



MINUTES OF THE SANTA TERESA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE SANTA TERESA COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 26 MARCH 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:40AM

2 WELCOME

The Chairperson Louise Cavanagh welcomed Councillors, Appointed Members, MRC Staff and guests to the meeting.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Chairperson Louise Cavanagh, Member Agnes Alice, Member Leonie Young, and Member Annalisa Young

Councillors

Via Teams from the Council Office - Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Veronica Lynch and Councillor Matthew Palmer

Council Employees

Damien Ryan – Area Manager and June Crabb – Coordinator Governance
Via Teams – Ryan Rosenberg – PMO Office and Shae Thompson – Governance Coordinator

Guests

Shelley Beattie and Dee McCorkindale – NTG Local Government Representatives
Sonia McMasters and Bernadette Shields – Census Representatives

Apologies

Councillor Patrick Allen, Member Robbie Kopp, President Roxanne Kenny, CEO Belinda Urquhart and AAAC CEO Ellie Kamara

Absentees

Member Camilla Hayes and Member Marie Mulladad

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.

STLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Member Robbie Kopp, Councillor Patrick Allen, President Roxanne Kenny, CEO Belinda Urquhart and AAAC Representative Ellie Kamara for this meeting; and
- c) recorded Marie Mulladad’s first absence without notice for this meeting; and
- d) Camilla Hayes second consecutive absence without notice for this meeting.

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This 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*.

STLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority:

- a) officially welcomes Annalisa Young after her membership was endorsed at the December Council meeting;
- b) revoked the membership of Camilla Hayes for two consecutive absences without notice received; and
- c) called for community nominations to open to cover the newly created vacancy.

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.

STLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

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 Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held 26 November 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

STLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held 26 November 2025 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.

STLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority Meeting:

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

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **noted and accepted the information provided by the Census Engagement Team; and**
- b) **provided advice directly to the team on ways to improve participation within the community.**

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	10.1
TITLE:	Introduction to the Regional Plan
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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

STLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **reviewed the information presented;**
- b) **provided feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan: as follows:**
 - **Advocate for the sealing of the road to improve access for emergency services and local residents;**
 - **Advocate for improved health services within the community;**
 - **Advocate for additional community accommodation for contractors and stakeholders, including liaising with the Catholic Church regarding the potential use of existing accommodation;**
 - **Advocate for stronger collaboration between MRC and key stakeholders within the community.**
- c) **requests inclusion of the following items to the infrastructure plan:**
 - **Upgrade the playground equipment; and**
 - **Noted that the 3 on 3 Basketball Court will be raised as a new project, and**

if the cost is more than the Authority’s budget, the project will be returned to the infrastructure plan to add to the list.

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 LAMP 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.

STLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Annalisa Young)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Project Funding Acquittal and Certification (attached) as at 30 June 2025;
- b) acknowledged that \$53,505.44 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- c) notes the unallocated funds of \$101,145.74 includes the 2025/2026 Project funding of \$86,600.00
- d) noted the progress on their current projects as follows;
 - 2233 – Mural with Historical Timeline. The PMO Office to organise a community meeting to discuss this project
- e) closed project 2206 – Shade and seating at the Cemetery, returning \$17,011.30 to unallocated.
- f) created new projects as follows:
 - 2 x Pedestrian Crossings with signage and placed at the school and the store, allocating \$10,000.00.
 - 2 x 3-on-3 basketball half courts, with funding to be allocated subject to receipt and assessment of PMO quotes at the next meeting. If the estimated costs exceed the Authority’s budget, the project will be deferred and returned to the Infrastructure Plan for future consideration.
- g) added to the wishlist for the PMO Office to investigate the costs to upgrade the rec hall to include flooring, overhead lights, fans and commercial

cleaning and requested that these costs are tabled at the next meeting.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that that \$1,905.87 have been spent with invoices received;
- b) discussed allocating the remaining discretionary funds of \$2,094.13 at this meeting as follows;
 - \$1,000.00 to AAAC towards Santa Teresa’s Sports weekend on the 11th and 12th April
 - \$1,094.13 towards a Community Easter Celebration to be organised by LA members Louise Cavanagh, Annalisa Young, Agnes Alice and Leonie Young, and
 - noted that Member Annalisa Young will liaise with the Church on the date for the celebration.
- c) noted that the next meeting is on 13 May; and
- d) acknowledged that all funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	11.1
TITLE:	Council Services LA Report
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

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

STLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and discussed the matters raised as follows:
- b) requests that the CEO draft a letter to the Principal, highlighting the construction of new pedestrian crossings outside the school and store, and seek the school’s consideration of appropriate crossing supervision once the crossings have been completed;
- c) requests increased Community Safety presence at the Rec Hall during patrols;
- d) seeks information of whether Night Patrol still attends sports weekends in other communities.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

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

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

STLA2026-14 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the update on the sealing of the road; and
- b) raised and discussed new matters of Non-Council business as follows:
 - Requests an update to sealing the road;
 - Notes that the HRG meeting is to be held 28 April 2026;
 - Requests the attendance of NT Police at the May Local Authority meeting to discuss anti-social behaviour involving youth;
 - Requests that reference numbers be provided to community members when reporting maintenance issues via phone, to support tracking and follow-up.

Members were informed that the department had discussed this matter recently. Request an update on the discussion.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 27 MAY, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:25 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 26 March 2026 and was confirmed Wednesday, 27 May 2026.