



## **AGENDA**

# **FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH 2026**

The Finke Local Authority Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Finke Council Office on Wednesday 4 March 2026 at 10:30 AM.

Belinda Urquhart  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



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### **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; and**
- 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** Local Authority Membership  
**AUTHOR** Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

**LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and membership on the Authority, highlight current vacancies, 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) **welcomes returning Councillors Patrick Allen, Andrew Davis and duly elected Councillors Veronica Lynch and Matthew Palmer to the Finke Local Authority;**
- b) **acknowledges the following appointments of Council;**
  - o **Roxanne Kenny as President**
  - o **Maryanne Malbunka as Deputy President;**
- c) **considers any nominations for the Local Authority;**
- d) **calls for community nominations to remain open to fill the vacancy;**
- e) **notes that memberships will be revoked if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.**

**BACKGROUND**

The chart below shows the attendance of the Local Authority at the meeting held 13 August 2025:

Appointed Members Finke LA	Meeting Attendance 13 August 2025
Michael Ferguson	Present
Rosemary Matasia	Present
Bridget Doolan	Present
Susan Doolan	Present
Thomas Stewart	Present
Darryl Doolan	Present
Vacant	

Elected Members Rodinga Ward	
Cr Patrick Allen	Present
Cr Andrew Davis	Present
Cr Lisa Sharman	Present
VACANT	

**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 Finke Local Authority Meeting held 13 August 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 13 August 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.**

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 13.8.2025 - MINUTES [ 8 of the Minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday, 13 August 2025 pages]

MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE  
COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 13 AUGUST 2025 AT 10:30 AM

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**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:30AM

**2 WELCOME – Chair Michael Ferguson**

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

**3.1 Attendance**

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Michael Ferguson, Member Susan Doolan, Member Bridget Doolan, Member Darryl Doolan, Member Thomas Stewart and Member Rosemary Matasia

Councillors:

Member Andrew Davis, Member Patrick Allen and Member Lisa Sharman

Council Employees:

Damien Ryan – Acting Director Council Services, Joe Rawson – Acting Council Services Coordinator and June Crabb

Via Teams: Ruth Tahere – Acting Manager Project Management Office, Emma Haache – Acting Manager Aged Care

Guests:

Shane Franey – Representative Member for Namatjira Office, Amelia Kunothe-Monks, Christa Bartjen-Westermann and Kim Raine – Representatives Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit

Via Teams – Jessica Scrutton – Representative Housing, Local Government and Community Development

**3.2 Apologies/Absentees**

Apologies:

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Roxanne Kenny – President, Mark O’Bryan – Area Manager and Ellen Fitzgerald – Acting Area Manager

Absentees:

Nil

**3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES**

**FLA2025-035 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Lisa Sharman)**

**That members:**

- a) notes the attendance; and
- b) accepts the apologies received from President Roxanne Kenny, Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Mark O’Bryan – Area Manager and Ellen Fitzgerald – Acting Area Manager.

**3.3 Resignations**

**NIL**

### **3.4 Terminations**

**NIL**

### **3.5 Nominations**

#### **3.5.1 VACANCIES IN THE LOCAL AUTHORITY**

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

**FLA2025-036 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Lisa Sharman)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **welcomes Darryl Doolan to the Authority;**
- b) **notes the current membership of the Local Authority; and**
- c) **calls for community nominations to open to fill the remaining vacancy.**

### **4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

#### **4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT**

**FLA2025-037 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)**

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

### **5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

#### **5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**FLA2025-038 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Lisa Sharman)**

**That the Finke Local Authority accepts the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held 21 May 2025 as an accurate record of the proceedings.**

### **6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

#### **6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED**

**FLA2025-039 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Andrew Davis)**

**That the Finke Local Authority notes that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting**

### **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

#### **7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**FLA2025-040 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Lisa Sharman)**

**That the Finke Local Authority notes the Conflict of Interest policy.**

#### **7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION**

**FLA2025-041 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Andrew Davis)**

**That the Finke Local Authority did not declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.**

## **8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **8.1 REMOTE HOUSING - REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND TENANCY TEAM**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

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

Minute Note: Representatives from Housing were not in attendance to this meeting.

### **8.2 CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL FAMILY LEGAL UNIT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report aims to introduce the Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit (CAAFLU) and outline its vital role and services in meeting the unique legal needs of Aboriginal Communities in Central Australia.

Key approaches for consideration:

- Increase access to justice by delivering culturally safe and trauma-informed legal and social supports
- Provide early intervention and education on family violence and related issues
- Extend outreach to address unmet legal needs.

**FLA2025-042 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Lisa Sharman)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes and accepts the information shared by the CAAFLU Representatives; and**
- b) supports community engagement by the CAAFLU representatives in providing legal and non-legal services that are available to residents.**

Minute Note: A request for CAAFLU to attend the Titjikala LA meeting was made to the Representatives by Councillor Lisa Sharman.

## **9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

### **9.1 ACTION REGISTER**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

**FLA2025-043 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Susan Doolan)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) notes and accepts the updates to the actions raised during previous meetings as follows:**
- b) Fence around the Community Safety Office – members rejected the idea for bollards, preferring instead that a fence is put in place similar to the fence at the neighbouring property.**

Members noted that the Acting Director Damien Ryan will take additional photos to include the preferred fence and forward these onto the PMO Office and Community Safety.

- c) Closes action 'School meals'.

## 9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

### Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

### FLA2025-044 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Thomas Stewart)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that \$19,949.91 are funds *at risk*;
- b) receives their 2024-25 Project funding allocation of \$26,900.00
- c) notes the progress on their current projects as at 30 July 2025:
  - 2132 – Stealth Solar lights, notes the lights are in community, chose not to install as originally allocated, and instead closed the project to create a new project, returning the remaining \$5,981.63 to unallocated;
  - 2133 – Wash down Bay, noting completion and returning \$1,845.45 to unallocated;
- d) keeps open 2134 – Bench seats, noting that the Civil team will determine the locations at the oval and install them once the concrete has been purchased and in community;
- e) creates a new project – Install four Solar lights (from Project 2132) and purchase two new batteries, noting the following:
  - commits the remaining funds currently available to include the funds returned to unallocated at this meeting;
  - replace the batteries in the current solar light at Titji Park;
  - engage a contractor to install the solar lights as the community does not have the necessary equipment; and
  - agreed on the locations:
    - install one solar light in each of the laneways starting across from the council office and continuing over to the next laneway.
    - an additional solar light in Titji Park, facing the tables/bbq.

- one solar light at the entrance of community, coming from Kulgera.
- f) notes the following updates to the wishlist:
- the PMO Office advised that there has been no response received from NPY regarding the reorientation of the Softball fences and the PMO Office is now looking for possible funding.
  - Quote received in 2024 for the Shade cover over the front office came in at \$13,000.00 and at the time of this meeting, the Authority did not have the funds available and agreed for this item to remain on the wishlist.
  - The Lights for the Football Oval, noting the following:
    - a commitment of \$250,000.00 from the Community Development Group;
    - the PMO Office has this project noted for the next round of grant funding;
    - the Aboriginal Leadership Group are updated on a regular basis on the wishlist items of the Authorities; and
    - that the existing power supply infrastructure would need a significant upgrade.

### 9.3 LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

**FLA2025-045 RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Darryl Doolan)**

That the Finke Local Authority:

- a) notes the spending on their 2024/2025 Discretionary funds;
- b) accepts the 2025/26 allocation of \$4,000.00;
- c) discusses allocating these funds at this meeting as follows:
  - \$1,000.00 towards a Tidy Yard competition
  - \$1,000.00 towards a Christmas lights competition
  - \$500 towards the meat, bread and salads for a bbq
- d) accepts the \$200.00 from the Member for Namatjira's office, and determines the following:
  - each competition will have four prizes made up as:
    - \$500 – First
    - \$300 – Second
    - \$200 – Third
    - \$100 donated by the Member for Namatjira's office
    - that visa gift cards be purchased for the top three prizes in both categories
  - judging by the Representative from the Member for Namatjira's Office to take place Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, with the BBQ to follow; and
- d) acknowledges that the funds must be spent with invoices received by 30 June 2026.

### 9.4 MRC POSITION VACANCIES REPORT

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

Active open positions within the Org Structure as at 31 July 2025.

**FLA2025-046 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)**

**That the Local Authority accepts the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Finke.**

## **10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update of Council delivered services in Finke across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

**FLA2025-047 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Thomas Stewart)**

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

### **10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

**FLA2025-048 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Rosemary Matasia)**

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

## **11 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **11.1 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

**FLA2025-049 RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Susan Doolan)**

**That the Local Authority discusses matters relating to General Council Business as follows:**

- a) **Request new bins:**  
**Acting Director Council Services will inform the Area Manager of the need for new bins.**
- b) **Titji Park Shade Structure:**  
**The trusses for the roof of the shade structure does not have a ceiling, making it easy for kids to climb up and into the roof, creating a high risk of concern and members would like the trusses covered.**  
**Acting Director – Damien Ryan advised that he shall assess the shade structure and forward the photographs onto the Project Management Office to determine what would be involved to have this completed.**

## **12 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **12.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback on matters that members may have regarding non-council services.

#### **FLA2025-050 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Thomas Stewart)**

**That the Local Authority raises and discusses matters of General Non-Council Business as follows:**

**a) Closed the actions:**

- **Air-conditioners:**

Housing maintenance team advised the Representative that all jobs had been logged;

- **High rent:**

The Housing Tenancy team will send their Representative out to speak with those elderly tenants whose rental costs are too high.

**b) Members were advised that the Housing Team are looking to set up a pop-in site when they are in community conducting inspections, where residents can come in and speak to someone in person regarding any maintenance or rental issues. Members responded with a resounding affirmative.**

**c) Water issues.**

The ESO advised the NTG Representative that every house in community had water continuously running from a tap, shower or toilet and that the three sewer ponds were now overflowing due to an increase of excess water. Power and Water advised that the issues stemmed from inside the houses, and recommended that members request Housing to conduct an urgent audit inside every home to find the issue.

**d) Bikes program**

The Representative from the Member for Namatjira's Office informed members that they had purchased bikes and allocated 50 to the community

- noted that helmets were not included, however they could be purchased with the remaining Discretionary funds;
- both MRC and the Member for Namatjira Office each source a quote for 50 helmets;

The Representative advised the following:

- One day bike assembly course and training available to two recipients.
- The Electorate office will show the recipients a suitable BMX track in Alice Springs to gain a better idea on the design and layout potential for their own community track.
- Council was asked to provide two places of employment for the two recipients to run the BMX program.  
Members were advised that the CEO will be informed of the request and a response will be given at the next meeting.

## **11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER, 2025**

## **12 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 1:12 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 13 August 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

## **6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

## **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

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

### **BACKGROUND**

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

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

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

Tendering and Purchasing – financial conflict of interest

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

Tendering and Purchasing – non-financial conflict of interest

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

Information and Opportunities

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

Undue Influence

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Complaints Regarding Failure to Disclose an Interest**

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

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

The Disclosure of Interests Policy helps Council to ensure that:

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

## **9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

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

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

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

### **BACKGROUND**

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

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

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

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

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

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

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

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

### **BACKGROUND**

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

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

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

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

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

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	9.3
<b>TITLE</b>	Community Alcohol Planning Engagement
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

### **BACKGROUND**

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

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

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

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

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

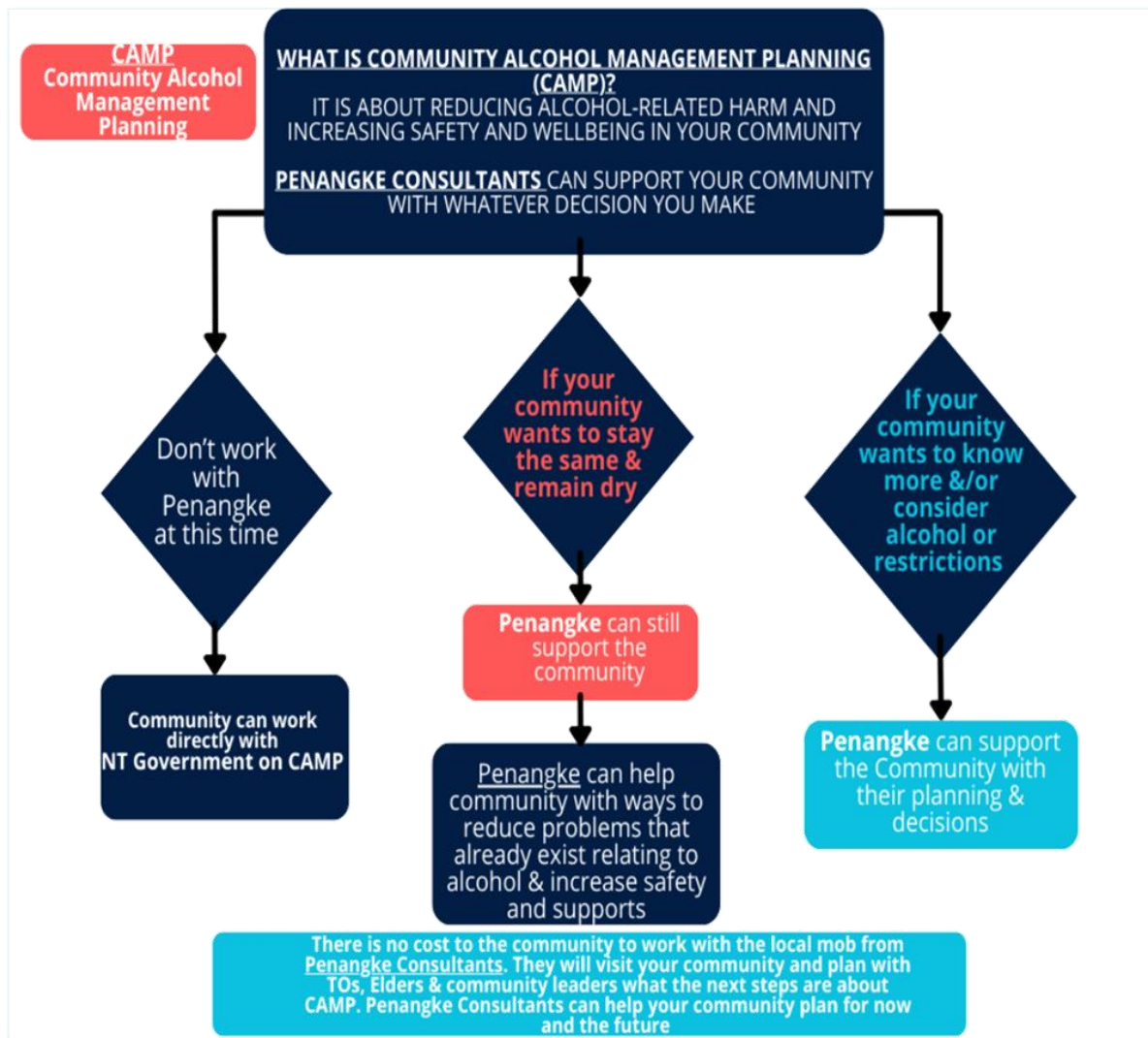
Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Penangke Cultural Consultants Flyer



Supporting Aboriginal Communities with their decisions around community safety, reducing alcohol related harm, alcohol management and restrictions.



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

**ITEM NUMBER** 10.1  
**TITLE** Introduction to the Regional Plan  
**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 purpose of this paper is to provide the Local Authority with the opportunity to contribute to the development of MacDonnell Regional Council's (MRC) Regional Plan.

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

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

### **BACKGROUND**

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

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

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

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

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

### **CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

**10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**ITEM NUMBER** 10.2  
**TITLE** Action 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**

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

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the updates to the actions as received; and
- b) re-considers the recommendation to install bollards as an alternative to fencing.

**BACKGROUND**

Meeting	Officer/Director	Subject
Finke Local Authority 04/12/2024	Libby Taylor/Council Services	Fence around Community Safety Office
<b>FLA2024-65 – Fence the Night Patrol office</b>		
<p><b>4 Dec 24</b> - Members expressed concern about the lack of fencing around the grounds of the Community Safety office.                      The CSC will take photos and make a drawing of the area and will meet with Michael Ferguson and Liz Scott, Manager of Community Safety, to discuss the concerns. Liz will then present the results at the next Finke Local Authority meeting.</p>		
<b>12 Mar 25 – Decision of the Authority is to keep the action open</b>		
<p><b>16 May 25 – update from Community Safety Manager</b>                      Yarran Cavalier checked the MacSafe compound and found that there was an existing fence. Could the LA provide more information about what they are requesting? Why is the current fence not adequate?</p>		
<p><b>21 May 25 – Res.030</b>                      Members advised that their concerns related to an absence of a barrier between the yarning circle and the carport. Members noted that aside from a few bushes, there was no safety measure in place to prevent incidents should a vehicle fail to stop.</p>		
<p><b>13 Aug 25 – Res.043</b>                      Members rejected the idea of bollards, preferring that a fence is put in place similar to the fence at the neighbouring property. Members noted that the Acting Director, Damien Ryan will take photos to include the preferred fence and forward these onto the PMO Office and Community Safety.</p>		
<p><b>20 Oct 25 – Update from Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety</b>                      Members are reminded that consultation was done and a green fence proposed that was installed by the Civil crew and Night Patrol team.                      Members are urged to reconsider installing bollards as a more suitable alternative to fencing, to align with beautifying the community and landscaping priorities.</p>		

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Officer/Director</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Finke Local Authority 13/08/2024	Project Management Office	Enclose the trusses under the Shade structure at Titji Park
<b>FLA2025-043 – Enclose trusses at Titji Park Shade Shelter</b>		
<b>13 Aug 25 – Res.043</b>		
The trusses for the roof of the shade structure do not have a ceiling, making it easy for kids to climb up and into the roof, creating a high risk of concern and members would like the trusses covered. Acting Director – Damien Ryan advised that he shall assess the shade structure and forward the photographs onto the Project Management Office to determine what would be involved to have this completed.		
<b>26 Feb 26 Update</b>		
The PMO is investigating the materials and costs involved to remedy this issue and whether the civil team have the capacity to install a covering for the trusses.		
<b>Recommend creating a Local Authority Project in order to allocate funds and closing this item.</b>		

**ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

Local Authority

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

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

**ITEM NUMBER** 10.3  
**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 LAMPF 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 \$15,703.66 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) notes that Project 2133 – Wash down bay has been reopened as an invoice is yet to be received.**

### **BACKGROUND**

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

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

Project 2131		New Solar Lights and Batteries	\$
		Status	Committed
13-Aug-25	Res.044 - created a new project - Install four new Solar lights and purchase two new batteries, noting the following:		34,727.08
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• commits the remaining funds currently available to include the funds returned to unallocated at this meeting;</li> <li>• replace the batteries in the current solar light at Titji Park;</li> <li>• engage a contractor to install the solar lights as the community does not have the necessary equipment; and</li> <li>• agreed on the locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o install one solar light in each of the laneways starting across from the council office and continuing over to the next laneway.</li> <li>o an additional solar light in Titji Park, facing the tables/bbq.</li> <li>o one solar light at the entrance of community, coming from Kulgera</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Quotes were sought - best one from GSD - logistics to be determined - then PO will be issued.		
3-Nov-25	Invoice received from Green Frog Systems.		- 2,417.00
11-Nov-25	<b>PO raised with GSD Solutions Pty Ltd</b>		- 11,452.60
1-Dec-25	<b>PMO update - Staffing issues and sorry business have caused delays to this project</b>		
		<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>20,857.48</b>

Project 2133		Wash Down Bay	\$
		Status	Committed
9-Sep-24	Res.024 - Allocated \$10,000.00 to a wash down bay for work vehicles to be built within the landfill facility with a concrete base, noting that the CSC to mark out an area for the slab.		10,000.00
22-Oct-24	Res.044 -CSC to mark out the area for the slab.		
25-Feb-25	PMO update - intention was that vehicles would be washed with water trailer so a water connection is not required. PMO will purchase and supply concrete for Civil Team to install.		
12-Mar-25	Res.011 - Clarified that a water connection is not necessary. CSC to provide specific location and meterage to PMO.		
11-Apr-25	PMO update - Foundation has been dug and awaiting concrete.		
21-May-25	Res.028 - Accepted the quote from Blueprint Construction for \$9,867.00 to supply and install the concrete slab.		
12-Jun-25	<b>PO raised with Blueprint Construction for concrete slab.</b>		- 8,154.55
13-Aug-25	Res.044 - Noted completion and returning \$1,845.45 to unallocated.		- 1,845.45

<b>WAITING ON BLUEPRINT CONSTRUCTION INVOICE TO COME THROUGH</b>	
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>
	-

Project 2134      Bench Seats, Concrete and Sporting Equipment		\$
Status		Committed
<b>21-May-25</b>	Res.028 - created a new project - 2 x 3m Bench seats, concrete and Sporting equipment (list provided by the members and relayed to the PMO Office), allocating the current balance of the Project funds being \$6,797.18 to this project.	6,797.18
26-May-25	Invoice received from Felton Industries for bench seats.	- 1,938.00
5-Jun-25	Invoice received from SportsPower.	- 890.90
27-Jun-25	Invoice received from Intersport.	- 1,707.34
13-Aug-25	Res.044 - Noted that the Civil team will determine the locations at the oval and install them once the concrete has been purchased and in community.	
<b>22-Sep-25</b>	<b>PMO update - Bench seats have been installed - project can be closed.</b>	
<b>1-Dec-25</b>	<b>PMO update - Concrete has been ordered and seats will be installed by the Civil Team.</b>	
<b>4-Dec-25</b>	Invoice received from Bunnings for supply of concrete.	- 121.91
	<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>	<b>2,139.03</b>

<b>Budget consideration</b>		
	Balance of underspend or (overspend)	22,996.51
	Total un-allocated funds	-
	<b>Total unspent funds</b>	<b>22,996.51</b>

RAISED	WISH-LIST	ASSIGNED
<b>18-Jul-24</b>	<b>Heavy duty trailer and chainsaw for collecting firewood.</b>	
<b>13-Aug-25</b>	<b>Reorientation of the Softball oval</b> The PMO Office advised that there has been no response from NPY regarding the reorientation of the Softball Oval and the PMO Office will investigate possible funding.	
<b>13-Aug-25</b>	<b>Shade cover over the front office</b> Quote sourced by the PMO Office came in at \$13,000.00 and at the time of this meeting, the Authority did not have the funds available, agreeing that this remains on the wishlist.	
<b>13-Aug-25</b>	<b>Lights at the Football Oval</b> Members noted the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a commitment of \$250,000.00 from the Community Development Group</li> <li>- PMO Office has this project noted for the next round of grant funding</li> </ul>	

## Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Agenda

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Aboriginal Leadership Group are updated on a regular basis on the wishlist items of the Authorities</li> <li>- That the infrastructure for the existing power supply needs a major upgrade</li> </ul>	
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### PROJECTS CLOSED 2025-26

Project 2132	Stealth Solar Lights	\$
Status		Committed
9-Sep-24	Res.024 - Allocated \$16,000.00 to place 2 x Stealth Solar lights on Putula St and 2 x Stealth Solar lights outside the Rec Hall.	16,000.00
22-Oct-24	Res.044 -Stealth Solar lights still to be ordered.	
28-Feb-25	Invoice received from Green Frog Systems.	- 9,955.00
10-Mar-25	Invoice received from Bunnings.	- 63.37
25-Feb-25	PMO update - the Civil Team will install once lights arrive.	
12-Mar-25	Res.011 - Noted Stealth solar lights and concrete have been delivered and are being stored at Amoonguna. CSC will be transporting out to community next week and the civil team will install them.	
21-May-25	Res.028 - Noted that the lights are in community and waiting on the Civil team to install.	
13-Aug-25	Res.044 - Noted that the lights are in community, chose not to install as originally allocated, and instead closed the project to create a new project, returning the remaining \$5,981.63 to unallocated.	- 5,981.63
<b>underspend or (overspend)</b>		-

### ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

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

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

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

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** 10.4  
**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 the funds have been returned as the events did not take place;
- b) considers allocating these funds at this meeting; and
- c) acknowledges that the funds must be spent with goods received by the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

**Examples that Discretionary funds can be used for:**

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

Date	2025/2026 Discretionary Funds	Budget \$4,000.00
13-Aug-25	Res.045 – allocates funds towards two competitions and a community bbq.	- 2,500.00
13-Feb-26	No purchase orders created. Funds returned for reallocation.	2,500.00
	<b>Available funds</b>	<b>\$ 4,000.00</b>

**ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

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

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

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

**CONSULTATION**

The Local Authority

## **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: 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 Finke across the area of Local Government Council Services.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

### **BACKGROUND**

Nil

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

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Keith Hassett – Director  
Damien Ryan – Area Manager  
Bryan Forby – Council Services Coordinator

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Council Services LA Report



# Council Services - Finke

October 2025 - Jan 2026



**95% First Nations  
Employees in SCD**



**7 Area Manager  
Visits to  
Community**



**Council Office  
480 Hours of  
Service**

## Snapshot



**4950 Litres Fuel  
Usage Total**



**12 Vehicles and Plant in  
Use**



**60 Bins Emptied  
Weekly**



**24 Street Lights  
Operational  
3 Street Lights  
Non-Operational**



**2 Sport Grounds  
Maintained**



**11 Toolbox Talks  
Completed**



**12 Australia Post  
Deliveries**



**14 Generator  
Services  
5 Water Tests**



**6 Hours of  
Maintenance  
completed at Airstrip**



**4 Parks &  
Playgrounds  
Inspections**

### **Animal Management**

- Animal management is due to come to community this month. we are looking forward to having them provide us with education and assistance.

### **Cemetery Management**

- Finke cemetery experienced its largest attendance in mid January with a funeral at which there was an attendance estimated at between 400 and 500 people, a large number of whom had camped in the Community for weeks preceding the funeral.
- The cemetery was in a very good state of presentation and all aspects of the facility were fully functional.

### **Internal Roads maintenance**

- Roads are in good repair. Potholes repaired as required.
- Signage in good condition.
- Roadside furniture in good condition.
- Road verges clear of most obstacles.
- Fence lines need to be de-littered.

### **Maintenance of Parks and Open Spaces**

- The playgrounds, parks and Open Spaces have been maintained in a functional, safe and tidy manner during the month

### **Sports Grounds**

- The sporting facility is functional and well-presented.

### **Waste Management**

- A replacement rubbish truck was generously supplied by the mechanics and has made the collection of rubbish a much easier experience for the civil crew,
- Bi-weekly collections of household refuse has been maintained.
- The drop-off area was kept functional but a required additional attention to maintain the drop off bays.
- The landfill channels are well prepared and very well signposted.
- The fence lines will be a priority for the civil crew in the coming months

### **Weed Control and Fire Hazard Reduction**

- Clearing of grass and weeds is ongoing
- Weed control has not been an issue over the summer period.

### **Other Service Delivery updates**

- The airstrip is fully functional and is very clean and tidy in appearance.
- Mail deliveries are being made fortnightly.



## **11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 11.2  
**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 Aged and Children's Services

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority of Finke notes and accepts the Aged and Children's Services report.**

### **BACKGROUND**

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

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

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Ainsley Roscow – Executive Manager of Aged and Children's Services  
Emma Hacche – Senior Coordinator of Aged Care  
Pavithra Devasurendra- Coordinator Children's Services  
And Administration

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Aged and Children's Services Finke LAR November 2025 - January 2026



# Local Authority Report Finke Aged Care Services



Nov 25 - Jan 26



5 Staff in the Finke team  
100% Community-based Employees are  
Aboriginal

Stakeholders' engagements:  
School Committee  
Clinic client update meetings



Lifts provided: 50



**Client Interactions: 123**  
This includes client welfare checks and client engagement at the Aged Care Centre



**Personal Care provided: 65**  
Including:  
shower & toilet assistance, laundry loads, tablet reminders



Active Clients: 6



**Training:**  
Our Coordinator for Finke attended two-day training session in January which included external training from The Hindwood Institute: 'Managing the performance of your team' and 'Managing workplace conflicts & challenging behaviors'



**Meals Provided**  
Breakfast, lunches & Hampers: 678  
SNP Meals delivered: 363



## Updates



- The Coordinator position became vacant in November following the departure of Rose Roy. Rosemary Matasia is now transitioning into this role and will be supported closely by our Senior Coordinator of Operations to ensure a smooth and well-supported handover.
- There was a significant increase in service delivery across the three-month period due to sorry business in Finke. During this time, several clients from Titjikala were staying in Finke where they continued to receive services. Please note: Client data for Titji has been reported under that centre in alignment with funding arrangements.
- The Finke Aged Care Centre had a planned shutdown over the Christmas and New Year period, closing from Friday 19 December and reopening on Monday 5 January.



Finke  
Christmas Party 🎄🎄🎄





# Local Authority MacKids Finke



**November 2025 - January 2026**



**4 Employees**  
**100% First Nation**



**13 - Enrolments**



**40 hours Coordinator & Manager support**



**Service Delivery**  
**65 Hours**



**30 - Meals served**



**Training**

- 1 Educators Enrolled in Cert III Early Childhood Education and Care



**Stakeholder Engagement**

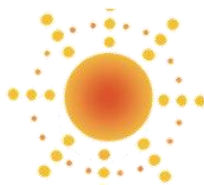
- NPY Representative
- NT Health Clinic
- Families

## Highlights

In December 2025, the community Centres held a Christmas party facilitated by the Coordinators and Team Leaders. Parents, children, and educators all enjoyed the celebration.

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

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





# Local Authority MacKids Finke

## November 2025 - January 2026



### **Implementation of Regulator's Recommendations**

Christine and Heather, together with Coordinator Pavi, discussed practical strategies to effectively implement the regulator's recommendations and strengthen service quality.

## **11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

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

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety in Finke

### **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  
And Administration

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Community Safety Finke LAR November 2025 - January 2026



# Local Authority Report

Finke

Community Safety

November 2025 - January 2026



- 5 staff in the Finke team
- 1 P/PT CSO Vacancy
- 100% Community-based Employees are Aboriginal

- 283 Hours patrolled
- Work: 6 hour shifts Mon-Fri
- Between 6pm - Midnight



529 Engagements with young people



726 Engagements with over 18's



168 Young people taken home



22 Training Hours

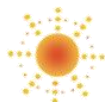


258 Are you okay? Checks



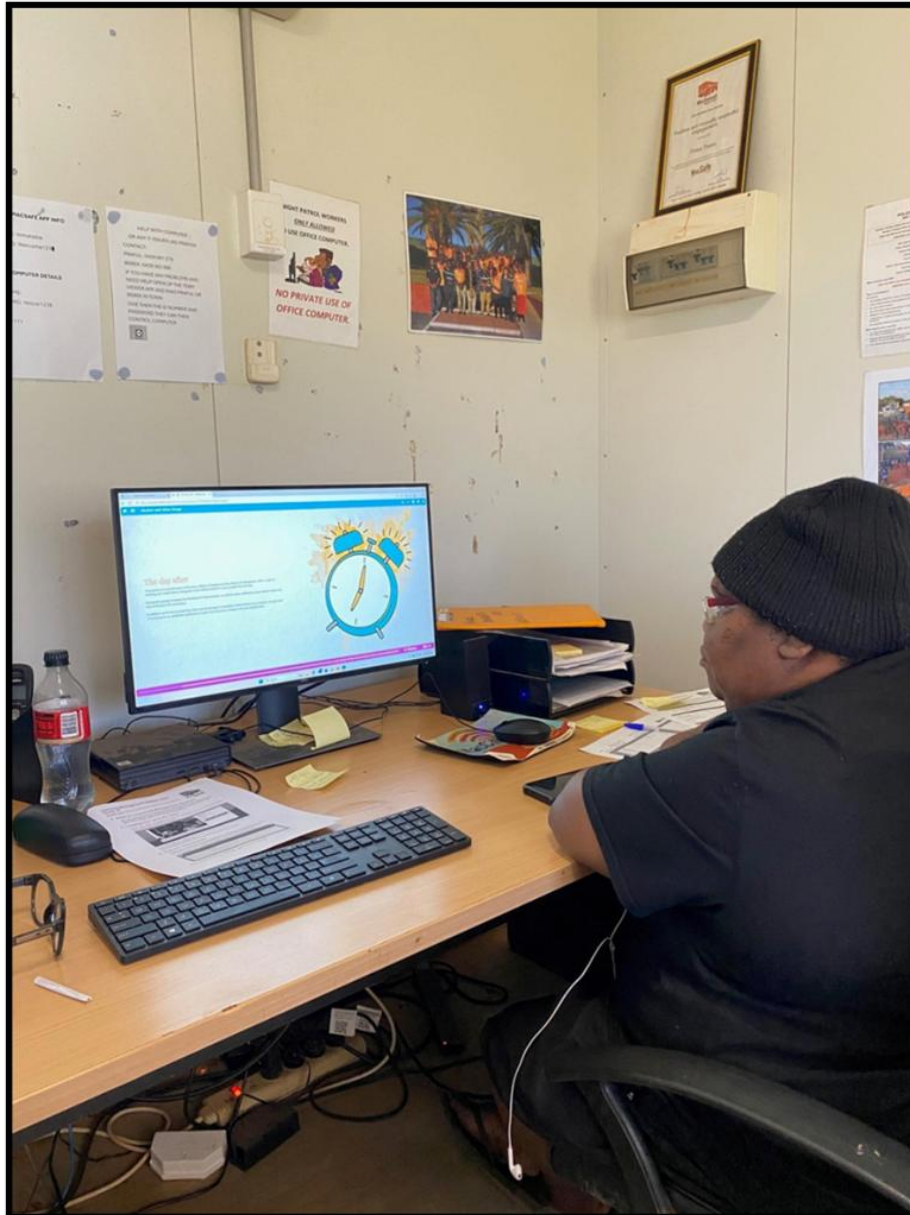
3 Community gathering

## Highlights



- Community Safety Team Leader Mary Matasia has been undergoing ongoing training under the Learning Management System (LMS) Online portal.
- The LMS Training consists of 8 Training Modules relevant to working in Community Safety.
- The Majority of this LA Reporting period saw the majority of Finke Community residents living in sorry camp since a tragic death in the community late last year.
- To support the large number of visitors attending the sorry camp the Titjikala Community Safety team worked alongside the Finke service to help support Night patrols keeping everyone safe.

Mary Matasia training on the Learning management System  
online portal in one of the 8 training modules



**Henry Carroll Training on the Community safety reporting Tablet**



**Finke Community safety Team members  
Rodney Lambourne and David Moneymoon Training  
on the reporting Tablet**



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

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

This may include:

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **notes and discusses the matters raised;**
- b) **is advised that the Housing Property team is currently understaffed and unable to commit to setting up pop-in sites when visiting community; and**
- c) **closes the topic – Water issues.**

#### **BACKGROUND**

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

Date raised	Subject	Issue/Concern
13-Aug-25	Water issues	Res.050 – The ESO advised the NTG Representative that every house in community had water continuously running from either a tap, shower or toilet and that due to the increase of excess water, the three sewer ponds were now overflowing. Power and Water advised that the issues stemmed from inside the houses and recommended that members request housing to conduct an urgent audit inside every home to find the issue.
13-Feb-26		<p><b>Response received from Avani Kumar – Executive Support Officer, DHLGCD</b></p> <p>Members are urged to report any housing issues to the Housing Property Services mainline by calling 1800 104 076. If these issues are not being reported through this channel, the department is unable to provide support with raising work orders for repairs and maintenance. Remote Tenancy will organise a pop-in site for the same day that the HRG meeting is planned (17 March 2026). Inspections will start in March with repairs and maintenance reported as the inspections are completed.</p>
17-Feb-26		<p>This matter will be closed as tenants affected by this issue will need to report these matters and other maintenance issues directly.</p>

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.