before or during a meeting (council, local authority or council committee), the member must disclose or tell the relevant interest to the meeting and to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of MRC.

Details of members' interests and the nature of those interests will be recorded in the relevant Register of Interests published on the Council's website and to be available for any member of the public to look over at the Council's public office.

In addition, if a member enters into a personal or business relationship with another member or Council employee that could result in a conflict of interest, then this relationship must be reported to the President and CEO. A file note will be made and recorded on the relevant Register of Interests.

**Uncertainty about whether a conflict of interest exists or not**

If a member is unsure whether or not they have a conflict of interest, they should give full details to the CEO or seek independent legal advice.

The CEO does not have a responsibility to decide whether or not a member has a conflict of interest in a matter. The responsibility for determining whether a member has a conflict of interest is up to the individual member.

**If you do have a Conflict of Interest**

After a member has disclosed the nature of the interest, the member must not, without approval from the Minister:

- be present during any discussion of the meeting when the matter is being discussed
- take part in any decision related to the matter
- Influence another member in their decision.

Members will not become involved in the promotion or endorsement of products and/or services unless this has been approved in line with Council's policies and Code of Conduct.

**Complaints Regarding Failure to Disclose an Interest**

Any person may make a complaint that a member has or may have failed to disclose or tell of a conflict of interest. All complaints should be directed to the MRC CEO.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

The Disclosure of Interests Policy helps Council to ensure that:

- the business of Council is conducted with efficiency, fairness, and integrity; and
- members act in the best interests of Council and do not seek personal or family gain when performing their duties or use their public office for personal gain.

## **9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	9.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Census Engagement Team - ABS
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Census Engagement Team are attending the Local Authority Meeting to introduce their staff, provide information about the Census, outline employment opportunities, gain community support for the Census and seek input regarding the best approach to ensure participation is maximised.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **notes and accepts the information provided by the Census Engagement Team;**  
**and**
- b) **provides feedback on ways to improve participation within the community.**

### **BACKGROUND**

Every 5 years the Australian Bureau of Statistics [ABS] conducts a Census to count the population and housing for the Australian government to make informed decisions to distribute GST funding to each State and Territory for housing, education, and essential services like roads etc. This means that more participation in the Census leads to better funding for communities

This year's Census will be held in August. It will provide employment opportunities for people in communities as members of the community will be employed to assist Census staff.

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Any information that the Local Authority can provide that will assist the ABS team to increase community engagement could lead to increased funding for services within the community.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	9.2
<b>TITLE</b>	CAAMA Radio
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The representatives from CAAMA Radio are seeking permission from the Local Authority to install metal signs within the community that will display the CAAMA Radio frequency and encourage community members and visitors to tune in to the radio.

CAAMA Radio is also seeking guidance about the most appropriate location for the sign, whether at the entrance to the community or another agreed place.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **approves or does not approve the installation of a CAAMA Radio sign within the community; and**
- b) **provides feedback on appropriate placement of the sign.**

### **BACKGROUND**

CAAMA Radio is an Aboriginal-owned media organisation with over 40 years' experience delivering radio and media services across Central Australia. CAAMA Radio has an existing radio studio in Docker River.

As each community broadcasts on a different frequency, this project aims to install metal signs showing the local CAAMA Radio frequency so that community members and visitors know how to tune in.

CAAMA is applying for a grant to cover the design, manufacturing, and installation of the signs. Installation timing will be confirmed with the Local Authority once approval and funding are in place.

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Without clear signage, people entering the communities may not know the local CAAMA Radio frequency and may miss important community information and local programming.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	9.3
<b>TITLE</b>	Menzies School of Health Research
<b>AUTHOR</b>	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Menzies School of Health Research wishes to deliver a presentation on a proposed employment-focused digital technology program and is seeking the views and support of Local Authority members and the community.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes and accepts the report; and**
- b) supports the project team to engage with Aged Care staff, Council staff and community members for consultation and delivery purposes.**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Menzies School of Health Research has been working with the Areyonga Community since 2023 on a telehealth project. This initiative has led to the establishment of telehealth services at the Areyonga Clinic, connecting patients with various hospitals and allied health professionals.

A key learning from this project has been the significant barriers to digital technology access and use within the community. These barriers limit access not only to health services but also to digital resources that can enhance education, training, and employment opportunities.

To address this issue, the Menzies School of Health Research is seeking the approval and support of Council and Local Authority members to engage in a future project scheduled to commence in 2027. The proposed project will involve the co-design, implementation, and evaluation of an employment-focused digital training program to be delivered on country.

Community members, Council staff, and partner organisations working closely with the community will be invited to contribute their insights to help shape the training content and inform the development of appropriate employment pathways.

Similar to the current telehealth initiative in Areyonga, the project will include the engagement of two casual, community-based staff members to facilitate activities locally.

Further details will be provided at the Local Authority meeting through a PowerPoint presentation. At this stage, the project remains in the development phase.

**ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Involvement in this project may afford communities an opportunity to raise technology access issues that are experienced by residents.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Executive Leadership Team

**CONSULTATION**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

## **10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	10.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Introduction to the Regional Plan
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Local Authority with the opportunity to contribute to the development of MacDonnell Regional Council's (MRC) Regional Plan.

It is important that Local Authorities are consulted during the development of the Regional Plan to ensure that the priorities and needs of residents across the region are accurately represented.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) reviews the information presented;**
- b) provides feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan.**

### **BACKGROUND**

Each year, MacDonnell Regional Council produces a Regional Plan that serves as a roadmap for strategic growth and development. The plan outlines how MRC will continue to support and strengthen its communities across all sectors. It identifies not only the direction in which the Council is heading, but also the strategies and actions that will be undertaken to achieve these outcomes in partnership with the community.

The accompanying PowerPoint presentation provides members with an opportunity to consider key issues affecting MRC communities, including matters such as employment, infrastructure, and other priority areas.

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

The Local Authority may provide feedback during the presentation of this report. Alternatively, members may choose to discuss the ideas presented with others in the community and provide their feedback at the next meeting of the Local Authority.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

In considering the Regional Plan there will often be a financial impact. This is considered when the budget for 2026-27 is developed.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	10.2
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Project Register
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Northern Territory Government (NTG) and invested in projects and development to benefit and improve the community.

#### **Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:**

- Repairs and maintenance of community assets controlled or owned by the council. e.g. park fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. e.g. trailers, graders, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures/stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community facilities, e.g. sporting venues, upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation; upgrade of women's or men's sheds /shelters.
- Festivals or other events – to be conducted only within the Local Authority area LAMP has been provided for.
- Community based programs – including music, art or dance; uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

*At risk funds* are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes the Project Funding Acquittal and Certification (attached) as at 30 June 2025;**
- b) acknowledges that \$45,723.83 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- c) notes the available funds of \$38,474.54 includes the 2025/2026 Project funding allocation of 30,700.00;**
- d) notes the progress on their current projects as presented by the Project Management Office;**
- e) closes any completed projects on receipt of invoices received; and**
- f) discusses the priority of wish-list items.**

### **BACKGROUND**

Members of the Local Authority allocates project funds to support community and sporting infrastructure, open space developments and community priorities. These projects are intended to assist communities to improve community amenity through the provision of social and community facilities.

Local Authorities must formally resolve each initiative for which this funding will be used.

<b>Project 2112</b>	<b>Water Bubbler near Bus Stop</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Status</b>	<b>Committed</b>
<b>12-Sep-24</b>	Res.040 - New Project established September 2024, \$10,000 allocated.	\$10,000.00
28-Oct-24	Invoice received from Civiq for drinking fountain and bottle refill station.	<b>-\$7,507.00</b>
21-Nov-24	Res.067 – Noted that this will be installed by the Plumber	
11-Mar-25	PMO update - waiting on installation.	
15-May-25	Res.031 – PMO will follow up with plumbers on a date for the installation.	
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Bubblers have been reordered - need to confirm installation.	
15-Oct-25	Res.065 - Noted that the bubbler is expected to be installed by December.	
<b>1-Dec-25</b>	<b>PMO update - The quote for the installation of the Bubbler has come in at \$5,700 - additional funds will be required to complete this project.</b>	
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>\$2,493.00</b>

<b>Project 2115</b>	<b>Maintenance and Registration of Trailer</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Status</b>	<b>Committed</b>
<b>15-Oct-25</b>	Res.065 – New Project established.	\$3,500.00
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>

<b>Project 2119</b>	<b>Solar light at entrance</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Status</b>	<b>Committed</b>
21-Nov-24	Res.067 – New Project established November 2024, \$4,000 allocated.	\$4,000.00
28-Feb-25	Invoice received from Green Frog Systems.	<b>-\$2,845.00</b>
10-Mar-25	Invoice received from Bunnings.	<b>-\$63.38</b>
11-Mar-25	PMO update - Will be collected from storage and installed by the Civil Team.	
15-May-25	Res.031 – The CSC will collect the parts from Amoonguna.	
2-Jun-25	PMO update - The light is to be delivered to community first week of June.	
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Light has been delivered and will be installed by a contractor shortly.	
15-Oct-25	Res.065 - Noted that the contractor’s expected installation timeframe is prior to December 2025.	
<b>1-Dec-25</b>	<b>PMO update - to be installed by Civil Team.</b>	
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>\$1,091.62</b>

<b>Project 2261</b>	<b>Community Healthy Event</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Status</b>	<b>Committed</b>
6-Feb-25	Res.010 – New Project established - all remaining funds allocated.	\$19,502.65
11-Apr-25	PMO update - No progress yet.	
16-Jul-25	Res.048 – Accepted the \$11,792.02 from Project 2118 and committed an additional \$33,770.00 being the current balance of unallocated funds to the Healthy Community event project.	\$45,562.02
22-Sep-25	AREA MANAGER update - event to be organised.	
15-Oct-25	Res.065 - Noted that the event is still in the planning stages.	
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>\$65,064.67</b>

<b>Budget consideration</b>		
	Balance of underspend or (overspend)	\$72,149.29
	Total un-allocated funds	\$38,474.54
	<b>Total of unspent funds</b>	<b>\$110,623.83</b>

<b>WISH LIST</b>		
<b>12-Jun-24</b>	Fence around Men's area	
<b>21-Nov-24</b>	Park Furniture	

<b>PROJECTS CLOSED 2025-26</b>		
<b>Project 2114</b>	<b>Install 1 x GFS 200 Solar Light between MRC office and Tjuwampa</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Status</b>	<b>Committed</b>
21-Mar-24	Res.040 - New Project established March 2024, \$3,500 allocated.	\$3,500.00
12-Jun-24	Res.032 – noting that MG Electrical would install at the same time as the installation for Project 2112.	
25-Feb-25	PMO update - Area Manager to arrange installation by Civil Works team. PMO update - Quote obtained for installation \$45,000 - if it can't be installed by the Civil Team project will have to be closed.	
11-Apr-25	PMO update - In the process of being installed by Civil Team - not completed yet.	
15-May-25	Res.031 – Civil team is installing and will be complete by the end of May.	
2-Jun-25	PMO update - GFS 200 is too big to instal - will supply Stealth Solar Light.	
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Light has been installed - project to be closed.	
15-Oct-25	Res.065 - Closed the project and returned funds to unallocated.	<b>-\$3,500.00</b>
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>\$-</b>

<b>Project 2118</b>	<b>Fencing and Repairs at Playground</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Status</b>	<b>Committed</b>
24-May-23	Res.040 - Created a new project 'Fencing and Repairs' at Playground to replace project 2114 and reallocated the funds of \$32,772.50 to this project noting that any shortfall will be covered by the unallocated funds.	\$32,772.50
17-Oct-23	Invoice received from Complete Fencing - Supply 74m aluminium fencing.	-\$5,961.18
21-Mar-24	Res.014 – Change name to Playground Upgrades.	
30-Aug-24	Invoice received from AJ Nicol Fencing - installation of fencing, bobcat hire, travel costs.	-\$13,640.00
12-Sep-24	Invoice received from Bunnings for 10 bags of concrete.	-\$75.55
10-Jan-25	Invoice received from Complete Fencing.	-\$1,303.75
2-Jun-25	PMO update - This project has been completed - but fence has since been damaged beyond repair. Project to be closed. New project will need to be created if fence is to be replaced.	
16-Jul-25	Res.048 – Closed Project 2118 – Fencing and repairs at Playground, reallocating the underspend of \$11,792.02 to the Healthy Community event;	-\$11,792.02
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>\$-</b>
<b>Project 2260</b>	<b>Waste Trailer</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Status</b>	<b>Committed</b>
21-Nov-24	Res.067 – New Project established November 2024, \$18,000 allocated.	\$18,000.00
13-Jan-25	PMO update - Still working on finalising design - anticipate it will be ordered prior to next meeting.	
15-May-25	Res.031 – Delivery expected by the end of June.	
2-Jun-25	Invoice received from Modern Trailers Pty Ltd.	-\$13,318.18
25-Jul-25	Invoice received from Napa Auto Parts - Battery Chargers	-\$154.60
5-Sep-25	Invoice received from Steve's Electrix Pty Ltd - GPO's and Inlets	-\$252.68
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Trailers ready to go - Delivery to be arranged - good to close project.	
15-Oct-25	Res.065 - Closed the project and returned funds to unallocated.	-\$4,274.54
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>\$-</b>

**ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

**Examples of unacceptable purposes for Expenditure include:**

- Purchase of vehicles and fuel expenses.
- Payment of salaries, cash prizes or recurrent operating costs of Council.
- Meeting costs and payments to Local Authority members.
- Sponsorship by way of uniforms, travel costs and allowances.
- Purposes that are not related to local Government Services and that should be addressed by another Government agency.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The purchase of any product or service must comply with MRC’s Procurement Policy.

**Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 31 March 2026 – Agenda**

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Funds from the Grant must be fully expended within two years of receipt of funding. Failure to expend the funds may result in the funds being returned to the Northern Territory Government.

**CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 LAPF 2024/2025 Acquittal and Certification

## Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25 Certification

Council Name: MacDonnell Regional Council  
 Local Authority Name: Areyonga

### Income and Expenditure for the period ending 30 June

Total Grant Income:	\$	127,383.42
Total Project Expenditure:	\$	50,552.31
Surplus/(Deficit):	\$	76,831.11

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Answering 'No' to any question requires a written explanation with this certification

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expenditure shown in this Local Authority Project Funding certification has been actually incurred and project reports submitted are in accordance with:

- |   |                                      |    |
|---|--------------------------------------|----|
| - the projects submitted by the Local Authority;  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No |
| - the Northern Territory Buy Local Plan;  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No |
| - the LAPF funding guidelines; and  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No |
| - the <i>Local Government Act</i> and the <i>Local Government (Accounting) Regulation</i> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No |

Certification and Project Report prepared by : Zubair Ali 28/08/2025

The local authority projects reported formed part of the agenda and minutes of:

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| - Council's ordinary council meeting; and | Yes | No |
| - Local Authority meeting                 | Yes | No |

Laid before the Council at a meeting (held/ to be held on) 25/09/2025

Copy of minutes attached to this certification Yes TBA

Laid before the Local Authority at a meeting (held/ to be held on) \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of minutes attached to this certification Yes TBA

Project Report completed and attached Yes No

Chief Executive Officer or ~~Chief Financial Officer~~: *Zubair Ali* 28/08/2025

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DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

CERTIFICATION ACCEPTED & RECONCILED Yes No

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Grants Officer sign/date: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager, Grants Management sign/date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department of HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Local Authority Project Funding - Annual certification of funding and project report

Page 1 of 1



**10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**ITEM NUMBER** 10.3  
**TITLE** Local Authority Discretionary Funds  
**AUTHOR** June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

**LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

- Goal 01: Developing Communities
- Goal 02: Healthy Communities
- Goal 03: Empowered Communities
- Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each financial year, MacDonnell Regional Council grants a discretionary fund allocation of \$4,000.00 to the Local Authority. These funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the spending of their Discretionary funds; and
- b) discusses the funds allocated to the Community Health event

**BACKGROUND**

Examples that Discretionary funds can be used for:

- Community Christmas and New Year’s Festivities
- Community BBQ’s
- Sports weekends
- Naidoc Celebration
- Youth Board

**Current Financial Year Funds Allocation**

Date	2025/2026 Discretionary Funds	Budget \$
1-Jul-25	Approved Funds	\$ 6,060.51
1-Aug-25	Areyonga School supplies/activities/excursions	- 563.44
1-Aug-25	Res.049 – Funds committed to a Healthy Community event	- 1,438.25
<b>25-Mar-26</b>	<b>Recommend to return these funds for reallocation</b>	
15-Oct-25	Res.66 – allocates the remaining funds towards the purchase of music equipment with Cr Poulson to source the quote and along with Member Joy Kunia share responsibility for the equipment.	
21-Oct-25	Invoice received from Rock, City Music	- 3,806.00
	<b>Available funds</b>	<b>252.82</b>

**ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Local Authorities decide how to best spend this money to broadly benefit the community. The Local Authority is responsible for consulting with community members to ensure that community priorities are considered when allocating discretionary funds.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The use of funds must be approved at a Local Authority meeting with a full quorum, or a form signed by more than half of the active Local Authority members.

Failure to spend the funds within the financial year (1 July to 30 June) will result in these funds being returned to MacDonnell Regional Council.

**CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 11.1  
**TITLE** Council Services LA Report  
**AUTHOR** Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Areyonga across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Council Services report.**

### **BACKGROUND**

Nil

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Keith Hassett – Deputy Chief Executive Officer/Director Council Services  
Victor Morgan – Area Manager  
Beatrice Ker – Council Services Coordinator Areyonga

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Areyonga Council Services Report Dec - Feb 2026



# Council Services Areyonga

Dec'25 - Febraury '26



95% First Nations Employees in SCD



6 Area Manager Visits to Community



Council Office 490 Hours of Service

## Snapshot



2200 Litres Fuel Usage Total



13 Vehicles and Plant in Use



178 Bins Emptied Weekly



2 Sport Grounds Maintained



4 Toolbox Talks Completed



29 Street Lights Operational  
0 Street Lights Non-Operational



2 Water Tests



2 Parks & Playgrounds Inspections



9900 plastic bottles saved from landfill

### Animal Management

- The vets visited on the 11-12.3.26.
- They treated the dogs with medicine and tick treatments.
- They were able to desex a good number of dogs.
- The vets commented that the community was fantastic to work with and made their visit really productive.

### Cemetery Management

- Rain over the past month has limited the team's ability to carry out maintenance.
- A cemetery clean-up day is planned.

### Internal Road Maintenance

- Civil team have been clearing dead animals from roads and picking up rubbish.
- Grading of the road into town has been booked in.
- Street sweeper machine getting fixed.
- The men cleared up mud after wet weather in January.

### Maintenance of Parks and Open Spaces

- Civil team have been keeping the parks and open spaces free from rubbish.
- The parks are inspected regularly.

### Sports Grounds

- Basketball court cleared/ leaf blowed.
- Softball pitch in good condition. However, will need mowing following big rain.

### Waste Management

- 2 X weekly rubbish collection.
- Hard rubbish collected around once or twice a week as needed.
- Some new bins have been ordered for community members.
- Waste Facility is being cleaned up.

### Weed Control and Fire Hazard Reduction

- Grass at pool kept down.
- Whipper snipping around community has started following big rain.
- ESO continues to maintain the grass at all power water sites,

### Other Community Updates

- Upgrades to airstrip carried out by Jetstream contractors,
- Pre-surveys carried out by 2 Surveyors,
- Bikes workshop for youth with Bikes Mwerre,
- Maintenance carried out to MRC Machinery e.g. window fixed on backhoe,
- Our customer service officer provides services to assist our resident with their Centrelink or MyGov enquiries.
- Solar lights are ready to be installed, but have been delayed due to the rain.



roads maintenance



Hard rubbish collection



maintaining basketball court and store area



Watsse facility maintenance



cutting grass after rain



Animal management

## **11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 11.2  
**TITLE** Aged and Children's Service Report  
**AUTHOR** Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Aged Care and Children's Services

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Services report.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Aged Care and Children's Services programs continue to be delivered in line with funding requirements.

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager of Aged and Children's Services  
Emma Hacche - Senior Coordinator Quality Compliance & Strategy of Aged Care and Administration

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Aged and Children's Services Areyonga LAR November 2025 - January 2025



# Local Authority Report Areyonga Aged Care Services



2 Staff in the Areyonga team  
100% Community-based Employees are  
Aboriginal

Stakeholders' engagements:  
CAAC - referrals for clients  
School Principal



Lifts provided: 42



Client Interactions: 90

This includes client welfare  
checks and client engagement at  
the Aged Care Centre



Personal Care provided: 32

Including:  
shower & toilet assistance, laundry  
loads, tablet reminders



Active Clients: 14



Training:

Toolbox talks:  
WHS / Hot weather working



Meals Provided

Breakfast, lunches  
& Hampers: 366  
SNP Meals delivered: 383

## Updates

- We recently undertook a staff restructure which resulted in our Papunya Coordinator relocating to oversee the Areyonga and Hermannsburg Aged Care centres.
- Recruitment for Home Care Assistant positions in Areyonga remains ongoing, with continued challenges in attracting applicants.
- In December, we held our annual Christmas celebration for clients and distributed Christmas hampers to support them during the MRC closure period.

## Visit from CAAC team November 2025 'Healthy Eating and Looking after yourself'





# Local Authority Areyonga



## November 2025 - January 2026



**4 Employees**  
**75% First Nation**



**8 Enrolments**



**100 hours Coordinator & Manager support**



**Service Delivery 71.5 Hours**



**33 - Meals served**



**Training**

- **1 Educator Enrolled in Cert III Early Childhood Education and Care**



**Stakeholder Engagement**

- Families
- Clinic
- Preschool

### Highlights

New Team Leader, Damiana Gentili, commenced at Areyonga and has developed strong, positive relationships with families and children within the community

January marked the beginning of the new enrolment period, which resulted in an increase in:

- Enrolments
- Successful open days
- Family involvement and participation
- Community engagement and support





# Local Authority Areyonga



November 2025 - January 2026



**Areyonga**, Thaddeus displayed positive engagement and enjoyment during play experiences, particularly while exploring magnetic toys, often sharing a bright and enthusiastic smile.



Coordinators visited Areyonga to support the Team Leader and educators in preparation for the reopening of Areyonga Childcare, ensuring a smooth and supported transition.



# Local Authority Areyonga



November 2025 - January 2026



Learning Through Play and Family Engagement  
creativity, fine motor development, and social skills.



## **11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 11.3  
**TITLE** Youth and Community Safety Report  
**AUTHOR** Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety and Youth Services.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Services report.**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Youth Services and Community Safety programs continue to be delivered in line with funding requirements

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Libby Taylor - Executive Manager of Youth and Community Safety  
Sarah Grant – Senior Coordinator of Community Safety  
Youth Services Coordinator and Admins.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Youth and Community Safety Areyonga LAR November 2025 - January 2026



# Local Authority Report

## Areyonga Community Safety

November 2025 - January 2026



- 3 staff in the Areyonga team
- 3 casual vacancies at present
- 100% Community-based Employees are Aboriginal

- 258 Hours patrolled
- Work: 5-6 hour shifts Mon-Fri
- Between 5.00pm - Midnight



1966 Engagements  
with young people



1721 Engagements  
with over 18's



314 Young people  
taken home



42 Training  
Hours



133 Are you okay?  
Checks



2 Community  
gatherings

### Highlights



- The Community safety team had two coordinator visits in this reporting period
- Wilbur Poulson attended a supervisor training Cert III Local Government in Alice Springs to assist in the training and support of their community safety staff
- Wilbur Poulson Team Leader has completed seven of the Learning Management System (LMS) Training Modules through the online portal
- Gus Abbott has begun the (LMS) online portal training sitting in with Wilbur to complete training relevant to the Community Safety service.
- Wilbur received an award for 11 years length of service as Team Leader of the Community safety program.

**Wilbur training through the online portal with  
the Learning Management System**



**Gus Abbott training on the LMS online portal**



**Wilbur Poulson awarded for 11 years length of service  
as Team leader of the Community Safety program**





# Local Authority Youth Services Areyonga Nov- Jan 26



### Employees

5 Staff  
100% Local



### Activities Hours

136 Hours  
open



### Engagements

78 Participants  
591 Engagements



### Bush Trip

0



### Art Craft

1



### Average participant age

13



### Youth Board

1



### Activities delivered

77



### Events

0

## Highlights



- **Youth engagement through music and sports:** Young people are using the music room to practice music, and with the indoor lights being fixed, the place is looking good for evening programs. Basketball and other outdoor sports are running well, and it's great to see kids actively playing and enjoying themselves
- **School Holiday Program:** Youth Services ran a six-week school holiday program during December and January, offering a variety of activities, including disco night, indoor soccer, arts and crafts, and cooking classes. These activities are providing enjoyment while supporting skill development, physical wellbeing, and positive social interaction.
- **Strong community and school involvement:** Unity College held their end-of-term school graduation in Areyonga, with many young people and families attending. It was really good to see the community come together to support the students and celebrate their achievements.

The School Holiday Program included a Christmas dinner celebration for young people



Young people were supported by the Ethical Nutrition Service team to develop healthy cooking skills



Young people are happy to get their bikes after taking part in bike repair sessions with the Bike Mwerre Team.



Ethical Nutrition Service team facilitated an outdoor cooking workshop for Youth Services participants.



## **12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 12.1  
**TITLE** General Council Business

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to give Members the opportunity to discuss General Council Business items.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes and discusses the matters raised; and
- b) notes that any action items arising from these discussions will be moved to the action register for Council to respond.

### **BACKGROUND**

Nil

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Nil

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

**13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 13.1  
**TITLE** Non-Council Business  
**AUTHOR** Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

**LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 01: Developing Communities  
 Goal 02: Healthy Communities  
 Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
 Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide members with the opportunity to raise in relation to services provided by the Northern Territory Government and its external Stakeholders.

This may include:

- Roads outside of MRC’s area
- Education
- Health
- Police
- Land Management

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that Chansey Paech will attend the Local Authority meeting in June and closes this matter;
- b) notes the update on the invitation for a CLC representative to attend a Local Authority meeting; and
- c) notes and discusses any new matters raised;

**BACKGROUND**

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development provides updates in regard to Northern Territory Government Services.

Meeting	Officer/ Organisation	Section	Subject
Areyonga Local Authority 15/10/2025	Member for Gwoja	Raised at Action Register	Invite Chansey Paech to a LA Meeting
<b>ARLA2025-64 – Chansey Paech has been invited to the first meeting of 2026.</b>			
<b>19/02/2026 – Update from Chansey Paech’s Office</b>			
Chansey Paech sends his apologies as he will be in Parliament Sittings on the date of the first Areyonga Local Authority meeting in March. He has expressed strong interest in attending and has added the meeting on 4 June to his calendar.			
<b>Recommend closing this matter.</b>			

Meeting	Officer/ Organisation	Section	Subject
Areyonga Local Authority 16/07/2025	CLC	Raised at Non-Council Business	<b>Invite CLC to discuss leases and land management</b>
<b>ARLA 2025-002 - Members would like CLC to attend to speak with them regarding leases and land management.</b>			
<b>18-Jul-2025 – Response from Governance</b>			
An invitation to attend the October Local Authority meeting has been emailed to the CLC Representatives.			
<b>10-Oct-2025 – No response from CLC</b>			
<b>15-Oct-2025 ARLA2025-64 – moved this item to Non-Council Business.</b>			
<b>19-Feb-2026 – Response from CLC</b>			
Georgia Chinchilla - the Regional Lawyer for Utju - is unavailable to attend the meeting on the 31 <sup>st</sup> March due to other commitments in Kaltukatjara. She indicated a willingness to discuss any issues with the Local Authority and requested additional information regarding the members concerns.			

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.