



AGENDA

HAASTS BLUFF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST 2025

The Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Haasts Bluff Council Office on Thursday 28 August 2025 at 10:30 AM.

Belinda Urquhart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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- 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 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

ITEM NUMBER	4.1
TITLE	Vacancies in the Local Authority
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 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:

- notes the current membership of the Local Authority;
- notes that there is one vacancy on the Local Authority; and
- calls for community nominations to remain open to fill this vacancy.

BACKGROUND

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

It is important that an apology is received if you are unable to attend a meeting. Should an apology not be received, you may be recorded as absent. If you are again recorded as absent from the next Authority meeting, your membership will be automatically dismissed.

Appointed Members Amoonguna LA	Attendance 03/06/2025
Derek Egan	Absent
Simon Dixon	Present
Kieran Multa	Apology
Douglas Multa	Present / Acting Chair
Liza Multa	Apology
Jessica Moora	Absent
Vacant	

Elected Members Pintubi Luritja Ward	
Cr Dalton McDonald	Absent
Cr Jason Minor	Present
Cr Tommy Conway	Present

The Local Authorities are made up of local members. They have four (4) Local Authority meetings per year and discuss things like council service delivery, project funding, project ideas and progress, finances etc.

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Functions of the Local Authority (Local Government Act 2019 section 78):

- a) To involve local communities more closely in issues related to local government; and
- b) To ensure that local communities are given an opportunity to express their opinions on questions affecting local government; and
- c) To allow local communities a voice in the formulation of policies for the locality as well as policies for the area and the region; and
- d) To take the views of local communities back to the council and act as advocates on their behalf; and
- e) To contribute to the development of the relevant regional plan; and
- f) To make recommendations to the council in relation to:
 - (i) The council's budget; and
 - (ii) The part of the council's area within which the local authority performs its functions; and
- g) To perform other functions assigned to the local authority by the Minister, in accordance with any guidelines that the Minister may make.

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.

When members attend at least 75% of a Local Authority meeting, they generally receive an allowance and for non-employees of Council, this is usually paid on the Friday after a meeting.

For Council staff, you may be eligible for the allowance at the next scheduled pay from MRC.

CONSULTATION

The Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for 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 Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting held 3 June 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the following previous Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meetings as a true and correct record of the proceedings:

- **Local Authority Meeting held 6th March 2025**
- **Provisional Local Authority Meeting held 3rd June 2025**

ATTACHMENTS

1. HAASTS BLUFF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 6.3.2025 - MINUTES [pages]
2. HAASTS BLUFF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 3.6.2025 - MINUTES [pages]

MINUTES OF THE HAASTS BLUFF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
HAASTS BLUFF COUNCIL OFFICE ON TUESDAY 6 MARCH 2025 AT 10:30 AM



MINUTES OF THE HAASTS BLUFF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
HAASTS BLUFF COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 6 MARCH 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:48AM as a provisional meeting.

1.1 NOMINATION OF CHAIR

HBLA2025-001 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Dalton McDonald)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority by majority vote,
nominated Douglas Multa as Acting Chair for this meeting.

2 WELCOME

**3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS /
NOMINATIONS**

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Member Douglas Multa , Member Simon Dixon, Member Kieran Multa (arrived at 11:17am)

Interim Members – Liza Mulda and Jessica Moora

Councillors:

Deputy President Dalton McDonald

Jason Minor via Teams from the Papunya Office

Council Employees:

Ken Satour – A/Director Council Services, James Walsh – Project Management Office,
Stuart Miller – Area Manager, Simon Walmsby – Council Services Coordinator and June
Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Ruth Tahere – Project Management Officer, Matt Virgona – A/Manager Youth Services
attended via Teams

Guests attended via Teams:

Sharon Troncoso – Clinical Nurse Specialist, Trachoma Unit

Jessica Scrutton – Regional Project Officer, Department Housing, Local Government and
Community Development

Katharine O'Donoghue – Representative from the Member for Gwoja

This is page 1 of 8 of the Minutes of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday, 6
March 2025

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Councillor Tommy Conway

Absentees:

Member Jennicka Inkamala, Member Derek Egan, Member Randall Butler and Member Martin Jugadai

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

HBLA2025-002 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the attendance;
- b) accepted the apology received from Councillor Tommy Conway; and
- c) noted the absences without notice from Members Derek Egan, Randall Butler and Martin Jugadai.

Minute Note: Members agreed that if Member Randall Butler did not show for the meeting, he would be marked as absent.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

3.4 MEMBERSHIPS TERMINATED

HBLA2025-003 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council:

- a) revoked the membership of Jennicka Inkamala as she no longer lives in community; and
- b) revoked the memberships of Randall Butler and Martin Jugadai as they missed two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

3.5 Nominations

3.5 NOMINATIONS

HBLA2025-004 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Douglas Multa)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) accepted the nominations received from Ms Liza Mulda and Ms Jessica Moora;
- b) agreed that the nominees be made interim members of the Authority for this meeting; and
- c) requested that Council endorse the nominations.

Minute Note: Quorum was achieved with the members acceptance of Liza Mulda and Jessica Moora as provisional members for this meeting.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

HBLA2025-005 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Simon Dixon)

That the Haasts Bluff Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

HBLA2025-006 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Dalton McDonald)

That the Haasts Bluff Local Authority accepts the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held 25th of March 2024 as an accurate record of the proceedings.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA AND NOTIFICATIONS OF GENERAL BUSINESS AND NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

HBLA2025-007 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Douglas Multa)

That the Haasts Bluff Local Authority noted the that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

HBLA2025-008 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Dalton McDonald)

That the Haasts Bluff Local Authority noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

HBLA2025-009 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Douglas Multa)

That the Haasts Bluff Local Authority declared no conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 NT TRACHOMA PROGRAM & INDIGENOUS EYE HEALTH

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of the presentation from the Public Health Unit and Indigenous Eye Health is to provide information on the Trachoma Program.

HBLA2025-010 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Douglas Multa)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the presentation from the Trachoma Unit; and
- b) agreed to support the unit's visits on educating community about Trachoma.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 REGIONAL PLANNING INCORPORATING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Regional Plan is developed every year after consultation with MacDonnell Regional Council's (MRC) communities and directs how we will deliver our vision, mission and goals. The Regional Plan guides MRC staff to deliver on our mission to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services.

The Local Authority is asked to guide and support MRC staff in the development of the 2025-26 Regional Plan in the consideration of the development of the community and planning in relation to the community's infrastructure.

HBLA2025-011 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **accepted the consultation and provided guidance and support for MRC staff in the development of the MRC 2025-26 Regional Plan;**
- b) **provided its priorities in relation to the development of the community's infrastructure; and**
- c) **noted the following from the PMO Manager:**
 - **A Project through the Department of Social Services, to create a safe space for families inside the Rec Hall. The Shade Structure outside the Rec Hall will also benefit with an upgrade to include soft fall and seating.**
 - **A Community Benefit fund has been received and will go towards replacing the playground outside the Council depot. Members asked to have the playground relocated to the Basketball Court, noting the request will be moved to the action register for the PMO Office to provide a response regarding the location.**

9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER

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.

HBLA2025-012 RESOLVED (Kieran Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Acquittal and Certification of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority Project funding as at 30 June 2024;
- b) noted that \$23,490.20 are funds *at risk* of being returned to NTG;
- c) noted the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management Office; and kept open:
 - 2386 – Garden Shed with tools for Cemetery.
 - 2392 – Trees around the Park, noting that native trees were not available in Central Australia, therefore members agreed for any Australian trees to be ordered.
- d) closed the completed projects as follows;
 - 2146 – Trevor Carpark, returning the underspend of \$3,000.00 to unallocated, noting to prioritise the installation of the signs;
 - 2390 – Modular Stage, returning the underspend of \$6,759.00 to unallocated, noting that the Area Manager will collect the components from Areyonga;
 - 2391 – Upgrade the Umpire box, returning \$2,852.82 to unallocated, noting that the Civil Team will initiate the installation.
- e) excluding the 2024/2025 Project funds yet to be received from NTG, members committed the remaining funds anticipated to be \$37,610.33 to a Healthy Community event.

9.3 LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

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.

HBLA2025-013 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the spending of their 2023/2024 Discretionary funds;
- b) noted that \$1,481.12 were funds returned by Council as they were not spent by 30 June 2024;
- c) discussed and assigned the full allocation of \$4,000.00 towards band equipment, noting that members to prioritise the list of equipment and provide it to the CSC; and
- d) noted that the discretionary funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2025.

9.4 MRC POSITION VACANCIES REPORT

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.

HBLA2025-014 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority accepted the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Haasts Bluff.

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

HBLA2025-015 RESOLVED (Kieran Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the Local Authority of Haasts Bluff noted and accepted the Council Services report.

10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES LA SNAPSHOTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

HBLA2025-016 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Simon Dixon)

That the Haasts Bluff Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Services report.

11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 January 2025 in the Haasts Bluff Local Authority community.

HBLA2025-017 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Expenditure report as at 31 January 2025.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members of the Authority have an opportunity to raise matters that they wish to discuss in General Council Business.

HBLA2025-018 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority discussed the following matters relating to General Council Business:

- a) Funding for renovations to homes on outstations.
Member Douglas Multa asked if Council receives funding to renovate homes on outstations in particular Browns Bore.
- b) Sealing the Road from the turnoff into Haasts Bluff.
PMO Manager will follow up with the Fleet Manager of options that may be available to seal the road and a response will be brought to the next Authority meeting.
- c) Councillor Dalton McDonald requested a discussion be raised at the next Council meeting to remind Councillors of their responsibilities that should be undertaken within their ward. This request was made after Member Douglas Multa expressed his disappointment that the Elected Members of the Ward were not being proactive and not sharing the views of their constituents.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

13.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members can discuss matters in relation to services provided by the Northern Territory Government. This may include:

- NT Housing
- Roads outside of MRC's Area
- Education
- NT Health

HBLA2025-019 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority noted and discussed the matters raised as follows:

- a) Funding for renovations to homes on Outstations.
Member Douglas Multa requested if there was funding available for renovations to homes on outstations, in particular Browns Bore.
- b) Permanent Nurse for Haasts Bluff
Members advised that two days per week for the clinic to open was not enough and community wanted a permanent nurse or at the very least a nurse who attended more often.
Members asked the Representatives from the Member for Gwoja's' office to advocate on their behalf and NTG to follow up with a response to the possibility of a more permanent solution, or extend the days the clinic is open, with longer hours.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 14 MAY, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1:17 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 6 March 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED

MINUTES OF THE HAASTS BLUFF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
HAASTS BLUFF COUNCIL OFFICE ON TUESDAY 3 JUNE 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority was declared open at 10.53 AM.

1.1 NOMINATION OF ACTING CHAIR

HBLA2025-020 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Tommy Conway)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority by majority vote,
nominated Douglas Multa as Acting Chair for this Meeting.

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Douglas Multa.

**3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS /
NOMINATIONS**

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Member Douglas Multa and Member Simon Dixon

Councillors:

Via Teams: Member Jason Minor and Member Tommy Conway

Council Employees:

Damien Ryan – Area Manager Council Services, Sheree Sherry – Chief Financial and Information Officer, James Walsh – Manager Project Management Office, Ryan Rosenberg – Project Administration Officer, Stuart Millar – Area Manager Council Services, Simon Walmsby – Council Services Coordinator Haasts Bluff, and Shae Millar – Governance Coordinator.

Via Teams: Sai Project Management Officer, and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator.

Guests:

Jeff Hulcombe – Ngurratjuta - Junior Ranger Program Coordinator.

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

President Roxanne Kenny, Member Kieran Multa, Member Liza Multa, CEO Belinda Urquhart, Ken Satour – Director Council Services.

Absentees:

Deputy President Dalton McDonald, Member Jessica Moora and Member Derek Egan.

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / ABSENTEES

HBLA2025-021 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Jason Minor)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the attendance;
- b) noted and accepted the apologies from President Roxanne Kenny, Member Kieran Multa, Member Liza Multa, CEO Belinda Urquhart and Director Ken Satour; and
- c) noted the absences without notice of Deputy President Dalton McDonald, Member Jessica Moora and Member Derek Egan.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 VACANCIES IN THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

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).

HBLA2025-022 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted that the memberships of Liza Multa and Jessica Moora were endorsed at the April Ordinary Council Meeting;
- b) noted that there is still 1 vacancy in the Haasts Bluff Local Authority; and
- c) called for community nominations to remain open to fill this vacancy.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

RECOMMENDATION

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and noted the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

HBLA2025-023 RESOLVED (Simon Dixon/Douglas Multa)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and noted that the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held 6th of March 2025 will be presented at the next Local Authority meeting.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA AND NOTIFICATIONS OF GENERAL BUSINESS AND NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

HBLA2025-024 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Tommy Conway)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and noted that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

HBLA2025-025 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

HBLA2025-026 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and declared no conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 REMOTE HOUSING - REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND TENANCY TEAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This section provides an opportunity for representatives from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development to provide the Local Authority with updates regarding Remote Housing programs, repairs, maintenance and tenancy.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepts the updates from Remote Housing representatives; and
- b) raises matters relating to housing repairs, maintenance and tenancy within the community.

Minute Note: No representative attended the meeting.

8.2 THE JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM - NGURRATJUTA/PMARA NTJARRA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of the presentation from Ngurratjuta / Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation is to introduce aspects of the Junior Ranger Program, including its rationale, approach to planning and progress.

HBLA2025-027 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and noted and accepted the presentation from Ngurratjuta / Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation.

8.3 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Every four years, people living in the Northern Territory elect representatives to serve on their Local Government Council. Local Government is the level of government most connected to your community, and the 2025 Local Government Elections will be your chance to stand up and represent your local area.

HBLA2025-028 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) urged all eligible residents to ensure they are enrolled to vote;
- b) encouraged community members to consider nominating as candidates; and
- c) noted that nominations open Friday 11 July to Thursday 31 July.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 ACTION REGISTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

HBLA2025-029 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Jason Minor)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the update on the action item 'Playground Relocation' and moved this to the Local Authority Project Register;
- b) noted the update on the action item 'Outstation Funding for Renovations' and that Ngurratjuta will be taking on the maintenance of outstations and closed this item; and
- c) noted the update on the action item 'Sealing Road from Turnoff into Haasts Bluff and closed this item.

9.2 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The MacDonnell Regional Council develops Community Infrastructure plans for each community every five years. These plans are created in consultation with the Local Authority to record the community's priorities for the future development of their Infrastructure.

The Local Authority is asked to guide and support MRC staff in the development of the of the community and planning in relation to the community's infrastructure.

HBLA2025-030 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Tommy Conway)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and provides the following priorities in relation to the development of the community's infrastructure:

- A fence around the oval
- Water taps at the oval
- A stage facility near the church – like the one at Papunya
- Lights at the oval to play at night
- A new rec hall near the basketball court.

9.3 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER

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.

HBLA2025-031 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted that \$23,490.20 are funds *at risk* of being returned to NTG;
- b) noted the progress on their current projects as of the as follows:
 - Project 2145 'Community Healthy Event' is still in the planning stage.
 - Project 2386 Garden Shed with Tools for Cemetery' the shed has been completed and the tools have been ordered.
 - Project 2392 'Trees Around the Park' the CSC is looking into options for ordering trees and the Area Manager has delivered the Growasis product to community, these will help to keep the new plants alive while they are becoming established. Members requested that some trees be planted at the church carpark.
- c) accepted the unallocated funds currently available to spend;
- d) created a new project 'Playground Near Basketball Court' [taken from the action item 'Playground Relocation'] and allocated \$23,000.00 noting that:
 - A grant has been received for the installation of this park.
 - \$23,000.00 is required in addition to the grant to complete this project.

- If the Local Authority chooses not to allocate this money the project will not go ahead and the grant money will be returned to the Northern Territory Government.
 - the Local Authority has received it's 2024-2025 project funds; and
- e) added 'Fence Around Church carpark to the wishlist. This would be similar to the fence around the church. Around 1m high chain mesh fence.

9.4 LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

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.

HLA2025-032 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted that \$3,816.36 has been spent on band equipment from Rock City Music in Alice Springs and the invoice has been received;
- b) noted that there are \$183.64 remaining of the discretionary funds; and
- c) made a request to the CEO that she hold this money through to the next financial year to be added to the 2025-2026 discretionary funds allocation as the remaining funds are insufficient to provide any significant benefit to the community.

9.5 MRC POSITION VACANCIES REPORT

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.

HLA2025-033 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Tommy Conway)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and accepted the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Haasts Bluff as of 24 April 2025.

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

HLA2025-034 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the provisional meeting of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and noted and accepted the Council Services report.

10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

HBLA2025-035 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Jason Minor)

That the Haasts Bluff Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Services report.

11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Nil

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members of the Authority have an opportunity to raise matters that they wish to discuss in General Council Business.

HBLA2025-036 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Simon Dixon)

That the Local Authority raised and discussed the following matters relating to General Council Business:

- a) members would like Councillors to attend Local Authority meetings in person where possible as opposed to via Teams;
- b) members requested that Council staff find out whether there are funerals in community before they travel out and were advised that staff check with the CSC through the area manager before they come out; and
- c) Members requested that all service providers check in at the Council Office when they enter community and were advised that this is currently the correct process and that they should advise council if they notice that a particular service provider is not doing this and Council will follow up with that provider. The Local Authority was also advised that many service providers are doing the right thing by checking in.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

13.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members can discuss matters in relation to services provided by the Northern Territory Government. This may include:

- NT Housing
- Roads outside of MRC's Area
- Education
- NT Health

HBLA2025-037 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Tommy Conway)

That the Local Authority discussed the matter of Non-Council Business 'Permanent Nurses for Haasts Bluff' and expressed dismay that there has not been a reply from Minister of Health Steve Edgington as yet.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 7 AUGUST, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:40 pm.

This page and the preceding 57 pages are the minutes of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting held on Tuesday 3 June 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

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

ITEM NUMBER	7.1
TITLE	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.

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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

ITEM NUMBER	9.1
TITLE	Remote Housing - Repairs, Maintenance and Tenancy Team
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 section provides an opportunity for representatives from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development to provide the Local Authority with updates regarding Remote Housing programs, repairs, maintenance and tenancy.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepts the updates from the Remote Housing representatives; and**
- b) raises matters relating to housing repairs, maintenance and tenancy within the community.**

BACKGROUND

The Director for Remote Housing has requested that representatives from the Repairs and Maintenance/Remote Tenancy team have an ongoing deputation to attend Local Authority Meetings to provide updates and receive feedback from the community.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Issues raised at this time may be followed up by representatives from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development at the request of the Local Authority.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER 9.2
TITLE Remote Water Team Community Information Forums
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 an opportunity for the Indigenous Essential Services Remote Water Team to provide information and consult with the Local Authority regarding Community Water Forums.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information presented by the representative from the Remote Water Team;
- b) supports a community water forum event to be held in the Haasts Bluff Community; and
- c) shares concerns held by community members regarding water quality, security and infrastructure.

BACKGROUND

The Indigenous Essential Services Remote Water Team is the Territories cross government team that is working toward improving water security and quality for remote communities as part of the Territory Water Plan. It has a focus on community engagement, accelerating infrastructure investment and securing safe and reliable drinking water for remote indigenous communities.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

The Indigenous Essential Services Remote Water Team would like to increase community engagement and input by holding a number of Community Water Forum events to be held on Community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

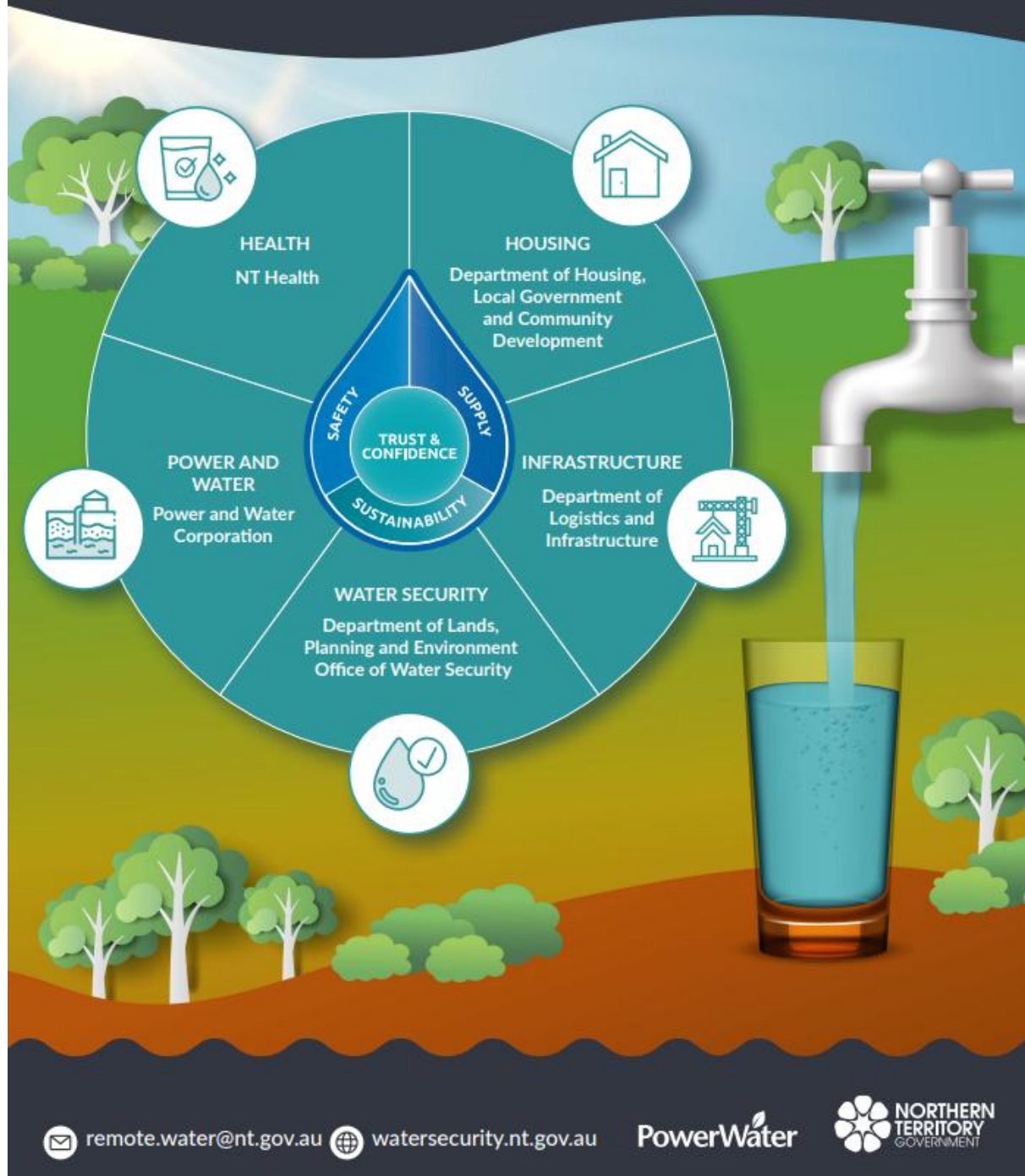
The Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Remote Water Team Poster

REMOTE WATER TEAM

Improving water security and health outcomes for remote communities across the Northern Territory.



9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER 9.3
TITLE Community Alcohol Planning Engagement
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

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants.

BACKGROUND

Penangke Cultural Consultants has a contract with NTG to engage the local community (Traditional Owners, Leaders and community members/cohorts) to carry out 'Community Alcohol Planning' (CAP) relating to Interim Alcohol Protected Area Opt-Out, as per the Liquor Act legislation (in effect Feb 2023 and set to finish Feb 2027).

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Penangke Cultural Consultants can be engaged to act as a local consultant in the early decision-making process and provide other optional services that may include:

- assisting with a Community Alcohol Plan
- developing an Alcohol Reference Group
- harm reduction planning
- demand reduction planning and strategy discussions
- support with accessing the CLS Grant that aims to assist with measures that respond to alcohol related harm including well-being and diversion.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

The Local Authority.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 10.1
TITLE Local Authority Project Register
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

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.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that \$45,263.08 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) notes the progress on their current projects as provided by the project management office;**
- c) closes any completed projects returning any unused funds to unallocated; and**
- d) notes that there are \$1,200.00 of unallocated funds.**

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.

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Project 2142	Playground near Basketball Court	\$
	Status	Committed
3-Jun-25	Res.031 – created a new project ‘Playground Near Basketball Court’ [taken from the action item ‘Playground Relocation’] and allocated \$23,000.00 noting that: • A grant has been received for the installation of this park. • \$23,000.00 is required in addition to the grant to complete this project. • If the Local Authority chooses not to allocate this money the project will not go ahead and the grant money will be returned to the Northern Territory Government. • the Local Authority has received it’s 2024-2025 project funds	\$23,000.00
	underspend or (overspend)	\$23,000.00
Project 2145	Community Healthy Event	\$
	Status	Committed
13-Jan-25	Res.010 – New Project established - all remaining funds allocated.	\$35,410.33
	NOTE FOR MEMBERS: 10% of the 2024-25 funding has been retained for allocation to Youth Board Projects.	
11-Apr-25	PMO update - Nothing has been resolved as yet.	
3-Jun-25	Res.031 – Noted that this project is still in the planning stage.	
	underspend or (overspend)	\$35,410.33
Project 2386	Garden Shed with tools for Cemetery	\$
	Status	Committed
13-Sep-23	Res.031 – Allocated \$5,000.00 and requested a shed similar to Mt Liebig and that it be placed on the side of the Church.	\$5,000.00
22-Dec-23	Invoice Bunnings - various materials, tools, etc.	-\$1,120.13
13-Jan-25	PMO update - Pad base has been completed - shed not yet erected - will follow up.	
8-Apr-25	Purchase Orders Bunnings	
13-May-25	PMO update - Shed has been erected - will follow up on tools.	
1-Jun-25	PMO update - Tools have been collected - this project can be closed once the invoice is received.	
3-Jun-25	Res.031 – Noted that this project has been completed and the tools have been ordered.	
1-Jul-25	Invoice received from Bunnings. Recommend closing this project.	-\$227.12
	underspend or (overspend)	\$3,652.75

Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting 28 August 2025 – Agenda

Project 2392	Trees around the Park	\$
	Status	Committed
13-Sep-23	Res.031 – Allocated \$4,000.00 and that quotes are sought.	\$4,000.00
13-Jan-25	PMO update - No trees are available in the Alice Springs area. LA to consider alternative options - possibly a green house?	
6-Mar-25	Res.012 – Noted that native trees were not available in Central Australia, therefore members agreed for any Australian trees to be ordered.	
13-May-25	PMO update - Nothing has been resolved as yet - still trying to source trees.	
3-Jun-25	Res.031 – Noted that the CSC is looking into options for ordering trees and the Area Manager has delivered the Growasis product to community, these will help to keep the new plants alive while they are becoming established. Members requested that some trees be planted at the church carpark.	
	underspend or (overspend)	\$4,000.00
Budget consideration		
	Balance of underspend or (overspend)	\$66,063.08
	Total un-allocated funds	\$1,200.00
	Total unspent funds	\$67,263.08

Wishlist Items		
Raised	Item	Assigned
25-Mar-24	Spencer Coffin Trolley Moved to the wishlist for future consideration	
03-Jun-25	Church Carpark Fence This would be similar to the fence around the church. It would be a chain mesh fence around 1 meter high.	

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.

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

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 10.2
TITLE Local Authority Discretionary Funds
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

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:

- notes that Council approved the Local Authorities recommendation to carry over the unused 2024/2025 Discretionary funds into the new financial year;
- notes that the Local Authority has received the 2025/2026 Discretionary Funds and has \$4,183.64 available to allocate;
- discusses the allocation of these funds; and
- notes that these funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2026.

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 plus	\$4,000.00
1-Jul-25	Funds carried over from the previous financial year are added to the total available funds.	\$4,183.64

2024/2025 Financial Year Funds Allocation

Date	2024/2025 Discretionary Funds	Budget \$
1-Jul-24	Approved Funds	\$4,000.00
06-Mar-25	Allocated \$4,000.00 toward band equipment.	
27-Mar-25	Purchase order raised for \$3,816.36 plus GST.	-\$3,816.36
28-Mar-25	Invoice received	
	Balance	\$183.64
20-Jun-25	OCM2025-089 RESOLVED That Council: d) supports the Authorities recommendations to carry over their 2024/25 Discretionary Funds to the 2025/26 financial year as follows: • Haasts Bluff - \$183.64	- \$183.64

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 for this report.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 11.1
TITLE MRC Position Vacancies 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

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.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority accepts the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Haasts Bluff as of 25th July 2025.

BACKGROUND

The MacDonnell Regional Council embraces its role as a significant employer for people wishing to live and work in our remote communities. It is a priority for MRC to provide meaningful employment opportunities for local people.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Keheli Nagahawatte (Katy), People and Capabilities Operations Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 MRC Positions Vacant 25/07/2025



Position Vacancies

Haasts Bluff

Position #	Service	Description	Type	Weekly Hours
401203	MacSafe	Senior Community Safety Officer	Part-Time	30.4
401204	MacSafe	Community Safety Officer	Part-Time	20
401205	MacSafe	Community Safety Officer	Part-Time	30
402363	MacCare	Home Care Assistant	Part-Time	19
402366	MacCare	Home Care Assistant	Part-Time	19
402367	MacCare	Team Leader Home Care	Full-Time	38
403023	MacYouth	Youth Services Officer	Part-Time	19
403025	MacYouth	Youth Services Officer	Part-Time	9.5
403030	MacYouth	Youth Services Officer	Part-Time	9.5
502102	Council Serv	Customer Service Officer	Part-Time	19
502103	Council Serv	Customer Service Officer	Part-Time	19
502124	Council Serv	Works Assistant	Part-Time	19
502125	Council Serv	Works Assistant	Full-Time	38
502129	Council Serv	Works Assistant	Part-Time	19

Table data derived from XLOne Position Vacancy Report of Active Open Positions in the MRC Org Structure and approved by Managers: 25/07/2025



11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 11.2
TITLE Council Services 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 Haasts Bluff across the area of Local Government Council Services.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

Nil.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Damien Ryan – A/Director Council Services
Simon Walmby – A/Area Manager / Council Services Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS

1 Council Services Report



Council Services Haasts Bluff



100% First
Nations
Employees in CS



4 Area Manager
Visits to
Community



Council Office
480 Hours of
Service

Snapshot



3193 Litres Fuel
Usage Total



13 Vehicles and Plant in
Use



73 Bins Emptied
Weekly



30 Street Lights
Operational
3 Non operational



2 Sporting areas
Maintained



11 Australia Post
Deliveries



12 outstation reports



3 Water Tests



8 Generator
Services



20 Hours of
Maintenance
completed at Airstrip



3 Parks &
Playgrounds
Inspections

Animal Management

- Approximately 70% of the total companion animal population received antiparasitic medication during the census

Community	Dogs	Cats	Desexed	Undesexed	Unsure	Percentage pup/kit/young	Percentage adults	Average Parasitic burden Score	Average Body Condition Score	% treated with AP medication
Utju	86	4	11.11%	51.11%	37.78%	6.67%	91.11%	0.16	2.66	78.89%
Amoonguna	127	6	9.77%	60.15%	30.08%	24.81%	75.19%	0.11	2.34	70.00%
Ltyente Apurte	237	24	29.50%	39.08%	31.03%	3.83%	83.91%	0.09	2.61	70.50%
Titjikala	108	11	19.33%	44.54%	36.13%	3.36%	84.87%	0.26	2.34	68.91%
Walunguru	111	12	8.94%	59.35%	31.71%	14.63%	83.74%	0.69	2.21	70.00%
Watiyawanu	85	12	5.15%	52.58%	42.27%	18.56%	81.44%	0.59	2.28	70.00%
Papunya	146	9	14.19%	50.32%	35.48%	20.00%	79.35%	0.33	2.18	70.00%
Ikuntji	60	2	20.97%	46.77%	32.26%	14.52%	85.48%	0.04	2.69	70.00%
Ntaria	191	29	6.82%	48.18%	44.55%	0.91%	83.18%	0.29	2.34	68.64%
Imanpa	41	2	11.63%	69.77%	18.60%	25.58%	74.42%	0.07	2.37	90.70%
Wallace Rockhole	40	23	17.46%	68.25%	14.29%	12.70%	85.71%	0.07	2.91	57.14%
Apatula	86	35	9.09%	51.24%	38.84%	19.01%	79.34%	0.05	2.60	66.94%
Kaltukatjara	86	10	5.21%	48.96%	45.83%	14.58%	85.42%	0.32	2.21	70.00%
Outstations	82	3	10.59%	58.82%	30.59%	3.53%	91.76%	0.23	2.19	70.00%
TOTAL	1486	182								
GRAND TOTALS/AVGS	1668		12.84%	53.51%	33.53%	13.05%	83.21%	0.24	2.42	70.84%

Cemetery Management

- Clean up of cemetery planned before next funeral in April.
- New entry sign to be installed for cemetery
- Photos of garden shed being constructed by civil staff

Internal Roads Maintenance

- Water damage to back roads of Haasts Bluff, civil team will be repairing parts of the road for better access to and from outstations

Maintenance of Parks and Open Spaces

- New Park sign will be installed
- New shade structure in park for future seating

Sports Grounds

- Maintenance around oval have come to a stand still due to lack of staff
- New shade structure for future seating at Oval
- Softball and oval will be slashed again once civil staff have caught up to Local Authority Projects.
- Close up of new waste pits being dug out on the South side of fence line at our waste facility.
- Once established, directional signage will be placed at waste turn-off and separation bay signs will be installed.

Waste Management

- New community drop off bays have been established at the dump.
- Signage will be placed in the new bays when civil staff complete community maintenance
- Rubbish is generally collected twice a week, after rain on the 14/2/25, there hasn't been access to waste facility for the past week

Weed Control and Fire Hazard Reduction

- nil



11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 11.3
TITLE Community Services 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 provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety, Aged and Disability Services, Youth Services and Children Services.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

All Community Services programs continue to be delivered in line with funding requirements.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

A/Director Community Services – Ainsley Roscrow
A/Manager of Community Safety – Sarah Grant
A/Manager of Youth Services – Kaisa Suumann
A/Manager of Aged and Disability Services - Emma Hacche
A/Children's Services Manager - Pavithra Devasurendra
Community Services Coordinators and Administration team

ATTACHMENTS

1 Community Services Report Haasts Bluff



Local Authority

Haasts Bluff Community Safety April - June 2025



- Currently there are 5 Staff in the Haasts Bluff Team
- Vacancies: Senior CSO and 2 Permanent P/T CSO positions
- 100% Community-based Employees are Aboriginal



- 300 Hours Patrolled
- 800 Hours Worked
- Work: 5-6 hour shifts Mon-Fri Between 5pm - 11pm



117 Engagements
with young people



90 Engagements
with over 18's



50 Young people
taken home



15 Training Hours
with Coordinator



97 Are you okay?
Checks



No Community
gatherings

Updates



- The Coordinator has visited Haasts Bluff three times in this reporting period.
- Coordinator provided training in the MacSafe App and other IT processes. Staff are now able to scan, send timesheets and other documents.
- Darren Dixon has stepped up into the Team Leader role.
- Two new Casual Community Safety Officers (CSO) have been employed.
- Recruitment for the Senior CSO and Perm part-time CSO roles are in process.

Team members Darren Dixon and Liza Mulda are ready to start work



Darren Dixon and Francis Marshall on a break after patrolling.





Local Authority Report Aged Care Services

Haasts Bluff
April - June 2025



2 Staff in the Haasts Bluff team
0% Community-based Employees are
Aboriginal



Client numbers:

CHSP - 1

NATSI - 1

Visitors - 0



Meals provided: 818
Breakfast, lunches & Hampers



Personal Care provided: 66
This Includes...
Shower & Toilet assistance,
Laundry loads, Tablet Reminders.



Transport provided: 61



Client Interactions: 25
This includes client checks
and client visits to the Aged
Care Centre



Stakeholders meetings

- School Principal meeting held - We addressed challenges with food delivery access due to the presence of cheeky dogs around the school. Geoff kindly granted permission for the Aged Care vehicle to enter school premises, minimizing direct contact with the dogs. Additionally, he arranged for most of the dogs to be relocated to a shelter in Alice Springs.
- Mission Australia (Winny Musa) on 12/06/2025. Winny visited the centre to introduce the National Psychological Support Program.
- Catholic Care NT on 18/06/2025. They delivered educational sessions focused on advocacy and the prevention of elder abuse, with particular attention to humbugging. The session was well received by clients.
- Ministry of Health (Fred – Dietitian) – Visit on 17/06/2025. Fred offered to provide staff with training on preparing healthy meals, which we are planning to schedule soon.

Recruitment

- We currently only have one staff member based in community. Whilst we now have a dedicated coordinator, our efforts are now focused on recruiting a new community based Home Care Assistant.

Challenges

- Occasional disruptions caused by inclement weather leading to issues with freight of supplies





Local Authority MacKids Haasts Bluff April - June 2025



3 Employees
67 % First Nation



8 - Enrolments



Training

- TL Enrolled in Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care
- Educators are enrolling in Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care



Service Delivery
228 Hours



105 - Meals served



Vacancies
2 Educators



Support
67
Coordinator Support



Stakeholder Engagement

- Department of Education
- Department of Health: Child health nurse
- Protective behaviours
- National psychosocial support
- Nutrition team
- ECY Regulatory

Highlights



- Our Team Leader is close to completing her Diploma
- We are pleased to welcome more new children, as enrolments continue to increase.
- Ongoing support and visits from the nutrition and child health team
- Positive and successful visit from the national ECY Regulatory team supporting compliance and safety across CCCFR early learning services.



Local Authority MacKids Haasts Bluff April - June 2025

MacKids
growing strong in
mind, body & culture



Encouraging children to gently explore their environment and supporting them in extending their play interests.



Team leader exploring protective behaviours curriculum and learning about safe and unsafe activities

The children exploring shape and colour with a collage tray and wearing their decorated hats!



Local Authority Youth Services Haasts Bluff April 25 - June 25



Employees

5 staff
80% Aboriginal



Activities

504 activities
950 hours



Engagements

102 Participants
1280
engagements



Bush / Town Trip

0



School Support

4



Training

1 Staff Training



Youth Board

2



Sport

93



Family events

2

Highlights



- **Community BBQ :** This event bringing together local families, young people, and staff for a day of connection and fun.
- **Junior Ranger Camp:** This exciting program provided the kids with hands-on experiences in nature conservation and wildlife observation.
- **Claudia now permanent senior staff:** Claudia's permanent role strengthens our capacity to deliver high-quality youth engagement and support.



MacYouth hosted a community BBQ during the April school holidays

Fred, the dietitian educated the kids about healthy food



MacYouth took a group of kids to the Junior Ranger Camp at Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary.

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 Items

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 matters relating to Non-Council Business.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) **notes the response from Minister Edgington on the matter previously raised regarding clinic operation; and**
- b) **notes and discusses additional matters raised.**

BACKGROUND

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

Meeting	Representative	Section	Subject
Haasts Bluff Local Authority 06/03/2025	Katharine O'Donoghue – Representative from the Member for Gwoja	Raised at Non-Council Business	Permanent Nurse for Haasts Bluff
HBLA2025-019			
That the Local Authority discussed the following matters relating to Non-Council Business			
b) Permanent Nurse for Haasts Bluff			
Members advised that two days per week for the clinic to open was not enough and community wanted a permanent nurse or at the very least a nurse who attended more often.			
Members asked the Representatives from the Member for Gwoja's office to advocate on their behalf and NTG to follow up with a response to the possibility of a more permanent solution, or extend the days the clinic is open, with longer hours.			
08/05/2025 Update from Katharine O'Donoghue			
Chansey Paech has written to the Minister of Health, Steve Edgington, advocating for this service to be more permanent or a better solution for the community and will convey the reply to the LA.			
31/07/2025 Update from Katharine O'Donoghue			
Minister Chancey Paech received the attached response from Minister Steve Edgington			

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter from Minister Edgington in response to Minister Paech's letter outlining the concerns raised by the Local Authority.
2. Previously tabled letter from Minister Paech outlining the concerns raised by the Local Authority for the purpose of a reference if required.



MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
minister.edgington@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8999 8635

Mr Chansey Paech MLA
Member for Gwoja

Electorate.Gwoja@nt.gov.au

Dear Mr Paech *Chansey*

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituents in Haasts Bluff, regarding health services provided by the NT Health.

The Northern Territory Government is committed to the delivery of sustainable, high-quality care and ensuring accessibility of care for our remote communities.

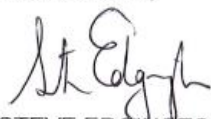
NT Health staff visit Haasts Bluff each Tuesday and Thursday, with primary health care outreach services provided weekly, along with specialist services in Papunya. Additionally, a 24/7 accident and emergency response are provided from Papunya, for residents of Haasts Bluff. To ensure the safety of both patients and staff, a minimum of two nurses are required in all communities during these visits. It is noted that services have operated this way since changes were made by the former government in 2021.

I am pleased to inform you that in 2024, management for chronic disease in Haasts Bluff improved significantly, and there is no indication of a decline in the community's overall health.

I am advised that the community has expressed interest in transitioning to a community-controlled health service. NT Health will work closely with community members, and incoming service providers, to support this transition.

Thank you for writing to me to raise this important matter on behalf of your constituents.

Yours sincerely



STEVE EDGINGTON

16 JUL 2025



23 April 2025

Minister Steve Edgington
P O Box 3146,
Darwin NT 0801

Via email Minister.edgington@nt.gov.au

Dear Minister Edgington

RE: Haasts Bluff Health Clinic

I write to you in the capacity of the member of Gwoja of behalf of Haasts Bluff constituents regarding the Haasts Bluff Health clinic.

Currently the community has access to a nurse and clinic only two days per week. Constituents have expressed a strong desire to have a permanent full-time nurse available on community.

This stems from increasing health needs, limited access to other healthcare service, and the need for more consistent service on community.

The limited availability of services has resulted, in delayed medical attention, challenges in managing chronic condition and limited preventative care services been delivered on community.

Local community constituents believe that a permanent nurse could improve overall health and wellbeing of community, provide better continuity of care and reduce pressure on emergency services.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely,



Chansey Paech MLA Member for Gwoja



CHANSEY PAECH MLA

UNIT 2/51 TODD MALL
PO BOX 4592,
ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871
P: 8951 5561 | electorate.gwoja@nt.gov.au

NEXT MEETING – 12 NOVEMBER 2025