



## **AGENDA**

# **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

## **FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2026**

The Ordinary Council Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the MRC Council Chambers, Alice Springs on Friday 20 March 2026 at 10:00 AM.

*The Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled to take place on Friday, 27 February was deferred due to severe weather conditions and significant road closures which presented an unacceptable safety risk to Council's Elected Members.*

*This agenda has been carried forward from this meeting and other than the inclusion of the Finance Report for the period ending 28 February 2026 contains no changes of a material nature.*

Belinda Urquhart  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



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18.2	Audit Committee Minutes <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)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.</i>	
18.3	2024-25 Audit Closing Report, Management Letter and Responses <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)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.</i>	

18.4 Extension of External Auditor Contract

*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)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.*

18.5 Local Government Compliance Review 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)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.*

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**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.

## **6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**ITEM NUMBER** 6.1  
**TITLE** Confirmation of Previous Minutes

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 December 2025 to be approved by Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 December 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.**

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MEETING 19.12.2025 - MINUTES [ 1 pages]

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

**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 Hermansburg 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**
  - Hermansburg 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>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Nominations</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

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

**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 and are unconfirmed.

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President

UNCONFIRMED

## **7 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**ITEM NUMBER**        7.1  
**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.**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled to take place on Friday, 27 February was deferred due to severe weather conditions and significant road closures which presented an unacceptable safety risk to Council's Elected Members.

This agenda has been carried forward from this meeting and other than the inclusion of the Finance Report for the period ending 28 February 2026 contains no changes of a material nature.

## **8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected of the Members 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**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	12.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities
<b>AUTHOR</b>	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 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 to 8 February 2026 and include:

- Mt Liebig – 8 December 2025
- Kintore – 9 December 2025
- Amoonguna – 22 January 2026
- Docker River – 4 February 2026
- Wallace Rockhole – 5 February 2026

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- a) confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Mt Liebig, Kintore, Amoonguna, Docker River and Wallace Rockhole;**
- b) accepts the Authorities allocations towards the new project proposals as follows:**
  - **Mt Liebig:**
    - **\$27,000.00** towards installing two new water bubblers and upgrading the switchboard; and
    - **\$1,500.00** to the purchase and installation of one new beehive.
  - **Docker River:**
    - **\$56,113.67** towards a New Playground

### **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 MLLA Minutes - 08-12-2025
- 2 KLA Minutes - 09-12-2025
- 3 AMLA Minutes - 22-01-2025
- 4 DRLA Minutes - 04-02-2026
- 5 WRLA Minutes - 05-02-2026



MINUTES OF THE MT LIEBIG LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE MOUNT LIEBIG COUNCIL OFFICE ON MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:09AM

**2 WELCOME**

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

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

Local Authority Members

Member Audrey Turner (Chairperson), Member Jeffrey Wheeler, Member Tristan Robertson and Member Rosalind Dixon

Councillors

Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillor Lynn Ward and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children’s Services, Damien Ryan – Area Manager, Lizzinna Ford – Customer Services and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Via Teams: Ruth Tahere – Project Management Office

Guests

Felix Meyer

Apologies:

Member Carol Peterson, Member Dyson Wheeler and Member Roderick Kantamara

**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.



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**MLLA2025-55 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Tristan Robertson)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received for this meeting from Members Roderick Kantamara, Carol Peterson and Dyson Wheeler; and
- c) did not record any absences without notice, for this meeting.

**4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP**

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

**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).

**MLLA2025-56 RESOLVED (Rosalind Dixon/Audrey Turner)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) welcomed returning Councillor Dalton MacDonald and newly elected Councillor Lynn Ward to the Authority;
- b) was informed that Garrard Anderson has formally resigned as an elected member of Council resulting in a vacancy for the Luritja Pintubi Ward;
- c) noted that there are no vacancies on the Local Authority; and
- d) acknowledged that 2 consecutive absences without notice will result in a termination of membership.

**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.

**MLLA2025-57 RESOLVED (Audrey Turner/Tristan Robertson)**

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.



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**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 Mt Liebig Local Authority Meeting held 23 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

**MLLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Jeffrey Wheeler/Dalton McDonald)**

**That the Local Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Mount Liebig Local Authority Meeting held 23 July 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 the Members for this Local Authority Meeting.

**MLLA2025-59 RESOLVED (Rosalind Dixon/Jeffrey Wheeler)**

**That the agenda papers for this Local Authority 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 interest that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.

**MLLA2025-60 RESOLVED (Tristan Robertson/Audrey Turner)**

**That the Local Authority Meeting:**

- a) **notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
- b) **that members declare any conflicts of interest.**



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**10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Project Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:**

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

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

**MLLA2025-61 RESOLVED (Jeffrey Wheeler/Tristan Robertson)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **acknowledged that \$20,282.56 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) **noted that the following projects are a work in progress:**
  - **2186 – Solar lights at the Cemetery; and**
  - **2189 Cultural Significance Exclusion signs.**
- c) **noted completion and closed:**
  - **2184 – Plaque at Rec Hall, with \$959.09 returned to unallocated; and**
  - **2188 – Sporting equipment with all funds fully expended.**
- d) **considered and accepted the following new project proposals:**
  - **Basketball Court upgrades - purchase and install two (2) new water bubblers and upgrade the Switchboard, allocating \$27,000.00 to the project.**
  - **Purchase and install one new beehive, allocating \$1,500.00.**
- e) **Added to the wishlist – Solar BBQ**



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<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Discretionary Funds</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that the Local Authority currently has \$4,000.00 of unallocated discretionary funds;
- b) noted that this is the final Local Authority meeting for 2025;
- c) discusses the allocation of these funds and determined the following:
  - Members Jeffrey Wheeler and Tristan Robertson to organise and shop for a Community Christmas and a Community New Years event, allocating \$1,000.00 to each event; and
  - \$2,000.00 to an Easter Celebration
- d) acknowledged that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2026.

**11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Council Services LA Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**MLLA2025-62 RESOLVED (Jeffrey Wheeler/Tristan Robertson)**

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

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Children's Services Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of Children's Services in Mt Liebig



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**MLLA2025-63 RESOLVED (Rosalind Dixon/Jeffrey Wheeler)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted Mt Liebig Children’s Services report.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Youth Services 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 services for Community Safety and Youth Service.

**MLLA2025-64 RESOLVED (Tristan Robertson/Rosalind Dixon)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted Mt Liebig Community Safety and Youth Services report.

**12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>General Council Business</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**MLLA2025-65 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Jeffrey Wheeler)**

That the Local Authority noted that no matters were raised at this meeting.

**13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**MLLA2025-66 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Jeffrey Wheeler)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the updates from Tomas King – Department of Housing, Community Development and Local Government on the previous matters raised and closed these items; and
- b) did not raise any new Non-Council business matters.

Mt Liebig Local Authority Meeting 8 December 2025 – Minutes



**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 29 JANUARY, 2026**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 11:16 am.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Mt Liebig Local Authority Meeting held on Monday 8 December 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



MINUTES OF THE KINTORE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE KINTORE COUNCIL OFFICE ON TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10.43AM

**1.1 NOMINATION OF THE ACTING CHAIR**

**KLA2025-70 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)**

**That the members of the Local Authority nominated Marlene Spencer as Acting Chair for this meeting.**

**2 WELCOME**

The meeting was opened by Acting Chair Marlene Spencer and quorum was achieved.

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

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

Local Authority Members

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

Via Teams: Member Bundi Rowe

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny and Councillor Dalton McDonald

Via Teams: Councillor Lynn Ward

Council Employees

CEO Belinda Urquhart, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety Libby Taylor, Area Manager Damien Ryan, Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg, and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Guests



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 9 December 2025 – Minutes

Katharine O'Donoghue – Minister for Gwoja Office  
 Alice Faulks – National Indigenous Australians Agency [NIAA]

**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.

**KLA2025-71 RESOLVED (Rex Eddie/Lorraine Scobie)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) accepted apologies received from Giselle Barku and Member Joe Young [due to difficulty hearing through online resources] for this meeting; and
- c) recorded no Member absences, without notice, for this meeting.

**4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP**

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

**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).

**KLA2025-72 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Phyllis Rowe)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the current membership of the Authority;
- b) noted that there are no vacancies on the Local Authority;
- c) acknowledged that 2 consecutive absences without notice will result in a termination of membership;
- d) was informed that Garrard Anderson has formally resigned as an elected member of Council resulting in a vacancy for the ward; and
- e) was notified that a bi-election will be held in the first half of 2026 for a new Elected Member for Luritja Pintubi ward.

**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



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 9 December 2025 – Minutes

Policy.

**KLA2025-73 RESOLVED (Bundi Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)**

**That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Kintore Local Authority Meeting held 8 October 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

**KLA2025-74 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Rex Eddie)**

**That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Kintore Local Authority Meeting held 8 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 the Members for this Local Authority Meeting.

**KLA2025-75 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Marlene Spencer)**

**That the agenda papers for this Local Authority meeting were presented and received for consideration at this meeting.**

**8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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



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**KLA2025-76 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lynn Ward)**

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**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Action Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**KLA2025-77 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Marlene Spencer)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the update on the action item ‘Location for the Ablution block’ that the CEO will communicate with the CEO of Pintubi Health regarding the location of the aged care buildings;
- b) supported the proposed location for the ablution block as presented by the PMO which resulted from consultation with Central Land Council; and
- c) closed this item noting that updates will be presented to the Local Authority as they arise.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Project Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:**

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



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- 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.

**KLA2025-78 RESOLVED (Rex Eddie/Marlene Spencer)**

That the Local Authority:

- acknowledged that \$67,097.03 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- reopened Project 2172 – Kintore Master Plan and allocated \$818.22 to cover the overspend, and closed the project;
- accepted the progress on their current project 2173 ‘2 Bin Trailers’ noting that due to high demand on the company producing the trailers, the trailers will not be completed until March 2026; and
- agreed to make decisions regarding allocating funds towards new projects at the next meeting.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Discretionary Funds</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**KLA2025-79 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)**

That the Local Authority:

- noted that \$1,057.36 has been spent on the Community Christmas BBQ so far;
- held the remaining funds for the BBQ for any further expenses;
- decided not to allocate any further funds at this meeting; and
- acknowledged that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2026.

**11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Council Services LAR</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**KLA2025-80 RESOLVED (Marlene Spencer/Bundi Rowe)**



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

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	11.2
<b>TITLE:</b>	Youth and Community Safety Kintore LAR September - October 2025
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**KLA2025-81 RESOLVED (Lorraine Scobie/Marlene Spencer)**

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

**12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	12.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	General Council Business

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**KLA2025-82 RESOLVED (Lynn Ward/Rex Eddie)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that today Alice Faulks from NIAA was in attendance to assist with officially opening the shade shelter and playground that Council built with Federal Government funding; and
- b) did not raise any further matters.

**13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	13.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	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.

**KLA2025-83 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that Council is working on an infrastructure plan for its communities

Kintore Local Authority Meeting 9 December 2025 – Minutes



- which will be used to outline where footpaths are appropriate and will provide a cost estimate. This will be utilised when the Member for Gwoja writes a supporting letter to the federal ministers regarding footpaths in Kintore;
- b) noted that Chansey Paech has written letters to Senator McCarthy and the Member for Lingiari in support of the splashpad for Kintore and that the CEO has a meeting with the CEO of Pintubi Health in which she will request that they draft a letter in support of this initiative outlining the health benefits; and
- c) closed these items noting that updates will be presented as they arise.

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH, 2026**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 11:37 pm.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the minutes of the Kintore Local Authority Meeting held on Tuesday 9 December 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



MINUTES OF THE AMOONGUNA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE AMOONGUNA COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 22 JANUARY 2026 AT 10:30 AM

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10.40AM

**1.1 NOMINATION OF THE ACTING CHAIRPERSON**

**AMLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Henry Oliver)**

**That members nominated Sharon Alice as Acting Chair of the Local Authority Meeting.**

**Minute Note:** All attendees observed a solemn minute of silence in support of the Stuart family.

**2 WELCOME**

The attendees were welcomed by acting chair Sharon Alice and quorum was achieved.

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

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

Local Authority Members

Member Lawrence Webb, Member Samantha Stuart, Member Sharon Alice and Member Henry Oliver.

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Veronica Lynch and Councillor Matthew Palmer

Council Employees

Director of Council Services Keith Hassett, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety Libby Taylor, Area Manager Ken Satour, Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg, Council Services Coordinator Victor Morgan, Acting Council Services Coordinator Roselene Rankine, and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 22 January 2026 – Minutes

Guests

Representatives from Central Land Council: Elke Wisemann and Shirlinda Elston who left the meeting at 11:05am after their presentation.

**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.

**AMLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Henry Oliver)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at the meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Member Rheikita Stuart and Councillor Andrew Davis; and
- c) recorded the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive Member absence, without notice of Paul Williams for this meeting.

**4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP**

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

**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).

**AMLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Samantha Stuart/Lawrence Webb)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) welcomed newly elected Councillor Matthew Palmer to the Local Authority;
- b) recommended that Paul Williams membership be revoked as he has been absent without notice from 2 consecutive meetings;
- c) decided not to elect a chairperson until more members are available;
- d) noted that there are now 2 vacancies on the Local Authority; and
- e) called for community nominations to remain open to fill these vacancies.

**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



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Policy.

**AMLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Matthew Palmer/Patrick Allen)**

**That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting held 2 October 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

**AMLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Patrick Allen)**

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

- Amoonguna Local Authority meeting held 2 July 2025; and
- Amoonguna Local Authority meeting held 2 October 2025.

**7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**AMLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Henry Oliver)**

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

**8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	8.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	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.

**AMLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Matthew Palmer/Veronica Lynch)**

**That the Local Authority Members:**

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

**9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Central Land Council 50th Anniversary Celebration</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Central Land Council would like to hold a community barbeque at Amoonguna in March or April 2026 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act [NT] 1976. During this event, CLC plan to unveil a plaque outside the hall marking its significance in land rights history. They will also be unveiling a sign nearby with images from early meetings, a quote from the first CLC chair Wenten Rubuntja and some text to provide context.

Representatives from CLC are attending the Amoonguna Local Authority meeting to gain feedback on the content of the plaque and the sign.

**AMLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Patrick Allen)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) accepted the presentation from the Central Land Council representatives;
- b) supported the planned CLC BBQ in Amoonguna to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act with the proposed date 15<sup>th</sup> May;
- c) requested that the film ‘No Final History’ be played during the BBQ; and
- b) agreed to provide feedback on the placement and images on the commemorative sign that will be displayed at the hall in Amoonguna after consulting with families and Traditional Owners.

**10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

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

**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 residents of the region are represented in the plan.

**AMLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Samantha Stuart)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the presentation of excerpts from the previous MRC Regional Plan; and
- c) agreed to consider ideas to contribute to the 2026-27 Regional Plan through the CSC or at the next meeting of the Local Authority.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Action Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**AMLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Henry Oliver)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) were advised that Council Services is working with Power and Water and an external provider on the top-up options for power cards in Amoonguna. It is expected that this will be up and running before the next Local Authority meeting; and
- b) kept this item open.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Project Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:**

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



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

**AMLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Samantha Stuart)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledged that \$18,593.75 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) accepted the update on the current project '2102 New Playground Furniture'. The civil team will dismantle the current damaged playground furniture and then the PMO will organise the contractor to begin the installation;
- c) requested that the new playground be locked at night to prevent vandalism;
- d) received the \$750,000.00 estimate for the cost associated with installing a toilet, shower and laundry block from the PMO. This estimates is beyond the capacity of Local Authority Project funds;
- e) decided to add laundry, toilet and shower block and a water park to the community infrastructure plan;
- f) noted that there are \$35,093.75 unallocated funds; and
- g) decided to discuss new project ideas at the next meeting.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	10.4
<b>TITLE:</b>	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	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.

**AMLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lawrence Webb)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that no funds were allocated at the previous meeting;
- b) allocated the remaining balance of \$3,084.35 to cleaning and gardening equipment for each occupied house in Amoonguna to be organised by Council Services; and
- c) acknowledged that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2026.

**11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	11.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Council Services LAR
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Ellen Fitzgerald, Senior Administration Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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



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**AML2026-13 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Veronica Lynch)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the attached Council Services report;
- b) noted that the animal management team will be visiting on the 23 February to run the animal care education program and carry out worming and flea control. Michelle Hayes would like a community member to assist with communication with residents; and
- c) were reminded that Council staff do not work inside the yards of community residences.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	11.2
<b>TITLE:</b>	Community Services - Aged Care Services Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**AML2026-14 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Henry Oliver)**

That the Local Authority

- a) noted and accepted the attached Aged Care Services report; and
- b) stated a preference for another male to be employed at Aged Care as there is currently only one male on the team. This would be advantageous in grounds maintenance.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	11.3
<b>TITLE:</b>	Community Services - Youth and Community Safety Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**AML2026-15 RESOLVED (Matthew Palmer/Henry Oliver)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the attached Youth and Community Safety Services reports;
- b) requested the following be investigated for the Youth Program:
  - learner’s licence training;
  - hairdresser training;
  - purchasing music equipment;
  - running a music education program;
  - quotes be obtained for a snooker table; and
- c) raised the following Community Safety operational matters:
  - identified the clinic and nearby bus stop as a safety concern during Youth program closing times and requested Community Safety patrols at those times;



Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 22 January 2026 – Minutes

- raised that the Community Safety team would benefit from more female employees.

## 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.

#### **AML2026-16 RESOLVED (Henry Oliver/Samantha Stuart)**

That the Local Authority raised that the waste facility is almost full and that there are some potholes that need to be filled. These matters will be attended to as operational matters.

## 13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

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

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

#### **AML2026-17 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Henry Oliver)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that NTG have not provided an update regarding the state of disrepair of fences and gates in Amoonguna. There have been staff changes at NTG. The CSC will provide an updated audit to Governance so that this can again be raised with NTG;
- b) were informed that Minister Bill Yan's Office have advised that there is currently no funding for the football lights but that they will keep this project in mind for future funding opportunities. MRC will prioritise this project when future grants become available. Keith Hassett will reach out to CLC to see if they have funding that could be applied to this matter and closed this item; and
- c) requested that NTG look into the low water pressure experienced by all houses within the community.

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**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 13 APRIL, 2026**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 12:33 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 22 January 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 10:30 AM

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was postponed to 11:22AM before being declared open

**2 WELCOME**

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

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

Local Authority Members

Member Priscilla Abbott, Member Rosina Kunia and Member Brett Stockman

Councillors

Councillor Peter Wilson

Via Teams: Councillor Abraham Poulson and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children Services, Victor Morgan – Area Manager and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Via Teams: Jake Potter - Manager Housing and Project Management Office

Guests

Alice Honner – Senior Engagement Officer and David Kerrin – Assistant Director Remote Engagement, NIAA Representatives

Via Teams: Shelly Beattie – Manager, Community Development, Housing and Local Government and Peta-Lee Cole-Manolis – Cultural Consultant, Penangke Consultancy

Apologies

Nil

Absent

Member Winsome Newberry and Member Selinda De Rose

**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.

**DRLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Ruby James)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) noted that no apologies were received for this meeting;
- c) resolved that the absence of Member Winsome Newberry without notice received, be recorded as her first non-attendance; and
- d) recorded Selinda De Rose as absent from her second Authority meeting.

**4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	4.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Local Authority Membership
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	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).

In accordance with good Governance practices, Docker River’s first Local Authority meeting in 2026 will include the selection of a chairperson for a 12-month term.

**DRLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Brett Stockmen/Rosina Kunia)**

That the Local Authority;

- a) noted the selection of a new Chairperson for a 12-month term and appointed Priscilla Abbott to fill the role;
- b) acknowledged and thanked former Chairperson Ruby James, for her commitment and hard work on the Docker River Local Authority;
- c) accepted that the membership of Selinda De Rosa be revoked for her absence from two consecutive Authority meetings; and
- d) noted two vacant positions and called for community nominations to open.

**5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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



Docker River Local Authority Meeting 4 February 2026 – Minutes

**DRLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)**

**That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Docker River Local Authority Meeting held 22 October 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

**DRLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Priscilla Abbott)**

**That the Local Authority approves the following unconfirmed minutes as a true and correct record of the proceedings:**

- a) the Ordinary meeting held 22 October 2025; and
- b) the Provisional meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**DRLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Priscilla Abbott)**

**That the agenda papers for this Local Authority 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 interest that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.



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**DRLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)**

That the Local Authority Meeting:

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

**9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Community Alcohol Planning Engagement</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**DRLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants.

**10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Introduction to the Regional Plan</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Local Authority with the opportunity to contribute to the development of MacDonnell Regional Council's (MRC) Regional Plan.

It is important that Local Authorities are consulted during the development of the Regional Plan to ensure that the priorities and needs of residents across the region are accurately represented

**DRLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Brett Stockmen)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) reviewed the information presented;
- b) provided the following feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan:
  - Employment opportunities
  - Improvements to Cemetery, Waste Management, and Infrastructure
  - Focus on skill development, training opportunities, leadership and well-being for local staff
  - Advocate for stronger collaboration between MRC and external



Docker River Local Authority Meeting 4 February 2026 – Minutes

**stakeholders to enhance service deliver across Essential Services, Education, Roads and Housing.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Project Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:**

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

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

**DRLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Brett Stockmen/Priscilla Abbott)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **acknowledged that \$62,702.87 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) **noted the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management office and resolved to keep the following projects open:**
  - **2124 – Bin Trailer, noting that once they arrive in Alice Springs, they will be registered and undergo the necessary safety checks, before being dispatched to community;**
  - **2125 – Bases for the Solar lights – requested that the solar lights be distributed between the Cemetery and the three parks.**
- c) **made the following decisions in relation to Project 2122 – New Park Location and Structures:**
  - **noted that the cost of temporarily relocating the playground equipment, diverting the water from the park when it floods, or installing stormwater treatment measures exceeded the Authority’s budget;**
  - **noted that Council Services and the Project Management Office will re-assess the park and the playground equipment and determine the required course of action;**
  - **closed the Project, re-assigning the balance of \$56,113.67 to a new project;**
- d) **created two new projects:**
  - **Upgrades to the Cemetery - source quotes for shade, seating, plaques**

and repairing the existing fence or quote to install a new fence (with no funds allocated at this point).

- **New Playground, accepting the reassigned funds of \$56,113.67 to the project and determined:**
  - Playground to be installed near the former Aged Care building, noting that Council will require the relevant lot number to investigate the lease for that area.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	10.3
<b>TITLE:</b>	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	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.

**DRLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Priscilla Abbott)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the spending towards the Community Christmas Party;
- b) noted the available funds and allocates these funds as follows:
  - \$1,000.00 towards a Easter Community Celebration including cake;
  - removed the uniforms from the Project wishlist and allocated \$2,000.00 towards Men’s AFL Uniforms and Ladies Multi-Sports uniforms.
- c) noted that these funds will be forfeited if not spent with invoices received by 30 June 2026.

**Minute Note:** A delegate was not selected by the members to take the lead on the design, logo, quotes to be sourced, sizing or storage for the uniforms.

**11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	11.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Council Services LA Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**DRLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Brett Stockmen)**

That the Local Authority of Docker River noted and accepted the Council Services report tabled at this meeting.



Docker River Local Authority Meeting 4 February 2026 – Minutes

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Youth and Community Safety Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety in Docker River.

**DRLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Priscilla Abbott)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted the Community Safety Report; and
- b) accepted the update on the Childcare Centre

**12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>General Council Business</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**DRLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)**

**That the Local Authority did not raise any matters for discussion**

**13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>13.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Non-Council Business</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide members with the opportunity to raise in relation to services provided by the Northern Territory Government and its external Stakeholders.

This may include:

- Roads outside of MRC's area
- Education
- Health
- Police
- Land Management

**DRLA2026-14 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted the Manager from Community Development, Housing and Local Government in attendance to the meeting;
- b) noted the update to the current issue regarding Housing:
  - DLI undertook community consultation on the new modular designs, including providing tenants with a sample of the build materials. The NTG Representative's understanding is that all affected tenants signed to acknowledge and agree to the proposed materials and design of the buildings.  
The list of signatures has been requested and will be provided to the Local Authority members once received.  
Members advised that they were not aware of the consultation and had not signed any agreement.
- c) Members requested that a Housing Representative visit community to engage with residents and assess housing conditions, noting that several properties had sustained considerable damage from feral camels and have been unoccupied for several months, despite having active tenancies.  
The affected properties included:
  - Lot 124
  - Lot 153
  - Lot 160
  - Lot 162
- d) Member Ruby James has requested a follow up to her maintenance requests for Lot 139 regarding the issues around her toilet, air-conditioner and water leaks.

**Minute Note:** Chair Priscilla Abbott has requested an update on the status of her housing application.

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL, 2026**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 12:53 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 4 February 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.



MINUTES OF THE WALLACE ROCKHOLE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE WALLACE ROCKHOLE COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 10:30 AM

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10.47 AM

**2 WELCOME**

The attendees were welcomed by Chairperson Colin Craig and quorum was achieved.

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

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

Local Authority Members

Member Colin Craig (Chairperson), Member Pamela Abbott and Member Terry Abbott.

Councillors

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

Council Employees

Area Manager Stuart Millar, Governance Coordinator Shae Millar,

Via Teams: Manager Housing, Facilities and Project Management Office Jake Potter.

Guests

Via Teams:

Manager Community Development Shelly Beattie from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

Katharine O'Donoghue from the Office of Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Gwoja

**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.

**WLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Member Ruth Katarintja and Council Services Coordinator Ada Williams; and
- c) recorded the first Member absence, without notice, of Howard Abbott for this meeting.

**4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	4.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Membership of the Local Authority
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	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).

**WLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) advised that Edward Craig has submitted an expression of interest to join the Local Authority; and
- b) conditionally approved his nomination, subject to the nomination form being received.

**5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**WLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)**

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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



Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting 5 February 2026 – Minutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting held 23 October 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

**WLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)**

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting held 23 October 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

**7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**WLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Pamela Abbott/Colin Craig)**

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

**8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	8.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	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.

**WLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)**

That the Local Authority members:

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



Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting 5 February 2026 – Minutes

**10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Development of the Regional Plan</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**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 residents of the region are represented in the plan.

**WLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) **accepted the presentation of excerpts from the previous MRC Regional Plan; and**
- b) **contributed the following priorities for their community:**
  - **more training for the Council Services team – particularly machinery training**
  - **requested that sealing the entrance road be added to the current community infrastructure plan**
  - **advised that the football oval on the other side of the orchard is no longer a priority.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Action Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**WLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)**

**That the Local Authority accepted the update that it is likely that MRC will be able to take on the lease for the Rec Hall and kept this item open for a further update at the next meeting.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Project Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

community.

**Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:**

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

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

**WLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) acknowledged that \$22,093.76 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG; and
- b) accepted the progress on their current projects as provided by the project management office as follows:
  - project 2221 Plumbing Repairs – the plumbers have identified some extensive repairs required on 7 of 8 toilets within the community, with more plumbing items expected to be added to the quote. Once all quotes for these works are received, the Housing Facilities and Project Management team will investigate how these works will be prioritised and paid for.
  - project 2222 Moveable Bench Seating – there has been a delay in ordering the bench seating as the items had been out of stock and MRC is waiting on the supplier to submit the required supplier form before the order can proceed.
  - project 2223 Upgrade to Gordon Ida Park – Hardy Fencing have been delayed due to demands on their services. It is expected that they should be beginning work in February or March with assistance from the civil team .

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	10.4
<b>TITLE:</b>	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	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.

**WLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted the spending on their current allocations;
- b) allocated the remaining funds of \$1,042.74 toward an Easter celebration to be organised by members of the community; and
- c) acknowledged that these funds must be spent with the goods and invoices received by 30 June 2026.

**11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	11.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Council Services LAR
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Ellen Fitzgerald, Senior Administration Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Wallace Rockhole across the area of Local Government Council Services

**WLA2026-11 RESOLVED** (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the attached Council Services report; and
- b) identified that the Council Services team needs an additional line trimmer and were advised that the procurement process for this has already begun.

**12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	12.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	General Council Business

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**WLA2026-12 RESOLVED** (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)

That the Local Authority did not raise any matters of General Council Business.

**13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide members with the opportunity to raise matters

relating to Non-Council Business.

**WLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted the updates on previous matters as follows:
  - closed the item regarding Clinic Grounds Maintenance as clinic staff have advised that this will be maintained moving forward.
  - kept open the item 'decommissioned bore' so that members can use a map, to be supplied by Shelly Beattie, to identify the bore referred to in this item. This will enable more information to be presented at the next Local Authority meeting.
  - accepted the advice that the most recent lease of the Wallace Rockhole GBM was held by NIAA and this expired in June 2025. No organisation currently holds the lease. The members stated that this building could possibly be used for accommodation for staff for the community store and closed this item;
- b) requested that Ms Beattie communicate with CLC and NTG Housing to initiate steps toward signing a lease agreement that would allow households to begin paying rent so that NTG can take over maintenance of the houses;
- c) requested that Ms Beattie seek advice on whether Terry Abbott can park his trucks inside the yard of the disused Power and Water Corporation compound; and
- d) raised that it is a high priority for the community to have the store reopened. It is reported that this is causing people to move away from the community and that this population decline is contributing to many issues that may include reduced participation in community culture, less youth in the community and reduced youth services. This information will be passed on to the CEO who will communicate the matter to the NTG.

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 6 MAY, 2026**

**15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 11:42 am.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the minutes of the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 5 February 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.

## **12 LOCAL AUTHORITY**

**ITEM NUMBER** 12.2  
**TITLE** Local Authority Resignations and Terminations  
**AUTHOR** Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 03: Empowered Communities

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- a) **notes that the following memberships have been revoked due to their absence from two consecutive Local Authority meetings:**
  - **Paul Williams from the Amoonguna Local Authority;**
  - **Selinda De Rose from the Docker River 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.

## **12 LOCAL AUTHORITY**

**ITEM NUMBER** 12.3  
**TITLE** Local Authority Nominations  
**AUTHOR** Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 03: Empowered Communities

### **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 nomination received and appoints Edward Craig to the Wallace Rockhole 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.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Elected Members

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Local Authority Nomination Form - Wallace Rockhole - Edward Craig


# Local Authority Nomination Form MC02-F1



### NOMINATION

I, EDWARD CRAIG wish to nominate as a  
(Name of nominee)


member of the Local Authority for the community of Wallace Rockhole  
(Name of community)

 10 1 2 2026  
(Signature of nominee) Date

### ENDORSEMENT

I, Colin Craig endorse the nomination of this  
(Name of endorsing Local Authority member)

nominee to this Local Authority.

 10 1 2 2026  
(Signature of Local Authority member) Date

### RETURNING OFFICER

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

 13 1 02 2026  
(Signature of Returning Officer) Date

**13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT**

**ITEM NUMBER** 13.1  
**TITLE** Correspondence Report  
**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**

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

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes the correspondence received and sent.**

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

Incoming Correspondence

Date Received	From	Subject
16-Jan-26	Claire Brown, General Manager Department of Logistics and Infrastructure	Abandoned vehicle legislative amendment changes
2-Feb-26	Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment	Appointment of Keith Hassett as a member of the NT Planning Commission
4-Feb-26	Peter Bangquee BM, President LGANT	Copy of letter sent to Minister Edgington re a review of the NTG definition of an ACCO
25-Feb-26	Mary Watson, CEO, LGANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover letter from LGANT CEO</li> <li>• Supporting brief outlining KPMG’s findings</li> <li>• LGCI Council Comparison</li> </ul>
27-Feb-26	Hugh King, Acting Executive Director, DHLG&CD	Draft Terms of Reference – Learning and Development Reference Group

Outgoing Correspondence

Date Sent	To	Subject
Various	Members of Federal and NT Parliaments, Departmental Heads and other related Stakeholders – in total 38 letters sent	MRC Annual Report 2024-25

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

**CONSULTATION**

President  
Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Leadership Team

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Letter re: Abandoned vehicle legislative amendment change
- 2 Letter of appointment - Mr Hassett as a member of the NT Planning Commission
- 3 Copy of letter sent to Minister Edgington re a review of the NTG definition of an ACCO
- 4 Cover Letter from LGANT CEO
- 5 Supporting Brief outlining KPMG's Findings
- 6 LGCI Council Comparison
- 7 Draft Terms of Reference - Learning and Development Reference Group
- 8 Sample Letter re Annual Report - Other Stakeholders



Department of LOGISTICS  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Level 3 Highway House, 14 Palmerston Circuit,  
Palmerston NT 0830

Postal address  
GPO Box 61  
Palmerston NT0831

E [claire.brown@nt.gov.au](mailto:claire.brown@nt.gov.au)

16 January 2026

Ms Belinda Urquhart  
CEO MacDonnell Regional Council  
c/o [belinda.urquhart@macdonnell.nt.gov.au](mailto:belinda.urquhart@macdonnell.nt.gov.au)

T 08 8924 7529

File reference  
2026/0249

Dear Ms Urquhart,

**Re: Abandoned vehicle changes scheduled for commencement on 21 January 2026**

I write to you on behalf of the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure to provide an update on the forthcoming commencement of Part 5 of the *Transport Legislation Amendment Act 2025*. This Act introduces a series of important amendments to the *Traffic Regulations 1999* relating to the management of abandoned vehicles.

These amendments, scheduled to commence on 21 January 2026 (subject to Gazettal) strengthen the powers available to competent authorities, including Councils, to respond more effectively to abandoned vehicles and to operate with greater clarity and protection under the revised regulatory framework. This correspondence also follows earlier engagement with Councils, including the sector briefing held on 22 August 2025 and the follow-up communication issued on 6 January 2026.

On commencement, the amended provisions give competent authorities, including Councils, enhanced powers to deal with abandoned vehicles sooner and in a broader set of circumstances. These changes include simplified advertising requirements, updated vehicle values for the alternative disposal method, and greater liability protection for officers and agents.

For ease of reference, the key changes include:

- **Expanded definition of “abandoned vehicle”** to include:
  - Unregistered vehicles left on a road, road-related area or public place (previously only applied if left on a road)
  - Registered vehicles in untimed parking areas left for 3 days or more (previously 7 days)
- **New power** to move any vehicle causing a danger, obstruction or inconvenience to pedestrians (previously only applied to drivers)
- **Extended authority** for competent authorities and their agents to enter a vehicle so that it can be moved.
- **Liability protections** extend to authorised officers entering, moving and storing vehicles as well as agents acting on behalf of authorised officers.
- **Removal of newspaper notice requirement**, allowing competent authorities to choose appropriate methods.

- **Increase in the alternative disposal threshold** to vehicles that have a value of not less than \$2,000 (previously \$1,000).
- **New requirement** to conduct a Personal Property Securities Register (PPSR) search prior to sale or disposal.
- **Proceeds of sale** after costs, must first satisfy any PPSR-registered interest holders before any surplus is returned to the former owner.

I acknowledge that concerns have been raised regarding the implementation of the recent changes, particularly the reduction in the timeframe for removing abandoned vehicles from 7 days to 3 days. The competent authority retains the discretion to determine appropriate removal periods once the initial timeframe has expired, considering factors such as vehicle location, available resources, and environmental challenges.

The Department acknowledges that, under the amended regulations, Councils dealing with abandoned vehicles will need to review their existing processes to ensure compliance and to support a smooth transition to the updated regulatory settings. Attachment A provides a detailed breakdown of each amended regulation and its intended outcome, together with the internal considerations applied during the Department's own planning as a competent authority. This information is provided for transparency only. Each Council is responsible for its own commencement planning and for determining any operational changes appropriate to its circumstances.

If you have any further questions regarding these changes or their implementation, please contact Cyndell Harrison, Project Officer Civil Administration, on 8999 4699 or via email [Civilsupport.DLI@nt.gov.au](mailto:Civilsupport.DLI@nt.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Claire Brown  
General Manager, Transport and Civil Infrastructure  
16 January 2026

Attachment A

Regulation	Brief description of amendments	Outcome	Department's Implementation considerations
Regulation 62	Interpretations have been added for abandoned vehicle, authorised officer and person assisting and, officer of a competent authority.	Interpretations added.  Note: The definition of a competent authority has not changed refer section 3 of the <i>Traffic Act 1987</i> .	Update procedures as required to reflect the changes to terminology.
Regulation 62A	Update includes persons providing assistance to authorised officers when moving vehicles.	Authorised officers may be assisted by another person/agents such as tow truck operators, or an emergency worker in moving a vehicle.	Update procedures as required to reflect the changes to terminology.
Regulation 63(a)(iii)	Registered vehicles left in a parking area where the time a vehicle may remain parked is not limited has been reduced from 7 days to 3 days.	Registered vehicles left in a parking area where the time a vehicle may remain parked can be removed in 3 days.	Update procedures to reflect this change.
Regulation 63(b)	Updated definition of an "abandoned vehicle" for unregistered vehicles to include road-related area or public place.	Competent authorities can now remove abandoned vehicles from road-related areas such as footpaths or a public place.	Update procedures accordingly.
Regulation 64(1)	Updated to state that authorised officers can remove a vehicle that is stopped or parked in a manner or position that causes danger, obstruction or inconvenience to drivers and pedestrians.	This now allows vehicles to be moved if stopped or parked in a manner or position that causes danger, obstruction or inconvenience to drivers and pedestrians.	Update procedures to reflect expanded scope.
Regulation 64(2)	Minor technical amendment: replaced	Editorial change only; no operational impact.	No procedural changes identified.

Regulation	Brief description of amendments	Outcome	Department's Implementation considerations
	"safe keeping" with "storage."		
Regulation 64(3)	Minor technical amendment.	Editorial change only; no operational impact.	No procedural changes were identified.
Regulation 64(4)	Expanded protection to cover authorised officer or any other person assisting the authorised officer.	Authorised officers, or any person assisting the authorised officer is not liable for any damage caused to the vehicle in moving, entering or storing a vehicle.	Update procedures as required to note protection.
Regulation 65(2)	Minor technical amendment.	Editorial change only; no operational impact.	No procedural changes identified.
Regulation 65(2A)	New provision for officer of competent authority to move vehicle to storage.	Allows competent authority to store removed abandoned vehicles.	No procedural changes identified.
Regulation 65(3)	Expanded protection to cover authorised officer or any other person assisting the authorised officer.	Authorised officers, or any person assisting the authorised officer is not liable for any damage caused to the vehicle in moving, entering or storing a vehicle.	No procedural changes identified.
Regulation 65(6)	Changes to publishing of notices.	Competent authorities can determine how notices are published, including the timeframe it is published.	No procedural changes identified.
Regulation 65A(1)(a)	New requirement for competent authorities to search PPRS..	Competent authority to obtain a written search result of the PPS Register in the appropriate form under the PPS Act.	Update procedure to note that the requirement; also noting that the search result may be obtained from a 3 <sup>rd</sup> party agent, provided that it is in the appropriate form.

Regulation	Brief description of amendments	Outcome	Department's Implementation considerations
			<a href="#">(Personal Property Securities Register)</a>
Regulation 65A(1)(b)	New requirement for competent authorities to give written notice to interested parties.	Competent authority to provide written notice to any person who has an interest in the vehicle recorded in the PPSR.	Update procedures to include written notice to PPSR interest holders.
Regulation 65A(2)	New requirement for PPSR interested parties to be notified prior to the sale or disposal of vehicle.	Competent authority to give written notice to PPSR interested parties at least 14 days before the proposed sale or disposal of the vehicle.	Update procedures to include notice period.
Regulation 67(1)	New requirement to satisfy sub regulation 67(2)	Regulation is subject to the competent authority meeting subsection 67(2) requirements prior to selling a vehicle.	Update procedures accordingly.
Regulation 67(2)	Updated timeframe allowed to sell a vehicle to include PPSR notices.	A competent authority must not sell a vehicle prior to 14 days of any notice required to be sent to interested parties under the PPSR.	Update procedures accordingly.
Regulation 68(b)	Updated the disposal threshold.	The threshold of disposing of an abandoned vehicle has increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000.	Update procedure to new threshold.
Regulation 69(2)	Updated provision to include PPSR interested parties.	Competent authorities to satisfy any PPSR interested party holders before any surplus funds are returned to the former owner.	Update procedures accordingly.

Regulation	Brief description of amendments	Outcome	Department's Implementation considerations
Regulation 69(3)	Updated to include PPSR interested parties.	If money from the sale or disposal of a vehicle is unclaimed by PPSR Interested parties after 6 months, any money from the sale or disposal remains in the possession of the competent authority.	Update procedures accordingly.



MINISTER FOR LANDS, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

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Darwin NT 0800  
[minister.burgoyne@nt.gov.au](mailto:minister.burgoyne@nt.gov.au)

GPO Box 3146  
Darwin NT 0801  
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Mr Keith Hassett  
Via email: [keith.hassett@macdonnell.nt.gov.au](mailto:keith.hassett@macdonnell.nt.gov.au)

Dear Mr Hassett

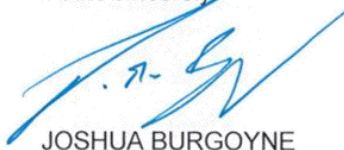
I am pleased to advise that in accordance with section 81F of the *Planning Act 1999*, I have accepted the nomination of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory and appointed you as a member of the Northern Territory Planning Commission.

Your appointment will be for a period of two years commencing immediately.

Officers from the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment will contact you to provide details regarding commencement arrangements, induction and ongoing support to assist you in fulfilling your role.

On behalf of the Northern Territory Government, I thank you for your willingness to serve the community through this important appointment and look forward to your contribution to shaping the Territory's future.

Yours sincerely



JOSHUA BURGOYNE

2-2-2026

cc: [ntpc@nt.gov.au](mailto:ntpc@nt.gov.au)





4 February 2026

Hon. Steven Edgington MLA  
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Housing, Local Government  
and Community Development  
Northern Territory Government  
[Minister.Edgington@nt.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Edgington@nt.gov.au)

Dear Minister Edgington,

### CLOSING THE GAP

I am writing to request a review of the Northern Territory Government's (NTG) definition of an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) to include local government councils led by Aboriginal elected members.

As a partner to the National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap, the NTG committed to supporting the objectives of the Agreement. The definition of an ACCO under the Agreement reads: *"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community control is an act of self-determination. Under this Agreement, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Controlled Organisation delivers services, including land and resource management, that builds the strength and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people and is:*

- a. *incorporated under relevant legislation and not-for-profit*
- b. *controlled and operated by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people*
- c. *connected to the community, or communities, in which they deliver the services*
- d. *governed by a majority Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander governing body"*

The NTG adopted a modified version of the above ACCO definition, including the requirement that *"An Aboriginal community-controlled organisation delivers services, including land and resource management, builds capability and empowers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people, and:*

- *...Is independent from and is not controlled to any extent by any sphere of government (except to the extent that an organisation receives funding, and under a formal agreement is accountable to such governmental body for the receipt and expenditure of the funding).*

The National Agreement states that when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a genuine say in the design and delivery of services that affect them, better life outcomes are achieved. Aboriginal-led councils do this on a daily basis through their leadership, staffing, and cultural connections.

The National Agreement also states that the parties will commit to mobilising all avenues and opportunities available to them to meet the objectives of the agreement. We are of the opinion that the NTG's interpretation of ACCOs is counter to this commitment and is having a significant impact on the Territory's ability to meet Closing the Gap targets and consequently putting existing federal funding

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arrangements at risk. Closing the Gap should be a genuine partnership, and we have an opportunity to formally recognise that decision making and community-led initiatives are already occurring in local government councils led by all or majority Aboriginal elected members.

The local government sector is supportive of building the community-controlled sector and has long expressed a desire to partner with ACCOs to improve service delivery for their communities, however policy settings are limiting opportunities available to both councils and ACCOs. Excluding or preferencing ACCOs over Aboriginal-led local government councils fails to recognise that the ACCO sector is a growing one in the NT and that councils have the infrastructure, local knowledge and on-the-ground capacity that ACCOs are yet to establish in many parts. Anecdotally, councils have reported that ACCOs will contact them to provide in situ support so that they can fulfil the objectives of grant funding that isn't open to council themselves. Policy settings should be revised to leverage this willingness and capacity to work together rather than establishing a competitive environment.

LGANT would like to see the NTG show leadership in this space and recognise that their hard stance on its ACCO definition and interpretation of aspects of the National Agreement needs nuancing for the Territory's unique situation. The progress that the NT is making on Priority Reform targets that focus on measuring the changes governments (including local government) are making in the way they work with Aboriginal people is limited by the non-recognition of Aboriginal councils. Aboriginal leadership is business-as-usual in the NT while, in other jurisdictions, this is mere aspiration. Further to this, the impact is felt at a local level where the failure to recognise Aboriginal leadership in councils can be construed by our members to be arrogant and offensive and discourage participation with democratic process.

Section 108 of the National Agreement states that jurisdictional Closing the Gap Implementation Plans include information on how the states and territories will work with local government to implement the Agreement. Given NTECAA's recent agreement to develop the NT's 2026-2028 Implementation Plan at the last meeting, the timing is perfect to re-set and reconsider the ACCO definition to ensure all parties can collectively work to meet the objective of the National Agreement (which is to overcome the entrenched inequality faced by too many Aboriginal people so that their life outcomes are equal to all Australians).

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Pangquee BM  
**President**



25 February 2026

Ms Belinda Urquhart  
CEO  
MacDonnell Regional Council

belinda.urquhart@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Dear Belinda,

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT COST INDEX 2024/2025

The Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) is pleased to share with you the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) for 2024/25.

KPMG was engaged to deliver an LGCI Supporting Brief that captures data on the operating and capital costs incurred by local government in undertaking ordinary council activities. The LGCI applies to local government financial assessments to track the changes in certain expenditures by councils using 2024/25 data to assist councils to identify key drivers of growth, cost monitoring and resource allocation.

This work entailed:

- Calculating a weighted average from selected ABS indexes, this calculation reflects the overall distribution of local government spending during a specific timeframe.
- Breaking down expenditures into 16 distinct categories. Relevant ABS indexes are then applied to these categories to derive a unified estimate reflecting the average cost increases, based on the financial data from our members.
- Utilising indexes obtained from the ABS Consumer Price Index, Wage Price Index, and Producer Prices Index catalogues which track the changes in cost over the year.

The scope of work included individual council expenditure comparisons that examine the expenditure of the council in question in comparison with the council average (across member councils that were able to provide data).

Please find attached:

- Local Government Cost Index – Supporting Brief; and
- Local Government Cost Index Council Comparison for your respective council.

The LGCI estimated that the local government cost increase in the NT for 2024/25 is 3.9% (compared to 3.83% for 2023/24 and 3.76% for 2022/23). We encourage you to please share this information with your finance team.

The supporting brief talks to a change in methodology by the ABS which resulted in a delay in us getting the LGCI to you by the end of January as originally planned.

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Please contact Sarah Zaharie, Director of Public Affairs at [sarah.zaharie@lgant.asn.au](mailto:sarah.zaharie@lgant.asn.au) or 08 8944 9697 should you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Watson  
**CEO**

CC:  
President Roxanne Kenny

## Local Government Cost Index



### Disclaimer

Please note: The CPI calculations incorporated into the 2024/25 update of the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) have been significantly influenced by substantial changes introduced by the ABS to its Consumer Price Index (CPI) methodology. These methodological adjustments, implemented for the 2025 CPI series, have altered the way several expenditure classes are measured and weighted. As a result, the underlying data used in this year’s LGCI reflects a materially different basis of calculation compared with previous years.

Because the ABS has not historically back cast or retrospectively adjusted earlier CPI data to align with its updated methodology, the year on year comparisons within this LGCI update involve two different methodological frameworks. This directly contributes to the unusually large movements observed in the annual variances. These variations should therefore be interpreted with caution, as they represent methodological discontinuities rather than solely genuine changes in underlying cost pressures.

The purpose of highlighting this issue is to ensure users of the LGCI understand that the year on year results in this edition are not strictly comparable with earlier periods. This is particularly relevant when analysing trends, assessing cost escalation, or applying the LGCI for indexation purposes.

More detailed information on the ABS methodological changes—including adjustments to expenditure weights, data collection processes, and the reclassification of certain CPI components—can be found in the appendix to this briefing.

### 1. Background

Local Government Cost Indexes (LGCI) are measures of the change in the cost of goods and services purchased by local governments over time. They are often used to adjust budgets and financial plans to account for inflation and changes in the cost of providing services to the community.

As a governing body, LGANT has reviewed and updated the 2025 LGCI with data from the 16\* local councils (municipal, shire and regional) within the Territory:

- Alice Springs Town Council
- Barkly Regional Council
- Central Desert Regional Council
- City of Darwin
- City of Palmerston
- Coomalie Community Government Council
- East Arnhem Regional Council
- Katherine Town Council
- Litchfield Council
- MacDonnell Regional Council
- Roper Gulf Regional Council
- Tiwi Islands Regional Council
- Victoria Daly Regional Council

\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.

- Wagait Regional Council
- West Arnhem Regional Council
- West Daly Regional Council



## 2. LGCI Model

The LGCI is conceptually like the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in that it is a measure of the average change in cost over time. The model contains Indices which rate payers are familiar, however the council's range of costing categories comprises of significantly different items and influences for which rate payers are less familiar with. Therefore, the LGCI model has been developed as an appropriate measure and for the Northern Territory Local Councils it includes the below expenditure types:

### LGCI Components – Expenditure Types

- |                        |                                     |                        |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Employee Costs       | • Travel and Accommodation          | • Property Leasing     |
| • Contractual Services | • Fuel                              | • Consultancy Expenses |
| • Materials Expenses   | • Printing, Stationary, Advertising | • Telecommunications   |
| • Depreciation         | • Insurance                         | • IT                   |
| • Electricity          |                                     | • Food                 |
| • Water & Sewerage     |                                     | • Miscellaneous        |

***There are three main components to the LGCI Model:***

#### a. Expenditure

The LGCI model aggregates the total expenditure of all the councils and categorises into one of the above expenditure types. Data is currently drawn from the annual reports of the councils for 2023/24, the references for which are provided in the LGCI model.

#### b. LGCI

The LGCI is the output from the model and is a measure of the change in the cost of goods and services purchased by local governments over a 12-month period. It is often used to adjust budgets and financial plans to account for inflation and changes in the cost of providing services to the community. It is calculated using the aggregate expenditure and broader index data from the ABS's Consumer Price Index, Wage Price Index, and Producer Prices Index catalogues which track the changes in cost over the year. Each expenditure type is associated with a relevant and representative index and is detailed in the LGCI model.

#### c. LGCI Contribution

The LGCI contribution refers to the change in cost that is attributed to a specific expenditure type, such as employee costs or materials, that affects the overall LGCI. The LGCI Contribution is a measure of the impact that a particular cost has on the overall index and is based on the percentage of budget that a particular expenditure accounts for.

To calculate the LGCI Contribution the estimated change in cost for the specific expenditure type is multiplied by the percentage of the overall expenditure that that it accounts for. For example, if the cost of employee costs increases by 1.7%, and employee cost accounts for 37.9% of the overall LGCI calculation, the LGCI contribution from the increase in employee costs would be 0.64% (1.7%

\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.

multiplied by 37.9%). This means that the overall LGCI would increase by 0.64% due to the increase in employee costs alone. This is illustrated below:

**2021/22 NT Local Government Cost Index**

2021-22 Budget	\$	%	ABS indicator	ABS Series ID	index value		change %		LGCI contribution
					2021	2022	2021	2022	
1	196,532,108	37.9	WPI - NT public sector	A2705802V	141.2	143.6	2.0	1.7	0.64
2	88,025,358	17.0	CPI : all services Darwin	A2330696C	116.9	122.5	12.1	4.8	0.81

*Annotations: Total expenditure from all councils (points to \$196,532,108); Percentage of total aggregated council expenditure (points to 37.9%); Pulled from ABS data (points to ABS Series ID); Percentage change of index between each year (points to 1.7%); Percentage change of index multiplied by percentage of total aggregated expenditure (points to 0.64%).*

LGCI contributions can be used to help local governments better understand how changes in specific inputs affect their overall costs of providing services. This information can be used to make more informed decisions about budgeting and resource allocation.

### 3. Approach

The following approach was used to calculate the LGCI for 2025:

- Review the current LGCI model and categorisation of expenditure.
- Conduct desktop research to review methodologies adopted by other local councils nationally.
- Gather updated ABS data for 2025 from the relevant indexes for the model. (Please refer to the disclaimer and to the appendix in relation to changes to ABS CPI data collection)
- Determine to what extent prior data could be backdated within the LGCI (considering the new methodology)
- Collate and categorise expenditure data from the councils’ annual reports.
- Input data into the model and complete first run to calculate the LGCI.
- Quality assurance check to ensure consistency and accuracy.

### 4. Assumptions

A number of assumptions were necessary to align individual council’s reporting with the LGANT LGCI model, and these which are listed below. In instances where a cost could be categorised across multiple line items, the value has been apportioned equally between them for example, motor vehicles and plant were reported together in the annual report but are separate line items in the model, therefore, a 50/50 split was applied. This approach was agreed as it does not affect the overall total of the expenditure and helps provide a more balanced view.

Operating cost category	Included expense line items
Other employee costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less: Capitalised and distributed costs</li> <li>• Recruitment expenses</li> <li>• Staff hire and other</li> <li>• Benefits</li> <li>• Staff housing/relocation</li> </ul>
Elected member costs (allowances/sitting fees)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor allowance</li> <li>• Mayor allowance</li> <li>• Deputy mayor allowance</li> <li>• Elected member allowance</li> <li>• Councillor chairman’s allowance</li> </ul>
Minor Capital Purchases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office equipment</li> <li>• Other equipment</li> <li>• Furniture and fittings</li> </ul>

\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.

<p>All other materials expenses not elsewhere included</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parts, accessories and consumables</li> <li>• Journals and periodicals</li> <li>• Materials, consumables or supplies</li> <li>• Memberships, subscriptions and registrations</li> <li>• Subscriptions and publications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books/resources</li> <li>• Non-book resources</li> <li>• Repairs and maintenance</li> <li>• Plant and equipment</li> <li>• Tools, repairs, equipment and minor assets</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p>All other operating expenses (not elsewhere included)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other Expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Sundries</li> <li>– Other operating expenses</li> <li>– Royalty payments</li> <li>– General Rates - Early Bird Draw</li> <li>– Lotto/Scratchies Purchases</li> <li>– Portable and Attractive items</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Children and Youth Events</li> <li>– General Events</li> <li>– Community Events</li> <li>– Outdoor recreation activity expenses</li> <li>– Community activities and functions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Admin and Election <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Election Expenses</li> <li>– Merchant Transaction Fees</li> <li>– Transaction fees and taxes</li> <li>– Postage, freight and courier</li> <li>– Security</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Equipment hire</li> <li>– Rental plant and equipment</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Vehicle Costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Vehicle Registration</li> <li>– Licenses and registrations</li> <li>– Plant and Motor Vehicle repairs and running costs</li> <li>– Vehicle Expenses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Pensioner Concessions</li> <li>– Animal Control</li> <li>– Animal and Vet expenses</li> <li>– Covid-19</li> <li>– Home Care Packages - Other</li> <li>– Home Care Packages - purchases</li> <li>– Darwin entertainment centre</li> <li>– Cemetery Operations</li> <li>– Mechanic Workshop</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Finance Costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Finance Costs</li> <li>– Bad and Doubtful Debts</li> <li>– Bad Debts expense (recovery)</li> <li>– Bank fees and charges</li> <li>– Interest on leases and loans</li> <li>– Expected Credit Losses</li> <li>– Lease liability interest</li> <li>– Write off Asset Expense</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Lease costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Lease expenses – variable payments</li> <li>– Interest on leased assets</li> <li>– Interest charge - Leases</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Council Store <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Store Use</li> <li>– Store Waste</li> <li>– Cost of Good Sold – Store</li> <li>– Stores, materials and loose tools</li> <li>– Inventory items for resale</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Key Findings**

- a. From the desktop review, it is considered that the model follows standard practice adopted by local councils to measure the LGCI. Available data showed that different states also extracted relevant index data from the Consumer Price Index, Wage Price Index, and Producer Prices Index catalogues and that indexes chosen are relevant to the council area.
- b. When aggregating and categorising the data from the councils’ annual reports, it was noted that there were varying levels of detail provided when recording operating expenses and there were different naming conventions. For example, employee leave entitlements were not reported as a

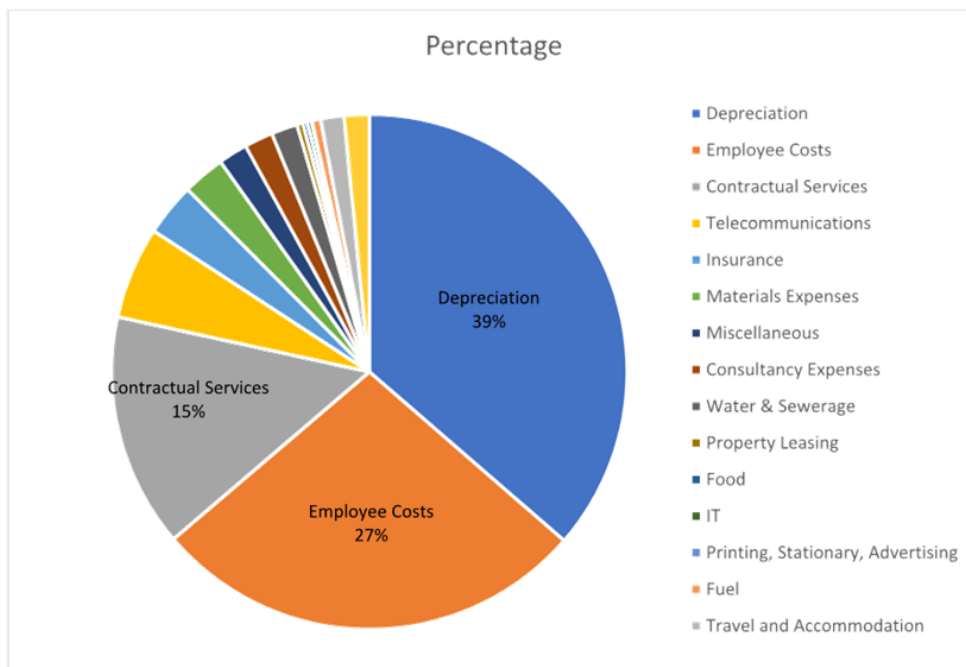
\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.

separate line item for 3 of the 16 councils, although this does not affect the overall total expenditure on employee costs it does negate the possibility to conduct more detailed monitoring, comparison, and control.

- c. The LGCI estimated that the rate of local government cost decrease for 2024/25 is 3.9%. The calculation was made using backdated ABS CPI data for the 23/24 and 24/25 financial years. The below graph shows the top three contributing factors for this increase are employee costs, depreciation and contractual expenses accounting for 37%, 20% and 17% respectively.

\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.

Expenditure Type - LGCI Contribution (%)



Expenditure Type - LGCI Contribution (%)

The table below includes all the figures for the LGCI Contribution graph above.

Expense Category	Percentage	Expense Category	Percentage
Employee Costs	29.5	Printing, Stationary, Advertising	0.0
Contractual Services	15.8	Insurance	3.6
Materials Expenses	2.9	Property Leasing	0.4
Depreciation	39.2	Consultancy Expenses	1.9
Electricity	-1.7%	Telecommunications	6.2
Water & Sewerage	1.8%	IT	0.3
Travel and Accommodation	-1.6%	Food	0.3
Fuel	-0.6%	Miscellaneous	2.0

\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.

**Appendix**

From 2025, the ABS has updated its reporting methodology from quarterly to monthly to provide more timely, comprehensive, and internationally comparable inflation data. The monthly CPI will offer a more dynamic and responsive measure of inflation, capturing short-term price fluctuations, seasonal effects, and major sales events more clearly. However, it will initially be more volatile than the quarterly CPI. The ABS will produce seasonally adjusted monthly series to help users interpret month-to-month price changes.

Full standard seasonal adjustment methods for all expenditure classes (ECs) will be implemented by April 2027, once sufficient data is available. In the interim, temporary methods will address strong seasonality in a small portion of the CPI basket. Measures like the Trimmed Mean and Weighted Median, which track underlying inflation, are expected to remain reliable during this transition. A summary of the key changes is provided below.

Key change	Details
<b>More frequent data collection</b>	To support the monthly CPI, the ABS has increased price collection frequency for 44 of the 87 CPI expenditure classes (ECs) from quarterly to monthly. It has retained: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual collection (e.g. health insurance, education, council rates)</li> <li>• Quarterly collection (e.g. stamp duty, real estate services)</li> </ul>
<b>Seasonal adjustment framework</b>	Because the monthly CPI is more volatile and exposes seasonal price movements more clearly, the ABS will produce seasonally adjusted monthly CPI series, use these series to support interpretation of month-to-month inflation movements and base underlying inflation measures (Trimmed mean and Weighted median) on seasonally adjusted monthly data.
<b>Handling of short time series</b>	Normally, ABS does not seasonally adjust series shorter than 3–5 years. For the monthly CPI, the ABS has changed this practice and will apply temporary methods from first publication, despite many ECs having only short monthly histories.
<b>Seasonality across expenditure classes</b>	The ABS now applies different treatments to ECs, depending on data availability and expected seasonality.
<b>Targeted smoothing for strongly seasonal items</b>	For ECs with moderate to strong seasonality and insufficient history, the ABS will smooth large, known seasonal price movements such as major sales events and use analyst judgement informed by historical quarterly patterns and known pricing behaviour. This is a temporary, manual intervention, replacing model-based seasonal adjustment until enough data is available.
<b>Monthly construction of underlying inflation measures</b>	The Trimmed mean and Weighted median will be calculated monthly, not quarterly based on the distribution of seasonally adjusted monthly EC movements using a monthly trimming process. Previously, these measures were constructed from quarterly price change distributions.

\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.

<p><b>Residual seasonality during the transition period</b></p>	<p>The ABS explicitly acknowledges that some residual seasonality will remain in the 'All groups seasonally adjusted CPI' until at least April 2027. This may lead to small revisions and short-term volatility in monthly analytical series.</p>
<p><b>Transition period</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary methods like smoothing and backcasting will be discontinued, and the prior three years of seasonally adjusted data will be revised, potentially resulting in larger-than-usual adjustments.</li> <li>• During the transition, the ABS will continue publishing legacy quarterly CPI series, including the seasonally adjusted CPI and inflation measures like the Trimmed Mean and Weighted Median, for at least 18 months using the pre-October 2025 methodology.</li> <li>• The Headline CPI (published in original terms) and annual inflation rates will remain unaffected by these changes, ensuring consistency in year-on-year comparisons.</li> </ul>

\*Belyuen Community Government Council is not included due to missing data.



## Local Government Cost Index - Council Expenditure Comparison MacDonnell Regional Council

### Disclaimer

**Please note:** The CPI calculations incorporated into the 2024/25 update of the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) have been significantly influenced by substantial changes introduced by the ABS to its Consumer Price Index (CPI) methodology. These methodological adjustments, implemented for the 2025 CPI series, have altered the way several expenditure classes are measured and weighted. As a result, the underlying data used in this year's LGCI reflects a materially different basis of calculation compared with previous years.

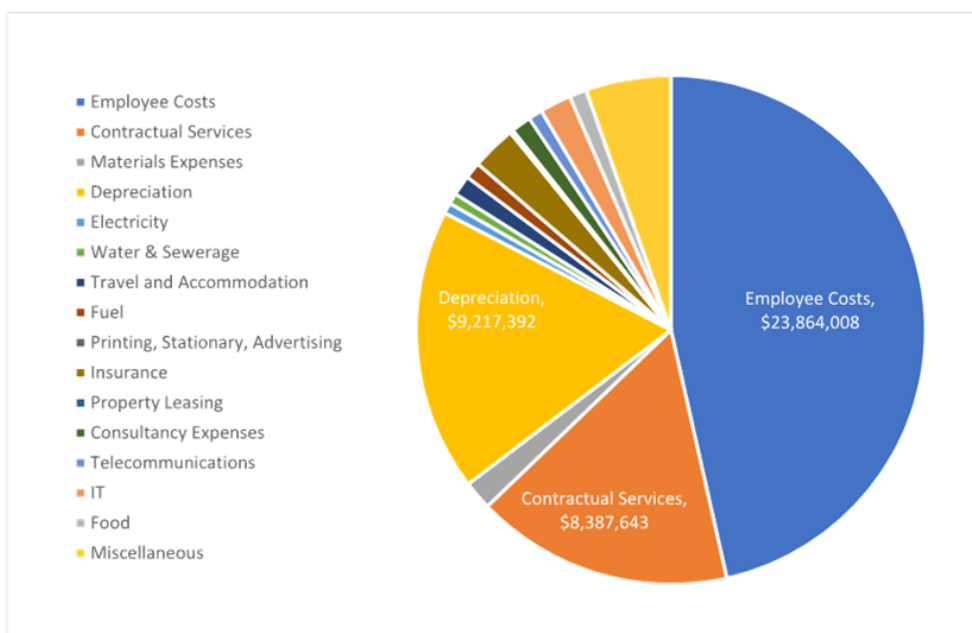
Because the ABS has not historically back-cast or retrospectively adjusted earlier CPI data to align with its updated methodology, the year-on-year comparisons within this LGCI update involve two different methodological frameworks. This directly contributes to the unusually large movements observed in the annual variances. These variations should therefore be interpreted with caution, as they represent methodological discontinuities rather than solely genuine changes in underlying cost pressures.

The purpose of highlighting this issue is to ensure users of the LGCI understand that the year-on-year results in this edition are not strictly comparable with earlier periods. This is particularly relevant when analysing trends, assessing cost escalation, or applying the LGCI for indexation purposes.

More detailed information on the ABS methodological changes—including adjustments to expenditure weights, data collection processes, and the reclassification of certain CPI components—can be found in the appendix to this briefing.

**How does my councils' expenses compare to other councils?**

Figure 1 visually represents the different categories of expenditure (in accordance with the LGCI model) for MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) in FY25. The graphic indicates the top three expense categories for MRC were employee costs, depreciation, and contractual services. Employee costs made up almost half of MRC's total annual expenditure.



**Figure 1: 24-25 Expenses per category for MRC**

Expense Category	Amount	Expense Category	Amount
Employee Costs	\$23,864,008	Printing, Stationary, Advertising	\$0
Contractual Services	\$8,387,643	Insurance	\$1,448,120
Materials Expenses	\$943,804	Property Leasing	\$114,230
Depreciation	\$9,217,392	Consultancy Expenses	\$645,547
Electricity	\$351,683	Telecommunications	\$458,148
Water & Sewerage	\$351,683	IT	\$1,023,545
Travel and Accommodation	\$659,312	Food	\$563,281
Fuel	\$543,648	Miscellaneous	\$2,775,325

Figure 2 shows MRC’s expense per category compared to the Council average. The graphic shows that MRC spent more than the average Council on employee costs, contractual services, depreciation, travel and accommodation, fuel, insurance, telecommunications, IT and food. This is represented in dollar amounts in Figure 2 and percentages in Figure 3.

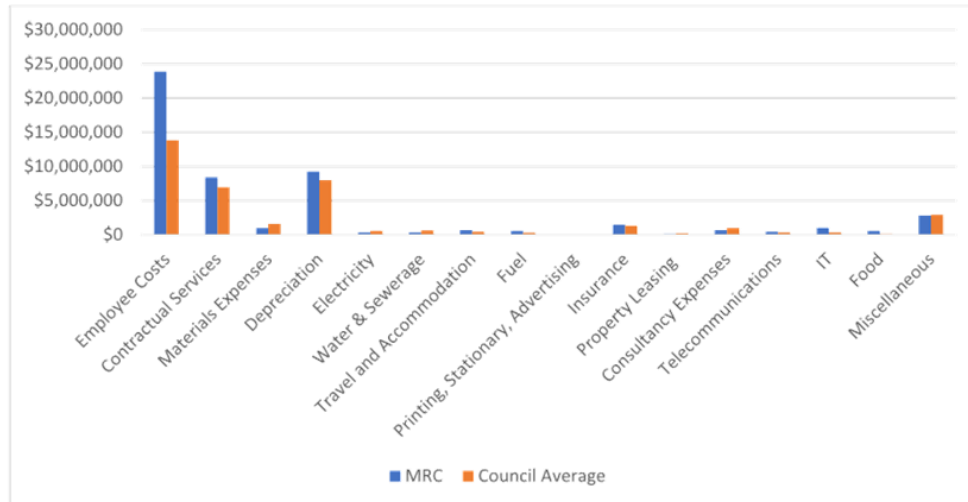


Figure 2: MRC’s 24-25 expenses per category compared to the Council average

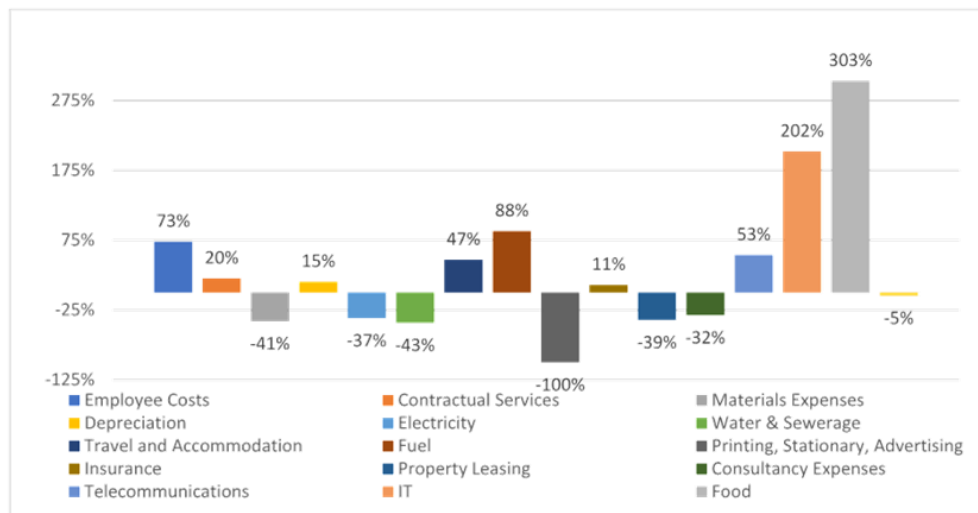
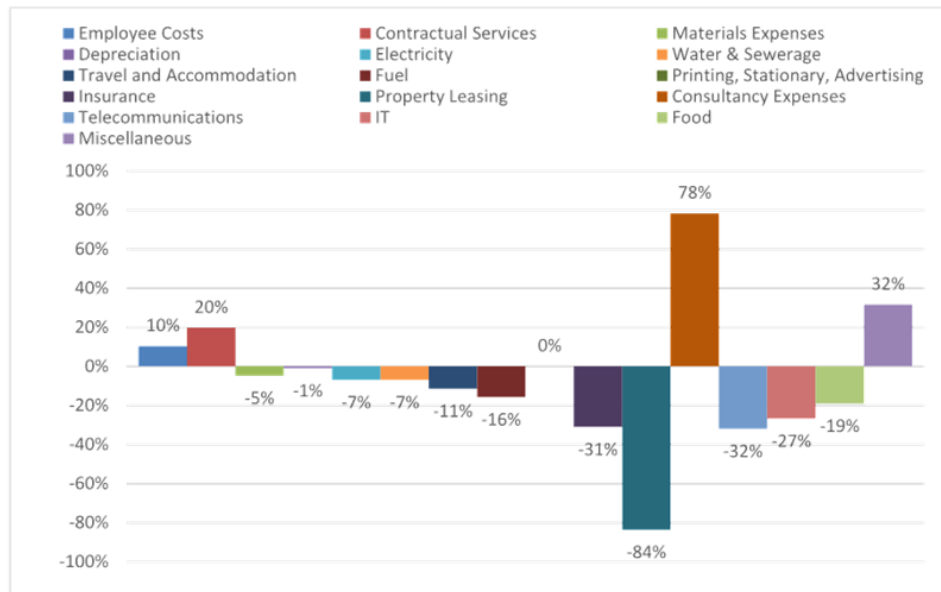


Figure 3: MRC’s percentage deviation from the average 24-25 Expenditure per Category

**How does my councils' expenses compare to last year?**

Figure 4 illustrates the percentage of change in the expense category of MRC against MRC's expenses from FY24. The graphic shows that MRC had its greatest change in expense category of property leasing, which saw a 84% decrease. In contrast, there was a 78% increase in consultancy expenses from the last FY.



**Figure 4: 24-25 Yearly Change in Expenditure for MRC**

**How much did my Council contribute to the total?**

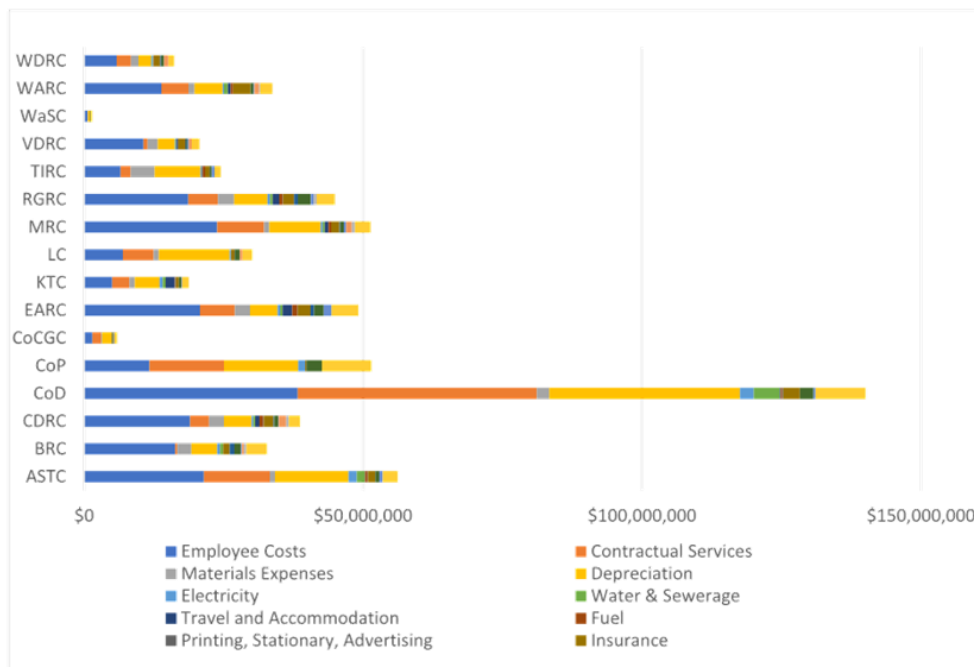
Figure 5 shows how much each council contributed to the total expense amount for each expense category, which informs the LGCI.

This figure also shows the difference between the total expenditure amounts of each Council, indicating the relative size of the Council and their level of impact on the LGCI.

City of Darwin had the greatest total expense and Wagait Regional Council had the least expense.

Whilst this figure is helpful in understanding how much each council spent across each category it is limited in understanding how each Council contributed to the LGCI change as the councils are of different sizes.

The following section illustrates the LGCI contribution more clearly.



**Figure 5: Breakdown of Council contribution per expense category.**

**Table 1: LGCI Contribution per Council per expense category**

Table 1 shows the percentage of LGCI contribution more clearly as it is represented in percentages. This data indicates the following insights:

- Central Desert Regional Council contributed the most to the decrease in the food category, while ASTC contributed the most to the increase.
- There was a decrease in the fuel category across almost all councils, closely followed by consultancy costs showing a downward trend.
- Coomalie Community Government Council and Wagait Regional Council did not make any significant changes to the LGCI categories in either direction.
- Tiwi Islands Regional Council contributed a significant increase to the material expenses category coupled with a steady increase in the depreciation category.
- Roper Gulf Regional Council contributed to a slight increase in property leasing. Similarly, West Arnhem Regional Council contributed to a partial increase in the insurance category.
- Other council expenses remained relatively stable year on year, with some decreases in expenditure across fuel, electricity, IT, consultancy and telecommunications.

This table highlights the importance of correctly categorising expenses in the chart of accounts, to help accurately inform the future rates.

	ASTC	BRC	CDRC	CoD	CoP	CoCGC	EARC	KTC	LC	MRC	RGRC	TIRC	VDRC	WaSC	WARC	WDRC
Employee Costs	0.9%	-0.7%	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.3%	1.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	-0.7%	0.0%
Contractual Services	1.8%	-0.2%	0.2%	4.2%	1.4%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.4%	1.5%	1.5%	1.9%	1.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%
Materials Expenses	-0.5%	-2.1%	-4.1%	-1.1%	0.0%	1.3%	-0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	-0.2%	3.0%	67.2%	3.8%	0.1%	0.4%	-1.6%
Depreciation	3.2%	-0.2%	0.2%	-0.1%	1.9%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	1.2%	-0.1%	0.4%	19.1%	0.2%	0.0%	-1.5%	1.7%
Electricity	3.4%	-0.8%	0.9%	2.6%	-0.7%	0.0%	0.3%	0.7%	0.2%	-0.3%	-0.1%	0.1%	-0.2%	0.0%	-1.3%	1.7%
Water & Sewerage	-0.4%	-0.8%	0.8%	-3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.6%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.1%	0.1%	-0.2%	0.0%	3.2%	0.4%
Travel and Accommodation	-0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	-0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.0%	5.2%	1.2%	0.4%	0.0%	2.0%	-0.4%
Fuel	-0.8%	0.0%	-1.1%	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.2%	-1.6%	-0.4%	0.0%	-1.8%	1.3%	-1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.6%	-1.3%
Printing, Stationary, Advertising	0.0%	0.0%	-5.7%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.6%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-3.9%	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Insurance	-0.7%	-0.1%	-0.8%	1.1%	0.4%	0.8%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	-2.2%	0.7%	0.5%	3.3%	0.2%	14.4%	1.2%
Property Leasing	0.0%	1.7%	2.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	-3.2%	14.9%	-0.2%	-2.4%	0.0%	0.0%	8.0%
Consultancy Expenses	-0.9%	-2.8%	1.4%	2.3%	2.3%	0.2%	0.3%	1.2%	-0.3%	3.3%	-1.3%	-0.9%	-0.3%	0.0%	-0.3%	-0.5%
Telecommunications	4.0%	-2.9%	-1.7%	-0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	-0.3%	0.0%	-3.1%	1.3%	-3.7%	1.5%	0.0%	-0.4%	0.0%
IT	0.0%	-2.2%	-3.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	-5.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	-1.7%	0.0%	-2.5%	-3.0%
Food	4.9%	-5.3%	-6.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-4.8%	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.8%	0.0%
Miscellaneous	-2.0%	-0.1%	-0.2%	4.6%	0.9%	0.4%	0.4%	0.7%	1.1%	1.9%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	-0.7%	-0.3%



### Summary

When local councils are deciding on their rates, they must consider various factors that influence the costs of providing services to their communities. A key tool in this process is the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI), which measures the change in the cost of goods and services purchased by local governments over time.

Based on the LGCI data provided, it is recommended that the individual councils consider the following when deciding the appropriate rates for their region:

- The accuracy and transparency of their expenditure reporting, including how the expenses are categorised and how this may impact the LGCI.
- Their relative spending patterns compared to other NT councils, to identify if certain areas need adjustment or are indicative of regional differences and needs.
- The changes in their expenditure categories year-on-year, which may indicate trends or anomalies.
- How specific costs impact their budget, to assist in effective resource allocation.

By thoroughly considering these factors, councils can adjust their rates appropriately to cover the costs of the services they provide while aligning with financial plans and inflationary changes.

**Appendix**

From 2025, the ABS has updated its reporting methodology from quarterly to monthly to provide more timely, comprehensive, and internationally comparable inflation data. The monthly CPI will offer a more dynamic and responsive measure of inflation, capturing short-term price fluctuations, seasonal effects, and major sales events more clearly. However, it will initially be more volatile than the quarterly CPI. The ABS will produce seasonally adjusted monthly series to help users interpret month-to-month price changes.

Full standard seasonal adjustment methods for all expenditure classes (ECs) will be implemented by April 2027, once sufficient data is available. In the interim, temporary methods will address strong seasonality in a small portion of the CPI basket. Measures like the Trimmed Mean and Weighted Median, which track underlying inflation, are expected to remain reliable during this transition. A summary of the key changes is provided below.

Key change	Details
<b>More frequent data collection</b>	To support the monthly CPI, the ABS has increased price collection frequency for 44 of the 87 CPI expenditure classes (ECs) from quarterly to monthly. It has retained: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual collection (e.g. health insurance, education, council rates)</li> <li>• Quarterly collection (e.g. stamp duty, real estate services)</li> </ul>
<b>Seasonal adjustment framework</b>	Because the monthly CPI is more volatile and exposes seasonal price movements more clearly, the ABS will produce seasonally adjusted monthly CPI series, use these series to support interpretation of month-to-month inflation movements and base underlying inflation measures (Trimmed mean and Weighted median) on seasonally adjusted monthly data.
<b>Handling of short time series</b>	Normally, ABS does not seasonally adjust series shorter than 3–5 years. For the monthly CPI, the ABS has changed this practice and will apply temporary methods from first publication, despite many ECs having only short monthly histories.
<b>Seasonality across expenditure classes</b>	The ABS now applies different treatments to ECs, depending on data availability and expected seasonality.
<b>Targeted smoothing for strongly seasonal items</b>	For ECs with moderate to strong seasonality and insufficient history, the ABS will smooth large, known seasonal price movements such as major sales events and use analyst judgement informed by historical quarterly patterns and known pricing behaviour. This is a temporary, manual intervention, replacing model-based seasonal adjustment until enough data is available.
<b>Monthly construction of underlying inflation measures</b>	The Trimmed mean and Weighted median will be calculated monthly, not quarterly based on the distribution of seasonally adjusted monthly EC movements using a monthly trimming process. Previously, these measures were constructed from quarterly price change distributions.

<b>Residual seasonality during the transition period</b>	The ABS explicitly acknowledges that some residual seasonality will remain in the 'All groups seasonally adjusted CPI' until at least April 2027. This may lead to small revisions and short-term volatility in monthly analytical series.
<b>Transition period</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary methods like smoothing and backcasting will be discontinued, and the prior three years of seasonally adjusted data will be revised, potentially resulting in larger-than-usual adjustments.</li> <li>• During the transition, the ABS will continue publishing legacy quarterly CPI series, including the seasonally adjusted CPI and inflation measures like the Trimmed Mean and Weighted Median, for at least 18 months using the pre-October 2025 methodology.</li> <li>• The Headline CPI (published in original terms) and annual inflation rates will remain unaffected by these changes, ensuring consistency in year-on-year comparisons.</li> </ul>

# DRAFT Terms of Reference – Learning and Development Reference Group

## Background

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development (DHLGCD) is leading a structured review of the Local Government Learning and Development Framework (the Framework), in collaboration with the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) and key sector stakeholders.

The 8-year Framework was originally developed in 2021 to support governance capability across the Northern Territory local government sector. Evaluation activities and sector feedback have identified opportunities to strengthen the Framework, expand learning and development pathways, and improve accessibility and relevance for councils.

## Purpose

The Learning and Development Reference Group (the Reference Group) is established to provide advice and support to the DHLGCD in the review of the Framework.

The Reference Group will contribute expertise and perspectives to ensure the revised Framework is relevant, practical, evidence-informed and responsive to the diverse capability needs of Northern Territory local government councils.

The Reference Group is advisory in nature and does not have decision-making authority.

## Objectives

The objectives of the Reference Group are to:

1. provide advice on the review of the 8-year Local Government Learning and Development Framework
2. consider findings from evaluation activities and sector feedback
3. examine learning and development approaches and models from other jurisdictions
4. identify learnings arising from sector experiences, challenges and emerging issues
5. consider equitable access to learning and development opportunities, including delivery options suitable for remote and regional councils
6. identify opportunities to develop, share and promote learning and development resources across the local government sector.

## Scope

The Reference Group will provide advice on matters within the scope of the Framework review, including:

- principles, structure and content of the revised Framework

DRAFT Terms of Reference – Learning and Development Reference Group

- learning and development pathways for elected members, local authority members and council officers
- approaches to delivery, accessibility and participation
- opportunities to strengthen coordination, consistency and quality of learning and development activities and outputs.

The Reference Group will not be responsible for:

- decision-making or formal endorsement of the revised Framework
- implementation of the revised Framework
- matters relating to legislative or regulatory change.

## Membership

Membership of the Reference Group will include representatives from:

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development
- Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
- Independent Commission Against Corruption
- Industry Skills Advisory Council NT
- Department of Education and Training
- regional councils (4)
- municipal and Shire councils (2)

Members will be selected to ensure a balance of skills, experience, geographic representation and council types.

Title/Role	Notes
Executive Director	Chair
Senior Project Officer	Project Lead
A/Director Learning and Development	Member
Director Skills NT Delivery	1 member
LGANT	1 member
4 representatives regional councils	4 members
2 representatives municipal and shire councils	2 members
Industry Skills Advisory Council NT	1 member
Independent Commissioner Against Corruption NT	1 member

DRAFT Terms of Reference – Learning and Development Reference Group

## Roles and Responsibilities

### Chair

The Reference Group will be chaired by the Executive Director, Local Government and Community Development.

The Chair will:

- facilitate Reference Group meetings
- ensure discussions remain within scope and aligned to the objectives of the review
- support balanced participation and consideration of diverse perspectives.

### Members

Reference Group members will contribute to the review in ways that reflect their experience and will:

- provide constructive advice and insights based on experience and expertise
- consider information and papers provided by DHLGCD in advance of meetings
- participate respectfully and collaboratively in discussions.

### Secretariat

DHLGCD will provide secretariat support to the Reference Group, including:

- meeting coordination and logistics
- preparation and distribution of agendas and papers
- recording of key discussion points and action items.

## Meetings

- It is anticipated that the Reference Group will meet four times across the review period.
- Meetings may be held in person or via virtual platforms.
- Out-of-session input may be sought as required.

## Reporting and Communication

The Reference Group will provide advice to DHLGCD through meeting discussions and agreed action items.

DHLGCD will be responsible for reporting project progress to the leadership team and relevant governance bodies.

DRAFT Terms of Reference – Learning and Development Reference Group

## Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

Members are expected to treat information provided to the Reference Group as confidential where indicated.

Any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest must be declared to the Chair.

## Review of Terms of Reference

These Terms of Reference may be reviewed and updated by DHLGCD as required for the duration of the project.

## Duration

The Reference Group will operate for the duration of the review of the Framework and will conclude once the revised Framework proposal is finalised.



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Wednesday, 14 January 2026

Mr Russell Anderson PSM  
Chairman  
Northern Territory Grants Commission  
GPO Box 4621  
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Mr Anderson,

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the MacDonnell Regional Council 2024-25 Annual Report.

During the term of this Council our focus, as always, has been on delivering outcomes which enhance the liveability of our communities and the creation of sustainable employment opportunities for local residents.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues in our commitment to the advancement of our region and its constituents.

Yours sincerely,



Roxanne Kenny  
President

## **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 October 2025 meeting of Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council receives the President's report for the period 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

#### **Meetings attended:**

- Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> October
- LGANT Special General Meeting 18-19<sup>th</sup> November 2025

President Roxanne Kenny and Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka represented Council at the LGANT Special General Meeting. They are pictured attending the Conference Dinner.



- Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> November
- Finance and Risk Committee Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> November
- Mt Liebig Local Authority Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> December

## **Ordinary Council Meeting 20 March 2026 – Agenda**

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- Kintore Local Authority Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> December
- Audit Committee Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> December
- Ordinary Council Workshop 18<sup>th</sup> December
- Ordinary Council Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> December
- Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> January
- Finance and Risk Committee Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- Docker River Local Authority Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> February
- Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> February

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

Nil.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

President Roxanne Kenny  
Chief Executive Officer

### **ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments to this report.

## **14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	14.2
<b>TITLE</b>	CEO Report
<b>AUTHOR</b>	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 November 2025 to February 2026.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

During the reporting period, a range of strategic, operational and community focused activities were undertaken in support of Council's priorities and organisational development.

#### **Strategic and Organisational Development**

- Conducted an Executive Leadership Team (ELT) strategic planning day focused on the Organisational Development Plan. This included revisiting key actions and priorities with the intention of presenting an updated plan to Council at the June 2026 meeting.
- Initiated Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training for staff. This training provides first responder skills only and does not replace counselling, psychological, social work or case management qualifications. Discussions are underway with Alice Springs Town Council regarding a cost sharing arrangement to extend MHFA training to designated staff across both organisations.
- Undertook media training with Kirsty Nancarrow. While initiated in preparation for the upcoming NT WorkSafe court matter, the training was subsequently applied extensively to communications relating to the recent camel issue. This included four radio interviews across the Northern Territory and nationally, including ABC Sydney.

#### **Representation, Engagement and Regional Collaboration**

- Participated in the Regional Development Australia NT Board meeting.
- Attended the LGANT Conference in Darwin, along with an ELT workshop scheduled to coincide with the conference.
- Attended the NT Tidy Towns Awards.
- Attended the Saltbush Enterprises Board meeting.

### **Council, Local Authority and Committee Meetings**

- Council Workshop and Meeting 30-31 October 2025
- CEO Meeting (LGANT) 18 November 2025
- LGANT Special General Meeting 19 November 2025
- Santa Teresa Local Authority 26 November 2025
- Finance and Risk Committee Meeting 28 November 2025
- Mt Liebig Local Authority, including the opening of the new basketball area 8 December 2025
- Kintore Local Authority, including opening shade shelters 9 December 2025
- Audit Committee Meeting 15 December 2025
- Council Workshop and Meeting 18-19 December 2025
- Finance and Risk Committee Meeting 23 January 2025

### **Operational and Interagency Engagement**

- Commenced preparations for the 2026 Enterprise Bargaining Agreement.
- Participated in NT Government engagement regarding the Kintore Community Safety Plan.
- Attended NT Government consultation on proposed changes to the Local Government Act.
- Participated in a Census Planning Committee meeting.
- Attended the NTEC election review meeting.
- Met with Charles Darwin University regarding the Areyonga disaster and waste management research project.
- Participated in five Emergency Services Management meetings relating to the Alice Springs flooding.
- Participated in ICAC follow up discussions regarding the internal qualifications audit, which was very positive.

### **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 to this report.

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.1  
**TITLE** Council Services 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, Housing and Projects.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes and accepts the Council Services Report.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

Nil

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Director Council Services  
Area Managers Council Services  
Manager Contracts and Projects  
Manager Housing & Facilities and Project Management Office  
Project Manager Council Services  
Council Service Coordinators and Senior Administration

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Council Services LA Report



# Council Services



**83%+ First Nations  
Employees in  
Council Services**



**34 Area Manager  
Visits to  
Community**



**13 Council Office's  
3458 Hours of  
Service**

## Snapshot



**34,617 Litres  
approx Fuel Usage  
in Oct - Dec**



**220 Vehicles and  
Plant in Use**



**4000+ Bins  
Emptied Weekly**



**12 AusPost  
Deliveries per  
week**



**30+ Sport Grounds  
Maintained**



**20 Registered  
Services Australia  
Agents**



**14 Parks &  
Playgrounds  
Inspections**



**100% of Streetlights  
converted to LED**



**16 Water Tests**



**16 Generator  
Services**



**36 Hours of  
Maintenance  
completed at Airstrip**

## Council Services - Animal Management

Over the past three months, the Animal Management Program has focused on planning, governance, and service coordination ahead of increased on-ground delivery in early 2026.

Key progress includes the finalisation of service providers, dates, and logistics for the first round of veterinary visits under the 2026 Veterinary Services Trial, with all communities except Ikuntji and Watiyawanu scheduled to receive their first vet visit across February–March.

Preparation is also underway for the first animal management visit of the year during this period, which will deliver antiparasitic treatment alongside a targeted education program focused on responsible dog care when residents are away from home. In parallel, the first draft of Animal Management governance documents has been completed and progressed through Area manager and CSC review, and is now with the Executive Leadership Team for consideration.

Operationally, the program responded to an urgent animal welfare situation in Mount Liebig when the community was unoccupied for approximately four weeks, leaving dogs without care. This situation is ongoing at the time of writing. In response, immediate animal welfare and needs were addressed via a food drop and vet assessment from NT Animal Welfare, whilst MRC commenced planning for a community engagement and education event - timed to coincide with residents' return. This event will focus on responsible dog ownership, including planning for dogs when travelling, preventing abandonment, avoiding locking dogs inside houses, and understanding obligations under the Animal Welfare Act. The event will be delivered in late February in collaboration with key stakeholders including NT Housing, NT Animal Welfare, Ngurratjuta/Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation, and Watiyawnu School.

Forward planning for animal management and veterinary programs for the remainder of the year is also ongoing to ensure continuity of service delivery during the Animal Management Coordinator's anticipated maternity leave commencing around May 2026 for a six-month period.

## Council Services - Community updates

### Amoonguna

CSC Roselene Rankin, ESO Tony Palmer and Amoonguna have spent time during the summer working to improve their Depot compound

Tony has built a shade structure to park the Skid-steer out of the summer heat.



## Council Services - Community updates

### Areyonga

The team in Areyonga is starting 2026 with a new Council Services Coordinator (CSC), Beatrice Ker. Beatrice brings with her a strong knowledge base and lived experience in remote communities, having lived and worked in Yuendumu for several years. Her appointment will inject much-needed stability and consistency into the delivery of Council Services for the community.

While awaiting the new CSC, the civil team and relieving CSC/ESO Victor Morgan kept services running smoothly and ensured the community remained neat and tidy.

There are currently a few positions available on the civil team that Beatrice is focused on filling. In her first couple of weeks, she has already received significant interest and enquiries from locals keen to join the team. Recruitment will begin shortly to identify candidates who bring a passion and drive to improve the community.

With the addition of new staff, we look forward to developing new ideas and projects. Areyonga is well on its way back to being one of the Territory's tidiest and prettiest communities.



### Finke

Finke MRC teams enjoying Staff Christmas Lunch over the past few months Finke has been a hive of activity with a substantial amount of people coming into community for Sorry Business.

Our ESO Joe Rawson has been off Carrying out relief ESO duties across the network allowing Other ESO to be able to take a well earned break. Jacob Hoosan stepped up into ESO role, and he has done a great job.



### Docker River

The team at Docker River lead by CSC Stephen Trindle has shown lots of commitments. Their goal in 2026 to empower the young people, provide them with skills and opportunities to excel with their courier. Keeping the community clean and tidy.

Docker River goals to keep the community safe and liveable place for all.

Docker River's ESO, Graham McAndrew is away on leave. Our Relief ESO David Whitfield has come in and is currently covering the role.

Docker River has recently undergone significant infrastructure improvements, including upgrades to the conference room and the installation of a new shade structure at the playground.

They have had a new mobile water trailer and new and mobile bin trailers to assist the residents clean their yards and keep the community tidy.

The civil team Installed a new solar lights along the main entrance road.

MRC in the processing of upgrading the playground upon receiving the new Playground.

Docker River is well known for its nature beauty, the civil team working tirelessly to keep the community clean and tidy; their effort is shown in the community.



### Haasts Bluff

New Refill Water station installed at MRC office November 2025, and New Bubbler installed at Basketball Court Dec 2025

In December the Haasts Bluff MRC teams came together to celebrate the year with a community Staff Christmas Lunch.



### 2025 Territory Tidy Towns (TTT) Awards

For the Second year in a row Haasts Bluff won the best small community in the NT Tidy town. Representatives from our team will be heading to the National tidy Towns in Launceston in May. Fingers Crossed!

### Best Small Community – Ikuntji 2025 TTT Winner – Ikuntji



### Hermannsburg

Hermannsburg is continuing its march towards being one of the best-equipped sporting precincts of any remote community in the Red Centre. Construction of the new change rooms is well underway and will be a welcome addition with footy season fast approaching. Along with the change rooms, footings have been laid for the installation of a new state-of-the-art electronic scoreboard that will keep tabs on every ball that sails through the goals or hits the post for a point.

Over the Christmas period and through the searing heat of January, the civil team has worked tirelessly to deliver services and keep the community looking tidy ensuring that litter is kept low, rubbish runs are completed, and grass levels are well-maintained to reduce fuel loads in the extreme temps.

Hermannsburg is pushing past what people think when they hear "community" and is well on its way to becoming a tourism and sporting destination, offering both modern amenities and services without sacrificing the rich history and culture for which it is already famous.



### Imanpa

It has been a quiet few months in Imanpa, as the staff return to work after Christmas and New Years holidays we have been focusing on repairs and maintenance of machinery and equipment, cleaning up the workshop, as well as much needed tidy up at the cemetery. The recent rains have turned the community and surrounds green and we are now preparing to slash and whipper snip it all back into shape.

We have been experiencing a mobile phone outage for over two weeks and have been keeping in contact with Telstra regarding restoration timeframes. Our qualified ESOs have been assisting community members in manually entering power top ups into prepaid meters.

Congratulations to Simon Mumu who recently completed the Certificate III in Local Government, receiving his Notice of Completion in January.



### Kintore

The December Local Authority meeting was held in community followed by the official opening of the new CBD playground and shade shelters by President Roxanne Kenny.

This was followed by a community BBQ held on the Basketball court attended by the whole community. During December MRC team worked with community stakeholders to deliver new household equipment to Community carer's homes.



## Council Services - Community updates



### Mt Liebig

December 8<sup>th</sup> Official opening of the Mt Liebig Sports Centre by the Member of Lingiari Marion Scrymgour, MRC President Roxanne Kenny and CEO Belinda Urquhart  
The opening was followed by a community BBQ.

Camels had become a big pest within the community, CSC Bradley Horn had been moving them on each morning and evening. They were damaging the water source to community homes, the Central Land Council has been advised.

Thanks to some thirst quenching rain, the camels have dissappeared back into the bush.



### Papunya

Papunya has had a quiet few months, we had a festive Christmas celebration and now that we are back from the new year break we will be focusing on cleaning up the community.

We experienced a few days of rain which was wonderful, and this has created lots of work for the civil team.

The Papunya Team Leader and Civil crew resurfaced the MRC Office carpark.



### Santa Teresa

New Shade shelter installed in Santa Teresa Cemetery, Santa Teresa has two Mobile Bin trailers for the Civil Team to assist in rubbish collection.  
The Santa Teresa team had an enjoyable Staff Christmas lunch.



### Titjikala

Fencing of the Depot yard (LA Project) has been completed. Alice Springs youth bike program Bikes Mwerre has been running a school holiday program within the Titjikala community Encouraging the youth to ride and maintain there bikes



### Wallace Rockhole

Wallace Rckhole is being well maintained by the team, and recruitment is underway to fill the remaining spots within the civil team. We have three young community members set for interviews who are extremely keen to join. During the high heat faced throughout the start of 2026, the civil team has been keeping fuel levels low and the community streets looking neat and tidy.  
Hardy Fencing is booked to commence construction of the new fence around Gordon Ida Park, which should be completed by the start of February. Additionally, the store should be reopening sometime in early 2026. The return of the store will hopefully see the tourists of the past return to the community. With MRC focused on making the community the picture-perfect destination it is well known for among the travellers who journey through the Red Centre.



## Council Services - Commercial Services

### Contracts update

#### Power and Water Contract – Indigenous Essential Services

Clint Healey, Team Leader, has successfully completed his ESO training at Kintore and is now the designated relief ESO, ensuring continuity of essential power and water services across the region when required. This additional capability strengthens local response capacity and supports uninterrupted service delivery during planned leave or emergency situations. Working alongside Paul, Cameron, Jordan, Joseph and Edwind, the West Macs team continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to maintaining critical infrastructure and responding promptly to community needs. The team’s combined skills, experience and local knowledge ensure power and water systems are monitored, maintained and repaired efficiently. With demand for reliable services continuing to grow, the West Macs team is well positioned to support communities and provide consistent, high-quality service across the region.

#### Streetlights

Community street lighting across our serviced areas is currently operating at a high level. MRC remains committed to our communities, working hard to provide reliable and responsive maintenance to ensure streets remain safe and well lit for all residents.

#### Centrelink

Over the past few months, MRC has continued to prioritise staff training to ensure the effective delivery of Centrelink services, in line with ongoing contractual requirements and community expectations. This investment in staff development strengthens local capacity and improves the quality and efficiency of service for residents across the region. In addition, MRC has been actively recruiting and signing up additional local staff to support service delivery in Areyonga, Finke, and Titjikala, enhancing accessibility for communities in these areas. MRC has also recently welcomed two new CSCs, both of which will undertake Services Australia training within the next few weeks, further expanding the team’s capability to provide responsive, reliable, and professional support to all community members.

#### Homelands

Maintenance and repairs at the Homelands continue to be a priority, ensuring essential infrastructure and services remain safe, functional, and reliable for residents. Ongoing works are being carried out across John Holland South, and West Waterhouse. These efforts include routine inspections, repairs to water and power systems, building maintenance. By maintaining these facilities, MRC supports the well-being of Homeland communities, helping to provide secure living environments and uninterrupted access to essential services, while also enhancing the overall quality of life for residents in these remote areas.

#### Airstrips

The battery at the Papunya windsock lights has recently been replaced, and the replacement offaulty airstrip lighting at Papunya is currently underway to improve safety, visibility, and accessibility for all users. These works are part of ongoing efforts to ensure that local airstrips remain safe and fully operational for both scheduled and emergency flights. In addition, DIL has provided three new windsocks at the Docker River, Areyonga, and Haasts Bluff airstrips, further supporting safer aircraft operations and helping pilots navigate local conditions more effectively. These improvements demonstrate a continued commitment to maintaining critical aviation infrastructure that meets the needs of the communities and enhances overall regional connectivity.

## Project Management Office

Ruth and Ryan from the Projects Team have been steadily progressing work across both Local Authority (LA) and grant-funded projects.

The new playgrounds as part of the NTG CBF (Community Benefit Fund) grant have been delivered to Amoonguna and Haasts Bluff. The civil team at Amoonguna will dismantle the current structure at Stuart Park, making way for the new playground to be installed. The contractor (Hawkeye) will install the new structures in the coming months.

At Wallace Rockhole, fencing will be installed around Gordon Ida Park in what is the final step of several upgrades to the space. Our civil team in Wallace will be assisting the contractor (Hardy Fencing) with the works.

Under the guidance of acting CSC Victor Morgan, the Finke civil team have installed two new solar lights on community.

The second batch of bin trailers (for Docker River and Kintore) are scheduled to arrive in Alice towards the end of February.

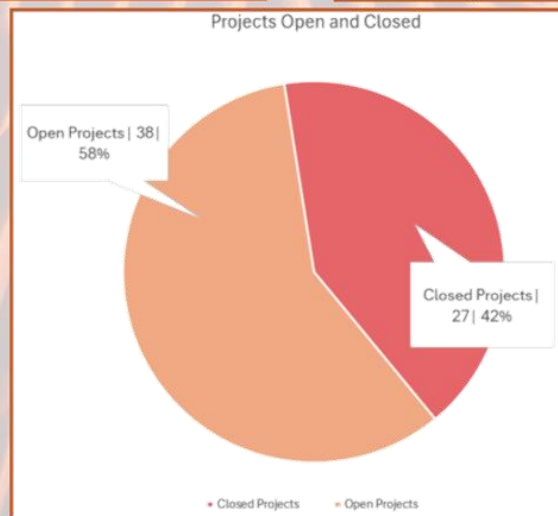
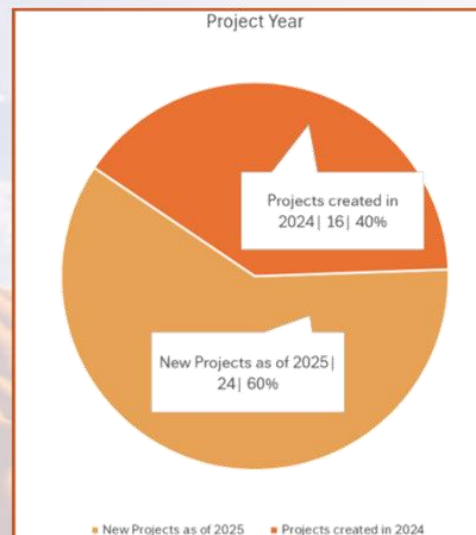
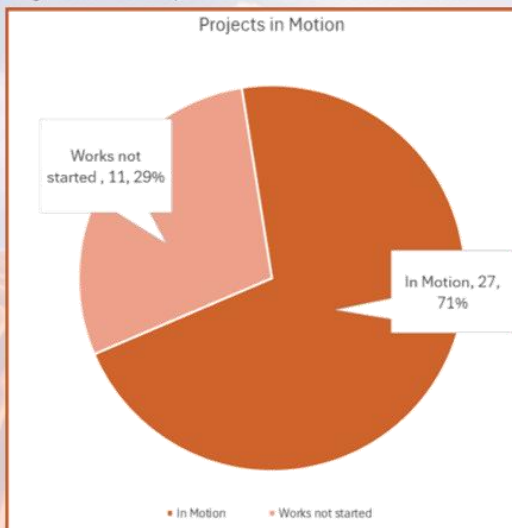
A new shade structure with a seating area has been installed at the Santa Teresa cemetery.

Official openings for the shade structure projects PCIP0005 and IIOC, along with PCIP0004 Mount Liebig Sports Precinct, were held in Mount Liebig and Kintore and were very successful events.

The Santa Teresa Cemetery shade project (LA) has now been completed.

Blockwork for the Hermansburg Changerooms project (PCIP0006) has been completed, with construction progressing smoothly.

The waterline and bubbler installation to the basketball court in Haasts Bluff has been completed, thanks to funding from the Department of Social Services.



## Housing and Facilities Update

It has been a busy time within the Housing team seeing Kitty Comerford step down as the Manager of Housing and Facilities. Kitty has taken her well-earned long service and will resume work in mid Feb remotely as a coordinator. The team welcomed Ben Smede as the new Coordinator of Housing & Facilities. Ben brings a wealth of experience in business within the Territory.

## 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:

#### Lot 58 Areyonga

- Meeting Room Upgrade. Works have been completed to upgrade the meeting room in the Areyonga Council Office. These works saw a major upgrade to the space with removal of 3 x doorways, installation of a new kitchen and cabinetry, installation of a trophy cabinet and new floor tiling.



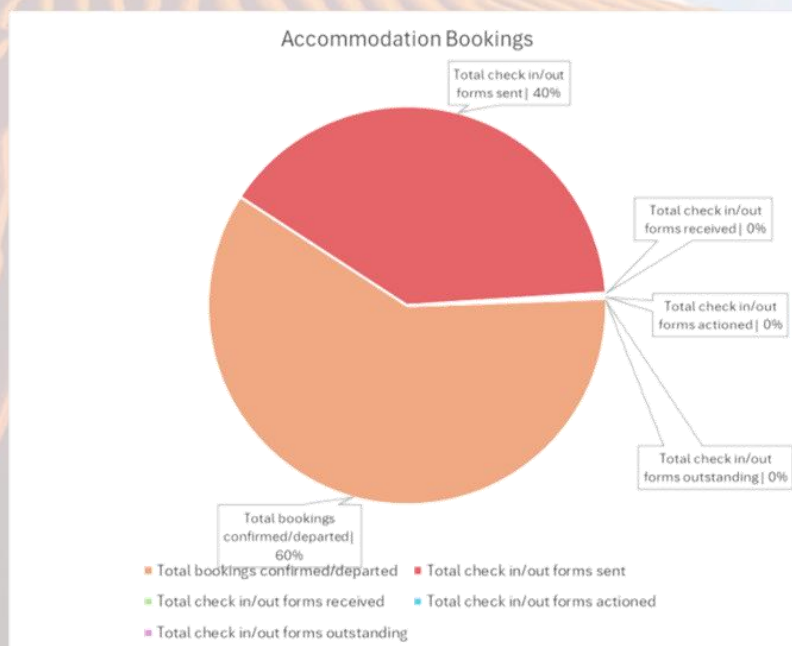
#### Lot 6 Titjikala Depot

- Fencing Upgrade. Works have been completed to Lot 6 Titjikala. Upgrades to 250m of fencing. These works have ensured the safety and security of all MRC vehicle/plant assets in Titjikala.

### Ongoing and Allocated Works

The following projects are currently underway.

- Docker River Lot 178 (Staff House) – ceiling repaint (insurance works)
- Amoonguna Store conversion.
- Lot 63 Haasts Bluff (Staff House) Upgrades to property fencing
- Upgrades to MRC Regional Headquarters Carpark.



## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.2  
**TITLE** Papunya Changerooms Presentation  
**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 seeks the approval for construction of new changeroom and grandstand facilities at Papunya to support local sporting competitions by providing secure, fit-for-purpose amenities for players, including appropriate areas for changing and showering before and after use of the oval.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- a) **notes the attached proposal regarding the Papunya Changerooms;**
- b) **notes the recommendation provided by the Papunya Local Authority; and**
- c) **provides / does not provide its support for the modular design and construction of the Papunya changerooms.**

### **BACKGROUND**

On the 25th March 2024 Council was awarded a grant by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts which was provided for the “Papunya Sports Precinct Women’s Change Rooms”. The grant amount was \$4,050,000. Some of the conditions surrounding the grant were varied during the course of 2024 but the project itself was not altered.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Council’s Procurement Policy the project was put out to tender twice in 2024. On both occasions none of the tenders were acceptable as the projected costs far exceeded the funding available.

In early 2025 the services of Stantech were obtained through LocalBuy to provide the design and costings for the Changerooms. The costings were still well outside the available funding and with Council’s support the scope of works was amended to bring the project within the budget.

A modular design model is now being considered. The benefits of this are:

- The project can be delivered within budget
- There are no changes to the existing design
- Construction will be speedier
- All services can be connected
- The facility can be “wrapped” in artwork provided by the community.

This matter was not able to be considered by the Papunya Local Authority as the meeting scheduled to take place on Monday, 23 February had to be deferred due to the significant adverse weather conditions.

## **Ordinary Council Meeting 20 March 2026 – Agenda**

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At the time of preparing this agenda a Papunya Local Authority meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday, 16 March. It is hoped that it will be possible to provide feedback from this meeting.

### **ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **CONSULTATION**

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services

Jake Potter – Manager Housing, Facilities & Project Management Office

Ruth Tahere – Project Coordinator

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Modular Design Papunya Changerooms



**POSITIONING PLAN**  
1 : 15000

**NEW GRANDSTAND,  
CHANGEROOMS & FACILITIES:**  
THEO BROWN OVAL  
16 TWO BOB RD  
PAPUNYA NT

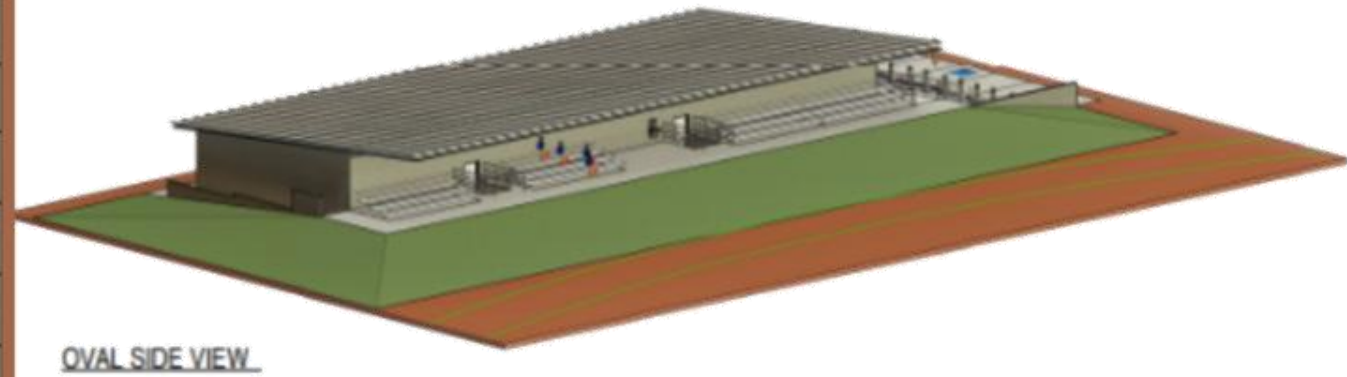
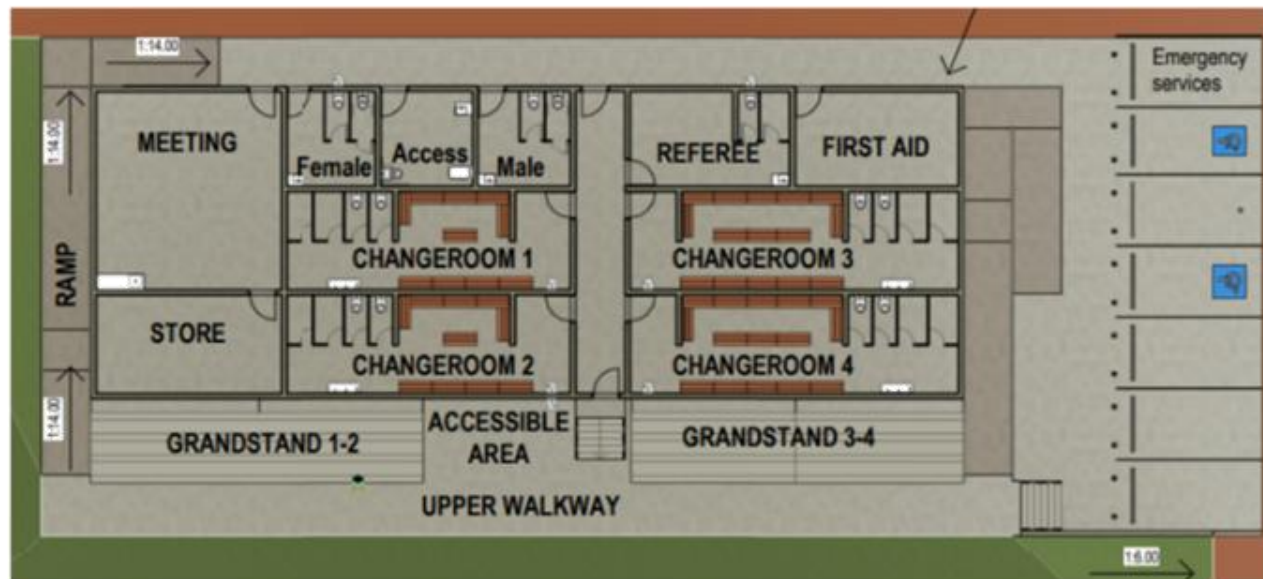
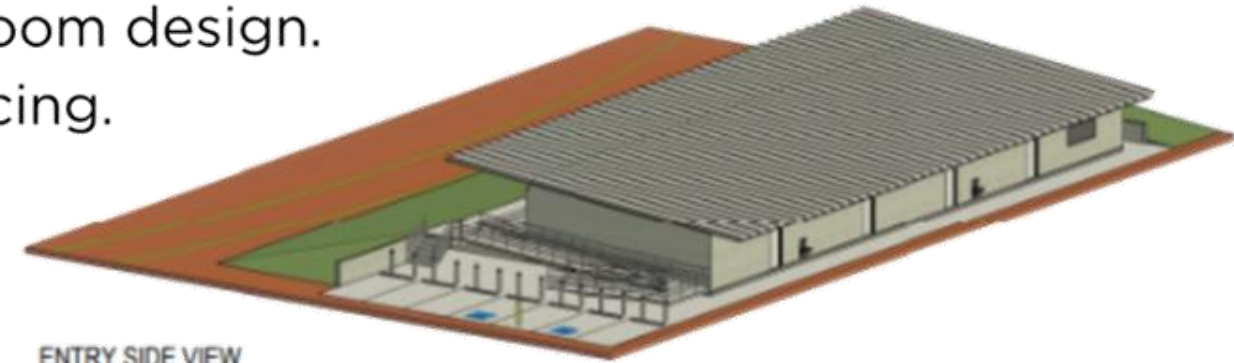


# PAPUNYA CHANGEROOMS

**PCIP0016 Papunya Sports Precinct  
- Women's Changerooms  
Australian Federal Grant funding**

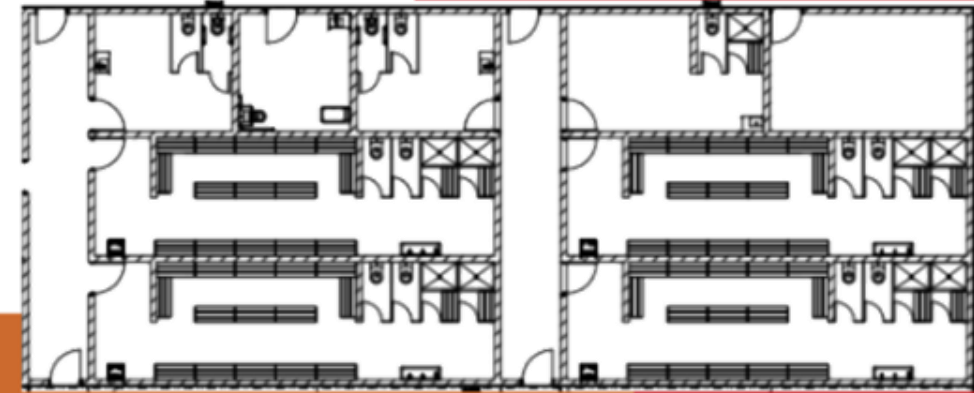
# INITIAL DESIGN PROCESS

- Stantec completed the original changeroom design.
- Quantity surveyor provided detailed pricing.
- Design met all functional requirements.



# BUDGET CHALLENGES

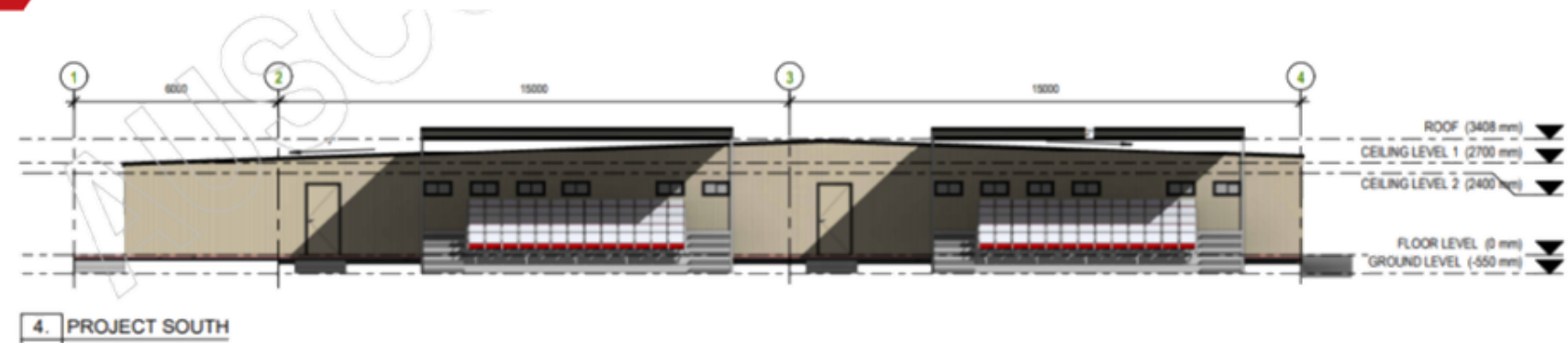
- Pricing came in significantly over budget.
- Explored making the building smaller.
- Considered relocating between the oval and softball field to reduce service connection costs.
- Both options were rejected.





## MODULAR DESIGN DIRECTION

- PMO pursued modular design model.
- Retains original Council-approved layout.
- Brings project back within budget.





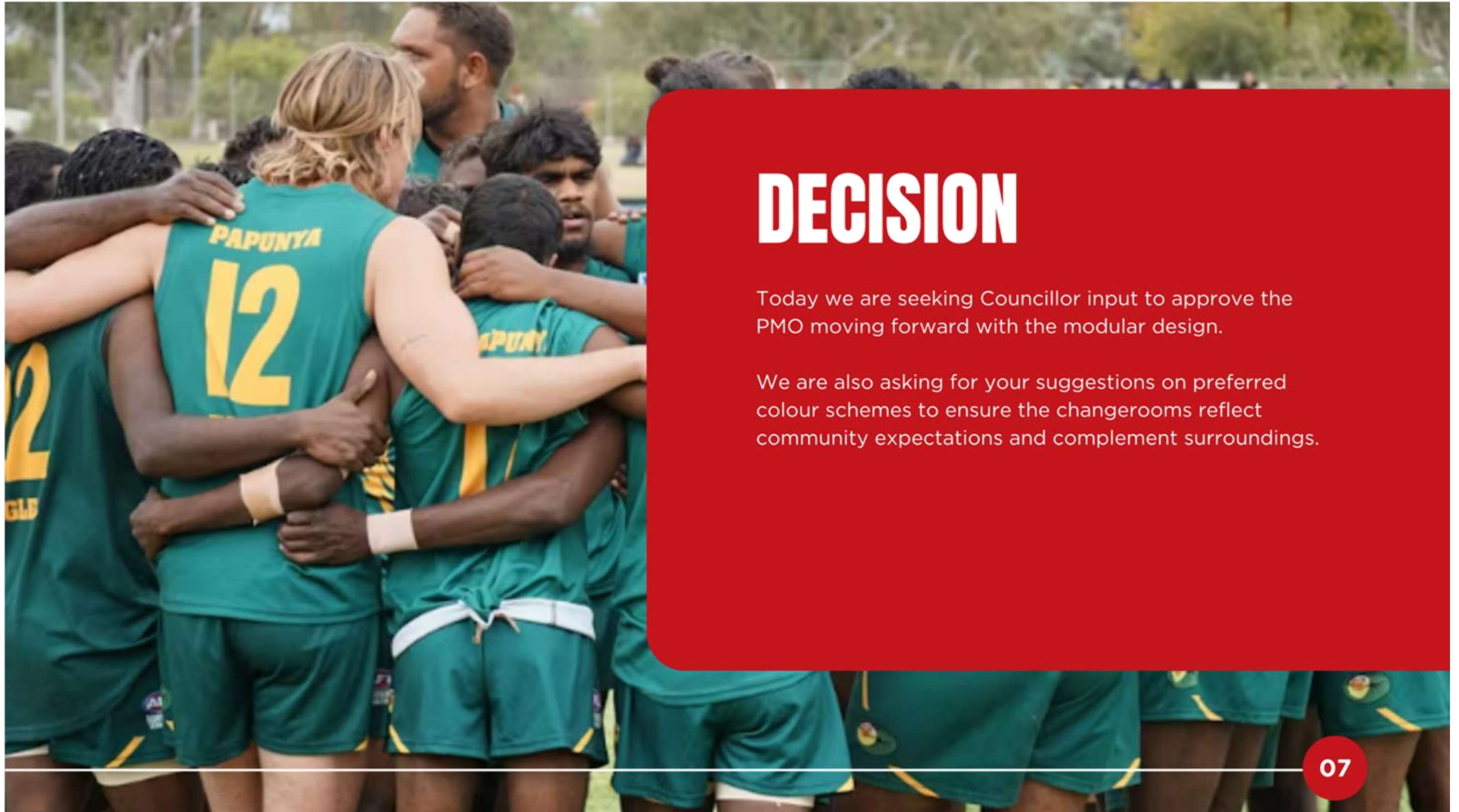
## MORE DESIGN OPTIONS & COLOURS

- The shift to a modular design also provides greater flexibility in how the changerooms can look and function.
- This approach allows for a wider range of external and internal colour schemes, more choice in finishes, and the ability to tailor layouts to community preferences.
- These options help ensure the final product is both practical and visually aligned with the surrounding facilities.

## ● ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



- Option to install solar power.
- Potential remaining funds for oval upgrades.



# DECISION

Today we are seeking Councillor input to approve the PMO moving forward with the modular design.

We are also asking for your suggestions on preferred colour schemes to ensure the changerooms reflect community expectations and complement surroundings.

**THANK YOU**



## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.3  
**TITLE** Aged and Children's Services Report  
**AUTHOR** Ainsley Roscrow, Executive Manager Aged and Childcare 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 December 2025 - February 2026, 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  
Pavithra Devasurendra – Coordinator of Children's Services  
Holly Taylor — Coordinator of Children's Services  
And Admin.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Aged and Children's Services Reports - December to February 2026



## Council Report Aged Care Services December 25 to February 26



**94.8% Indigenous Employment**  
**Community Vacancies:** FT: 2 PT:7 Cas:4

**Stakeholders' engagements: 5 reported**  
Including: School Committee, Allied Health,  
and Clinic meetings. Catholic Care



**Transport provided**  
**366 lifts given**



**Client Interactions: 444**  
This includes client welfare  
checks and client  
engagement at the Aged Care  
Centres



**Personal Care provided: 299**  
Including:  
shower & toilet assistance,  
laundry loads, tablet reminders.



**Active Clients: 89**



**Training**  
Fortnightly Toolbox talks  
Coordinator Training  
Nutrition Training



**Meals**  
Breakfast, lunches,  
Hampers & SNP: 6052

### ☀️ UPDATES ☀️

- Following some recent internal movements within the team, including our previous coordinator transitioning to Hermannsburg we are working towards filling the Coordinator role supporting Papunya and Haasts Bluff. Recruitment is also underway for Home Care Assistant roles in Areyonga. As is often the case in remote settings, workforce availability and staff movement can occasionally present operational challenges.
- In December we held our annual Christmas parties for clients and also handed out Christmas hampers which would see them through the MRC closure period
- We had a successful three-day training session for coordinators in January which included in house training and development along with further training from The Hindwood Institute: 'Managing the Performance of your team' & 'Managing Workplace Conflicts & Challenging Behaviours'
- In February Alice based coordinators took part in a 'From Team Player to New Supervisor' training session along with colleagues from Community Service teams.



Aged Care clients spending time together at the Papunya centre - supporting social connection and wellbeing



Clients pictured with Christmas hampers



Christmas hampers prepared and distributed by the Aged Care team to support wellbeing and support over the festive break

### 🎄 Amoonguna Christmas Party 🎄



### 🎄 Haasts Bluff Christmas Party 🎄



### January's Coordinator Team Building / Training Development



### Visit from Cathloc Care to our Titjikala Centre



### From Team Player to Supervisor training in February





# Council Report

## December - February 2026



**38 Employees**  
**74% First Nation**

**44 Enrolments**



**320 Coordinator & Manager support**  
**across 6 open Centres**



**Service Delivery**  
**903.5Hours**



**278 - Meals served**



**Training**

- 4 Team Leaders Enrolled in Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care
- 2 Team Leader Enrolled in Cert III Early Childhood Education and Care
- 7 Educators Enrolled in Cert III Early Childhood Education and Care



**Stakeholder Engagement**

- Families
- National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA): Community Plan
- NT Health Clinic
- NT Department of Education
- Congress
- NPY Women's Council

### Highlights

In December 2025, the community Centres held a Christmas party facilitated by the Coordinators and Team Leaders. Parents, children, and educators all enjoyed the celebration.

January marked the beginning of the new enrolment period, which resulted in an increase in:

- Enrolments
- Successful open days
- Family involvement and participation
- Community engagement and support



#### Areyonga

New Team Leader, Damiana Gentili, commenced at Areyonga and has developed strong, positive relationships with families and children within the community.

#### Haasts Bluff

The centre organised a Christmas celebration where food was provided for everyone and books were gifted to the children. This was a valuable opportunity to engage with families and strengthen relationships.

Children also participated in a Christmas celebration with the aged care facility, supporting and strengthening community connections. Family engagement was evident through participation in the program and children's drawings in their journal books.

The new Educator contributed fresh ideas to the weekly program. Journals were updated regularly with photos and comments, and children showed strong interest and engagement in the activities.



# Council Report

## December - February 2026



### CHILDREN SERVICES - CHRISTMAS PARTY

Parents, children, and educators all enjoyed the celebration.





## Council Report

### December - February 2026



**Areyonga**, Thaddeus displayed positive engagement and enjoyment during play experiences, particularly while exploring magnetic toys, often sharing a bright and enthusiastic smile.



**Haasts Bluff**, Damiana Gentili, Team Leader at Areyonga, visited Haasts Bluff Childcare, where she actively engaged with children through play-based experiences and facilitated creative activities using hand painting.



# Council Report

## December - February 2026



Coordinators visited Areyonga to support the Team Leader and educators in preparation for the reopening of Areyonga Childcare, ensuring a smooth and supported transition.



**Hermannsburg**, educators supported children to develop fine motor skills while encouraging creativity and imagination through engaging learning experiences.



# Council Report

## December - February 2026



### Titjikala



Mardi Haselton and Nick Rosenthal from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA): Community Plan, brainstorming session on the Action Plan for Closing the Gap Movement with Children's Services Educators Denise Boko and Cecilia Inkamala.



Reading time: Improves literacy skills, two languages and social skills



# Council Report

## December - February 2026



### Finke



**Baby's first day at the Centre, exploring her new environment**



**Playing with animals - Pretend play**



**Music time: improves language and understanding of rhymes and rhythms**

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.4  
**TITLE** Youth and Community Safety Report  
**AUTHOR** Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety

### **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 December 2025 – January 2026, 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 with the funding agencies

### **CONSULTATION**

Libby Taylor – Executive Manager of Youth and Community Safety  
Sarah Grant - Senior Coordinator of Community Safety  
Coordinators and Admin.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Youth and Community Safety Reports: December - February 2026



# Council Report

## Community Safety

December 2025 - February 2026

- 57 staff employed
- 94% staff are Aboriginal
- 100% Community based staff are Aboriginal

- 3,597 Hours Patrolled
- All services operate Monday to Friday



4,874 Engagements with young people



3,484 Engagements with over 18's



1,632 Young people taken home



271 Training Hours



656 Are you okay? Checks



6 Community gatherings

### Updates



- Community Safety Teams prepared for the Christmas Break closure; almost all services were closed for two weeks over Christmas 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2<sup>nd</sup> January
- All Community Safety Teams had a Coordinator visit in this reporting period providing support and training.
- Coordinator Rajnil Kumar resigned in January, recruitment for this position is underway, and Sarah Grant - Senior Coordinator commenced maternity leave at the end of February.
- Due to the substantial rainfall in February, there were no Coordinator community visits.
- The teams from Kintore and Mt Liebig have been staying in Papunya to provide support in community safety services. This is while the community is busy with visitors from around the region during Men's Business.
- Community Safety is prioritising working closely with the youth programs, by providing young people transport to the rec halls and home.
- Community Safety provided awards to longest serving team members (5 years and over), Giving out 13 awards in total. With two team members having over 14 years commitment to the service.
- Wilbur Poulson has completed 7 out of the 8 modules for Community Safety LMS training.

**Daniel and Selwyn Burke from  
Docker River completing training**



**Papunya team getting  
ready for patrol -  
in the background, the new  
Community Safety sign**



**Community Gathering in  
Haasts Bluff.**



**Community gathering in Haasts Bluff, the team started a fire, and people came to cook roo tails.**

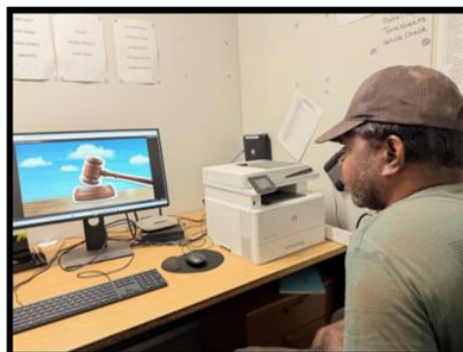


**Haasts Bluff office with their  
new community safety sign.**



Finke Team on Patrol

Wilbur Poulson completing LMS training in Areyonga Community



Community Safety Team members, receiving awards from Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety for longest serving employees



Baxter Alice 7.5 years, Terry Alice 13 years, Wayne Young 14.5 years of service



Ashley Wiseman 14 years of service



Selwyn Burke 9 years of service



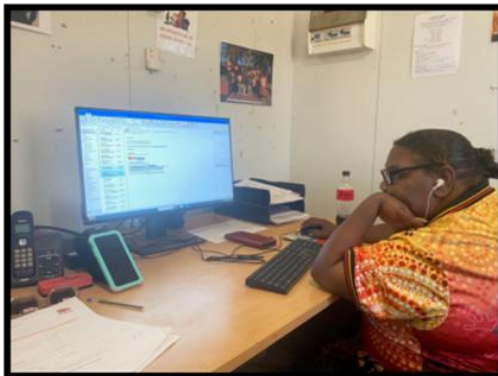
Byron Ratara 7 years of service



Danielle Malbunka 5 years of service



Wilbur Poulson 11 years of service



**Mary Matasia**  
completing computer training

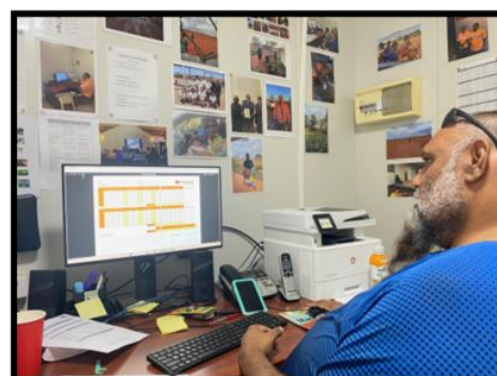
**Team meeting and training Finke**



**Meeting with the elders at Docker  
River**



**Ashley Wiseman**  
completing computer training





# Council Report Youth Services



## December 25 - February 26



### Employees

65 staff  
88 % Local Staff



### Hours

2376 hours  
open



### Facilities open

11



### Cultural activities

6



### Participants

961



### Average participant age

9



### Youth Board

0



### Activities delivered

455



### Events

1

## Highlights



- **Alice Springs Youth Excursion** : Papunya and Kintore Youth Services supported 13 young people on a two-night trip to Alice Springs, where they enjoyed activities including the movies, reptile park, town pool, and bowling, returning home with many stories to share.
- **School Holiday Bike Program**: Bikes Mwerre delivered bike mechanic and riding workshops in Hermannsburg and Santa Teresa during the first week of school holidays, with young people highly engaged, learning practical repair skills, improving riding ability, and each receiving a bike to support ongoing recreation and wellbeing.
- **School Holiday Creative Programs in Papunya**: Young people actively participated in drumming workshops with the Top End Rhythm Academy and dance activities with Guts Dance Crew. These programs encouraged creativity, teamwork, and positive engagement, particularly among younger participants. Additional youth staff from Mt Liebig and Kintore supported programs in Papunya as activity increased there, ensuring services continued safely while managing higher numbers of young participants.

Kids are learning to ride and fix bikes with great enthusiasm

Young person is practising drumming at Titjikala during School Holiday Program



Youth Enjoying Colour Smash Activities



Girls Night with Burgers



Youth Engaging in Drumming Activities with Top End Rhythm



GUTS dance staff during school holiday program.



Youth Taking Part in Indoor Games at the Recreation Hall



Youth staff is serving up rice and chicken curry for the young people



Papunya Police officers conducting safety Talks with youth



Kids are enjoying movie night at the Santa Teresa Rechall



## **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) Learning & Development
- 3) 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:**

- i. P&C understands and appreciates that attracting and retaining staff in a regional area can be challenging. Since December, the P&C team has been working to improve recruitment to attract people who are the right fit for MRC.
- ii. We are also focusing on supporting existing staff by creating opportunities to build skills and develop within Council, with a strong focus on how to promote an increase of indigenous staff across all directorates.

#### **2. Work Health & Safety (WHS):**

- i. WHS has been reviewing recent incident trends to identify priority areas for improvement across all areas and communities of MRC. New training videos are being developed specifically to address troublesome areas and will be added to the LMS as compulsory training for all staff.
- ii. Work is also underway to review risk assessments across departments to ensure safety messages are clear, consistent and practical.

#### **3. Training & Development:**

- i. HR is currently developing a Roadshow plan that will include all 13 communities. This Roadshow will involve information sessions, form updates, and helpful learning guides on MRC processes specific to HR demands. Our main goal is to build relationships and trust with community staff, ultimately helping to remove gaps of Alice Spring vs community staff mentality.

**Ordinary Council Meeting 20 March 2026 – Agenda**

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- ii. MRC's Learning Management System (LMS) has continued to be seen as a great success, demonstrating our staff's commitment to continuous learning and self-growth.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

**CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 P & C Demographics Report (February 2026)

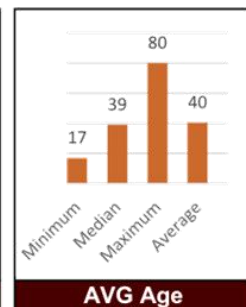
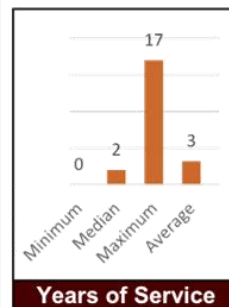
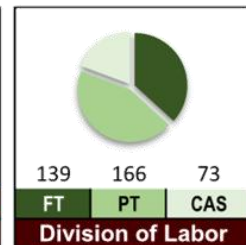
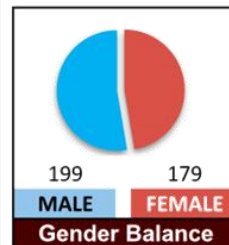
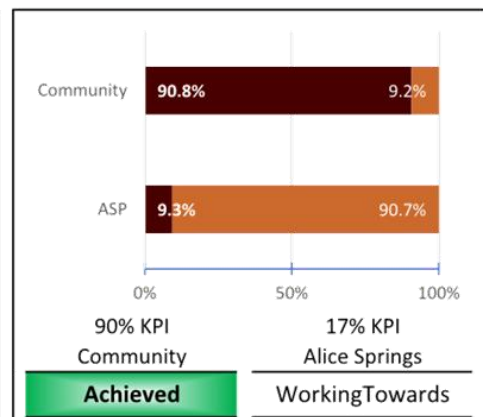
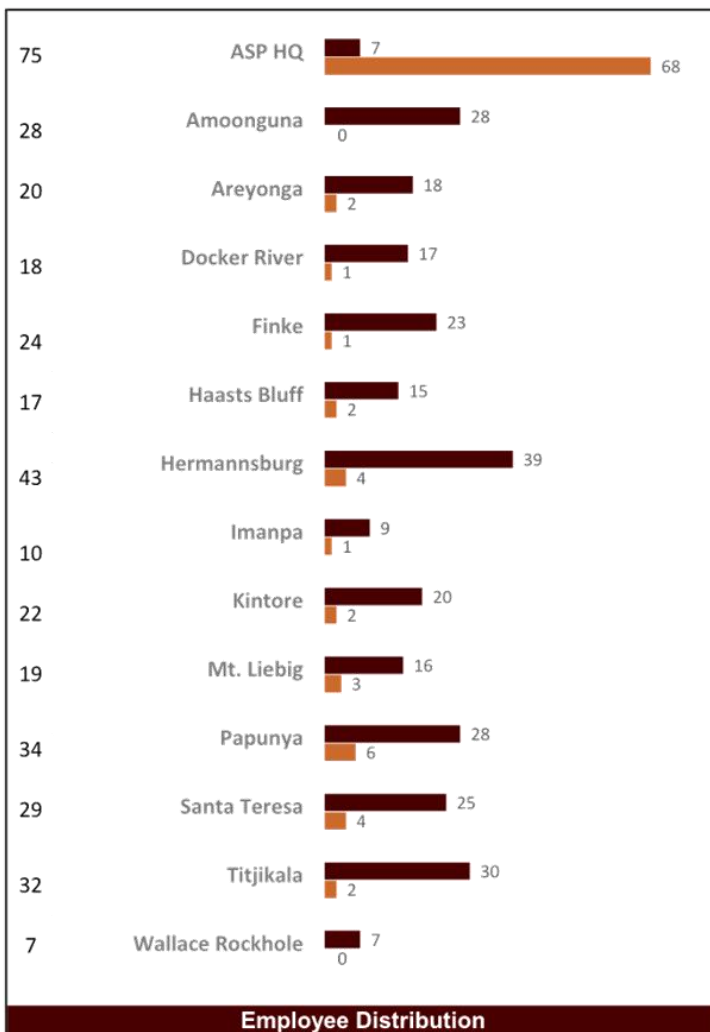


Office of the CEO | People & Capabilities

# P&C Demographics

as at:  
Wednesday, 4 February 2026

<p><b>378</b></p> <p><b>TOTAL EMPLOYEES</b></p>	<p>Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander <b>282</b></p> <hr/> <p>96 Non-ATSI</p> <p><b>Aboriginal Focus</b></p>	<p>New Hires <b>1</b></p> <p>Departures <b>0</b></p> <p>Monthly Turnover <b>1</b></p> <p><b>Monthly Turnover</b></p>	<p>Office of the CEO <b>11</b></p> <p>Office of CFO <b>21 + 3</b></p> <p>Council Services <b>133 + 6</b></p> <p>Community Services <b>196 + 8</b></p> <p><b>Primary &amp; Secondary Positions</b></p>
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NOTE: Values derived from Employee Demographics, Employee Turnover, & Position Vacancy Tech1 Reports as at: 4/02/2026

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	15.6
<b>TITLE</b>	Finance Report period ending 31 January 2026
<b>AUTHOR</b>	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 31 January 2026

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 31 January 2026.**

### **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 31 January 2026 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:
  - o Note 1 Details of Cash and Investments Held
  - o Note 2 Statement on Debts Owed to Council (Accounts Receivable)
  - o Note 3 Statement on Debts Owed by Council (Trade creditors)
  - o 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 January 2026.

Below is a snapshot of MRC's financial results as at 31 January 2026. 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:**

**REVENUE** – To date Council has received \$36m in revenue. This is \$2.35m more than budgeted.

- Commercial/Other Income is \$257k below budget, due to timing of invoicing being raised versus where the income is allocated in the budget.
- Operating Grants and Subsidies are \$2.25m above budget this period. Payments received exceeded the budgeted income.
- Interest/Investment income is \$45k above budget because the actual interest rates on our current investments are higher than the forecasted rates when the budget was prepared.

**EXPENDITURE** – Most expense areas are under budget, indicating that the Council has spent less than projected to date this year. Variances are noted in the following areas:

- Materials and contracts are \$3.58m below budget for this reporting period, including commitments. This variance is due to the timing of work. While budget allocations were assigned to specific months, the actual scheduling of activities has shifted during the current financial year.
- Employee expenses are \$2.04m under budget due to vacancies and the timing of hiring and onboarding.

**NET OPERATING RESULT** – MRC's Net Operating Position is showing a surplus this reporting period of \$11.2m.

**WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT** – The chart below presents a breakdown of expenses by function. Of total spending, 35.97% was allocated to managing and delivering community services programs. Overall, 82.68% of expenditure is directed toward providing services to the MRC communities, including civil projects, road maintenance, municipal services such as waste management, and the upkeep of assets, infrastructure, and fleet. The remaining 17.32% is invested in corporate functions, including Finance, Human Resources, Governance, and IT.

**FIXED ASSETS ACQUIRED** - During this reporting period, assets totaling \$49K have been acquired, comprising a new tractor.









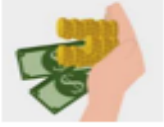
**CASH ON HAND** – MRC has \$11.64m in its operating accounts to pay for its daily operating costs. Term deposits are currently \$11.5m for this reporting period with the NAB (National Australia Bank).

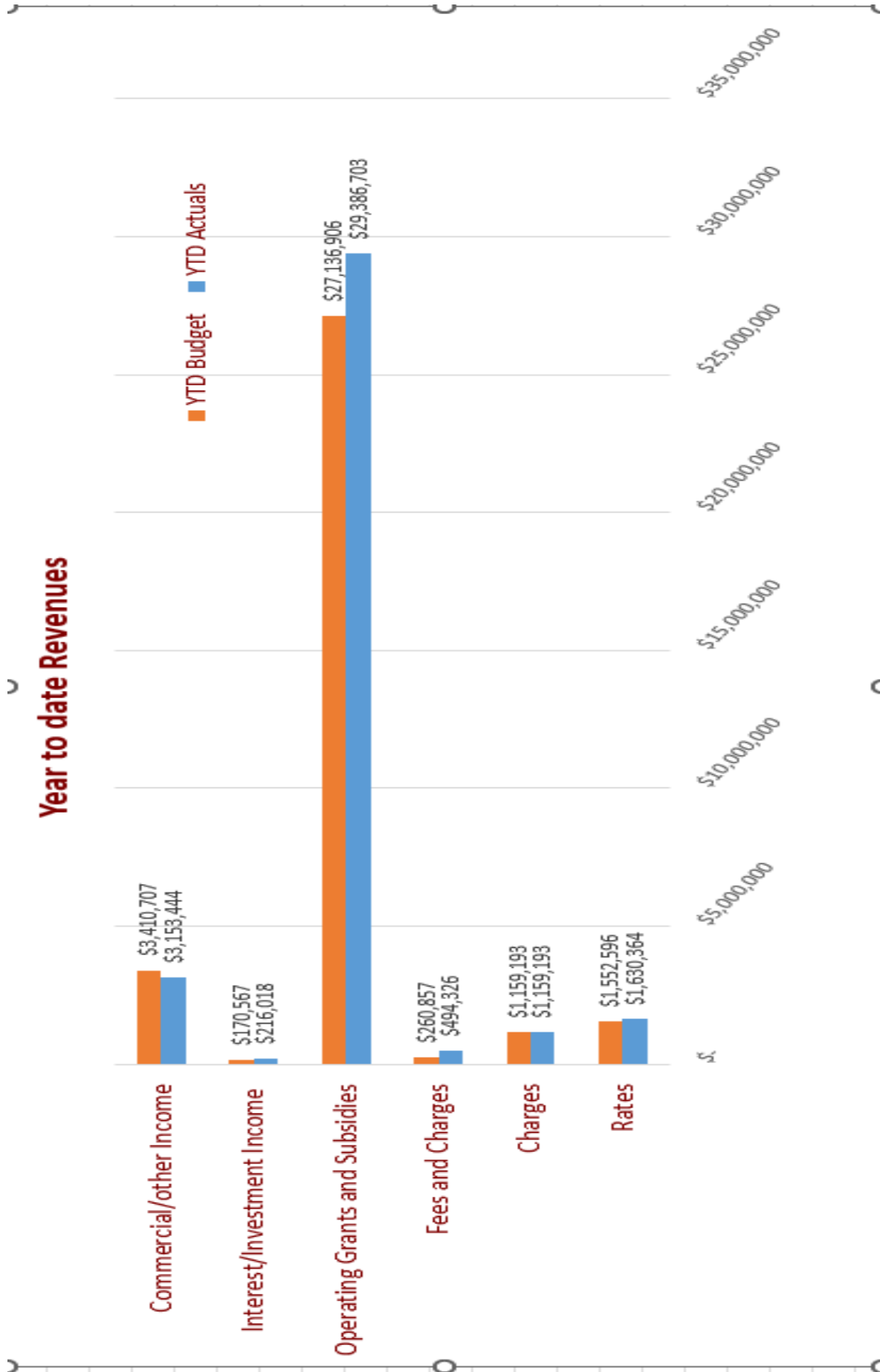
**UNEXPENDED GRANTS** – The value of unexpended grants for this period is \$8.64m.

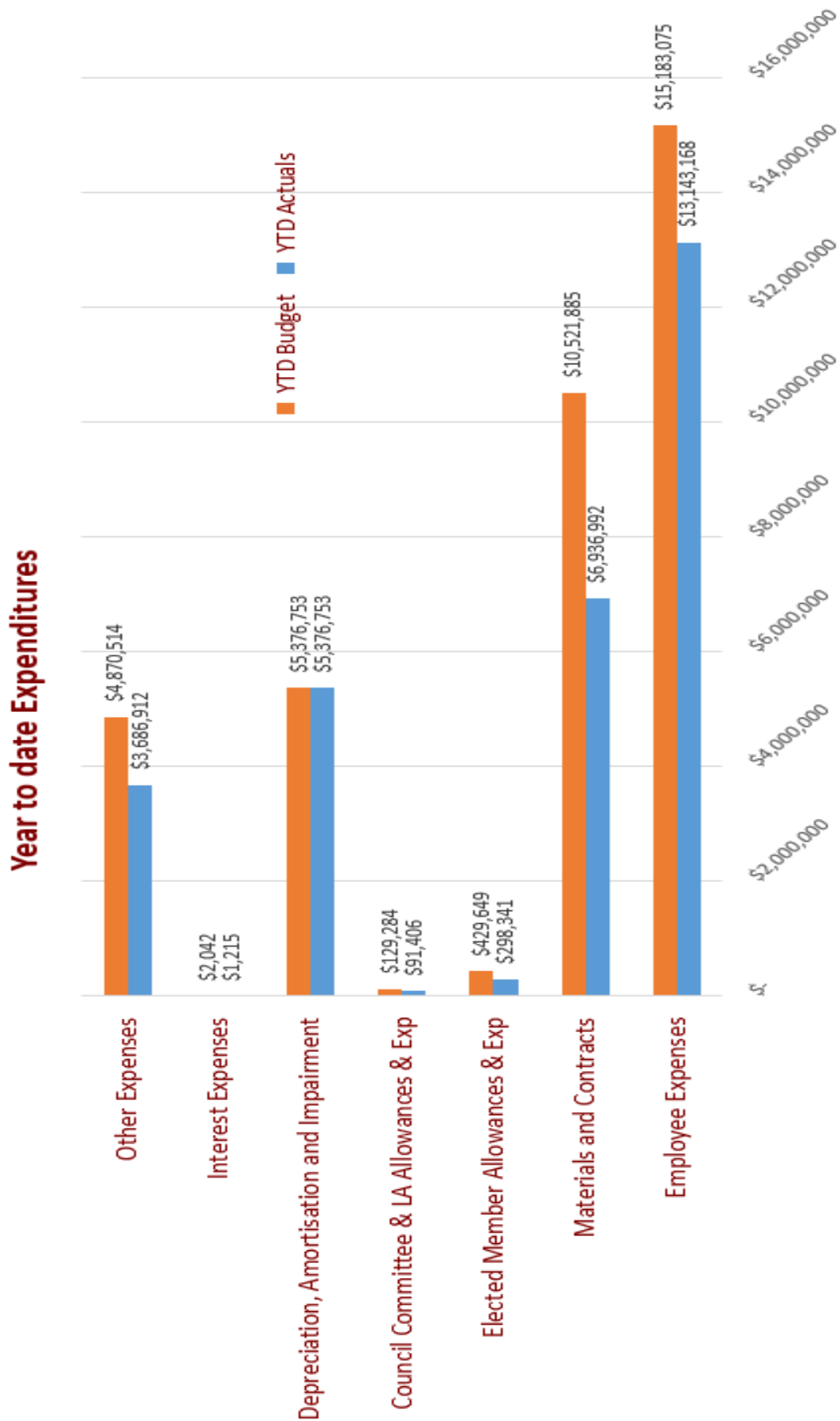
**RESERVES** – MRC's reserves have remained static.

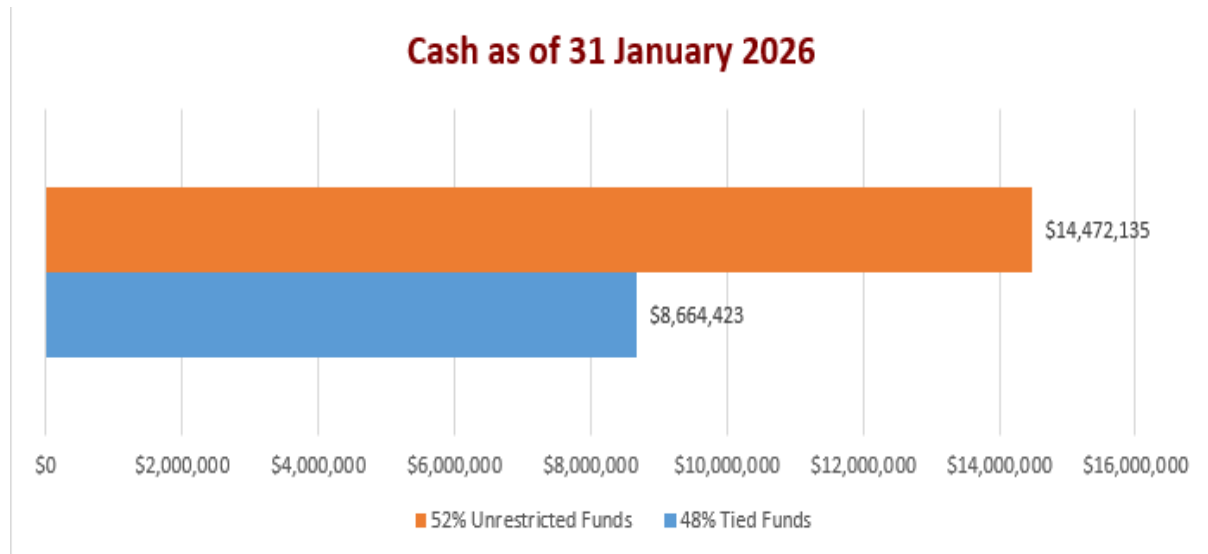
**WORKING CAPITAL / CURRENT RATIO** – MRC maintains a financial position sufficient to meet its monthly obligations. As noted, resources are available to fund daily operations. For this period, MRC's total Working Capital is \$14.10million, calculated as the difference between total Current Assets (\$25.32M) and total Current Liabilities (\$11.22). This results in a Current Ratio of 2.3, meaning that for every \$1 of liabilities, Council has \$2.3 in assets to cover its obligations.

**January 2026 Financial Results - Year-to-date figures in millions**

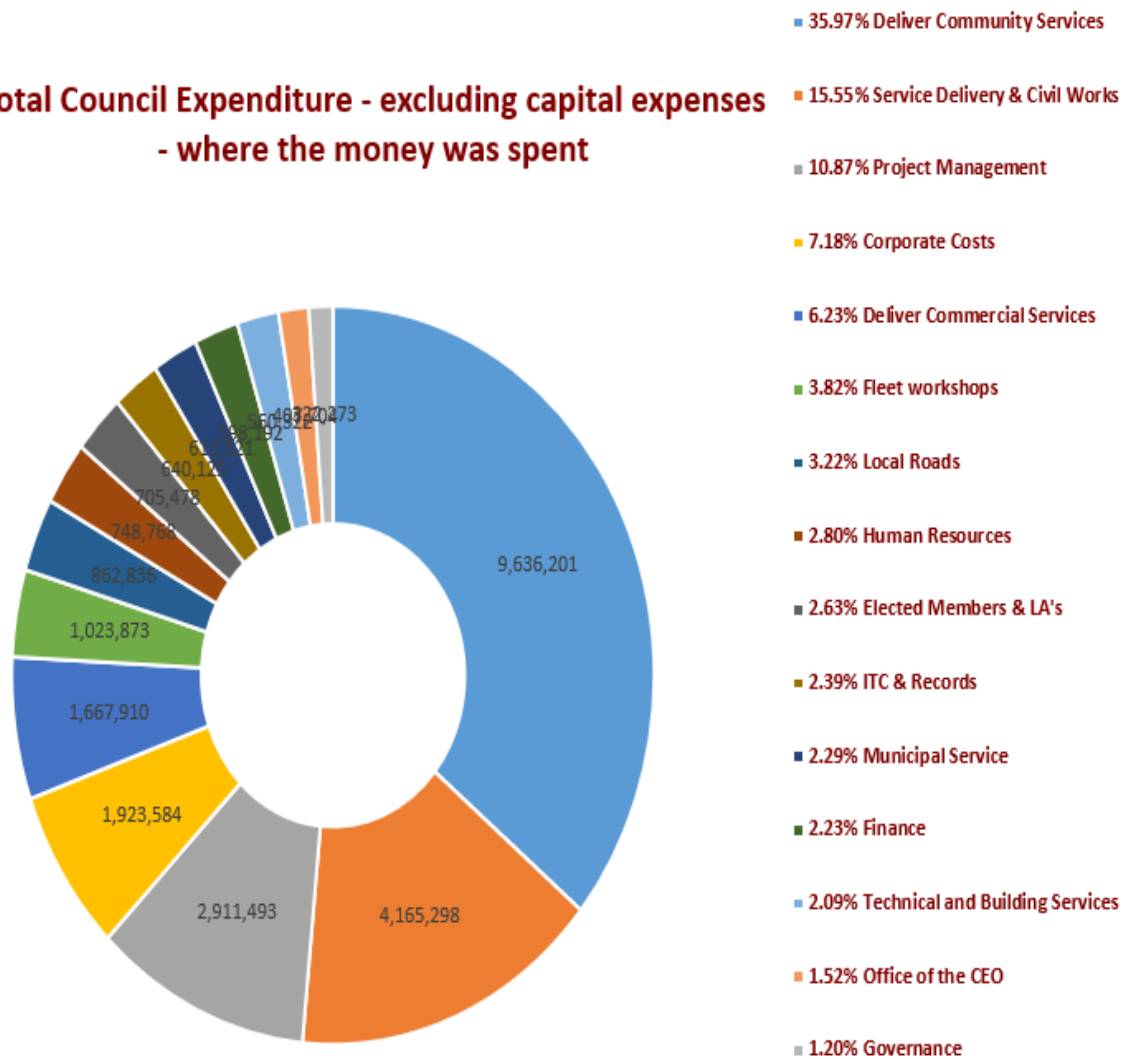
<p><b>Revenue</b></p> <p>Current Year <b>\$36.04m</b></p> 	<p><b>Expenditures</b></p> <p>Actual <b>\$27.91m</b> Committed <b>\$1.62m</b></p> 	<p><b>Net Operating Result</b></p> <p><b>\$7.54M</b></p> 
<p><b>Assets</b></p> <p><b>\$102.79m</b></p> 	<p><b>Fixed Assets Acquired</b></p> <p><b>\$49K</b></p> 	<p><b>Cash on Hand</b></p> <p><b>\$23.13m</b></p> 
<p><b>Unexpended Grants</b></p> <p>Current Grant <b>\$8.66m</b> Liability</p> 	<p><b>Reserves</b></p> <p><b>\$90.14m</b></p> 	<p><b>Unrestricted Cash</b></p> <p><b>\$14.47m</b></p> 







### Total Council Expenditure - excluding capital expenses - where the money was spent



Working Capital / Current Ratio

**MACDONNELL REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**For the period ended 31 January 2026**

	31 January 2026	
	\$	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash at bank	11,636,558	
Term deposit	11,500,000	
Accounts Receivable	2,187,010	
Inventory	0	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>25,323,568</u>	
Less:		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	21,649	
Provisions	2,180,899	
Grant liability	8,664,423	
Other Current Liabilities	351,253	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>11,218,224</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS (Working Capital)</b>	<u><u>14,105,344</u></u>	
<b>CURRENT RATIO</b>		<u><u>2.3</u></u>

$$\text{Current Ratio Formula} = \frac{\text{Current Assets}}{\text{Current Liabilities}}$$

The Cash Ratio measures Council's ability to pay its short term debts (Current Liabilities) when they fall due. The ratio for January of 2.3 means that Council has \$2.3 in cash (Current Assets) for every \$1 of debt, including unexpended grants.



**Ordinary Council Meeting 20 March 2026 – Agenda**

The attached financial tables and notes have been certified by the CEO of MRC.

**Certification by the Council CEO**

Council Name:	MacDonnell Regional Council
Reporting Period:	31/01/2026

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

CEO Signed



Date

18/02/2026

**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 Expenditure Statement - Actual vs Budget
- 2 Table 2 Capital Expenditure - Actual vs Budget
- 3 Table 3 Monthly Balance Sheet
- 4 Note 1 Details of Cash and Investments Held
- 5 Note 2 Statement of Debts Owed to Council
- 6 Note 3 and 4 Statement of Debts Owed by Council and Table 5 Member and CEO Credit Card transactions
- 7 Table 4 Income and Expense Statements - Actual vs Budget - by Community



MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 2. Capital Expenditure and Funding Budget  
For the Period Ending 31.01.2026

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Variance %	Approved Annual Budget \$
Land and Buildings	244,617	397,962	153,346	39%	623,293
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	0	0	0	0%	0
Plant and Machinery	426,682	556,982	130,300	23%	827,960
Other Assets (including furniture and office equipment)	0	18,000	18,000	100%	18,000
Other Leased Assets	0	0	0	0%	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING</b>	<b>671,299</b>	<b>972,945</b>	<b>301,646</b>		<b>1,469,253</b>
<b>Total capital expenditure funded by:</b>					
Capital Grants Income	0	103,098	103,098	100%	103,098
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0%	0
Council own fund	0	600,793	600,793	100%	600,793
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>703,891</b>	<b>703,891</b>		<b>703,891</b>

**Table 3. Monthly Balance Sheet Report**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.01.2026	YTD Actuals \$	Note Reference*
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash at Bank	\$ 23,136,558.00	(1)
Tied Funds		8,664,423.03
Untied Funds		14,472,134.97
Accounts Receivable		
Trade Debtors	738,268	(2)
Rates & Charges Debtors	1,263,663	
Other Current Assets	185,079	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>25,323,568</b>	
Non-Current Financial Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	77,474,255	
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>77,474,255</b>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>102,797,823</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	21,649	(3)
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	0	(4)
Current Provisions	2,180,899	
Accruals	0	
Other Current Liabilities	351,253	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,553,801</b>	
Non-Current Provisions	314,172	
Other Non-Current Liabilities	0	
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>314,172</b>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,867,973</b>	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>99,929,850</b>	
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	85,140,382	
Reserves	5,000,000	
Accumulated Surplus	9,789,468	
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>99,929,850</b>	

**Note 1. Details of Cash and Investments Held**

**Cash at Bank/Petty Cash**

Account name	Total
Operations Account	1,504,827
Trust Account	9,840,387
Centrelink	140,133
Northern Territory (NTG)	144,309
Amoonguna Store	6,074
Petty Cash	829
<b>Total Cash at Bank</b>	<b>11,636,558</b>

**Investment Report**

Bank	Principal \$	Interest Rate	Term Days	Maturity Date	Percentage
NAB	1,000,000	3.90%	61	23/03/2026	9%
NAB	3,000,000	3.85%	60	20/02/2026	26%
NAB	2,000,000	3.40%	30	18/02/2026	17%
NAB	2,000,000	4.15%	90	9/04/2026	17%
NAB	1,500,000.00	4.10%	91	16/03/2026	13%
NAB	2,000,000.00	4.10%	91	16/03/2026	17%
	<b>11,500,000.00</b>				

**Note 2. Statement on Debts Owed to Council (Accounts Receivable)**

Debtors	Unapplied	1 – 30 Days	31 – 60 Days	>60 Days	>90 Days
Australian Electoral Commission SUSPENDED	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	781.00
Australian Regional and Remote Community Services	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Central Desert Regional Council	0.00	0.00	3,646.00	0.00	0.00
Central Land Council	-286.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CKS Electrical	0.00	0.00	900.00	0.00	0.00
Corporate Travel Management	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,350.00	0.00
Department of Education & Training	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
Dept Children & Families	0.00	2,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dept Housing, Local Government & Community Development	0.00	900.00	0.00	1,686.79	0.00
Dept. Of Health CA Remote Health	0.00	3,510.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
EVORA CARE Pty Ltd	0.00	600.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
GSD Solutions Pty Ltd	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
Hardy Fencing Australia Pty Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,250.00	0.00
Jetstream Electrical Pty Ltd	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MADE Concepts Pty Ltd	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
Murray River North Pty Ltd	0.00	0.00	16,050.00	0.00	0.00
National Indigenous Australians Agency (Australian Government)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,051.00
NTG - Dept of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics	0.00	57,878.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
Office of Marion Scrymgour MP	0.00	0.00	0.00	286.00	0.00
Power and Water - Darwin	0.00	504,015.73	0.00	110,044.86	3,493.08
Pulikutjarra Aboriginal Corporation ("Store")	0.00	0.00	0.00	907.35	0.00
Reimal Pty Ltd	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
S&R Building and Construction Pty Ltd	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
Seventh Day Adventist Church - N.A.C.	0.00	1,950.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Steves Electrix Pty Ltd	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sundry Debtors 2025-2026	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRI SPARC PTY LTD	0.00	300.00	404.00	1,050.00	0.00
United Workers Union	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00
	-286.00	575,403.78	22,950.00	117,875.00	22,325.08

**Note 3. Statement on Debts Owed by Council (Trade creditors)**

Creditors	1 - 30 Days	31 - 60 Days	> 60 Days
Alice Springs Casino Operations Pty Ltd T/A Lasseters Hotel	270.00	0.00	0.00
Advanced Plumbing & Gas Services	181.50	0.00	0.00
B&S Mitre 10	83.81	0.00	0.00
Centralian Motors	728.75	0.00	0.00
Damien Cooper 2561	562.82	0.00	0.00
Desert Dwellers Pty Ltd	1,610.00	0.00	0.00
Local Locksmiths NT Pty Ltd	1,355.00	0.00	0.00
Mogas Regional Pty Ltd T/as Ausfuel	22,316.28	0.00	0.00
Norman Kenny 3343	-121.72	0.00	0.00
Our Town & Country Office National	106.50	0.00	0.00
Power and Water Authority	-16,934.01	0.00	0.00
Remote Internet Solution	4,003.04	0.00	0.00
RK Diesel Services	1,421.46	0.00	0.00
The Sustainable Advantage Pty Ltd t/as Leading Roles	5,057.80	0.00	0.00
Woolworths - ( In Store & Online)	695.62	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Trade Creditors</b>	<b>21,336.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**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)	312.00	0.00	0.00
Super Fund Clearing House	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total ATO and Payroll obligations</b>	<b>312.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**Table 5. Member & CEO council credit card transactions for January 2026**

**1. Roxanne Kenny - President (member)**

Suppliers Name	Amount	Date	Reason for the transactions
Westpac Bank	6.00	27/01/2026	Card fee

**2. Belinda Urquhart - CEO**

Suppliers Name	Amount	Date	Reason for the transactions
REMARKABLE	66.84	1/01/2026	Subscription
ABACUS.AI	15.48	14/01/2026	Subscription
MAD HARRY	176.67	15/01/2026	Flowers For Funeral in Finke
RACV Hobart Hotel	339.00	22/01/2026	Accommodation - Chief Officers Group Conference Hobart
Local Government	920.00	20/01/2026	Registration Fees - Chief Officers Group Conference Hobart
WESTPAC BANK	6.00	27/01/2026	Card Fee

MacDonnell Regional Council  
 Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget  
 For the Period Ending 31.01.2026

	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 \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	1,630,364	1,552,596	77,769	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	1,159,193	1,159,193	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	27,575	6,824	20,751	2,340	1,750	590	33,704	11,083	22,620
Operating Grants and Subsidies	23,297,702	17,643,598	5,654,104	205,758	205,573	185	555,913	299,350	256,563
Interest/Investment Income	216,018	170,567	45,451	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	735,927	1,126,860	(390,933)	93,196	76,632	16,563	199,211	214,605	(15,394)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>27,066,779</b>	<b>21,659,638</b>	<b>5,407,142</b>	<b>301,294</b>	<b>283,955</b>	<b>17,338</b>	<b>788,828</b>	<b>525,039</b>	<b>263,789</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	5,021,530	4,883,628	(7,968,376)	698,484	700,742	2,258	585,744	809,572	223,828
Materials and Contracts	1,210,062	455,648	(5,175,925)	144,597	260,000	115,403	230,127	457,115	226,989
Elected Member Allowances	215,687	228,522	12,835	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	81,813	201,127	119,314	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	34,500	36,056	1,556	1,500	3,600	2,100	2,200	2,683	483
Council Committee & LA Expenses	1,038	738	(300)	1,820	2,233	413	4,656	4,551	(105)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	5,376,753	5,376,753	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	1,215	2,042	827	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	2,602,546	3,256,785	654,239	55,468	97,906	42,438	113,008	148,552	35,545
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>14,545,144</b>	<b>14,441,299</b>	<b>(12,355,830)</b>	<b>901,869</b>	<b>1,064,481</b>	<b>162,612</b>	<b>935,734</b>	<b>1,422,474</b>	<b>486,741</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>12,521,635</b>	<b>7,218,339</b>	<b>(6,948,688)</b>	<b>(600,575)</b>	<b>(780,525)</b>	<b>179,950</b>	<b>(146,906)</b>	<b>(897,436)</b>	<b>750,530</b>
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	309,623	(309,623)	0	95,000	(95,000)	0	58,206	(58,206)
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>12,521,635</b>	<b>7,527,962</b>	<b>(7,258,311)</b>	<b>(600,575)</b>	<b>(685,525)</b>	<b>84,950</b>	<b>(146,906)</b>	<b>(839,230)</b>	<b>692,324</b>
Capital Expenses	(436,682)	(803,096)	366,414	0	(55,417)	55,417	(58,206)	(33,953)	(24,252)
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	5,376,753	5,376,753	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>17,461,706</b>	<b>12,101,619</b>	<b>(6,891,897)</b>	<b>(600,575)</b>	<b>(740,942)</b>	<b>140,367</b>	<b>(205,111)</b>	<b>(873,183)</b>	<b>668,072</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
 Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget  
 For the Period Ending 31.01.2026

	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 \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	117,669	33,755	83,914	32,775	17,617	15,159	10,198	10,751	(553)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	396,216	770,493	(374,277)	303,872	1,178,872	(875,000)	440,239	530,971	(90,732)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	193,962	182,507	11,455	194,929	198,369	(3,440)	176,491	113,936	62,555
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>707,846</b>	<b>986,754</b>	<b>(278,908)</b>	<b>531,576</b>	<b>1,394,857</b>	<b>(863,281)</b>	<b>626,928</b>	<b>655,658</b>	<b>(28,730)</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	527,305	672,487	145,182	670,208	753,701	83,492	570,951	777,644	206,693
Materials and Contracts	179,144	469,939	290,795	158,170	300,000	926,643	201,796	362,936	161,141
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	1,800	2,800	1,000	1,650	3,600	1,950	500	3,600	3,100
Council Committee & LA Expenses	1,413	3,033	1,620	319	3,233	2,914	220	3,340	3,120
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	79,806	102,614	22,808	60,181	86,726	26,545	59,139	108,509	49,369
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>789,895</b>	<b>1,250,874</b>	<b>460,979</b>	<b>890,529</b>	<b>1,147,260</b>	<b>1,041,545</b>	<b>832,607</b>	<b>1,256,030</b>	<b>423,423</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(82,049)</b>	<b>(264,120)</b>	<b>182,071</b>	<b>(358,953)</b>	<b>247,597</b>	<b>178,263</b>	<b>(205,679)</b>	<b>(600,372)</b>	<b>394,693</b>
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
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(82,049)</b>	<b>(264,120)</b>	<b>182,071</b>	<b>(358,953)</b>	<b>247,597</b>	<b>178,263</b>	<b>(205,679)</b>	<b>(600,372)</b>	<b>394,693</b>
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
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(82,049)</b>	<b>(264,120)</b>	<b>182,071</b>	<b>(358,953)</b>	<b>247,597</b>	<b>178,263</b>	<b>(205,679)</b>	<b>(600,372)</b>	<b>394,693</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
**Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget**  
 For the Period Ending 31.01.2026

	Hermannsburg			Imanpa			Kintore		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	18,985	11,375	7,610	37,585	4,346	33,240	81,312	34,971	46,341
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,270,865	1,620,865	(350,000)	24,401	24,401	0	655,166	1,064,412	(409,246)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	201,260	205,775	(4,515)	143,593	180,806	(37,213)	385,364	226,684	158,680
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>1,491,110</b>	<b>1,838,015</b>	<b>(346,905)</b>	<b>205,580</b>	<b>209,552</b>	<b>(3,973)</b>	<b>1,121,841</b>	<b>1,326,066</b>	<b>(204,225)</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	1,026,874	1,257,427	230,553	270,057	466,162	196,105	558,749	678,624	119,875
Materials and Contracts	965,349	1,016,663	51,315	124,350	146,121	21,771	1,136,107	931,168	(204,939)
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	414	0	(414)	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	2,750	3,600	850	2,400	3,600	1,200	2,500	3,600	1,100
Council Committee & LA Expenses	2,690	3,233	543	3,319	3,233	(85)	1,980	3,233	1,254
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	136,636	198,859	62,223	37,214	65,389	28,175	57,399	123,282	65,883
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,134,299</b>	<b>2,479,783</b>	<b>345,484</b>	<b>437,753</b>	<b>684,505</b>	<b>246,752</b>	<b>1,756,735</b>	<b>1,739,908</b>	<b>(16,827)</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(643,189)</b>	<b>(641,769)</b>	<b>(1,421)</b>	<b>(232,173)</b>	<b>(474,953)</b>	<b>242,779</b>	<b>(634,894)</b>	<b>(413,842)</b>	<b>(221,052)</b>
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	77,210	0	(77,210)
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(643,189)</b>	<b>(641,769)</b>	<b>(1,421)</b>	<b>(232,173)</b>	<b>(474,953)</b>	<b>242,779</b>	<b>(634,894)</b>	<b>(336,632)</b>	<b>(298,262)</b>
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	(48,710)	(45,039)	(3,670)
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
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(643,189)</b>	<b>(641,769)</b>	<b>(1,421)</b>	<b>(232,173)</b>	<b>(474,953)</b>	<b>242,779</b>	<b>(683,604)</b>	<b>(381,671)</b>	<b>(301,933)</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget  
For the Period Ending 31.01.2026

	Mt 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 \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	31,479	25,906	5,573	70,379	77,219	(6,839)	14,472	14,472	(0)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	582,152	957,152	(375,000)	581,575	939,743	(358,168)	386,111	939,743	(553,632)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	170,643	163,777	6,866	219,666	219,567	99	177,886	219,567	(41,681)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>784,274</b>	<b>1,146,836</b>	<b>(362,562)</b>	<b>871,620</b>	<b>1,236,529</b>	<b>(364,908)</b>	<b>578,469</b>	<b>1,173,782</b>	<b>(595,313)</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	566,120	693,512	127,391	899,909	1,087,237	187,328	804,208	1,087,237	283,029
Materials and Contracts	653,018	393,323	(259,695)	545,539	2,410,292	1,864,753	186,721	2,410,292	2,223,571
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	1,800	3,763	1,963	2,150	3,600	1,450	2,400	3,600	1,200
Council Committee & LA Expenses	1,888	4,714	2,826	2,483	3,253	770	1,364	3,253	1,889
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	73,706	96,665	22,959	189,966	204,100	14,134	118,188	204,100	85,912
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,296,533</b>	<b>1,191,976</b>	<b>(104,556)</b>	<b>1,640,048</b>	<b>3,708,482</b>	<b>2,068,435</b>	<b>1,112,881</b>	<b>3,708,482</b>	<b>2,595,601</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(512,259)</b>	<b>(45,141)</b>	<b>(467,118)</b>	<b>(768,427)</b>	<b>(2,471,954)</b>	<b>1,703,526</b>	<b>(534,412)</b>	<b>(2,534,700)</b>	<b>2,000,288</b>
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	15,377	(15,377)	0	15,377	(15,377)
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(512,259)</b>	<b>(45,141)</b>	<b>(467,118)</b>	<b>(768,427)</b>	<b>(2,456,577)</b>	<b>1,688,149</b>	<b>(534,412)</b>	<b>(2,519,323)</b>	<b>1,984,911</b>
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	(15,377)	(8,970)	(6,407)	(50,802)	(8,970)	(41,832)
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
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(512,259)</b>	<b>(45,141)</b>	<b>(467,118)</b>	<b>(783,804)</b>	<b>(2,465,547)</b>	<b>1,681,743</b>	<b>(585,214)</b>	<b>(2,528,293)</b>	<b>1,943,079</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget  
For the Period Ending 31.01.2026

	Titjikala			Wallace Rockhole			TOTALS		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,630,364	1,552,596	77,769
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,159,193	1,159,193	0
Fees and Charges	8,946	9,053	(107)	6,906	1,735	5,171	494,326	260,857	233,470
Operating Grants and Subsidies	631,399	906,399	(275,000)	55,334	55,334	0	29,386,703	27,136,905	2,249,797
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	216,018	170,567	45,451
Commercial/other Income	172,139	205,428	(33,289)	89,178	76,195	12,984	3,153,445	3,410,707	-257,263
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>812,485</b>	<b>1,120,881</b>	<b>(308,396)</b>	<b>151,418</b>	<b>133,264</b>	<b>18,154</b>	<b>36,040,049</b>	<b>33,690,825</b>	<b>2,349,223</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	699,345	969,099	269,754	243,683	346,002	102,319	13,143,168	15,183,075	2,039,907
Materials and Contracts	1,152,597	851,736	(300,861)	49,417	56,651	7,234	6,936,992	10,521,886	3,584,894
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0	215,687	228,522	12,835
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	82,654	201,127	118,473
Council Committee & LA Allowances	900	3,600	2,700	1,600	3,600	2,000	58,650	81,302	22,652
Council Committee & LA Expenses	6,176	6,699	523	3,389	3,233	(156)	32,755	47,982	15,226
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,376,753	5,376,753	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,215	2,042	827
Other Expenses	99,122	149,875	50,752	4,531	27,151	22,619	3,686,912	4,870,513	1,183,601
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,958,139</b>	<b>1,981,008</b>	<b>22,869</b>	<b>302,621</b>	<b>436,637</b>	<b>134,017</b>	<b>29,534,786</b>	<b>36,513,201</b>	<b>6,978,416</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(1,145,654)</b>	<b>(860,128)</b>	<b>(285,526)</b>	<b>(151,202)</b>	<b>(303,373)</b>	<b>152,171</b>	<b>6,505,263</b>	<b>(2,822,376)</b>	<b>9,327,639</b>
Capital Grants Income	0	103,098	(103,098)	0	0	0	0	103,098	-103,098
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	30,000	(30,000)	0	0	0	0	600,793	-600,793
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(1,145,654)</b>	<b>(727,030)</b>	<b>(418,624)</b>	<b>(151,202)</b>	<b>(303,373)</b>	<b>152,171</b>	<b>6,505,263</b>	<b>(2,118,485)</b>	<b>8,623,748</b>
Capital Expenses	(61,523)	(17,500)	(44,023)	0	0	0	(671,299)	(972,945)	301,647
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	5,376,753	5,376,753	0
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(1,207,177)</b>	<b>(744,530)</b>	<b>(462,647)</b>	<b>(151,202)</b>	<b>(303,373)</b>	<b>152,171</b>	<b>11,210,717</b>	<b>2,285,323</b>	<b>8,925,395</b>

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	15.7
<b>TITLE</b>	Finance Report period ending 28 February 2026
<b>AUTHOR</b>	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 28 February 2026.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 28 February 2026.**

### **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 28 February 2026 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 October 2025

Below is a snapshot of MRC's financial results as at 28 February 2026. 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** – To date Council has received \$41.36 million in revenue. This is \$312K more than budgeted.

- Commercial/Other Income is \$402k below budget, due to timing of invoicing being raised versus where the income allocated in the budget.

## Ordinary Council Meeting 20 March 2026 – Agenda

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- Operating Grants and Subsidies \$417k above budget this period. Payments received exceeded the budgeted income.
- Interest/Investment income is \$44k above budget because we were able to invest more than was anticipated at the time of the budget refresh.
- Fees and Charges have exceeded budget expectations, resulting in a total favorable variance of \$226k above the approved budget.

**EXPENDITURE** – Most expense areas are under budget, meaning the Council has spent less than expected so far this year. Variances are noted in the following areas:

- Materials and contracts are \$4.35m less than the budget for this reporting period, including commitments. This variance is due to the timing of work, where budget allocations were set for specific months, but the actual scheduling of activities has shifted during the current financial year.
- Employee expenses are \$2.26m under budget due to vacancies and the timing of hiring to positions.
- Other expenses are under budget \$1.71m. This variance is partly due to several areas where actual costs were lower than originally forecasted. These expenses will be reviewed and adjusted in the budget revision to be tabled to Council.

**NET OPERATING RESULT** – MRC's Net Operating Position is showing a surplus this reporting period of \$8.33m including commitments.

**WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT** – The chart below presents a breakdown of expenses by function. Of total spending, 35.15% was allocated to managing and delivering community services programs. Overall, 79.43% of expenditure is directed toward providing services to the MRC communities, including civil projects, road maintenance, municipal services such as waste management, and the upkeep of assets, infrastructure, and fleet. The remaining 20.57% is invested in corporate functions, including Finance, Human Resources, Governance, and IT.

**FIXED ASSETS ACQUIRED** - During this reporting period there was no movement in the asset's addition.

**CASH ON HAND** – MRC has \$7.23m in its operating accounts to pay for its daily operating costs. Term deposits are currently \$19m for this reporting period, \$15m with the NAB (National Australia Bank) and \$4m with Westpac Bank.

**UNEXPENDED GRANTS** – The value of unexpended grants for this period is \$9.28 million.

**RESERVES** – MRC's reserves have remained static.

**WORKING CAPITAL / CURRENT RATIO** – MRC maintains a financial position sufficient to meet its monthly obligations. As noted, resources are available to fund daily operations. For this period, MRC's total Working Capital is \$16.04m, calculated as the difference between total Current Assets (\$27.74m) and total Current Liabilities (\$11.70m). This results in a Current Ratio of 2.4, meaning that for every \$1 of liabilities, Council has \$2.4 in assets to cover its obligations.

**February 2026 Financial Results - Year-to-date figures in millions**

**Revenue**

Current Year **\$41.03m**



**Expenditures**

Actual **\$31,16m**

Committed **\$1.54m**



**Net Operating Result**

**\$8.46M**



**Assets**

**\$104m**



**Fixed Assets Acquired**

**\$0.00K**



**Cash on Hand**

**\$26.22m**



**Unexpended Grants**

Current Grant Liability **\$9.28m**



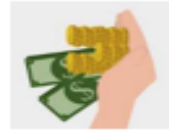
**Reserves**

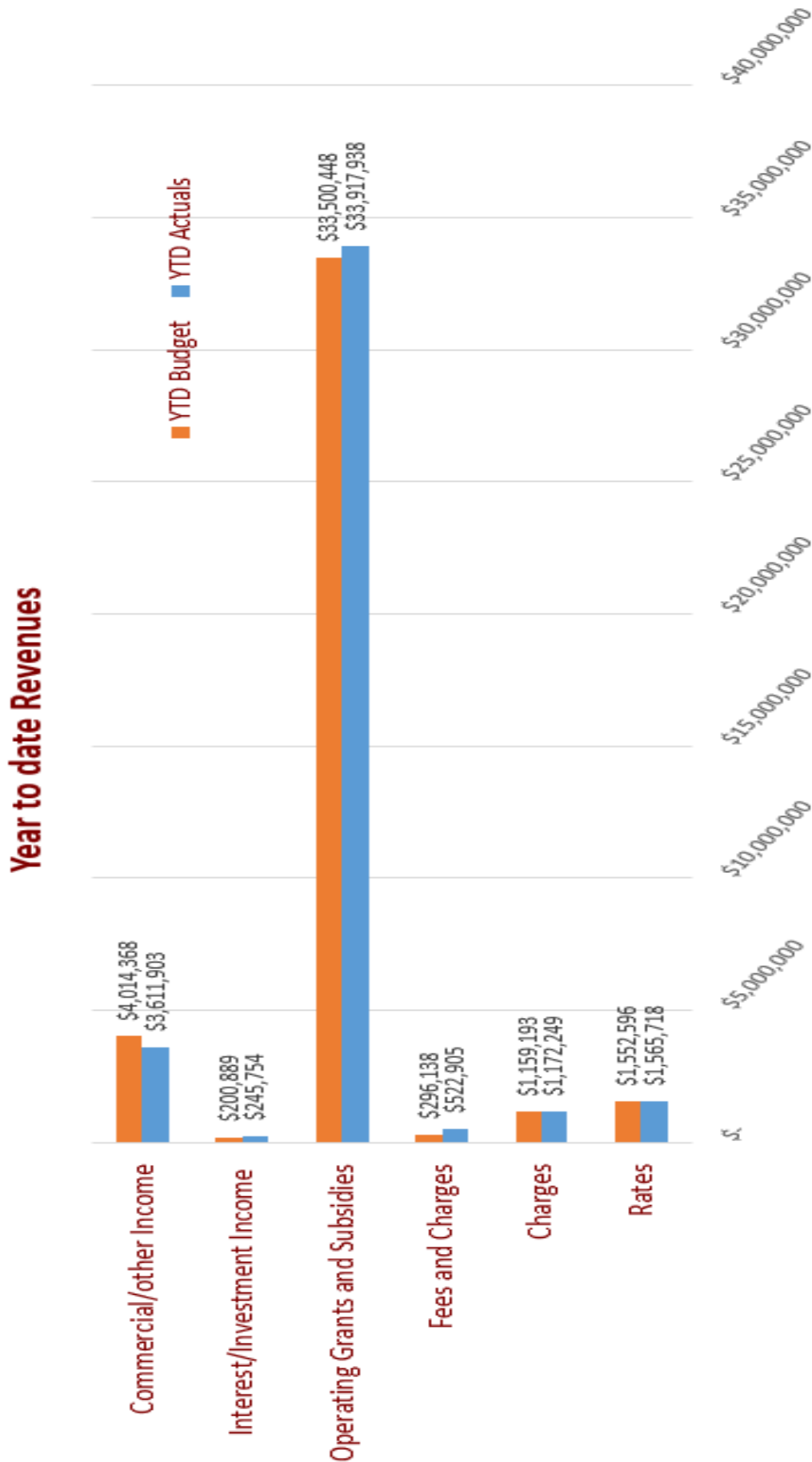
**\$90.14m**

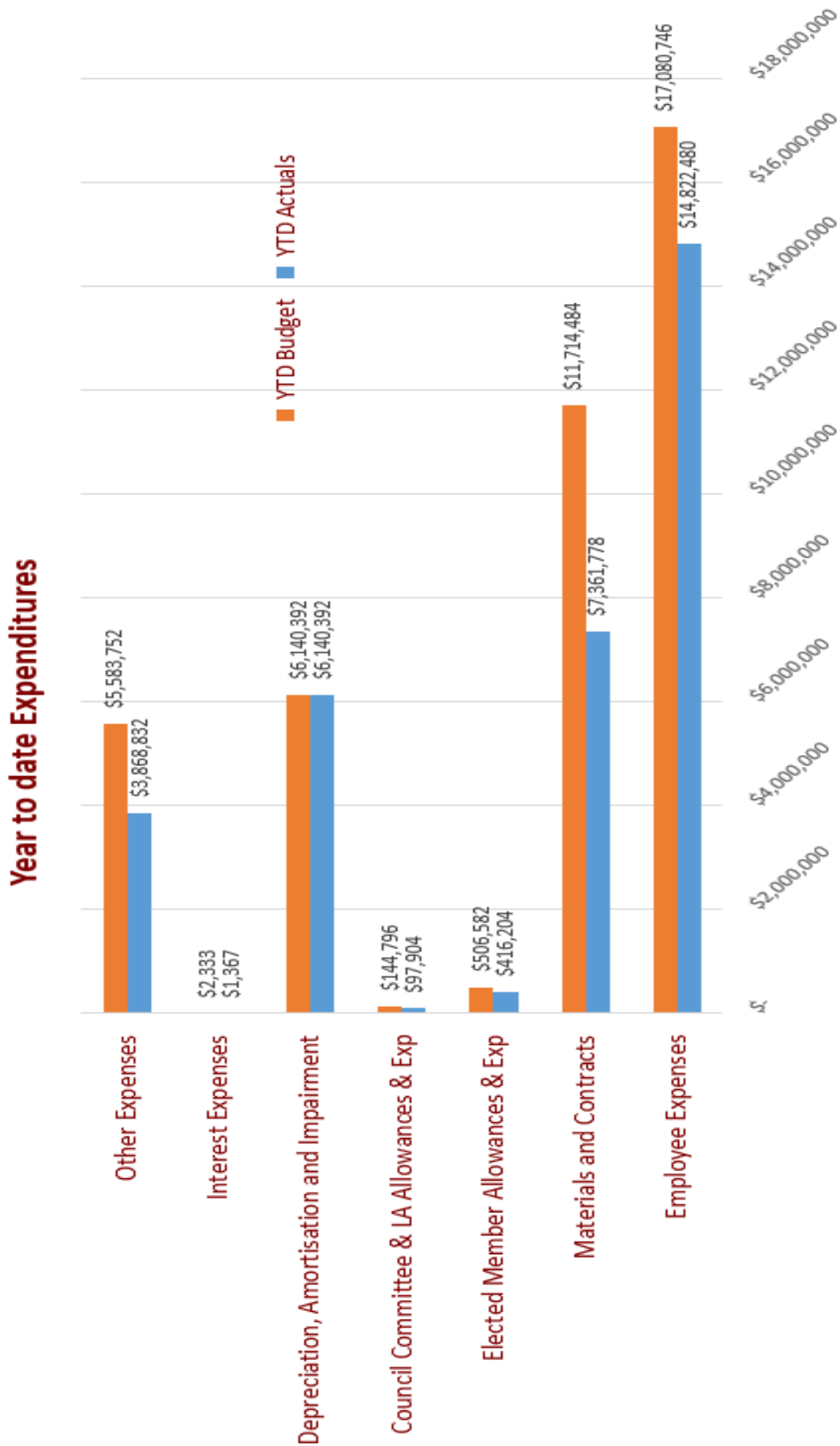


**Unrestricted Cash**

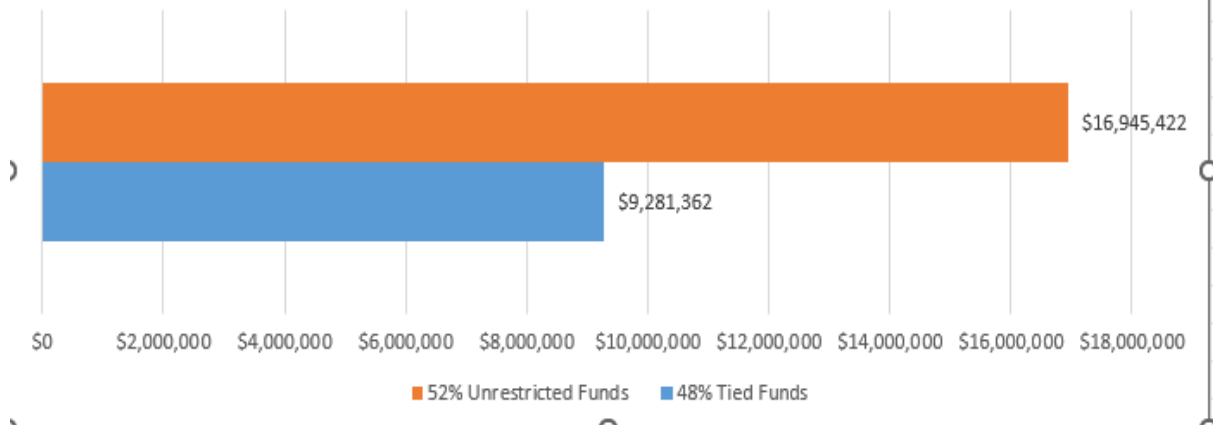
**\$16.94m**



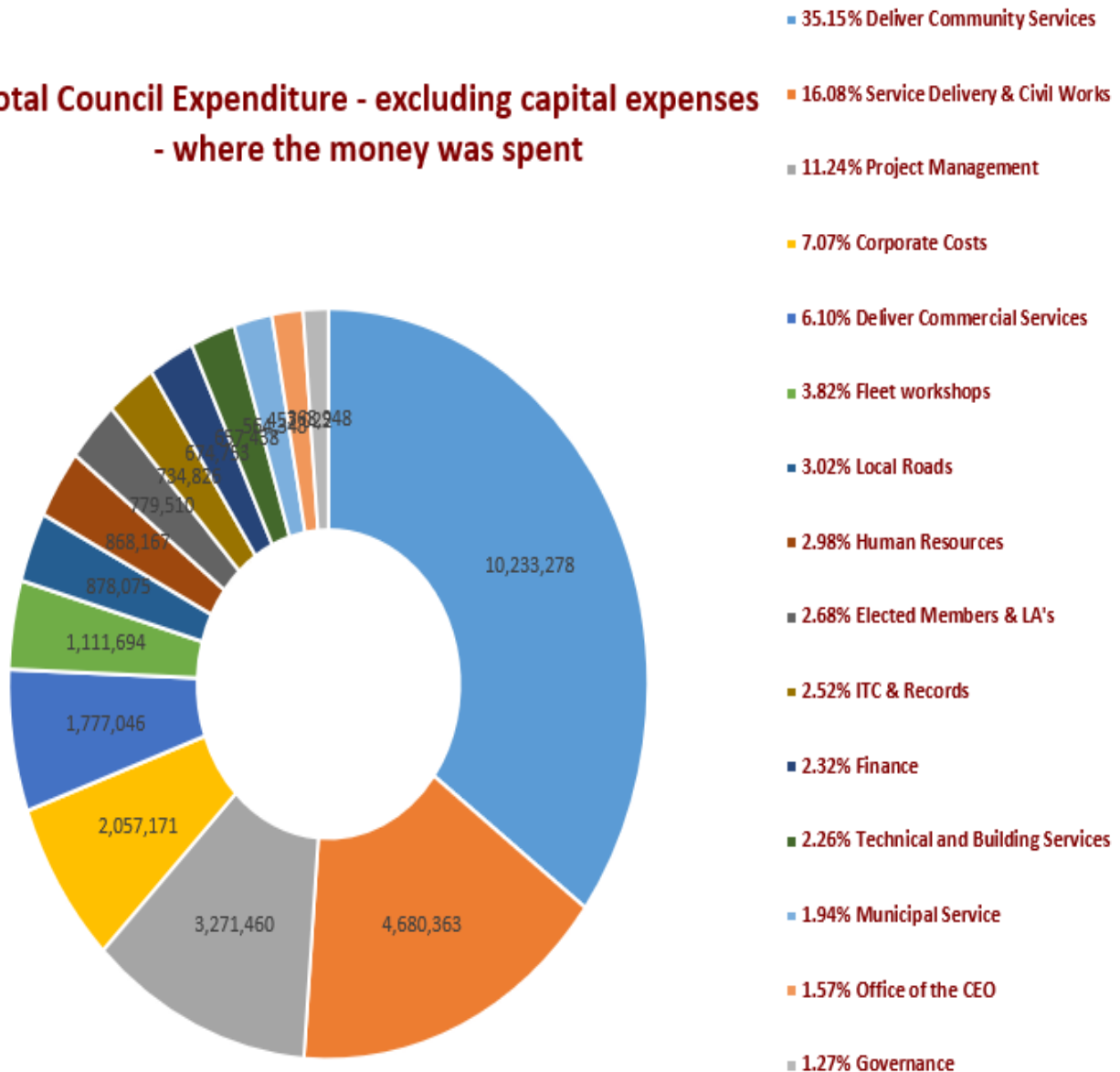




### Cash as of 28 February 2026



### Total Council Expenditure - excluding capital expenses - where the money was spent



**Working Capital / Current Ratio**

**MACDONNELL REGIONAL COUNCIL  
For the period ended 28 February 2026**

	28 February 2026
	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash at bank	7,226,785
Term deposit	19,000,000
Accounts Receivable	1,511,912
Inventory	0
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>27,738,697</u>
Less:	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts Payable	-16,695
Provisions	2,163,551
Grant liability	9,281,362
Other Current Liabilities	<u>274,972</u>
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>11,703,190</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS (Working Capital)</b>	<u><u>16,035,507</u></u>
<b>CURRENT RATIO</b>	<u><u>2.4</u></u>

$$\text{Current Ratio Formula} = \frac{\text{Current Assets}}{\text{Current Liabilities}}$$

The Cash Ratio measures Council's ability to pay its short term debts (Current Liabilities) when they fall due. The ratio for February of 2.4 means that Council has \$2.4 in cash (Current Assets) for every \$1 of debt, including unexpended grants.



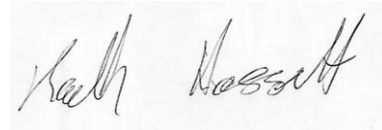
The attached financial tables and charts have been certified by the CEO of MRC.

**Certification by the Council CEO**

<b>Council Name:</b>	MacDonnell Regional Council
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	28/02/2026

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**

04/03/2026

**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 MONTHLY BALANCE SHEET
- 4 NOTE 1 DETAILS OF CASH AND INVESTMENTS HELD
- 5 NOTE 2 STATEMENT OF DEBTS OWED TO COUNCIL
- 6 NOTE 3 DEBTS OWED BY COUNCIL AND NOTE 4 ATO AND PAYROLL OBLIGATIONS
- 7 TABLE 4 INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT BY COMMUNITY
- 8 TABLE 5 MEMBER AND CEO CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS

MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 1. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget  
For the Period Ending 28.02.2026

	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Variance %	Approved Annual Budget \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>					
Rates	1,565,718	1,552,596	13,123	1%	1,656,223
Charges	1,172,249	1,159,193	13,056	1%	1,159,193
Fees and Charges	522,905	296,138	226,768	77%	437,263
Operating Grants and Subsidies	33,917,938	33,500,448	417,490	1%	44,074,788
Interest/Investment Income	245,754	200,889	44,865	22%	322,174
Commercial/other Income	3,611,903	4,014,368	(402,465)	-10%	5,804,044
Council own fund	0	0	0	0%	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>41,036,468</b>	<b>40,723,631</b>	<b>312,837</b>		<b>53,453,685</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>					
Employee Expenses	14,822,480	17,080,746	2,258,267	13%	26,017,484
Materials and Contracts	7,361,778	11,714,484	4,352,706	37%	16,516,470
Elected Member Allowances	242,218	262,336	20,118	8%	403,940
Elected Member Expenses	173,986	244,247	70,261	29%	364,674
Council Committee & LA Allowances	61,650	91,117	29,467	32%	134,650
Council Committee & LA Expenses	36,254	53,679	17,426	32%	79,170
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	6,140,392	6,140,392	0	0%	9,205,374
Interest Expenses	1,367	2,333	966	41%	3,500
Other Expenses	3,868,832	5,583,752	1,714,921	31%	9,168,435
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>32,708,956</b>	<b>41,173,087</b>	<b>8,464,130</b>		<b>61,893,696</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>8,327,511</b>	<b>(449,456)</b>	<b>8,776,967</b>		<b>(8,440,011)</b>
Capital Grants Income	0	103,098	(103,098)	-100%	103,098
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0%	0
Council own fund	0	600,793	(600,793)	-100%	600,793
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>8,327,511</b>	<b>254,435</b>	<b>8,073,077</b>		<b>(7,736,121)</b>
Capital Expenses	(680,594)	(1,043,258)	362,663	-35%	(1,469,253)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0%	
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0%	
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	6,140,392	6,140,392	0	0%	9,205,374
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>13,787,309</b>	<b>5,351,569</b>	<b>8,435,740</b>		<b>0</b>

**MacDonnell Regional Council**  
**Table 2. Capital Expenditure and Funding Budget**  
**For the Period Ending 28.02.2026**

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Variance %	Approved Annual Budget \$
Land and Buildings	253,912	440,528	186,616	42%	623,293
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	-	-	-	0%	-
Plant and Machinery	426,682	584,729	158,047	27%	827,960
Other Assets (including furniture and office equipment)	-	18,000	18,000	100%	18,000
Other Leased Assets	-	-	-	0%	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING</b>	<b>680,594</b>	<b>1,043,258</b>	<b>362,663</b>		<b>1,469,253</b>
<b>Total capital expenditure funded by:</b>					
Capital Grants Income	-	103,098	103,098	100%	103,098
Gain from the sale of assets	-	-	-	0%	-
Council own fund	-	600,793	600,793	100%	600,793
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>703,891</b>	<b>703,891</b>		<b>703,891</b>

**MacDonnell Regional Council**  
**Table 3. Monthly Balance Sheet Report**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 28.02.2026	YTD Actuals \$	Note Reference*
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash at Bank	26,226,784	(1)
Tied Funds		9,281,362
Untied Funds		16,945,422
Accounts Receivable		
Trade Debtors	270,063	(2)
Rates & Charges Debtors	1,165,531	
Other Current Assets	76,319	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>27,738,697</b>	
Non-Current Financial Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	76,625,844	
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>76,625,844</b>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>104,364,541</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	(16,695)	(3)
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	0	(4)
Current Provisions	2,163,551	
Accruals	0	
Other Current Liabilities	274,972	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,421,827</b>	
Non-Current Provisions	267,905	
Other Non-Current Liabilities	0	
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>267,905</b>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,689,732</b>	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>101,674,809</b>	
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	85,140,382	
Reserves	5,000,000	
Accumulated Surplus	11,534,427	
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>101,674,809</b>	

**Note 1. Details of Cash and Investments Held**

**Cash at Bank/Petty Cash**

Account name	Total
Operations Account	1,551,423
Trust Account	5,635,292
Centrelink	21,857
Northern Territory (NTG)	17,384
Amoonguna Store	0
Petty Cash	829
<b>Total Cash at Bank</b>	<b>7,226,785</b>

**Investment Report**

Bank	Principal \$	Interest Rate	Term Days	Maturity Date	Percentage
NAB	1,000,000	3.90%	61	23/03/2026	5%
NAB	3,000,000	4.15%	60	21/04/2026	16%
NAB	2,000,000	4.15%	61	20/04/2026	11%
NAB	2,000,000	4.15%	90	9/04/2026	11%
NAB	1,500,000.00	4.10%	91	16/03/2026	8%
NAB	2,000,000.00	4.10%	91	16/03/2026	11%
NAB	2,000,000.00	4.25%	91	4/05/2026	11%
NAB	1,500,000.00	4.05%	64	7/04/2026	8%
Westpac	2,000,000.00	4.59%	89	18/05/2026	11%
Westpac	2,000,000.00	4.79%	181	18/08/2026	11%
	19,000,000.00				

**Note 2. Statement on Debts Owed to Council (Accounts Receivable)**

<b>Debtors</b>	<b>Unapplied</b>	<b>1 – 30 Days</b>	<b>31 – 60 Days</b>	<b>&gt;60 Days</b>	<b>&gt;90 Days</b>
Australian Electoral Commission SUSPENDED	-	-	-	-	781.00
Australian Government - Centrelink	-	572.00	-	-	-
Australian Regional and Remote Community Services	-	-	150.00	-	-
Corporate Travel Management	-600.00	900.00	-	-	-
Department of Education & Training	-	150.00	-	-	-
Dept Children & Families	-	2,200.00	-	-	-
Dept Housing, Local Government & Community Development	-	1,172.00	900.00	1,686.79	-
Dept. Of Health CA Remote Health	-	7,020.00	-	-	-
Emperor Refrigeration Pty Ltd	-	300.00	-	-	-
Hardy Fencing Australia Pty Ltd	-	-	-	-	2,250.00
Jetstream Electrical Pty Ltd	-	150.00	-	-	-
Lutheran Community Care	-	1,758.00	-	-	-
Menzies School Of Health Research	-	150.00	-	-	-
Murray River North Pty Ltd	-	-	-	7,650.00	-
National Indigenous Australians Agency (Australian Government)	-	2,466.52	-	-	-
NPY Women's Council(Aboriginal Corporation) Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjara Yankunytjatjara	-	1,716.00	-	-	-
NTG - Dept of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics	-	26,560.03	54,804.96	-	-
Office of Marion Scrymgour MP	-	-	-	-	286.00
Power and Water - Darwin	-	136,368.17	-	-	2,353.91
Reimal Pty Ltd	-	300.00	-	-	-
Seventh Day Adventist Church - N.A.C.	-	300.00	1,800.00	-	-
Spears Construction (NT) P/L T/As Blueprint Constructions	-	1,200.00	-	-	-
Steves Electrix Pty Ltd	-	-	300.00	-	-
The YMCA Of The Northern Territory Youth & Community Services Ltd	-	11,470.38	-	-	-
Tjuwanpa Outstation Resource Centre Inc	-	143.00	-	-	-
TRI SPARC PTY LTD	-	-	300.00	404.00	1,050.00
Sundry Debtors 2025-2026	-	1,050.00	-	-	-
	-600.00	195,946.10	58,254.96	9,740.79	6,720.91

**Note 3. Statement on Debts Owed by Council (Trade creditors)**

Creditors	1 - 30 Days	31 - 60 Days	> 60 Days
Power and Water Authority	-21,931.40	-	-
Santa Teresa Community Store	26.68	-	-
Norman Kenny 3343	-121.72	-	-
Damien Cooper 2561	562.82	-	-
<b>Total Trade Creditors</b>	<b>-21,463.62</b>	-	-

**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)	3,434.00	-	-
Super Fund Clearing House	1,334.24	-	-
<b>Total ATO and Payroll obligations</b>	<b>4,768.24</b>	-	-

MacDonnell Regional Council  
 Table 4. Income and Expense Statement Actual v Budget  
 For the Period Ending 28.02.2026

	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 \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	1,565,718	1,552,596	13,123	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	1,172,249	1,159,193	13,056	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	27,575	7,610	19,965	2,600	2,000	600	35,984	12,667	23,317
Operating Grants and Subsidies	26,288,206	21,577,140	4,711,065	205,758	205,573	185	730,913	299,350	431,563
Interest/Investment Income	245,754	200,889	44,865	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	829,278	1,218,519	(389,241)	108,491	91,461	17,031	232,374	245,661	(13,287)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>30,128,780</b>	<b>25,715,947</b>	<b>4,412,833</b>	<b>316,849</b>	<b>299,034</b>	<b>17,815</b>	<b>999,272</b>	<b>557,678</b>	<b>441,594</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	5,584,181	5,423,619	(9,068,808)	793,165	794,200	1,035	668,249	916,008	247,759
Materials and Contracts	1,360,103	2,333,624	(5,808,275)	201,158	297,038	95,880	250,365	517,320	266,955
Elected Member Allowances	242,218	262,336	20,118	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	173,986	244,247	70,261	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	35,000	44,550	9,550	2,100	3,600	1,500	2,200	3,067	867
Council Committee & LA Expenses	(273)	2,396	2,669	4,444	3,567	(877)	4,656	5,201	545
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	6,140,392	6,140,392	(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	1,367	2,333	966	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	2,726,611	3,896,936	1,170,325	57,822	99,183	41,361	128,752	154,452	25,701
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>16,263,585</b>	<b>18,350,433</b>	<b>(13,603,195)</b>	<b>1,058,690</b>	<b>1,197,589</b>	<b>138,899</b>	<b>1,054,222</b>	<b>1,596,048</b>	<b>541,826</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>13,865,195</b>	<b>7,365,514</b>	<b>(9,190,362)</b>	<b>(741,841)</b>	<b>(898,555)</b>	<b>156,714</b>	<b>(54,950)</b>	<b>(1,038,370)</b>	<b>983,420</b>
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	309,623	(309,623)	0	95,000	(95,000)	0	58,206	(58,206)
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>13,865,195</b>	<b>7,675,137</b>	<b>(9,499,985)</b>	<b>(741,841)</b>	<b>(803,555)</b>	<b>61,714</b>	<b>(54,950)</b>	<b>(980,165)</b>	<b>925,214</b>
Capital Expenses	(436,682)	(849,144)	412,462	0	(63,333)	63,333	(67,501)	(38,804)	(28,697)
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	6,140,392	6,140,392	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>19,568,905</b>	<b>12,966,384</b>	<b>(9,087,522)</b>	<b>(741,841)</b>	<b>(866,888)</b>	<b>125,047</b>	<b>(122,452)</b>	<b>(1,018,969)</b>	<b>896,517</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 4. Income and Expense Statement Actual v Budget  
For the Period Ending 28.02.2026

	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 \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	119,143	38,577	80,567	35,899	20,133	15,766	10,198	12,287	(2,089)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	771,216	770,493	723	303,872	1,178,872	(875,000)	530,971	530,971	0
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	219,000	228,762	(9,762)	228,582	207,123	21,459	202,012	159,991	42,021
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>1,109,359</b>	<b>1,037,832</b>	<b>71,527</b>	<b>568,353</b>	<b>1,406,128</b>	<b>(837,775)</b>	<b>743,181</b>	<b>703,249</b>	<b>39,932</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	585,241	758,830	173,589	761,233	852,934	91,700	647,270	879,919	232,648
Materials and Contracts	193,166	526,302	333,136	181,182	200,000	933,264	276,708	448,834	172,126
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	2,700	3,200	500	1,950	3,600	1,650	500	3,600	3,100
Council Committee & LA Expenses	1,851	3,467	1,615	646	1,000	354	220	3,689	3,469
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	80,267	106,005	25,738	63,400	93,126	29,726	61,741	113,174	51,433
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>863,226</b>	<b>1,397,804</b>	<b>534,578</b>	<b>1,008,411</b>	<b>1,150,660</b>	<b>1,056,694</b>	<b>986,440</b>	<b>1,449,216</b>	<b>462,777</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>246,133</b>	<b>(359,972)</b>	<b>606,105</b>	<b>(440,059)</b>	<b>255,468</b>	<b>218,919</b>	<b>(243,259)</b>	<b>(745,968)</b>	<b>502,709</b>
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
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>246,133</b>	<b>(359,972)</b>	<b>606,105</b>	<b>(440,059)</b>	<b>255,468</b>	<b>218,919</b>	<b>(243,259)</b>	<b>(745,968)</b>	<b>502,709</b>
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
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>246,133</b>	<b>(359,972)</b>	<b>606,105</b>	<b>(440,059)</b>	<b>255,468</b>	<b>218,919</b>	<b>(243,259)</b>	<b>(745,968)</b>	<b>502,709</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 4. Income and Expense Statement Actual v Budget  
For the Period Ending 28.02.2026

	Hermannsburg			Imanpa			Kintore		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	19,394	13,000	6,394	48,133	4,967	43,166	84,010	39,967	44,043
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,520,865	1,620,865	(100,000)	24,401	24,401	0	1,030,166	1,064,412	(34,245)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	234,348	253,332	(18,983)	167,477	224,570	(57,092)	413,552	282,328	131,224
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>1,774,607</b>	<b>1,887,196</b>	<b>(112,589)</b>	<b>240,011</b>	<b>253,938</b>	<b>(13,926)</b>	<b>1,527,728</b>	<b>1,386,706</b>	<b>141,022</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	1,182,390	1,424,002	241,611	317,663	528,509	210,847	632,951	767,897	134,946
Materials and Contracts	978,014	1,146,039	168,025	132,862	166,955	34,094	1,140,077	1,053,383	(86,694)
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	2,750	3,600	850	2,400	3,600	1,200	2,500	3,600	1,100
Council Committee & LA Expenses	2,690	3,567	876	3,319	3,567	248	1,980	3,567	1,587
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	140,681	209,757	69,076	44,914	68,064	23,151	59,784	127,787	68,003
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,306,526</b>	<b>2,786,965</b>	<b>480,439</b>	<b>501,157</b>	<b>770,696</b>	<b>269,539</b>	<b>1,837,291</b>	<b>1,956,233</b>	<b>118,942</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(531,919)</b>	<b>(899,768)</b>	<b>367,850</b>	<b>(261,146)</b>	<b>(516,758)</b>	<b>255,612</b>	<b>(309,562)</b>	<b>(569,526)</b>	<b>259,964</b>
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	77,210	(77,210)
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(531,919)</b>	<b>(899,768)</b>	<b>367,850</b>	<b>(261,146)</b>	<b>(516,758)</b>	<b>255,612</b>	<b>(309,562)</b>	<b>(492,316)</b>	<b>182,754</b>
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	(48,710)	(51,473)	2,764
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
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(531,919)</b>	<b>(899,768)</b>	<b>367,850</b>	<b>(261,146)</b>	<b>(516,758)</b>	<b>255,612</b>	<b>(358,272)</b>	<b>(543,790)</b>	<b>185,518</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 4. Income and Expense Statement Actual v Budget  
For the Period Ending 28.02.2026

	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 \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	31,751	29,607	2,144	74,925	88,250	(13,325)	14,744	14,744	0
Operating Grants and Subsidies	582,152	957,152	(375,000)	581,575	2,154,743	(1,573,168)	386,111	2,154,743	(1,768,632)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	195,010	206,039	(11,028)	261,503	271,735	(10,232)	216,107	271,735	(55,628)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>808,914</b>	<b>1,192,798</b>	<b>(383,884)</b>	<b>918,003</b>	<b>2,514,728</b>	<b>(1,596,725)</b>	<b>616,962</b>	<b>2,441,222</b>	<b>(1,824,260)</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	627,614	784,976	157,362	1,010,438	1,230,483	220,045	922,717	1,230,483	307,766
Materials and Contracts	663,670	491,982	(171,688)	560,508	2,979,723	2,419,215	194,834	500,000	2,784,889
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	1,800	4,300	2,500	2,150	3,600	1,450	2,400	3,600	1,200
Council Committee & LA Expenses	1,888	5,387	3,499	2,756	3,589	833	2,542	3,589	1,047
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	80,534	100,092	19,558	194,962	215,929	20,967	124,283	215,929	91,646
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,375,507</b>	<b>1,386,738</b>	<b>11,231</b>	<b>1,770,814</b>	<b>4,433,325</b>	<b>2,662,510</b>	<b>1,246,776</b>	<b>1,953,601</b>	<b>3,186,549</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(566,593)</b>	<b>(193,940)</b>	<b>(372,652)</b>	<b>(852,811)</b>	<b>(1,918,596)</b>	<b>1,065,785</b>	<b>(629,813)</b>	<b>487,621</b>	<b>1,362,289</b>
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	15,377	(15,377)	0	15,377	(15,377)
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(566,593)</b>	<b>(193,940)</b>	<b>(372,652)</b>	<b>(852,811)</b>	<b>(1,903,219)</b>	<b>1,050,408</b>	<b>(629,813)</b>	<b>502,998</b>	<b>1,346,912</b>
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	(15,377)	(10,251)	(5,125)	(50,802)	(10,251)	(40,550)
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
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(566,593)</b>	<b>(193,940)</b>	<b>(372,652)</b>	<b>(868,188)</b>	<b>(1,913,471)</b>	<b>1,045,283</b>	<b>(680,615)</b>	<b>492,746</b>	<b>1,306,362</b>

MacDonnell Regional Council  
Table 4. Income and Expense Statement Actual v Budget  
For the Period Ending 28.02.2026

	Titjikala			Wallace Rock			TOTALS		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>									
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,565,718	1,552,596	13,123
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,172,249	1,159,193	13,056
Fees and Charges	10,434	10,347	87	8,115	1,983	6,131	522,905	296,138	226,768
Operating Grants and Subsidies	906,399	906,399	0	55,334	55,334	0	33,917,938	33,500,448	417,490
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	245,754	200,889	44,865
Commercial/other Income	200,983	252,162	(51,179)	103,184	100,950	2,234	3,611,903	4,014,368	(402,465)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>1,117,816</b>	<b>1,168,908</b>	<b>(51,092)</b>	<b>166,632</b>	<b>158,267</b>	<b>8,365</b>	<b>41,036,468</b>	<b>40,723,631</b>	<b>312,837</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>									
Employee Expenses	811,091	1,096,740	285,650	278,276	392,146	113,870	14,822,480	17,080,746	2,258,267
Materials and Contracts	1,175,145	988,582	(186,563)	53,986	64,700	10,714	7,361,779	11,714,484	4,352,705
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0	242,218	262,336	20,118
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	173,986	244,247	70,261
Council Committee & LA Allowances	900	3,600	2,700	2,300	3,600	1,300	61,650	91,117	29,467
Council Committee & LA Expenses	6,176	7,527	1,352	3,359	3,567	208	36,254	53,680	17,426
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,140,392	6,140,392	(0)
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,367	2,333	966
Other Expenses	100,602	155,693	55,091	4,478	27,624	23,146	3,868,831	5,583,752	1,714,922
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,093,914</b>	<b>2,252,143</b>	<b>158,229</b>	<b>342,399</b>	<b>491,636</b>	<b>149,237</b>	<b>32,708,956</b>	<b>41,173,087</b>	<b>8,464,130</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(976,098)</b>	<b>(1,083,235)</b>	<b>107,137</b>	<b>(175,767)</b>	<b>(333,369)</b>	<b>157,602</b>	<b>8,327,511</b>	<b>(449,456)</b>	<b>8,776,968</b>
Capital Grants Income	0	103,098	(103,098)	0	0	0	0	103,098	(103,098)
Gain from the sale of assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	30,000	(30,000)	0	0	0	0	600,793	(600,793)
<b>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(976,098)</b>	<b>(950,137)</b>	<b>(25,961)</b>	<b>(175,767)</b>	<b>(333,369)</b>	<b>157,602</b>	<b>8,327,511</b>	<b>254,435</b>	<b>8,073,077</b>
Capital Expenses	(61,523)	(20,000)	(41,523)	0	0	0	(680,594)	(1,043,258)	362,663
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	6,140,392	6,140,392	0
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(1,037,621)</b>	<b>(970,137)</b>	<b>(67,483)</b>	<b>(175,767)</b>	<b>(333,369)</b>	<b>157,602</b>	<b>13,787,309</b>	<b>5,351,569</b>	<b>8,435,740</b>

Table 5. Member & CEO council credit card transactions for February 2026

1. Roxanne Kenny - President

Date	Amount	Suppliers Name	Reason for the transactions
28/02/2026	6.00	Westpac Bank	Card fee

2. Belinda Urquhart - CEO

Date	Amount	Suppliers Name	Reason for the transactions
28/01/2026	43.68	ANTONIO DA SILVA, KARAMA, AU	Darwin meetings with LGANT, NTG and Saltbush
29/01/2026	14.26	UBER	Darwin meetings with LGANT, NTG and Saltbush
29/01/2026	13.54	UBER	Darwin meetings with LGANT, NTG and Saltbush
30/01/2026	32.73	UBER	Darwin meetings with LGANT, NTG and Saltbush
14/02/2026	14.66	ABACUS.AI	Subscription
17/02/2026	201.95	Canva	Subscription
23/02/2026	152.67	PROLOCK PTY LTD	Locksmith services for office
20/02/2026	111.25	Hanuman Restaurant	Meeting with CEO and Mayor VDRC
28/02/2026	6.00	Westpac CARD FEE	Bank Fee

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.8  
**TITLE** Finance and Risk Committee Minutes  
**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**

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.

As MRC 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.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes and accepts the minutes of the Finance and Risk Committee meeting held 23 January 2026.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

Council is required to have a Finance and Risk Committee under the *Local Government Act 2019*, its function being to review the finance reports and performance in months where there is no Council meeting, monitor financial and others risks of Council and reporting to Council.

There were no recommendations made for Council's action which arose from this meeting.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

Nil.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

Members of the Finance and Risk Committee

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Finance and Risk Committee Draft Minutes - 23.1.2026



MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE OFFICE  
OF THE CEO, MRC ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 2026 AT 9:30 AM

**1 MEETING OPENED at 9.32am**

**2 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**Councillors**

President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Patrick Allen and Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka

**Staff**

Belinda Urquhart, CEO 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 Finance and Risk Committee.

**FRC2026-01 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

**That the Finance and Risk Committee Meeting accepts the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held 28 November 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.**



Finance and Risk Committee Meeting 23 January 2026 – Minutes

**4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Conflict of Interest</b>

**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.

**FRC2026-02 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Andrew Davis)**

**That the Committee:**

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
- b) notes that there were no declarations of conflicts of interest with the meeting agenda.

**5 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Finance Report as at 31 December 2025</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Osman Kassem, Finance Manager</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**FRC2026-03 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Patrick Allen)**

**That Finance and Risk Committee notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 31 December 2025.**

**7 GENERAL BUSINESS**

NIL

**9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting - 27 March 2026 - 9:30 AM

**10 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 9.44am.

This page and the preceding page are the unconfirmed minutes of the Finance and Risk Committee Meeting held on Friday 23 January 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	15.9
<b>TITLE</b>	Presentation of Grant Acquittals
<b>AUTHOR</b>	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**

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

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes and approves the following grant acquittals:**

- **Titjikala Sports Oval Lighting – MRC Central Australia Plan – CIP Completion Report;**
- **Kintore Sports Oval Lighting – MRC Central Australia Plan – CIP Completion Report;**
- **Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant Funding 2024-25; and**
- **Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant Funding 2023-24.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

Council is asked to confirm grant acquittals to provide assurance to the funding body that Council is aware of the funds and that the money has been spent for the purpose that the grant was provided.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

Council is responsible for ensuring funds within the control of Council are kept safe and used for the purpose for which they were provided.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Accepting these financial acquittals will not lead to any financial implications. If they are not accepted then potentially Council will have to repay funds otherwise spent.

### **CONSULTATION**

Chief Executive Officer  
Manager Finance

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Acquittals Laid Before Council

# MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

Project Tranche: Tranche 1: Sports Oval Lighting  
 Community: Titjikala  
 Project Name: Titjikala Sports Oval Lighting  
 Project Reference Number / Grant Agreement Number: 2024/801

## Project Overview

Original Project Objectives: Briefly describe the objectives the project aimed to achieve, as per the funding agreement:  
 Lighting of the sports oval will contribute greatly to community amenity and health outcomes for residents, in particular young people. It also enables extended usage hours, promoting physical activity and exercise.

Description of Works / Relevant Milestones: Supply, construct and install lighting and required lighting infrastructure at Kintore Oval.  
 Sacred site clearance, Lease variation, Site servicing plan, Tender Works, Installation, Commissioning, Reports and Acquittals.

## Project Progress and Outcomes

% Completion: 100%

Completion Date / Date of Relevant Milestone: 30.01.2026

Interim Project Report previously submitted?  Yes  No

Status Update: This is MRC's completion report.

Schedule Update:

Risks, Issues and Mitigations: (Only required for Interim Project Report - delete if not required)

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

Final Risk Review and Lessons Learned:	<p>Provide a summary of any risks encountered during the project, how they were managed, and lessons learned.</p> <p>This project experienced several risks associated with working in a remote community environment. Material deliveries and specialist contractor availability were impacted by travel restrictions and long lead times, resulting in schedule delays. Staged procurement created gaps between work phases, and late design clarifications required variations and additional site coordination. Seasonal weather further influenced access and progress on site.</p> <p>These risks were managed through frequent communication with suppliers, flexible scheduling, and prompt approval of necessary variations to maintain project momentum. Technical support was engaged as required to resolve emerging issues efficiently.</p> <p>Key lessons learned include the benefit of tendering the full scope of works as one package to streamline delivery and reduce variations. Planning for power supply requirements, finalising design documentation early, and allowing extended lead times will also support smoother delivery of future remote lighting projects.</p> <p>Despite challenges, the project was successfully completed, delivering improved community sporting infrastructure.</p>
Post-Completion Risks:	<p>If new risks arise after the project is finished (e.g., maintenance issues, safety concerns), please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What the risk is Following the completion of the project, an ongoing risk relates to potential equipment failure of the installed lighting infrastructure. This may include faults with electrical components, fittings, or control systems over time.</li> <li>• Who is responsible for fixing it: MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) is responsible for maintaining the lighting assets and coordinating any required repairs or replacements.</li> <li>• What steps are being taken to manage or fix the problem? To mitigate this risk, Council allocates an annual budget for maintenance and asset upkeep. Regular inspections and timely response to reported issues will ensure the lighting remains safe, operational, and compliant with relevant standards.</li> </ul>

Environmental, Cultural and Social Compliance

Report on how the project met its goals by comparing planned targets with actual results. This shows the project’s impact, ensures responsible use of funding, and helps improve future projects. Include clear, measurable outcomes like assets completed or service improvements.

The installation of sports lighting at the community oval has been successfully completed, fully meeting the project’s primary objective of enabling evening sports activities and community events. The planned target of delivering new, compliant sports lighting infrastructure was achieved.

The project has delivered clear and measurable outcomes, including:

- 4 x new sports lighting towers installed with compliant light levels for evening use
- Increased access to recreation facilities, extending use beyond daylight hours

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

- Enhanced community safety with improved visibility around the oval
- Support for local programs such as sport, community gatherings, and events

By delivering these outcomes, the project has improved community amenity and supported long-term engagement in healthy, active lifestyles. The successful completion demonstrates strong accountability in the use of funding and provides confidence for future investment in similar infrastructure.

As a result, the oval is now accessible for longer hours, supporting increased participation in local sporting activities and providing a safer, well-lit space for community gatherings. This outcome demonstrates effective use of project funding and contributes to improved community wellbeing and engagement.

Funding and Expenditure (ex GST)

	Total Committed Contribution <sup>1</sup>	Amount Acquitted / Provided To Date
Australian Government (Via Northern Territory Government) <sup>2</sup>	\$	\$
Northern Territory Government	\$ 1,251,050.00	\$ 1,251,050.00
Regional Council	\$40,038.98	\$ 40,038.98
Other / Third Party	\$	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,291,088.98</b>	<b>\$ 1,291,088.98</b>

Expenditure Breakdown

Category	Amount (ex GST)
Construction	\$ 1,040,878.98
Project management	\$ 250,210.00
Administration	\$0.00
Local Indigenous Employment	\$0.00

Total Expenditure to Date (Provide supporting evidence): \$1,291,088.98

Forecast Total Expenditure (if Interim Project Report): \$0.00

Variance (ex GST)

	Surplus/(Deficit)
Approved Funding less Total Expenditure to Date	-\$40,038.98
Approved Funding less Forecast Total Expenditure (if Interim Project Report)	\$0.00

<sup>1</sup> Per relevant project plan.

<sup>2</sup> Commonwealth payments made to the Northern Territory, as per Schedule to the Federation Funding Agreement – Infrastructure.

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

If the final (or forecast) expenditure is over or under the approved funding (as per the relevant Project Plan), please provide an explanation for the variance.

The project exceeded the approved budget due to variations associated with the inclusion of specialised cages. These variations resulted in increased fabrication costs, as well as additional delivery expenses, which together contributed to the overall cost overrun.

Comments:

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Photographs / media of completed works – *labelled with date and location*  Attached  Not Attached
- Evidence of expenditure – *E.g. signed financial certification, paid invoices, payment confirmation (bank statement or General Ledger report)*  Attached  Not Attached
- Council minutes – *as verified by the relevant Council officials*  Attached  Not Attached
- Approvals / Contracts – *with date provided if not otherwise*  Attached  Not Attached
- Final designs – *where available*  Attached  Not Attached
- Other – *as required*  Attached  Not Attached
- Community engagement evidence (e.g., letters of support, minutes)  Attached  Not Attached
- Environmental and cultural compliance documentation  Attached  Not Attached
- Post-completion asset condition reports or commissioning certificates  Attached  Not Attached
- Other – *as required*  Attached  Not Attached

Project Completion Confirmation

Is the project completed as approved within the Project Plan?  Yes  No

We certify, in accordance with any relevant conditions under which this funding was accepted, that the expenditure shown in this report has been actually incurred and is in accordance with the stated purpose of funding (as per the relevant Project Plan).

Jobs Supported / Created by the Project

1. Total number of FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) jobs supported during the project period (construction):
  - a. Number of local Indigenous people employed: 2
  - b. Specify if roles were: Apprentice and qualified linesman.
    - Full-time
    - Part-time
    - CDP placements

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

- 2. Total number of FTE jobs created long term (ongoing):
  - a. Number of these roles that are Indigenous identified:
  - b. Specify if roles are:

- Full-time
- Part-time
- CDP placements

If no Indigenous people were employed, please provide a brief explanation (e.g., no available workforce, short project timeframe, or specialised skills required).

Comments:

(Add any relevant details on training, upskilling, or pathways into long-term employment.)

Handover Details

Option 1: Project handed over to a remote Indigenous community.

Name of receiving organisation or community group:

Date of handover:

Local contact person (name and role):

Was the community involved in the handover process?  Yes  No

Comment:

Supporting documentation provided:

- Maintenance plan
- Training/induction completed
- Operational manuals
- Warranty/certification documents
- Signed handover agreement

Ongoing support arrangements (if any):

e.g., follow-up training, technical assistance, or transitional support

Comment:



MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

COMMONWEALTH ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL:  Yes  No

Name and position of authorised person: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of authorised person: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Comments:

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# MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

Project Tranche: Tranche 1: Sports Oval Lighting  
 Community: Kintore  
 Project Name: Kintore Sports Oval Lighting  
 Project Reference Number / Grant Agreement Number: 2024/801

## Project Overview

Original Project Objectives: Briefly describe the objectives the project aimed to achieve, as per the funding agreement:  
 Lighting of the sports oval will contribute greatly to community amenity and health outcomes for residents, in particular young people. It also enables extended usage hours, promoting physical activity and exercise.

Description of Works / Relevant Milestones: Supply, construct and install lighting and required lighting infrastructure at Kintore Oval.  
 Sacred site clearance, Lease variation, Site servicing plan, Tender Works, Installation, Commissioning, Reports and Acquittals.

## Project Progress and Outcomes

% Completion: 100%

Completion Date / Date of Relevant Milestone: 30.01.2026.

Interim Project Report previously submitted?  Yes  No

Status Update: This is MRC's completion report.

Schedule Update:

Risks, Issues and Mitigations: (Only required for Interim Project Report - delete if not required)

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

Final Risk Review and Lessons Learned:

Provide a summary of any risks encountered during the project, how they were managed, and lessons learned.

This project experienced several risks associated with working in a remote community environment. Material deliveries and specialist contractor availability were impacted by travel restrictions and long lead times, resulting in schedule delays. Staged procurement created gaps between work phases, and late design clarifications required variations and additional site coordination. Seasonal weather further influenced access and progress on site.

These risks were managed through frequent communication with suppliers, flexible scheduling, and prompt approval of necessary variations to maintain project momentum. Technical support was engaged as required to resolve emerging issues efficiently.

Key lessons learned include the benefit of tendering the full scope of works as one package to streamline delivery and reduce variations. Planning for power supply requirements, finalising design documentation early, and allowing extended lead times will also support smoother delivery of future remote lighting projects.

Despite challenges, the project was successfully completed, delivering improved community sporting infrastructure.

Post-Completion Risks:

If new risks arise after the project is finished (e.g., maintenance issues, safety concerns), please explain:

- What the risk is

Following the completion of the project, an ongoing risk relates to potential equipment failure of the installed lighting infrastructure. This may include faults with electrical components, fittings, or control systems over time.

- Who is responsible for fixing it:

MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) is responsible for maintaining the lighting assets and coordinating any required repairs or replacements.

- What steps are being taken to manage or fix the problem?

To mitigate this risk, Council allocates an annual budget for maintenance and asset upkeep. Regular inspections and timely response to reported issues will ensure the lighting remains safe, operational, and compliant with relevant standards.

Environmental, Cultural and Social Compliance

Report on how the project met its goals by comparing planned targets with actual results. This shows the project's impact, ensures responsible use of funding, and helps improve future projects. Include clear, measurable outcomes like assets completed or service improvements.

The installation of sports lighting at the community oval has been successfully completed, fully meeting the project's primary objective of enabling evening sports activities and community events. The planned target of delivering new, sports lighting infrastructure was achieved.

The project has delivered clear and measurable outcomes, including:

- 4 x new sports lighting towers installed with compliant light levels for evening use
- Increased access to recreation facilities, extending use beyond daylight hours

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

- Enhanced community safety with improved visibility around the oval
- Support for local programs such as sport, community gatherings, and events

By delivering these outcomes, the project has improved community amenity and supported long-term engagement in healthy, active lifestyles. The successful completion demonstrates strong accountability in the use of funding and provides confidence for future investment in similar infrastructure.

As a result, the oval is now accessible for longer hours, supporting increased participation in local sporting activities and providing a safer, well-lit space for community gatherings. This outcome demonstrates effective use of project funding and contributes to improved community wellbeing and engagement.

Funding and Expenditure (ex GST)

	Total Committed Contribution <sup>1</sup>	Amount Acquitted / Provided To Date
Australian Government (Via Northern Territory Government) <sup>2</sup>	\$	\$
Northern Territory Government	\$1,314,050.00	\$1,314,050.00
Regional Council	\$22,914.30	\$22,914.30
Other / Third Party		\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,336,964.30</b>	<b>\$1,336,964.30</b>

Expenditure Breakdown

Category	Amount (ex GST)
Construction	\$1,074,154.30
Project management	\$262,810.00
Administration	\$0.00
Local Indigenous Employment	\$0.00

Total Expenditure to Date (Provide supporting evidence): \$1,336,964.30

Forecast Total Expenditure (if Interim Project Report): \$0.00

Variance (ex GST)

	Surplus/(Deficit)
Approved Funding less Total Expenditure to Date	-\$22,914.30
Approved Funding less Forecast Total Expenditure (if Interim Project Report)	\$0.00

<sup>1</sup> Per relevant project plan.

<sup>2</sup> Commonwealth payments made to the Northern Territory, as per Schedule to the Federation Funding Agreement – Infrastructure.

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

If the final (or forecast) expenditure is over or under the approved funding (as per the relevant Project Plan), please provide an explanation for the variance.

The project exceeded the approved budget due to variations associated with the inclusion of specialised cages. These variations resulted in increased fabrication costs, as well as additional delivery expenses, which together contributed to the overall cost overrun.

Comments:

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Photographs / media of completed works – *labelled with date and location*  Attached  Not Attached
- Evidence of expenditure – *E.g. signed financial certification, paid invoices, payment confirmation (bank statement or General Ledger report)*  Attached  Not Attached
- Council minutes – *as verified by the relevant Council officials*  Attached  Not Attached
- Approvals / Contracts – *with date provided if not otherwise*  Attached  Not Attached
- Final designs – *where available*  Attached  Not Attached
- Other – *as required*  Attached  Not Attached
- Community engagement evidence (e.g., letters of support, minutes)  Attached  Not Attached
- Environmental and cultural compliance documentation  Attached  Not Attached
- Post-completion asset condition reports or commissioning certificates  Attached  Not Attached
- Other – *as required*  Attached  Not Attached

Project Completion Confirmation

Is the project completed as approved within the Project Plan?  Yes  No

We certify, in accordance with any relevant conditions under which this funding was accepted, that the expenditure shown in this report has been actually incurred and is in accordance with the stated purpose of funding (as per the relevant Project Plan).

Jobs Supported / Created by the Project

1. Total number of FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) jobs supported during the project period (construction):
  - a. Number of local Indigenous people employed:2
  - b. Specify if roles were: Apprentice and qualified linesman.
    - Full-time
    - Part-time

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MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

- CDP placements
- 2. Total number of FTE jobs created long term (ongoing):
  - a. Number of these roles that are Indigenous identified:
  - b. Specify if roles are:
    - Full-time
    - Part-time
    - CDP placements

If no Indigenous people were employed, please provide a brief explanation (e.g., no available workforce, short project timeframe, or specialised skills required).

Comments:

(Add any relevant details on training, upskilling, or pathways into long-term employment.)

### Handover Details

Option 1: Project handed over to a remote Indigenous community.

Name of receiving organisation or community group:

Date of handover:

Local contact person (name and role):

Was the community involved in the handover process?  Yes  No

Comment:

Supporting documentation provided:

- Maintenance plan
- Training/induction completed
- Operational manuals
- Warranty/certification documents
- Signed handover agreement

Ongoing support arrangements (if any):

e.g., follow-up training, technical assistance, or transitional support

Comment:

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

Option 2: Project remains with Council or other body.

Name of responsible council/body	MacDonnell Regional Council
Date council assumed responsibility	30.01.2026
Contact person or department responsible for asset	Jake Potter, Manager Housing, Facilities & Project Management Office
Is the asset included in the council's asset register?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is there a maintenance and management plan in place?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Any agreements for shared use or access by the community? Describe	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has the community been informed of this arrangement?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Report or relevant acquittal/s prepared by: Osman Kassem \_\_\_\_\_ 02 / 02 / 2026

Laid before the Council at a meeting held on 27 / 02 / 26 Copy of minutes attached (Yes / No).

CEO or CFO: Urquhart (Urquhart) \_\_\_\_\_ 05 / 02 / 2026

**NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT USE ONLY**

Balance of Commonwealth funding to be acquitted<sup>3</sup> (ex GST):\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NORTHERN TERRITORY ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL:**  Yes  No

We accept and approve that the works and expenditure shown in this report is in accordance with the stated purpose of funding (as per the relevant Project Plan) and is in accordance with any relevant the conditions under which this funding was accepted.

Name and position of authorised person: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of authorised person: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

<sup>3</sup> Commonwealth payments made to the Northern Territory, as per Schedule to the *Federation Funding Agreement - Infrastructure*.

MRC Central Australia Plan – Community Infrastructure Project Completion Report

COMMONWEALTH USE ONLY

COMMONWEALTH ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL:  Yes  No

Name and position of authorised person: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of authorised person: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Comments:

## Acquittal of Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant Funding 2024-25: MacDonnell Regional Council

File number: 2024/1561-7

Purpose of grant: Conducting cemetery surveys in communities across the MacDonnell region

Grant application number: RRBA2400002

Purchases were in accordance with the Northern Territory Buy Local Plan:  Yes  No

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACQUITTAL FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 December 2025

Regional and remote burial areas grant	\$120,000
Other income	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
Total expenditure (please attach copies of evidence of all expenditure associated with the RRBA grant)	\$150,000
Surplus/Deficit	\$0.00
	<b>\$150,000</b>

The project been completed as approved by the Minister:  Yes  No (If no, please attach a separate document explaining why)  
We certify, in accordance with all the conditions under which this grant was accepted, that the expenditure shown in this acquittal has been actually incurred and reports required to be submitted are in accordance with the stated purpose of this grant.

Acquittal prepared by: Osman Kassem

10 / 02 / 2026

\* Laid before the Council at a meeting held on 27 / 02 / 2026

\* Copy of minutes attached  Yes  No

CEO or CFO: *Urquhart* (Urquhart)

10 / 2 / 26

#### DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

File number: 2024/1561-7

Grant amount correct:  Yes  No

Expenditure conforms to approved purpose:  Yes  No

Procurement – bought from Northern Territory enterprise:  Yes  No

\* Minutes checked:  Yes  No

Balance of funds to be acquitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Date next acquittal due: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

#### ACQUITTAL ACCEPTED:

Acquittal checked by: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Comments

MANAGER GRANTS PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\* For local government councils, all acquittals must be laid before a council meeting for formal ratification and a copy of the minutes must be provided with the acquittal.

## Acquittal of Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant Funding 2023-24: MacDonnell Regional Council

File number: HCD2021/04902-20

Purpose of grant: To upgrade community cemeteries in the MacDonnell Regional Council area.

Grant application number: RRBA2300009

Purchases were in accordance with the Northern Territory Buy Local Plan:  Yes  No

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACQUITTAL FOR THE PERIOD ENDING click or tap to enter a date.

Regional and remote burial areas grant	\$70,000
Other income	
	\$120,00
<b>Total income</b>	
	<b>\$190,000</b>
Total expenditure (please attach copies of evidence of all expenditure associated with the RRBA grant)	\$0.00
Surplus/Deficit	\$190,000

The project been completed as approved by the Minister:  Yes  No (If no, please attach a separate document explaining why)

We certify, in accordance with all the conditions under which this grant was accepted, that the expenditure shown in this acquittal has been actually incurred and reports required to be submitted are in accordance with the stated purpose of this grant.

Acquittal prepared by: Osman Kassem

03 / 03 / 2026

\* Laid before the Council at a meeting held on 20 / 03 / 2026

Copy of minutes attached  Yes  No

Acting CEO or CFO: 

04 / 03 / 2026

### DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

File number: HCD2021/04902-20

Grant amount correct:  Yes  No

Expenditure conforms to approved purpose:  Yes  No

Procurement - bought from Northern Territory enterprise:  Yes  No

Minutes checked:  Yes  No

Balance of funds to be acquitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Date next acquittal due: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

#### ACQUITTAL ACCEPTED:

Acquittal checked by: \_\_\_\_\_ /\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Comments

MANAGER GRANTS PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_ /\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\* For local government councils, all acquittals must be laid before a council meeting for formal ratification and a copy of the minutes must be provided with the acquittal.

**15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.10  
**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 February 2026.**

**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**

- 3 Local Authority meetings have been held so far this year in Amoonguna, Docker River and Wallace Rockhole.
- Many of MRC’s communities have been impacted due to the conduct of sorry business which has affected all aspects of MRC’s operations, including the scheduling of Local Authority meetings. This resulted in 5 Local Authority meetings scheduled to be held in January and February being cancelled.

<b>2025/2026 FY LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETINGS</b>					
<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY</b>	<b>QUORUM</b>	<b>PROVISIONAL</b>	<b>DEFERRED</b>	<b>CANCELLED</b>
2-Jul-25	Amoonguna	√			
3-Jul-25	Imanpa	√			
9-Jul-25	Hermannsburg	√			
16-Jul-25	Areyonga	√			
23-Jul-25	Mt Liebig	√			
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				√

**Ordinary Council Meeting 20 March 2026 – Agenda**

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		√		
7-Oct-25	Hermannsburg	√			
8-Oct-25	Kintore	√			
9-Oct-25	Papunya	√			
14-Oct-25	Haasts Bluff	√			
15-Oct-25	Areyonga	√			
20-Oct-25	Imanpa	√			
22-Oct-25	Docker River		√		
23-Oct-25	Wallace Rockhole	√			
5-Nov-25	Finke				√
12-Nov-25	Haasts Bluff				√
19-Nov-25	Imanpa		√		
26-Nov-25	Santa Teresa	√			
27-Nov-25	Titjikala				√
8-Dec-25	Mt Liebig	√			
9-Dec-25	Kintore	√			
21-Jan-26	Haasts Bluff				√
22-Jan-26	Amoonguna	√			
29-Jan-26	Mt Liebig				√
4-Feb-26	Docker River	√			
5-Feb-26	Wallace Rockhole	√			
11-Feb-26	Santa Teresa				√
12-Feb-26	Titjikala				√
16-Feb-26	Papunya				√

**ENGAGEMENT**



The Governance Team was heavily involved in supporting Christmas functions in all of MRC’s communities. Several media posts have been uploaded to Council’s social pages. The party at Hermannsburg was paid for using Hermannsburg LA discretionary funds and organised by Cr Maryanne Malbunka. This provided an opportunity for the Deputy President to demonstrate leadership and care for her community while creating an opportunity to hear from residents.

## **Ordinary Council Meeting 20 March 2026 – Agenda**

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Copies of the Annual Report 2024-25 have been printed and sent to many stakeholders including Federal and Territory members of parliament, Departmental heads and other interested parties. Governance is pleased to present copies to Councillors at this meeting.

The latest edition of the MacDonnell Regional Council Staff Newsletter has also been uploaded to the website and Council's Facebook page. Elected Members are encouraged to see what's been going on!

The by-election for the Luritja Pintubi Ward, required as a result of the resignation of Mr Anderson, is scheduled to be held on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April. Nominations for candidates will open on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April and close on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April. The tentative timetable for the by-election is attached. Members in this Ward are urged to talk with community members about nominations and voting.

Advertisements on the website, social media and in the communities of Kintore, Mount Liebig, Papunya and Haasts Bluff will be produced in the coming weeks.

### **POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW**

Work continues steadily on the development and review of MRC's policies, procedures and forms. Four such documents are included in the agenda for this meeting.

Many operational policies and procedures have also been reviewed and approved by the Executive Leadership Team.

Some minor corrections and additions have been made to the Delegations Register which do not require the approval of Council as they are delegations made by the CEO to subordinate staff.

### **RECORDS MANAGEMENT**

During the course of 2026 Governance will be embarking on a special project to establish a Records Management System to control Council's records to ensure that they are stored, secure, accessible and disposed of in accordance with the NTG's Records Disposal Schedule.

This is a significant project which will result in greater efficiency in accessing information and reduce the risk to Council by ensuring Council is compliant and that its records are secure.

### **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. Good governance ensures that Council is accountable and compliant with all related legislation; that Council has the information it needs to make good decisions; that risks are reduced and that it can achieve its Mission.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team  
Manager Governance and Strategy  
Governance Coordinators  
Coordinator Policy and Records

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 APRIL BY-ELECTION TENTATIVE TIMETABLE



## Election timetable

### 2026 tentative by-elections

#### 24 April 2026

Date	Time	
Thursday 2 April		Nominations open
Monday 6 April	5:00 pm	Electoral roll closes
Wednesday 8 April	12:00 noon	Nominations close
	1:00 pm	Declaration of nominations, draw for position on ballot papers
Thursday 9 April		Postal vote mail-out commences
Monday 13 April	8:00 am	Early voting commences
		Mobile voting commences
Monday 20 April	6:00 pm	Overseas postal voting despatches cease
Wednesday 22 April	6:00 pm	All postal voting despatches cease
Thursday 23 April	6:00 pm	Early voting ceases
<b>Friday 24 April</b>		<b>Election day</b>
	8:00 am	Election day voting commences
	6:00 pm	Election day voting ceases
		Mobile voting ceases
		Primary counts of ordinary, postal and early votes commence
Monday 27 April	9:00 am	Declaration vote verification checks, commence recheck of all counts
Wednesday 29 April	9:00 am	Primary counts of accepted declaration votes, further postal counts
Thursday 7 May	12:00 noon	Deadline for receipt of postal votes
		Final counts of postal votes commence
		Distribution of preferences
Monday 11 May	10:00 am	Declaration of the election result
Sunday 24 May		Campaign disclosure period ends
Friday 3 July		Campaign donation return due

Correct as at 22 December 2025

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.11  
**TITLE** Discussion Paper 2026-2027 Regional Plan  
**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**

A workshop was conducted on Wednesday, 25 February 2026 to facilitate discussion regarding the development of the 2026-2027 Regional Plan. Council is being asked to provide feedback regarding the matters discussed.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **That Council:**

- **notes the PowerPoint presentation “Discussion Paper: 2026-2027 Regional Plan”;**
- **provides its feedback in relation to this presentation; and**
- **agrees to the review of the Regional Plan as indicated in the presentation.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

Each year in accordance with section 35(3) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Council needs to prepare a Regional Plan for the next financial year. Presentation of this Paper represents the first step towards the development of the Regional Plan for 2026-2027.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

A meaningful Regional Plan is an invaluable tool for not only Council but also the Executive of Council.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

The annual budget is incorporated in the final version of the Regional Plan 2026-2027. The initiatives included in the budget will be noted within the plan.

### **CONSULTATION**

Elected Members of Council  
Executive Leadership Team

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Discussion Paper - Regional Plan 2026-27

# Discussion Paper: 2026-2027 Regional Plan

Council Workshop Wednesday, 25 February 2026

*many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle*

What needs to be done.....

**Today we're going to talk about:**

- Council's Vision and Mission.
- The Goals of Council – what are the big things we want to achieve?
- The Goals broken down into specific Objectives – things we must do well in order achieve our Goals.
- The methods of achieving the Objectives – the Strategies.
- The quantifiable performance measurements we will use to define the success factors and measure our progress toward the achievement of the Goals – the Key Performance Indicators (KPI's).....and lastly
- The linkage of the Regional Plan to the Annual Report.

## **THE STRATEGIC PLAN – VISION AND MISSION**

Our Vision and Mission Statements are a roadmap of where we want to go (what our future looks like) and what we do and why we exist now – our Vision and Mission have not changed since Council was formed in 2008.

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They are still true today and we are not talking about changing them!



# THE STRATEGIC PLAN – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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- **WHAT WE ARE GOING TO TALK ABOUT ARE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**
- So how do we turn what we do today (the Mission) into where we want to be in the future (the Vision)??
- We set ourselves:
- **GOALS** – they provide direction and long-term outcomes we want to achieve.
- **OBJECTIVES** – these are specific, concrete actions to reach our goals. They're usually short to mid-term, they must be easy to measure. They define the steps necessary to achieve the Goals.
- **For example:**
- My personal **Goal** is to improve my physical fitness.
- To achieve this Goal my **Objective** is to run 5kms, 4 times a week for the next 3 months!





## What is the principal role of the 5<sup>th</sup> MacDonnell Regional Council? (s21 LGA)

- to act as a representative, informed and responsible decision maker in the interests of its constituency; and
- to **develop a strong and cohesive social life** for its residents and allocate resources in a fair, socially inclusive and sustainable way; and
- to **provide and coordinate public facilities and services**; and
- to encourage and **develop initiatives for improving quality of life**; and
- to represent the interests of its area to the wider community; and
- to exercise and **perform the powers and functions of local government** assigned to the council under this Act or another Act.



## Let's look at some of the key words from your role.....

- to develop a strong and cohesive **SOCIAL LIFE** for its residents
- to provide public **FACILITIES AND SERVICES**
- develop initiatives for improving **QUALITY OF LIFE**
- to perform the **FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**



Should we think about the role of Council when we think about setting Goals?

What are our Goals?

What do we want to aim for?

Do these Goals expand on or aim to improve on what we are doing now?

Do they reflect the Role of Council?

Let's do a bit of brainstorming around these questions.

# POSSIBLE GOAL #1



Build a  
cohesive  
social  
life: Enable  
communities  
to  
thrive

## Objectives to consider

- Deliver programs that promote inclusion
- Engage with communities to promote participation in local decision-making
- Build the capability of emerging leaders to engage with all levels of government
- Public spaces that are welcoming

# *THE REGIONAL PLAN*

## Goal 1 Strategy Examples

- Use parks and recreational facilities to build a sense of community
- Plan and deliver an annual program of local community building activities, e.g. community gardening and social lunches
- Develop engagement processes and communications strategies
- Deliver major events that promote inclusion and social cohesion
- Host community leadership forums
- Advocate for community needs to the NT and Federal Governments



## Objectives to consider

- Identify community needs
- Use technology to improve processes and maintain assets efficiently
- Develop rigorous costing to understand the full “whole-of-life” cost of services.
- Council’s facilities are accessible, safe and welcoming

## *THE REGIONAL PLAN* Goal 2 Strategy Examples

- Develop long-term strategies to ensure services are sustainable and cost-efficient.
- Implement sustainable energy solutions for Council’s buildings.
- “Whole-of-life” cost of services to be included in Council’s decisions about setting fees, charges and rates.
- Ensure all of Council’s facilities are accessible, safe and welcoming.
- Ensure community assets such as roads and parks are well-maintained to ensure safety and usability.
- Implement long-term asset management plans.



## Objectives to consider

- Provide services that improve health
- Improve the environment
- Involve community members in decision-making
- Provide valued services

## *THE REGIONAL PLAN* Goal 3 Strategy Examples

- Provide services that improve health outcomes for the whole community, such as Animal Welfare Programs
- Improve the environment through effective waste management and recycling initiatives
- Involve community members in decision-making through consultations and surveys to ensure services actually meet community needs.
- Provide valued aged care, child care and youth services
- Conduct annual Healthy Community events



## Objectives to consider

- Implement regular training programs
- Acquire technology to streamline performance and records management
- Establish employment pathways to promote indigenous employment opportunities.
- Improve revenue management

## *THE REGIONAL PLAN*

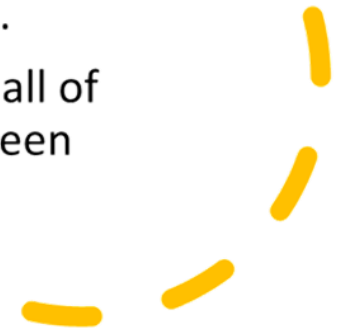
### Goal 4 Strategy Examples

- Implement regular training programs, workshops and coaching to keep skills relevant in order to boost employee motivation and performance.
- Consider the acquisition of technology to streamline performance management – to track goals and measure outcomes.
- Investigate the establish of employment pathways to promote indigenous employment opportunities.
- Improve revenue management through the adoption of a comprehensive grant management policy and explore alternative revenue opportunities.
- Invest in staff training for financial literacy and skills.
- ICT to coordinate a project to investigate and consider the acquisition and implementation of a records management system

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Bottom  
line.....

- This is a brand new Council – it’s the 5<sup>th</sup> one! The life of this Council lasts until 2029.
- The Regional Plan adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Council for 2022-2023 was the result of extensive work undertaken by both Council and the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) of MRC.
- That Plan was revisited and reviewed in the 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-26 Plans.
- This Plan will take MRC from 1.7.2026 to 30.6.2030.
- It is time to take stock of where we’re at and apply all of MRC’s resources to achieving Council’s Vision between now and 2030.



# SUMMATION:

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- **The Vision, Mission and Values remain true today.**
- **The Goals and Objectives will be determined by Council.**
- **The Administration will refine the Objectives and work on the Strategies, KPI's and Targets to determine how the specific Goals will be achieved. This will include developing KPI's to track progress towards the Objectives and Targets to specify the timeframe within which the KPI has to be achieved.**

**This is Council's opportunity to set the path for the future.**

**Barbara Newland**  
Manager Governance and Strategy



## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.12  
**TITLE** Conflict of Interest Policy v3  
**AUTHOR** Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the update of the Conflict of Interest Policy v3.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council adopts the Conflict of Interest Policy v3 as a policy of Council.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

This policy was revised by the Policy Coordinator to outline Council's obligations to manage interests under Part 7.2 and 9.5 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

It is essential that MRC maintains a current policy relating to interests – not only to ensure impartiality in decision-making but also to ensure legislative compliance.

This Policy document has been reformatted and revised. It is also a document which now incorporates and applies to all Members (any person sitting on the Council or a committee or local authority), Senior Staff and Staff generally rather than having three separate policies.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Conflict of Interest Policy v3

## Conflict of Interest Policy v3

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### 1. Legislation

Council manages member interests in adherence to Part 7.2 of the Northern Territory's *Local Government Act 2019* (LG Act):

- The requirements for submitting an annual return of interests (s110).
- The registration of all annual returns of interests (s111).
- What constitutes a conflict of interest (s114).
- The requirements for the disclosure of any conflicts (s115).
- The registration of all declared conflicts (s116).
- The publication of the register of annual returns of interest and the register of declared conflicts on Council's website (s117).

Council manages staff interests in adherence to Section 178 of the LG Act:

- The requirements for submitting an annual return of interests by the CEO and senior staff (s178(1)).
- The registration of all annual returns of interests (s178(5)).

### 2. Definitions

**Associate** is a person connected to another person if:

- a) They are in a close family relationship.
- b) They are in a partnership.
- c) One is a company and the other is a director or manager of the company.
- d) They are related companies.
- e) One is a private company and the other is a shareholder in the company.

**Council** means the MacDonnell Regional Council's administration.

**The Council** means the Councillors, President and Deputy President.

**CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer.

**Member** is any person sitting on *the Council* or a committee or local authority that it has established.

**Senior Staff** is the Chief Financial and Information Officer, Directors, Executive Managers and the Manager Finance.

**Staff** is any person who carries out work for Council including (but not limited to) employees, contractors, consultants or volunteers.

### 3. Statement

This policy provides the principles to:

- Ensure all members, staff and the CEO undertake their duties and responsibilities in a manner which places the public interest above their personal interests.
- Provide guidance to prevent situations where personal or financial interests could improperly influence official decisions.

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Page 1 of 5

## Conflict of Interest Policy v3

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### 4. Policy

#### 4.1 Principles

##### 4.1.1 Respect for the Role

Conflicts of interest are identified, reported and managed in a way that allows Council to conduct its business with integrity, honesty and fairness.

##### 4.1.2 Ensuring Legal Compliance

Promote transparency in Council business to ensure members, staff and the CEO operate in a way that aligns with legislation and regulation.

#### 4.2 Conflict of Interest Classification

**4.2.1 Conflict of Interest** occurs when there is a clash between private interest (actual, perceived or potential) and public duty. It involves a lack of impartiality and is financial (pecuniary) or personal (non-pecuniary).

**4.2.1.1 Actual Conflict of Interest** occurs when personal interests directly interfere with public or official duties.

**4.2.1.2 Perceived Conflict of Interest** occurs when it could be perceived, or appears, that personal interest could impact public or official duties, whether or not this is the case.

**4.2.1.3 Potential Conflict of Interest** occurs where personal interests could conflict with public or official duties.

**4.2.1.4 Pecuniary Interest** is financial. It arises when a person, or someone close to them (relatives, partners and employers) could financially benefit or lose.

**4.2.1.5 Non-Pecuniary Interest** is personal and non-financial. It arises when family, kinship, friends and associates from community or social groups could benefit or lose.

**4.2.2** A member has a **Conflict of Interest** in a question arising for decision by *the Council*, committee or local authority if they (or their associates) have any of the interests in **4.2.3.1** to **4.2.3.4** in how the question is decided.

**4.2.3** The CEO or staff have a **Conflict of Interest** in the daily performance of their duties if they (or their associates) have any of the interests below:

**4.2.3.1 Direct Interest** means an interest that occurs when a person is likely to be directly affected if the matter is decided in a particular way.

*Examples:*

- **Your own company is tendering** to reseal a Council road.
- **You're negotiating a lease** for a kiosk at a Council pool.

**4.2.3.2 Indirect Financial Interest** means an interest that occurs when a person is likely to receive a benefit or incur a loss because another person has an interest.

*Examples:*

- **You hold shares** in a civil works company being considered for a drainage contract.
- **Your employer** (you have a paid job there) is seeking sponsorship for a festival.

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## Conflict of Interest Policy v3

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**4.2.3.3 Indirect Interest by Close Association** means an interest that occurs when an associate of a person has a direct or indirect interest, or a resident of the person's household has a direct interest.

Examples:

- **Your sister has lodged a legal claim** against Council and there is discussion as to whether to settle.
- **Someone who lives in your household** (e.g., partner, adult child) is tendering for a cleaning contract.

**4.2.3.4 Indirect Interest Due to Conflicting Duties** means an interest that occurs when a person is a director, partner, agent, trustee, manager, office holder or employee of a person or entity, including a non-profit body or association, that has a direct interest.

Examples:

- **You are a board member** of a local youth service that's seeking a donation/sponsorship.
- **You work for a non-profit** that is **tendering** for a parks maintenance contract.

### 4.3 Conflict of Interest Exclusions

**4.3.1** An interest that the person shares with the public or a substantial section of the public is not a conflict.

**4.3.2** An interest as an elector or ratepayer that the person shares with other electors or ratepayers is not a conflict.

**4.3.3** An interest so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence a decision is not a conflict.

**4.3.4** An interest as a family member working with another family member is not a conflict if managed correctly. Council prefers that family members are not employed into positions where one may supervise the other. Where this is unavoidable, staff must maintain professional relationships with family members regarding their employment and position duties. Where a direct supervisor is a family member, this supervisor must refer all decisions regarding performance review/management, discipline, leave approvals and timesheets to their supervisor.

### 4.4 Disclosure of Interest

**4.4.1** If a member has an interest, it must be disclosed in the Conflict of Interest Form to the CEO as soon as practicable and at the next meeting of *the Council*, committee or local authority.

**4.4.1.1** When a member discloses an interest at a meeting, the disclosure is to be recorded in the meeting minutes.

**4.4.1.2** The member must not be present at a meeting while a matter in which the member has a conflict of interest is under consideration.

**4.4.1.3** The member must not participate in any decision in relation to the matter.

**4.4.1.4** The member must not engage in behaviour that may influence the audit committee, council, council committee or local authority's consideration of or decision in relation to the matter.

**4.4.1.5** The Minister may approve a member's participation in the consideration of the matter, or in the decision in relation to the matter in which the member has a conflict of interest.

**4.5.2.4** It will be recorded on the Conflict of Interests Register (Members).

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## Conflict of Interest Policy v3

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- 4.4.2 If the CEO has an interest, it must be disclosed in the Conflict of Interest Form to the President as soon as practicable and to *the Council* at the next meeting.
- 4.4.3 If staff have an interest, they must disclose it in the Conflict of Interest Form to the CEO as soon as practicable.

### 4.5 Annual Interests Disclosure

- 4.5.1 Members will complete an Annual Return on Interests Form and submit it to the CEO.
  - 4.5.1.1 Within 60 days of the council member's election; and
  - 4.5.2.2 By no later than 30 September each year for the duration of the member's membership.
  - 4.5.3.3 If a member has submitted an annual return of interests after 31 March in a calendar year, the member is not required to submit another return before 30 September in that year.
  - 4.5.2.4 It will be recorded on the Annual Returns on Interests Register (Members).
- 4.5.2 Senior staff will complete an Annual Return on Interests Form and submit it to *the Council*.
  - 4.5.2.1 Within 14 days of the commencement of the employment.
  - 4.5.2.2 By no later than 30 September each year for the duration of employment.
  - 4.5.2.3 If a person has submitted an annual return of interests after 31 March in a calendar year, the person is not required to submit another return before 30 September in that year.
  - 4.5.2.4 It will be recorded on the Annual Returns on Interests Register (CEO and Senior Staff).

### 4.6 Responsibilities of the Chief Executive Officer

- 4.6.1 Review and recommend management strategies for all conflicts of interest.
- 4.6.3 Arrange investigations of possible conflicts of interest as required.

## 5. Breaches and Consequences

Action or behaviour that does not comply with any element of this policy can be found to have breached the Code of Conduct. Such action or behaviour must be referred to as 'suspected misconduct' until a decision is made that the action or behaviour amounts to a breach of the Code of Conduct.

If applicable, criminal proceedings will be brought against the offender.

## 6. Authority

*The Council, 27 February 2026*

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## Conflict of Interest Policy v3

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### 7. Owner

Office of the CEO, Governance and Strategy

### 8. Review Date

27 February 2029

### 9. Related Documents

Annual Return on Interests Form  
Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form  
Annual Returns on Interests Register (Members)  
Annual Returns on Interests Register (CEO and Senior Staff)  
Conflict of Interests Register (Members)

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## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.13  
**TITLE** Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2  
**AUTHOR** Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the update of the Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council adopts the Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2 as a policy of Council.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

This policy was revised by the Policy Coordinator to outline Council's obligations for filling casual vacancies under Section 54(3) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

This Policy has reformatted and reviewed to ensure the definitions are clear, that casual vacancies are appropriately filled in a timely manner to support the continuity of governance and to provide guidance on how casual vacancies are filled depending on the proximity to a general election.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

It is essential that MRC maintains a current policy relating to the filling casual vacancies – not only for governance continuity but also to ensure legislative compliance.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Filling Casual Vacancies v2

## Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2

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### 1. Legislation

Section 54(3) of the Northern Territory's *Local Government Act 2019* (LG Act) requires Council to maintain a policy for filling casual vacancies in *the Council*.

Council manages filling casual vacancies in adherence to the below sections of the LG Act:

- The requirements for filling a casual Ordinary Member vacancy (s54).
- The resignation of a Principal Member (s63(1&2)).
- The requirements for filling a casual Principal Member vacancy (s65(2)).

### 2. Definitions

**Council** means the MacDonnell Regional Council's administration.

**The Council** means the Councillors, President and Deputy President.

**CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer.

**Member** is any person sitting on *the Council*.

**Ordinary Member** is a person sitting on *the Council* other than the Principal Members, or an acting Principal Member.

**Principal Member** is the President and Deputy President, or an acting President and Deputy Member.

**By-election** is an election held to fill a vacancy arising during *the Council's* term of office.

**Casual Vacancy** means a vacancy in the office of a member due to death, disqualification or resignation.

### 3. Statement

This policy provides the principles to:

- Ensure that casual vacancies are appropriately filled in a timely manner to support the continuity of governance.
- Provide guidance on how casual vacancies are filled depending on the proximity to a general election.

### 4. Policy

#### 4.1 Principles

##### 4.1.1 Continuity of Governance

Ensure vacancies are filled promptly to maintain effective decision-making and governance stability.

##### 4.1.2 Ensuring Legal Compliance

Promote transparency in Council business to ensure members operate in a way that aligns with legislation and regulation.

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## Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2

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### 4.2 Ordinary Member Decision Framework

Council will fill casual vacancies in the office of an Ordinary Member as follows:

Date Vacancy Occurs	Action	Section of LG Act
18 months or more before the next general election.	<b>BY-ELECTION</b> – <i>The Council</i> must hold a by-election (refer 4.3).	54(2)(a)
Less than 18 months, but not less than 6 months, before the next general election	<b>APPOINTMENT</b> – <i>The Council</i> will appoint a person to fill the vacancy until the next general election (refer 4.4).	54(2)(b)
6 months or less before the next general	<b>LEAVE VACANT</b> – <i>The Council</i> will leave the office vacant.	54(2)(c)

### 4.3 Ordinary Member By-Election Process

As soon as practicable after a casual vacancy occurring in the office of an Ordinary Member, 18 months or more before the next general election, the CEO must coordinate a Council ward by-election in conjunction with the Northern Territory Electoral Commission.

### 4.4 Ordinary Member Appointment Process

**4.4.1** As soon as practicable after a casual vacancy occurring in the office of an Ordinary Member, less than 18 months but not less than 6 months before the next general election. The CEO will follow this process:

1. Advertise the vacancy by publishing on Council's website and Council's noticeboards in the ward communities.
2. Invite applications from electors eligible under Section 46 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and enrolled in the relevant ward.
3. Invite applicants to submit either a written statement (maximum one page) or a video submission (maximum three minutes) explaining their interest and suitability.
4. Set the closing date for applications as 28 days from the date the advertisement is published.
5. Advise that applicant statements or videos may be made public.
6. Provide copies of all applicant statements to all Ordinary Members as soon as practicable after the closing date and include the matter on the agenda of the next Ordinary Council Meeting.
7. Council will decide the appointment by resolution, to take effect 7 days after the date of the resolution.
8. The CEO will advise the successful applicant and ensure an induction is undertaken as soon as practicable.

**4.4.2** When appointing a person to be an Ordinary Member, *the Council* will give due consideration to:

- a. The person's level of community involvement;
- b. The person's suitability for the role; and
- c. Any other relevant matters.

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## Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2

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### 4.5 Ordinary Member Continuation of Vacancy Process

When a vacancy occurs 6 months or less before the next general election *the Council* has determined that the office will be left vacant.

### 4.6 Principal Member Decision Framework

4.6.1 The Principal Members of *the Council* are appointed and not elected – refer s60(1) of the LG Act.

4.6.2 Upon receiving a resignation from a Principal Member that **does not include resigning from their office** as an Ordinary Member, *the Council* will fill casual vacancies in each or either office of the President or Deputy President by appointment.

Date vacancy occurs	Action	Section of LG Act
At any time during the term of <i>the Council</i>	<i>The Council</i> must, by vote of existing Ordinary Members, appoint a member to fill the Principal Member vacancy.	65(2)(a&b)

4.6.3 However, where the vacancy occurs because the Principal Member resigns as the President or Deputy President **and** as an Ordinary Member, or due to death or disqualification of the Principal Member their secondary role as an Ordinary Member will be filled in accordance with the process as described at **4.2 Ordinary Member Decision Framework**.

### 4.7 Principal Member Appointment Process

4.7.1 The matter of appointing a person to fill a casual vacancy in the office of President or Deputy President is to be on the agenda at the next ordinary Council meeting after the vacancy occurs.

4.7.2 By closed vote, resolve the appointment of an existing Ordinary Member to fill the vacancy in the office of President or Deputy President until the next general election.

4.7.3 All appointments commence immediately.

## 5. Breaches and Consequences

Action or behaviour that does not comply with any element of this policy can be found to have breached the Code of Conduct. Such action or behaviour must be referred to as 'suspected misconduct' until a decision is made that the action or behaviour amounts to a breach of the Code of Conduct.

## 6. Authority

*The Council*, 27 February 2026

## 7. Owner

Office of the CEO, Governance and Strategy

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## Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2

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### 8. Review Date

28 February 2029

### 9. Related Documents

Nil

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## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.14  
**TITLE** Procurement Policy v7  
**AUTHOR** Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the update of the Procurement Policy v7.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council adopts the Procurement Policy v7 as a policy of Council.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

This policy was revised by the Policy Coordinator to outline Council's obligations for managing the requirements that Council must take into account for the procurement of supplies under Regulation 33 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

In particular, paragraph 4.2.1.2 has been updated regarding the acquisition of supplies or services and now states that "Where Council proposes to obtain supplies or services and the cost of the suppliers or services is \$10,000 or less one written quote must be obtained".

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

Whilst the Regulations do not require quotes for these supplies or services the Administration has determined that it is prudent and financially responsible to do so.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Procurement Policy v7

## Procurement Policy v7

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### 1. Legislation

The Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 is an instrument made under the *Local Government Act 2019*. Section 33 of these Regulations outlines the policy principles and general requirements that Council must take into account for the procurement of supplies.

### 2. Definitions

**Authorised Delegate** means any staff member within Council who has been delegated appropriate authority by the Chief Executive Officer to undertake the specified function on their behalf.

**Delegation** is a power handed down by *the Council* or Chief Executive Officer in an instrument to enable a delegate to act on Council's behalf.

**Council** means the MacDonnell Regional Council's administration.

**The Council** is the Councillors, President and Deputy President.

**Procurement** is the whole process of the acquisition of external goods, services and works. This process spans the whole life cycle from initial concept through to the end of the useful life of an asset (including disposal) or the end of a service contract.

### 3. Statement

This policy provides the principals for purchasing, ordering, tendering, and contracting undertaken to ensure:

- a) Sound governance, risk management and control practices.
- b) Promotion of fair and open competition.
- c) Compliance with legislation and regulatory requirements that do not apply to sponsorship, donations, employment contracts or disposals.

### 4. Policy

#### 4.1 Principals of Procurement

##### 4.1.1 The Enhancement of the Capabilities of Local Enterprises and Industries

4.1.1.1 Procurement activities which support the growth, development and sustainability of local enterprises and industries, including the advancement of local communities.

4.1.1.2 Every effort should be made to utilise local suppliers, build local capacity, and to ensure local businesses and industries are given an opportunity to participate in quotation and tender processes.

4.1.1.3 In support of local, regional and Territory businesses and subject to this policy and product or service specifications, Council will give a weighting advantage when sourcing products and services.

##### 4.1.2 The Employment of Aboriginal People

4.1.2.1 Procurement activities which increase and encourage Aboriginal employment, participation and capability within the region and the Northern Territory generally, acknowledging the importance of diversity, representation and the improved social and economic outcomes that result from employment.

4.1.2.2 Set targets for Indigenous procurement where applicable.

##### 4.1.3 Ethical Behaviour and Fair Dealings

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## Procurement Policy v7

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- 4.1.3.1 Procurement activities which instil confidence in business, industry and the public as to the probity, accountability and efficacy of the procurement policy framework, including demonstrating high standards of ethical conduct.
  - 4.1.3.2 Procurement activities shall be performed with integrity and in a manner able to withstand the closest possible scrutiny through documented processes and justifiable decisions.
  - 4.1.3.3 Address conflicts of interest and gifts and benefits.
  - 4.1.3.4 Promote integrity and ethical behaviour in procurement activities.
  - 4.1.4 **Environmental Protection and Sustainability**
    - 4.1.4.1 Procurement activities which promote the protection of the environment through harm minimisation and sustainable practices, including a proper emphasis on environmentally sustainable development and a proper balance between economic, social, environmental and cultural considerations.
  - 4.1.5 **Open and Effective Competition**
    - 4.1.5.1 Procurement activities which foster a competitive and innovative business environment to drive opportunities within the region and in the Northern Territory generally.
    - 4.1.5.2 Encourage participation from all eligible suppliers.
  - 4.1.6 **Value for Money**
    - 4.1.6.1 Procurement expenditure that delivers procurement outcomes, while meeting the objects of Council to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its communities.
    - 4.1.6.2 Lowest price is not necessarily an indicator of value for money and cost is not the only factor for assessing value for money.
    - 4.1.6.3 When evaluating competing company's submissions, a comparative analysis or a weighting score system shall be used to ensure the best overall return on investment.
  - 4.1.7 **Code of Conduct**
    - 4.1.7.1 Procurement activities which are undertaken in a lawful manner and are consistent with Council's code of conduct and conflict of interest policies.
- ## 4.2 Thresholds and Procedures
- 4.2.1 **Quotations**
    - 4.2.1.1 When procuring goods and services and/or works the following requirements must be observed in accordance with the Regulations.
    - 4.2.1.2 Where Council proposes to obtain supplies or services and the cost of the suppliers or services is \$10,000 or less one written quote must be obtained.
    - 4.2.1.3 If Council proposes to obtain supplies or services at a cost more than \$10,000 but less than \$100,000; Council must obtain written quotations from at least three (3) possible suppliers and Council must choose a supplier from amongst those submitting written quotations.
    - 4.2.1.4 If it is not practicable to obtain quotations from three (3) possible suppliers under the Regulations, Council must obtain as many as practicable and must record in writing its reasons for not obtaining the three (3) quotations.
  - 4.2.2 **Public Quotations**

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## Procurement Policy v7

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- 4.2.2.1 Regulation 35 of the Regulations applies in situations where Council proposes to obtain supplies at a cost of more than \$100,000 but no more than \$150,000. Council must make a public request for quotations from suppliers published in a newspaper circulating in Council's area and by notice on Council's website.
- 4.2.2.2 The Regulations do not require predetermined weighting. Council encourages including predetermined weightings as good practice in the development of the scope of works documentation to be applied to the assessment of the public quotations or tenders.

### 4.2.3 Tenders

- 4.2.3.1 The Regulations provide that Council must not enter into a contract for the provision of supplies at a cost of more than \$150,000, unless it has first called for tenders for that contract by public notice published in a newspaper circulating in Council's area. There are specific time limits applicable to the length of a contract which is subject to the thresholds in *General Instruction 1: Procurement*. Council will determine the optimum period for the contract based on this information, on the basis of value for money and the efficiency and effectiveness of the procurement and then assess the value of the contract. Council may undertake a public tender where the value of goods, works and services does not reach the threshold sums. These may be situations where a public tender is preferred or prudent, managing risk considerations are paramount, or there is a desire for greater transparency of the procurement. As a general rule, Council will not accept late tenders, the exception being as noted below.
- 4.2.3.2 If there were a Council related system failure/interruption in the case of a submission of an electronic tender, or access was denied or hindered in relation to the physical tender box, the Chief Executive Officer can accept a late tender where it can be substantiated that these circumstances prevailed at the time of attempted lodgement.

## 4.3 Delegation of Authority

### 4.3.1 Requirement

- 4.3.1.1 Delegations define the limitations within which employees are permitted to work. Delegation of procurement authority allows specified employees to approve certain purchases, quotations, tender and contractual processes without prior referral to the Council. This enables Council to conduct procurement activities in an efficient and timely manner whilst maintaining transparency and integrity. Procurement delegations ensure accountability and provide confidence to Council and the public that purchasing activities are dealt with at the appropriate level. As such, Council has delegated responsibilities as detailed below relating to the expenditure of funds for the purchase of goods, services and works, the acceptance of quotes and tenders and for contract management activities.
- 4.3.1.2 Council maintains a documented record of authorised procurement delegations, identifying Council officers authorised to make such procurement commitments in respect of goods, services and works on behalf of Council, including but not limited to the following:
  - power to authorise and issue order forms for goods and services;
  - power to enter into contracts within approved budgets;
  - sign letters of acceptance on behalf of Council to enter into contracts; and
  - contract term extensions and contract variations.

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## Procurement Policy v7

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### 4.4 Delegations Reserved for *the Council*

Tender recommendations must be approved by *the Council* as per the Regulations.

## 5. Monitoring and Reporting

- 5.1 The Chief Financial and Information Officer reports regularly to the Executive Leadership Team on procurement compliance.
- 5.2 The Tender Committee has established mechanisms for monitoring compliance with tenders.

## 6. Authority

Council, 27 February 2026

## 7. Owner

Corporate Services, Finance

## 8. Review Date

27 February 2029

## 9. Related Information

Delegations Manual  
Procurement Procedure  
Statutory Declaration Form

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## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 15.15  
**TITLE** Caretaker Policy v3  
**AUTHOR** Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

### **LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal 03: Empowered Communities  
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the update of the Caretaker Policy v3.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council adopts the Caretaker Policy v3 as a policy of Council.**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

This policy was revised by the Policy Coordinator to outline Council's obligations for managing the caretaker period under Section 161(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

The Policy has been reformatted and reworked with the result being that it is presented in a much more clearly expressed manner.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

It is essential that MRC maintains a current policy relating to the caretaker period – not only for governance continuity but also to ensure legislative compliance.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING**

Nil.

### **CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1 Caretaker Policy v3

## Caretaker Period Policy v3

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### 1. Legislation

The caretaker period commences on the day that nominations close for a local government general election and ends when the results of the general election are declared in accordance with the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2021 (NT). Council manages this period in adherence to Section 161(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT).

### 2. Definitions

**Council** means the MacDonnell Regional Council's administration.

**The Council** means the Councillors, President and Deputy President.

**CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer.

**Member** is any person sitting on *the Council*.

**Employee** is any person working for Council.

**Campaigning** includes campaigning activity, wearing or displaying campaign material (refer to definitions of 'campaigning activity' and 'campaign material' at Sections 268 and 268A of the *Electoral Act 2004* (NT)).

### 3. Statement

This policy provides the principles to:

- Ensure Council business continues, and ordinary matters of administration are addressed.
- Provide a high standard of service delivery and continue normal operations and programs.

### 4. Policy

#### 4.1 Principles

##### 4.1.1 Respect for the Role

Manage the caretaker period in a way that allows Council to avoid any perception of acting in a politicised manner.

##### 4.1.2 Ensuring Legal Compliance

Promote transparency in Council business to ensure members operate in a way that aligns with legislation and regulation.

#### 4.2 Role of the CEO

4.2.1 The CEO will provide written notice to all members and employees prior to the commencement of the caretaker period and that the caretaker principles in this policy will apply.

4.2.2 The CEO will continue to prepare reports and provide information in order for members to carry out their roles in relation to the day-to-day business of Council.

#### 4.3 Major Decisions

4.3.1 *The Council* will not make any major decisions during the caretaker period, Major Decisions are those decisions that have a significant impact on Council

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## Caretaker Period Policy v3

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- operations and activities, or are otherwise political sensitive, and a reasonable person would not consider the decision to be part of normal Council operations. These include:
- 4.3.1.1 Entering into any high value contract or lease agreement in excess of \$100,000 and must have been approved under budget;
  - 4.3.2.2 Entering into a new or substantially changed funding agreement, unless there is real risk the eligibility for funding will be lost;
  - 4.3.2.3 Committing Council funds outside the adopted budget;
  - 4.3.2.4 Amending the Caretaker Period Policy;
  - 4.3.2.5 Amending the Delegations Register; and
  - 4.3.2.6 Making a decision relating to the employment or remuneration of the CEO or Acting CEO.
- 4.3.2 Decisions can be made during the caretaker period that don't have a significant impact on Council operations and activities, or are otherwise political insensitive, and a reasonable person would consider the decision to be part of normal Council operations. These include:
- 4.3.2.1 Relating to the carrying out of works in response to an emergency or disaster; or
  - 4.3.2.2 An urgent matter that cannot wait until *the Council* is newly elected; or
  - 4.3.2.3 A matter that has the possibility of legal or significant financial repercussions if a decision on the matter is deferred until *the Council* has been elected; or
  - 4.3.2.4 An expenditure or other decision required to be taken under an agreement by which funding is provided to Council by the Commonwealth or Northern Territory Government or otherwise for Council to be eligible for funding from the Commonwealth or Northern Territory Government; or
  - 4.3.2.5 The signing of an agreement where the majority of the negotiations were undertaken or resolved by *the Council* prior to the caretaker period commencing.

### 4.4 Council Resources

- 4.4.1 Council resources are not to be used for the purposes of campaigning for a candidate.
- 4.4.2 Council resources may be used to help with running the general election or to encourage voter participation.

### 4.5 Communications

- 4.5.1 Council communication methods – including media, websites, social media and newsletters – will not be used in any way that favours, promotes or criticises any particular member or candidate.
- 4.5.2 Council will continue to communicate normal Council business relevant to the community.
- 4.5.3 During the caretaker period, the CEO is the preferred spokesperson for any official communications. However, this does not fetter the discretion of the President to speak on behalf of *the Council* as the Council's principal representative.

### 4.6 Public Consultation

- 4.6.1 Council will defer any public consultation until after the caretaker period, unless:
  - (a) it is mandatory public consultation required under legislation; or
  - (b) the consultation cannot reasonably be deferred.

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## Caretaker Period Policy v3

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### 4.7 Events and Functions

- 4.7.1 Members will not use Council events and functions held during the caretaker period for campaigning.
- 4.7.2 No events or functions relating to opening or launching facilities will be held during the caretaker period.

### 4.8 Electoral Information

- 4.8.1 Council will only publish electoral information that is educational or promotional material relating to the election process and voter engagement.

## 5. Breaches and Consequences

Action or behaviour that does not comply with any element of this policy can be found to have breached the Code of Conduct. Such action or behaviour must be referred to as 'suspected misconduct' until a decision is made that the action or behaviour amounts to a breach of the Code by a person appointed in accordance with procedure.

## 6. Authority

*The Council, 27 February 2026*

## 7. Owner

Office of the CFIO, Governance and Strategy

## 8. Review Date

28 February 2029

## 9. Related Documents

Nil

**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.**

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

**ITEM NUMBER** 19.1  
**TITLE** Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and re-admittance of the public  
**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**

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.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**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.**