



AGENDA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 2025

The Ordinary Council Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Council Chambers, Alice Springs on Friday 31 October 2025 at 9:30 AM.

Belinda Urquhart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	MEETING OPENED	
	<i>An audio recording of this meeting is being made for minute taking purposes as authorised by Council Policy MC09-CP – Audio Recordings of Meetings. Councillors may request, via majority vote if required, that no audio recording is made where issues of legitimate cultural or spiritual significance are to be discussed.</i>	
2	WELCOME	
3	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES	
3.1	Attendance and Apologies.....	5
4	LEAVE OF ABSENCE	
4.1	Requests for Future Leave of Absence	6
5	COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT	
5.1	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct.....	7
6	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	
6.1	Ordinary Council Meeting - 26 September 2025	
7	ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA	
7.1	Acceptance of Agenda	29
8	CONFLICT OF INTEREST	
8.1	Conflict of Interest	30
9	DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS - NIL	
10	NOTICES OF MOTION - NIL	
11	RESCISSION MOTIONS - NIL	
12	LOCAL AUTHORITY	
12.1	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities	32
12.2	Local Authority Nominations.....	86
12.3	Local Authority Resignations and Terminations.....	90
13	STANDING ITEMS REPORT	
13.1	Correspondence Report.....	91
14	PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT	
14.1	Council President's Report.....	126

14.2	CEO Report.....	128
15	OFFICERS' REPORTS	
15.1	Council Services OCM Report.....	133
15.2	Aged and Children's Services Report	146
15.3	Youth and Community Safety Report	157
15.4	Youth Board Meetings - Council Feedback	166
15.5	People and Capabilities Report	171
15.6	Finance Report as at 30 September 2025	174
15.7	Presentation of Annual Report 2024-25 including Audited Financial Statements	193
15.8	Audit Committee Minutes	195
15.9	Governance Team Report.....	199
15.10	Council Meeting Planner 2026.....	201
16	GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS	
16.1	Notifications of General Business	204
17	CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	
17.1	Closure to the public for the discussion of Confidential items	205
18	CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS	
18.1	Confidential Council Meeting – 26 September 2025	
	The report will be dealt with under Section 293 (1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Section 50 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. It contains 51 (1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.	
18.2	Audit Committee Minutes - Confidential	
	<i>The report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Section 50 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. It contains 51(1)(c) Information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to (iv) subject to regulation (3) prejudice the interes of the council or some other person.</i>	
19	DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC - NIL	
19.1	Confidential Council Meeting – 26 September 2025	
20	DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 27 February 2026	
21	MEETING CLOSED	

3 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

ITEM NUMBER 3.1
TITLE Attendance and Apologies

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and to table, for Council's record, any apologies received from Elected Members for this Ordinary Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) notes the Elected Members attendance at this meeting;**
- b) tables apologies received for this meeting; and**
- c) records the Elected Members absences, without notice, for this meeting.**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

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

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ITEM NUMBER 4.1
TITLE Requests for Future Leave of Absence

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to table, for Council's record, requests for leave of absence received from Elected Members for this Ordinary Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) receives and notes requests for future leave of absence received for this Council meeting; and
- b) receives notification of any executive staff going on leave and staff acting in their absence.

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 Council 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 behaviour they can expect from members.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ALICE SPRINGS ON THURSDAY 25 AND FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00 AM

1 MEETING OPENED – AT 10.04AM

An audio recording of this meeting was made for minute taking purposes as authorised by MC09-CP Audio Recording of Meetings Policy. Councillors may request, via majority vote if required, that no audio recording be made where issues of legitimate cultural or spiritual significance are to be discussed.

2 WELCOME

3 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors

Councillor Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillor Garrard Anderson, Councillor Mark Inkamala, Councillor Abraham Poulson, Councillor Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye, Councillor Lynn Ward, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Peter Wilson and Councillor Maryanne Malbunka.

Staff

Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer, Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children’s Services, Libby Taylor – Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, Katie Fuller – Executive Manager People and Capabilities, Barbara Newland – Manager Governance and Strategy, June Crabb and Shae Thompson – Governance Coordinators.

Guests

Mr Chansery Paech MLA and Ms Katherine O’Donohue, EO to Mr Paech.
Jeff MacLeod – Independent Scrutineer

Apologies

Nil.

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance and Apologies

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and to table, for Council’s record, any apologies received from Elected Members for this Ordinary Council meeting.

OCM2025-140 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Roxanne Kenny)

That Council:

- a) notes the Elected Members attendance at this meeting;**
- b) received no apologies for this meeting; and**
- c) records that there were no Elected Members absences, without notice, for this meeting.**

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	4.1
TITLE:	Requests for Future Leave of Absence

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to table, for Council’s record, requests for leave of absence received from Elected Members for this Ordinary Council meeting.

OCM2025-141 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)

That Council:

- a) notes that Cr Wilson will be on leave for two weeks from the 28th September which does not impact on Council; and
- b) notes that the CEO will be on leave for one week during October and the Director Council Services will be acting in her absence.

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.

OCM2025-142 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Andrew Davis)

That Council notes the Council Code of Conduct.

6 FIRST MEETING OF COUNCIL

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	NTEC - MacDonnell Regional Council Election Results 2025
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to formally present to Council the advice received from the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC) regarding the result of the general election for the MacDonnell Regional Council held on 23 August 2025.

OCM2025-143 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Dalton McDonald)

That Council:

- a) notes and accepts the notification by NTEC as to the results of the 2025 Local Government general election for MRC; and
- b) requests that the results are posted on the Council website.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.2
TITLE:	Rodinga Ward - By-election required
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to advise Council of the result of the Local Government election in the Rodinga Ward.

OCM2025-144 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That Council

- a) notes and accepts the notification by NTEC as to the results of the 2025 Local Government general election in the Rodinga Ward of MRC;
- b) requests that the results are posted on the Council website; and
- c) notes that a by-election will be held in the Rodinga Ward to fill the vacancy that currently exists.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.3
TITLE:	Declaration by Elected Members
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Business Paper outlines the procedure for the signing of declarations by the newly elected members.

OCM2025-145 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That each Elected Member cites their declaration and signs their individual Declaration Certificate.

Minute note: Mr Jeff MacLeod joined the CEO in the conduct of the ballots as the Independent Scrutineer.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.4
TITLE:	Ballot for Principal Member
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To undertake a secret ballot to determine the Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.

OCM2025-146 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Patrick Allen)

That Council:

1. confirms that the Principal Member shall have the title of President;
2. unanimously resolves, by a show of hands, to vote on the appointment of the Principal Member by secret ballot;
3. agrees to the rules established for the appointment of the Principal Member;

4. appoints Roxanne Kenny as the Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council;
5. informs the following organisations of the result of the ballot for the Principal Member:
 - The Northern Territory Electoral Commission;
 - The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development;
 - MacDonnell Regional Council staff; and
 - The Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.
6. asks that the outcome of the ballot be uploaded to Council’s website along with the Principal Member’s photograph; and
7. directs that, at the conclusion of the declaration of the ballot, all ballot papers will be destroyed.

Minute note: Cr Abraham Poulson nominated Cr Maryanne Malbunka for the position of President but Cr Malbunka declined the nomination. Cr Malbunka nominated Cr Roxanne Kenny for the position of President. This nomination was seconded by Cr Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye and accepted by Cr Kenny. There being no other nominations Cr Kenny was therefore appointed to the position unopposed.

Minute note: President Kenny thanked the Council for her appointment.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.5
TITLE:	Ballot for Deputy Principal Member
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To undertake a secret ballot to determine the Deputy Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.

OCM2025-147 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Roxanne Kenny)

That Council:

1. determines the term of Deputy Principal Member, being 2 years.
2. unanimously resolves, by a show of hands, to vote on the appointment of the Deputy Principal Member by secret ballot;
3. confirms the title of the Deputy Principal Member shall be Deputy President as decided by the members prior to the Principal Member appointment.
4. appoints Maryanne Malbunka as the Deputy Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council;
5. agrees to the rules established for the appointment of the Deputy Principal Member; and
6. informs the following organisations of the result of the ballot for the Deputy Principal Member:
 - The Northern Territory Electoral Commission;
 - The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development;
 - MacDonnell Regional Council staff;
 - The Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.
7. asks that the outcome of the ballot be uploaded to Council’s website along with the Deputy Principal Member’s photograph; and

8. directs that, at the conclusion of the declaration of the ballot, all ballot papers will be destroyed.

Minute note: The outcome of the appointment of Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka was determined as a result of the following ballots:

NOMINEE	NOMINATED BY	SECONDED	VOTES
Cr Dalton McDonald	Cr Mark Inkamala	Cr Andrew Davis	5
Cr Maryanne Malbunka	Cr Garrard Anderson	Cr Lynn Ward	6

Minute note: There was a break for morning tea at 10.51am with the opportunity taken to take group photos. The meeting resumed at 11.17am.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.6
TITLE:	Schedule of Meetings
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is to discuss the schedule of meetings held and to confirm dates for Ordinary Council, Finance and Risk Committee, Audit Committee and Local Authority meetings for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year.

OCM2025-148 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

1. confirms the scheduling of ordinary meetings to be at least once in each successive period of 2 months commencing in February each year; and
2. confirms the meeting dates established for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year.

Minute note: Members were advised that the Mt Liebig LA meeting is to be rescheduled.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.7
TITLE:	Attendance at Meetings
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the principles and procedures for elected members' attendance at MacDonnell Regional Council meetings; additionally, the report outlines the penalty for absenteeism without notice.

OCM2025-149 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes and accepts the report.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.8
TITLE:	Voting at Meetings
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of their obligations regarding voting at meetings and the policy to be adopted in the event that the vote is tied.

OCM2025-150 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council:

1. notes the report regarding **Voting at Meetings:** and
2. approves that the Chairperson exercises a casting vote in situations where a vote is tied.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.9
TITLE:	Allowances, Reimbursements and Payments
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an understanding of their entitlements for acting in their capacity as Elected Members of MacDonnell Regional Council.

OCM2025-151 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)

That Council notes and accepts the report regarding **Allowances, Reimbursements and Payments.**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.10
TITLE:	Appointment to Audit Committee
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is requested to appoint elected member representation to the Audit Committee.

OCM2025-152 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Garrard Anderson)

That Council appoints elected member representation as per the Audit Committee's Terms of Reference as follows:

- **President Roxanne Kenny**
- **Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka**
- **Councillor Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye**
- **Councillor Dalton McDonald**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.11
TITLE:	Appointment to Finance and Risk Committee
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is requested to appoint elected member representation to the Finance and Risk Committee.

OCM2025-153 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Garrard Anderson)

That Council appoints elected member representation to the Finance and Risk Committee as follows:

- **President Roxanne Kenny**
- **Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka**
- **Councillor Andrew Davis**
- **Councillor Patrick Allen**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.12
TITLE:	Appointment to Local Authorities
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is requested to appoint elected member representation to the Local Authorities established by Council.

OCM2025-154 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council considers the appointment of elected members to its 13 Local Authorities as follows:

Community	Ward	Representation		
Areyonga (Utju)	IYARKKA	Peter Wilson	Abraham Poulson	
Docker River (Kaltukatjara)	IYARKKA	Peter Wilson	Abraham Poulson	
Imanpa	IYARKKA	Peter Wilson	Abraham Poulson	
Hermannsburg (Ntaria)	LJIRAPINTA	Roxanne Kenny	Mark Inkamala	Maryanne Malbunka
Wallace Rockhole	LJIRAPINTA	Roxanne Kenny	Mark Inkamala	Maryanne Malbunka
Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Kintore (Walungurru)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Papunya (Warumpi)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Amoonguna	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

Finke (Aputula)	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen
Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen
Titjikala	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen

Minute note: The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.11pm and resumed at 1.34pm.

Minute note: Councillor McDonald left the meeting to attend a meeting of the Aboriginal Leadership Group.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.13
TITLE:	Appointment of a Council Panel - Breach of Code of Conduct
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

If a complaint is lodged regarding a possible breach of Council’s Code of Conduct the matter may need to be referred to a Council Panel to decide the complaint. The purpose of this paper is to appoint the Principal Member and 3 Councillors to the Council Panel in accordance with s122 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act). Should the complaint be related to one or more of the Panel Members, replacement members can be appointed by Council.

OCM2025-155 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)

That Council appoints the Principal Member plus three Councillors to form the Council Panel to deal with possible breaches of Council’s Code of Conduct as follows:

- **President Roxanne Kenny**
- **Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka**
- **Councillor Andrew Davis**
- **Councillor Patrick Allen**
- **Councillor Lynn Ward (as a reserve member in the event that one of the other members is involved in the breach).**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.14
TITLE:	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to provide the newly elected Council with information about the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT). LGANT is the peak representative body for local governments in the Northern Territory.

OCM2025-156 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Garrard Anderson)

That Council:

- **notes the report titled the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory;**

- appoints the President and Deputy President as its representatives at meetings of LGANT; and
- notes that there is to be a LGANT Special General Meeting on 10 October 2025 to discuss the filling of three casual vacancies.

Minute note: Crs Davis and Lynch expressed an interest in deputising for MRC's LGANT representatives however this is not allowed within the rules of its Constitution.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.15
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the responsibilities of an elected member with regards to conflicts of interest that may arise.

OCM2025-157 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- notes and accepts the report; and**
- notes that no Elected Members declared any conflicts of interest with the meeting agenda.**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.16
TITLE:	Annual Return of Interests
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To ensure compliance with statutory obligations under the *Local Government Act 2019 (NT)* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, Councillors are required to lodge an **Annual Return of Interests** in the prescribed form to the CEO before 30 September each year. This process promotes transparency, integrity, and public confidence in council decision-making.

OCM2025-158 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)

That Council:

- notes the report on the 'Annual Return of Interests'; and**
- requests that each Councillor completes the Annual Return of Interests form.**

Minute note: Forms were distributed and completed by members.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.17
TITLE:	Related Parties Disclosure - Policy and Form
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this policy is to discuss Related Party transactions and what Council needs to do to be compliant with the Australian Accounting Standards – Standard AASB 124 – Related Party Disclosures (AASB).

OCM2025-159 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Abraham Poulson)

That Council:

- a) notes and accepts the report on Related Parties Disclosure; and
- b) requests Councillors to complete the Related Party Declaration form.

Minute note: Forms were distributed and completed by members.

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 June 2025 and Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 June 2025 to be approved by Council.

OCM2025-160 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Mark Inkamala)

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Special Council Meeting held 15 July 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

8 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agenda papers are submitted for acceptance by Council for this Council Meeting.

OCM2025-161 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

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

9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Hoops 4 Health
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hoops 4 Health is seeking Council's permission to attend and present at the Amoonguna Local Authority meeting to be held on 2nd October 2025.

OCM2025-162 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)

That Council approves the request by Hoops 4 Health to provide a presentation at the Amoonguna Local Authority meeting to be held on 2nd October 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Men's Advocacy Network
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Men's Advocacy Network is seeking Council's permission to attend and present at the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting to be held on 26th of November 2025.

OCM2025-163 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council:

- a) **approves the request by the Men's Advocacy Network to provide a presentation at the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting to be held on 26th November 2025;**
- b) **provides this approval on the condition that the Network contacts Ms Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety before the meeting to ensure that there is no overlap or conflict with the services delivered by MRC; and**
- c) **notes that Ms Taylor will attend this LA meeting.**

ITEM NUMBER:	9.3
TITLE:	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Charles Darwin University
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Charles Darwin University is seeking Council's permission to attend and present at the Areyonga Local Authority meeting to be held on 15th of October 2025.

OCM2025-164 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

That Council approves the request by Charles Darwin University to provide a presentation at the Areyonga Authority meeting to be held on 15th October 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.4
TITLE:	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meetings - Menzies School of Health Research
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Menzies School of Health Research is seeking Council’s permission to attend and present at the Amoonguna, Hermannsburg and Areyonga Local Authority meetings to be held on the 2nd, 8th and 15th of October respectively.

OCM2025-165 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Andrew Davis)

That Council approves the request by the Menzies School of Health Research to attend and present at the following meetings:

- Amoonguna Local Authority meeting to be held on the 2nd of October;
- Hermannsburg Local Authority meeting to be held on the 8th of October; and
- Areyonga Local Authority meeting to be held on the 15th of October.

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council reviews the minutes of each Local Authority Meeting or Provisional Meetings at the subsequent Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The draft (unconfirmed) minutes attached to this report relate to Local Authority meetings that have occurred since or could not be prepared prior to the last Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Local Authority meetings covered in this report is from the period between 3 July to the 4 September 2025 and includes:

- Imanpa – 3 July 2025
- Hermannsburg – 9 July 2025
- Areyonga – 16 July 2025
- Mt Liebig – 23 July 2025
- Papunya – 24 July 2025
- Wallace Rockhole – 24 July 2025
- Docker River – 28 July 2025
- Finke – 13 August 2025
- Santa Teresa – 3 September 2025
- Titjikala – 4 September 2025

OCM2025-166 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) approves the minutes of the Local Authority ordinary meetings held in Imanpa, Hermannsburg, Areyonga, Mt Liebig, Papunya, Wallace Rockhole, Docker River, Finke, Santa Teresa and Titjikala.
- b) endorses the allocations to the new projects established by the Local Authorities as follows:
 - Mt Liebig – allocates \$5,000.00 towards Exclusion Zone signs for culturally significant areas.
 - Docker River – allocates \$10,000.00 to Bases for Solar lights; and \$18,000.00 towards One x Bin Trailer.
 - Finke – allocates \$34,727.08 for the installation of four Solar lights and the purchase of batteries for two existing lights.
- d) supports the decision of the CEO to return \$3,160.72 to the Titjikala Local Authority’s 2025/2026 Discretionary funds.

Minute note: There was a break for afternoon tea at 3.00pm with the meeting resuming at 3.13pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	12.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Resignations, Terminations and Nominations
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As recorded in the minutes of the Authority meetings, the recommendations put forth to Council is to consider the nominations submitted for membership on the Local Authorities; to accept any resignations received and to note the memberships dismissed from the Authorities.

OCM2025-167 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) accepts the resignation received from Denise Brady of the Docker River Local Authority;
- b) notes that the memberships of Sammy Pearce and Terrence Abbott have been revoked from the Papunya Local Authority due to their absence from two consecutive Local Authority meetings; and
- c) considers the nomination received from Alison Anderson for the Papunya Local Authority.

13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	Correspondence Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update on correspondence received and sent by the Council President and CEO in the period since the June 2025 Council meeting.

OCM2025-168 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)

That Council:

- a) notes the correspondence received and sent;
- b) notes that ICAC’s invitation to partake in training has been accepted with training to be provided on the 4th November, 2025;
- c) notes that the letter sent by Mr Paech MLA was in support of MRC’s efforts to have Housing representatives attend Local Authority meetings; and
- d) notes that the letters of support sent were in relation to grant applications.

Minute note: The meeting adjourned at 3.21pm – to be resumed at 10.00am on Friday 26th September.

14 OFFICERS REPORT

Minute note: Day 2 of the Council meeting opened at 10.05am on Friday 26th September. Due to operational matters the order in which the Officers’ Reports were considered was altered.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.1
TITLE:	Community Services Report
AUTHOR:	Ainsley Roscrow, Executive Manager Aged and Children’s Services and Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of Community Services programs from June – August 2025, throughout the MRC region.

OCM2025-169 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)

That Council notes and accepts the attached Community Services report.

Minute note – Members suggested that photos of Key Personnel be placed in the offices of each community. Katie Fuller undertook to progress this matter.

Minute note: There was a break for morning tea at 11.09am. The meeting resumed at 11.31am.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.2
TITLE:	Youth Board Meetings - Council Feedback
AUTHOR:	Kaisa Suumann, Coordinator Youth Boards

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to provide feedback to Council from the meetings of MacDonnell Regional Council’s Youth Boards, including matters discussed and to request the support of Council for the recommendations made.

OCM2025-170 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) notes the Youth Board Meetings – Council Feedback report; and
- b) considers the support Council will approve in relation to the recommendations made.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.3
TITLE:	People and Capabilities Report
AUTHOR:	Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights current and completed HR initiatives or activities affecting Council and our number one resource – the people!

OCM2025-171 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.4
TITLE:	Governance Team Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to update Council on the activities of the Governance and Strategy Team.

OCM2025-172 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Peter Wilson)

That Council notes the Governance Team Report for September 2025.

Minute note: Cr Lynch Kngwarraye queried whether proxy votes could be accepted for Local Authority meetings. Mrs Barbara Newland advised that in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 proxies were not allowed. It was suggested that this matter be considered further.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.5
TITLE:	Finance Report as at 31 August 2025
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 31 August 2025.

OCM2025-173 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)

That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 31 August 2025.

Minute note: There was a break for lunch at 12.45pm and the meeting resumed at 1.07pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.6
TITLE:	Council Services OCM Report
AUTHOR:	Keith Hassett, Director Council Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the activities of the Council Services Directorate in the areas of Local Government Service Delivery, Housing and Facilities management, Contractual Commercial Services and Projects.

OCM2025-174 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)

That Council notes and accepts the attached Council Services report.

Minute note: Members discussed the inappropriate location of the new waste management facility in Hermannsburg. Council was advised that the site has been determined by the Central Land Council. Members stressed the need for a community meeting and consultation. The CEO will contact CLC to provide Council's feedback and will report back at the next meeting of Council.

Minute note: Cr Garrard Anderson queried whether Council graded roads in homelands, in particular those managed by the Ngurratjuta/Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation. Council is not responsible for grading these roads but Mr Hassett advised that he would contact the Corporation to see if a suitable arrangement could be resolved.

Minute note: the meeting broke for lunch at 12.45pm and resumed at 1.07pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.7
TITLE:	Finance and Risk Committee Minutes
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 Section 19 if a Council does not schedule an ordinary meeting at least once in each month, the Council must delegate to a Council Committee the necessary powers to carry out, on behalf of the Council, financial functions of the council in the months the council does not schedule an ordinary meeting.

OCM2025-175 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Andrew Davis)

That Council notes and accepts the minutes of the Finance and Risk Committee meeting of 25 July 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.8
TITLE:	Presentation of Grant Acquittals
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The attached grant acquittal reports for NT Grants are required to be laid before Council for acceptance.

OCM2025-176 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)

That Council notes and approves the following grant acquittals:

- Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) grant 2024-25;
- Amoonguna Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Areyonga Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Docker River Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Finke Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Haasts Bluff Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Hermannsburg Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Imanpa Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Kintore Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Mt Liebig Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Papunya Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Santa Teresa Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Titjikala Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;
- Community Places for People Grant Program 2023-24;
- One-off Infrastructure Grant 2021-22 (Shade Structures in Hermannsburg, Titjikala and Santa Teresa.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.9
TITLE:	Use of the Common Seal
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 38(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 (LGA) states that “the affixing of the Common Seal to a document must be authorised or ratified [endorsed] by resolution of the Council”. This report requests Council to ratify [endorse] the use of the Common Seal on the listed documents.

OCM2025-177 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)

That Council ratifies the use of the Common Seal on the following documents:

- Deed of Variation No. 1 Community Child Care Fund;
- Deed of Variation No. 5 ABA Homelands Projects;
- HMES 2025-26 Funding Agreement;
- Lease Ntaria Lot 111; and
- Lease Ntaria New Waste Management Facility.

15 GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	15.1
TITLE:	Notification of General Business Items

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to give Elected Members the opportunity to table items they wish to be debated by Council.

OCM2025-178 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That the Chairperson invites Elected Members to raise items of concern they wish to be discussed in this meeting. Cr Wilson questioned the progress of the Mereenie Loop Road and was advised of the issues which were adversely impacting on the completion of this project.

16 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	16.1
TITLE:	Closure to the public for the discussion of Confidential items
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, the meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential matters.

OCM2025-179 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council approves the closure of the meeting to the public as confidential items are about to be discussed.

Minute note: The open session of the meeting was closed at 2.05pm.

17 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

18 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC

ITEM NUMBER:	18.1
TITLE:	Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and re-admittance of the public
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, the meeting is to be opened to the public following the consideration of confidential matters. Resolutions will be transferred to the open meeting upon the determination of Council.

OCM2025-183 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council discloses motions from the confidential section of this meeting in the open section of the meeting and opens the meeting to the public. The motions to be disclosed are as follows:

OCM2025-180 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Patrick Allen)

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Confidential Special Council Meeting held 15 July 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

OCM2025-181 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Andrew Davis)

That Council:

- a) notes and accepts the minutes of the Confidential Finance and Risk Committee meeting of 25 July 2025; and
- b) approves the recommendations made regarding the outcome of the Annual Performance appraisal of the Chief Executive Officer.

OCM2025-182 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)

That Council:

- a) expresses its concern regarding the implemented by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC) in the recent Local Government elections;
- b) notes that Local Government actively supported the process through community engagement, stakeholder meetings, and local publicity regarding voting days and times, within the constraints of the NTEC schedule; and
- c) calls on the Northern Territory Government to:
 - o conduct a formal review into NTEC's service delivery in remote and Indigenous communities during the 2025 Local Government elections;
 - o consider reforms that ensure greater collaboration between NTEC and Local Government to maximise participation and accessibility for all Central Australian residents; and
 - o review the cost structures imposed on Local Government by NTEC to ensure they are reasonable, transparent and equitable.

19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting - 31 October 2025 - 10:00 AM

20 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 2.16pm.

This page and the preceding 19 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th September 2025 and are unconfirmed.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER 6.1
TITLE Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agenda papers are submitted for acceptance by Council for this Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

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

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER	7.1
TITLE	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
- b) elected Members declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.**

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.

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER	12.1
TITLE	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities
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

Council reviews the minutes of each Local Authority Meeting or Provisional Meetings at the subsequent Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The draft (unconfirmed) minutes attached to this report relate to Local Authority meetings that have occurred since or could not be prepared prior to the last Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Local Authority meetings covered in this report are for the period between 5 September to 19 October 2025 and include:

- Amoonguna - 2 October 2025
- Hermannsburg - 7 October 2025
- Kintore - 8 October 2025
- Papunya - 9 October 2025
- Haasts Bluff – 14 October 2025
- Areyonga – 15 October 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) approves the recommendations contained within the minutes of the Provisional meeting held in Amoonguna;**
- b) approves the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Hermannsburg, Kintore, Papunya, Haasts Bluff and Areyonga;**
- c) endorses the allocations to the new projects established by the Local Authorities as follows:**
 - **Amoonguna - allocates \$17,000.00 towards a New Playground;**
 - **Hermannsburg – allocates \$6,000.00 to Maintenance and Registration for the Bin trailers;**
 - **Papunya – allocates \$3,000.00 towards Additional resources towards the Community Development Plan; and**
- d) supports the decision of the CEO to return \$2,780.59 to the Titjikala Local Authority.**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Please refer to the attached draft minutes of the meetings listed above for detail surrounding the matters discussed.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil

CONSULTATION

Elected Members

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 AMLA draft minutes - 2.10.2025
- 2 HLA draft minutes - 7.10.2025
- 3 KLA draft minutes - 8.10.2025
- 4 PLA draft minutes - 14.10.2025
- 5 HBLA draft minutes - 14.10.2025
- 6 ARLA draft minutes - 15.10.2025



MINUTES OF THE AMOONGUNA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
AMOONGUNA COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 PM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.31 AM

1.1 NOMINATION OF ACTING CHAIR

AML2025-56 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote nominated Rhekita Stuart as Acting Chair for this meeting.

2 WELCOME

Acting Chair Rhikita Stuart.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Lawrence Webb and Member Rhekita Stuart.

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Andrew Davis and Councillor Veronica Lynch

Council Employees

CEO Belinda Urquhart, Council Services Coordinator Victor Morgan, Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg, Customer Service Officer Roselene Rankine, and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Guests

Robyn Enever and Gloria Baliva from the Menzies School of Health.

Michelle Krauer and Aaron Hyde from Hoops 4 Health.



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2 October 2025 – Minutes

Entered at 11am: Peta-Lee Cole-Manolis and Raymond Walters form Penangke Cultural Consultants

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.

AMLA2025-57 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Lawrence Webb)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Henry Oliver, Samantha Stuart and Sharon Alice; and
- c) recorded member absences, without notice for Paul Williams and Theresa Alice.

4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

AMLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the current membership of the Amoonguna Local Authority;
- b) welcomed newly Elected Councillor Veronica Lynch and returning Councillors Patrick Allen and Andrew Davis to the Authority;
- c) noted that Lisa Sharman is no longer an Elected Member;
- d) congratulated Roxanne Kenny as returning President of Council;
- e) congratulated Maryanne Malbunka for her appointment to Deputy President;
- f) recommended that Theresa Alice's membership be terminated on the grounds that she has been absent from two consecutive meetings without notice;
- g) noted that this termination of membership results in a vacancy in the Local Authority; and
- h) called for community nominations to open to fill the vacancy.



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

AML2025-59 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and 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 Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting held 2 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

AML2025-60 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lawrence Webb)

The provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted that the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting held 2 July 2025 will be presented at the next Local Authority meeting.

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.

AML2025-61 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Andrew Davis)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted that the agenda papers for this Local Authority meeting as presented, were received for consideration at this meeting.



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

AML2025-62 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Lawrence Webb)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

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

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	ORVAC and Thrive Studies - Menzies School of Health
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the opportunity for the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research to provide a brief update on the ORVAC study led by Dr Bianca Middleton, and to introduce the THRIVE study, also led by Dr Bianca Middleton.

AML2025-63 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) accepted the information provided by the representatives of the Menzies School of Health Research; and
- b) approved the request for MSHR staff to visit Amoonguna community to invite families to participate in the THRIVE study.

Minute Note: Peta-Lee Cole-Manolis and Raymond Walters from Penangke Cultural Consultants entered the meeting at 11am.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Hoops 4 Health - Hoops 4 Wealth Program
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an opportunity for a representative from the Hoops 4 Health organisation to provide an overview of the Hoops 4 Wealth program, answer the Local



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2 October 2025 – Minutes

Authority’s questions and to seek approval to deliver the financial literacy program.

AML2025-64 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Rhekita Stuart)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) accepted the presentation from the Hoops 4 Health representatives; and
- b) approved the request to deliver the financial literacy program in Amoonguna.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.3
TITLE:	Community Alcohol Planning Engagement
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

AML2025-65 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Rhekita Stuart)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted and accepted the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants;
- b) requested that Penangke Cultural Consultants do not move forward with the consultation process in Amoonguna; and
- c) requested that the CEO seek more information regarding the options for communicating with the NTG on Community Alcohol Management Planning.

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 Regional Plan.

It is important that Local Authorities are consulted when MRC develops its Regional Plan to ensure that the priorities of the citizens of the region are represented in the plan.

AML2025-66 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Veronica Lynch)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted that the Regional Plan will be discussed at the next Local Authority meeting.



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2 October 2025 – Minutes

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
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.

AMLA2025-67 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted that the CSC has done an audit on the fences and gates in need of repair and has passed this information on to Jessica Scrutton and moved this item to Non-Council Business;
- b) noted that Local Authorities are unable to make laws regarding the number of dogs at each house and closed this item;
- c) noted that the bus turning circle will be considered during the next stage of capital works where Council will investigate widening the roads and adding guttering and closed this item;
- d) were advised that Council is seeking information from the Member for Namatjira’s office regarding the football lights and the lease on the land next to the basketball court and moved this item to Non-Council Business; and
- e) kept open electricity top-up options until more advice can be received from Power and Water.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

At risk funds’ are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been

allocated but remains unspent.

AMLA2025-68 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lawrence Webb)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) acknowledged that \$19,644.55 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) closed the following completed projects returning unused funds to unallocated once all invoices have been received:
 - project 2103 Bin Trailers
 - project 2104 Stealth Lighting for Sorry Camp Shade Structure
 - project 2106 Community Sporting Event
- c) created a new project 'New Playground' and allocated \$17,000.00 as a co-contribution toward a \$120,000.00 new playground [see attached images] with the balance to be provided by the NTG in order to take meaningful advantage of the Community Benefit Fund;
- d) requested that the PMO investigate the cost of installing a toilet, shower and laundry block in the community; and
- e) determined that the Local Authority will discuss allocating money toward the maintenance of the bin trailers at the next meeting.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.4
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.

AMLA2025-69 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Rhekita Stuart)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted that \$915.65 were spent on the NAIDOC week celebrations for young people;
- b) noted that this is the final Local Authority meeting for 2025;
- c) did not discuss allocating the remaining balance of \$3,084.35 at this provisional meeting;
- d) were reminded that discretionary funds can be allocated between meetings by filling out a discretionary funds letter which can be accessed through the Council Services Coordinator; and
- e) acknowledged that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2026.



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2 October 2025 – Minutes

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

AML2025-70 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lawrence Webb)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted and accepted the attached report.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Community Services - Aged Care Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Aged Care.

AML2025-71 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Andrew Davis)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted and accepted the attached Community Services Report for Aged Care.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Community Services - 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.

AML2025-72 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Andrew Davis)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted and accepted the attached Community Services Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.4
TITLE:	MRC Position Vacancies Report
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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.

AML2025-73 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Rhekita Stuart)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and accepted the attached list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Amoonguna as of 15th September 2025.

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.

AML2025-74 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Rhekita Stuart)

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and did not raise any matters of Council Business.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	General Non-Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

AML2025-75 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Rhekita Stuart)

AML2025-76

That the provisional meeting of the Amoonguna Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and did not raise any matters of Non-Council Business.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2026

Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2 October 2025 – Minutes



15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:21 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 2 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



MINUTES OF THE HERMANNSBURG LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE HERMANNSBURG COUNCIL OFFICE ON TUESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:30AM

2 WELCOME

Chair Nicholas Williams

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Chairperson Nicholas Williams, Member Daryl Kantawara, Member Alfie Inkamala, Member Patrick Oliver and Member Taren Williams

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny, Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka and Councillor Mark Inkamala

Council Employees

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Stuart Miller – Area Manager, Jake Potter – Manager Infrastructure & Fleet, Max Baliva – CSC Hermannsburg, Kaisa Suumann, Menam Ryder – Team Leader Youth Services, Ryan Rosenberg – Project Management Office and June Crabb – Coordinator Governance (Minute taker)

Representatives from the Hermannsburg Youth Board

Guests

Chansey Paech MLA – Member for Gwoja and Katharine O'Donoghue
 Barbara Beier and Taylah Maurice – Representatives, Department of Logistics and Infrastructure
 Erin MacKinnon and Ben Humm – Representatives, Department Housing, Local Government and Community Development
 Robyn Enever – Representative, Menzies School of Health Research
 Peta-Lee Cole-Manolis and Faith – Representatives, Penangke Consultancy
 Via Teams - Michelle Fittes & Elaine Wills – Representative, Menzies Head, Health & Healing Project



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

HLA2025-55 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Mark Inkamala)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) tables apologies received from Members Reggie Lankin and Marion Swift for this meeting;
- c) records no absences for this meeting; and
- d) welcomes the Youth Board to the meeting.

4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2025-56 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Mark Inkamala)

That the Local Authority:

- a) congratulates returning President Roxanne Kenny, Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka and Councillor Mark Inkamala on their re-election;
- b) officially welcomes Taren Williams and Patrick Oliver to the Local Authority after their memberships were approved at the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 15 of July;
- c) notes the current membership of the Local Authority; and
- d) acknowledges that 2 consecutive absences without notice will result in a termination of membership.

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.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7 October 2025 – Minutes

HLA2025-57 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority notes 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 Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting held 9 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

HLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Daryl Kantawara)

That the Local Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting held 9 July 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.

HLA2025-59 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Maryanne Malbunka)

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.

HLA2025-60 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Mark Inkamala)

That the Local Authority Meeting:

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

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Head Health and Healing Project
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an opportunity for representatives from the Menzies School of Health Research to inform members about a new research project titled 'Head Health and Healing Project'. The project aims to Empower Indigenous women and the frontline workforce to respond to violence-related concussion through co-designed education and training.

HLA2025-61 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Nicholas Williams)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the information presented by representatives of the Menzies School of Health Research regarding the Head Health and Healing Project; and
- b) expressed that while the presentation from Menzies on Traumatic Brain injuries in women was acknowledged, the subject matter was considered sensitive and inappropriate to a Local Authority meeting. It was advised that such content may be better suited to a different forum more focused on health education or community health and development.

Minute Note: This matter was discussed further and noted in Non-Council Business.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Community Alcohol Planning Engagement
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2025-62 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants; and
- b) acknowledges the presentation and agrees that Penangke Consultancy may proceed to undertake further consultation with the community. The Local Authority members want it noted that whilst they agree to Penangke speaking with community, they are not in a position to endorse or authorise consultation with the whole community. It is further noted that the remit of Local Government Local Authority does not speak for other stakeholders such as Central Land Council, ACCOs or not-for-profit organisations who should be part of further consultation about this matter.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7 October 2025 – Minutes

ITEM NUMBER:	9.3
TITLE:	ORVAC and Thrive Studies - Menzies School of Health
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the opportunity for the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research to provide a brief update on the ORVAC study led by Dr Bianca Middleton, and to introduce the THRIVE study, also led by Dr Bianca Middleton.

HLA2025-63 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepts the information provided by the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research; and
- b) acknowledges the presentation and agrees that MSHR staff can visit Hermannsburg community to undertake further consultation with the community and invite families to participate in the THRIVE study, without implying Local Authority endorsement. The Local Authority support the concept but note that all further consultation should be with the clinic on community and the NTG Health Dept. This outside Local Government remit.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	10.1
TITLE:	Action Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2025-64 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Nicholas Williams)

That the Local Authority notes that the updates to the actions;

- a) kept open:
 - Signs for illegal dumping noting that the PMO Office will update the members once an internal report is received from NTEPA;
 - Toilet block - will source quotes to bring the toilet up to standard and make it useable. Members were asked to consider who would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance and services to the block.
 - Work experience program, requesting for the P & C team to investigate opportunities;
 - Splashpad, noting that Council is waiting for approval from NTG; and
- b) closes completed actions – Childcare Security assessment and Invite Youth Board members.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7 October 2025 – Minutes

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

At risk funds are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

HLA2025-65 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Nicholas Williams)

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledges that \$120,097.31 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) notes completion and closes the following projects:
 2155 – Two bin trailers, returning \$7,549.09 to unallocated.
 2157 – Industrial fans, returning \$4,424.92 to unallocated
- c) notes the progress on their current projects as at 22 September 2025 as follows:
 - 2152 – Change room site, allocates the underspend from Projects 2155 and 2157, totalling \$11,974.01 to this project. Members advised that Council have received approval from CLC and are now waiting on approval from Power and Water, with an anticipated start date being the end December 2025 - early January 2026.
 - 2153 – Scoreboard expected to be installed by the end of October 2025;
 - 2154 – Water refill stations to be installed at the new Change room site, the Rec hall and the School; and
 - 2158 – Shade Shelter with cement flooring – members agreed that the project’s budget is to determine the size of the shelter and to source quotes accordingly.
- d) Creates a new project ‘Maintenance and Registrations of Bin Trailers’, allocating \$6,000.00 to the project.
- e) discusses the priority of the wish-list items:
 - closes Shade structures and seating at Kupriya Springs as it is outside



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7 October 2025 – Minutes

- Council’s jurisdiction;
- agreed that once funding becomes available, the PMO Office to source quotes for the Streetlights near the Rec hall, noting that the Youth Board Coordinator had informed the PMO Office of the locations;
 - added to the wishlist a priority item suggested by the Youth Board - Playground or a swing set, to be installed between the Oval and the Basketball Court;
 - made no further recommendations to the remaining wishlist items;
- f) Members advised that the lights at the oval were not working, and that this would be the third time that it had occurred. It was noted that the PMO Office will follow up with MG Electrical to investigate the cause.

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.

HLA2025-66 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that the Local Authority currently has \$4,000.00 of unallocated discretionary funds;
- b) notes that this is the final Local Authority meeting of 2025;
- c) discusses the allocation of these funds as follows;
 - \$2,000.00 towards a community Christmas BBQ; and
 - \$2,000.00 to the Youth Board with no stipulations on its spending.
- d) acknowledges 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:	Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2025-67 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Mark Inkamala)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the attached report.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7 October 2025 – Minutes

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Community Services - Aged and Children's Services Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2025-68 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the attached Community Services Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Community Services - 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 Service.

HLA2025-69 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Daryl Kantawara)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Youth Services and Community Safety report.

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	General Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2025-70 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Nicholas Williams)

That the Local Authority notes and discusses the matters raised as follows:

1. Clean up of Cemeteries.

Member for Gwoja, Chansey Paech MLA advised that a community work party could be organised in collaboration with NT Corrections to undertake cemetery clean up efforts. The Council Services Area Manager will liaise with the Department of Corrections to clarify the necessary steps and requirements to initiate the work.

Minute Note: members were asked to also consider how the community could be supported with keeping the grave sites of their loved ones tidy.

2. Deputations.

Local Authority members recommend that effective screening be implemented for all future deputations to ensure presentations and topics align with the core responsibilities and decision-making functions of the Local Authority. Members expressed that while the presentation from Menzies on Traumatic Brain injuries in women was acknowledged, the subject matter was considered sensitive and inappropriate to a Local Authority meeting. It was advised that such content may be better suited to a different forum more focused on health education or community health and development.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	General Non-Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2025-71 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Daryl Kantawara)

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the impromptu deputation from the Department Housing, Local Government and Community Development Representatives and discussed matters for the Department to respond to:
 - Pop up shop set up at the Top Shop.
 - Ongoing water leaks and mould, in particular at Nicholas Williams house.
 - Overhanging branches and trees needing to be cut back.
 - The timeframe it takes for reporting a maintenance or repair issue to a contractor coming out to undertake the job.
 - Servicing of air-conditioners and swampy’, noting that splits would be installed in all new houses only.
 - Installation of an aerial for free to air TV in new houses as well as installing on existing homes.
 - Pest control for community.
- b) provided an update on the construction of new houses, noting that it was expected to start in 2027, after the land is developed and consultations with community regarding the locations is completed.
- c) advised that transitional houses will be handed over to housing after the contractors have bought them up to standard.
- d) suggested that a colour coded map is put up showing the different stages of repairs and upgrades that are getting done on the houses.
- e) noted that repairs and maintenance has been streamlined and jobs will be undertaken by one business.
- f) noted that the inspections will be conducted in December 2025; and
- b) provided a breakdown of the Housing department:
 - The Department of Logistics and Infrastructure are responsible for the new houses
 - Housing is responsible for tenancy and maintenance.

Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7 October 2025 – Minutes



14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at [Time](#) pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting held on Tuesday 7 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



MINUTES OF THE KINTORE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE KINTORE COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 8 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.46AM

1.1 NOMINATION OF THE ACTING CHAIR

KLA2025-55 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Phyllis Rowe)

That the members of the Local Authority nominated Rex Eddie as Acting Chair for this meeting as Chairperson Giselle Barku was attending via phone.

2 WELCOME

The meeting was opened by Acting Chair Rex Eddie.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Phyllis Rowe, Member Lorraine Scobie, and Member Rex Eddie.

Via Teams: Member Bundi Rowe.

Via Phone: Chairperson Giselle Barku.

Councillors

Councillor Garrard Anderson

Via Teams: President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Dalton McDonald, and Councillor Lynn Ward.

Council Employees

Director Council Services Keith Hassett, Area Manager Damien Ryan, Council Services Coordinator Jane Turahui and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Guests



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 8 October 2025 – Minutes

Chansey Paech MLA – Gwoja Electorate

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.

KLA2025-56 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Member Joe Young and Member Marlene Spencer; and
- c) recorded no Member absences, without notice, for this meeting.

4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2025-57 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Phyllis Rowe)

That the Local Authority:

- a) congratulated and welcomed returning Councillor Dalton MacDonald and newly elected Councillors Garrard Anderson and Lynn Ward to the Local Authority;
- b) congratulated the returning President Roxanne Kenny and noted that Maryanne Malbunka has been elected as Deputy President;
- c) noted the current membership of the Local Authority; and
- d) noted that there are no vacancies on the Local Authority.

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.

KLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Rex Eddie/Garrard Anderson)



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 8 October 2025 – Minutes

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 Kintore Local Authority Meeting held 11 June 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

KLA2025-59 RESOLVED (Lorraine Scobie/Phyllis Rowe)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes as a true and correct record of the proceedings of the following previous meetings:

- Kintore Local Authority Meeting held 19 March 2025.
- Kintore Local Authority Meeting held 11 June 2025.

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.

KLA2025-60 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Phyllis Rowe)

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.

KLA2025-61 RESOLVED (Rex Eddie/Lorraine Scobie)

Kintore Local Authority Meeting 8 October 2025 – Minutes

That the Local Authority Meeting:

- 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:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2025-62 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Lynn Ward)

That the Local Authority considered the recommendation of the Youth Board Coordinator and moved the Music Equipment action item to the Local Authority Project wish-list.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

At risk funds are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

KLA2025-63 RESOLVED (Lorraine Scobie/Phyllis Rowe)



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 8 October 2025 – Minutes

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledged that \$67,915.25 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) accepted the progress on their current project ‘2173 2 x Bin Trailers’ that the trailers are currently in production and should be delivered by the end of the year;
- c) closed the completed project ‘2172 Kintore Community-Hub Masterplan’ returning any unused funds to unallocated;
- d) noted that there are \$40,369.32 unallocated funds;
- e) noted that Chansey Paech will write a letter to the Federal Government requesting funding for the construction of footpaths in Kintore;
- f) will consider whether the Local Authority would like to make a master plan for the sports grounds at the next meeting;
- g) agreed to provide their project ideas to the CSC for consideration at the next meeting;
- h) added music equipment for Youth to the wish-list as taken from the action item; and
- i) were provided with the following updates regarding major projects:
 - The football lights have been installed and are awaiting Power and Water to install some power meters.
 - MRC has received a Grant for a new ablution block. The Local Authority would like to invite Pintubi Homelands Health [to provide information on where the new aged care buildings will go] and a representative from Central Land Council with a Traditional Owner to the next meeting on 3 December to help members choose an appropriate location for the ablution block.

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.

KLA2025-64 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Rex Eddie)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that the Local Authority spent \$3,892.93 with all invoices received of the previous financial year’s discretionary funds;
- b) received the new financial year’s Discretionary funds of \$4,000.00
- c) removed the provisional allocation toward the Pintubi Health and Purple House Celebration;
- d) allocated \$1,500.00 to a Christmas BBQ celebration to be held on the 3 December to be spent on the following:
 - meat from Milner’s Meats
 - salads, bread, sauces and accompaniments from the Kintore Store
 - a large cake from cakes 4 you [with icing and no cream]; and
- e) acknowledged that this year’s funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	11.1
TITLE:	MRC Position Vacancies Report
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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.

KLA2025-65 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the attached list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Kintore as of 22nd September 2025; and
- b) noted that there are always positions available with council and that members encourage those who would like a job to see Council staff.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Communtiy Services - 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 for Kintore.

KLA2025-66 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Rex Eddie)

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

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Council Services LA Report
AUTHOR:	Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2025-67 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Phyllis Rowe)

That the Local Authority of Kintore noted and accepted the attached Council 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.

KLA2025-68 RESOLVED (Lorraine Scobie/Garrard Anderson)

That the Local Authority did not raise any matters of general Council business.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	General Non-Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2025-69 RESOLVED (Rex Eddie/Lynn Ward)

That the Local Authority:

- a) requested that the CEO and Chansey Paech write letters to Senator Malarndirri McCarthy and Marion Scrymgour MP to advocate for Kintore be considered for a water park / splash pad as part of the Central Australian Plan; and
- b) requested that the CEO approach Pintubi Homelands Health to write a supporting letter about the health and hygiene benefits of a waterpark.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:28 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Kintore Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 8 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.



MINUTES OF THE PAPUNYA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE PAPUNYA COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 11.00AM

2 WELCOME

Councillor Dalton McDonald

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Graham Poulson

Via Teams from the Council office - Member Sarah Stockman, Chairperson Karen McDonald

Councillors

Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillors Garrard Anderson and Lynn Ward

Via Teams from the Hermannsburg Office – President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Damien Ryan – Area Manager, Ryan Rosenberg – Project Management Office and June Crabb – Coordinator Governance (Minute taker)

Via Teams: Shae Thompson – Coordinator Governance

Guests

Tammy Stephens – Ngurratjuta Representative

Peta-Lee Cole-Manolis and Karan Bhuta – Representatives Penangke Consultancy

Via Teams: Elaine Wills – Menzies Head, Health Healing Representative

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.

PLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Graham Poulson)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) that no apologies were received for this meeting;
- c) records the first absence of Member Justine Stockman without notice, for this meeting;
- d) appoints Councillor Dalton McDonald as Acting Chairperson for this meeting; and
- e) agrees to the selection of a new Chair for a 12 month term at the first meeting in 2026.

Minute Note: The CEO informed the Authority that in alignment with good governance, Papunya’s first meeting in 2026 will include the selection of a Chairperson for a 12 month term. This will ensure the opportunity for broader participation in a leadership role. Ms Urquhart thanked the current Chair – Karen McDonald for her dedication to the Authority and the Papunya community and advised Ms McDonald that she is welcome to renominate for Chair at the next meeting.

4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

PLA2025-59 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Sarah Stockman)

That the Local Authority:

- a) congratulates returning Councillor Dalton MacDonald and newly elected Councillors Garrard Anderson and Lynn Ward;
- b) welcomes Alison Anderson to the Local Authority;
- c) notes the three vacancies on the authority due to the following:
 - the revocation of membership for Terrence Abbott and Sammy Pearce following their absence without notice from two consecutive meetings;
 - the transition of Garrard Anderson from Appointed member to Elected Member;
- d) accepts the nominations received from Lynda Lechleitner and Shannon Palmer; and
- e) calls for community nominations to open to fill the remaining vacancy.



Papunya Local Authority Meeting 9 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

PLA2025-60 RESOLVED (Karen McDonald/Sarah Stockman)

That the Local Authority notes 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 Papunya Local Authority Meeting held 24 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

PLA2025-61 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Lynn Ward)

That the Local Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Papunya Local Authority Meeting held 24 July 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.

PLA2025-62 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Garrard Anderson)

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



Papunya Local Authority Meeting 9 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

PLA2025-63 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Garrard Anderson)

That the Local Authority Meeting:

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

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Head Health and Healing Project
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an opportunity for representatives from the Menzies School of Health Research to inform members about a new research project titled 'Head Health and Healing Project'. The project aims to Empower Indigenous women and the frontline workforce to respond to violence-related concussion through co-designed education and training.

PLA2025-64 RESOLVED (Karen McDonald/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the information presented by the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research regarding the Head Health and Healing Project; and
- b) agreed that aspects of the presentation were considered unsettling with some of the content relating to brain injuries through violence, deemed inappropriate for discussion at an LA meeting. It was recommended that this research be delivered through a health education program or a more appropriate forum suited to sensitive health related topics.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Community Alcohol Planning Engagement
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Representatives from Penangke Cultural Consultants are attending the Local Authority

meeting to begin a consultation process regarding Community Alcohol Planning.

PLA2025-65 RESOLVED (Roxanne Kenny/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants; and
- b) agrees to move forward with the consultation process.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	10.1
TITLE:	Action Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

PLA2025-66 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Sarah Stockman)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the updates to the actions as follows;
 - write a letter on behalf of the Papunya LA members to support Finke River Mission’s application for funding on the removal of the Manse; and
- b) closes action – Notify CLC to provide portable toilets.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

events; or preservation of culture or traditions.
At risk funds are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

PLA2025-67 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Graham Poulson)

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledges that \$132,230.68 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 kept open:
 - 2195 – Healthy Community event, noting that Council Services is currently working on the project;
 - 2505 – Yarning Circle – noting that the Civil team will undertake the project, with a view to completion by the end of 2025;
 - Outdoor Chapel – noting that Council is in the process of applying for the lease and that it could take up to 6 months to come through.
- c) notes that the wishlist from the Youth Board will be determined by the CEO
- d) notes the additions to the wishlist:
 - upgrade the infrastructure at the Softball oval
 - lighting at the Softball oval
- e) notes completion and closes:
 - 2192 – Mature trees, reallocating the underspend of \$3,000.00 towards the new project
 - 2198 – Bin Trailer, returning the underspend of \$4,274.54 to unallocated funds
- f) notes that as part of CLC’s Community Development Plan, major works will be undertaken that will include trees being planted around community and around the splashpad.
On this basis, members made the following decision:
 - create a new project called ‘Additional Resources towards the Community Development Plan’, accepts the reallocation of \$3,000.00 from Project 2192 agreeing that once the major works are undertaken, the PMO Office will work together with Ngurratjuta to determine what additional resources would be required.
- g) notes that there is \$79,347.75 of unallocated funds available, excluding the underspend returned and members made no further allocations at this meeting.



Papunya Local Authority Meeting 9 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

PLA2025-68 RESOLVED (Sarah Stockman/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that there are \$4,033.54 of unallocated discretionary funds;
- b) discusses allocating these funds at this meeting
 - \$2k towards the Papunya School Sydney trip; and
 - \$2k to the Papunya School Christmas
- c) acknowledges 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:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

PLA2025-69 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Karen McDonald)

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

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Community Services - 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.

PLA2025-70 RESOLVED (Sarah Stockman/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Safety and Youth Services report for Papunya.



Papunya Local Authority Meeting 9 October 2025 – Minutes

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Aged Care Services

PLA2025-71 RESOLVED (Karen McDonald/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Aged Care report for Papunya.

Minute Note: Operational - Council will liaise with Centrelink to confirm that Aged Care residents are making the required payments due to a shortage of food and meals available for some of the clients.

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.

PLA2025-72 RESOLVED (Karen McDonald/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority notes and discusses the matters raised:

- a) that Council will organise for the CSC to open the gate to the waste management facility on certain days on set times; and
- b) cars to be collected from the outstations, noting that Council can collect unwanted cars from outstations when the grader team is next in community and the relevant forms have been completed.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	General Non-Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

PLA2025-73 RESOLVED (Graham Poulson/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority closed the NTG actions – Grading Schedule and School review, noting that the document for the School review is available from the CSC Papunya should members want a copy.

Papunya Local Authority Meeting 9 October 2025 – Minutes



14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1:13 pm.

This page and the preceding 8 pages are the minutes of the Papunya Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 9 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



MINUTES OF THE HAASTS BLUFF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE HAASTS BLUFF COUNCIL OFFICE ON TUESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 11.00AM

1.1 NOMINATION OF ACTING CHAIR

HBLA2025-39 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Dalton McDonald)

That members nominated Kieran Multa as Acting Chair of the Local Authority meeting.

2 WELCOME

Meeting opened by Acting Chairperson Kieren Multa.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Douglas Multa and Member Kieran Multa

Councillors

Councillor Dalton McDonald and Councillor Garrard Anderson

Via Teams: Councillor Lynn Ward

Council Employees

CEO Belinda Urquhart, Area Manager Damien Ryan, and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Via Teams: Project Management Office Acting Manager Ruth Tahare

Guests

Tutuma Jack Local Authority Nominee



Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting 14 October 2025 – Minutes

Tammy Stephens Ngurratjuta

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.

HBLA2025-40 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Garrard Anderson)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received for this meeting from Simon Dixon, Liza Multa and President Roxanne Kenny; and
- c) recorded the Members second consecutive absences, without notice, for Jessica Moora and Derek Egan.

Minute note: Douglas Multa requested that a prayer is said at the beginning of future Local Authority meetings.

4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

ITEM NUMBER:	4.1
TITLE:	Vacancies in the Local Authority
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HBLA2025-41 RESOLVED (Kieran Multa/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority:

- a) congratulated Councillors Dalton McDonald, Garrard Anderson and Lynn Ward on their election to Council and welcomed them to the Local Authority;
- b) congratulated returning President Roxanne Kenny;
- c) noted that Maryanne Malbunka has been elected as Deputy President;
- d) decided that the role of chairperson would be rotated among members;
- e) accepted the nomination received from Tutuma Jack; and
- f) revoked the memberships of Derek Egan and Jessica Moora as they have been absent from 2 consecutive meetings without notice; and
- g) called for community nominations to remain open to fill the two vacancies.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct



Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting 14 October 2025 – Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HBLA2025-42 RESOLVED (Kieran Multa/Dalton McDonald)

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 Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting held 3 June 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

HBLA2025-43 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Lynn Ward)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the following previous Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meetings as true and correct records of the proceedings:

- Haasts Bluff Local Authority meeting held 6th March 2025
- Haasts Bluff Local Authority meeting held 3rd June 2025.

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.

HBLA2025-44 RESOLVED (Kieran Multa/Garrard Anderson)

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



Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting 14 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

HBLA2025-45 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority members:

- a) **noted the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
- b) **declared no conflicts of interest with the agenda.**

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER:	10.1
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.

HBLA2025-46 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **acknowledged that \$45,263.08 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) **noted the progress on their current projects as follows:**
 - **Project 2142 ‘Playground Near the Basketball Court’ that the playground furniture should arrive in November and a contractor will be organised to install it.**
 - **Project 2145 ‘Community Healthy Event’ is scheduled for February.**
 - **Project 2392 ‘Trees Around the Park’ Area Manager Damien Ryan is sourcing quotes from Geoff Myers for mature citrus trees that will be planted in the growasis pots to give the trees the best chance of survival;**



Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting 14 October 2025 – Minutes

- c) closed completed project 2386 ‘Garden Shed with Tools for Cemetery’ and returned used funds to unallocated;
- d) noted that there are \$1,200.00 of unallocated funds; and
- e) received updates on the following major projects:
 - The shade area near the office has been completed and includes a solar barbeque and outdoor kitchen.
 - The water connection for the basketball court has been delayed as difficulties were encountered with the water line and the Project Management Office is working with Power and Water on a solution.
 - The PMO will work on organising installation of the cold water dispenser that is currently in community.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HBLA2025-47 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that Council approved the Local Authorities recommendation to carry over the unused 2024/2025 Discretionary funds into the new financial year;
- b) noted that the Local Authority has received the 2025/2026 Discretionary Funds and has \$4,183.64 available;
- c) allocated \$2,183.64 to power cards of equal value for each occupied house in Haasts Bluff. These would be distributed by the CSC for Christmas and signed for by the occupants of each house;
- d) allocated \$2,000.00 to a community Christmas celebration barbeque which will be organised by Area Manager Damien Ryan;
- e) acknowledged that this is the final Local Authority meeting for this year; and
- f) accepted that these funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	11.1
TITLE:	MRC Position Vacancies Report
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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.



Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting 14 October 2025 – Minutes

HBLA2025-48 RESOLVED (Douglas Multa/Dalton McDonald)

That the Local Authority accepted the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Haasts Bluff as of 9th October 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Council Services Report
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HBLA2025-49 RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Kieran Multa)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the attached Council Services report; and
- b) noted that more local staff are needed.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Community Services Report
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety, Aged and Disability Services, Youth Services and Children Services.

HBLA2025-50 RESOLVED (Kieran Multa/Lynn Ward)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the Community Services report; and
- b) noted that more staff are needed.

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.

HBLA2025-51 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Garrard Anderson)

That the Local Authority raised that they would like new vehicles and plant for the



Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting 14 October 2025 – Minutes

Council Services team rather than getting equipment that has been previously used in other communities. This will be followed up as an operational matter.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	General Non-Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HBLA2025-52 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Garrard Anderson)

That the Local Authority were presented with a letter from the Minister for Health Steve Edgington regarding the matter of the permanent nurse for Haasts Bluff.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 11:51 am.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the minutes of the Haasts Bluff Local Authority Meeting held on Tuesday 14 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



MINUTES OF THE AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE AREYONGA COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:46AM

Minute Note: A minute’s silence was observed to honour the memory of the Chairperson mother.

2 WELCOME

Roxanne Kenny – President MRC

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Sarah Gallagher - Chairperson, Garnet Djana - Member, Hilda Bert - Member, Jonathan Doolan - Member and Joy Kunia – Member and Member Jacob Yarma

Councillors

Councillor Abraham Poulson and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Stuart Miller – Area Manager, Ryan Rosenberg – PMO Office and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator (Minute Taker)

Guests

Dr Vishnu Khanal - Menzies School of Health Telehealth Project and Martin Chicaton – Oral Health

Raymond Walters and Nicki - Penangke Consultancy

Penieli Dovoivoi - Tjuwanpa Representative (left the meeting at 11:20am)

Deepika Mathur - Charles Darwin University Research Department

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.



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes

ARLA2025-55 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) tables apologies received from Councillor Peter Wilson for this meeting; and
- c) records no Member absent, without notice, for this meeting.

4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2025-56 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jacob Yarma)

That the Local Authority;

- a) congratulates returning Councillor Abraham Poulson and welcomes newly elected Councillor Peter Wilson to the Authority;
- b) accepts the following appointments of Council;
 - o Roxanne Kenny as President
 - o Maryanne Malbunka as Deputy President;
- c) calls for community nominations to open to fill the one vacancy; and
- d) notes that memberships may be revoked 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.

ARLA2025-57 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jacob Yarma)

That the Local Authority notes the Council Code of Conduct.



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 16 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

ARLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Jacob Yarma/Joy Kunia)

That the Local Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 16 July 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.

ARLA2025-59 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jonathan Doolan)

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.

ARLA2025-60 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority Meeting:
 a) **notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
 b) **that members declare any conflicts of interest.**



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Charles Darwin University - Disaster Waste Management Plan
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Charles Darwin University (CDU) is seeking permission from members to collect data from community residents on a Disaster Waste Management project.

ARLA2025-61 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the presentation from the Representatives of Charles Darwin University; and
- b) gives consent by signing the ATSIRA form for the researchers to collect data in relation to a disaster waste management plan.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	ORVAC and Thrive Studies - Menzies School of Health
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an opportunity for the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research to provide a brief update on the ORVAC study led by Dr Bianca Middleton, and to introduce the THRIVE study, also led by Dr Bianca Middleton.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepts the information provided by the representative of the Menzies School of Health Research; and
- b) considers the request for MSHR staff to visit community to invite families to participate in the THRIVE study.

Minute Note: Representatives presenting the Thrive Study did not attend this meeting.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.3
TITLE:	Menzies School of Health Research - Telehealth Project
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Researchers are sharing the implementation research on the Telehealth Project conducted through the Clinic and how it has been working.

ARLA2025-62 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority:



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes

- a) accepts the information on the Digital Health Project shared by Menzies School of Health; and
- b) discusses and agrees on further development of the initiatives for Health using technology.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.4
TITLE:	Community Alcohol Planning Engagement
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2025-63 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants;
- b) agrees to move forward with the consultation process, recommending that community is given advance notice of the consultation meeting.

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.

ARLA2025-64 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the updates to the actions to move the action – Invite CLC to Non-Council Business; and
- b) agrees to close completed actions as follows:
 - Invite Tjuwanpa, noting that the Representative had departed just before this report was discussed;
 - Invite Chansey Paech, noting that he has been invited to attend the first meeting of 2026;
 - Invite the Childcare Manager, noting that the members were pleased with the efforts of the Childcare Coordinator.



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

At risk funds’ are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

ARLA2025-65 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Joy Kunia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledges that \$45,976.51 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) notes the progress on their current projects as of 22 September 2025; as follows:
 - 2112 – Water Bubbler, noting that the bubbler is expected to be installed by December.
 - 2114 – Solar light at Entrance, noting that the contractor’s expected installation timeframe is prior to December 2025.
 - 2261 – Community Healthy event, that it is still in the planning stages.
- c) notes completion and closes:
 - 2114 – Install a GFS 200 Solar light, returning \$3,500.00 to unallocated; and
 - 2260 – Waste Trailer, returning \$4,274.54 to unallocated.
- d) did not discuss the wishlist items;
- e) creates a new project – Maintenance and Registration of trailer, allocating \$3,500.00.

Minute Note: The PMO Office will investigate the feasibility of constructing a partial wall along one side of the basketball court to mitigate flooding during heavy rainfall.



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes

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.

ARLA2025-66 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Abraham Poulson)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the spending of their Discretionary funds;
- b) accepts the thanks received from Principal Anton Devaratnam for the funds that were used to support school trips as part of the Caring For Country learning units this year;
- c) notes the top up to their 2026 funding allocation to cover the deductions from the previous financial year;
- d) discusses to allocate their available funds of \$4,000.00 at this meeting towards the purchase of music equipment, with members in agreement for Councillor Poulson to source the quote and pass onto Governance to raise the PO. Cr Poulson and Member Joy Kunia be responsible for the equipment; and
- e) acknowledges that all funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	11.1
TITLE:	MRC Position Vacancies Report
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

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.

ARLA2025-67 RESOLVED (Joy Kunia/Jacob Yarma)

That the Local Authority accepts the attached list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Areyonga as of 30th September 2025.



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes

ITEM NUMBER:	11.2
TITLE:	Council Services LA Report
AUTHOR:	Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2025-68 RESOLVED (Jonathan Doolan/Jacob Yarma)

That the Local Authority of Areyonga notes and accepts the attached report,

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
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.

ARLA2025-69 RESOLVED (Garnet Djana/Joy Kunia)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Safety and Youth Services report.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.4
TITLE:	Aged and Children's Services Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Aged Care.

ARLA2025-70 RESOLVED (Garnet Djana/Hilda Bert)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Aged Care 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.

Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15 October 2025 – Minutes



ARLA2025-71 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Jonathan Doolan)

That members did not raise any matters for discussion.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	General Non-Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2025-72 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority did not raise any matters for further discussion.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:30 pm.

This page and the preceding 8 pages are the minutes of the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 15 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER 12.2
TITLE Local Authority Nominations
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

Under section 77 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Council is required to consider the nominations submitted for Local Authority membership and confirm appointments by resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council considers the nominations received and appoints:

- a) Lynda Lechleitner and Shannon Palmer to the Papunya Local Authority; and
- b) Tutama Jack to the Haasts Bluff Local Authority.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

New members are nominated and appointed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, Ministerial Guidelines and Councils Local Authority Meeting Procedure, MC02-P2.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

As per Council's Local Authority Meeting Procedure:

Para.4.14: Nominations and Appointments:

- c) 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.
- d) In the event 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 at the next Council meeting. The Council may appoint based on the submitted nominations.

Para 4.15 – Resignations and Revocations:

The appointment of a local authority member may be revoked or otherwise cease if the person:

- a) Resigns in writing to the CEO, chairperson or a delegated MRC employee.
- b) Has their membership revoked due to the decisions based on or in accordance with item 4.13 (Absent Without Permission) of the policy.
- c) Is absent from 2 consecutive meetings without the permission of the Local Authority.

CONSULTATION

Elected Members

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 PLA Nominations - Shannon Palmer and Lynda Lechleitner
- 2 HBLA Nomination - TUTAMA, Jack

Local Authority Nomination Form MC02-F1

NOMINATION

I, Shannon Palmer wish to nominate as a
(Name of nominee)

member of the Local Authority for the community of Papunya
(Name of community)

[Signature]
(Signature of nominee)

7 '10 '20 25
Date

ENDORSEMENT

I, Garrard Anderson endorse the nomination of this
(Name of endorsing Local Authority member)

nominee to this Local Authority.

[Signature]
(Signature of Local Authority member)

7 '10 '20 25
Date

RETURNING OFFICER

To be received by the Returning Officer/ Council Service Coordinator in the stated community.

[Signature]
(Signature of Returning Officer)

21 '10 '20 25
Date



Local Authority Nomination Form MC02-F1

NOMINATION

I, Lynda Lechleitner wish to nominate as a
(Name of nominee)

member of the Local Authority for the community of Papunya.
(Name of community)

[Signature]
(Signature of nominee)

7 10 2025
Date

ENDORSEMENT

I, Garrard Anderson endorse the nomination of this
(Name of endorsing Local Authority member)

nominee to this Local Authority.

[Signature]
(Signature of Local Authority member)

7 10 2025
Date

RETURNING OFFICER

To be received by the Returning Officer/ Council Service Coordinator in the stated community.

[Signature]
(Signature of Returning Officer)

21 10 2025
Date



Local Authority Nomination Form MC02-F1

NOMINATION

I, Tutama Jack wish to nominate as a
(Name of nominee)

member of the Local Authority for the community of Haasts Bluff
(Name of community)

TUTAMA JACK
(Signature of nominee)

14 '10 '20 25
Date

ENDORSEMENT

I, KIEREN MILTA endorse the nomination of this
(Name of endorsing Local Authority member)

nominee to this Local Authority.

K Milta
(Signature of Local Authority member)

14 '10 '20 25
Date

RETURNING OFFICER

To be received by the Returning Officer/ Council Service Coordinator in the stated community.

[Signature]
(Signature of Returning Officer)

14 '10 '20 25
Date



12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER 12.3
TITLE Local Authority Resignations and Terminations
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

As recorded in the minutes of the Local Authority meetings, the recommendations put forth to Council is to accept any resignations received and to note the memberships dismissed from the Local Authorities.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) notes that the following memberships have been revoked due to absence from two consecutive Local Authority meetings:
 - Theresa Alice from the Amoonguna Local Authority
 - Jessica Moora and Derek Egan from the Haasts Bluff Local Authority; and
- b) notes that there were no resignations received for the period of this report.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Council has a policy on the process of the resignation of a member in writing and how, and in what circumstances, appointment of a member may be revoked or otherwise cease in accordance with Guideline 1: Local Authorities.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

As per Council's Local Authority Meeting Procedure:

Para 4.15 – Resignations and Revocations:

The appointment of a local authority member may be revoked or otherwise cease if the person:

- a) Resigns in writing to the CEO, chairperson or a delegated MRC employee.
- b) Has their membership revoked due to the decisions based on or in accordance with item 4.13 (Absent Without Permission) of the policy.
- c) Is absent from 2 consecutive meetings without the permission of the Local Authority.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil

CONSULTATION

Elected Members

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

ITEM NUMBER 13.1
TITLE Correspondence Report
AUTHOR Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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 Council with an update on correspondence received and sent by the Council President and CEO in the period since the September 2025 Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) notes the correspondence received and sent;
- b) notes advice received via email that the ICAC training scheduled to be provided on the 4th November, 2025 has been deferred to 2026; and
- c) notes that the letter sent to Minister McCarthy has been acknowledged and future meetings are to be arranged to discuss the funding outcome.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Incoming Correspondence

Date Received	From	Subject
13-Oct-25	Allison Bitar, Vice President LGANT	Congratulations to President on Election Win
17-Oct-25	Hon Lia Finocchiaro, Chief Minister	Congratulations to Deputy President on appointment
17-Oct-25	Hon Lia Finocchiaro, Chief Minister	Congratulations to Cr Ward on appointment
17-Oct-25	Hon Lia Finocchiaro, Chief Minister	Congratulations to Cr Lynch on appointment
17-Oct-25	Hon Lia Finocchiaro, Chief Minister	Congratulations to Cr Anderson on appointment
21-Oct-25	Ms Mary Watson, CEO LGANT	Email re Allowance Inquiry – Remuneration Tribunal including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft submission to Tribunal • Letter sent to Hon Bill Yan, Treasurer re 26/27 Budget

Outgoing Correspondence

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

Date Sent	To	Subject
30-Sept-25	Mr Tom Leeming, A/CEO Dept Housing, Local Government & Community Development	Appointment of President and Deputy President
30-Sept-25	Ms Kirsten Kelly, Electoral Commissioner NEC	Appointment of President and Deputy President
1-Oct-25	Ms Mary Watson, CEO LGANT	LS Award Nomination Rosemary Matasia (10 years) LS Award Nomination Roxanne Kenny (15 years)
7-Oct-25	Ms Mary Watson, CEO LGANT	Motions approved by Council for LGANT General Meeting
13-Oct-25	Senator the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy	Remote Jobs and Economic Development funding outcome

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

President
Chief Executive Officer
Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 VICE PRESIDENT LGANT - PRESIDENT KENNY - CONGRATULATIONS ON ELECTION WIN - 13.10.2025
- 2 CHIEF MINISTER LETTER TO DEPUTY PRESIDENT MALBUNKA - CONGRATULATIONS 17.10.2025
- 3 CHIEF MIN TO CR WARD - CONGRATULATIONS - 17.10.2025
- 4 CHIEF MIN TO CR LYNCH - CONGRATULATIONS 17.10.2025
- 5 CHIEF MIN TO CR ANDERSON - CONGRATULATIONS - 17.10.2025
- 6 LGANT EMAIL RE SUBMISSION TO REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL AND LETTER TO TREASURER 21.10.2025
- 7 LGANT DRAFT SUBMISSION RE ALLOWANCES 16.10.2025
- 8 LGANT LETTER TO TREASURER RE BUDGET SUBMISSION 25.9.2025
- 9 CEO TO A/CEO DHLG&CD - APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL - 30.9.2025
- 10 CEO TO COMMISSIONER NTEC - APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL - 30.9.2025
- 11 CEO TO CEO LGANT - LS AWARD NOMINATION ROSEMARY MATASIA 10 YEARS - 1.10.2025
- 12 CEO TO CEO LGANT - LS AWARD NOMINATION ROXANNE KENNY 15 YEARS - 1.10.2025
- 13 CEO TO CEO LGANT - MOTIONS APPROVED BY COUNCIL FOR LGANT GENERAL MEETING - 7.10.2025
- 14 PRESIDENT TO MIN MCCARTHY - RJED FUNDING OUTCOME - 13.10.2025



13 October 2025

Roxanne Kenny
President
MacDonnell Regional Council

roxanne.kenny@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Dear President Kenny,

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ELECTION WIN

On behalf of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT), I would like to congratulate you and your elected colleagues on your recent election win. This is a significant achievement and a reflection of the trust your community has placed in your leadership.

Your election to council is an exciting opportunity to advocate for local priorities and work alongside fellow leaders to achieve the best outcomes for your region.

As you step into this important role, I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce LGANT, the peak body for local government in the Northern Territory. We represent 18 local government councils with membership consisting of five municipal, three shire, ten regional councils, and one associate member (Nhulunbuy Corporation).

We advocate on behalf of our member councils to ensure their voices and needs are heard at both the Territory and national levels. LGANT also provides strategic support, policy advice, and resources to strengthen local government.

As part of our commitment to member engagement, the LGANT President and CEO make at least one in-person visit to each member council annually. We will start scheduling these once members elect the new President at the November 2025 Annual General Meeting.

In the meantime, our CEO is available to attend a council meeting to brief elected members about LGANT's member benefits and how we can support your council's priorities. Please contact Mary Watson, CEO at ceo@lgant.asn.au or 0417 864 183 to organise a suitable time.

I would also like to extend an invitation to our upcoming November Conference (18 and 19 November 2025), which will include both our Annual and General Meetings. The theme for this conference is, Leading with Strength: Building Resilient Councils, Connecting Communities. This important event brings together elected members and senior council staff from across the Territory to share insights, learn, and build connections. Conference information and registration details can be found here: <https://lgant.asn.au/member-services/events/>.

We look forward to working with you and supporting your council throughout your term.

P (08) 8944 9697 **A** 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820
E info@lgant.asn.au PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804
W lgant.asn.au ABN: 35 662 805 503

We are local. We connect.

Yours sincerely,



Allison Bitar
Vice President

CC: Belinda Urquhart, CEO
belinda.urquhart@macdonnell.nt.gov.au



CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8999 8700

Ms Maryanne Malbunka
Deputy President
MacDonnell Regional Council

Dear Deputy President Malbunka,

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you on your recent re-election as a Councillor of MacDonnell Regional Council and appointment to the role of deputy president.

The communities in the region and particularly the Ljirapinta Ward have put their trust in your leadership skills and your commitment to serve your community – a well-deserved honour. I wish you the very best in this your second term on Council.

The Northern Territory Government is a strong supporter of local government and to working with councils for the advancement of Territory townships and communities. We believe council's role is important to delivering the outcomes we are aiming for through our priorities to reduce crime, rebuild the economy and restore our wonderful Territory lifestyle.

Our team looks forward to working with you and your council as we all strive to deliver for Territorians.

Yours sincerely



LIA FINOCCHIARO

17 OCT 2025





CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8999 8700

Ms Lynn Ward
Councillor
MacDonnell Regional Council

Via email: lynn.ward@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Dear Councillor Ward,

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you on your recent election as a new Councillor of MacDonnell Regional Council.

The communities in the region and particularly the Luritja Pintubi Ward have put their trust in your leadership skills and your commitment to serve your community – a well-deserved honour. I wish you the very best for this, your first term on Council.

The Northern Territory Government is a strong supporter of local government and to working with councils for the advancement of Territory townships and communities. We believe council's role is important to delivering the outcomes we are aiming for through our priorities to reduce crime, rebuild the economy and restore our wonderful Territory lifestyle.

Our team looks forward to working with you and your council as we all strive to deliver for Territorians.

Yours sincerely



LIA FINOCCHIARO

17 OCT 2025





CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8999 8700

Ms Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye
Councillor
MacDonnell Regional Council

Via email: veronica.lynch@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Dear Councillor Kngwarraye,

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you on your recent election as a new Councillor of MacDonnell Regional Council.

The communities in the region and particularly the Rodinga Ward have put their trust in your leadership skills and your commitment to serve your community – a well-deserved honour. I wish you the very best for this, your first term on Council.

The Northern Territory Government is a strong supporter of local government and to working with councils for the advancement of Territory townships and communities. We believe council's role is important to delivering the outcomes we are aiming for through our priorities to reduce crime, rebuild the economy and restore our wonderful Territory lifestyle.

Our team looks forward to working with you and your council as we all strive to deliver for Territorians.

Yours sincerely



LIA FINOCCHIARO

17 OCT 2025





CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8999 8700

Mr Garrard Anderson
Councillor
MacDonnell Regional Council

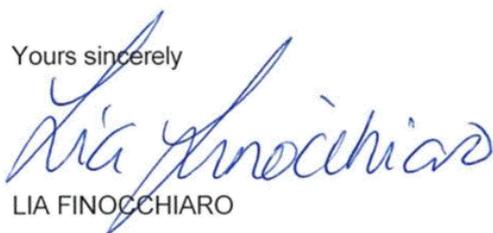
Dear Councillor Anderson,

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you on your recent election as a new Councillor of MacDonnell Regional Council.

The communities in the region and particularly the Luritja Pintubi Ward have put their trust in your leadership skills and your commitment to serve your community – a well-deserved honour. I wish you the very best in this your first term on Council.

The Northern Territory Government is a strong supporter of local government and to working with councils for the advancement of Territory townships and communities. We believe council's role is important to delivering the outcomes we are aiming for through our priorities to reduce crime, rebuild the economy and restore our wonderful Territory lifestyle.

Our team looks forward to working with you and your council as we all strive to deliver for Territorians.

Yours sincerely

LIA FINOCCHIARO

17 OCT 2025



Barbara Newland

Subject: FW: For review: Allowances inquiry - Remuneration Tribunal

From: LGANT CEO <ceo@lgant.asn.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 3:31 PM
To: **Mayors and Presidents <mayorsandpresidents@lgant.asn.au>; **Council CEOs <CEOs@lgant.asn.au>; **LGANT Board <board@lgant.asn.au>
Cc: Andrea James <Andrea.James@lgant.asn.au>; **Council CEO EAs <councilceoEAs@lgant.asn.au>; LGANT CEO <ceo@lgant.asn.au>
Subject: For review: Allowances inquiry - Remuneration Tribunal

CAUTION: This is an external email, please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact your IT Department

Good afternoon Mayors, Presidents, Board and CEOs – please find attached the draft submission to the Remuneration Tribunal’s inquiry into local government and Local Authority allowances for your review please. Please note Andrea is after some more case studies/evidence/examples to support the submission so please let her know if you have anything to add. Andrea can be contacted at andrea.james@lgant.asn.au or 0447 804 751.

You’ll note we’ve included a section in the submission on the capacity of councils to pay additional remuneration given the sustainability issues faced by some. To this, LGANT has recently lodged a submission with the NT Treasurer requesting an increase in the Operational Subsidy from \$34.5million in 2024/25 to at least \$50million in 2026/27. Please find a copy of the submission attached.

We’d appreciate feedback on the Remuneration Tribunal inquiry submission by CoB Wednesday 29 October 2025 please.

Regards



Mary Watson | CEO
Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
t: (08) 8944 9694 | m: 0417 864 183
e: mary.watson@lgant.asn.au | w : www.lgant.asn.au
21 Parap Road, Parap NT 0820 | PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804

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We are local. We connect.

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

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VERSION 1.0
21 October 2025



**Submission to: Remuneration Tribunal
Inquiry Local Government Council and
Local Authority Member Allowances 2026**

Introduction

The Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the Remuneration Tribunal's Inquiry into Local Government Council and Local Authority Member Allowances for 2026.

LGANT is the peak body for local government in the NT, representing all 18 of the local government councils. LGANT's membership includes five municipal councils, ten regional councils, three shire councils, and one associate member. LGANT's strategic direction is set by a nine-member Board elected from the member councils. LGANT provides leadership, support, representation, and advocacy on behalf of our member councils for the benefit of their communities.

Local government councils are at the heart of community leadership. Collectively employing more than 3,000 Territorians they are often the largest employer of Indigenous people in remote and regional areas, delivering essential services and fostering vibrant, resilient communities across the Territory. The ability to attract and retain diverse, skilled elected members is fundamental to the health and future of local government and the continuation of the opportunities and services that they provide.

Remuneration settings must reflect the increasing complexity, responsibility, and expectations placed on elected members, ensuring that councils remain strong, inclusive, and representative. This includes the need for fair, equitable, and sustainable remuneration that supports elected members to serve their communities effectively.

The Value of Elected Members

Elected members carry significant responsibilities, including strategic decision-making, governance, and active engagement with their communities. Their ongoing commitment is essential to the effectiveness and vitality of local government across the Northern Territory. However, current remuneration settings remain below the requirements of the role, which include substantial time commitments for council business, meeting increasing community expectations, and fulfilling mandatory training and professional development obligations. This situation risks the loss of experienced leaders and may deter new candidates from standing for election.

Financial pressures on elected members are well documented. For example, a 2024 NT News story ("Pay Pressure: Wage review push as NT mayor takes on second job", 1 October) reported that Mayor Matt Paterson of Alice Springs Town Council was forced to take on a second job due to inadequate remuneration. In 2025, Mayor Paterson announced that he would not seek re-election, citing the need to spend more time with his family. His decision not to recontest underscores the impact that financial stress and work-life balance considerations can have on elected members' willingness to continue serving. This example demonstrates how current remuneration settings, which remain below the requirements of the role, risk the loss of experienced leaders and may deter new candidates from standing for election.

Remuneration settings are fundamental to attracting and retaining competent elected members. Allowances must reflect the level of knowledge, decision-making capacity and levels of responsibility expected of elected members. This need is highlighted by the findings of the June 2024 Barkly Regional Council investigators report. The report identified unmanaged conflicts of interest, breaches of the Local Government Act, and serious deficiencies in council governance and operations. Elected members failed to comprehend their strategic roles, did not seek necessary financial information, and did not appropriately manage the CEO. These findings highlight the critical need for councils to have competent elected members who possess the skills and knowledge required to meet their responsibilities and uphold effective governance. Building the capacity of new councils can take time and elected members should be appropriately compensated.

LGANT urges the Tribunal to recognise that remuneration is not simply a financial matter; it is foundational to the sustainability, diversity, and capacity of councils. Without adequate remuneration for elected members, councils risk losing valuable corporate memory and experiencing reduced representation, which will compromise their ability to deliver for their communities.

It is essential that the Tribunal's determinations actively support the health of the sector, as these decisions will have a profound and lasting impact on local government in the Northern Territory.

Capacity to Pay: Financial Sustainability of Councils

Financial sustainability is a critical concern for local government councils across the Northern Territory. LGANT welcomes the Tribunal's 2024 determination to make allowances obligatory, affirming the principle that elected members should be adequately remunerated for their roles and responsibilities. However, many councils, particularly regional and shire councils, face significant revenue constraints due to limited rate bases and other financial pressures.

Without substantial rate increases or annual indexing of operational funding from the Northern Territory Government, councils will struggle to absorb the additional costs associated with increased allowances while maintaining service delivery and standards for their communities. In many cases, councils are forced to redirect funds from essential services and infrastructure to cover remuneration costs, which can impact the quality and availability of local services.

Compounding this challenge is community sentiment; ratepayers are unlikely to accept significant rate increases, particularly in areas already experiencing economic hardship. Ratepayers are also unlikely to support any changes that result in reduced service levels, further limiting councils' ability to generate additional revenue or reallocate resources without public backlash.

LGANT's advocacy for increased allowances is grounded in the need to attract and retain capable elected members across the Northern Territory. However, this advocacy is balanced by a clear recognition of the financial pressures facing many councils—particularly regional and shire councils with limited rate bases and constrained revenue streams.

Any increase in allowances must be accompanied by measures that support council finances and avoid unintended impacts on service delivery and infrastructure investment. Without additional funding or indexing of operational grants from the Northern Territory Government, councils may be forced to redirect resources away from core services to meet remuneration obligations.

While budget allocations fall outside the Tribunal's remit, its determinations play a foundational role in shaping the financial landscape of the local government sector. LGANT has called for the Tribunal to acknowledge this dynamic and ensure its decisions are informed by the realities of council capacity.

Recommendations:

1. The Tribunal should address the funding deficit in its next determination.

Base Allowances for Elected Members

Review of Council Categories

The Remuneration Tribunal council categories appear in part to be determined by population size and degree of urbanisation. Their roles as regional centres and/or rapid and ongoing growth in some local government areas means that these classifications can quickly become outdated and may not accurately reflect the service demands and responsibilities faced by councils.

A clear example is Litchfield Council, which is expected to experience significant population growth with the development of three major new suburbs: Holtze, Noonamah Ridge, and Kowandi. These developments will substantially increase the council's population base (Holtze alone will add an estimated 35,000 new residents), leading to greater demand for services, infrastructure, and community engagement from elected members.

As council responsibilities and workloads expand in response to population projections, growth and changing community needs, it is essential that councillor allowances are reviewed and increased accordingly. Ensuring that allowances keep pace with these evolving demands is critical to attracting and retaining skilled and committed elected members, and to maintaining effective local governance across the Northern Territory.

Recommendation:

1. Council categories and associated allowances be reviewed and adjusted to reflect current and projected population growth, ensuring that elected members are fairly remunerated for the increased responsibilities and demands placed upon them.

Base Allowances: Scope of Commitments

LGANT acknowledges the 4% increase to the base allowance for elected members in the 2025 Remuneration Tribunal determination. While this adjustment is a positive step, it does not fully address the growing demands, complexity, and expectations placed on elected members across the Northern Territory.

The current settings for base allowances continue to lag behind the demands of the role. Elected members are facing increasing workloads and responsibilities, and adequate remuneration is essential to attract and retain quality candidates, ensure diversity, and maintain the sector's long-term capacity. This applies to principal members who on top of regular council business are required to attend the majority of external meetings and public engagements, as well as to councillors who are required to prepare for meetings, attend pre-meeting briefings, attend training sessions and represent the council on external committees, as well as attend after hours functions.

The experience of the principal member of Alice Springs Town Council exemplifies these demands. The Mayor weekly schedule rivals that of Northern Territory Members of Parliament, reflecting a relentless pace of civic engagement, strategic leadership, and community representation. The following is a summary of one recent week in her calendar:

- **Council Governance & Strategy**
 - CONFIDENTIAL Ordinary Council Meeting and OPEN Ordinary Council Meeting (evening session from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM)
 - Preparation and running of Mock Council Meeting - with Meeting Papers for preparation and training
 - Weekly Catch Up - CEO & Mayor held consistently every Monday in addition to several ad hoc meetings throughout each day
- **Community Engagement**
 - National Police Remembrance Day at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church
 - Rates Early Bird Lottery Draw with community-facing staff
 - Swearing-In Ceremony for the 15th Alice Springs Town Council and 15th Council Official Photographs
 - Tangentyere Community Day attendance

- Speaking engagement with Multicultural Community Services of Central Australia Incorporated (MCSCA)
- Meeting with Uniting Church Minister and General Secretary over common use agreement
- **External Representation**
 - Bi-monthly meeting with Joshua Burgoyne MLA
 - Meeting with Minister Edgington MLA on Local Government matters
 - Meeting with Robyn Lambley MLA on electorate matters
 - Meeting with the Fijian High Commissioner
 - Meeting with Outback Highway Development Council
 - Meetings and correspondence to community members on issues of importance to the community of Alice Springs
- **Media Engagement**
 - Interviews with ABC TV, ABC Radio, Country Hour, NT News, Times of London, etc
- **Operational Oversight**
 - Meeting with Managers of Council Facilities with the CEO
 - Risk Management and Audit Committee - Pre Meeting
 - Building Our Regional Future Presentation Review
 - Meeting with Director Community Services

The [September – October Mayors Report for the Mayor of Litchfield Council](#) list 19 engagements on top of the meeting preparation, briefings and council meetings that are part of regular council business.

These examples highlight the significant and growing expectations placed on principal elected members, reinforcing the need for further increases to base allowances to ensure that remuneration keeps pace with the realities of the role.

Despite such workloads, principal members in the Northern Territory receive significantly lower remuneration compared to their counterparts in other states, for example:

Victoria (2025 figures) [\[www.remune...vic.gov.au\]](http://www.remune...vic.gov.au):

- Category 4 Mayors (e.g., urban councils): \$285,324 per annum
- Category 3 Mayors: \$142,661 per annum

Queensland (2025 figures) [\[www.abc.net.au\]](http://www.abc.net.au):

- Gold Coast Mayor: \$286,239
- Moreton Bay, Logan, Sunshine Coast Mayors: \$258,539
- Ipswich Mayor: \$230,836

In the Northern Territory current remuneration for principal members is well below these figures, with no superannuation entitlements unless councils pass specific resolutions and carry the costs.

The current average allowance for a councillor at a municipal council is \$24,395 before tax. At the minimum wage rate of \$24.95 per hour, this equates to compensation for about 18 hours of work

per week. However, the responsibilities of elected members require a much higher level of business acumen and commitment than would be expected of a minimum wage worker. If council duties were valued at a very conservative professional rate of \$50.00 per hour, the allowance would cover approximately 9 hours per week. During candidate nomination sessions prior to the 2025 Local Government Elections, prospective nominees were advised that they should expect to dedicate around 25 hours per week to fulfill their duties. This significant gap between remuneration and the actual time and expertise required highlights the need for a substantial increase in base allowances to ensure that elected members are fairly compensated for their contributions and responsibilities.

Recommendation:

1. Increase base allowances for elected members to align with the time commitments, complexity and scope of their responsibilities.

Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance

Elected members are increasingly called upon to represent their councils in external forums, including intergovernmental meetings, community consultations, and professional development events. These activities are vital for:

- Strengthening council-community connections.
- Building partnerships with other levels of government and external organisations.
- Bringing local knowledge and diverse perspectives into broader policy discussions.

The extra meeting/activity allowance is a key enabler of this engagement. Without adequate financial support, members may be discouraged from attending these sessions, resulting in missed opportunities to influence policy, advocate for local priorities, and strengthen intergovernmental collaboration.

Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance Cap

Restoring the extra meeting/activity allowance cap to \$15,000 per annum is essential to support elected members' participation in the full scope of council-related responsibilities. The Northern Territory Remuneration Tribunal reduced this cap to \$10,000 in 2023. Retaining it through 2026 would mean no increase for three consecutive years, despite the growing complexity and demands of council roles.

Fair Remuneration for Available Representatives

The responsibility of representing councils on external committees and activities often falls to members who do not have full-time employment outside their council roles. These councillors are more available to attend additional meetings and events but as a result, when pre-meeting preparation as well as meeting attendance are taken into account, they can quickly reach the current \$10,000 cap on the extra meeting/activity allowance. This creates an unintended disincentive for broader engagement and may limit councils' ability to be represented consistently. A review of the cap could help ensure that members who are more available and therefore represent their councils on several committees are not penalised for their time and contribution.

Eligibility for Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance: Types of Meeting

Under the 2024 Determination, several types of meetings and activities were removed from eligibility for the extra meeting/activity allowance including:

- meetings of subsidiaries established under the *Local Government Act 2019*
- meetings of external agencies or organisations where a councillor has been formally appointed by resolution of council

- attendance at professional development courses or conferences

This change has limited remuneration for important elements of the roles and responsibilities of elected members, particularly those representing councils in external forums or undertaking professional development.

These activities are often essential to effective governance, regional advocacy, and councillor capability-building. The exclusion of such meetings from the allowance framework risks undervaluing the time and commitment required of elected members and may discourage participation in broader leadership and learning opportunities.

Travel Time and Allowance Limitations for Remote Councillors

Another significant consequence of the reduction in the extra meeting/activity allowance cap is its impact on councillors who are required to travel substantial distances to attend council meetings. For example, councillors from remote communities within Barkly Regional Council, such as Alpururulam, Alparra, and Ampilatwatja, regularly undertake journeys of up to seven hours each way to participate in meetings held in Tennant Creek. Despite this extraordinary commitment, the remuneration for this travel time is considered part of the extra meeting/activity allowance in the current Determination. This situation demonstrates inequity across the different categories of councils and underscores the considerable geographic and financial barriers faced by remote councillors in fulfilling their responsibilities and highlights the inadequacy of the current allowance cap in supporting equitable participation across the Northern Territory.

It is important to recognise that in-person attendance at meetings is not simply a logistical preference, it is a matter of cultural equity. For remote Indigenous councillors, meaningful participation often relies on group discussion and consensus-building, which are central to culturally appropriate decision-making. Remote attendance can result in physical isolation, limiting engagement and diminishing the quality of discussion. Regional and remote elected members are disproportionately affected by the current arrangements, yet their voices are essential to inclusive decision-making. Without appropriate remuneration, the current model risks silencing those voices and diminishing the strength and inclusiveness of governance across the Northern Territory. The current allowance structure does not account for this reality, placing remote Indigenous councillors at a disadvantage when face-to-face meetings are conducive to effective participation. Ensuring equitable access to in-person meetings is widely recognised as a key component of supporting inclusive governance and respecting cultural norms across the Northern Territory.

Inclusion of Principal Members

Principal members are currently excluded from receiving the extra meeting/activity allowance. This exclusion creates an inequity in compensation. In many cases, principal members not only attend but also chair or facilitate meetings, roles that require significant preparation and engagement. As evidenced by the weekly schedule of the Mayor of Alice Springs Town Council (refer to page 4 of this submission), principal members are expected to attend a substantial number of additional meetings and activities beyond regular council business. Expecting councils to pass individual policies to enable extra meeting fees places an unnecessary administrative burden and leads to inconsistent application across jurisdictions. Including principal members in the extra meeting/activity allowance would ensure fair and consistent remuneration of all elected representatives.

Recommendations:

1. Restore the extra meeting/activity allowance to \$15,000 per annum.
2. Reinstate eligibility for the extra meeting/activity allowance for the following types of meetings and activities:
 - Meetings of subsidiaries established under the *Local Government Act 2019*.

- Meetings of external agencies or organisations where a councillor has been formally appointed by resolution of council.
 - Each day of attendance at professional development courses or conferences.
3. Introduce a new and separate provision to remunerate travel time for regional councillors, where travel exceeds 100km return.
 4. Allow principal members to access the extra meeting/activity allowance, ensuring equity with deputy principal members

Professional Development Allowance: Building Sector Capability

Professional development is increasingly important for elected members to meet the increasing demands of their roles and to build the capability of local government across the Northern Territory. Previous Tribunal determinations have noted that the completion of the Australian Institute of Company Directors' Courses should be encouraged. However, the current professional development allowance of \$5,000 falls well short of covering the \$11,600 course fee, even if a councillor were to combine two years of allowances and forgo all other professional development activities. This gap is further widened by the additional costs of travel and accommodation, which can be prohibitively expensive for members residing outside Darwin.

For example, a regional Mayor who recently completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors course reported receiving a total of \$9,000 in professional development allowances. However, the combined cost of the course, flights, and accommodation left the Mayor approximately \$6,000 out of pocket. This Mayor, who has a young family, serves full-time and receives a total Mayoral allowance of \$102,000 and does not receive superannuation. As a result, undertaking this professional development to ensure they had the knowledge to lead the council required spending nearly 6% of their annual Mayoral allowance on a single course, not including the additional personal expenses incurred. This case highlights the significant financial barriers faced by elected members seeking to build their governance capability, particularly those in regional and remote areas.

Accessibility challenges are further compounded for members in remote areas and for those for whom English is not a first language. Approximately 60% of elected members in the NT are Aboriginal, and this figure rises to 89% for regional councils. Translation of course materials and additional support are often required, adding complexity and expense to professional development initiatives.

To ensure all elected members can participate in high-quality training and development, the professional development allowance must reflect both the real costs of training and the unique needs of regional and remote councils. Supporting ongoing learning opportunities is vital for building governance capability, enabling members to respond effectively to emerging issues, and ensuring councils are well-prepared to serve their communities, yet access to high-quality training remains out of reach for many, limiting opportunities for professional growth and sector advancement.

Recommendation:

1. Increase the professional development allowance to \$7,000 for all elected members, supporting access to high-quality training and inclusive learning opportunities.

Vehicle Allowance: Supporting Regional Representation

Kilometre Allowance Based on ATO Rate

Travel is a significant aspect of council participation for many regional and remote councillors, who often undertake long journeys to attend council and committee meetings and events. The current

Vehicle Allowance uses the Australian Tax Office (ATO) rate of 88 cents per kilometre, which is based on average national operating costs. However, this rate does not reflect the substantial wear and tear on private vehicles used for travel across unsealed and corrugated roads.

For example, a councillor from Alpuurulam in the Barkly Region must complete a 1,172-kilometre round trip on unsealed roads to attend a council meeting in Tennant Creek. Even for those travelling on sealed roads, the rate is insufficient. A July 2025 national news article noted that “With fuel skyrocketing, it [the kilometre rate of 88 cents] doesn’t even allow people to cover their costs,” let alone expenses for repairs and maintenance.

Councillors are often required to cover the shortfall from their own funds, which can discourage attendance and affect quorum requirements. This financial burden may also deter capable candidates from nominating for council roles, undermining democratic participation and community leadership in remote areas.

Limitations of the \$10,000 Vehicle Allowance Cap

The Tribunal’s current cap of \$10,000 per annum on vehicle allowance fails to meet the actual costs incurred by many regional and remote councillors. Some elected members travel over 1,200 kilometres roundtrip to attend meetings and events, which occur frequently throughout the year.

There is no mechanism for councils to supplement this allowance, meaning councillors often bear additional costs that would not otherwise arise. The cap does not account for the cumulative impact of fuel prices, vehicle maintenance, and travel frequency. A more flexible or regionally adjusted model is needed to ensure councillors are not penalised for serving geographically isolated communities.

Recommendations:

1. Replace the ATO kilometre rate with a Territory-specific model that reflects actual travel conditions, including distance, road type, and vehicle wear, particularly for remote and regional councillors.
2. Increase or remove the \$10,000 annual cap or introduce a zonal or tiered allowance structure that accounts for travel intensity and remoteness, ensuring equitable support across different council regions.

Superannuation: Ensuring Retirement Security

Members of the Legislative Assembly in the Northern Territory receive guaranteed superannuation contributions under the *Legislative Assembly Members’ Superannuation Contribution Act 2004*. In contrast, the framework for council elected members remains unclear and inconsistent, with no guaranteed pathway for superannuation payments. This disparity has been raised repeatedly, yet the response from the Remuneration Tribunal has been unsatisfactory.

Superannuation continues to be a complex issue for elected members, involving the intersection of federal legislation—such as the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992* and the *Tax Administration Act 1953*—and Territory legislation, including the *Local Government Act 2019*. The lack of clarity creates barriers to participation and undermines retirement planning for those serving in local government roles.

LGANT has advocated for legislative reform to address this gap. Specifically, LGANT supports a new provision in the *Local Government Act 2019* that would:

- Enable elected members to receive superannuation payments without requiring a unanimous council resolution.
- Treat elected members as employees for superannuation purposes only, consistent with provisions in other jurisdictions such as Western Australia and New South Wales.

- Ensure superannuation payments are made in addition to current allowances, not deducted from them.
- Allow individual elected members to opt out of receiving superannuation to accommodate personal circumstances.
- Place the onus of documentation and opt-in/opt-out management on the elected member, not the council.
- Require the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development to develop clear guidelines in consultation with the sector.

This reform would bring local government remuneration into alignment with broader public sector policy, remove a key disincentive to nomination, and support elected members in planning for their financial future.

Recommendation:

1. The Remuneration Tribunal should adopt a supportive position and formally advocate to the Northern Territory Government for legislative amendment to enable elected members to be treated as council employees for the purposes of superannuation. This reform would resolve a long-standing anomaly, align local government remuneration with broader public sector policy, and remove a key disincentive for community members considering nomination to their local council.

Principal Membership Resettlement Allowance: Supporting Transition

Principal members who are not re-elected face distinct challenges in transitioning back into the workforce. These individuals often serve in full-time leadership roles, which may require stepping away from other employment opportunities during their term. The abrupt end of tenure following an election can result in financial and professional disruption.

Other jurisdictions acknowledge this risk by providing a resettlement allowance to support principal members during their transition, as does the NT Legislative Assembly (refer section 15. Of Determination 3 2025). Recognising the demands and responsibilities of these roles is essential to attracting and retaining capable leaders in local government.

Recommendation:

1. Introduce a resettlement allowance for principal members in the next Determination, acknowledging the employment risks and leadership demands associated with full-time council service. For example:

RESETTLEMENT ALLOWANCE

A Member has an entitlement on ceasing to be a principal member in the event of not being successful in the local government elections, of the equivalent of one month's allowance for each year served in local government as a principal member subject to:

- (a) the minimum entitlement being the equivalent of four months' allowance; and*
- (b) the maximum entitlement being the equivalent of 6 months' allowance.*

Allowances for Local Authority Members

Local Authority members play a vital role in community representation, engagement, and decision-making. Under the *Local Government Act 2019*, their responsibilities have expanded significantly, providing communities with a stronger voice in matters that affect them. Despite this, the current

Determination does not include provisions for extra meeting/activity allowances for Local Authority members—an omission that fails to recognise the scope and importance of their contributions.

These members are often required to attend additional meetings and functions similar to those attended by elected council members. The absence of financial recognition for this work creates an inequity within the local government framework and may discourage participation, particularly in remote and regional areas where travel and time commitments are substantial.

Recommendation:

1. Include provision for extra meeting/activity allowance for Local Authority Members in the next Determination, recognising their expanded roles and responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 2019* and ensuring equitable support for their contributions to local governance.

LGANT Board sitting fees

At the November 2024 General Meeting, LGANT members resolved to pay the Board Directors (other than the President who receives an allowance) a fee, plus superannuation, for attendance at Board meetings and at the annual strategic planning meeting. Members also agreed that councils, if they were paying extra meeting/ activity allowances to their respective Director, to cease doing so as of 8 November 2024.

Recommendation:

1. Address the payment of sitting fees by LGANT to Board Directors in the next determination.

Summary of Recommendations

Financial Sustainability of Councils

Capacity to Pay: Balancing Advocacy and Sustainability

1. The Tribunal's deliberations should be informed by ongoing consultation with councils and supported by annual reviews to ensure allowances remain fit for purpose and sector capacity is maintained. LGANT also recommends that the Tribunal clearly address the funding deficit in its next determination to safeguard the sustainability of the sector.
2. The Tribunal should address the funding deficit in its next determination.

Base Allowances for Elected Members

3. Council categories and associated allowances be reviewed and adjusted to reflect current and projected population growth, ensuring that elected members are fairly remunerated for the increased responsibilities and demands placed upon them.
4. Increase base allowances for elected members to align with the time commitments, complexity and scope of their responsibilities.
5. Inclusion of an explicit provision to allow individual councillors to voluntarily waive part or all of their allowance, should they wish. This option should be available solely at the discretion of each councillor. The provision must be worded clearly to ensure that it cannot be used by councils to mandate a reduction in allowances.

Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance

6. Restore the extra meeting/activity allowance to \$15,000 per annum.
7. Reinstatement eligibility for the extra meeting/activity allowance for the following types of meetings and activities:
 - Meetings of subsidiaries established under the *Local Government Act 2019*.
 - Meetings of external agencies or organisations where a councillor has been formally appointed by resolution of council.
 - Each day of attendance at professional development courses or conferences.

LGANT

Remuneration Tribunal Inquiry: Local
Government Council and Local
Authority Member Allowances 2026

Page 11 of 12

8. Introduce provisions to remunerate travel time for remote councillors, particularly where travel exceeds 100km return.
9. Allow principal members to access the extra meeting/activity allowance, ensuring equity with deputy principal members

Professional Development Allowance

10. Increase the professional development allowance to \$7,000, supporting access to high-quality training and inclusive learning opportunities.

Vehicle Allowance:

11. Replace the ATO kilometre rate with a Territory-specific model that reflects actual travel conditions, including distance, road type, and vehicle wear, particularly for remote and regional councillors.
12. Increase or remove the \$10,000 annual cap or introduce a zonal or tiered allowance structure that accounts for travel intensity and remoteness, ensuring equitable support across different council regions.

Superannuation

13. The Remuneration Tribunal should adopt a supportive position and formally advocate to the Northern Territory Government for legislative amendment to enable elected members to be treated as council employees for the purposes of superannuation. This reform would resolve a long-standing anomaly, align local government remuneration with broader public sector policy, and remove a key disincentive for community members considering nomination to their local council.

Principal Membership Resettlement Allowance: Supporting Transition

14. Introduce a resettlement allowance for principal members in the next Determination, acknowledging the employment risks and leadership demands associated with full-time council service.

Allowances for Local Authority Members

15. Include provision for extra meeting/activity allowance for Local Authority Members in the next Determination, recognising their expanded roles and responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 2019* and ensuring equitable support for their contributions to local governance.

LGANT Board Sitting Fees

16. Address the payment of sitting fees by LGANT to Board Directors in the next determination.

Conclusion: A Path Forward for Stronger Local Government

LGANT encourages the Tribunal to undertake in-person research with councils, consult on draft determinations, and review allowances annually to reflect changing conditions and sector needs. By strengthening remuneration settings, the Tribunal can help safeguard the future of local government in the Northern Territory, ensuring councils are equipped to attract and retain talented leaders who reflect the diversity and aspirations of their communities.

LGANT looks forward to working in partnership with the Remuneration Tribunal to develop an agreed approach that supports a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable local government sector for all Territorians.



25 September 2025

The Hon Bill Yan
Treasurer
Northern Territory Government
Minister.Yan@nt.gov.au

Dear Treasurer,

2026/27 PRE-NT BUDGET SUBMISSION

LGANT is the voice of local government, representing 17 of the 18 councils across the NT. This membership consists of four municipal, three shire and ten regional councils, and one associate member. LGANT provides leadership, support, representation, and advocacy on behalf of our member councils for the benefit of their communities.

I am writing to bring your attention to the ambitions for growth, and the gaps that have played a part in preventing the sector from fully delivering on its visions, that LGANT has identified as crucial to our joint commitment to delivering on your government's three pillars for rebuilding the Territory.

As the local government sector is dependent on a combination of council rates, fees and charges, and grants, this is a key opportunity for us to help inform your upcoming decisions on the NT Budget so that the financial sustainability of local government is a key consideration, and that we are equipped to continue with you as your partner in delivering a safer, stronger and more prosperous Territory.

Local government councils are responsible for delivering a wide range of services and infrastructure including parks and playgrounds, sporting fields and courts, swimming pools, libraries, cemeteries, community events, youth programs, child-care and aged care.

The recent *Northern Australia: securing a developing economy to secure a developed nation* report by Australian Strategic Policy Institute states that local government councils across the north are under-resourced and over-stretched. For economic development to be truly impactful and felt across the NT, there needs to be true partnership and adequate investment in institutional strength, and local government councils are fundamental to that growth given the broad range of perspectives and interests they represent. Investing in local government is an investment in increasing our nation's productivity.

One way the NT Government invests in local government is through the Operational Subsidy. The Operational Subsidy is untied funding that was put in place to address the limited revenue-raising capacity of regional and shire councils; however, it is not keeping up with increased costs and in fact has barely increased since 2014/15 when the funding pool was \$26.44million. In 2024/25 the funding pool was \$34.5million - an \$8million increase in 10 years, a figure that has only just kept up with Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases over that period. Unfortunately, the Operational Subsidy stagnated at \$31.5million from 2019/20 to 2024/25. The 2024/25 increase however was not new funding and was cannibalisation of other local government grant funding – and overall funding to the NT Government's Local Government Unit, where the Operational Budget is administered from, decreased in 2024/25.

To this, the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) is a measure of the change in the cost of goods and services purchased by local governments over time, conceptually like the CPI in that it is a measure of the average change in cost over time. Recent LGCI figures show the increase in costs for councils across the NT: 2021/22 was

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We are local. We connect.

5.47%, 2022/23 3.76%, and 2023/24 3.85%. Interestingly, one of our member regional councils recently advised their Operational Subsidy funding has declined by about \$300,000 in the last five years despite these increases.

Further to this, the recent interim report into the Australia Government's *Inquiry into local government sustainability* identified that funding avenues have not kept pace with the increasing costs faced by councils, especially in terms of infrastructure and service delivery. Local government councils are further disadvantaged due to the population-based funding formula applied to the Australian Government's Financial Assistance Grants, where despite the vastness and the NT being home to the second largest local government area (by area) in the country (Barkly Regional Council), all NT councils (combined) received as much as Brisbane City Council did in 2025/26. For reference, Barkly Regional Council covers over 320,000km sq., while Brisbane City Council covers just over 1,000km sq.

The NT Government's Local Government Unit is currently considering two amendments to the *Local Government Act 2019* that will potentially have a significant impact on councils' continued ability to charge rates - one of their main streams of revenue. The amendments concern the rateability of community housing providers, and conditional rating of land held under a pastoral lease and land occupied under a mining tenement. These proposed amendments should be considered in the context of the limited increases in Operational Subsidy over many years, the increased costs of doing business (as demonstrated by the LGCI figures above), and the findings of the interim report mentioned above that highlights the urgent need for increased funding for the sector instead of contributing to the gradual ebbing away of revenue streams.

The 2024 *Financial sustainability in Australian local government* report by SGS Economics and Planning found that greater local government financial sustainability would boost productivity, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employment, and tax revenues. Productivity gains would arise from a range of efficiencies including, but not limited to:

- saved vehicle operating and accident costs on better maintained roads;
- health cost savings as communities make greater use of appropriately equipped and programmed open spaces; and
- savings in recruitment and training costs in councils as they will be better able to offer career pathways.

I consider it necessary that the upcoming budget appropriately recognise the importance of the local government sector through adequate funding, ensuring that councils can continue to deliver the needs of their communities. To this, LGANT requests the NT Government Budget include an increase in the Operational Subsidy (from \$34.5million in 2024/25) to at least \$50million in 2026/27 - however not at the expense of other local government funding. This increase includes a catch-up of the five-year stagnation period, as well as additional new funding to account for the significant increases in costs in recent years. LGANT also requests a commitment to a minimum of annual indexation in following years.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to further discuss these issues and how we can work together to build stronger, more resilient and liveable communities.

Yours sincerely,



Allison Bitar
LGANT Vice President

CC: Hon Steve Edgington, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development
Minister.Edgington@nt.gov.au



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Tuesday, 30 September 2025

Mr Tom Leeming

Acting Chief Executive Officer

Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development

PO Box 4621

Darwin NT 0801

Dear Mr Leeming,

The first meeting of the 5th Council of MacDonnell Regional Council was held on Thursday and Friday, 25 and 26 September 2025.

Following the Declaration by the Elected Members, Council confirmed by resolution that the Principal Member and Deputy Principal Member shall have the titles of President and Deputy President respectively. A ballot for the position of Principal Member was not required as there was only one nomination for the position. A secret ballot was taken to vote on the appointment of the Deputy Principal Member. The following motions were subsequently resolved:

- That Council appoints Cr Roxanne Kenny as the Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.
- That Council appoints Cr Maryanne Malbunka as the Deputy Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.

Council looks forward to building upon the hard work and achievements of previous Councils, as we work towards achieving our goals and objectives aimed at improving the lives of MacDonnell Regional Council residents.

Kind regards,



Belinda Urquhart

Chief Executive Officer



postal address • PO Box 5267
Alice Springs NT 0871

public office • Level 2 / 1 Bagot Street
Alice Springs NT 0870

abn • 21 340 804 903

phone • 08 8958 9600

fax • 08 8958 9601

email • info@macdonnell.nt.gov.au
www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Tuesday, 30 September 2025

Ms Kirsten Kelly

Electoral Commissioner

Northern Territory Electoral Commission

GPO Box 2419

Darwin NT 0801

Dear Ms Kelly,

The first meeting of the 5th Council of MacDonnell Regional Council was held on Thursday and Friday, 25 and 26 September 2025.

Following the Declaration by the Elected Members, Council confirmed by resolution that the Principal Member and Deputy Principal Member shall have the titles of President and Deputy President respectively. A ballot for the position of Principal Member was not required as there was only one nomination for the position. A secret ballot was taken to vote on the appointment of the Deputy Principal Member. The following motions were subsequently resolved:

- That Council appoints Cr Roxanne Kenny as the Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.
- That Council appoints Cr Maryanne Malbunka as the Deputy Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.

Council looks forward to building upon the hard work and achievements of previous Councils, as we work towards achieving our goals and objectives aimed at improving the lives of MacDonnell Regional Council residents.

Kind regards,



Belinda Urquhart

Chief Executive Officer

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY



NOMINATION GUIDELINES

LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER LONG SERVICE AWARD

Introduction

LGANT is committed to recognising and awarding long-term contributions of local authority members to the local government sector and its communities. Local Authority Member Long Service Awards will be presented to local authority members in recognition of having served 10 years or more for any NT local government regional council and **calculated from when they were implemented in 2014**.

Guidelines

Eligibility

Current local authority members who have completed 10 or more years of continuous service. Service will be recognised in five-year increments (10, 15, 20, 25, 30+).

Nominations

Local authority members must be nominated by their council by submitting the Local Authority Member Long Service Award form below.

The form must be certified to be correct by the council Chief Executive Officer to which the member is currently serving. In the event the member represented another council, the Chief Executive Officer should seek written confirmation from an appropriate source prior to certifying the information on this form.

Nature and Presentation of the Award

The award will be in the form of a quality certificate of appreciation detailing the length of service. Certificates will be posted to councils. Councils are invited to incorporate the presentation of this award into their own council meetings or other suitable occasion. LGANT recognition of nominated recipients for the year will also be acknowledged during the November conference dinner.

Application

Please complete the application form below and email to info@lgant.asn.au.

Applications close each year on the **first Tuesday of October**.

P (08) 8944 9697 **A** 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820
E info@lgant.asn.au PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804
W lgant.asn.au ABN: 35 662 805 503

We are local. We connect.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY



NOMINATION FORM

LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER LONG SERVICE AWARD

Nomination Details

Local Authority Member Long Service Awards are open to current council officers who have served 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30+ years for Northern Territory local government regional council.

Applicant's Name	Rosemary Matasia		
Job Title	Local Authority Member		
Council	MacDonnell Regional Council		
Contact Number	Click or tap here to enter text.	Email Address	Click or tap here to enter text.

Please tick which award is sought:

- Local Authority Member Long Service Award – 10 Years
 Local Authority Member Long Service Award – 25 Years
 Local Authority Member Long Service Award – 15 Years
 Local Authority Member Long Service Award – 30+ Years
 Local Authority Member Long Service Award – 20 Years

Length of service

Please indicate the length of service as a local authority member. If it has been for more than one council, please specify each council to the relevant period.

	Name of council	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
1	MacDonnell Regional Council	January 2015	Current
2	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
3	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
4	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
5	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
6	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded

If more space is required, please provide the information on a separate piece of paper and have it certified.

Certification

This form must be certified to be correct by the council Chief Executive Officer to which the applicant is or was elected. In the event the applicant served on another council not previously affiliated with the current one, the council Chief Executive Officer should seek written confirmation from an appropriate source prior to certifying the information on this form.

Signature		Date	01.10.2025 Click or tap to enter a date.
------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------	---------------------------------------------

(Chief Executive Officer)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY



NOMINATION GUIDELINES

ELECTED MEMBER LONG SERVICE AWARD

Introduction

LGANT is committed to recognising and awarding long-term contributions of elected members to the local government sector and their communities. Elected Member Long Service Awards will be presented to elected members in recognition of having served 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30+ years for any NT local government body.

Guidelines

Eligibility

Current and former elected members have completed 10 or more years of service. Service will be recognised in five-year increments (10, 15, 20, 25 or 30+). Service does not need to be continuous and includes elected members on community government councils prior to 2008.

Nominations

Elected members can be nominated by their council by submitting the Elected Members Long Service Award form below.

The form must be certified to be correct by the council Chief Executive Officer to which the applicant is or was elected. In the event the applicant served on another council not previously affiliated with the current one, the council Chief Executive Officer should seek written confirmation from an appropriate source prior to certifying the information on this form.

Nature and Presentation of the Award

The award will be in the form of a quality certificate of appreciation and accompanied by a lapel pin and will be presented during the November conference dinner.

Application

Please complete the application form below and email to info@lgant.asn.au.

Applications close each year on the **first Tuesday of October**.

P (08) 8944 9697

A 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820

E info@lgant.asn.au

PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804

W lgant.asn.au

ABN: 35 662 805 503

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY



NOMINATION FORM

ELECTED MEMBER LONG SERVICE AWARD

Nomination Details

Elected Member Long Service Awards are open to current council elected member who have served 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30+ years for any Northern Territory local government body.

Applicant's Name	Roxanne Kenny		
Job Title	President		
Council	MacDonnell Regional Council		
Contact Number	Click or tap here to enter text.	Email Address	roxanne.kenny@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Please tick which award is sought:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elected Member Long Service Award – 10 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> Elected Member Long Service Award – 25 Years |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elected Member Long Service Award – 15 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> Elected Member Long Service Award – 30+ Years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elected Member Long Service Award – 20 Years | |

Length of service

Please indicate the length of service as an elected member. If it has been for more than one council, please specify each council to the relevant period.

	Name of council	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
1	MacDonnell Regional Council	November 2008	Current
2	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
3	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
4	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
5	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded
6	Click or tap here to enter text.	Month/year commenced	Month/year concluded

If more space is required, please provide the information on a separate piece of paper and have it certified.

Certification

This form must be certified to be correct by the council Chief Executive Officer to which the applicant is or was elected. In the event the applicant served on another council not previously affiliated with the current one, the council Chief Executive Officer should seek written confirmation from an appropriate source prior to certifying the information on this form.

Signature		Date	1/10/2025
	(Chief Executive Officer)		

P (08) 8944 9697

A 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820

We are local. We connect.

E info@lgant.asn.au

PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804

W lgant.asn.au

ABN: 35 662 805 503



LGANT CALL FOR MOTIONS

P (08) 8944 9697 **A** 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820
E info@lgant.asn.au PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804
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CALL FOR MOTIONS

About this document

LGANT's purpose, as per the Strategic Plan 2025-2028, is to support and represent member councils to drive sustainable economic and social development of the Northern Territory community.

The purpose of *this* document is to provide a template for member councils to submit motions to LGANT on issues for consideration, such as governance, policy positions and advocacy efforts, at either the April or November General Meetings.

Policy positions are a statement or declaration of an organisation's stance on a particular topic(s). Further, LGANT seeks to influence public policy which is laws, guidelines and actions decided and taken by governments. Motions from councils help LGANT form its policy positions and statements that in turn, assist with advocacy efforts. LGANT's current policy statements can be found [here](#).

Advocacy is a broad term encompassing endeavours to achieve change. For LGANT, advocacy is activity undertaken to promote and influence issues that collectively effect local government.

Timeframes

This 'call for motion' template will usually accompany LGANT's notice of a General Meeting, but motions can be submitted at any time.

To make the agenda of a General Meeting, motions must be submitted in advance. Late motions will not be accepted (unless urgent) and will instead be referred to the next General Meeting.

If the motion is urgent, councils may consider calling a Special General Meeting or request the LGANT Board address through their meetings.

Other important information

There must only be ONE issue per motion. It is suggested that the council submitting the motion first discuss it with LGANT so they can outline existing activity or policies positions, if any, in the topic area and assist with developing the business case.

Motions need to be approved by resolution of the local government council prior to submission to LGANT.

LGANT will assess the motion for completeness and appropriateness and if necessary, discuss it with the submitting member council and request more information or redrafting before including in the General Meeting agenda. This process may require the council to re-endorse its motion. If there is not enough information, LGANT has the discretion to not accept the motion.

LGANT will draft a cover business paper for each motion and may present the final motions to the LGANT Board for review, before distribution to members via the final General Meeting agenda.

By submitting a motion, your council can move and speak to the motion at the General Meeting it is going to.

The better your council's argument or case, the more likely it is to be resolved by members. Resolved motions are minuted following the General Meeting, allocated to LGANT staff for action, and reported on at LGANT Board and General meetings.



TEMPLATE

CALL FOR MOTIONS

Member councils are invited to submit motions for debate to be included at General Meetings using this template.

Name of Council:

MacDonnell Regional Council

Contact person and title:

Ms Belinda Urquhart, Chief Executive Officer

Phone:

8958 9602

Email:

belinda.urquhart@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Motion title:

Concerns regarding NTEC election processes

Resolution sought (Motion):

Motions should be clear and concise and must be limited to one subject matter/ issue.

Consider the action your council wants LGANT to do for the local government sector e.g.,

- "Council calls on LGANT to...."
- "Council calls on the NT Government to...."
- "Council calls on the Australian Government to...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to assist with...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to develop a policy position on...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to review its policy position on...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to review the Constitution to...."

MacDonnell Regional Council calls on the Northern Territory Government to:

- conduct a formal review into NTEC's service delivery in remote and Indigenous communities during the 2025 Local Government elections;
- consider reforms that ensure greater collaboration between NTEC and Local Government to maximise participation and accessibility for all Central Australian residents; and
- review the cost structures imposed on Local Government by NTEC to ensure they are reasonable, transparent and equitable.



Supporting information:

Questions for consideration in drafting this section:

- What is the issue/opportunity the motion is addressing?
- How it came to light?
- If/how your council has tried to deal with it to date?
- If a legislative issue, what is the relevant Act?
- Does LGANT have an existing policy statement on the subject/issue? If yes, what is it?
- Is the motion relevant to the sector across the NT? If yes, how? If not, can the issue be dealt with through a different forum?
- What other councils have you spoken to about this motion?

Provide attachment/s if required.

At its meeting held on Thursday and Friday 25/26 September 2025, Council expressed its concern regarding the implemented voting schedule offered to residents in remote indigenous communities by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC) in the recent Local Government elections. Council also noted that Local Government actively supported the process through community engagement, stakeholder meetings, and local publicity regarding voting days and times, within the constraints of the NTEC schedule.

Council confirmation:

I, Belinda Urquhart, the Chief Executive Officer, hereby confirm that this motion was approved by resolution of council on Friday, 26 September 2025 for presentation at the next LGANT General Meeting.

In submitting this motion, I confirm that the council has (please tick):

- consulted with other NT councils to confirm the motion is relevant to the sector more broadly;
- reviewed LGANT's [Constitution](#), [Governance Charter](#), [Policy Statements](#), and [Strategic Plan](#) in preparing this motion; and
- provided enough information to enable members to make a considered decision on whether to support or otherwise.

Signature:  Date: 07.10.2025



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www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Monday, 13 October 2025

Senator the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy

Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians and Indigenous Health

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Subject: Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) funding outcome
— inability to proceed due to shortfall

Dear Minister McCarthy,

I am writing regarding the recent Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) application submitted by MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC). We were pleased to learn that six (6) positions were approved in principle; however, the funding offered was not granted in line with the requested amount in the application.

This initiative is of great importance to our communities, and I am particularly mindful of preserving the six (6) proposed roles, which we believe are critical to the program's success. To ensure the robustness of our bid, MRC engaged an external subject matter expert to develop a budget that accurately reflected the true costs of program delivery in remote contexts.

As a council that is approximately 90% grant-funded, MRC is not in a position to subsidise the core business costs required to deliver new programs. These essential corporate services include, but are not limited to, administrative support, human resources, payroll, finance, information technology, and governance functions. Without full cost recovery for these components, program sustainability and accountability are at risk.

By way of context, MRC currently maintains a working reserve of approximately \$5 million. The identified funding gap of \$1.2 million represents



a substantial and economically unsustainable commitment relative to our reserve position and broader service obligations.

Should there be future consideration of our original application and its full funding request, we would welcome the opportunity to re-engage in discussions. However, regrettably the resulting shortfall is too significant for MRC to absorb, and we must therefore decline the current offer.

We remain committed to partnering with the Commonwealth to drive employment and economic development in remote communities and would value any pathway that enables the RJED initiative to proceed on a fully funded basis.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Roxanne Kenny

President
MacDonnell Regional Council

14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT

ITEM NUMBER 14.1
TITLE Council President's Report
AUTHOR Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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 details the meetings attended by President Roxanne Kenny since the June 2025 meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the President's report for the period 5th June to 17th October 2025.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Meetings attended:

- Ordinary Council Workshop 19th June
- Ordinary Council Meeting 20th June
- Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2nd July
- Imanpa Local Authority Meeting 3rd July
- Special Council Meeting 15th July
- Mt Liebig Local Authority Meeting 23rd July
- Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting 24th July
- Finance and Risk Committee Meeting 25th July
- Finance and Risk Committee Meeting 29th August
- Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 3rd September
- Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 4th September
- Ordinary Council Workshop 24th September
- Ordinary Council Meeting 25th and 26th September
- Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 2nd October
- Audit Committee Meeting 3rd October
- Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 7th October
- Kintore Local Authority Meeting 8th October
- Papunya Local Authority Meeting 9th October
- Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 15th October

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

President Roxanne Kenny
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT

ITEM NUMBER	14.2
TITLE	CEO Report
AUTHOR	Belinda Urquhart, Chief Executive 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 details the events and meetings attended by CEO Belinda Urquhart during the reporting period.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the CEO report for the period July to October 2025.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Over the past quarter, MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) has continued to strengthen organisational capability, deepen community engagement, and position our region for long-term resilience. The period has been characterised by disciplined governance, proactive risk and crisis preparedness, strong external assurance outcomes, and strategic advocacy across regional and national platforms.

Our vision remains clear: to serve our communities with integrity and care, to build capacity in the next generation, and to oversee the economic, cultural, and environmental assets of our region.

NAIDOC 2025 and Community Wellbeing

- On 11 July, staff across MRC celebrated NAIDOC Week under the theme “The Next Generation – Strength, Vision and Legacy.” The smoking ceremony, reflective activities, and shared morning tea reaffirmed our commitment to recognising and supporting the enduring cultures, histories, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



- On 11 September, MRC hosted R U OK? Day events across the region, creating space for meaningful conversations on mental health and wellbeing. The Alice Springs Support Office joined with Central Desert Regional Council for a shared lunch, strengthening inter-council community ties.



Governance, Assurance and Compliance

- The NTG Compliance team conducted a three-day review across Governance, Human Resources, IT, and Finance. Staff provided timely, transparent access to information throughout. While formal findings are pending, interim feedback indicates no critical issues and anticipates a positive outcome.
- Our external audit meeting on 3 October recorded a significant milestone: the auditor commended this year's financial statements as the strongest in the past decade. This reflects sustained improvements in financial stewardship and reporting quality. Particular acknowledgement to Finance Manager, Osman Kassem, for leading the preparation of reports and acquittals.
- NIAA completed a random audit of our Youth program, focusing on Workplace Health and Safety, risk assessments and excursions, and staff compliance (Ochre cards and criminal history checks). All areas were found sound and compliant, affirming program integrity and governance maturity.

Strategic Programs and Tendering

- In response to community requests via Local Authorities, MRC submitted tenders to deliver the Community Development Program (CDP) in Santa Teresa/Titjikala and Hermannsburg/Areyonga. Despite a strong, expert-supported submission, we were unsuccessful in this round. We note sector-wide change in CDP allocations, with numerous incumbent councils appealing processes and contract changes. We will continue to assess opportunities that align with community requests and MRC's risk appetite, resourcing and impact criteria.

Leadership, Advocacy and Partnerships

- I attended the CEO Local Government conference in Tweed Shire (30–31 July, 1 August), with a central focus on disaster management and preparedness - insights that inform our evolving resilience frameworks.
- Participation in the LGANT CEO Forum (13 August) and LGANT Special General Meeting (10 October) supported strategic alignment across NT Local Government priorities.

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

- I attended the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation graduation at Earth Sanctuary; we are considering this program for high-potential leaders within MRC to strengthen our management pipeline.
- Engagement with the Local Government Management Association (QLD) on 10–12 September provided valuable insights and networks across QLD, NSW, and NT.
- At the Outback Way AGM (16–17 September), discussions centered on critical infrastructure and road upgrades. I successfully advocated for the 2026 AGM to be held in Alice Springs, bringing national attention and partners to our region.



Board and Committee Appointments

- Appointed to the Board of Saltbush Social Enterprises, a Darwin-based Indigenous organisation focused on grassroots economic participation and self-determination.
- Appointed to the committee of Regional Development Australia – NT (RDA NT), which advances regional economic success, environmental sustainability, and liveability through strategic partnerships. These appointments enhance MRC's influence and access to collaborative opportunities that benefit our communities.



Risk, Resilience and Preparedness

- Organisational Risk Management workshops (15–16 September) with the management group, led by an external consultant previously engaged in 2020, refreshed our risk appetite settings across strategic and key operational domains. The process emphasised continuous reassessment of existing risks, identification of emerging risks, and the strengthening of internal controls and treatment plans. Final documents, including the Risk Management Report, will be presented to Council in December.

- Critical Incident Planning and Crisis Management training was delivered in Alice Springs (2–3 October). Day one focused on best-practice frameworks; day two exercised a live scenario to clarify roles, responses, and responsibilities. Further exercises are scheduled for March 2026 to embed capability and reinforce readiness.
 - Note: This work aligns with national trends in disaster risk reduction and ensures MRC’s preparedness for complex incidents impacting remote service delivery.



Local Authority Engagement

I attended Local Authority meetings in:

- Areyonga (16 July; 15 October)
- Mt Liebig (23 July; 1 October)
- Papunya (24 July; 9 October)
- Docker River (28 July)
- Santa Teresa (3 September)
- Titjikala (4 September)
- Amoonguna (2 October)
- Haasts Bluff (14 October)

These engagements continue to anchor Council decision-making in local priorities, ensuring we remain responsive to community needs and accountable to our constituents.

Forward Outlook

- We anticipate receipt of the NTG compliance findings and will action any recommendations promptly.
- The risk management documentation scheduled for December will inform our FY2026 planning cycle, including strategic initiatives, program design, and budget settings.
- We will continue to identify targeted opportunities for workforce development, particularly through leadership programs and learning, to build organisational depth.
- Infrastructure advocacy through the Outback Way and RDA NT will remain a focus, given the transformative potential of roads and digital connectivity for service access, safety, and economic participation.
- In program development, we will remain disciplined - aligning to community mandate, measurable impact, and risk – while pursuing partnerships that amplify outcomes across youth, employment, health and wellbeing, and local enterprise.

Good news story

MRC is consolidating its strengths: strong financial governance, positive compliance outcomes, maturing risk practices, and deeper regional influence through strategic partnerships. Our path is both practical and aspirational - anchored in community voices and guided by a long-term vision for resilient, thriving communities across the MacDonnell region.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Attendance by the CEO at meetings and events demonstrates MRC's commitment to supporting its communities and the organisation and the entities with which MRC is associated and/or affiliated. Attending these meetings ensures that MRC is kept up-to-date and abreast of issues relevant to its activities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Council President

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.1
TITLE Council Services OCM Report
AUTHOR Keith Hassett, Director Council Services

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 outlines the activities of the Council Services Directorate in the areas of Local Government Service Delivery, Housing and Facilities Management, Contractual Commercial Services and Projects.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes and accepts the attached report.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Nil

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil

CONSULTATION

Keith Hassett - Director Council Services
Ken Satour - Area Manager
Stuart Millar - Area Manager
Damien Ryan - Area Manager
Benny Alick – A/Area Manager
Mark O'Bryan – A/Manager Contracts and Projects
Ruth Tahere – a/Manager Project Management Office
Kitty Comerford - Manager Housing & Facilities
Council Services Coordinators
Senior Administration

ATTACHMENTS

1 Council Services Report



Council Services

September 2025



83%+ First Nations Employees in Council Services



64 Area Manager Visits to Community



13 Council Office's 1976 Hours of Service

Snapshot



11,474+ Litres approx Fuel Usage in June and July



220 Vehicles and Plant in Use



4000+ Bins Emptied Weekly



12 AusPost Deliveries



30+ Sport Grounds Maintained



202 Total housing maintenance issues reported between July '25 and Sept '25



20 Registered Services Australia Agents



14 Parks & Playgrounds Inspections



100% of Streetlights converted to LED



16 Water Tests



33 Generator Services



30 Hours of Maintenance completed at Airstrip

Council Services - Animal Management

The animal management program continues to progress strongly across all communities in the region. Two visits have been completed, with over 76% of cats and dogs receiving broad-spectrum, high-quality antiparasitic treatment.

The education program held across July/August/September was of particular success, with 200 students and 64 staff engaged across all communities. The program focused on the importance of desexing pets to support healthier, safer communities and curb aggressive behaviours.

Community engagement overall appears to be increasing, and updated policies and procedures are being developed to strengthen the council's animal management strategy toward 2026.

Looking ahead, participation in the upcoming G2Z workshop is expected to support improved outcomes for veterinary programs, particularly in high-volume, high-quality desexing techniques.



Council Services - Community updates

Amoonguna

Amoonguna recently underwent a full street reseal, with works commencing on 11 September 2025 by Boral.

The civil team is to be commended for their excellent preparation, which included removing all speed humps and loose branches throughout the community before the resealing began. Boral provided their own traffic management during the project, and the community now looks great with the newly completed roadworks.

Amoonguna is also set to receive a new playground, with funding currently being allocated for the new equipment at Stuart Park. The community has received new rubbish bins and one new bin trailer, which have both been delivered.

Staffing remains stable, with a permanent ESO and a relief ESO on community. The civil and administration teams, led by CSC Victor Morgan, continue to perform strongly and contribute to Council's mission of delivering valued and relevant services.



Areyonga

Areyonga has had a strong focus on team development in the past month with CSC Benny Alick stepping into higher duties as an Area Manager overseeing Finke, Docker River and Imanpa.

During this time Areyonga Team Leader Beau Lord has moved into the CSC role and is doing very well. New additions to the civil team are performing well and have brought with them new ideas and a strong desire to better their community.

The team in Areyonga are consistently looking to advance in everything they do whether that be working to improve the community or working on improving themselves. This drive is well reflected how well the community is looking and how the MRC team out there has developed into such a close knit and passionate unit.

Docker River

Docker River had been under the watch of Relief CSC Kelly Ryan while CSC Stephen Trindle had been away. Docker River SDC and Civil have been working hard in his absence; keeping the community running along nicely.

The streets of Docker River have been cleaned and civil should be proud of themselves for the work, as well as the result. While streets are cleaned, the sign posts require a little adjustment.

MRC’s Animal Management Coordinator, Michelle, provided training at the school on the 26th August. Michelle talked to the kids about how to look after your pets while you’re away and provided worming treatments for dogs and cats. Michelle noticed an improvement in animal health since her last visit and will be back in Community in on Tuesday, 21st October.

Civil team have been busy – between slashing and their usual duties, they also found time to catch up with their GTNT Training Mentor to update on their progress.



Finke

Finke is doing very well and things appear to be going smoothly.

We are in the process of recruiting a new CSC and looking for the right candidate to rung the community. Joe Rawson, ESO, has done a great job in the CSC space.

Jacob Hoosan is showing great potential as the ESO in Training. The Finke team are continuing to enjoy the work around community.

MRC Finke’s Civil team members have put a lot of effort into keeping the community clean. This includes, as shown above and below, the team doing a hard rubbish collection and removal.



MRC ESO in Training Jacob Hoosan has been training alongside relief ESO Joe Rawson, who states that Jacob is outstanding and will make a fantastic ESO.

Haasts Bluff

Completed Local Authority project, repair to Church Lectern.

As water scarcity and climate resilience continue to be key challenges for local governments, we are trialing the Groasis, waterboxx.

Following the Waterboxx trial we have ordered citrus trees to grow in the community.

Stakeholder experience Haasts Bluff

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency Australia recently visited Haasts Bluff

The programme travelled with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders youth from Darwin, Mt Isa and coastal communities across Queensland.

Their project teaches leadership and the benefit of providing community assistance.

During their visit they assisted MRC by painting the large tree pots around the centre of the community and distributed food hampers and parcels of clothing.



Hermannsburg

Hermannsburg is continually moving forward with the civil team dedicated to their work. The team have been slashing and mowing to reduce fuel load before the heat of the summer months starts to set in.

New construction at the basketball court has been completed and works for the new change rooms at the footy oval have commenced. This will see Hermannsburg with some of the best sporting facilities that a remote community could have to offer.

In addition to the sports and rec infrastructure, MRC will soon begin works on a new Waste Management Facility to ensure that the community is serviced continually and waste is managed to a high standard for many years to come.



Council Services - Community updates

Imanpa

We are in the process of recruiting for a new CSC in Imanpa. Although this has been a lengthy process, the community is being kept extremely clean thanks to the Civil Team. The Service Centre has received a tidy-up also and is looking much better

New Fire Trailer is ready and operational. Shane Wongway, ESO, has ¼ filled the tank and we have tested it on the basketball courts. It's fantastic! With 1,000 Litres, this unit will have multiple uses around community.

Community is looking very good with little to no litter around, as well as most of the grass already being cut. This will free civil up to undertake other priorities around community.



Kintore

AFL Oval has lights installed, awaiting connection. This facility will be a great asset throughout the year. New shade shelters have been installed around the main public area within the centre of activity. These shelters are for people waiting for the store or to meet.

One of the new shelters has new children playground installed and is well used by the youngsters.



Mt Liebig

Mt Liebig PWC Compounds are well maintained, Civil Team bagging up empty drink containers to be returned to Alice Springs.

Mt Liebig helping to recycle and remove product which otherwise would end up in Mt Liebig Landfill
New Sports Stadium completed and to be officially opened



Papunya

Papunya Post Office Boxes closed on outside of MRC Office with new Post Boxes installed inside

Civil Team completes a consistent rubbish collection around community, including Wheelie Bin pick up twice a week, Emu bob pick up and Hard waste collection

Santa Teresa

The civil team at Santa Teresa continues to work hard maintaining the community by keeping streets clean, rubbish removed, and grass mowed. Vegetation growth remains minimal due to overgrazing by stock, which has started to cause issues as animals enter residential areas.

Several infrastructure projects are progressing well. The new front entrance information sign for Santa Teresa Park has been completed and will be installed soon. The Santa Teresa Cemetery extension has been fenced, and contractors are on site installing a new shade structure and seating. Negotiations are ongoing for the new waste facility lease, which is currently awaiting approval from the Central Land Council (CLC).

Santa Teresa has received new rubbish bins and two new bin trailers, both of which have been delivered. The community is supported by a permanent ESO and a relief ESO. The civil and administration teams, under the leadership of CSC Lewis Gittoes, are doing an excellent job ensuring services are delivered effectively.

Council Services - Community updates

Titjikala

At Titjikala, the civil team continues to work diligently maintaining community areas, including street cleaning, rubbish removal, and mowing. Vegetation growth remains limited due to overgrazing, which has resulted in stock entering the community and residential yards.

There have been several positive infrastructure developments, including the completion of new football lights. The community recently held its first sports carnival under the new lights, marking an exciting milestone. A new cemetery has also been established, as the previous site had reached capacity.

Titjikala has received new rubbish bins and one new bin trailer, both delivered to the community. The community currently has a permanent ESO but no relief ESO, which remains a staffing priority. During this reporting period, Titjikala did not have a CSC; however, a new CSC has been appointed and will commence duties on 20th October.



Wallace Rockhole

There have been some steady improvements to the community over the past month with the team working on returning Wallace to its former glory as one of the regions tidiest communities.

While it still has a way to go it is great to see steps being taken to improve the overall condition and appearance of the community.

We are awaiting the installation of a new fence around Gordon Ida park which, combined with its playground will, make it a wonderful safe space for local kids to have fun. The community is considering a small scale football oval along with reduced size goal posts to provide some additional infrastructure for the youth of community to enjoy.



Council Services - Contracts update

Australia Post

Australia Post services at MRC help make sure letters and parcels are delivered reliably and on time. Keeping regular postal services helps community members stay in touch with family and receive important items. Lately, there's been an increase in parcels as more people are shopping online. A new scanner have been introduced to track parcels as they come in and out of the office.

Power and Water Contract – Indigenous Essential Services

We are currently recruiting for an ESO in Kintore. In the interim, Paul Fly has been supporting the community by continuing essential services work while recruitment is underway. Clint Heasley, the Team Leader, is currently undergoing training to become the designated relief ESO, ensuring continuity of services in the area.

Power and Water Corporation made special mention of both Paul Fly and Cameron Solly for their exceptional work in Papunya. The Power Technical Coordinator from PowerWater noted that “Papunya has never looked better,” highlighting the outstanding results delivered by our staff.

Streetlights

Community street lighting across our serviced areas are currently sitting at high operational capacity. MRC remains committed to "lighting the night" in our communities, working hard to provide reliable and responsive maintenance to keep our streets safe and well-lit for all residents.

Centrelink

MRC continues to prioritise staff training in the delivery of Centrelink services, as this is an ongoing requirement of the contract.

We are currently signing up more local staff to deliver this service. We are proud to receive consistently positive feedback from visiting remote Centrelink teams, who often comment on the friendliness and helpfulness of our local staff.

Homelands

The MRC Homelands include the communities of John Holland North, John Holland South, Mt Peachey, Oak Valley, and Alice Well. Area Manager Ken Satour looks after the needs of residents in these areas.

Recently, MRC carried out major repairs on House 3 in Mt Peachey. This included replacing the battery, changing the oil filter, and servicing the generator.

Kitty Comerford and Mark O'Bryan visited Green Valley to inspect the new toilet and shower block. After the inspection, they officially handed over maintenance of the outstation to the new outstation contracts caretaker.

Airstrips

Slashing and vegetation management are currently underway at both Docker River and Santa Teresa airstrips, ensuring safety and accessibility for all users.

In Kintore, the removal of the old fuel container at the airstrip has improved community safety. This container had been subject to multiple break-ins, posing a significant risk. With the removal of avgas, the risk of fuel ignition has been eliminated. This outcome represents a significant improvement in safety for the area.



Project Management Office

Ryan Rosenberg has officially commenced in the Project Officer role and is leading the oversight of LA projects and administration, performing strongly in the position.

The PMO is assessing the feasibility and associated costs of engaging a planner to consolidate community plans and develop a staged implementation strategy for each community.

LA Updates

A total of Twelve bin trailers have been ordered for various communities through their LA funds. These are currently making their way out to community and will assist in maintaining clean housing areas and communities.

Two water trailers are also on their way to Imanpa and Docker River to support community events and activities.

Imanpa is exploring the engagement of a planner to develop a community master plan with a strong focus on sport and recreation facilities. This plan will guide future infrastructure development and enhance community wellbeing and active lifestyles.

Healthy Community Events are being planned for early next year.

Major Projects

The PMO is nearing completion of four Australian Government Grants (liOC0256, PCIP0005, PCIP0004 & DSS) and two Northern Territory Government Funding (NTG) Tranche 1 projects, which is exciting.

Australian Government Grants.

liOC & PCIP0005 - Shade shelters now feature lighting, and some will include elevated seating to enhance viewing of sporting and community events.

PCIP0004 - Mount Liebig, completion is pending the fencing of the oval as well as power and water connection.

DSS - Upgrades at five youth centres are nearing completion. The project has provided improved community spaces that function as hubs for events, fostering opportunities for families and youth to connect, share meals, and engage in positive social interaction.

Northern Territory Government

Tranche 1 - Light towers at Kintore and Titjikala have now been successfully installed, and the project is currently in the closeout phase. Planning of official opening events has commenced. Titjikala recently hosted its first sporting carnival under the new lights, marking a significant milestone for the community.

Works are still progressing on two Australian Government Grants, with activities continuing across the project sites.

PCIP0006 - Hermannsburg changerooms has begun construction.

PCIP0016 - Papunya changerooms are currently being re-costed by a modular building design company.

Tranche 2 projects are waiting for official funding agreements on the 10 projects.

The West Macs projects have been assigned to Papunya at this stage - Orchard, Pump Track and splash pad. After further consultation from Ngurratjuta, it has been requested that the Orchard be moved to Haasts Bluff. PMO is looking at possibility of this.



Housing and Facilities Update

This report provides an update on the status of the current refurbishment and projects to Council houses and facilities

Capital Works Progress Update

This report provides an update on the status of the ongoing capital works projects for the 2024/2025 period. The following outlines completed works, works currently allocated, and projects in the planning phase.

Completed Projects

The following capital works projects have been successfully completed:

Papunya Lot 453b – Council Office

- Removal of postal boxes



Santa Teresa Lot 150 – Council Office

- New fence installation at the Council Office



Ongoing and Allocated Works

The following projects are currently underway or have been allocated to contractors.

Titjikala - Lot 82 (Staff House)

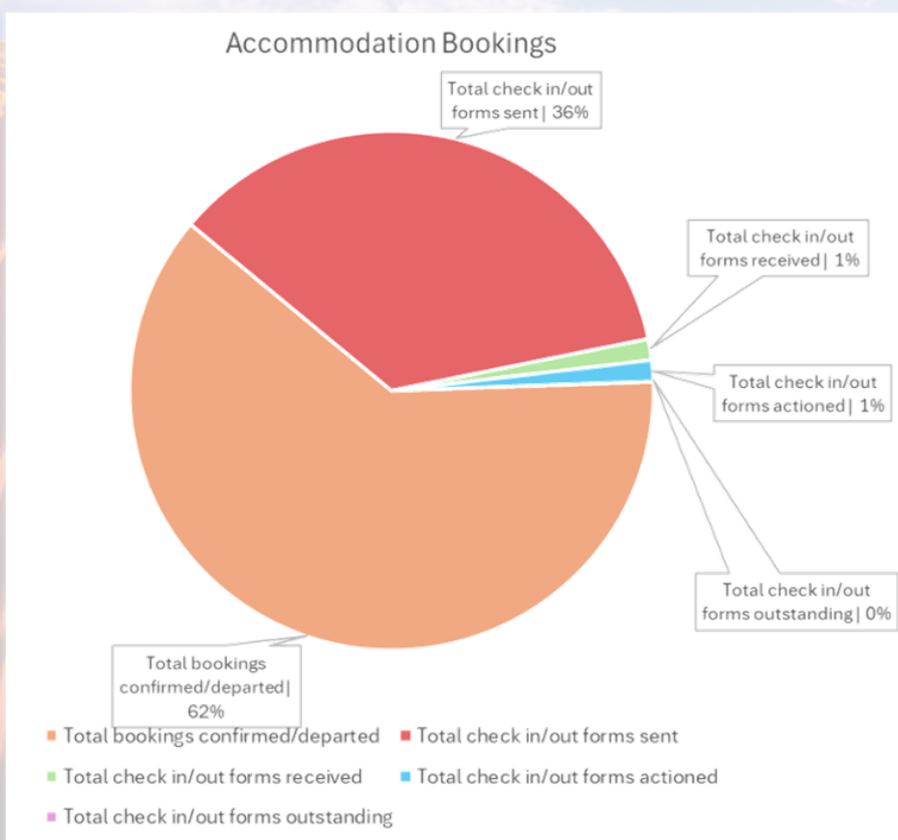
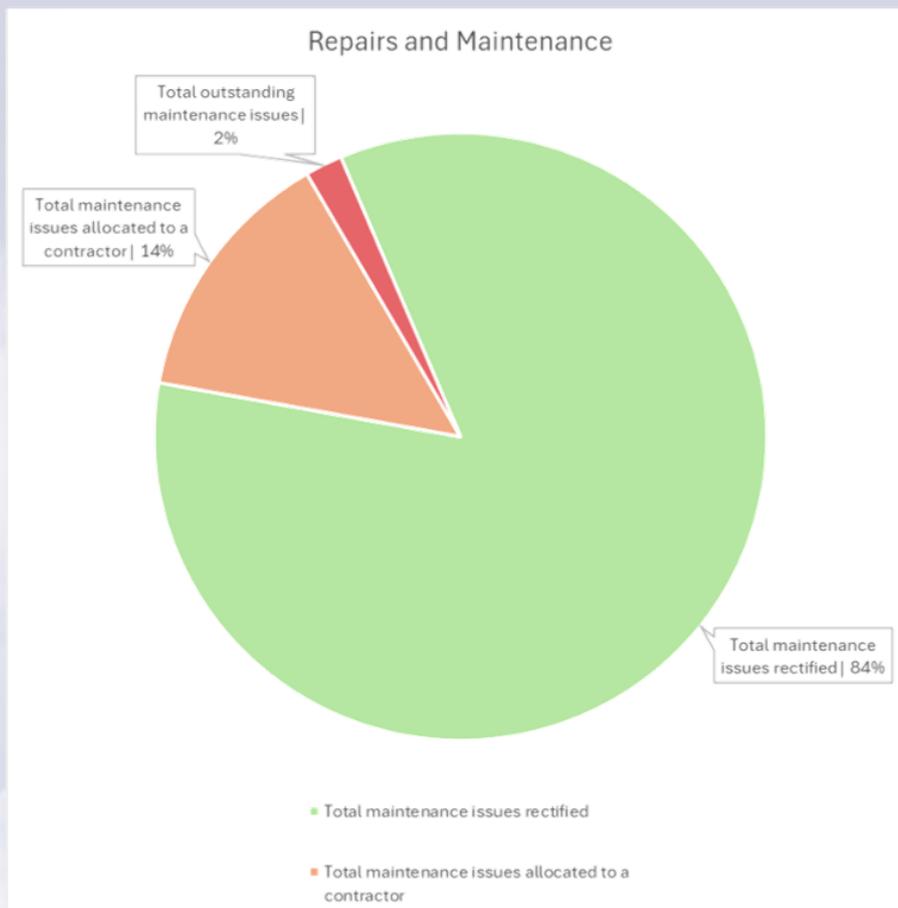
- replacement of damaged vinyl plank flooring

Docker River - Lot 178 (Staff House)

- ceiling repaint (insurance works)

Areyonga - Lot 58 (Council Office)

- Upgrade to meeting room



15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.2
TITLE Aged and Children's Services Report
AUTHOR Ainsley Roscrow, Manager Children Services

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 for September 2025, throughout the MRC region.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes and accepts the attached Aged and Children's Services report.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The extent of the activities of the Council's Aged and Children's Services Directorate are detailed in the attached snapshots.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Aged and Children's Services programs are delivered in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant agreements entered into with the funding agencies

CONSULTATION

Ainsley Roscrow - Executive Manager of Aged and Children' Services
Emma Hacche - Senior Coordinator of Aged Care
Coordinators and Admin.

ATTACHMENTS

1 Aged and Children's Services OCM - September 2025



Council Report Children Services September 2025



33 Employees
75.75% First Nation

130 Enrolments



Training

- 2 Team Leaders Enrolled in Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care
- 3 Team Leaders Graduated after completing Cert III Early Childhood Education and Care
- 6 Educators Enrolled in Cert III Early Childhood Education and Care
- 2 Team Leader completed CPR training
- Completed NAPCAN Child Protection & Mandatory Reporting: 2 Coordinator



Service Delivery
488.5 Hours



233 - Meals served



Vacancies
2 Team leaders
6 Educators



Support
170 Coordinator & Manager support
across 8 open Centres



Stakeholder Engagement

- Dept of Health: Primary & Public Health care
- Dept of Health: Strong women, strong babies, strong culture
- NT Primary Health: Education
- NT Primary Health: Dietitian
- NPY
- National Indigenous Australians Agency: Community Plan
- ECA - Inclusion Team
- Children Services Head Office Team
- NTG - Environmental Health Officer

Highlights

Staff Achievements

- Finke – The Team Leader successfully completed a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care through the Bachelor Institute.
- Hermannsburg & Haasts Bluff – Team Leaders achieved their Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, graduating from the Bachelor Institute.

Centre Updates

- Docker River – The centre has seen a strong increase in enrolments and received positive community feedback. It has also been upgraded with new and long-needed resources.
- Areyonga – The centre has reopened after a period of closure due to staff shortages. A community BBQ celebrated the reopening with excellent attendance. The centre was cleaned, restocked, and supplied with new resource. Successful recruitment of a new Coordinator

Community Engagement

- Across all sites, there has been a noticeable increase in enrolments, successful open days, and strong family and community involvement.





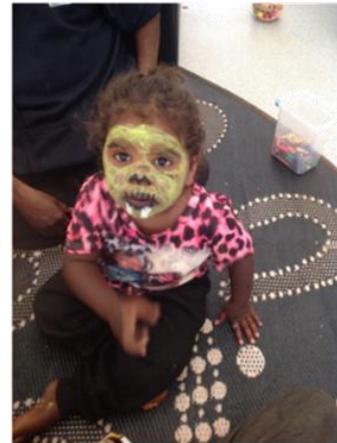
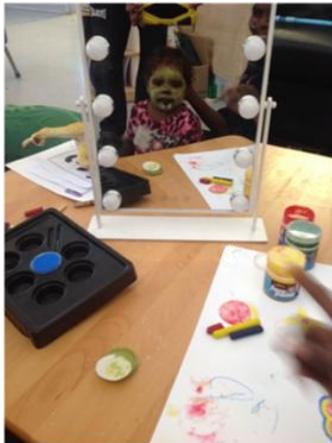
Council Report Children Services September 2025



Staff Achievements – Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care
We are incredibly proud to celebrate our dedicated staff Christine Allen, Amal Ahmed, and Annie Press who have successfully graduated with their Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care. Their hard work, commitment, and passion for early learning continue to inspire our teams and strengthen the quality of care and education in our Centres. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!



Council Report Children Services September 2025



Finke Childcare – Learning Through Play and Creativity
The children at Finke Childcare have been busy exploring creativity, imagination, and connection through play-based learning. From painting and face art to storytelling and sensory play, the activities encouraged self-expression, communication, and confidence.



Council Report Children Services September 2025



Titjikala Childcare – Exploring, Creating, and Learning Together

Children at Titjikala Childcare have been actively engaged in a variety of fun and educational experiences that support creativity, coordination, and communication. Tracing on a magnetic writing board helped improve early handwriting skills and fine motor development.

The Battle of the Bands activity, held in line with a community event, encouraged children to explore rhythm, sound, and hand-eye coordination through music and movement.

During reading time, children enjoyed stories that foster early literacy, imagination, and language development.





Council Report Children Services September 2025



Mt Liebig Childcare – Hands-On Learning and Play
Children at Mt Liebig Childcare explored sensory play, sorting activities, and creative art experiences that support fine motor skills, focus, and self-expression. These activities encouraged curiosity, teamwork, and joyful learning in a safe, nurturing environment.





Council Report Children Services September 2025



Haasts Bluff Childcare – Welcoming New Faces and Fun Learning
We welcomed our new educator Jazmyn to the centre. The children Ali, Zaindha, and Keifer enjoyed a fun water play activity, washing clothes, cleaning dolls, and drying towels together while laughing and working as a team.
Jazmyn joined the children in making mini pizzas, where they loved preparing toppings and sharing their creations. Keifer and Ali also explored colour mixing, combining red and yellow paint to discover orange, enjoying the sensory experience of painting with their hands.





Council Report Children Services September 2025



Haasts Bluff Childcare – Fun, Connection
The educator guided the children in a ball-blowing activity, bringing laughter and joy. This experience supported **Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity as they built positive relationships through shared play.**





Council Report Children Services September 2025



Haasts Bluff Childcare – Family, Culture, and Community
Families joined us in creating our centre philosophy, inspired by the theme “Bush Medicine.” It was a wonderful opportunity to share ideas, stories, and cultural knowledge together.
They also held a BBQ party with families and the community a joyful time to share food, talk, and strengthen relationships. These moments help us stay connected and support one another.





Council Report Aged Care Services September 2025



94.8% Indigenous Employment
Community Vacancies: FT: 1 PT:7 Cas:5



Stakeholders' engagements: 7 reported
Including: School Committee, Allied Health, Dementia Australia and Clinic meetings



Transport provided
151 lifts given



Client Interactions: 326
This includes client welfare checks and client engagement at the Aged Care Centres



Personal Care provided: 137
Including:
shower & toilet assistance,
laundry loads, tablet reminders.



Active Clients: 89



Training
Fortnightly Toolbox talks
Coordinator Training
Nutrition Training



Meals
Breakfast, lunches
& Hampers: 2263
SNP Meals delivered: 791

UPDATES

- We have ongoing recruitment challenges to fill the Home Care coordinator position for Areyonga and Hermannsburg as well as the Home Care Assistant roles in Areyonga.
- We continue to see disruptions due to community-based staff attendance, recruitment & retention challenges.
- Many of our centers and services have been impacted throughout the month due to staff absences and sorry business
- We held another successful two-day training session for coordinators in September which included an information session on the current Digital Health Project being led by Menzies School of Health Research and external training from The Hindwood Institute: 'Working Effectively as a Team'

Septembers Coordinator Team Building / Training Development



NT Nutrition Training held with staff in Haasts Bluff



15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.3
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 Youth and Community Safety services for September 2025, throughout the MRC region.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes and accepts the attached Youth and Community Safety Services report.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The extent of the activities of the Council's Youth and Community Safety Directorate are detailed in the attached snapshots.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Youth and Community Safety programs are delivered in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant agreements entered into with the funding agencies

CONSULTATION

Libby Taylor – Executive Manager of Youth and Community Safety
Sarah Grant - Senior Coordinator of Community Safety
Sara Mcilduff - Senior Coordinator of Youth Services
Coordinators and Admin.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Youth and Community Safety OCM - September 2025



Council Report

MacSafe Community Safety September 2025



- 62 staff employed
- 94% staff are Aboriginal
- 100% Community based staff are Aboriginal
- 1,043 Hours Patrolled
- 3,475 Hours Worked



**1,854 Engagements
with young people**



**1,912 Engagements
with over 18's**



**415 Young people
taken home**



**50 Training
Hours**



**465 Are you okay?
Checks**



**6 Community
gatherings**

Updates



- During this reporting period Community Safety welcomed Libby Taylor as the Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety.
- Rajnil Kumar has returned to the role of Coordinator Community Safety. Rajnil is supporting Titjikala, Santa Teresa, Hermannsburg and Amoonguna.
- Community Safety is recruiting for a fourth Coordinator, and recently held interviews for the Senior Coordinator.
- Computer, Scanner, MacSafe App, Fleetio App, MaintainX QR Code Training across nearly all communities this month.
- Recruitment has been underway at Docker River, Papunya, Haasts Bluff and Mt Liebig, Coordinators have been interviewing for additional staff. The teams in these communities have been operating at limited hours, due to being short staffed.
- Kintore had a huge week of celebrations early this month which Community Safety supported. The community were celebrating 41 years of Pintupi Health, 25 years of Purple House and 16 years of Red Dust Role Models providing services to the community, it was a fantastic week.

Photos of Kintore Celebrations



**Michael Gallagher Community Safety
Officer at Kintore who was the MC at the
Kintore celebrations**



**Michael Gallagher & Jeffrey
Jackson installing blinds in
the Kintore MacSafe Office**



**Michael Gallagher
changing MacSafe vehicle
tyre**



Wilbur Poulson installing blinds and cleaning the vehicle at Areyonga MacSafe Office

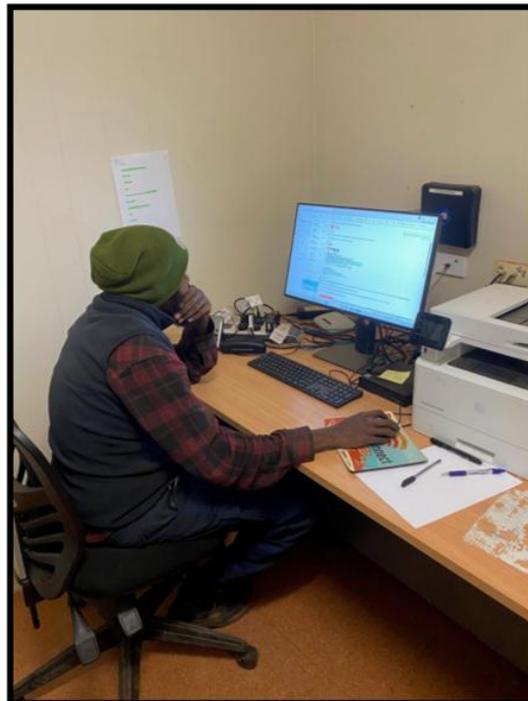


Selwyn Burke, Daniel Burke, Thaddeus Brady patrolling in Docker River

**Rodney Lambourne & Henry
Carrol completing MacSafe
App refresher training**



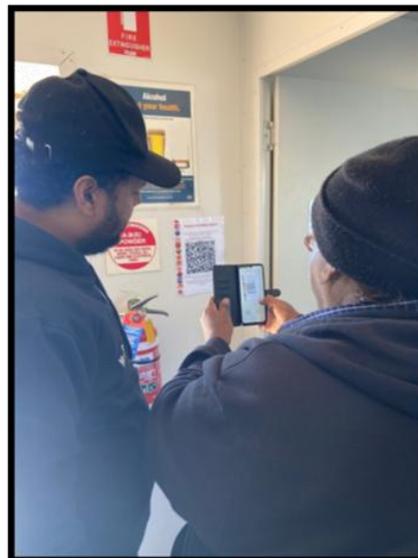
**Miachel Gallagher (Kintore)
learning how to scan and email
timesheets**



**Roger Wilyuka (Titjikala) learning how
to scan and email timesheets**



**Ashley Wiseman (Imanpa)
scanning through
timesheets**



**Rajnil Kumar & Wayne
Young completing training
in MaintainX**



Hermannsburg MacSafe Team Meeting



Youth Services September 25



Employees

70 staff
88 % Local Staff



Activities

291 activities
1342 hours



Engagements

645 Participant
3868 Engagement



Bush / Town Trip

3



School Support

3



Training

0



Youth Board

1



Sport

95



Events

6

Highlights



- **Kintore 40 th celebration** :Mac Youth celebrated with the community during Kintore's 40th Anniversary Week. The celebrations included various activities such as sports, discos, storytelling, and concerts.
- **Youth managemnet structure and operating hours**:Youth Services and Community Safety will merge into a single joint department, which will be led by an Executive Manager of Youth Services and Community Safety. The operating hours have changed from Tuesday–Saturday to Monday–Friday.
- **School Holiday Program**-School holiday program was running across communities for 2 weeks over September and October. Children and young people engaged in safe, positive, and fun activities throughout the holiday period.
- **Youth Board Meetings**- During the reporting period, one Youth Board meeting was held in Mt Liebig on 10th of September 2025. This was the second meeting for the year. Members discussed ideas for youth program and community infrastructure improvements, and took part in a short leadership session focused on developing communication skills.
- **Staff Development and Operations**-Mary Ebatarinja from Areyonga provided training on the Creatio app, and Reggie Lankin delivered 4WD training to local staff within the community. These are great examples of staff upskilling and empowerment in action.

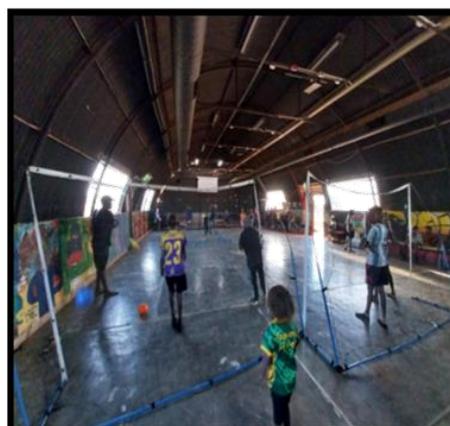
1.Kintore girls are enjoying a game of basketball.



2..MacYouth Areyonga Organising face painting and drawing to engage kids in indoor games.



4.MacYouth Papunya organised an evening dodgeball session, where the kids actively participated and enjoyed the game.



3.Kintore kids come in the morning for breakfast, then head out until the next program.



5.MtLiebig Youths are playing Indoor Pool games



15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.4
TITLE Youth Board Meetings - Council Feedback
AUTHOR Kaisa Suumann, Coordinator Youth Boards

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 03: Empowered Communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to provide feedback to Council from the meetings of MacDonnell Regional Council's Youth Boards, including matters discussed and to request the support of Council for the recommendations made.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) **notes the Youth Board Meetings – Council Feedback report; and**
- b) **considers the support Council will approve in relation to the recommendations made.**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Council has identified the establishment and operation of Youth Boards within its communities as one of its Strategic Goals – Goal #3 Empowered Communities, specifically Objective 3.1 – Young people are empowered to be engaged representatives.

Youth Boards have been established in all of MacDonnell Regional Councils communities and under the management of the Youth Boards Coordinator are functioning well. Since the September report to Council there has only been one Youth Board meeting which was held at Mt Liebig on 10 September 2025. The minutes from this meeting are attached.

As can be seen from these minutes the attendees are considering matters they consider important, be they of a program nature, funding requests or operational matters. This feedback provides insights into what the youth of MRC are thinking about.

Matters for Council's consideration

1. Feedback on Youth Services

Future program requests included:

- More softball activities; Team Leader to request Softball ground maintenance
- More girls' nights and additional girls' night equipment (hair colours, brushes, make-up)
- New net for soccer goal posts
- Sports bibs and cones
- New pool table (if funding becomes available); cue sticks required for current table.

2. Community Projects & Infrastructure Ideas

- New community stage or repair of the old one

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

As can be seen from the minutes attached the Youth of MRC's communities are receiving significant training and development in the process of attending meetings, leadership and

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

decision-making and roles performed at meetings. This goes a long towards the attainment of the Goals contained within MRC's Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Not applicable.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team
Youth Boards Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 MT LIEBIG YOUTH BOARD MEETING 10.9.2025 - MINUTES

Mt Liebig Youth Board

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 10/09/2025 at 3.35pm-5pm

Location: Mt Liebig Council Office Meeting Room

Youth Board Members: Dyson Wheeler, Reggie Turner, Tyson Daniels, Johnny Jugadai, Thomas Reid, Tommy Turner, Jeannetta Daniels, Laurabell Ceggley, Christie Turner, Christy Lee Abbott

Staff: Shayan Saberi, Kaisa Suumann

Minute Taker: Kaisa Suumann

Guests: Felix Wakire, Thomas Miller



1. Welcome & Meeting Rules

- Meeting opened with introductions and a check-in.
- Chairperson: Tommy Turner (elected by the Youth Board).
- Agenda for the day was presented.
- Meeting rules agreed by members:
 - Show respect to each other and staff
 - One person speaks at a time
 - Be honest and speak up
 - Make decisions that benefit all young people
 - Put phones away during the meeting

2. Leadership & Governance Training

Future Leaders Program – Lesson 2: Communication Skills

- Youth Board discussed the meaning of 'communication' and its four elements: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including where each is used.
- Activity: Practised active listening. Members drew an imaginary space, then explained it verbally to their partner without showing the drawing.

3. Review of Minutes & Action Items from 8 May 2025 Meeting

1. Benches around basketball court: Grandstand seating delivered incorrectly (9m without shade instead of two shaded seats). Youth Board voted to request the correct two separate shaded seats.
2. Water bubbler near basketball court: Water connection is in progress.

3. Sports equipment: \$1,000 allocated by Local Authority; order adjusted, and all items purchased and delivered in June 2025. Recommendation to close this action item.
4. AFL goal posts: Fence construction underway; funding for goal posts still required.
5. Gaming console for Rec Hall: Not funded by Local Authority. Suggested MacYouth funding, but concerns raised about cost. Alternative program ideas suggested for the youth to come up with. For example, learning how to take photos, music videos etc. Recommendation to close this action item.
6. Girls' night equipment (make-up, hair dyes, straightener): Supported under current youth program.
7. Disco ball & hi-vis vests: Approved as an operational purchase; to be bought by MacYouth.
8. Bush trips to creek & Yulara: Yulara trip for Youth Board members supported by Council in June 2025; bush trip to the creek planned for upcoming school holidays.
9. Footy competitions: Additional funding/staffing needed. Other organisations running similar activities. Suggested considering community talent shows or athletics days that MacYouth can run instead. Recommendation to close this action item.
10. More softball opportunities: Supported within the current program.
11. Dodgeball sessions: Equipment purchased (June 2025); now part of program. Recommendation to close this action item.
12. New pool table equipment: Purchased June 2025.
13. Softball ground maintenance: Service Delivery to follow up with CSC.

4. Feedback on Youth Services

Discussion on upcoming September-October school holidays:

- Youth plan to visit Papunya for haircuts.
- Breakfast program will be held in the Rec Hall during mornings.

Future program requests included:

- More softball activities; Team Leader to request Softball ground maintenance
- More girls' nights and additional girls' night equipment (hair colours, brushes, make-up)
- New net for soccer goal posts
- Sports bibs and cones
- New pool table (if funding becomes available); cue sticks required for current table.

5. Community Projects & Infrastructure Ideas

- New community stage or repair of the old one.
-

6. Next Meeting & Close

- Next meeting scheduled for February 2026.
- Meeting closed at 5:00 pm by the Chairperson.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.5
TITLE People and Capabilities Report
AUTHOR Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights current and completed HR initiatives or activities affecting Council and our number one resource – the people!

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The People & Capabilities Department reports to the Office of the CEO. This department contains the work Divisions of:

- 1) Human Resources
- 2) Cultural Advisory
- 3) Learning & Development
- 4) Work, Health, & Safety

These divisions of the P&C team work together to manage employee end-to-end career cycles which include recruitment, records administration, performance management, learning & development, employee relations, industrial relations, administrative processing, and overall employee wellbeing.

1. Recruitment:

The People & Capabilities (P&C) team has remained focused on strengthening MRC's workforce through both external and internal recruitment efforts across key operational areas.

Also, this month we have appointed a new P&C Generalist, who has extensive experience in recruitment and onboarding. As she settles in, we will be seeking her guidance on enhancing our recruitment processes, improving candidate experience, and supporting retention.

2. Work Health & Safety (WHS)

The WHS team has continued to focus on improving safety across all work areas through stronger risk management and planning. Updated safety plans and risk assessments have been developed in partnership with managers to ensure consistent practices across sites.

The team is also providing ongoing support and training to build awareness, reduce incidents, improve emergency response and promote a safety culture throughout the organisation.

3. Training & Development:

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

P&C has launched the new Learning Management System (LMS) to improve training efforts, development tracking, and staff engagement. The team will continue to support staff as they gain access and begin their learnings on the new system.

In the coming months, P&C will begin plans on providing Roadshows at each of our communities with a focus on LMS for hands-on support and guidance.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

1 P&C DEMOGRAPHICS OCTOBER 2025

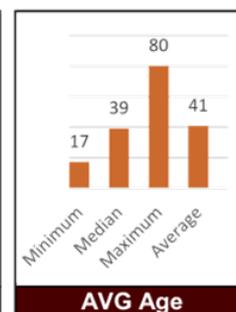
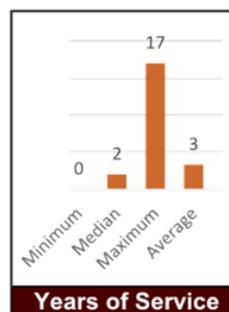
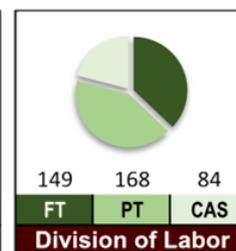
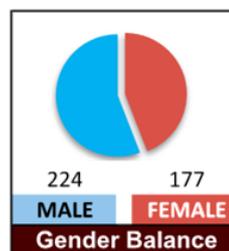
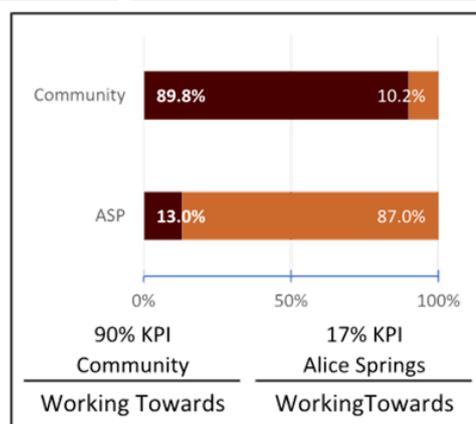
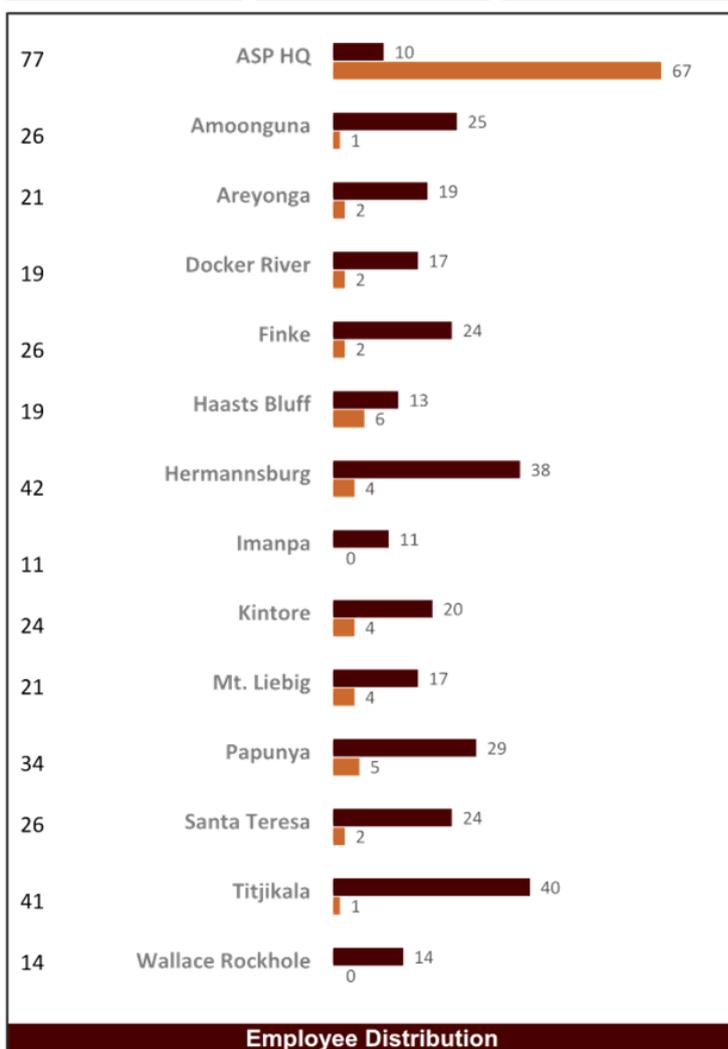
Office of the CEO | People & Capabilities



P&C Demographics

MacDonnell
Regional Council

as at:
Tuesday, 14 October 2025



NOTE: Values derived from Employee Demographics, Employee Turnover, & Position Vacancy Tech1 Reports as at: 14/10/2025

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER	15.6
TITLE	Finance Report as at 30 September 2025
AUTHOR	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

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 tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 30 September 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 30 September 2025.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 Section 17(2) the CEO must submit a finance report each month to a meeting of Council. Council has established a Finance Committee to consider this report in the months when Council does not hold a statutory Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Finance Report for the month ended 30 September 2025 is attached to this report for consideration with the following matters being highlighted:

- Table 1 – Income and Expenses Statement – Actual vs Budget
- Table 2 – Capital Expenditure – Actual vs Budget
- Table 3 – Monthly Balance Sheet Report including:
 - Note 1 Details of Cash and Investments Held
 - Note 2 Statement on Debts Owed to Council (Accounts Receivable)
 - Note 3 Statement on Debts Owed by Council (Trade creditors)
 - Note 4 Statement on Australian Tax Office (ATO) and Payroll Obligations
- Table 4 – Income and Expense Statement Actual v Budget – by Community
- Table 5 – Member & CEO council credit card transactions for September 2025

Charts are included within this report to assist with the financial information being presented to members

Comments:

Below is a snapshot of MRC's financial results as at 30 September 2025. The graphics have been created to assist Council in its understanding of MRC's financial results and highlight the key indicators of MRC's performance

Key takeaways:

REVENUES – The total variance in Operating Income stands at \$3.6 million under budget. The most significant factor contributing to the variance relates to Operating Grants and Subsidies. The main reason for this is that MRC is yet to receive payments from the Federal Government for projects, youth services and community safety, in addition MRC is still awaiting the payments from NTG for the local Authority projects.

EXPENDITURE – The total variance for Operating Expenses is currently \$4.5 million below the budget, taking into consideration \$2.7 million in commitments. The largest variances are seen in:

- Materials and contracts, which are \$1.56 million over budget and that due to the committed work that will be completed in October and November 2025.
- Employee expenses which are \$2 million below budget. The issue is the inability to fill vacant positions and to recruit suitably qualified personnel.

NET OPERATING RESULT – MRC's Net Operating Position is showing a surplus this reporting period of \$2.7 million.

WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT – the chart below shows the breakdown of all of MRC's expenses by function. 27.51% was spent on managing and delivering community services programs. Upon further investigation of expenditures, it becomes clear that 72.5% of total spending is allocated directly to providing services to MRC communities. This includes civil projects, road upkeep, municipal services like waste management, and the maintenance of assets, infrastructure, and fleet. The remaining 27.5% is invested in corporate business functions such as Finance, Human Resources, Governance, and IT.

FIXED ASSETS ACQUIRED - During this reporting period the value of MRC's assets has increased due to capital works relating to Council's buildings and the acquisition of additional plant and machinery.

CASH ON HAND – MRC has almost \$5.87 million in its operating accounts to pay for its daily operating costs. \$5.3 m represents tied funding which can only be expended on the purposes specified in the grant funding agreements as noted below. Term deposits are currently \$8 million for this reporting period with the NAB (National Australia Bank).

UNEXPENDED GRANTS – The value of unexpended grants for this period is \$5.3 million.

RESERVES – MRC's reserves have remained static.

WORKING CAPITAL / CURRENT RATIO - MRC maintains a financial position to meet the monthly needs of Council. As mentioned previously MRC has the available resources to fund its daily operations. This period Council has a total Working Capital of \$9.9 million – the difference between total Current Assets (\$17.81M) and total Current Liabilities (\$7.8M). This means that MRC's Current Ratio is 2.3 – for every \$1 MRC currently owes it has \$2.3 to cover those debts.

September 2025 Financial Results - Year-to-date figures in millions

Revenue



Current Year **\$16.1m**

Expenditures



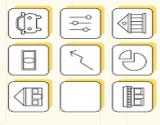
Actual **\$16.95m**
Committed **\$2.76m**

Net Operating Result



\$402k

Assets



\$97.83m

Fixed Assets Acquired



\$672k

Cash on Hand



\$13.8m

Unexpended Grants



Current Grant **\$5.30m**
Liability

Reserves

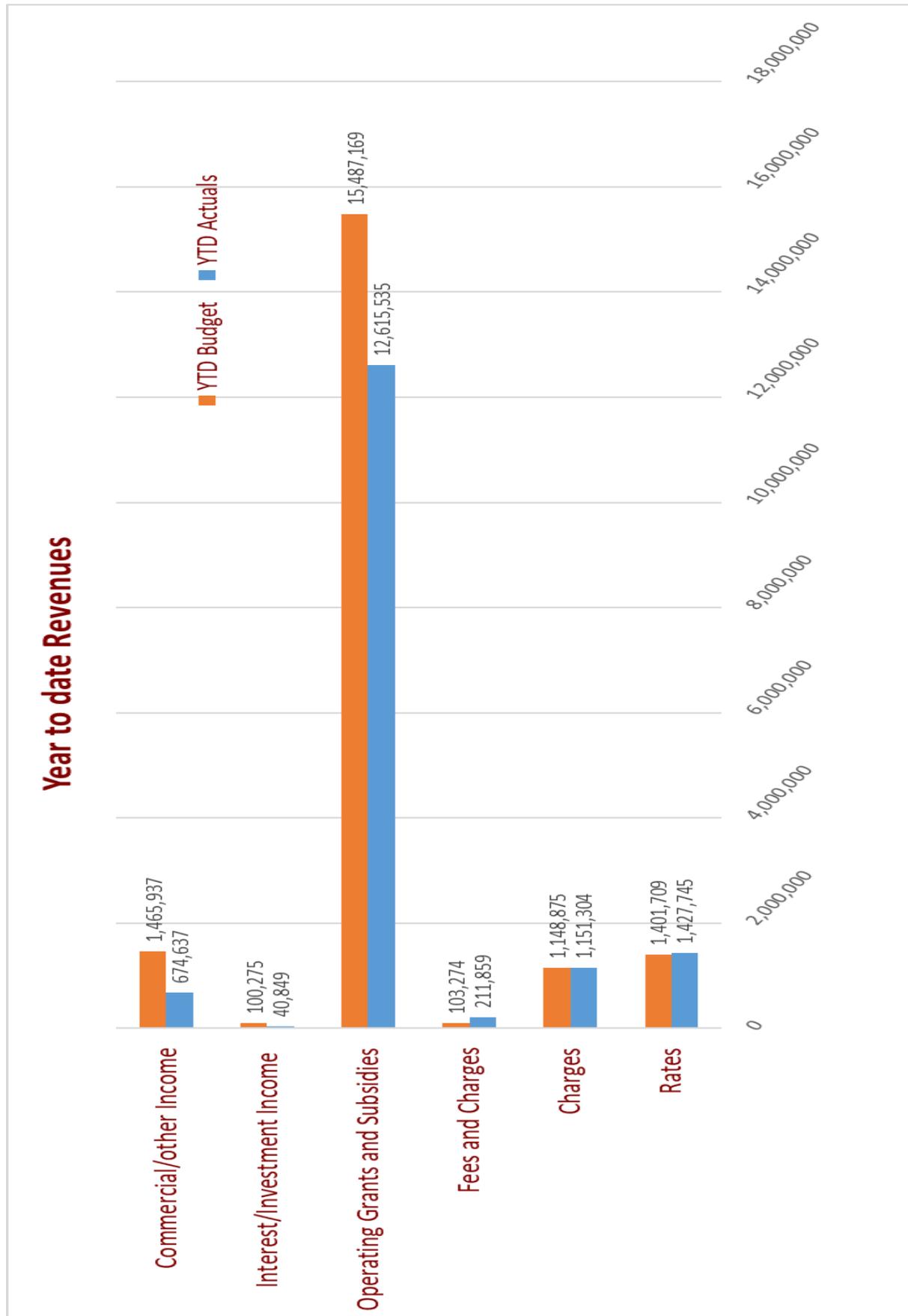


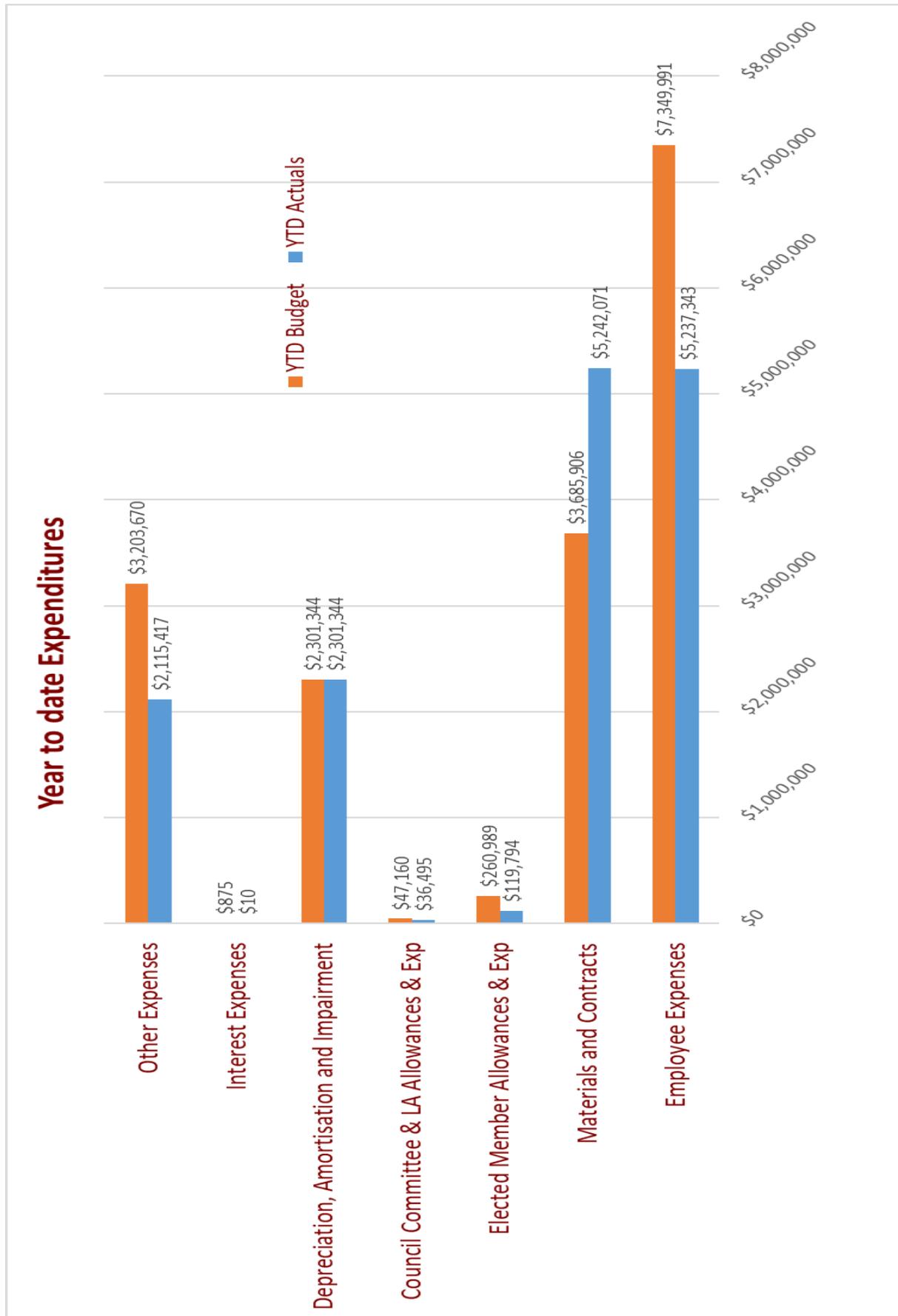
\$90.14m

Unrestricted Cash

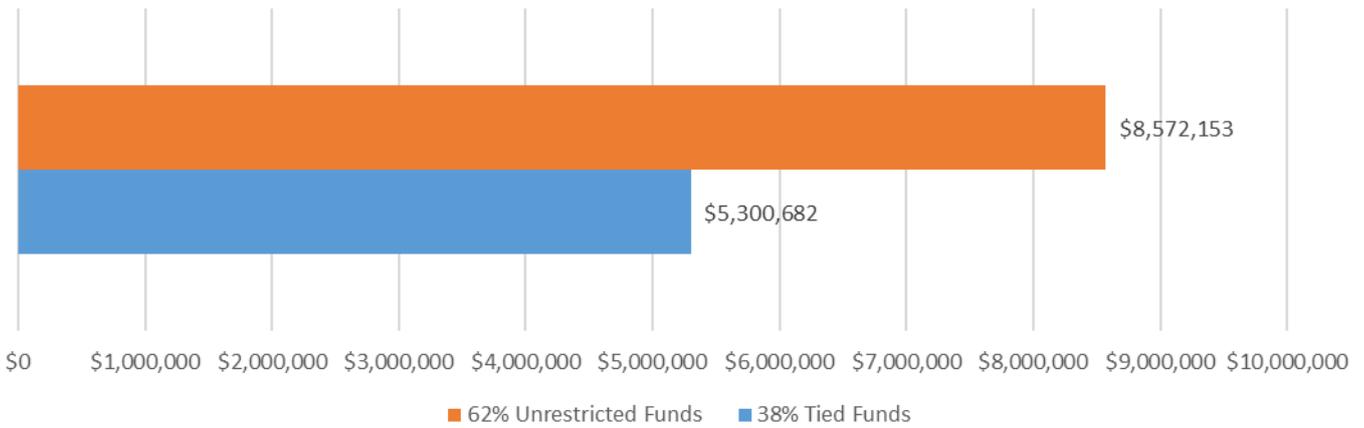


\$8.58m

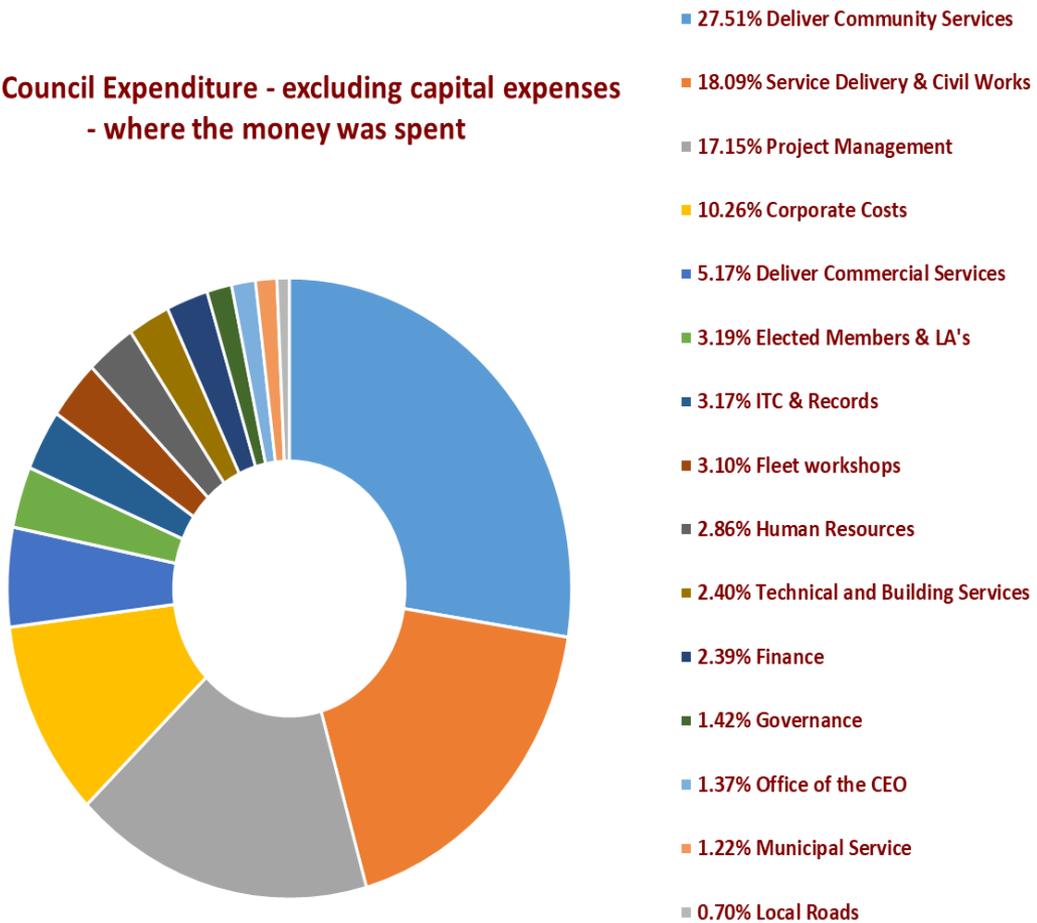




Cash as of 30 September 2025



Total Council Expenditure - excluding capital expenses - where the money was spent



Working Capital / Current Ratio

**MACDONNELL REGIONAL COUNCIL
For the period ended 30 September 2025**

30 September 2025
\$

ASSETS	
Cash at bank	5,872,835
Term deposit	8,000,000
Accounts Receivable	3,941,512
Inventory	0
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	17,814,347
Less:	
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	4,445
Provisions	2,253,338
Grant liability	5,300,682
Other Current Liabilities	279,623
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	7,838,087
NET CURRENT ASSETS (Working Capital)	9,976,260
CURRENT RATIO	2.3

$$\text{Current Ratio Formula} = \frac{\text{Current Assets}}{\text{Current Liabilities}}$$

The Cash Ratio measures Council's ability to pay its short term debts (Current Liabilities) when they fall due. The ratio for September of 2.3 means that Council has \$2.3 in cash (Current Assets) for every \$1 of debt, including unexpended grants.

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

The attached Financial Tables and Charts have been certified by the CEO of MRC.

Certification by the Council CEO	
Council Name:	MacDonnell Regional Council
Reporting Period:	30/09/2025
To the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief: (1) the internal controls implemented by the council are appropriate; and (2) the monthly reports best reflects the financial affairs of the council	
Acting CEO Signed	
Date	22/10/2025

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Reporting monthly keeps Council informed and compliant with all legislative requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Not applicable.

CONSULTATION

Chief Executive Officer
Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 TABLE 1 INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT
- 2 TABLE 2 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
- 3 TABLE 3 BALANCE SHEET REPORT
- 4 NOTE 1 CASH AND INVESTMENTS HELD
- 5 NOTE 2 STATEMENT OF DEBTS OWED TO COUNCIL
- 6 NOTES 3 AND 4, TABLE 5
- 7 TABLE 4.1 INCOME AND EXPENSE BY COMMUNITY
- 8 TABLE 4.2 INCOME AND EXPENSE BY COMMUNITY
- 9 TABLE 4.3 INCOME AND EPENSE BY COMMUNITY
- 10 TABLE 4.4 INCOME AND EPENSE BY COMMUNITY
- 11 TABLE 4.5 INCOME AND EXPENSE BY COMMUNITY

MacDonnell Regional Council

Table 1. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 30.09.2025

	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Variance %	Approved Annual Budget \$
OPERATING INCOME					
Rates	1,427,745	1,401,709	26,036	2%	1,608,964
Charges	1,151,304	1,148,875	2,429	0%	1,148,875
Fees and Charges	211,859	103,274	108,585	105%	413,095
Operating Grants and Subsidies	12,615,535	15,487,169	(2,871,634)	-19%	38,901,271
Interest/Investment Income	40,849	100,275	(59,426)	-59%	401,100
Commercial/other Income	674,636	1,465,936	(791,301)	-54%	5,828,884
Council own fund	-	-	-	0%	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	16,121,928	19,707,239	(3,585,310)		48,302,189
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Employee Expenses	5,237,343	7,349,991	2,112,647	29%	26,676,813
Materials and Contracts	5,242,071	3,685,906	(1,556,165)	-42%	15,280,980
Elected Member Allowances	83,383	99,295	15,912	16%	403,940
Elected Member Expenses	36,410	161,695	125,284	77%	365,280
Council Committee & LA Allowances	27,100	29,459	2,359	8%	134,650
Council Committee & LA Expenses	9,395	17,700	8,306	47%	70,802
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,301,344	2,301,344	(1)	0%	9,205,374
Interest Expenses	10	875	865	99%	3,500
Other Expenses	2,115,417	3,203,671	1,088,253	34%	5,248,653
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	15,052,474	16,849,935	1,797,461	3	57,389,991
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	1,069,455	2,857,304	(1,787,849)		(9,087,801)
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	0%	500,428
Gain from the sale of assets	-	-	-	0%	0
Council own fund	-	290,000	(290,000)	-100%	290,000
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	1,069,455	3,147,304	(2,077,849)		(8,297,373)
Capital Expenses	(671,816)	(484,000)	(187,815)	39%	(908,000)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	0%	-
Less Non-Cash Income	-	-	-	0%	-
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	2,301,344	2,301,344	1	0%	9,205,374
NET OPERATING POSITION	2,698,983	4,964,647	(2,265,664)		-

MacDonnell Regional Council
 Table 2. Capital Expenditure and Funding Budget
 For the Period Ending 30.09.2025

	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Variance %	Approved Annual Budget \$
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
Land and Buildings	201,275	140,000	(61,275)	-44%	290,000
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	-	-	-	0%	-
Plant and Machinery	470,540	335,000	(135,540)	-40%	600,000
Other Assets (including furniture and office equipment)	-	9,000	9,000	100%	18,000
Other Leased Assets	-	-	-	0%	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	671,816	484,000	(187,815)	0	908,000
<i>* Total must equal Capital Expenses amount in the Income and Expenditure Statement</i>					
Total capital expenditure funded by:					
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	0%	500,428
Gain from the sale of assets	-	-	-	0%	-
Council own fund	-	290,000	290,000	100%	290,000
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	-	290,000	290,000		790,428

Table 3. Monthly Balance Sheet Report

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30.09.2005	YTD Actuals \$	Note Reference*
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	13,872,835	(1)
Tied Funds		5,300,682
Untied Funds		8,572,153
Accounts Receivable		
Trade Debtors	185,730	(2)
Rates & Charges Debtors	3,328,432	
Other Current Assets	427,350	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	17,814,347	
Non-Current Financial Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	80,011,600	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	80,011,600	
TOTAL ASSETS	97,825,947	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	(3,811)	(3)
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	8,255	(4)
Current Provisions	2,253,338	
Accruals	-	
Other Current Liabilities	279,623	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,537,406	
Non-Current Provisions	325,221	
Other Non-Current Liabilities	-	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	325,221	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,862,627	
NET ASSETS	94,963,320	
EQUITY		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	85,140,382	
Reserves	5,000,000	
Accumulated Surplus	4,822,938	
TOTAL EQUITY	94,963,320	

Note 1. Details of Cash and Investments Held

Cash at Bank/Petty Cash

Account name	Total \$
Operations Account	2,281,592
Trust Account	3,551,731
Centrelink	9,647
Northern Territory (NTG)	22,922
Amoonguna Store	6,114
Petty Cash	829
Total Cash at Bank	5,872,835

Investment Report

Bank	Principal \$	Interest Rate	Term Days	Maturity Date	Percentage
NAB	1,000,000	4.10%	91	22/12/2025	13%
NAB	3,000,000	3.45%	30	22/10/2025	38%
NAB	2,000,000	3.80%	60	25/11/2025	25%
NAB	2,000,000	3.85%	60	21/10/2025	25%
	8,000,000.00				

Note 2. Statement on Debts Owed to Council (Accounts Receivable)

Debtors	unapplied	1 – 30 Days	31 – 60 Days	>60 Days	>90 Days
1000 Mile Travel Group	-	-	-	450.00	552.00
Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority	-	450.00	-	-	1,380.00
Australian Childhood Foundation	-	-	-	-	-
Australian Electoral Commission	-	-	-	-	-
Australian Government - Centrelink STOP	-276.00	2,288.00	1,144.00	1,430.00	585.00
CASA Services Limited	-	-	-	-	109.00
Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	-	2,400.00	585.00	-	218.00
Central Land Council	-	286.00	-	804.00	-
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	-	-	-	-	7,735.37
Corporate Travel Management	-	5,100.00	-	572.00	-
Department for Correctional Services (SA) Cross Borders Program	-2,212.00	-	-	-	109.00
Department of Education & Training	-	1,200.00	1,800.00	-	-
Department of Health NT	-	600.00	-	-	-
Dept Housing, Local Government & Community Development STOP	-	2,400.00	3,586.00	-	-
Dept of Correctional Services	-	900.00	-	-	-
Dept. Of Health CA Remote Health	-	2,340.00	585.00	-	872.00
Desert Funerals Ltd	-	700.00	-	-	7,355.00
Docker River Store	-	-	-	150.00	-
Emperor Refrigeration Pty Ltd	-943.60	1,500.00	900.00	-	-
ILBIJERRI Theatre Company - DO NOT USE	-	-	-	-	3,780.00
Jabiard Civil Concreting - DO NOT USE	-	-	-	-	-
Jetstream Electrical Pty Ltd	-	150.00	-	-	218.00
Learning Knowing Achieving Pty Ltd T/A College of Public Employment	-	-	-	150.00	-
Lutheran Community Care	-	1,144.00	-	-	781.00
Menzies School Of Health Research	-	150.00	-	-	-
MJD Foundation	-	-	-	-	210.00
Murray River North Pty Ltd	-300.00	8,400.00	300.00	-	-
National Indigenous Australians Agency (Australian Government)	-	1,430.44	-	-	-
Ngaanyatjarra Council	-	-	-	572.00	177.00
North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency	-436.00	-	-	-	6,545.00
NTG - Dept of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics	-	24,605.00	0.03	-	11,590.64
Power and Water - Darwin	-1,086.42	1,267.49	-	9,015.71	4,235.00
Purple House - WDNWPT/Western Desert Dialysis	-	-	-	-	-
Reimal Pty Ltd	-	1,200.00	1,200.00	900.00	-
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	-	15,276.34	-	-	-
Rusca Developments Pty Ltd - DO NOT USE	-	-	-	-	1,260.00
S&R Building and Construction Pty Ltd	-	300.00	-	-	-
Sundry Debtors 2025	-	1,486.00	-	-	5,755.00
The Spirit of the Gumtree - DO NOT USE	-	-	-	-	-
The YMCA Of The Northern Territory Youth & Community Services Ltd	-	6,460.51	-	-	8,788.00
TRI SPARC PTY LTD	-	450.00	2,250.00	-	18,051.00
University of Melbourne	-	600.00	-	-	-
Waltja Tjutangu Palyapayi - STOP	-	1,200.00	-	-	-
TOTALS	-5,254.02	84,283.78	12,350.03	14,043.71	80,306.01

Note 3. Statement on Debts Owed by Council (Trade creditors)

Creditors	1 - 30 Days	31 - 60 Days	> 60 Days
Power and Water Authority	-6,283.46	-	-
Pulikutjarra Aboriginal Corporation - Kintore	245.44	-	-
Bunnings		1,786.16	
Norman Kenny 3343	-121.72	-	-
Damien Cooper 2561	-	-	562.82
Total Trade Creditors	-6,159.74	1,786.16	562.82

Note 4. Statement on Australian Tax Office (ATO) and Payroll Obligations

Creditors	1 – 30 Days	31 – 60 Days	>60 Days
AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE (PAYG only)	6,382.00	-	-
Super Fund Clearing House	1,873.34	-	-
Total ATO and Payroll obligations	8,255.34	-	-

Table 5. Member & CEO council credit card transactions for September 2025

1. Roxanne Kenny - President (member)

Date	Amount	Suppliers Name	Reason for the transactions
27/08/2025	6.00	Westpac Bank	Card fee

2. Belinda Urquhart - CEO

Date	Amount	Suppliers Name	Reason for the transactions
27/08/2025	1,707.98	JB HI-FI Online	Remarkables for Exec Managers
2/09/2025	889.22	Qantas	Flight BNE To ASP 26/10/2025 - (Training Return)
2/09/2025	844.49	Qantas	Flight ADL To BNE 20/10/2025 - (Training in Brisbane)
2/09/2025	816.44	Qantas	Flight ASP To ADL 05/11/2025 - CEO Conference
2/09/2025	844.49	Qantas	Flight ADL To BNE 07/11/2025 - CEO Conference
2/09/2025	844.49	Qantas	Flight ADL To BNE 11/11/2025 - (Cancelled)
2/09/2025	785.01	Qantas	Flight ASP To DRW 17/11/2025 - LGANT
2/09/2025	785.01	Qantas	Flight DRW To ASP 20/11/2025 - LGANT Return
3/09/2025	785.01	Qantas	Flight ASP To DRW 27/11/2025 - Tidy Town Awards
3/09/2025	885.77	Qantas	Flight DRW To BNE 29/11/2025 - Meeting in Brisbane D.Smith
3/09/2025	1,002.34	Qantas	Flight BNE To ASP 08/12/2025 - Return Flight From Tidy Town
14/09/2025	15.58	Abacus.AI	Monthly Subscription
15/09/2025	59.43	Cabfare Taxi	Taxi Airport To Hotel - The Outbank Way Boad Meeting
15/09/2025	45.73	Uber Taxi	Taxi Bangalow Street To Airport - The Outbank Way Boad Meeting
17/09/2025	50.93	Swan Taxis	Taxi Perth to Perth Airport - The Outbank Way Boad Meeting
24/09/2025	850.00	EB LGCOG	CEO Conference
25/09/2025	841.55	The Bean Tree Café	Lunch - First Council Meeting
28/09/2025	6.00	Westpac Bank	Card fee

MacDonnell Regional Council
 Table 4.1. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
 For the Period Ending 30.09.2025

	Regional Office			Amoonguna			Areyonga		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME									
Rates	1,427,745	1,401,709	26,036	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	1,151,304	1,148,875	2,429	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	13,887	0	13,887	5,756	750	5,006	16,874	4,750	12,124
Operating Grants and Subsidies	8,016,715	12,322,296	(4,305,581)	205,758	86,465	119,293	294,733	90,149	204,584
Interest/Investment Income	40,849	100,275	(59,426)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	279,729	300,502	(20,773)	9,864	23,134	(13,269)	28,244	114,579	(86,335)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	10,930,230	15,273,658	(4,343,428)	221,378	110,348	111,030	339,851	209,478	130,373
OPERATING EXPENSES									
Employee Expenses	2,056,193	2,476,398	420,205	253,489	319,830	66,341	225,710	387,965	162,255
Materials and Contracts	1,317,454	0	(1,317,454)	77,410	77,281	(129)	83,039	125,574	42,535
Elected Member Allowances	83,383	99,295	15,912	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	35,731	161,695	125,964	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	15,300	13,497	(1,803)	700	1,200	500	900	1,150	250
Council Committee & LA Expenses	0	0	0	1,099	1,250	151	686	1,950	1,264
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,301,344	2,301,344	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	10	875	865	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	1,843,946	2,272,347	428,401	372	87,560	87,189	27,528	79,995	52,467
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	7,653,361	7,325,450	(327,911)	333,070	487,121	163,899	337,864	596,635	258,771
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	3,276,869	7,948,208	(4,015,517)	(111,692)	(376,773)	(52,870)	1,987	(387,157)	(128,398)
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	290,000	(290,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	3,276,869	8,238,208	(4,305,517)	(115,628)	(376,773)	270,993	1,987	(387,157)	389,144
Capital Expenses	(465,164)	(484,000)	18,836	0	0	0	(58,206)	0	(58,206)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	2,301,344	2,301,344	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	5,113,049	10,055,552	(4,286,680)	(115,628)	(376,773)	270,993	(56,219)	(387,157)	330,938

MacDonnell Regional Council
 Table 4.2. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
 For the Period Ending 30.09.2025

	Docker River			Finke			Haasts Bluff		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	29,409	14,466	14,943	15,283	7,550	7,733	3,878	2,038	1,841
Operating Grants and Subsidies	279,636	135,743	143,893	214,193	49,679	164,514	440,239	101,602	338,637
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	14,088	94,308	(80,219)	14,322	99,313	(84,992)	16,328	23,987	(7,659)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	323,133	244,517	78,616	243,797	156,542	87,255	460,445	127,626	332,819
OPERATING EXPENSES									
Employee Expenses	212,426	343,010	130,585	258,278	359,383	101,105	232,647	375,351	142,704
Materials and Contracts	98,987	86,988	(12,000)	75,207	78,673	3,466	102,983	132,537	29,554
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	427	0	(427)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	900	1,200	300	1,650	1,200	(450)	0	1,200	1,200
Council Committee & LA Expenses	160	1,300	1,140	237	1,300	1,063	71	1,300	1,229
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	5,264	47,361	42,097	16,150	42,732	26,582	11,689	60,015	48,326
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	318,164	479,860	161,695	351,522	483,288	131,766	347,391	570,403	223,012
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	4,969	(235,343)	(83,079)	(107,725)	(326,745)	(44,511)	113,055	(442,777)	109,806
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	4,969	(235,343)	240,312	(107,725)	(326,745)	219,021	113,055	(442,777)	555,831
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	4,969	(235,343)	240,312	(107,725)	(326,745)	219,021	113,055	(442,777)	555,831

MacDonnell Regional Council
 Table 4.3. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
 For the Period Ending 30.09.2025

	Hermannsburg			Imanpa			Kintore		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	9,345	4,875	4,470	8,058	1,862	6,196	43,160	10,987	32,172
Operating Grants and Subsidies	934,905	725,247	209,658	24,401	48,089	(23,688)	575,351	328,434	246,917
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	28,811	110,815	(82,004)	3,876	108,220	(104,344)	195,400	130,822	64,577
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	973,061	840,937	132,124	36,335	158,171	(121,836)	813,910	470,244	343,666
OPERATING EXPENSES									
Employee Expenses	406,830	592,350	185,520	106,842	223,498	116,656	216,350	334,476	118,127
Materials and Contracts	838,471	381,682	(456,789)	23,203	66,326	43,123	808,491	324,764	(483,727)
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	252	0	(252)	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	1,100	1,200	100	900	1,200	300	300	1,200	900
Council Committee & LA Expenses	660	1,300	640	302	1,300	998	182	1,300	1,118
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	21,242	108,798	87,556	2,861	43,092	40,231	12,794	59,501	46,707
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,268,302	1,085,330	(182,972)	134,360	335,416	201,056	1,038,116	721,241	(316,875)
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(295,242)	(244,393)	315,096	(98,025)	(177,245)	(322,892)	(224,206)	(250,997)	660,542
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(295,242)	(244,393)	(50,848)	(98,025)	(177,245)	79,220	(224,206)	(250,997)	26,791
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	(48,710)	0	(48,710)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(295,242)	(244,393)	(50,848)	(98,025)	(177,245)	79,220	(272,915)	(250,997)	(21,919)

MacDonnell Regional Council
 Table 4.4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
 For the Period Ending 30.09.2025

	Mount Liebig			Papunya			Santa Teresa		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	15,470	11,103	4,367	36,298	27,175	9,123	10,274	13,094	(2,820)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	477,635	422,980	54,655	176,575	446,935	(270,360)	386,111	446,935	(60,824)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	14,633	81,611	(66,978)	28,620	113,518	(84,898)	19,637	113,518	(93,881)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	507,739	515,694	(7,955)	241,493	587,628	(346,134)	416,022	573,547	(157,525)
OPERATING EXPENSES									
Employee Expenses	231,716	312,636	80,920	342,916	496,045	153,130	292,001	496,045	204,045
Materials and Contracts	483,795	75,032	(408,762)	394,283	1,009,541	615,257	231,809	1,009,541	777,731
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	900	1,613	713	1,350	1,200	(150)	1,300	1,200	(100)
Council Committee & LA Expenses	167	1,500	1,333	673	1,300	627	414	1,300	886
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	8,751	55,352	46,601	106,514	118,002	11,488	41,911	118,002	76,091
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	725,329	446,133	(279,197)	845,736	1,626,088	780,352	567,435	1,626,088	1,058,653
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(217,591)	69,561	271,242	(604,243)	(1,038,461)	(1,126,486)	(151,413)	(1,052,542)	(1,216,178)
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(217,591)	69,561	(287,152)	(604,243)	(1,038,461)	434,218	(151,413)	(1,052,542)	901,128
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	(15,377)	0	(15,377)	(66,178)	0	(66,178)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(217,591)	69,561	(287,152)	(619,620)	(1,038,461)	418,841	(217,592)	(1,052,542)	834,950

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 4.5. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 30.09.2025

	Titjikala			Wallace Rock			TOTAL		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,427,745	1,401,709	26,036
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,151,304	1,148,875	2,429
Fees and Charges	2,401	3,880	(1,479)	1,766	744	1,022	211,859	103,274	108,585
Operating Grants and Subsidies	533,950	226,848	307,102	55,333	55,768	(435)	12,615,535	15,487,169	(2,871,635)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	40,849	100,275	(59,426)
Commercial/other Income	14,983	117,061	(102,078)	6,101	34,549	(28,448)	674,636	1,465,937	(791,301)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	551,335	347,789	203,545	63,199	91,061	(27,862)	16,121,928	19,707,239	(3,585,311)
OPERATING EXPENSES									
Employee Expenses	305,937	472,185	166,248	96,009	160,816	64,808	5,237,343	7,349,991	2,112,647
Materials and Contracts	700,561	293,713	(406,848)	6,376	24,255	17,879	5,242,071	3,685,906	(1,556,165)
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0	83,383	99,295	15,912
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	36,410	161,695	125,284
Council Committee & LA Allowances	900	1,200	300	900	1,200	300	27,100	29,459	2,359
Council Committee & LA Expenses	3,302	1,300	(2,002)	1,442	1,300	(142)	9,395	17,700	8,305
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,301,344	2,301,344	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	875	865
Other Expenses	14,779	89,661	74,881	1,617	21,252	19,636	2,115,418	3,203,671	1,088,253
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,025,480	858,059	(167,421)	106,343	208,823	102,480	15,052,474	16,849,935	1,797,461
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(474,145)	(510,270)	370,966	(43,143)	(117,762)	(130,342)	1,069,454	2,857,305	(1,787,850)
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	290,000	(290,000)
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(474,145)	(510,270)	370,966	(43,143)	(117,762)	(130,342)	1,069,454	3,147,305	(2,077,850)
Capital Expenses	(18,182)	0	(18,182)	0	0	0	(671,816)	(484,000)	(187,816)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,301,344	2,301,344	1
NET OPERATING POSITION	(492,327)	(510,270)	352,784	(43,143)	(117,762)	(130,342)	2,698,982	4,964,648	(2,265,665)

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER	15.7
TITLE	Presentation of Annual Report 2024-25 including Audited Financial Statements
AUTHOR	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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 present the MacDonnell Regional Council Annual Report, including the Audited Financial Statements, for 2024-25 for Council's approval.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. approves the MRC Annual Report 2024-25;**
- 2. approves the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025;**
- 3. approves the forwarding of the 2024-25 Annual Report, including the Audited Financial Statements, to the Minister for Local Government.**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Section 290(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act) requires that "Council must, on or before 15 November in each year, report to the Minister on its work during the financial year ending on the preceding 30 June". Section 291 of the Act prescribes the content of the annual report which, in addition to other matters, must include Council's "audited financial statement for the relevant financial year", in this instance being 2024-25.

In accordance with the requirements of Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* the CEO has certified Council's Annual Financial Statements and now, having been audited, these are laid before Council. The audited Financial Statements are included at the end of the tabled Annual Report.

The Annual Report shows how Council's work during the year has helped to achieve the goals set out in the Council's Regional Plan and further provides a summary of all activities undertaken in each Directorate.

The draft has been intensely checked for any typographical errors, misstatements of fact or inappropriate photographs and edited as a result. The draft will be refined and where possible any other matters detected at the last minute will be corrected prior to presentation to the Minister.

In addition to providing the Annual Report to the Minister the report will be published on Council's website advising of its availability.

The Council's auditor, Merit Partners, has audited the Annual Financial Statements of Council and approved them with no qualifications.

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

Due to the size of this document it is not possible to attach it to this report – it will be presented to Council separately.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

The Annual Report is a report to the Minister for Local Government and is required in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The Annual Financial Statements are presented to Council for approval as required under the Local Government (General) Regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

The Annual Report is due to the Minister by 15 November.

CONSULTATION

MRC President
Executive Leadership Team
MRC Audit Committee
Merit Partners

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.8
TITLE Audit Committee Minutes
AUTHOR Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Audit Committee met on 3rd October 2025 at Bagot Street. The minutes of this meeting are attached for the Council's attention, these are still unconfirmed being due to be confirmed by the Committee at its next meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes and receives the minutes of the Audit Committee of 3rd October 2025.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Council is required to have an Audit Committee under the Local Government Act 2019, its function being to monitor and review the integrity of the council's financial management, to monitor and review internal controls, to make recommendations about the external auditors and to make recommendations to Council about any matters the committee considers require Council's consideration as a result of the Committee's functions.

The Audit Committee met to review the General Purpose Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2025. The recommendation made which requires Council's consideration is included in the Confidential Audit Committee Minutes.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team
Audit Committee

ATTACHMENTS

1 AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES 3.10.2025



MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER 2025 AT 9:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENED – AT 9.55AM

2 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors

Independent Chair Randle Walker, President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillor Veronica Lynch and Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka

Staff

Belinda Urquhart, Chief executive Officer and Osman Kassem, Manager Finance.

Apologies

Nil.

3 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous meeting to be approved by the Audit Committee.

AC2025-01 RESOLVED (Randle Walker/Dalton McDonald)

That the Audit Committee Meeting accepts the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held 11 December 2024 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.



Audit Committee Meeting 3 October 2025 – Minutes

4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	4.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

AC2025-02 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Committee:

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
- b) notes that the Committee Members did not declare any conflicts of interest with the meeting agenda.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

NIL

8 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Audited Financial Statements 2024-25
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the 2024-25 Audited Financial Statements to the Committee for its consideration and approval.

AC2025-03 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Veronica Lynch)

That the Committee:

- accepts the Audited Financial Statements 2024-25; and
- recommends to Council that the Financial Statements are suitable for signing by the CEO and for inclusion in the 2024-25 Annual Report for presentation to the Minister.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting - 21 November 2025 - 10:00 AM

10 MEETING CLOSE

The meeting terminated at 10.10am.

Audit Committee Meeting 3 October 2025 – Minutes



This page and the preceding 2 pages are the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Friday 3 October 2025.

Chairperson

UNCONFIRMED

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.9
TITLE Governance Team Report
AUTHOR Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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 update Council on the activities of the Governance and Strategy Team.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Governance Team Report for October 2025.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Governance and Strategy team is a small team which delivers governance, policy, customer service, communications and engagement services for MacDonnell Regional Council. It is heavily involved in the management and coordination of Council’s 13 Local Authorities.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

- 2 Local Authority meetings, Imanpa (for the second time) and Mt Liebig, were deferred since the last report to Council due to the unavailability of members.
- The support and attendance by Elected Members at Local Authorities contributes to the effectiveness and success of these meetings.

2025/2026 FY LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETINGS					
DATE	COMMUNITY	QUORUM	PROVISIONAL	DEFERRED	CANCELLED
24-Jul-25	Papunya	✓			
24-Jul-25	Wallace Rockhole	✓			
28-Jul-25	Docker River	✓			
7-Aug-25	Haasts Bluff			✓	
13-Aug-25	Finke	✓			
28-Aug-25	Haasts Bluff				✓
3-Sep-25	Santa Teresa	✓			
4-Sep-25	Titjikala	✓			
10-Sep-25	Imanpa			✓	
30-Sep-25	Imanpa			✓	
1-Oct-25	Mt Liebig			✓	
2-Oct-25	Amoonguna		✓		

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

7-Oct-25	Hermannsburg	√			
8-Oct-25	Kintore	√			
9-Oct-25	Papunya	√			
14-Oct-25	Haasts Bluff	√			
15-Oct-25	Areyonga	√			

ENGAGEMENT

Governance has been involved in the conduct of the upcoming by-election to be held in the Rodinga Ward. This has been necessitated due to the lack of candidates for this Ward in the LG elections held in August.

As a result of these elections a significant two-day Council meeting was held in September. Following this meeting much correspondence was sent to the various stakeholders regarding the election of the President and Deputy President with associated website and social media posts created. The website was also updated to include the names and photos of the new Councillors and the details of the new committee members were also updated.

Work is continuing on the development and finalisation of the Annual Report which is being presented at this meeting for Council's approval.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

Work is continuing on the development and review of MRC's policies, procedures and forms.

The Executive Leadership Team is currently reviewing the following documents:

1. Allowances and Other Benefits Policy (Employees)
2. Allowances and Other Benefits Policy (CEO)
3. Risk Management Policy (Employees)
4. Risk Management Framework (Employees)
5. Rehabilitation and Return to Work Procedure
6. Return to Work Guidance Form
7. Housing and Accommodation Policy (Employees)

The Allowances and Other Benefits Policy (CEO) will eventually require adoption by Council but the remaining policies/documents are operational policies maintained by the CEO. It is anticipated that this Policy, and several other policies, will be presented at the February meeting of Council for adoption.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Successful interaction with the members of MRC's communities and its stakeholders is vital to the attainment of MRC's Goals and Objectives.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team
 Manager Governance and Strategy
 Governance Coordinators
 Coordinator Policy and Records

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.10
TITLE Council Meeting Planner 2026
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 2026 Council Meeting Planner proposes suitable meeting dates for all meetings of Ordinary Council, Special Council, Finance and Risk and Audit committee meetings as well as the Local Authority meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) **considers the proposed dates contained in the 2026 Meeting Planner**
- b) **notes the outdoor Local Authority meetings scheduled between May - July 2026;**
- c) **notes the date set by the CEO for NAIDOC Day to be observed on the 6 July 2026;**
- d) **discusses locations to hold the Special Council meeting and the Ordinary Council meetings.**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In accordance with section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the CEO sets the dates for all Ordinary, Special, Committee and Local Authority meetings for the year ahead. The proposed calendar is presented to Council for review and confirmation, ensuring members and stakeholders receive reasonable notice to plan their attendance.

The Draft Calendar for 2026 is tabled at this meeting for members to endorse. Once endorsed, the calendar will be published on Council's website to meet transparency and accessibility obligations. If significant changes are made following the endorsement, the calendar will be updated prior to publication to reflect the revised schedule.

At this stage, meetings of external stakeholders such as ALGA, LGANT and CLC have not been factored into the scheduling of MRC's meetings.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Council may suggest changes to the proposed meeting dates, however the timing of Ordinary, Special, Finance and Risk and Audit Committee meetings is structured to meet statutory obligations under the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Local Authority meeting dates are planned based on current patterns and logistical considerations to meet the minimum number of meetings required under the Act. Adjustments to these meeting dates may affect compliance or operational efficiency.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil

Ordinary Council Meeting 31 October 2025 – Agenda

CONSULTATION

Chief Executive Officer
Elected Council Members

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 2026 Council Meeting Planner

2026 MacDonnell Regional Council Meeting Planner																																					
	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun							
JAN						1 New Years day	2	3	4	5	6	7	4	5	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21 HAASTS BLUFF	22 AMOON GUNA	23	24	25	26 Australia Day	27	28	29	30 MT LIEBIG	31 FINANCE & RISK	JAN
FEB		1	2	3	4 DOCKER RIVER	5 WALLACE ROCKHOLE	6	7	8	9	10	11 TITIKALA	12 SANTA TERESA	13	14	15	16	17	18 PAPUNYA	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 COUNCIL TRAINING TBO	26 COUNCIL WORK SHOP TBO	27 COUNCIL MEETING TBO	28	29	30	31	FEB				
MAR		1	2	3	4 FINKE	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 KINTORE	12 AREYONGA	13	14	15	16	17	18 MANPA	19 HERMANN'S BURG	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27 FINANCE & RISK	28	29	30	31	MAR				
APR					1	2	3 Good Friday	4 Easter Saturday	5 Easter Sunday	6 Easter Monday	7	8	9 HAASTS BLUFF	10	11	12	13	14	15 MT LIEBIG	16 AMOON GUNA	17	18	19	20	21	22	23 COUNCIL WORK-SHOP ALICE SPRINGS	24 COUNCIL MEETING ALICE SPRINGS	25	26	27 Anzac Day	28	29	30 DOCKER RIVER	31	APR	
MAY						1	2	3	4 May Day	5	6	7 WALLACE ROCKHOLE	8 MANPA	9	10	11	12	13 TITIKALA	14 SANTA TERESA	15	16	17	18	19	20	21 FINKE	22 OUTDOOR	23	24	25	26	27	28	29 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING	30	31	MAY
JUN		1	2	3	4 KINTORE	5 AREYONGA	6	7	8 King's Birthday	9	10	11 PAPUNYA	12	13	14	15	16	17 HERMANN'S BURG	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 COUNCIL WORK SHOP ALICE SPRINGS	26 COUNCIL MEETING ALICE SPRINGS	27	28	29	30	31	JUN				
JUL					1 HAASTS BLUFF	2	3 Alice Springs Show	4	5	6 Nabes Day Observed	7	8	9 AMOON GUNA	10	11	12	13	14	15 MT LIEBIG	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23 DOCKER RIVER	24 OUTDOOR	25	26	27	28	29 MANPA	30 WALLACE ROCKHOLE	31 FINANCE & RISK	JUL	
AUG		1	2	3 Picnic Day	4	5 TITIKALA	6 SANTA TERESA	7	8	9	10	11	12 FINKE	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27 COUNCIL WORK SHOP ALICE SPRINGS	28 COUNCIL MEETING ALICE SPRINGS	29	30	31	AUG				
SEP				1	2 KINTORE	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 AREYONGA	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23 HERMANN'S BURG	24	25 FINANCE & RISK MEETING	26	27	28	29	30	31	SEP		
OCT					1 HAASTS BLUFF	2	3	4	5	6	7 AMOON GUNA	8 MT LIEBIG	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24 MANPA	25 WALLACE ROCKHOLE	26	27	28	29 COUNCIL WORK SHOP ALICE SPRINGS	30 COUNCIL MEETING ALICE SPRINGS	31	OCT	
NOV		1	2	3	4 TITIKALA	5 SANTA TERESA	6	7	8	9	10	11 FINKE	12	13	14	15	16	17	18 KINTORE	19	20 FINANCE & RISK MEETING	21	22	23	24	25 HERMANN'S BURG	26 AREYONGA	27	28	29	30	31	NOV				
DEC				1	2 PAPUNYA	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 COUNCIL WORK SHOP ALICE SPRINGS	11 COUNCIL MEETING ALICE SPRINGS	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31 Boxing Day Observed	DEC		

16 GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER 16.1
TITLE Notification of General Business Items

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to give Elected Members the opportunity to table items they wish to be debated by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chairperson invites Elected Members to raise items of concern they wish to be discussed in this meeting.

17 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER 17.1
TITLE Closure to the public for the discussion of Confidential items
AUTHOR Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, the meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential matters.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the closure of the meeting to the public as confidential items are about to be discussed.