



AGENDA

DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY 2026

The Docker River Local Authority Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Docker River Council Office on Wednesday 22 July 2026 at 10:30 AM.

Belinda Urquhart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	MEETING OPENING	
2	WELCOME	
3	ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE	
3.1	Attendance / Apologies / Leave	4
4	NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP	
4.1	Membership of the Local Authority	5
5	COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT	
5.1	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct	7
6	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	
6.1	Docker River Local Authority Meeting - 29 April 2026.....	10
7	ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA	
7.1	That the papers circulated are received for consideration at the meeting. ...	17
8	COUNCIL CONFLICT OF INTEREST	
8.1	Conflict of Interest	18
9	DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS - NIL	
10	LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE	
10.1	Local Authority Projects Register.....	20
10.2	Local Authority Discretionary Funds Report.....	25
11	COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS	
11.1	Council Services LA Report.....	27
11.2	Community Safety Report	31
12	GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS	
12.1	General Council Business	34
13	NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS	
13.1	Non-Council Business	35
14	NEXT MEETING – 14 OCTOBER 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.**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

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

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

ITEM NUMBER	4.1
TITLE	Membership of the Local Authority
AUTHOR	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Strong Community Leadership and Shared Decision-Making
 Goal 02: Liveable, Healthy and Inclusive Communities
 Goal 03: Resilient Infrastructure, Roads and Essential Community Assets
 Goal 04: A Strong, Accountable and Sustainable 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).

At the meeting held 4 February 2026, members of the Docker River Local Authority appointed Priscilla Abbott as Chairperson, effective until February 2027.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- notes the attendance at the previous meeting;
- notes that two vacancies are currently available; and
- calls for community nominations to open.

BACKGROUND

Appointed Members Docker River LA	Meeting Attendance 29 April 2026
Priscilla Abbott	Present
Winsome Newberry	Present
Rosina Kunia	Present via Teams
Ruby James	Present
Brett Stockman	Present
VACANT	VACANT
VACANT	VACANT
Elected Members Iyarrka Ward	
Cr Abraham Poulson	Present via Teams
Cr Peter Wilson	Apology

Local Authorities Overview:

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

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

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

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

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

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

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

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

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

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

CONSULTATION

The Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments 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 Docker River Local Authority Meeting held 29 April 2026 to be approved by the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Docker River Local Authority Meeting held 29 April 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

ATTACHMENTS

1. DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 29.4.2026 - MINUTES [7 pages]

MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 11.16AM

2 WELCOME

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Chairperson Priscilla Abbott, Member Ruby James, Member Winsome Newberry and Member Brett Stockman

Via Teams – Member Rosina Kunia

Councillors

Via Teams - Councillor Abraham Poulson

Council Employees

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Victor Morgan – Area Manager, Stephen Trindle – Council Services Coordinator and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Guests

Katharine O'Donohue – Representative - Member for Gwoja

Apologies

Councillor Peter Wilson and President Roxanne Kenny

Absentees

Nil

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.

DRLA2026-15 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Priscilla Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;**
- b) tabled apologies received from Councillor Peter Wilson and President Roxanne Kenny, for this meeting; and**
- c) recorded no Member absent, without notice, for this meeting.**

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

ITEM NUMBER:	4.1
TITLE:	Local Authority Membership
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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).

At the meeting held 4 February 2026, members of the Docker River Local Authority appointed Priscilla Abbott as Chairperson, effective until February 2027.

DRLA2026-16 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Priscilla Abbott)

That the Local Authority;

- a) noted an additional vacancy created following the revocation of Selinda De Rose's membership due to absence from two consecutive meetings;
- b) acknowledged the two vacancies and called for community nominations to open to fill these positions; and
- c) reminded members that failure to provide notice of absence may result in their membership being at risk.

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.

DRLA2026-17 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Winsome Newberry)

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF 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 4 February 2026 to be approved by the Authority.

DRLA2026-18 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Brett Stockmen)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Docker River Local Authority Meeting held 4 February 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

DRLA2026-19 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
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.

DRLA2026-20 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Ruby James)

That the Local Authority Meeting:

- a) noted the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
- b) that members did not declare any conflicts of interest.**

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Census Engagement Team - ABS
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information provided by the Census Engagement Team; and**

- b) provides advice on ways to improve participation within the community.

Minute Note: The Representatives from the Census Team did not attend this meeting.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	10.1
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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.

DRLA2026-21 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Brett Stockmen)

That the Local Authority:

- a) received the 2024/25 Project Funding acquittal and Certification;
- b) noted that the unallocated funds of \$48,141.20 includes the 2025/26 LAPF allocation of \$ 44,800.00
- c) acknowledged that \$47,522.67 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- d) noted the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management office and kept open:
 - 2122 – New Park Location until the invoice from DSB Construction is received'
 - 2125 – Bases for Solar lights noting that the bases are yet to be ordered;
 - 2128 – New Playground, noted the advice from the Director Council Services and with the following decisions made:
 - not to proceed with the development of a new playground near the former Aged Care site, as the timeframe associated with securing a lease and engaging contractors would be lengthy, and the overall costs prohibitive.
 - to retain the current playground location and equipment at Lasseter's Park, noting that flooding within the park occurs infrequently.

- In the event of flooding, the Civil Team will be responsible for closing the park, excavating trenches to divert the water, or pumping out the excess water as required.
- to rename this project 'Maintenance and flood management to Lasseter Park'
- requested that the PMO Office liaise with the CSC to procure a suitable pump capable of managing the debris and water associated with the park flooding.
- Upgrades to the Cemetery – allocating \$35,000.00, with a request that the Project Management Office procure plinths, noting that the plinths may be engraved, and plaques can be affixed at a later date when needed by the community.
- e) closed completed Project 2124 – Bin Trailer, returning \$3,519.80 to unallocated.
- f) created a new project – Sports uniforms, allocating \$5,000.00 to procuring 22 x AFL guernseys, socks and shorts and 18 x Women's Softball jerseys, noting that the PMO Office will oversee this project.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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.

DRLA2026-22 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Brett Stockmen)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the spending towards the Community Easter Celebration;
- b) noted the amendment to revise the uniform allocation from \$887.74 to \$1,144.90, with the adjusted amount to be returned for reallocation;
- c) resolved that the remaining balance be applied towards a Purchase Order to the Store to top up the smart power cards in equal amounts for each community house that is occupied. Noted that the CSC will liaise with the store and distribute the allocated top-ups.
- d) was reminded that unspent funds will be forfeited if not used by 30 June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	11.1
TITLE:	Council Services Report
AUTHOR:	Ellen Fitzgerald, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

DRLA2026-23 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Priscilla Abbott)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Council Services report.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Youth and Community Services Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

DRLA2026-24 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Brett Stockmen)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Safety report

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	General Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

DRLA2026-25 RESOLVED (Brett Stockmen/Winsome Newberry)

That the Local Authority did not raise any matters for discussion

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

This may include:

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

DRLA2026-26 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the updates on previous matters to keep open:
 - Housing Maintenance noting that a Representative was intending to visit community to assess the houses and capture unreported issues. Members also requested that Housing organise a 'pop up shop' allowing residents to speak with a Representative in person.
- b) Closed actions:
 - Housing construction was discussed, with members noting that a consultation process had been undertaken and that affected tenants had reviewed, signed, and agreed to the current design and the materials proposed for the construction of new community housing.
 - Lot 139 – Ruby James, noting that no further issues were raised by Member James during the meeting.
- c) raised and discussed the following matter for NTG to follow up on.
 - Damaged and Lost Smart Power Cards – How does residents apply for a replacement card when lost or damaged.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 22 JULY, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1:09 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 29 April 2026 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.

Docker River Local Authority Meeting 22 July 2026 – Agenda

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 Projects Register
AUTHOR	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Strong Community Leadership and Shared Decision-Making

Goal 02: Liveable, Healthy and Inclusive Communities

Goal 03: Resilient Infrastructure, Roads and Essential Community Assets

Goal 04: A Strong, Accountable and Sustainable 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 \$47,522.67 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) returns \$21,648.00 to unallocated funds and closes Project 2122;**
- c) notes the project progress updates provided by the Project Management Office;**
- d) closes any completed projects; and**
- e) discusses the priority of the wishlist items**

BACKGROUND

Members of the Local Authority allocate 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.

Docker River Local Authority Meeting 22 July 2026 – Agenda

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.	-\$0
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.	
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Revised quote from contractor is still excessive \$45,000 - additional funds will need to be allocated to this project	
22-Oct-25	Res.056 - New Park location, allocating an additional \$19,719,85 to this project.	\$ 19,719.85

Docker River Local Authority Meeting 22 July 2026 – Agenda

1-Dec-25	PMO update - Trying to source a quote for relocation and fencing that comes within budget. Original location within a flood zone.	
4-Feb-26	Res.009 - The meeting: - noted that the cost of temporarily relocating the playground equipment, diverting the water from the park when it floods, or installing stormwater treatment measures exceeded the Authority's budget; - noted that Council Services and the Project Management Office will reassess the park and the playground equipment and determine the required course of action; - closed the Project, re-assigning the balance of \$56,113.67 to a new project. DSB CONSTRUCTION PURCHASE ORDER FOR \$21,648.00 HAS SINCE BEEN CANCELLED - ADDITIONAL FUNDS CAN BE RETURNED TO UNALLOCATED.	-\$ 56,113.67
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 21,648.00

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 - considering ordering new bases with Civil team to relocate and install.	
22-Oct-25	Res.056 - Noted that the six lights will be distributed evenly between the three parks.	
1-Dec-25	PMO update - The Civil Team will be dismantling and relocating the lights in the New Year.	
4-Feb-26	Res.009 - The LA requested that the solar lights be distributed between the Cemetery and the three parks.	
29-Apr-26	Res.021 - The LA noted that the bases are yet to be ordered.	
12-Jun-26	Purchase Order issued to Green Frog Systems.	-\$ 5,907.00
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 4,093.00

Project 2128 Maintenance and Flood Management to Lasseter Park		\$
Status		Committed
4-Feb-26	Res.009 - New Playground, accepted the reassigned funds of \$53,113.67 to the project and determined: Playground to be installed near the former Aged Care building, noting that Council will require the relevant lot number to investigate the lease for that area.	\$ 56,113.67

Docker River Local Authority Meeting 22 July 2026 – Agenda

29-Apr-26	Res.021 - The LA noted the advice from the Director Council Services and with the following decisions made: - o not to proceed with the development of a new playground near the former Aged Care site, as the timeframe associated with securing a lease and engaging contractors would be lengthy, and the overall costs prohibitive. - o to retain the current playground location and equipment at Lasseter's Park, noting that flooding within the park occurs infrequently. - o In the event of flooding, the Civil Team will be responsible for closing the park, excavating trenches to divert the water, or pumping out the excess water as required. - o to rename this project 'Maintenance and flood management to Lasseter Park' - o requested that the PMO Office liaise with the CSC to procure a suitable pump capable of managing the debris and water associated with the park flooding.	
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 56,113.67

Project 2126 Upgrades to the Cemetery		\$
	Status	Committed
4-Feb-26	Res.009 - New Project established Upgrades to the Cemetery - source quotes for shade, seating, plaques and repairing the existing fence or quote to install a new fence (with no funds allocated at this point).	
29-Apr-26	Res.021 - The LA allocated \$35,000.00, with a request that the Project Management Office procure plinths, noting that the plinths may be engraved, and plaques can be affixed at a later date when needed by the community.	\$ 35,000.00
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 35,000.00

Project 2127 Sports Uniforms		\$
	Status	Committed
29-Apr-26	Res.009 - New Project established Sports uniforms, allocating \$5,000.00 to procuring 22 x AFL guernseys, socks and shorts and 18 x Women's Softball jerseys, noting that the PMO Office will oversee this project.	\$ 5,000.00
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 5,000.00

Budget consideration		
	Balance of underspend or (overspend)	\$ 121,854.67
	Total unallocated funds	\$ 11,661.00
	Total	\$ 133,515.67

RAISED		WISHLIST	NOTES
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 at Eagle Park		

PROJECTS CLOSED 2026-27

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, or in the case of major projects, within four years of receipt of funding. Failure to expend the funds may result in the funds being returned to the Northern Territory Government.

CONSULTATION

Project Management Office

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 10.2
TITLE Local Authority Discretionary Funds Report
AUTHOR June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Strong Community Leadership and Shared Decision-Making
Goal 02: Liveable, Healthy and Inclusive Communities
Goal 03: Resilient Infrastructure, Roads and Essential Community Assets
Goal 04: A Strong, Accountable and Sustainable 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 the spending of their 2025/26 Discretionary funds;
- accepts the allocation of \$4,000.00 for the 2026/27 financial year;
- consider allocating funds at this meeting; and
- acknowledges that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2027.

BACKGROUND

Examples that Discretionary funds can be used for:

- Community Christmas and New Year's Festivities
- Community BBQ's
- Sports weekends – Trophies / Awards / equipment
- Naidoc Celebration
- Youth Board Activities
- Community Competitions – Tidy yards / Christmas Lights

2026/2027 Discretionary fund		
Date	Description	Budget
1-Jul-26		\$4,000.00

2025/2026 Discretionary fund		
Date	Description	Budget
1-Jul-26		\$4,000.00
22-Oct-25	Res.057 - allocated \$2,000.00 towards a Community Christmas BBQ with the CSC to organise	
11-Dec-25	PO raised for Community BBQ. Currently waiting on the invoice from Docker River store	
18-Jan-26	Invoice received	-1,000.00
4-Feb-26	Res.10 – Allocated \$1,000.00 towards a Community Easter celebration to be organised by Priscilla Abbott	
10-Mar-26		

Docker River Local Authority Meeting 22 July 2026 – Agenda

	Discretionary funds letter signed allocating additional funds of \$600.00 to the Easter event	
	Invoices received.	-1,876.76
29-Apr-26	Res.22 – Allocated the remaining balance towards a PO to the Store to top up the smart power cards in equal amounts for each community house that is occupied. Noted that the CSC will liaise with the store and distribute the allocated top-ups.	-1,120.00
	Total funds spent	3,996.76

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 Council Services LA Report
AUTHOR Ellen Fitzgerald, Senior Administration Officer

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Strong Community Leadership and Shared Decision-Making
Goal 02: Liveable, Healthy and Inclusive Communities
Goal 03: Resilient Infrastructure, Roads and Essential Community Assets
Goal 04: A Strong, Accountable and Sustainable 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 notes and accepts the Council Services report.

BACKGROUND

Nil

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Stuart Millar – A/Director Council Services
Victor Morgan – Area Manager
Stephen Trindle – Council Services Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Council Services LAR - Docker River



Council Services Docker River



**100% First Nations
Employees in
Council Services**



**Council Office's
456 Hours of
Service**

Snapshot



**2893 Litres Fuel
Usage Total**



**18 Vehicles and Plant in
Use**



**122 Bins Emptied
Weekly**



**36 Operational
Street lights
8 Non-Operational**



**1 Sport Grounds
Maintained**



**12 Australia Post
Deliveries**



**9 Parks &
Playgrounds
Inspections**



**16/20 Toolbox Talks
Completed YTD**



4 Water Tests



12 Generator Services



**12 Hours of
Maintenance
completed at Airstrip**

Animal Management

- Vets will be in community to provide worming and antiparasitic medication on 11 August and again on 8-9 September for Desexing Services.
- The horse problem has decreased immensely and the camels have disappeared.
- At this stage all domestic animals are healthy and ok.
- There needs to be a educational program put in place to try and reduce the amount of dogs in community

Cemetery Management

- The works crew have done clean of rubbish around outside of fenced area.
- We are still waiting for the shoring device.
- The grass has been cut and the grader has gone over the car park and service road.

Internal Roads Maintenance

- Fire breaks have been maintained by civil team.
- Service roads to be touched up after the rain
- Some speed hump sections need replacing
- New signs will need to be put up around the community
- I am still waiting on Cold mix to fix the potholes.

Maintenance of Parks and Open Spaces

- Maintenance of Parks and open spaces are constantly worked on by civil team.
- Waiting on projects management to come and see what can be done in the relocation of Lasseter Park.
- Civil team are working on grass cutting and general tidy up of the parks
- Still catching up on grass cutting on open spaces.
- The lights to the entrance of the community have been taken out and we are waiting for new base poles so we can start putting them around community.

Sports Grounds

- Both sporting ovals have been cleaned up and have already been used for football and softball
- Still waiting on the shade shelter to be put up at the oval.
- Fence around oval needs fixing.
- Some of the trees around oval need trimming.
- Both ovals are being used regularly by the youth team from NPY for activities and games.

Waste Management

- We are now on the second level in our tip.
- Capping of the tip is done twice a week.
- Bins still get emptied twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays
- The steel drop of bay needs emptying it is at full capacity
- New bins have been distributed around the community houses.
- A new burn pit will be getting dug in the next couple of weeks.

Weed Control and Fire Hazard Reduction

- Weed and fire hazard management around Community is ongoing
- There are a few trees that need trimming around the oval and at the works depot.



11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 11.2
TITLE Community Safety Report
AUTHOR Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Strong Community Leadership and Shared Decision-Making
Goal 02: Liveable, Healthy and Inclusive Communities
Goal 03: Resilient Infrastructure, Roads and Essential Community Assets
Goal 04: A Strong, Accountable and Sustainable 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

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

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Libby Taylor - Executive Manager of Youth and Community Safety
Yarran Cavalier - A/Senior Coordinator of Community Safety

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Communitiy Safety Docker River LAR - April June 2026



Local Authority

Docker River
Community Safety
April - June 2026



- 4 staff in the Docker River Team
- 1 Permanent & 3 casual vacancies
- 100% Community-based Employees are Aboriginal
- 234 Hours Patrolled
- Work: 6 hour shifts Mon-Fri Between 6pm - Midnight



303 Engagements
with young people



400 Engagements
with over 18's



193 Young people
taken home



7 Training
Hours



552 Are you okay?
Checks



1 Community
gatherings

Highlights



- The Coordinator has made one visit to Docker River over this period.
- During this visit Staff members engaged in (LMS) Learning Management System Training through the online portal.
- The Senior Community safety Officer Thaddeus Brady helped support Daniel Burke through the LMS Online training.
- The Human Resources Roadshow visited Docker River and gave important information to the staff regarding HR matters.

**Thaddeus working together with Daniel through the
Drug and Alcohol online LMS training Module**



**Thaddeus completing the LMS online Training module
on Dealing with Workplace Conflict**



12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER 12.1
TITLE General Council Business

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

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

BACKGROUND

Nil

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER 13.1
TITLE Non-Council Business
AUTHOR June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Strong Community Leadership and Shared Decision-Making
 Goal 02: Liveable, Healthy and Inclusive Communities
 Goal 03: Resilient Infrastructure, Roads and Essential Community Assets
 Goal 04: A Strong, Accountable and Sustainable Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

This may include:

- Roads outside of MRC's area
- Education
- Health
- NT Police
- Land Management
- Other services provided by external stakeholders

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) **notes the updates on previous matters; and**
- b) **raises and discusses new matters of Non-Council Business.**

BACKGROUND

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

Meeting	Officer/ Organisation	Subject
Docker River Local Authority 22/10/2025	DLGHCD	Housing Maintenance
04-Feb-26 DRLA2026-14 Members requested that a Housing Representative visit community to speak with residents and assess their housing conditions, noting that four properties had sustained considerable damage from feral camels and have remained unoccupied for several months, despite being tenanted. The affected properties included: ○ Lot 124 ○ Lot 153 ○ Lot 160 ○ Lot 162		
20-Feb-26: Update from Shelly Beattie – Manager of Community Development - Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.		

Docker River Local Authority Meeting 22 July 2026 – Agenda

Housing Property Services have reviewed each of the identified lots, with the following status updates:

Lot 124 – R&M raised 22/12/2025; no further issues reported.

Lot 153 – R&M raised 21/01/2026 and 05/02/2026; inspection completed 05/02/2026.

Lot 160 – R&M raised 04/02/2026.

Lot 162 – No contact received from the tenant regarding maintenance.

It appears that lack of tenant contact is contributing to delays in several cases. The Housing Property Services Manager will arrange for the Housing Maintenance Officer to attend community as soon as road access allows, with a request to review all listed dwellings and capture any unreported issues.

If we can continue encouraging tenants to report repairs directly by phoning 1800 104 076, that will assist with timely responses.

In addition, Housing now has a new reporting system in which tenants reporting issues can request a reference number. This will assist with tracking the progress on issues that have been reported.

Res.026 – Elected to keep open, noting that a Representative was intending to visit community to assess the houses and capture unreported issues.

Members also requested that Housing organise a ‘pop-in shop’, allowing residents to speak with a representative in person.

Noted that an HRG meeting was scheduled for the 8th July 2026.

Meeting	Officer/ Organisation	Subject
Docker River Local Authority 29/06/2026	DLGHCD	Damaged and Lost Power Cards
29-Apr-26 DRLA2026-26		
Members requested information on how residents apply for replacement power cards when they are lost or damaged.		

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Next Meeting scheduled – 14 October 2026