



AGENDA

DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2025

The Docker River Local Authority Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Docker River Council Office on Wednesday 22 October 2025 at 10:30 AM.

Belinda Urquhart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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14 NEXT MEETING - 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 **NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP**

ITEM NUMBER 4.1
TITLE Local Authority Membership
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

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) congratulates returning Councillor Abraham Poulson and welcomes newly elected Councillor Peter Wilson to the Authority;
- b) thanks Marlene Abbott for her dedication and commitment on the Authority;
- c) notes that the resignation from Denise Brady at the last meeting has resulted in a vacancy on the Local Authority;
- d) calls for community nominations to open to fill the one vacancy;
- e) notes that memberships will be revoked if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings; and
- f) notes the following appointments of Council;
 - o Roxanne Kenny as President
 - o Maryanne Malbunka as Deputy President.

BACKGROUND

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

Appointed Members Areyonga LA	Meeting Attendance 16 July 2025
Ruby James	Present
Winsome Newberry	Apology
Rosina Kunia	Present
Priscilla Abbott	Apology
Selinda Lily De Rose	Apology
Brett Stockman	Present
Denise Brady	Present / Resigned
Elected Members Iyarrka Ward	
Cr Abraham Poulson	Present
Cr Marlene Abbott	Present

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 Docker River Local Authority Meeting held 28 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Docker River Local Authority Meeting held 28 July 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

ATTACHMENTS

1. DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 28.7.2025 - MINUTES [pages]

MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON MONDAY 28 JULY 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was postponed to 11.44AM before being declared open

2 WELCOME

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

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Ruby James, Member Denise Brady, Member Brett Stockmen, Member Rosina Kunia

Councillors:

Member Marlene Abbott

Member Abraham Poulson – attended via Teams from the Areyonga Office

Council Employees:

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Keith Hassett – Director Community Services, Mark O'Bryan – Area Manager, Ruth Tahere – Acting Manager Project Manager, Ryan Rosenberg – Project Management Officer and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Guests:

Nil

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Member Priscilla Abbott, Member Selinda Lily De Rose and Member Winsome Newberry

Absentees:

Nil

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

DRLA2025-036 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Rosina Kunia)

That members:

- a) notes the attendance; and
- b) accepts the apologies received from Members Winsome Newberry, Priscilla Abbott and Selinda Lily De Rose

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This purpose of this paper is to highlight the current membership of the Local Authority and to record the attendance at the previous meeting.

DRLA2025-036 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Rosina Kunia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that the Local Authority currently has full membership;
- b) notes the attendance of members at the previous meeting;
- c) notes two absences without notice will result in an automatic dismissal of membership;
- d) receives the resignation from Denise Brady; and
- e) acknowledges one vacancy on the authority.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

DRLA2025-037 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Denise Brady)

That the Docker River Local Authority notes the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRM PREVIOUS MINUTES

DRLA2025-038 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Brett Stockmen)

That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd of May 2025 be adopted as an accurate record of proceedings.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

DRLA2025-039 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Denise Brady)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted the that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

DRLA2025-040 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Denise Brady)

That the Docker River Local Authority notes the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

DRLA2025-041 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Denise Brady)

That the Docker River Local Authority declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 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.

DRLA2025-042 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Marlene Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) urges all eligible residents to ensure they are enrolled to vote;
- b) encourages community members to consider nominating as candidates;
- c) notes that nominations close Thursday 31st July; and
- d) notes and accepts the Information for Candidates for the 2025 Local Government Council Elections.

8.2 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: A Representative was not in attendance to this meeting.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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.

Members discussed the following priorities at their previous meeting:

- Laundromat
- Ablution block
- Football oval, grandstand and stage
- BMX track
- Water Park
- Playground equipment

DRLA2025-043 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Denise Brady)

That the Local Authority did not add any further priorities in relation to the development of the community's infrastructure plan.

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.

DRLA2025-044 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Marlene Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that \$76,372.87 are funds *at risk*;
- b) accepts the 2024/2025 Project funding allocation of \$47,100.00
- c) notes the progress on their current projects as of the 18th July 2025 as provided by the Project Management Office:
 - 2122 – Park and playground structures, noted the quote of \$55,000.00 to remove playground, build up the park area and reinstall playground was too excessive and members instead, requested that the contractor be contacted to provide a revised quote to uplift the playground and move it away from where the water is pooling.
 - 2570 – Mobile Water Trailer, allocating \$5,000.00 towards freight costs, noting that it is expected in Alice Springs within the next month and will be delivered out to Docker River once it is registered.
- d) closes project 2129 – Solar lights at entry post, returning \$3,478.95 to unallocated noting that they had been built too close to the road and were a safety concern;
- e) creates the following new projects;
 - Bases for the Solar lights, allocating \$10,000.00 and agreeing that the Civil team will remove the solar lights at the entrance to Docker River as they had been installed too close to the road, that the CSC and the Civil team liaise with community on where to install them.
 - One bin trailer, allocating \$18,000.00 to the project.
- f) did not discuss the priority of the wishlist items.

9.2 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.

DRLA2025-045 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Rosina Kunia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the spending of your 2024/2025 Discretionary funds;
- b) receives the 2025/2026 funding allocation of \$4,000.00;
- c) notes that these funds must be spent with invoices received before 30 June 2026; and
- d) did not allocate any funds at this meeting.

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 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.

DRLA2025-046 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Brett Stockmen)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Docker River as of the 18 July 2025.

10.2 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

DRLA2025-047 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Ruby James)

That the Local Authority of Docker River notes and accepts the attached report

10.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety in Docker River.

DRLA2025-048 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Rosina Kunia)

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

11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Nil

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 GERNERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

DRLA2025-049 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Ruby James)

That the Local Authority during General Council Business was informed that the CSC will be taking leave for six weeks and Kelly Ryan will be Acting CSC in his place.

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

DRLA2025-050 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Ruby James)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that no additional matters were raised; and
- b) closes the action – Digital Connectivity Project.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:46 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Monday 28 July 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

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.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 10.1
TITLE Local Authority Project Register
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

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) acknowledges that \$62,702.87 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) notes the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management office; and**
- c) closes completed projects and returns unused 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.

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

Project 2122 New park location and structures, shade shelter, bbq, seating & fencing		\$	
Status		Committed	
7-Aug-24	Res.050 - New project established for New park location and structures, shade shelter, bbq, seating & fencing - all remaining funds allocated.	\$	58,041.82
25-Feb-25	PMO update - structure currently on community - quote from DSB Construction \$20,776 ex GST for installation. Balance of funding for solar BBQ? Or fencing or seating - but not both? ■ Solar BBQ's are \$8,314 ex GST incl. installation. ■ Bench seating \$16,810 ex GST - customisable park furniture - options attached. \$2,098 alternative option for park seating - with a table - could buy two of these. ■ Will need a new concrete base (could be \$8,420 + \$5,000 for Docker) and will need pricing to deliver and install at Docker River. ■ Need to specify what area is to be fenced to get a quote - could be beyond budget. Depends on purpose of fencing.		
13-Mar-25	Res.012: - o accepted the quote from DSB Construction to install the Shade Structure over the park; - o noted as a priority for the PMO office to source quotes for fencing around the playground only; - o removed the solar bbq due to the cost; and - o did not make any decisions on their preference for seating.		
11-Apr-25	PMO update - Quotes obtained - feedback from CSC is that the community doesn't want the park in the allocated area - are discussing leaving the playground where it is and installing stormwater treatment infrastructure and then installation will be at existing location.		
7-May-25	Purchase order raised with DSB Construction NT incl labour, materials, travel, mobilisation and accommodation.	-\$	21,648.00
13-May-25	PMO update - Decision yet to be made on location.		
22-May-25	Res.029 - The meeting decided that if a solution can be found to divert water from pooling in the playground area, the PMO can go ahead with the installation of the fence around the playground at its current location and that the new shade structure should be built inside the fence.		
28-Jul-25	Res.044 - The meeting noted the quote of \$55,000.00 to remove playground, build up the park area and reinstall playground was too excessive and members instead, requested that the contractor be contacted to provide a revised quote to uplift the playground and move it away from where the water is pooling.		

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22-Sep-25	PMO update - Revised quote from contractor is still excessive \$45,000 - additional funds will need to be allocated to this project	
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 36,393.82

Project 2124 Bin Trailer		\$
Status		Committed
28-Jul-25	Res.044 - New Project established July 2025, One bin trailer, allocating \$18,000.00 to the project.	\$ 18,000.00
26-Aug-25	PO raised with Morden Trailers Pty Ltd.	-\$ 13,990.91
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Trailer ready to go - are currently in production - expect delivery by the end of the year.	
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 4,009.09

Project 2125 Bases for the Solar Lights		\$
Status		Committed
28-Jul-25	Res.044 - New Project established July 2025, Bases for the Solar lights, allocating \$10,000.00 and agreeing that the Civil team will remove the solar lights at the entrance to Docker River as they had been installed too close to the road, that the CSC and the Civil team liaise with community on where to install them.	\$ 10,000.00
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Project at a standstill – will order new bases with Civil team to relocate and install.	
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 10,000.00

Project 2570 Mobile water trailer		\$
Status		Committed
9-May-24	Res.029 – Mobile water trailer, allocating the remaining funds to the project.	\$ 9,981.20
7-Aug-24	Res.050 - Accepted quote 9337 for \$25,531.00 and allocated an additional \$15,000.00.	\$ 15,000.00
3-Oct-24	Res.071 - noted that Manager Fleet will take this project on board.	
25-Feb-25	PMO update - updated quote received for \$26,000 - requires additional funding of \$7,000 to cover delivery and contingencies.	
13-Mar-25	Res.012: o received and accepted the quote from Pump and Power for \$25,531.00; and o in anticipation of receiving their 2024/2025 project funding, members agreed to allocate an additional \$7,000.00 to cover delivery and contingencies.	
11-Apr-25	PMO update - If \$2,140 is allocated it should cover the PO - recommend doing that - to proceed with raising PO.	
25-Jun-25	Invoice received from Pump and Power Centre - 50%	-\$ 12,270.00
28-Jul-25	Res.044 - The meeting allocated \$5,000.00 towards freight costs, noting that it is expected in Alice Springs	\$ 5,000.00

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	within the next month and will be delivered out to Docker River once it is registered.		
23-Aug-25	Invoice from Pump and Power Centre - remaining 50%.	-\$	12,270.00
1-Sep-25	Invoice received from Central Desert Transport.	-\$	1,400.00
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Trailer is currently in production - expect delivery by the end of the year.		
29-Sep-25	PO raised with Central Desert Transport	-\$	700.00
	underspend or (overspend)	\$	3,341.20

Budget consideration			
	Balance of underspend or (overspend)	\$	53,744.11
	Total unallocated funds	\$	19,719.85
	Total	\$	73,463.96

PROJECTS CLOSED 2025-26

Project 2129	Solar light to post at entry into Docker River	\$
	Status	Committed
12-Oct-22	Res.028 – Created new project and committed \$5,000.00 to the project noting that quotes for the light will be sourced by the Coordinator Service Delivery.	\$ 5,000.00
1-Feb-23	Res.046 - Altogether 5 large size lights will be installed and one of them will be installed at the sign to 'Welcome to Docker River' and committed all remaining funds which is \$26,718.55 (after deduction from project 2122) to this project.	\$ 26,718.55
13-Apr-23	Res.062 – MG Electrical are currently in community and will be approached to quote on the installation.	
5-Jul-23	Waiting on quotes for the five (5) lights from Green Frog.	
25-Sep-23	Invoice received from Green Frog for 8 x Stealth Solar lights.	-\$ 26,239.60
11-Oct-23	Solar lights to post and entry into Docker River, noting that the lights had been ordered and will be installed once they arrive in community.	
31-Jan-24	Res.010 - noted that the Solar lights have arrived now need to be installed - expected completion end of Feb 2024.	
9-May-24	Res.029 - allocating an additional \$10,000.00 and to source Contractors to complete installation.	\$ 10,000.00
3-Oct-24	Res.071 - noted that Infrastructure and Projects have been assigned to source contractors	
25-Feb-25	PMO update - additional funds required as quotes received for installation have come in at \$32,000 - request funds from 2127 be allocated to this project.	
13-Mar-25	Res.012 - Accepted the reallocation of \$20,000.00 from Project 2127 and noted and accepted the quote received from Harvey Development for \$35,200.00.	\$ 20,000.00
8-Apr-25	Invoice received from Harvey Developments Pty Ltd	-\$ 32,000.00

Docker River Local Authority Meeting 22 October 2025 – Agenda

11-Apr-25	PMO update - Works completed - recommend close project when invoice received has been processed.	
13-May-25	PMO update - Uncertainty around where the lights have been located - to be discussed with contractor.	
22-May-25	Res.029 - The contractor has installed the solar lights too close to the road and the PMO will work on rectifying this.	
28-Jul-25	Res.044 - The project was closed, returning \$3,478.95 to unallocated noting that they had been built to close to the road and were a safety concern.	-\$ 3,478.95
	underspend or (overspend)	\$

RAISED	WISH-LIST	ASSIGNED
9-May-24	Res.029 – Fencing around Oval. Area Manager and CSC to measure and inform TS to be able to seek quotes.	
7-Aug-24	Res.050 – Fencing and repairs around Eagle Park	
22-May-25	Res.029 – Feedback to the Youth Board Uniforms for men and women will be added to the wishlist along with a container to store them in so that the uniforms can be cared for and used on more than one occasion.	

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

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 10.2
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 that no allocations were made at the previous meeting; and
- b) considers allocating funds at this meeting.

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

2025/2026 Discretionary fund		
Date	Description	Budget - \$4,000.00
	Available funds	\$ 4,000.00

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 MRC Position Vacancies Report
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

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 attached list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Docker River as of 3 October 2025.

BACKGROUND

The MacDonnell Regional Council embraces its role as a significant employer for people wishing to live and work in our remote communities.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Keheli Nagahawatte (Katy), People and Capabilities Operations Coordinator
Megan Baliva, People and Capabilities Administration

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 DR Position Vacant report



Position Vacancies

Docker River

Service	Description	Type	Weekly Hours
MacKids	Educator – Early Learning	Part-Time	27.35
MacSafe	Community Safety Officer	Part-Time	20
SCD	Team Leader Works	Full-Time	38
SCD	Works Assistant	Part-Time	19
SCD	Works Assistant	Part-Time	19
SCD	Works Assistant	Part-Time	19
SCD	Works Assistant	Part-Time	19

Table data derived from XLOne Position Vacancy Report of Active Open Positions in the MRC Org Structure as at: 3/10/2025



11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 11.2
TITLE Council Services LA Report
AUTHOR Ellen Fitzgerald, 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 is an update of Council Delivered Services in Docker River across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority of Docker River notes and accepts the Council Services report.

BACKGROUND

Nil

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services
Damien Ryan – Area Manager
Kelly Ryan – Acting Council Services Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS

1 Council Services LA Report



Council Services Docker River



100% First Nations Employees in Council Services



6 Area Manager Visits to Community



Council Office's 480 Hours of Service

Snapshot



2047 Litres Fuel Usage Total



18 Vehicles and Plant in Use



122 Bins Emptied Weekly



**40 Operational Street lights
4 Non-Operational**



1 Sport Grounds Maintained



11 Australia Post Deliveries



6 Parks & Playgrounds Inspections



3 Water Tests



7 Generator Services



6 Hours of Maintenance completed at Airstrip

Animal Management

- MRC's Animal Management Coordinator Michelle provided training at the school 26th August.
- Michelle talked to the kids about how to look after your pets while you're away and provided worming treatments for dogs and cats.
- Michelle noticed an improvement in animal health since her last visit and will be back in Community in on Tuesday, 21st October
- Vets next visit is in November

Cemetery Management

- Inside of cemetery has been recently tidied up
- Grass reduction along fence and firebreak has been carried out
- The sign needs replacing as it is sun damaged
- Still waiting on shoring device

Internal Roads Maintenance

- Firebreaks are being maintained
- Some potholes require filling
- Some speed bumps need sections replaced
- Street signs are facing the wrong way and need adjusting

Maintenance of Parks and Open Spaces

- Rubbish is picked up from parks
- Slashing and weed reduction in open spaces is ongoing
- New shade structures have been put up
- A grant is being sort for relocation of Lasseter Park

Sports Grounds

- The football and softball surfaces will need to be graded again soon

Waste Management

- Murray River North contractors are demolishing houses and working with the civil team to dump rubble in the correct location
- Community drop off bays were set alight by an unknown person, causing hazardous smoke
- Waiting on new signage for drop off bays

Weed Control and Fire Hazard Reduction

- Clearing of grass and weeds is ongoing
- Firebreaks are being maintained
- The new water trailer was delivered in September

Other

- Members of the civil team attended White Card training through RN Employment
- Some of the men also had a progress meeting with their apprenticeship mentor from GTNT



11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 11.3
TITLE Aged and Children's Services 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 Children's Services in Docker River.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Children's Services report

BACKGROUND

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

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Ainsley Roscrow – Aged and Children's Services Executive Manager
Holly Taylor - Children's Services Coordinator
and Administration

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Aged and Children's Services Docker River LAR May - September 2025



Local Authority MacKids Docker River May - September 2025



5 Employees
80 % First Nation



28 - Enrolments



Training

- Team Leader Enrolled with Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care.
- 2 Educator enrolled in Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care



Service Delivery
396.5 Hours



183 - Meals served



Vacancies
1 Educator



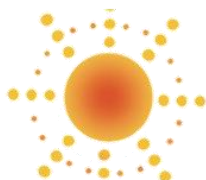
Support
49 Hours
Coordinator support



Stakeholder Engagement

- Clinic, NPY
- Council Office
- Early Childhood Australia
- CAAC

Highlights



- One Team Leader and two Educators attended the Team Leader Training held at the MRC main office.
- Increased enrolments and positive feedback from families about the centre and staff.
- New resources acquired to enhance the learning environment.



Local Authority MacKids Docker River May - September 2025

MacKids
growing strong in
mind, body & culture



Children explored hands-on learning through colour sorting, ring stacking, and outdoor painting activities. These experiences supported their fine motor development, creativity, and colour recognition while encouraging curiosity and self-expression through play.





Local Authority MacKids Docker River May - September 2025

MacKids
growing strong in
mind, body & culture



Children enjoyed a variety of outdoor learning experiences, including painting, sensory play, and shared mealtime activities. These moments encouraged creativity, social interaction, and independence while supporting their fine motor and communication skills in a fun, engaging environment.





Local Authority MacKids Docker River May - September 2025

MacKids
growing strong in
mind, body & culture



Children engaged in a range of creative and sensory activities, including painting, art using natural materials, and collaborative play. These experiences supported fine motor development, self-expression, and teamwork while fostering curiosity and confidence in exploring new textures and ideas.



11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 11.4
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 in Docker River.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Safety report

BACKGROUND

All Community Services 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
Yarran Cavalier – Coordinator of Community Safety

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Community Safety LAR May - September 2025



Local Authority

Docker River
Community Safety
May - September 2025



- 4 staff in the Docker River Team
- 1 Permanent & 2 casual vacancies
- 100% Community-based Employees are Aboriginal
- 360 Hours Patrolled
- 1,146 Hours Worked
- Work: 6 hour shifts Mon-Fri Between 6pm - Midnight



864 Engagements
with young people



1159 Engagements
with over 18's



157 Young people
taken home



20 Training
Hours



332 Are you
okay?
Checks



No Community
gatherings

Highlights



- The Coordinator has visited Docker River three times in this reporting period.
- We welcome our newest team member Daniel Burke to the team in August.
- We are hoping that we can find at least two new Community workers to help support our Night Patrol team.
- There are two interviews scheduled in early October for new workers.

The Community safety team cleaning vehicle in readiness for the mechanics to complete a maintenance check



Thaddeus and Kennedy getting ready to go on patrol.



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 notes and discusses the matters raised.

BACKGROUND

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

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments for this report.