



AGENDA

FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 2026

The Finke Local Authority Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Finke Council Office on Wednesday 12 August 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	Local Authority Membership	5
5	COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT	
5.1	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct	7
6	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	
6.1	Finke Local Authority Meeting - 10 June 2026	9
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	NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS	
10.1	Non-Council Business	20
11	LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE	
11.1	Action Register	24
11.2	Local Authority Discretionary Funds	26
11.3	Local Authority Project Register	28
12	COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS	
12.1	Council Services LA Report.....	31
12.2	Community Safety Report	35
12.3	Aged Care and Children's Services Report	39
13	GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS	
13.1	General Council Business	48
14	NEXT MEETING – 11 NOVEMBER 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;**
- b) tables apologies received; 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: 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 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;

- notes the current membership of the Authority;
- calls for community nominations to remain open to fill the vacancy; and
- notes that revocations may occur 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 previous meeting.

Appointed Members Finke LA	Meeting Attendance 10 June 2026
Michael Ferguson	Present
Rosemary Matasia	Apology
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 via Teams
Cr Veronica Lynch	Present via Teams
Cr Matthew Palmer	Present via Teams
President Roxanne Kenny	Apology

Local Authorities Overview:

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

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

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

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

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

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

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

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

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

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

CONSULTATION

The Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER 5.1
TITLE MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the Council Code of Conduct.

MacDonnell Regional Council Code of Conduct

Interests of the Council and Community come first

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

Honesty

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

Taking care

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

Respect/Courtesy

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

Conduct towards council staff

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

Respect for culture

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

Conflict of interest

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

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

Respect for private business

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

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

Gifts

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

Accountable

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

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

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

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

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

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER 6.1
TITLE Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 10 June 2026 to be approved by the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 10 June 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

ATTACHMENTS

1. FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 10.6.2026 - MINUTES [1 pages]

MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE COUNCIL
OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.44AM

2 WELCOME

Attendees were welcomed by Chairperson Michael Ferguson and quorum was achieved.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Michael Ferguson (Chairperson), Member Susan Doolan, Member Brigit Doolan, Member Thomas Stewart and Member Darryl Doolan

Councillors

Councillor Patrick Allen.

Via Teams: Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Veronica Lynch and Councillor Matthew Palmer

Council Employees

Area Manager Damien Ryan, Council Services Coordinator Bryan Forby, Essential Services Officer Kelly Ryan and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Via Teams: Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg and Governance Coordinator June Crabb.

Guests

Malavika Manoj, Shanaya McAdam Bray and Paumea McKay from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

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.

FLA2026-19 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Darryl Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **noted the Member's attendance;**
- b) **tabled apologies received from Member Rosemary Matasia, President Roxanne Kenny, CEO Belinda Urquhart, Deputy CEO Keith Hassett; and**
- c) **recorded no Member absences, without notice, for this meeting.**

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

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).

FLA2026-20 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Patrick Allen)

That the Local Authority;

- a) noted the current membership of the Authority;
- b) called for community nominations to remain open to fill the vacancy;
- c) noted that revocations may occur if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

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.

FLA2026-21 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Darryl Doolan)

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 Finke Local Authority Meeting held 4 March 2026 to be approved by the Authority.

FLA2026-22 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Darryl Doolan)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 4 March 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.

FLA2026-23 RESOLVED (Darryl Doolan/Patrick Allen)

That the agenda papers for this Local Authority meeting as presented, were 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.

FLA2026-24 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Patrick Allen)

That the Local Authority Members:

- a) noted the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
- b) that members declared no conflicts of interest.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	10.1
TITLE:	Action Register
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-25 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Darryl Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the updates to the actions as received; and

- b) approved the recommendation to install spherical concrete bollards as an alternative to fencing. These could be painted by local artists and closed this item.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, 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.

FLA2026-26 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Patrick Allen)

That the Local Authority:

- accepted the 2024/25 Project Funding Acquittal and Certification (attached);
- noted the available funds of \$53,482.48 include the 2025/26 Project Funds allocation of \$28,800.00
- noted the progress on their current project 2134 'Bench Seats, Concrete and Sporting Equipment' that this should be installed by the Civil Team before the next meeting;
- allocated \$815.45 to cover the deficit to 2133 – 'Wash down Bay' and closes project once all invoices have been paid; and
- discussed the wish list items as follows:
 - Removed 'Heavy Duty Trailer and Chainsaw for Collecting Firewood' from the wish list due to safety and liability concerns.
 - Noted that a submission regarding the 'Lights for the Football Oval' has been sent to the NTG and Council is waiting for the response. This has been added to the Community Infrastructure Plan and will be removed from the wish list.
 - 'Enclose the Trusses Under the Shade Structure at Titji Park' The PMO has received a costing for panel ribbed ceiling and installation of around \$45,000.00. The PMO is also investigating a mesh cover alternative which may be unsuitable as it can still be used to climb on the structure. Members

advised that the Community Development Program [CLC] should be able to allocate some funds toward this item. Members and the PMO will follow up on this.

- Added 'Battery Powered Wheeled Line Trimmer' to the wishlist with the PMO to investigate costs as a ride on mower was deemed too expensive.
 - Added '2 Interchange Benches with Shelter for the Football Oval' to the wish list. The PMO will investigate the costs.
- f) requested that the PMO provide the cost of installing goal posts at Mount Liebig to the Finke Local Authority in order to assist with decision making about solutions for their own goal posts.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, 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.

FLA2026-27 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Darryl Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the spending of their 2025/26 Discretionary funds;
- b) allocated the remaining \$400.00 to sports equipment to be purchased from Hot Stuff 4 the Sporting Buff; and
- c) acknowledged that the funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-28 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Thomas Stewart)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the attached report.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Community Safety Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-29 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Darryl Doolan)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Safety report

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Aged Care and Children's Services Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-30 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Darryl Doolan)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Aged and Children's Services 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.

FLA2026-31 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) requested that Council Services investigate the condition of the water trailers and provide an update as an action item at the next meeting; and
- b) requested that Councillors attend Local Authority meetings in person.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

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

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

FLA2026-32 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Darryl Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) approves the ABS to hold a BBQ and Census information session in Finke sometime in July and discussed the importance of everyone being counted in the Census for funding.
- b) provided additional information regarding the air-conditioner issue that swampy air-conditioners have been decommissioned by housing years ago with no replacement supplied. This is the case in all community houses in Finke. People in the community are using inefficient and ineffective portable alternatives and running hoses to rooves to use their swampies. Members provided the following names and lot numbers for Housing to investigate air-conditioner issues:
 - lot 114 – Maryanne – Air-conditioner decommissioned
 - Lot 79 – Jonella – Swampy disconnected – Water in the ceiling after the airconditioner was repaired. It is not safe to use the airconditioner. Tennants are worried about the electricals in the roof.
 - Lot 56 – Michael Ferguson – swampie disconnected 3 years ago. People with athsma live in this house. Michael has been reporting this for years.
 - Lot 111 – Jennifer Doolan – swampie disconnected.
 - Lot 82 – Susan Doolan – water connection turned off;
- c) Accepted the update on Housing Issues – rent and maintenance that the Pop-Up Stall did occur. However, members requested that Housing come out and do another Pop-Up Stall as there was little notice about the visit which prevented community members from taking advantage of the opportunity to raise their housing issues. Members requested that posters be sent out at least 2 weeks prior to the visit; and
- d) requested to be advised of the grading schedule for the Gahn Heritage Trail Road and the road to Kulgera after the Finke Desert Race.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:21 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 10 June 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.

UNCONFIRMED

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.

Finke Local Authority Meeting 12 August 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 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER	10.1
TITLE	Non-Council Business
AUTHOR	Shae Thompson, 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 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 the updates on previous items; 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	Organisation	Subject
Finke Local Authority 04/03/2026	NTG	Issues with Swampy Air Conditioners
04/03/2026 FLA 2026-18 advised that the air-conditioners in the community are swampies, not functional and have been an issue for an extended period of time and that this is causing health issues for the residents including the very young and older people. This issue is a source of intense concern for residents. 25/05/2026 update from Dee McCorkindale Please remind community members to report all maintenance issues to the 1800 104 076 phone line. There is a process utilised by the HPS team and contractors that determines when a swampy is deemed no longer fit for purpose and then changed out for a split system air conditioner as previously advised. In order to follow up on this particular matter, could Housing be provided with names and Lot numbers for the houses where very young and very old people are being affected by the failing air-conditioners. 10/06/2026 FLA2026-32 provided additional information regarding the air-conditioner issue that swampy air-conditioners have been decommissioned by housing years ago with no replacement supplied. This is the case in all community houses in Finke. People in the community are using inefficient and ineffective portable alternatives and running hoses to rooves to use their swampies. Members provided the following names and lot numbers for Housing to investigate air-conditioner issues: • lot 114 – Maryanne – Air-conditioner decommissioned • Lot 79 – Jonella – Swampy disconnected – Water in the ceiling after the airconditioner was repaired. It is not safe to use the airconditioner. Tennants are worried about the electricals in the roof. • Lot 56 – Michael Ferguson – swampie disconnected 3 years ago. People with athsma live in this house. Michael has been reporting this for years. • Lot 111 – Jennifer Doolan – swampie disconnected. • Lot 82 – Susan Doolan – water connection turned off; 23/06/2026 Update from Adele McCorkindale NTG Dee advised that she has emailed Housing Property Services [HPS]		

Finke Local Authority Meeting 12 August 2026 – Agenda

Meeting	Officer/ Organisation	Section	Subject
Finke Local Authority 04/03/2026	NTG	Raised at Non-Council Business	Housing issues – rent and maintenance
04/03/2026 FLA 2026-18 Were advised that there will be a team from Housing in Finke on the 17 March to discuss maintenance and tenancy issues			
27/03/2026– Update from Dee McCorkindale – Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development Pop-Up Shop - The planned trip on 17/03/2026 did not proceed due to adverse road conditions. - We have tentatively scheduled a visit for the week of 06/04/2026. During this visit, we are hoping to hold an HRG meeting on 08/04/2026, and staff will also host a 'Pop-Up' stall for approximately three hours during the week.			
High Rents - Staff will be in Finke community during the week of 06/04/2026 and will be engaging with tenants throughout the visit. - Team members will be available at the 'Pop-Up' stall to answer any questions tenants may have about rent, maintenance, or other concerns. We will also discuss available safety nets for clients who may be eligible. - Tenants are encouraged to contact the Remote Housing Team on 8951 5252 for any enquiries relating to their accounts.			
10/06/2026 FLA2026-32 Accepted the update on Housing Issues – rent and maintenance that the Pop-Up Stall did occur. However, members requested that Housing come out and do another Pop-Up Stall as there was little notice about the visit which prevented community members from taking advantage of the opportunity to raise their housing issues. Members requested that posters be sent out at least 2 weeks prior to the visit			
23/06/2026 Update from Adele McCorkindale NTG Dee advised that she would reach out to Tenancy Management regarding the request for a future Pop-up shop and posters for display.			

Finke Local Authority Meeting 12 August 2026 – Agenda

Meeting	Officer/ Organisation	Section	Subject
Finke Local Authority 10/06/2026	NTG	Raised at Non-Council Business	Grading Schedule
10/06/2026 FLA 2026-18 requested to be advised of the grading schedule for the Gahn Heritage Trail Road and the road to Kulgera after the Finke Desert Race.			
24/6/2026 Response from DLI provided by Dee McCokindale • Following the Finke event, contractors have completed grading works on Maryvale Road (Ch30-Ch91) and Hugh River Stock Route. • Contractors are currently grading Ghan Heritage Road, the access road to the Finke community, with works is scheduled for completion by early next week. • Once Ghan Heritage Road is complete, contractors are scheduled to commence grading on Finke Road, from the Finke community to the Stuart Highway intersection at Kulgera.			
Recommend closing this item			

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 11.1
TITLE Action Register
AUTHOR Shae Thompson, 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 report provides a running list of Local Authority action items as raised in previous meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the updates on the action item 'Water Trailer Maintenance'.

BACKGROUND

Meeting	Officer/Director	Subject
Finke Local Authority 10/06/2026	Council Services	Water Trailer Maintenance
FLA2026-31 – Water Trailer Maintenance Requested that Council Services investigate the condition of the water trailers and provide an update as an action item at the next meeting.		
13/07/2026 – Update from Council Services The water trailer with the smaller tank is in a serviceable condition. See photo.		
		
06/08/2026 – Update from Council Services The civil team is currently working on the larger water trailer.		

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team
Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 11.2
TITLE Local Authority Discretionary Funds
AUTHOR Shae Thompson, 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:

- a) notes the spending of their 2025/26 Discretionary funds;
- b) receives the discretionary funds of \$4,000.00 for the current financial year;
- c) discusses allocating these funds; and
- d) acknowledges that the funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2027.

BACKGROUND

Examples that Discretionary funds can be used for:

Community Christmas and New Year's Festivities Community BBQ's Sports weekends Naidoc Celebration When allocating funds towards BBQ's, Sporting equipment, Annual festivities or Community competitions, members are asked to consider the following:

- Date for event
- Who will be the main person responsible for organizing the event
- Where will the funds be spent
- Who will collect and store the purchases

Current Financial Year Funds Allocation

Date	2026/2027 Discretionary Funds	Budget \$4,000.00

Previous Financial Year Funds Allocation

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	Funds returned for reallocation	2,500.00
4-Mar-26 1-May-26	Res.013 – allocated \$4,000.00 to the purchase of football guernseys for the Finke Crows football team Invoice received from Hot Stuff 4 the Sporting Buff 	-\$ 3,600.00
10-Jun-26	Res.27 – allocated the remaining \$400.00 to sports equipment to be purchased from Hot Stuff 4 the Sporting Buff. Invoice received.	- \$363.64
	Total Funds Spent	\$ 3963.64

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

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

CONSULTATION

The Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 11.3
TITLE Local Authority Project 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 there are no funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) notes the available funds of \$52,667.03 to spend on community projects;**
- c) notes the progress on the current projects as provided by the Project Management office; and**
- d) discusses the priorities of the wishlist items.**

BACKGROUND

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

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

Finke Local Authority Meeting 12 August 2026 – Agenda

Project 2134 Bench Seats, Concrete and Sporting Equipment		\$
Status		Committed
21-May-25	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.	
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Bench seats have been installed - project can be closed.	
1-Dec-25	PMO update - Concrete has been ordered and seats will be installed by the Civil Team.	
4-Dec-25	Invoice received from Bunnings for supply of concrete.	-\$ 121.91
4-Mar-26	Res.012 -Noted that all materials are in community and ready for installation by the Civil Team.	
10-Jun-26	Res.026 – Noted the progress on their current project 2134 – that this should be installed by the Civil Team before the next meeting.	
underspend or (overspend)		\$ 2,139.03

Budget consideration		
	Balance of underspend or (overspend)	\$ 2,139.03
	Total un-allocated funds	\$ 52,667.03
	Total unspent funds	\$ 54,806.06

Finke Local Authority Meeting 12 August 2026 – Agenda

RAISED	WISH-LIST	ASSIGNED
13-Aug-25	Reorientation of the Softball oval The PMO Office advised that there has been no response from NPY regarding the reorientation of the Softball Oval and the PMO Office will continue investigating possible funding.	
13-Aug-25	Shade cover over the front office 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.	
4-Mar-26 10-Jun-26	Enclose the trusses under the Shade structure at Titji Park The PMO Office will investigate materials and costs to be presented at the next meeting. The PMO Office has received a costing for panel ribbed ceiling and installation of around \$45,000.00. The PMO is also investigating a mesh cover alternative which may be unsuitable as it can still be used to climb on the structure. Members advised that the Community Development Program (CLC) should be able to allocate some funds toward this item. Members and the PMO will follow up on this.	
10-Jun-26	Res.26 – Battery Powered Wheeled Line Trimmer to the wishlist with the PMO to investigate costs as a ride-on mower was deemed too expensive.	

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 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.

12 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 12.1
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 Finke across the area of Local Government Council Services.

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
Lewis Gittoes – A/Area Manager
Bryan Forby – Council Services Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS

1 Council Services LAR



Council Services - Finke



**95% First Nations
Employees in SCD**



**Council Office
480 Hours of
Service**

Snapshot



**2353 Litres Fuel
Usage Total**



**12 Vehicles and Plant in
Use**



**60 Bins Emptied
Weekly**



**22 Street Lights Operational
5 Street Lights
Non-Operational**



**2 Sport Grounds
Maintained**



**18/20 Toolbox Talks
Completed**



**12 Australia Post
Deliveries**



3 Water Tests



9 Generator Services



**25 Hours of
Maintenance
completed at Airstrip**



**6 Parks &
Playgrounds
Inspections**

Animal Management

- There has been no activity this month in animal management
- Planned visits by vets on 13 August and 17 September

Cemetery Management

- Clearance of the cemetery has commenced. Gravesites require grass removal/slashing.

Internal Roads maintenance

- The roads are generally in good condition with some remedial work required at two intersections.

Maintenance of Parks and Open Spaces

- The oval and precinct have been cleared of all grass.

Sports Grounds

- The seating special project at the oval has been completed with the assembly and installation of two interchange benches.

Waste Management

- The General Household refuse trench has been filled on the southern end. All further household refuse will be dumped on the northern end of the trench.
- The drop-off unit is cleared of all excess refuse and is in fine condition.
- The sewerage ponds and the Solar Farm have been subject to a comprehensive tidy-up from the full civil team.

Weed Control and Fire Hazard Reduction

- All fire breaks have been cleared at all PWC compounds and the airstrip



12 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 12.2
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 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 – A/Senior Coordinator of Community Safety

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Community Safety Finke LAR May - July 2026



Local Authority Report

Finke

Community Safety

May - July 2026



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

- 312 Hours patrolled
- Work: 6 hour shifts
- Between 5pm -11pm Mon-Fri



486 Engagements
with young people



741 Engagements
with over 18's



175 Young people
taken home



18 Training
Hours



429 Are you okay?
Checks



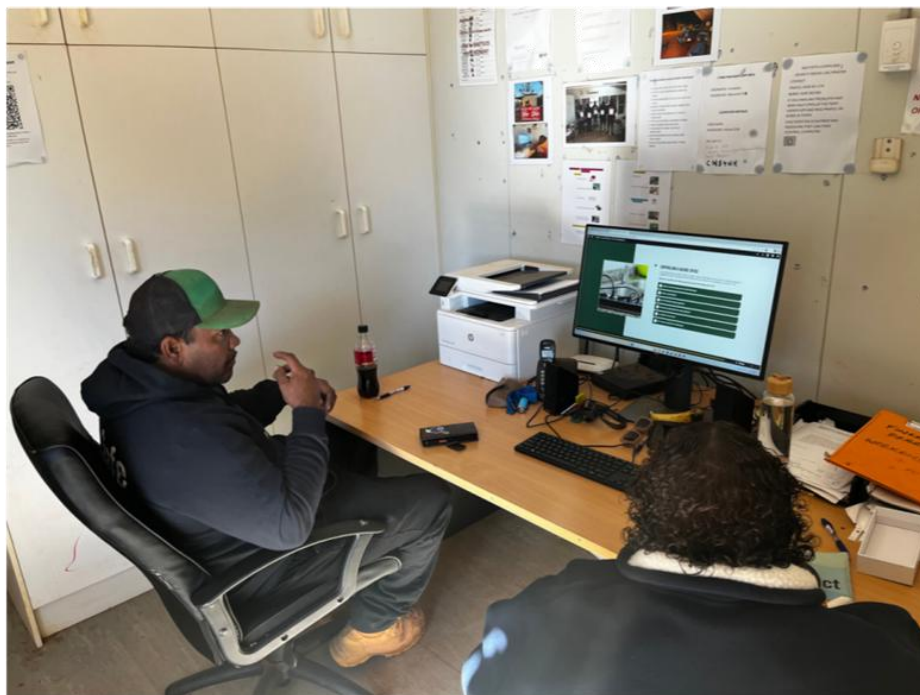
1 Community
gathering

Highlights



- Community Safety Team Leader Mary Matasia and Senior Community Safety Officer Rodney Lambourne are continuing training under the Learning Management System (LMS) Online portal they have completed 6 modules over this reporting period.
- Community safety team members have been supporting one another in using the App to login nightly patrol reports.
- The Team Leader and Senior have been trained in how to complete Vehicle checks on the Fleetio App.
- The team have been working well together and operating through a roster arranged by the Team leader and other Community safety Staff, which enables all team members a chance to work across each fortnight.

Mary and Rodney LMS Training online



Mary and Rodney proudly present their Certificate of completion for online training



Mary Cleaning out Vehicle as part of Fleetio Training



Rodney checking oil level as part of Fleetio training



12 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 12.3
TITLE Aged Care and Children's Services Report
AUTHOR Annaliza Rivera, 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 provides an update on the delivery of Aged Care and Children's Services

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Ainsley Roscow – Executive Manager of Aged and Children's Services
Emma Hacche – Coordinator Compliance and Reporting
Aged Care Services
Narelle Shanahan - Coordinator Children's Services
And Administration

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Aged and Children's Services Finke LAR May - July 2026



Local Authority Finke

May - July 2026



4 Employees
100% First Nation



10 - Enrolments



72 hours

**Coordinator & Manager
support**



221

Service Delivery



102

Meals served



Training

- Team Leader enrolled in Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care.
- Team Leader attended face to face training at Bachelor.
- Centre participated in emergency evacuation training



**Stakeholder
Engagement**

*Families
NPY Women's Council
Clinic Children's Nurse Visit
Catholic Care
FAL Regulatory Team*

Highlights

The Team Leader, Christine Allen was being recognised as a successful finalist in the NAIDOC Awards in Alice Springs, reflecting her dedication, care and commitment to the children, families and the centre.

Finke enjoyed a visit from the Family Assistance Law regulatory team who assessed the Centre for compliance. The Team noted an engaging and child centred program and excellent relationships with stakeholders including the Apatula school.



Local Authority Finke May - July 2026

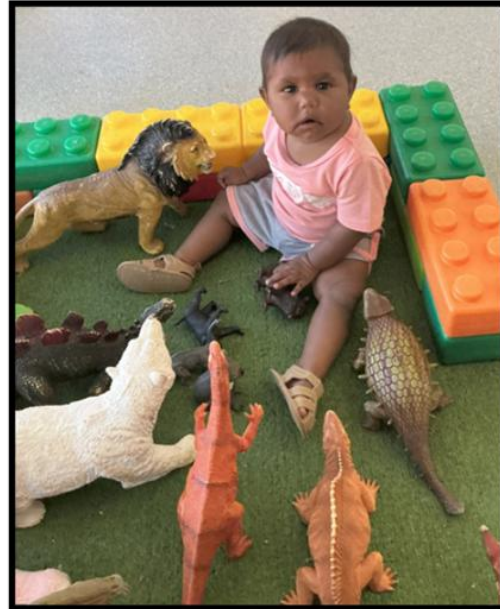


The children enjoy feeding themselves and also look to educators for support, reflecting positive interdependence. One child focuses intently on their drawing, using fine-motor skills to hold the texta and keep the paper steady.





Local Authority Finke May - July 2026



The children engage in a range of play experiences. They demonstrate curiosity, creativity and growing independence within the learning environment.





Local Authority Finke May - July 2026



Christine Allen's recognition as a NAIDOC Awards finalist highlights her strong commitment to the children, families and the centre community. In the photo, she is actively engaging with children, modelling the nurturing and supportive leadership acknowledged through this award.





Local Authority Report Finke Aged Care Services May - July 2026

**Aged Care
Services**



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

Stakeholders' engagements: 7



Lifts provided: 11



Client Interactions: 205
This includes client welfare
checks and client engagement at
the Aged Care Centre



Personal Care provided: 157
Including:
shower & toilet assistance,
laundry loads, tablet reminders



Active Clients: 6



Training:
First Aid Training
and Commencement of
Cert III - Individual Support



Meals Provided
Breakfast, lunches
& Hampers: 618
SNP Meals delivered: 738



Updates



- Sorry Business was observed following the passing of a client. During this period, essential services continued to be provided to ensure clients received ongoing support and care.
- With the onset of colder weather, blankets and beanies were distributed to clients to support their comfort and wellbeing.
- APM attended the community to undertake client assessments, ensuring support needs and service requirements remain current.
- First Aid and Certificate III training has been rolled out to staff as part of ongoing workforce development and capacity-building initiatives.
- Stakeholder engagement activities were undertaken with SA Health, NT Health, the local Clinic, APM, and Response Training strengthening relationships and enhancing outcomes for clients and the community.



Local Authority Report Finke Aged Care Services May - July 2026

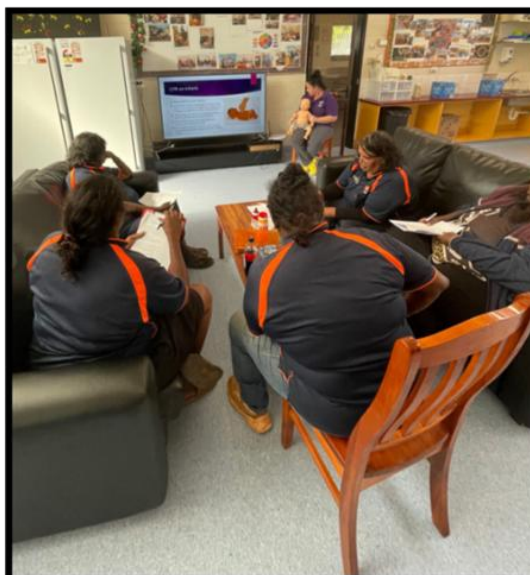
Aged Care
Services

First Aid Training



Coordinator Rosemary
performing CPR as part of the
training for Finke and Titjikala
staff

Response Trainer Laura
presenting First Aid Training
slideshow to staff





Local Authority Report Finke Aged Care Services May - July 2026

Aged Care
Services

Winter blankets for our clients



Richard with Home
Care Assistants
Virginia and Junella



Colleen with Home
Care Assistants
Virginia and Junella

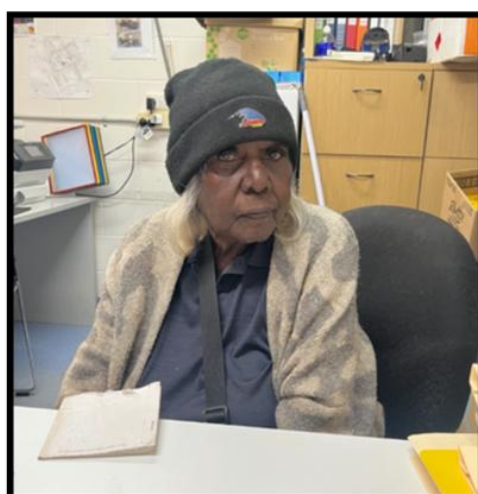


Kevin with Home Care
Assistants Virginia
and Junella



Local Authority Report Finke Aged Care Services May - July 2026

Aged Care
Services



Client Colleen attending the
centre for her Aged Care
Assessment

Client Mowatji attending the
clinic accompanied by Aged
Care Staff



12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER 13.1
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.