



MINUTES OF THE SANTA TERESA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE SANTA TERESA COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST 2026 AT 10:30 AM

---

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10.37AM

**2 WELCOME**

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting by Chairperson Louise Cavanagh and quorum was achieved.

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

|              |                                 |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| ITEM NUMBER: | 3.1                             |
| TITLE:       | Attendance, Apologies and Leave |

Local Authority Members

Chairperson Louise Cavanagh, Member Agnes Alice, Member Robert Kopp, Member Leonie Young and Member Annalisa Young.

Councillors

Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Veronica Lynch and Councillor Matthew Palmer

Council Employees

A/Director Council Services Jake Potter, Council Services Coordinator Lewis Gittoes and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Guests

Donna Lemon and Malavika Manoj – Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development, NTG.

**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.

**STLA2026-30 RESOLVED (Agnes Alice/Leonie Young)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted the Member's attendance;
- b) accepted apologies received from Member Marie Mulladad, President Roxanne Kenny, CEO Belinda Urquhart, Ellie Kamara CEO AAAC and Shane Freney from Bill Yann's Office; and
- c) recorded no Member absences, without notice, for this meeting.

#### **4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP**

|                     |                                              |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>4.1</b>                                   |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Local Authority Membership</b>            |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>      | <b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b> |

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an overview to the membership of the Santa Teresa Local Authority, identifies any existing vacancies, and records attendance to the previous Authority meeting. It also informs members of any recent legislative changes to appointment procedures introduced under the *Local Government Act 2019*.

##### **STLA2026-31 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Matthew Palmer)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the attendance at the previous meeting;
- b) noted that there is one vacancy on the Authority; and
- c) called for community nominations to remain open to fill this vacancy.

#### **5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

|                     |                                           |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>5.1</b>                                |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct</b> |

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

##### **STLA2026-32 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Annalisa Young)**

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

#### **6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

|                     |                                         |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>6.1</b>                              |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b> |

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held 27 May 2026 to be approved by the Authority.

**STLA2026-33 RESOLVED (Matthew Palmer/Agnes Alice)**

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held 27 May 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

**7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>7.1</b>                  |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Acceptance of Agenda</b> |

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**STLA2026-34 RESOLVED (Agnes Alice/Leonie Young)**

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

**8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>8.1</b>                  |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Conflict of Interest</b> |

**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.

**STLA2026-35 RESOLVED (Annalisa Young/Agnes Alice)**

That the Local Authority Meeting:

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

**10 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

**10.1 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

|                |                                              |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>AUTHOR:</b> | <b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b> |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------|

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

This may include:

- NT Roads
- Education
- Housing/Repairs/Maintenance
- Health
- NT Police
- Land Management

**STLA2026-36 RESOLVED (Agnes Alice/Annalisa Young)**

That the Local Authority raised and discussed the following matters of Non-Council business:

- Requested information about the progress of the sealing of the road to Alice Springs including a timeline. Members are concerned about whether the funding for this has been spent elsewhere. They stated that they are concerned about getting cut off from Alice Springs during weather events and the effect this will have on ambulance access and food security.
- Received an update on Units 1 and 2 of 139 that a work order was sent out on 29 July to bring both units up to standard to be safe and habitable. Members stated that they were concerned that this land will never be safely habitable due to the sink hole at this site and that this was what they were told at the HRG meeting. Members suggested that a new house should be built on a new site. The tenants of both of these properties have been unable to live in these units for over a year and have been moving between temporary housing and living with family during this time. They stated that there was a previous build on this site which was demolished due to the sink hole. The department attempted to fix the site before the current buildings were built and this was unsuccessful.
- Were notified that the department is negotiating with CAAMA radio in order to convey important messages regarding Housing and HRG meetings on this medium. These messages will be conveyed in language. This news was well received.
- Members raised that Housing has been slow to respond to maintenance issues. The timeframe is much longer than the 2 weeks that community members understood was promised.
- Raised that a screen door was requested for the back door at lot 138. The maintenance team came and removed the screen from the front door [maybe for measuring] and never returned the front door or installed the back door.
- Requested that Housing provide a date for when the air-conditioners will be serviced. Preferably before it gets too hot.
- Raised that the transition house has a swampy air-conditioner that blows hot air even after it had been repaired by contractors. The locks on this house are easily unlatched and this is a security risk.
- Requested that contractors be reminded about reducing their speed when they are driving within the community and about being cautious of children on foot and on scooters.
- Requested information about the rise in power costs. The cost of power is unaffordable for many residents.
- Leonie will send some photos of issues directly to Donna who can then share these images with the Housing department.

## **11 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

|                     |                                              |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>11.1</b>                                  |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Action Register</b>                       |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>      | <b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b> |

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

#### **STLA2026-37 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) discussed the item 'Increased [Community Safety] presence at Rec Hall' and:
  - Stated that the Community Safety team is not attending the Rec Hall at the conclusion of Youth programs.
  - Raised that the team is not starting work on time and were informed that vehicle tracking shows that patrolling is beginning at 6pm.
  - Requested information about who is on the team and asked if there are any vacancies, if more women could be employed to communicate with female youth, and if younger people could be employed.
  - Stated that the Community Safety team is patrolling the boundary at night unnecessarily.
  - Requested that the hours for the Youth Services team be extended in order to tire the kids out.
  - Requested that Community Safety check in with any young people still out in the community at the end of their shift and ask them to head home.
  - Stated that there are kids on the basketball court after midnight because the light timer is broken and the light stays on all night. The school has ownership of the light timer and pays for the electricity; and
- b) accepted the update regarding Community Safety Presence at Sports Weekends and closed this item.

|                     |                                           |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>11.2</b>                               |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Local Authority Project Register</b>   |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>      | <b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b> |

### **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.

#### **STLA2026-38 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Robert Kopp)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) acknowledged that \$49,155.44 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) closed finished project 2202 'Cracker Dust' and returned all unused funds to unallocated once all invoices have been received;
- c) noted the progress on the current projects as follows:
  - Project 2233 'Mural with Historical Timeline' costings have been sourced and design consultation will begin in October.
  - New project '1 x 3on3 Basketball Half Court' allocated an additional \$30,000.00 to this project to cover the unexpectedly high concrete costs; and
- d) added playground repairs to the wishlist and requested that the PMO investigate the viability of repairs and associated costs.

|                     |                                              |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>11.3</b>                                  |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Local Authority Discretionary Funds</b>   |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>      | <b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b> |

#### **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.

#### **STLA2026-39 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted the spending of the 2025/26 financial year;
- b) received the \$4,000.00 discretionary funds for the current financial year;
- c) allocated \$1,000.00 to be spent by the AAAC for the horse races weekend in October; and
- d) acknowledged that all funds must be spent with goods received by the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2027.

## **12 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

|                     |                                                        |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>12.1</b>                                            |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Council Services LAR</b>                            |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>      | <b>Ellen Fitzgerald, Senior Administration Officer</b> |

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

#### **STLA2026-40 RESOLVED (Annalisa Young/Louise Cavanagh)**

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

- a) requested that Council Services do an audit on the solar lights within the community; and
- b) requested that Council Services advise the vets that the Local Authority would not like the meeting room to be used for surgery.

|                     |                                                       |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>12.2</b>                                           |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Children's Services Report</b>                     |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>      | <b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b> |

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Children's Services

#### **STLA2026-41 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the Children's Services report; and
- b) requested that the childcare services consider holding an open day to advertise that the centre is now open.

|                     |                                                                   |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>12.3</b>                                                       |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>Youth Services and Community Safety Report</b>                 |
| <b>AUTHOR:</b>      | <b>Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety</b> |

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

#### **STLA2026-42 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Safety and Youth Services reports.

### **13 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

|                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>ITEM NUMBER:</b> | <b>13.1</b>                     |
| <b>TITLE:</b>       | <b>General Council Business</b> |

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

#### **STLA2026-43 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)**

That the Local Authority raised the following matters of general Council business:

- a) requested a speed bump out the front of the store / Centrelink and near the skate park / school;
- b) requested additional speed signs and slow down signs. Requested that the signs coming into the community and near the police station be replaced;
- c) requested that Council work closely with other community stakeholders, particularly AAAC, to improve outcomes for Santa Teresa;
- d) requested that council assign grave sites in the newer area of the cemetery in orderly rows rather than having families choose the location to prevent using machinery in older parts of the cemetery. Suggested that the cemetery be closed outside business hours to prevent children from playing with ornaments left on graves;
- e) requested that Council schedule machinery to come and remove the old cars from outside the yards;
- f) requested a memorial plaque for Bill Ryan at the Rec Hall. He worked with young people for many years in the community. Robby Kopp will communicate with Libby Taylor on this matter; and
- g) requested that the area in front of Centrelink office be investigated to see if the slippery surface can be remedied.

### **14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER, 2026**

### **15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 12:27 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 5 August 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.