



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER 2025 AT 9:45 AM

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**1 MEETING OPENED** at 9:45am

*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**

President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillor Mark Inkamala, Councillor Abraham Poulson, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Andrew Davis, Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka, Councillor Lynn Ward, Councillor Peter Wilson, Councillor Veronica Lynch and Councillor Matthew Palmer

**Staff**

Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer, Sheree Sherry – Chief Financial Officer, Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children’s Services, Katie Fuller – Executive Manager People and Capabilities, Libby Taylor – Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, Shae Thompson – Coordinator Governance and June Crabb – Minute Taker

**Guests**

Nil

**Apologies**

Nil

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Attendance and Apologies</b>

**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.

**OCM2025-211 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Abraham Poulson)**

That Council:

- a) noted all Elected Members attendance at this meeting; and
- b) recorded no Elected Members absences, without notice, for this meeting.

**4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Requests for Future Leave of Absence</b>

**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.

**OCM2025-212 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Peter Wilson)**

That Council:

- a) noted no requests for future leave of absence from Elected Members at this Council meeting;
- b) received notification of the Executive staff commencing leave and staff acting in their absence as follows:
  - Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, noting that Stuart Millar is Acting Director and will hold Mr Hassett’s full delegation from 22<sup>nd</sup> December until 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026;
  - Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children’s Services from the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025, returning 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026; and
- c) was advised that Sheree Sherry had tendered her resignation, and would be taking a period of leave with her official departure from MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) effective 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026.  
 The Chief Executive Officer acknowledged Ms Sherry’s significant contribution and commitment to MRC, particularly her provision of support to all members of staff, including the Elected Members and wished her every success on her future career endeavours.

**5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**OCM2025-213 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Lynn Ward)**

That Council noted the Council Code of Conduct.

## **6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 31 October 2025 to be approved by Council.

**OCM2025-214 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Veronica Lynch)**

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 31 October 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

## **7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**OCM2025-215 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Dalton McDonald)**

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

## **8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**OCM2025-216 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Patrick Allen)**

That Council:

- a) noted the Conflict of Interest Policy;
- b) Elected Members did not declare a conflict of interest with the meeting agenda; and
- c) noted to amend the Executive Summary to reflect a change in wording from Local Authority to Elected Members.

## **9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meetings - Menzies School of Health Research</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Menzies School of Health Research wishes to provide a presentation on a future project about an employment-focused digital technology program and is seeking permission to attend and present at the Areyonga Local Authority meeting on the 12 March and the Hermannsburg Local Authority meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2026.

### **OCM2025-217 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Matthew Palmer)**

**That Council approved the request by the Menzies School of Health Research:**

- a) **to be engaged in and provide support and local guidance for the future project;**
- b) **for there to be interaction with Aged Care staff and community-based workers; and**
- c) **to attend and present at the following meetings:**
  - **Areyonga Local Authority meeting to be held on the 12 March; and**
  - **Hermannsburg Local Authority meeting to be held on the 19 March.**

## **12 LOCAL AUTHORITY**

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

### **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 20 October to 30 November 2025 and include:

- Imanpa – 20 October
- Docker River – 22 October
- Wallace Rockhole – 23 October
- Imanpa - 19 November
- Santa Teresa – 26 November

**OCM2025-218 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Matthew Palmer)**

That Council:

- a) approved the recommendations of their 2025 Discretionary fund allocations contained within the minutes of the Docker River Provisional meeting on the 22 October 2025 and the Imanpa Provisional meeting on the 19 November 2025 as follows:
  - \$2,000.00 towards a Christmas BBQ for the Docker River Community; and
  - \$2,500.00 towards a Christmas gifts and lunch for the Imanpa Community;
- b) confirmed the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Imanpa on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025, Wallace Rockhole on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025 and Santa Teresa on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025;
- c) endorsed the allocations to existing projects established by the Local Authorities as follows:
  - Docker River – an additional \$19,719.85 towards a location for a new park;
  - Wallace Rockhole – an additional \$16,000.00 to upgrading Gordon Ida Park;
- d) accepted the following new projects for Wallace Rockhole:
  - Plumbing repairs – allocating \$7,000.00 to fixing the public toilets and showers.
  - Moveable bench seats – allocating \$8,000.00 to purchasing new bench seating.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	12.2
<b>TITLE:</b>	Local Authority Nominations
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

**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.

**OCM2025-219 RESOLVED (Matthew Palmer/Andrew Davis)**

That Council considered the nomination received and appoints Annalisa Young to the Santa Teresa Local Authority.

**13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	13.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Correspondence Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

**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 October 2025 Council meeting.

**OCM2025-220 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Peter Wilson)**

That Council:

- a) noted the correspondence received and sent; and
- b) nominated President Roxanne Kenny, to be appointed as MRC’s Representative to the Aboriginal Leadership Group [ALG].

Meeting adjourned for a short break at 10:27am  
 Meeting resumed at 10:54am

During the break, Councillor Mark Inkamala left the meeting without permission and returned at 11:17am

**15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Council Services Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer</b>

**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.

**OCM2025-221 RESOLVED (Peter Wilson/Andrew Davis)**

That Council:

- a) noted and accepted the Council Services Report; and
- b) advised that an update on the community’s major infrastructure projects will be provided at the first Council meeting in 2026.

**Minute Note:** Keith Hassett provided a video presentation on the implementation and operational activities provided by Council Services during 2025.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) Grant 2025/26</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Keith Hassett, Director Council Services</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Northern Territory Government (NTG) has awarded the Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) Grant 2025/26 to all regional councils. MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) has been allocated \$252,100 and must advise Council of intended expenditure consistent with the WaRM objectives and acceptable purposes.

**OCM2025-222 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)**

**That Council:**

1. noted the WaRM Grant 2025/26 project scope and expenditure plan; and
2. endorsed the two WaRM projects as outlined in this report for completion and acquittal by 30 June 2026.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Youth and Community Safety Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of Youth and Community Safety services for October – November 2025, throughout the MRC region.

**OCM2025-223 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)**

**That Council noted and accepted the attached Youth and Community Safety Services report.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.4</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Youth Board meetings</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Kaisa Suumann, Coordinator Youth Boards</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this paper is to provide Council with feedback from recent MacDonnell Regional Council’s Youth Board meetings, outline the matters discussed, and seek Council’s support for the recommendations put forward.

**OCM2025-224 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council:**

1. noted the Youth Board Meetings Report;
2. considered the support Council will approve in relation to the recommendations made and determined that the CEO will discuss the proposals with the Coordinator; and
3. congratulated Kaisa Suumann on the tremendous effort undertaken in organising and coordinating the Youth Board meetings for 2025.

**Minute Note:** Members noted that ongoing discussions would be required to ensure that Youth Board requests are correctly costed against the appropriate operational services and available programs.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.5</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Aged and Children's Services Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of Aged and Children's Services for October - November 2025, throughout the MRC region.

**OCM2025-225 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)**

That Council:

- a) noted and accepted the attached Aged and Children's Services report; and
- b) noted the update that the Dept of Education approved funding an upgrade to the Docker River Childcare Centre to make it a fit-for purpose building.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.6</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>People and Capabilities Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**OCM2025-226 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Dalton McDonald)**

That Council noted and accepted the People & Capabilities Report.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.7</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Finance and Risk Committee Minutes</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, where the Council does not convene an ordinary meeting each month, it is required to delegate to a Council Committee the authority necessary to undertake the financial functions of the Council.

Council conducts its ordinary meetings on a bi-monthly basis, this delegation ensures that, in months where an ordinary meeting is not held, the designated committee is empowered to exercise the Council's financial decision-making responsibilities for that period.

**OCM2025-227 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)**

That Council noted and accepted the minutes of the Finance and Risk Committee meeting held 28 November 2025.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.8</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Finance Report period ending 30 November 2025</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 30 November 2025.

**OCM2025-228 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Abraham Poulson)**

That Council noted and accepted the Finance Report as at 30 November 2025.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.9</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>2024-25FY 1st Budget Revision</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

After review by Managers, Directors and the CEO, changes are recommended to Council’s budget contained within the Regional Plan. In general terms the amendments reflect finalisation of unexpended grants, confirmation of grant funding and acceptance of new grants and revisions to anticipated income and expenditure for the financial year.

**OCM2025-229 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)**

That Council adopts the amendments to the Budget 2025-2026 pursuant to Section 203(2) of the Local Government Act 2019.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.10</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Use of the Common Seal</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**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 endorse the use of the Common Seal on the listed documents.

**OCM2025-230 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)**

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

- DoV Aged Care Services – 29.10.2025
- MRC Core Assets Lease Imanpa – 29.10.2025
- MRC Core Assets Lease Ntaria – 29.10.2025
- DoV Aged Care Services – 20.11.2025
- Licence Agreement Ntaria – 20.11.2025
- MRC Core Asset Lease Titjikala - 03.12.2025

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.11</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Government and Responsible Persons</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is to inform Council of the obligations and implications for elected members arising from their designation as ‘responsible persons’ under the Aged Care Act 2024, effective from 1 November 2025.

**OCM2025-231 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Matthew Palmer)**

That Council:

- a) noted the obligations and implications of elected members as responsible persons under the Aged Care Act 2024;
- b) acknowledged the requirements for elected members in their role as responsible persons; and
- c) receive further updates and guidance from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission as they become available.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.12</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Declaration by Cr Palmer</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance &amp; Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the result of the Supplementary Election held in the Rodinga Ward and the subsequent election of Cr Palmer to the vacancy.

**OCM2025-232 RESOLVED (Peter Wilson/Dalton McDonald)**

That Council:

- a) noted and accepted the notification by NTEC as to the result of the supplementary election held in the Rodinga Ward;
- b) noted the election of Mr Matthew Palmer as an elected member of MacDonnell Regional Council; and
- c) asks Cr Palmer to cite, accept and sign his Declaration Certificate.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.13</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Resignation of Elected Member</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance &amp; Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this paper is to inform Council of the resignation of Councillor Garrard Anderson.

**OCM2025-233 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Veronica Lynch)**

**That Council:**

- a) noted the resignation of Mr Garrard Anderson as a Councillor of MacDonnell Regional Council;
- b) noted that NTEC has been advised;
- c) noted that a by-election will be required to fill the vacancy in the Luritja Pintubi Ward and that arrangements for this by-election are in progress; and
- d) noted that the by-election will be conducted by the Electoral Commissioner.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.14</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Governance Team Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance &amp; Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**OCM2025-234 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lynn Ward)**

That Council noted the Governance Team Report for December 2025.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.15</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Review of 2025-26 Key Performance Indicators</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance &amp; Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report presents the progress on the 2025-26 Regional Plan to ensure that Council is aware of the organisation’s progress in relation to the Objectives, Strategies and Key Performance Indicators established by Council.

**OCM2025-235 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Peter Wilson)**

That Council noted and accepted the report on progress against the 2025-26 Regional Plan.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.16</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Council Meeting Planner 2026</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**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.

**OCM2025-236 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Peter Wilson)**

That Council noted the updates to the 2026 Council Meeting Planner, specifically:

- a) that the Ordinary Council meeting in February will be held in Alice Springs;
- b) that the Special Council meeting will be on the 29<sup>th</sup> May in Alice Springs;
- c) anticipated that the following Ordinary Council meetings are held as follows:
  - June 2026 in Kintore
  - October 2026 in Areyonga

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.17</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Review of Delegations Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Under section 40 of the Local Government Act 2019 (Act), the Council can delegate its powers and functions to a Local Authority, a Council Committee or the CEO. Furthermore, some regulations within the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 (Regulations) allow for delegations to be made in some cases to staff.

Note that the act of delegation is one of giving another person (usually one less senior) the responsibility to act in relation to a particular authority. In delegating such powers, the Council should be aware that limitations are required in certain circumstances.

Under section 168 of the Act, the Chief Executive Officer is also able to delegate or sub-delegate a power or function given to him to a person or committee.

The Delegations Register keeps a record of who has the authority to make decisions on behalf of the Council.

**OCM2025-237 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Peter Wilson)**

**That Council approves the delegations listed in the attached Delegations Register.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.18</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Allowances and Other Benefits Policy (CEO) v1</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval for the new Allowances and Other Benefits Policy (CEO) v1.

**OCM2025-238 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)**

**That Council adopts the Allowances and Other Benefits Policy (CEO) v1 as a policy of Council.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.19</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Casting Vote Policy v2</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to ratify Council’s approval of the Casting Vote Policy v2 in September 2025.

**OCM2025-239 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)**

**That Council ratifies the Casting Vote Policy v2 as a policy of Council.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.20</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Travel and Accommodation Policy (Members) v10</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval of the updated Travel and Accommodation Policy (Members) v10.

**OCM2025-240 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council adopts the Travel and Accommodation Policy (Members) v10 as a policy of Council.**

**16 GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>16.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Notification of General Business Items</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**OCM2025-241 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Matthew Palmer)**

**That the Chairperson invited Elected Members to raise items of concern discussed in this meeting as follows:**

- 1. NT WorkSafe**  
Members will be updated at the February 2026 OCM in relation to the matter currently underway with NT WorkSafe
- 2. Workplace Health and Safety**  
Cr Lynch raised a question as to what safeguards are in place to monitor and measure workplace health and safety risks.

In response, the following measures were outlined:

- Workplace inspections and safety audits are conducted regularly
- Toolbox meetings and safety briefings are held on a regular basis
- Compliance with safety procedures and policies is assessed and monitored and reviewed
- Safety alerts and updates are communicated to staff
- Staff undertake regular work, health and safety training

**3. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census**

Elected Members were advised that the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) will commence census data collection within communities. Members were encouraged to be available should Census staff require assistance or general information to support the accurate counting of residents as these results have a direct impact on the distribution of funds.

**4. Access to Residential Properties and Council Assets**

Members were reminded that Council staff are not permitted to enter the yards of residents for any purpose, including maintenance, yard tidy activities, or bin collection. It was also noted that Council charges fees for the use of Council-owned assets.

**5. Long-serving staff members**

Council recognises long-serving staff members and eligible staff are presented with a certificate and a token of appreciation in recognition of their service.

**6. Councillor travel allowances**

Travel allowance are subject to attendance, and any allowance paid to a Councillor who does not attend a scheduled meeting will be recouped.

**17 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>17.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Closure to the public for the discussion of Confidential items</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**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.

**OCM2025-242 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Veronica Lynch)**

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

**Minute note:** The open section of the meeting was closed at 12:23pm.

## **18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS**

## **19 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

### **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.

### **OCM2025-245 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Abraham Poulson)**

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:

#### **OCM2025-243 RESOLVED (Lynn Ward/Patrick Allen)**

That Council confirms the Minutes of the previous Confidential Council Meeting held on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

#### **OCM2025-244 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Dalton McDonald)**

That Council approves the write-off of debts totaling \$14,038.00 including GST which is considered to be irrecoverable.

**Minute Note:** Members were thanked for their attendance to MRC's Staff Awards

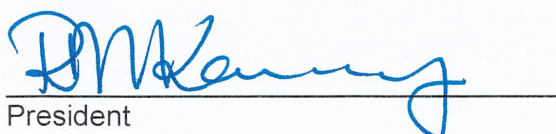
## **20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting - 27 February 2026 – 10:00 AM

## **21 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting concluded at 12:29 pm.

This page and the preceding 15 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Friday 19 December 2025 which were confirmed on Friday 19 March 2026.



President