



AGENDA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING FRIDAY 17 APRIL 2026

The Ordinary Council Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the MRC Council Chambers, Alice Springs on Friday 17 April 2026 at 10:00 AM.

Belinda Urquhart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	MEETING OPENED	
	<i>An audio recording of this meeting is being made for minute taking purposes as authorised by Council Policy MC09-CP – Audio Recordings of Meetings. Councillors may request, via majority vote if required, that no audio recording is made where issues of legitimate cultural or spiritual significance are to be discussed.</i>	
2	WELCOME	
3	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES	
3.1	Attendance and Apologies.....	7
4	LEAVE OF ABSENCE	
4.1	Requests for Future Leave of Absence	8
5	COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT	
5.1	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct.....	9
6	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	
6.1	Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 March 2026	11
7	ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA	
7.1	Acceptance of Agenda	25
8	CONFLICT OF INTEREST	
8.1	Conflict of Interest	26
9	DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS	
9.1	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Santa Teresa - Menzies School of Health Research.....	28
9.2	Presentation by LGANT	31
10	NOTICES OF MOTION - NIL	
11	RESCISSION MOTIONS - NIL	
12	LOCAL AUTHORITY	
12.1	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities	32
12.2	Local Authority Resignations and Terminations.....	132
12.3	Local Authority Nominations.....	133
13	STANDING ITEMS REPORT	
13.1	Correspondence Report	136

14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT

14.1 Council President's Report 175

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

15.1 Council Services Report 176

15.2 Aged and Children's Services Report 189

15.3 Youth and Community Safety Report 206

15.4 People & Capabilities Report..... 215

15.5 Finance Report period ending 31 March 2026..... 218

15.6 2025-26 Budget Review V2 240

15.7 Governance Team Report 254

15.8 Determination of Remuneration Tribunal 2026 257

15.9 Gifts and Benefits Policy v3 267

15.10 Local Authorities Policy v3..... 271

15.11 Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v3 277

15.12 Youth Boards Policy v3 282

15.13 Discussion Paper 2026-2027 Regional Plan..... 287

16 GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

16.1 Notifications of General Business 293

17 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

17.1 Closure to the public for the discussion of Confidential items 294

18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

18.1 Confirmation of Previous Confidential Minutes

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)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: (iv) subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

18.2 Write-off of Outstanding Rates

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)(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

18.3 Write-off of Outstanding Rates, Charges and Interest

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)(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

- 18.4 Consideration of CEO Contract and Confirmation of Minutes of the CEO Review Committee meeting 16 April 2026

The report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Regulation 51 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. i.e.51(1)(a) Information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

- 18.5 Consideration of MRC Pay Cycle

The report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Regulation 51 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. i.e.51(1)(c)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: (iv) subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

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

- 19.1 Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and re-admittance of the public295

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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 20 March 2026 to be approved by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 March 2026 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

ATTACHMENTS

1. ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MEETING 20.3.2026 - MINUTES [1 pages]

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE MRC COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2026 AT 10:00 AM

1 MEETING OPENED – at 9.54am

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 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, Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children’s Services (via Teams), Libby Taylor – Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, Katie Fuller – Executive Manager People and Capabilities, Barbara Newland – Manager Governance and Strategy.

Guests

Nil.

Apologies

Councillor Abraham Poulson

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.

OCM2026-01 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Peter Wilson)

That Council:

- a) notes the Elected Members attendance at this meeting;
- b) accepts the apology received from Councillor Abraham Poulson for this meeting; and
- c) records no Elected Member absences, without notice, for this meeting.

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-02 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Dalton McDonald)

That Council:

- a) notes that there were no requests for future leave of absence received at this Council meeting; and
- b) receives notification that Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, will be only leave from 7th to 14th April and there will be no staff acting in her absence.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-03 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Lynn Ward)

That Council notes the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-04 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lynn Ward)

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.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-05 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Maryanne Malbunka)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-06 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Veronica Lynch)

That Council:

- a) notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
- b) notes that no Elected Members declared any conflicts of interest with the meeting agenda.

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

OCM2026-07 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lynn Ward)

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

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

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.

OCM2026-08 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Maryanne Malbunka)

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.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-09 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council considers the nomination received and appoints Edward Craig to the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority.

13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	Correspondence Report
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-10 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes the correspondence received and sent.

14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the meetings attended by President Roxanne Kenny since the October 2025 meeting of Council.

OCM2026-11 RESOLVED (Lynn Ward/Dalton McDonald)

That Council receives the President's report for the period 16th October 2025 to 28th February 2026.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.2
TITLE:	CEO Report
AUTHOR:	Belinda Urquhart, Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the events and meetings attended by CEO Belinda Urquhart during the reporting period.

OCM2026-12 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)

That Council receives the CEO report for the period November 2025 to February 2026.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-13 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)

That Council notes and accepts the Council Services Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.2
TITLE:	Papunya Changerooms Presentation
AUTHOR:	Keith Hassett, Director Council Services

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.

OCM2026-14 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Matthew Palmer)

That Council:

- a) **notes the attached proposal regarding the Papunya Changerooms; and**
- b) **provides its support for the modular design and construction of the Papunya changerooms.**

ITEM NUMBER:	15.3
TITLE:	Aged and Children's Services Report
AUTHOR:	Ainsley Roscrow, Executive Manager Aged and Childcare Services

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.

OCM2026-15 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Peter Wilson)

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

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

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.

OCM2026-16 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes and accepts the Youth and Community Safety Services report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.5
TITLE:	People and Capabilities Report
AUTHOR:	Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-17 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.6
TITLE:	Finance Report period ending 31 January 2026
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2026.

OCM2026-18 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Andrew Davis)

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

ITEM NUMBER:	15.7
TITLE:	Finance Report period ending 28 February 2026
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 28 February 2026.

OCM2026-19 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Patrick Allen)

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

ITEM NUMBER:	15.8
TITLE:	Finance and Risk Committee Minutes
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

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.

OCM2026-20 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Mark Inkamala)

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

ITEM NUMBER:	15.9
TITLE:	Presentation of Grant Acquittals
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-21 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)

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.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.10
TITLE:	Governance Team Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2026-22 RESOLVED (Lynn Ward/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council:

- a) notes the Governance Team Report for February 2026;
- b) requests that there be no Local Authority meetings scheduled in the first quarter of 2027. This is in recognition of the cultural activities which take place during this period; and
- c) determines that Councillor Patrick Allen will not attend future meetings of the Titjikala Local Authority in person but rather will either attend via Teams or at the Alice Springs Office.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.11
TITLE:	Discussion Paper 2026-2027 Regional Plan
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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.

OCM2026-23 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Patrick Allen)

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.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.12
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest Policy v3
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval for the update of the Conflict of Interest Policy v3.

OCM2026-24 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council adopts the Conflict of Interest Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.13
TITLE:	Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval for the update of the Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2.

OCM2026-25 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Andrew Davis)

That Council adopts the Filling Casual Vacancies Policy v2 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.14
TITLE:	Procurement Policy v7
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval for the update of the Procurement Policy v7.

OCM2026-26 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council adopts the Procurement Policy v7 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.15
TITLE:	Caretaker Policy v3
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval for the update of the Caretaker Policy v3.

OCM2026-27 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)

That Council adopts the Caretaker Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

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.

OCM2026-28 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Dalton McDonald)

That Elected Members raised general matters and items of concern and resolved as follows:

- a) that Caylus is not to attend meetings of Local Authorities or associate itself with the activities of MacDonnell Regional Council;
- b) that Council writes to Caylus to ascertain exactly what its responsibilities are;
- c) that Council writes to NIAA to request that funding for the Kintore Recreational Hall be transferred to MacDonnell Regional Council;
- d) that Council writes to Minister Yan, Minister Edgington and Minister Boothby regarding the sealing of the Santa Teresa Road and the Arltunga Tourist Road;
- e) that Councillor Davis is to provide the CEO with the contact details for the entity that occupies part of the Amoonguna building;
- f) that Council nominates Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka, Councillor Mark Inkamala, Councillor Andrew Davis and Councillor Veronica Lynch as representatives on the Heritage Council.

Minute note: The CEO advised that Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety has been nominated for the Northern Territory Young Achievement Award. Members congratulated Ms Taylor on her nomination.

Minute note: The CEO reminded Members that the next meeting of Council is only three weeks away.

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.

OCM2026-29 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

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

Minute note: The Open section of the meeting closed at 12.29pm.

18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

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

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.

OCM2026-35 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)

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:

OCM2026-30 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

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

OCM2026-31 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Lynn Ward)

That Council notes and receives the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of the 18th December 2025.

OCM2026-32 RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)

That Council:

- a) notes the PKF Audit Closing Report 2024-25 and Management's response; and
- b) congratulates Management on the results of the audit.

OCM2026-33 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)

That Council approves the extension of the external auditor contract for a further two years including the audit periods for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years.

OCM2026-34 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)

That Council:

- a) considers and notes the NTG Final Compliance Review Report 2023-2024 and
- b) notes the Administration's response to the Report.

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting - 17 April 2026 - 10:00 AM

21 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting concluded at 12.47pm.

This page and the preceding 12 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Friday 20 March 2026 and are unconfirmed.

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.

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER	8.1
TITLE	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected of the 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.

9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

ITEM NUMBER	9.1
TITLE	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Santa Teresa - Menzies School of Health Research
AUTHOR	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 02: Healthy Communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Representatives from the Menzies School of Health Research would like to attend the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting on the 13 May to provide a brief update on the ORVAC study.

They would also like to introduce the THRIVE study and are seeking endorsement from the Local Authority to visit Santa Teresa and offer the study on a voluntary basis to eligible community members.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves (does not approve) the request by the Menzies School of Health Research to attend the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting on the 13 May 2026 to provide an update on the ORVAC study, introduce the THRIVE study and seek approval to visit Santa Teresa to invite eligible families to participate in the THRIVE study.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Menzies School of Health Research has, for 40 years, been leading health research in the Northern Territory and beyond, with offices in Darwin, Alice Springs and Timor-Leste. Their work strengthens healthcare systems and empowers communities through education, training, and capacity building. Their work is guided by the belief that everyone deserves access to high-quality healthcare—especially those who need it most.

The ORVAC study led by Dr Bianca Middleton, has been recruiting across the Northern Territory since 2018 and is now coming to a close. ORVAC has been looking at whether an extra dose of the rotavirus vaccine can help improve protection against gastroenteritis for First Nations babies.

Dr Bianca Middleton has begun a new project called the THRIVE study. This will investigate extra protection for First Nations babies against RSV infection, a virus that can cause serious breathing problems and is a leading cause of hospitalisation for First Nations children. This new study aims to find out whether giving a dose at 6 months of the RSV immunisation can help offer longer-lasting protection.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Deputation Request - Menzies School of Health Research

Deputation Request to attend Council meeting

Council requires deputation requests are submitted by email to governance@macdonnell.nt.gov.au four (4) weeks before the Council meeting. Deputation presentations to be 20 minutes or less followed by 10 minutes for questions, utilising clear visual communications and delivered in plain English or through an interpreter



Council meeting details	
Meeting date	Santa Teresa - 13th May 2026

Your contact details	
Name	Robyn Enever
Position	Research Nurse
Organisation	Menzies School of Health Research
Department / Agency	Alice Springs Site
Email address	robyn.enever@menzies.edu.au
Phone number(s)	8959 5381
How many will attend	3 : Registered Nurses Robyn Enever & Jess Tudor; Indigenous Project Officer Gloria Baliva

Details for your deputation report
Name of organisation and/or presentation Menzies School of Health Research ORVAC and THRIVE Studies
Select and complete the statement that best suits your deputation: <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information to the Council about: Past and upcoming health research projects <input type="checkbox"/> Seek information from the Council about: Suitability of staff visiting Amoonguna community to invite families to participate in the study. <input type="checkbox"/> Seek a recommendation from the Council that: We are seeking endorsement from the Local Authority for Menzies staff to visit Santa Teresa and offer the study on a voluntary basis to eligible community members
Describe the purpose of the presentation We would like to provide a brief update on the ORVAC study led by Dr Bianca Middleton, which has been recruiting across the Northern Territory since 2018 and is now coming to a close. ORVAC has been looking at whether an extra dose of the rotavirus vaccine can help improve protection against gastroenteritis for First Nations babies. We would also like to introduce the THRIVE study, also led by Dr Bianca Middleton, which is looking at how we can provide extra protection for First Nations babies against RSV infection, a virus that can cause serious breathing problems and is a leading cause of hospitalisation for First Nations children. This new study aims to find out whether giving a dose at 6months of the RSV immunisation can help offer longer-lasting protection.

Background information to support your deputation

Deputation Request to attend Council meeting

Council requires deputation requests are submitted by email to governance@macdonnell.nt.gov.au four (4) weeks before the Council meeting. Deputation presentations to be 20 minutes or less followed by 10 minutes for questions, utilising clear visual communications and delivered in plain English or through an interpreter



<p>Please make a brief statement about your organisation and project and summarise its history and purpose.</p> <p>Menzies School of Health Research has, for 40 years, been leading health research in the Northern Territory and beyond, with offices in Darwin, Alice Springs and Timor-Leste. Our work strengthens healthcare systems and empowers communities through education, training, and capacity building. Our work is always guided by the belief that everyone deserves access to high-quality healthcare—especially those who need it most.</p>
<p>Describe issues or consequences relevant to the presentation</p>
<p>Describe financial or timing matters relevant to the presentation</p>
<p>Provide any communication materials intended to support the presentation (<i>attach copies where possible</i>)</p> <p>Subject to ethics approval, we hope to have our Participant Information Sheets available to share at the meeting. We will provide printed copies and email to interested parties. Should this not be available at the time of the meeting, we will email to those interested as soon as possible.</p>

Declaration of applicant	
<p>I respect the MacDonnell Regional Council and its supporting processes and accept that I must confirm my attendance by email to governance@macdonnell.nt.gov.au at least three weeks prior to the meeting</p>	
Signed	Date
Robyn Enever	30/03/2026

Chief Executive Officer to complete	
<p>I approve / do not approve (strike out which doesn't apply) this Deputation Request</p>	
<p>Name _____</p>	
Signed	Date

9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

ITEM NUMBER 9.2
TITLE Presentation by LGANT
AUTHOR Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 03: Empowered Communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Representatives from LGANT are visiting MRC and will be attending the meeting to provide an overview of LGANT member benefits and services.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the LGANT presentation.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

MacDonnell Regional Council is a member of LGANT. Today's presentation gives members, especially those newly elected members, an understanding of the role of LGANT and an opportunity to provide feedback directly to the LGANT President, Cr Peter Pangquee of the City of Darwin and LGANT CEO, Mary Watson, regarding Council's membership.

A PowerPoint presentation will be shown at the meeting.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

MRC derives numerous benefits from its membership of LGANT.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

The cost of MRC's membership is factored into the annual budget.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

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

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities
Goal 02: Healthy Communities
Goal 03: Empowered Communities
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

The Local Authority meetings covered in this report are for the period between the 9th February to the 31st March and include:

- Finke – 4 March 2026
- Kintore – 12 March 2026
- Titjikala – 17 March 2026
- Hermannsburg – 25 March 2026
- Santa Teresa – 26 March 2026
- Areyonga – 31 March 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) **confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Finke, Kintore, Titjikala, Hermannsburg, Santa Teresa, Areyonga**
- b) **accepts the Authorities allocations towards the new project proposals as follows:**
 - **\$20,000.00 towards demolishing the building at the Basketball Court in Kintore;**
 - **\$10,000.00 towards 2 x Pedestrian Crossings in Santa Teresa**
 - **\$15,000.00 towards a Ride on mower for Areyonga**
 - **\$90,889.46 towards Upgrades to the Football Oval in Hermannsburg**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

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

There were only two Local Authority meetings in February primarily due to the flooded roadways and severe weather conditions.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Elected Members

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 FLA draft minutes - 04.03.2026
- 2 KLA draft minutes - 12.03.2026
- 3 TLA draft minutes - 17.03.2026
- 4 HLA draft minutes - 25.03.2026
- 5 STLA draft minutes - 26.03.2026
- 6 ARLA draft minutes - 31.03.2026



MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.30AM

1.1 NOMINATION OF ACTING CHAIR

FLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Susan Doolan)

That members nominated Thomas Stewart as Acting Chair of the Local Authority meeting.

2 WELCOME

The attendees were welcomed by Thomas Stewart and quorum was achieved.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Rosemary Matasia, Member Bridget Doolan, Member Susan Doolan and Member Thomas Stewart.

Councillors

Via Teams: Councillor Veronica Lynch and Councillor Matthew Palmer

Council Employees

Council Services Coordinator Bryan Forby

Via Teams: A/Director Council Services Jake Potter, Area Manager Council Services Damien Ryan, Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg, and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Guests- Via Teams

Shane Franey – Member for Namitjira, Bill Yan’s office



Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Minutes

Dee [Adelle McCorkindale] – Project Officer Community Development – Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development, NTG

Malavika Manoj – Project Officer Community Development – Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development, NTG

Bernadette Sheilds – Australian Bureau of Statics Census Engagement Team

Bri Alexander – Manager, Digital and Community Engagement, CAAMA Radio

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.

FLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Rosemary Matasia/Bridget Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Councillor Andrew Davis, President Roxanne Kenny, A/CEO Keith Hassett and Penangke Cultural Consultants; and
- c) recorded the Member absences, without notice, of Michael Ferguson, Darryl Doolan and Councillor Patrick Allen for this meeting.

Minute note: Due to inclement weather this meeting was attended by non-residents remotely

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and membership on the Authority, highlight current vacancies, and to apprise the Local Authority of any legislative changes to appointments introduced in the Local Government Act 2019 (the Act).

FLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Rosemary Matasia)

That the Local Authority;

- a) welcomed returning Councillors Patrick Allen, Andrew Davis and duly elected Councillors Veronica Lynch and Matthew Palmer to the Finke Local Authority;
- b) accepted the following appointments of Council;
 - o Roxanne Kenny as President
 - o Maryanne Malbunka as Deputy President;
- c) called for community nominations to remain open to fill the vacancy;
- d) noted that memberships will be revoked if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.



Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Minutes

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Rosemary Matasia)

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 13 August 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

FLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Susan Doolan)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Finke Local Authority Meeting held 13 August 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings with the amendment in the Non-Council Business report that the bicycles provided by Bill Yan’s office were donated by Northern Territory Police.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Thomas Stewart)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Susan Doolan)

That the Local Authority Meeting:

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

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the information provided by the Census Engagement Team as follows:

- A summary of what the census is.
- What the data is used for.
- How the census is carried out.
- That the individual information collected remains confidential and is not shared with other government agencies.
- Details about job opportunities working with the Census teams and were advised that interested people should visit their local employment service provider to get assistance with applying for jobs.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	CAAMA Radio
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The representatives from CAAMA Radio are seeking permission from the Local Authority



Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Minutes

to install metal signs within the community that will display the CAAMA Radio frequency and encourage community members and visitors to tune in to the radio.

CAAMA Radio is also seeking guidance about the most appropriate location for the sign, whether at the entrance to the community or another agreed place.

FLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) approved the installation of a CAAMA Radio sign within the community; and
- b) advised that they would like the sign to be near the entrance to the community. Members will advise the CSC Bryan Forby of their preferred location and MRC will work with CAAMA radio to ensure that the location is suitable.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the information provided by Penangke Cultural Consultants.

Minute Note: Representative submitted an apology and did not attend the meeting.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

FLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Rosemary Matasia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) reviewed the information presented;
- b) provided feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan as



Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Minutes

follows:

- members would like a more consistent Youth Program currently provided by NPY Women’s Council
- more interaction with head office staff
- more training for employees
- more full-time positions
- Mobile water tank for use at the cemetery and shade trees and fruit trees added to the community infrastructure plan.

Minute note

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Action Register
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the updates to the actions as received; and
- b) reiterated that they would prefer a fence around the grounds of the community safety office;
- c) moved enclose the trusses under the shade structure at Titji Park to the project wish-list with the Project management office to investigate materials and cost.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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



Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Minutes

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.

FLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Rosemary Matasia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledges that \$15,703.66 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) notes the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management office as follows:
 - project 2131 New Solar Lights and Batteries – only 2 solar lights were operational. These have been installed. Closed this project and returned unused funds to unallocated once all invoices have been received.
 - Project 2133 Wash Down Bay – reopened this project so that the invoices can be paid noting that this project will be closed and remaining funds returned to unallocated funds once all invoices have been received.
 - Project 2134 Bench Seats, Concrete and Sporting Equipment – that all materials are in community and ready for installation by the Civil Team;
- d) approved that the Project Management Office pivots its major project from Community Orchard to Lights at the Football Oval possibly using solar power to circumvent the requirement for upgrades to Power and Water's infrastructure; and
- e) created a new wishlist item from the action item 'Enclose the Trusses' under the shade structure at Titji Park noting that the PMO will investigate materials and costs to be presented at the next meeting.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.4
TITLE:	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Rosemary Matasia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that the funds have been returned as the events did not take place due to Sorry Business;
- b) allocated \$4,000.00 for the purchase of football guernseys for the Finke Crows football team; and
- c) acknowledged that the funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2026.



Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Minutes

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-14 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the attached report.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

FLA2026-15 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Rosemary Matasia)

That the Local Authority of Finke noted and accepted the Aged and Children's Services report.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Youth And Community Safety Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety in Finke

FLA2026-16 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Rosemary Matasia)

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

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	General Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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



Finke Local Authority Meeting 4 March 2026 – Minutes

Business items.

FLA2026-17 RESOLVED (Thomas Stewart/Bridget Doolan)

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

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	Non-Council Business
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

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

FLA2026-18 RESOLVED (Bridget Doolan/Thomas Stewart)

That the Local Authority:

- a) closes the item 'Water Issues' as this matter has been resolved;
- b) were advised that there will be a team from housing in Finke on the 17 March to discuss maintenance and tenancy issues;
- c) advised that the airconditioners in the community are swampies, not functional and have been an issue for an extended period of time and that this is causing health issues for the residents including the very young and older people. This issue is a source of intense concern for residents.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 20 MAY, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:54 pm.

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



MINUTES OF THE KINTORE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE KINTORE COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.33AM

2 WELCOME

The attendees were welcomed by Chairperson Giselle Barku and quorum was achieved.

Minute Note: Due to members being located in both Kintore and Alice Springs, this meeting was held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Giselle Barku (Chairperson), Member Phyllis Rowe, Member Lorraine Scobie and Member Marlene Spencer.

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny and Councillor Lynn Ward.

Council Employees

Acting CEO Keith Hassett, Executive Manager People & Capabilities and Governance Katie Fuller, Contracts Manager Mark O'Bryan, Council Services Coordinator Jane Turahui, Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenberg, and Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Guests

Bernadette Shields – Australian Bureau of Statistics [ABS] Census Engagement Team

Adele McCorkindale and Malavika Manoj – Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

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.



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 12 March 2026 – Minutes

KLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Phyllis Rowe)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Member Joe Young, Member Bundi Rowe, Member Rex Eddie and Councillor Dalton McDonald for this meeting; and
- c) recorded no Member absences, without notice, for this meeting.

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Lorraine Scobie/Marlene Spencer)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the current membership of the Authority;
- b) noted that there are no vacancies on the Local Authority; and
- c) acknowledged that 2 consecutive absences without notice will result in a termination of membership.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Marlene Spencer)

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 12 March 2026 – Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Kintore Local Authority Meeting held 9 December 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

KLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Kintore Local Authority meeting held 9 December 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

Minute Note: Members asked when and where the Splash Pad would be built and were informed that

- letters have been written to apply for funding through Tranche 3 community infrastructure plans
- the funding allocation recommendations from these discussions will be presented to the Aboriginal Leadership Group of which President Roxanne Kenny is a member and will advocate for Kintore to get funding for a splash pad.
- This is how MacDonnell Regional Council is seeking funding for the Splash Pad at this stage. Other avenues may be explored if this funding does not eventuate.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Lynn Ward)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Marlene Spencer)

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Lynn Ward)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the information provided by the Census Engagement Team about the following:

- The importance of counting all community members in the census for funding for community resources.
- Census information is kept confidential and individual’s information is not shared between government departments.
- Employees of the ABS will be ‘pinning homes’ as part of the counting of dwellings process with mobile phones. It may appear to community members that their homes are being photographed, but this is not the case.
- The employment opportunities created in community to work with the Census team including types of positions, and key application and contract dates.
- Outlined how these employees will facilitate participation of community members in the Census.
- Sharon Hayes from the Census Engagement Team would be going out to Kintore next week to talk to people in the community.

Minute Note: Bernadette Sheilds [ABS] left the meeting after her presentation at 11:07am.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 12 March 2026 – Minutes

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

KLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Giselle Barku)

That the Local Authority:

- a) reviewed the information presented;
- b) provided feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan as follows:
 - A new garbage truck for Kintore.
 - Explore options to provide a service to support young children and mothers, potentially in partnership with the school.
 - Fix water issues at out-stations.
 - A learning centre where community members who are no longer of school age can develop numeracy and literacy skills.
 - Posters advertising community events.
 - Improved buffel grass management.
 - Increased playground maintenance.
 - Regular well-being checks for staff that include finding out if they are struggling with work and if they need training.

Minute Note: The Council Services Coordinator informed members that the CSC and Team Leader check on the well-being of their staff informally every week.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 12 March 2026 – Minutes

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

KLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Lynn Ward)

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledged that \$67,097.03 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- b) noted the Project Funding Acquittal and Certification [tabled] as at 30 June 2025;
- c) noted that the unallocated funds of \$98,097.03 precludes the 2025/2026 Project Funding grant of \$68,800.00;
- d) accepted the progress on their current project 2173 '2 Bin Trailers' that the trailers have arrived in Alice Springs and: are in the process of being registered, are booked in for some additional electrical work and will be delivered to Kintore after Easter;
- e) created a new project 'Demolish Building at the Basketball Court' and allocated \$20,000.00; and
- f) added '2 Pool Tables for the Rechall' to the wish-list noting that the PMO will look into the cost.

Minute Note: CSC Jane Turahui left the meeting at 11:40am to attend to operational matters.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Phyllis Rowe/Lorraine Scobie)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that \$1,466.86 was spent on the Community Christmas BBQ with all invoices received;
- b) noted that the next meeting of the Kintore Local Authority is 3 June 2026;
- c) allocated the remaining funds of \$2,533.14 to an Easter celebration to be organised by Phyllis Rowe and Lorraine Scobie; and
- d) acknowledged that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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



Kintore Local Authority Meeting 12 March 2026 – Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Lorraine Scobie)

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Lorraine Scobie/Phyllis Rowe)

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

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	General Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

KLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Marlene Spencer)

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

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.

KLA2026-14 RESOLVED (Giselle Barku/Marlene Spencer)

Kintore Local Authority Meeting 12 March 2026 – Minutes



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

- a) that community members have been reporting issues with air-conditioners to Housing and these matters have not been resolved. At times repairs are done, only for the air-conditioners to stop working shortly after. The community would like swampy air-conditioners replaced with split system air-conditioners;
- b) members reported that food supplies at the store have been low due to the recent weather events and supplied advice that the fuel supply has been okay; and
- c) requested information about how many renovations are planned on houses in Kintore.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:07 am.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Kintore Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.



AGENDA

TITJIKALA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2026

The Titjikala Local Authority Meeting of the MacDonnell Regional Council will be held at the Titjikala Council Office on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 10:30 AM.

Belinda Urquhart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	MEETING OPENING	
2	WELCOME	
3	ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE	
3.1	Attendance / Apologies / Leave	5
4	NOMINATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP	
4.1	Local Authority Membership	6
5	COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT	
5.1	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct	9
6	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	
6.1	Titjikala Local Authority Meeting - 4 September 2025	12
7	ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA	
7.1	That the papers circulated are received for consideration at the meeting.	21
8	COUNCIL CONFLICT OF INTEREST	
8.1	Conflict of Interest	22
9	DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS - NIL	
10	LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE	
10.1	Introduction to the Regional Plan.....	24
10.2	Local Authority Project Register	25
11	COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS	
11.1	Council Services LA Report.....	31
11.2	Aged and Children's Services Report	35
11.3	Youth and Community Safety Report	44
12	GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS	
12.1	General Council Business	52
13	NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS	
13.1	Non-Council Business	53

Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda



- 14 NEXT MEETING
- 15 MEETING CLOSED



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER 3.1
TITLE Attendance, Apologies and Leave

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 to acknowledge the attendance and to table, for the Authority's record, any apologies received from Members for this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) tables apologies received for this meeting;
- c) records the Member absences, without notice, for this meeting; and
- d) receives requests for future leave of absence.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

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



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

ITEM NUMBER 4.1
TITLE Local Authority Membership
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 an overview to the membership of the Titjikala Local Authority, identifies any existing vacancies and records attendance to the previous Authority meeting. It also informs members of any recent legislative changes to appointment procedures introduced under the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Member Geoffrey Campbell was nominated as Chair for a period of 12 months; effective until July 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) congratulates Councillors Andrew Davis and Patrick Allen on their re-election;
- b) welcomes newly elected Councillors Veronica Lynch and Matthew Palmer to the Authority;
- c) considers the nomination received from Ms Lisa Sharman;
- d) notes the vacancies available and calls for community nominations to open.

BACKGROUND

The chart below shows the attendance of the Local Authority members at the previous meeting held 4 September 2025. No further meeting was held after this period.

If you are unable to attend an LA meeting, it is important that you let the Council Services Coordinator know. Should an apology not be received, you may be recorded as absent. If you are again recorded as absent from a second Authority meeting, your membership will be dismissed.

Appointed Members Titjikala LA	Meeting Attendance 4 September 2025
Geoffrey Campbell – Chairperson	Present
Terry Simmons	Apology
Lena Campbell	Present
Janie Campbell	Present
Debra Claude	Present
Lisa Sharman – Nomination submitted	
Vacant	



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

Elected Members Rodinga Ward	
Cr Lisa Sharman	Present
Cr Patrick Allen	Present
Cr Andrew Davis	Absent
Vacant	
President Roxanne Kenny	Present

Local Authorities Overview:

Local Authorities are composed of community members and convene **four times per year** to discuss:

- Council service delivery
- Project funding and progress
- Community project ideas

Functions of Local Authorities (as per the Local Government Act 2019, Section 78):

- Engage communities in local government issues
- Provide a platform for community opinions
- Influence local, regional, and area-wide policy development
- Represent and advocate for community views to the council
- Contribute to regional planning
- Make recommendations on council budgets and local matters
- Carry out additional functions as assigned by the Minister

This framework ensures that Local Authorities act as a conduit between communities and Council, fostering inclusive governance and informed decision-making

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Council’s Local Authority Meeting Procedure, para.4.14: Nominations and Appointments states:

- a) 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.
- b) in the case 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 to the next Council meeting. The Council may appoint based on the submitted nominations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If Local Authorities do not maintain their membership numbers, their ability to make quorum for their meetings is impaired and they may not be able to commit funds to Community projects and events.

All members must attend at least 75% of the Local Authority meeting to qualify for the meeting allowance. For non-employees of Council, the allowance is usually paid on Friday, after a meeting. For Council Staff, you may be eligible for the allowance at the next scheduled pay from MRC.

CONSULTATION

The Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 TLA Nomination - Lisa Sharman


Local Authority Nomination Form MC02-F1



NOMINATION

I, LISA SHARMAN wish to nominate as a
(Name of nominee)

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

 04 10 25
(Signature of nominee) Date

ENDORSEMENT


I, Geoffrey Campbell endorse the nomination of this
(Name of endorsing Local Authority member)

nominee to this Local Authority.

Geoffrey Campbell 4 1 9 2025
(Signature of Local Authority member) Date

RETURNING OFFICER

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

 4 1 9 2025
(Signature of Returning Officer) Date



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

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 the Local Authority 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.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

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 behaviours they can expect from members.

Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda



6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER 6.1
TITLE Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Titjikala Local Authority Meeting held 4 September 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Titjikala Local Authority Meeting held 4 September 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

ATTACHMENTS

1. TITJIKALA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING MEETING 4.9.2025 - MINUTES [1 pages]



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 4 September 2025 – Minutes

MINUTES OF THE TITJIKALA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE TITJIKALA COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:45AM

2 WELCOME

Chair Geoffrey Campbell

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Geoffrey Campbell (Chairperson), Member Debra Claude, Member Lena Campbell and Member Janie Campbell

Councillors

Councillor Lisa Sharman, Councillor Patrick Allen and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Ken Satour – Area Manager, Mark O’Bryan – Area Manager, Ryan Rosenberg – Project Officer, June Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Ruth Tahere – Acting Manager, PMO Office attended via Teams

Guests

Shane Franey – Representative Member for Namatjira Office
 Amelia Kunoth-Monks and Christa Bartjen-Westermann – Representatives from Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit (CAAFLU)

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.

TLA2025-35 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Lena Campbell)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the Member’s attendance at this meeting;
- b) tables the apology received from Terry Simmons for this meeting; and
- c) records the absence of Councillor Andrew Davis, without notice, for this meeting.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 4 September 2025 – Minutes

4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Member Geoffrey Campbell was nominated as Chair for a period of 12 months; effective until July 2026.

TLA2025-36 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Lena Campbell)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the current membership of the Local Authority;
- b) notes that there are two vacancies on the Local Authority; and
- c) calls for community nominations to remain open to fill this vacancy.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-37 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Lena Campbell)

That the Local Authority notes the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Titjikala Local Authority Meeting held 13 June 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

TLA2025-38 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the Local Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Titjikala Local Authority Meeting held 13 June 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-39 RESOLVED (Geoffrey Campbell/Lena Campbell)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-40 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

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

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report aims to introduce the Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit (CAAFLU) and outline its vital role and services in meeting the unique legal needs of Aboriginal Communities in Central Australia.

Key approaches for consideration:

- Increase access to justice by delivering culturally safe and trauma-informed legal and social supports
- Provide early intervention and education on family violence and related issues
- Extend outreach to address unmet legal needs.

TLA2025-41 RESOLVED (Lena Campbell/Geoffrey Campbell)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information presented by the CAAFLU representatives; and
- b) supports community engagement by the CAAFLU representatives in providing legal and non-legal services available to residents.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Remote Water Team Community Information Forums
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an opportunity for the Indigenous Essential Services Remote Water Team to provide information and consult with the Local Authority regarding Community Water Forums.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and accepts the information presented by the representative from the Remote Water Team;
- b) supports a community water forum event to be held in the Titjikala Community; and
- c) shares concerns held by community members regarding water quality, security and infrastructure.

Minute Note: Representatives from the Remote Water Team were not in attendance to this meeting.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-42 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lena Campbell)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that a Representative from Penangke was not in attendance to this meeting; and
- b) requested that Council advise Penangke Cultural Consultants that on behalf of the community, a consultation process is not required as the community will remain a dry community without the need for further discussions or alternative options.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 4 September 2025 – Minutes

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-43 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Geoffrey Campbell)

That the Local Authority noted the update that funding is still being sourced towards ‘Sealing Maryvale road’ and closed this action, with the expectation that Minister Bill Yan will present a response at the November Authority meeting.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

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

TLA2025-44 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Lena Campbell)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **acknowledged that \$40,226.68 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) **noted the progress on their current projects provided by the Project Management office as follows:**

- agreed to the purchase of two Defender Solar lights noting that the lights were a little smaller than standard street lights, and will be installed by the Civil team.
 - agreed that the outdoor table and chairs be installed at the empty shed near the oval.
 - noted that the Bin Trailer is undergoing additional electrical work, to ensure the batteries are more efficient.
Members further agreed that once the trailer arrives in community, the underspend from this project, currently \$4,527.22 will be used to establish a new project dedicated to the ongoing maintenance, servicing and potential repairs of the Bin Trailer.
 - noted the Solar lights at the Entrance is yet to be completed.
 - agreed to allocate \$40,000.00 towards a fence for the Cemetery Project, requesting that the steering committee commit \$60,000.00, noting that surveying and the choice of fencing will be determined once the funds are confirmed.
Councillor Lisa Sharman has extended an invite to the CEO and the Project Management Office to attend the Steering Committee meeting once a date has been finalised.
- c) noted that the current balance of unallocated funds stand at \$11,108.88; and
d) noted that no projects were closed at this meeting.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-45 RESOLVED (Lena Campbell/Geoffrey Campbell)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that \$453.09 was spent in the last financial year with invoices received;
- b) noted that the invoice for the gardening equipment when received will be carried over to the 2025/2026 financial year allocation leaving a balance of \$839.28;
- c) noted the decision by the CEO to top up the Authority's 2025/2026 Discretionary funds to \$4,000.00;
- d) agreed to allocate \$2,000.00 of its Discretionary funds towards a BBQ for the Lighting of the Football lights, leaving a balance of \$2,000.00 to spend;
- e) acknowledged that the Discretionary funds must be spent with invoices received by the 30th June 2026;
- f) noted that there is another \$4,000.00 donated by the insurance company and agreed to spend this funding on the following purchases:
 - 1 x Softball Kit, 2 x right hand gloves, 12 x water bottles and 1 x carriers.
 - 3 x Footballs, 24 x water bottles and 2 x carriers.
 - 2 x Esky's for water.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 4 September 2025 – Minutes

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The attached list of vacancies are opportunities for community members to contribute to the community needs, and the People and Capabilities team asks those present at the Local Authority meeting to encourage community members to apply.

TLA2025-46 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the Local Authority accepted the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Titjikala as of 19th August 2025.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-47 RESOLVED (Geoffrey Campbell/Lisa Sharman)

That the Local Authority of Titjikala noted and accepted the Council Services report.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 4 September 2025 – Minutes

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Community Services Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Administrator Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-48 RESOLVED (Lena Campbell/Janie Campbell)

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

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	General Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-49 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Geoffrey Campbell)

That the Local Authority noted the matters discussed:

- **Recruitment is underway for a Council Services Coordinator.**
- **Council Services to check the Oval Goal posts.**
- **Council Services to check the damage at Northside Park.**
- **Lighting of the Footy lights.**
- **Manager Fleet to follow up on No through-road signs when they attend to complete an audit.**

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	General Non-Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

TLA2025-50 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Geoffrey Campbell)

That the Local Authority did not raise any matters at this meeting.

Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 4 September 2025 – Minutes



14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:45 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Titjikala Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 4 September 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.

UNCONFIRMED



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER 6.1
TITLE Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER 7.1
TITLE Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

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

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.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

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.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER	10.1
TITLE	Introduction to the Regional Plan
AUTHOR	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities

Goal 02: Healthy Communities

Goal 03: Empowered Communities

Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) **reviews the information presented;**
- b) **provides feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan.**

BACKGROUND

Each year, MacDonnell Regional Council produces a Regional Plan that serves as a roadmap for strategic growth and development. The plan outlines how MRC will continue to support and strengthen its communities across all sectors. It identifies not only the direction in which the Council is heading, but also the strategies and actions that will be undertaken to achieve these outcomes in partnership with the community.

The accompanying PowerPoint presentation provides members with an opportunity to consider key issues affecting MRC communities, including matters such as employment, infrastructure, and other priority areas.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

The Local Authority may provide feedback during the presentation of this report. Alternatively, members may choose to discuss the ideas presented with others in the community and provide their feedback at the next meeting of the Local Authority.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In considering the Regional Plan there will often be a financial impact. This is considered when the budget for 2026-27 is developed.

CONSULTATION

The Local Authority

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

ITEM NUMBER 10.2
TITLE Local Authority Project Register
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

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.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the Project Funding Acquittal and Certification (attached) as at 30 June 2025;
- b) acknowledges that \$34,120.40 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- c) notes the available funds of \$47,008.88 includes the 2024/2025 Project Funding grant of \$35,900.00;
- d) notes the progress on the current projects as provided by the Project Management office; and
- e) closes any completed projects.

BACKGROUND

Members of the Local Authority allocate project funds to support community and sporting infrastructure, open space developments and community priorities. These projects are intended to assist communities to improve community amenity through the provision of social and community facilities.

Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

Local Authorities must formally resolve each initiative for which this funding will be used.

Project 2213		Solar Lights near Lots 62 and 78	\$
		Status	Committed
13-Jun-25	Res.029 – Created a new project Solar Lights near lots 62 & 78 and allocated \$10,000.00 to this project.		10,000.00
4-Sep-25	Res.044 – Agrees to the purchase of two Defender Solar lights noting that the lights were a little smaller than standard streetlights and will be installed by the Civil team.		
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Lights to be ordered by end of September.		
3-Nov-25	PO raised with Green Frog Systems.		- 5,699.00
1-Dec-25	PMO update – Solar lights have just arrived and will be delivered on the 3.12.2025, to be installed by the Civil Team. Project can be closed once installation is completed as there are no further costs.		
		underspend or (overspend)	\$ 4,301.00

Project 2214		Outdoor Dining Area	\$
		Status	Committed
16-May-24	Res.066 – Create a new project - Outdoor dining area. Concrete in an outdoor table, chairs and fence under the shade structure at the back of the Store. NB: No allocation amount specified.		
1-Aug-24	Res.048 – the following decisions noted: - allocated \$10,000.00 to the project - that a fence is no longer required - agreed on table and chairs to seat 8 and have them concreted in; and - cracker dust flooring with CS to confirm quantity.		10,000.00
8-Aug-24	Balance of Purchase Order raised with Felton Industries. PO has since been cancelled.		
14-Aug-24	Invoice received from Felton Industries - Park Seating.		- 2,098.00
28-Aug-24	Purchase Order raised with SDS Landscaping Supplies - Cracker Dust. Duplicated PO removed.		
29-Oct-24	Invoice received from Felton Industries - Park Seating.		- 189.00
14-Nov-24	Invoice rec from SDS Landscaping Supplies - Cracker Dust.		- 1,720.40
27-Nov-24	Res.067 – Noted that more cracker dust to be ordered.		
13-Jan-25	PMO update - Need to determine situation re this project.		
11-Mar-25	PMO update - Expect completion soon		
27-Mar-25	Res.011 – PMO will work with Council Services to complete this project. It is expected to be finished by next meeting.		
11-Apr-25	PMO update - Must close project as the lease belongs to the store - need to determine where the items purchased will be placed.		
13-Jun-25	Res.029 – The items cannot be installed in the requested area as this is privately leased by the store. These items will be held until the Local Authority can decide about where they would like them installed.		
4-Sep-25	Res.044 – Agrees that the outdoor table and chairs be installed at the empty shed near the oval.		
1-Dec-25	PMO update - Due to staffing issues and sorry business the furniture has not been installed yet.		
		underspend or (overspend)	\$ 5,992.60



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

Project 2215		1 x Bin Trailer	\$
		Status	Committed
27-Nov-24	Res.067 - Created a new project – 1 x Bin Trailer, allocating \$18,000.00.		18,000.00
13-Jan-25	PMO update - in final design stage - will be ordered as soon as finalised quotes are available.		
6-Feb-25	PO raised with Modern Trailers Pty Ltd - 4 months delivery time.		
13-Jun-25	Res.029 – The Bin Trailer is expected to be delivered in August.		
19-Jun-25	Invoice received from Modern Trailers Pty Ltd.		- 13,318.15
31-Jul-25	Invoice received from Napa Auto Parts - Battery Chargers		- 154.60
4-Sep-25	Res.044 – Notes that the Bin Trailer is undergoing additional electrical work, to ensure the batteries are more efficient. Members further agreed that once the trailer arrives in community, the underspend from this project, currently \$4,527.22 will be used to establish a new project dedicated to the ongoing maintenance, servicing and potential repairs of the Bin Trailer.		
5-Sep-25	Invoice received from Steve's Electrix Pty Ltd - GPO's and inlets.		- 252.68
22-Sep-25	PMO update – Trailer is ready to go and delivery to be arranged – Project can be closed as all invoices have been received.		
		underspend or (overspend)	\$ 4,274.54

Project 2400		Solar lights at Entrance	\$
		Status	Committed
2-Nov-23	Res.066 – Solar light at the entrance, allocating \$5,000.00.		5,000.00
29-Feb-24	Res.012 – Additional funds of \$1,500.00 allocated.		1,500.00
16-May-24	Res.030 – Kept project open.		
1-Aug-24	Res.048 – Kept project open.		
25-Sep-24	Invoices from Green Frog Systems.		- 630.00
2-Oct-24	Invoice received from Bunnings - concrete mix.		- 914.62
29-Oct-24	Invoice received from Stanes Transport - freight of pallets.		- 612.00
27-Nov-24	Res.067 – Waiting until a full capacity Civil team is available to install.		
13-Jan-25	PMO update - Civil team will be installing lights.		
1-Jun-25	PMO update - Civil team will be undertaking training in the next two months and will be installing the lights as part of the training exercises.		
13-Jun-25	Res.029 – This will be installed by the civil team in conjunction with training in July.		
4-Sep-25	Res.044 – Notes the Solar lights at the Entrance is yet to be completed.		
22-Sep-25	PMO update - Training incomplete at this time - lights to be installed in November.		
		underspend or (overspend)	\$ 4,343.38

Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

NEW	Cemetery Upgrades	\$
	Status	Committed
27-Mar-25	Res.011 - created a new Project item 'Cemetery Upgrades' to include the following: • a fence around the cemetery • shade shelter and seating • a water supply and • head stones that can accommodate plaques; and noted that the PMO will develop a plan for this item and that any unallocated funds will be held until the Local Authority receives additional funds which will be allocated to this project.	
1-Jun-25	PMO update - A design has been done with rough pricing established - will be presented at the next LA meeting.	
13-Jun-25	Res.029 – The PMO has developed a plan with some preliminary costings for the Local Authority to consider. Libby Taylor has applied for grant money to establish new cemeteries that comply with the new regulations from the Northern Territory Government. This will require the site to be surveyed. Once the grant parameters have been received and the site has been surveyed, the Local Authority will revisit this project to decide what funds need to be allocated.	
4-Sep-25	Res.044 – Agrees to allocate \$40,000.00 towards a fence for the Cemetery Project, requesting that the steering committee commit \$60,000.00, noting that surveying and the choice of fencing will be determined once the funds are confirmed. Councillor Lisa Sharman has extended an invite to the CEO and the Project Management Office to attend the Steering Committee meeting once a date has been finalised.	40,000.00
1-Dec-25	PMO update – The Steering Committee will not be meeting until early next year at which time the funding will be considered.	
	underspend or (overspend)	\$ 40,000.00

Budget consideration		
	Balance of underspend or (overspend)	\$ 58,911.52
	Total un-allocated funds	47,008.88
	Total unspent funds	\$ 105,920.40

PROJECTS CLOSED 2025-26

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Examples of unacceptable purposes for Expenditure include:

- Purchase of vehicles and fuel expenses.
- Payment of salaries, cash prizes or recurrent operating costs of Council.
- Meeting costs and payments to Local Authority members.
- Sponsorship by way of uniforms, travel costs and allowances.
- Purposes that are not related to local Government Services and that should be addressed by another Government agency.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The purchase of any product or service must comply with MRC's Procurement Policy.

Funds from the Grant must be fully expended within two years of receipt of funding. Failure to expend the funds may result in the funds being returned to the Northern Territory Government.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Titjikala 2024/25 Project Fund Acquittal and Certification

Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25 Certification

Council Name: MacDonnell Regional Council
 Local Authority Name: Titjikala

Income and Expenditure for the period ending 30 June

Total Grant Income:	\$	115,738.38
Total Project Expenditure:	\$	39,611.70
Surplus/(Deficit):	\$	76,126.68

Answering 'No' to any question requires a written explanation with this certification

expenditure shown in this Local Authority Project Funding certification has been actually incurred and project reports submitted are in accordance with:

- the projects submitted by the Local Authority; Yes No
- the Northern Territory Buy Local Plan; Yes No
- the LAPF funding guidelines; and Yes No
- the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulation Yes No

Certification and Project Report prepared by : Zubair Ali 28/08/2025

- The local authority projects reported formed part of the agenda and minutes of:
- Council's ordinary council meeting; and Yes No
 - Local Authority meeting Yes No

Laid before the Council at a meeting (held/ to be held on) 25/09/2025
 Copy of minutes attached to this certification Yes TBA

Laid before the Local Authority at a meeting (held/ to be held on) _____
 Copy of minutes attached to this certification Yes TBA

Project Report completed and attached Yes No

Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer:  28/08/2025

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY
 CERTIFICATION ACCEPTED & RECONCILED Yes No

Comments: _____

Grants Officer sign/date: _____

Manager, Grants Management sign/date: _____



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities
Goal 02: Healthy Communities
Goal 03: Empowered Communities
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the attached report.

BACKGROUND

Nil

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

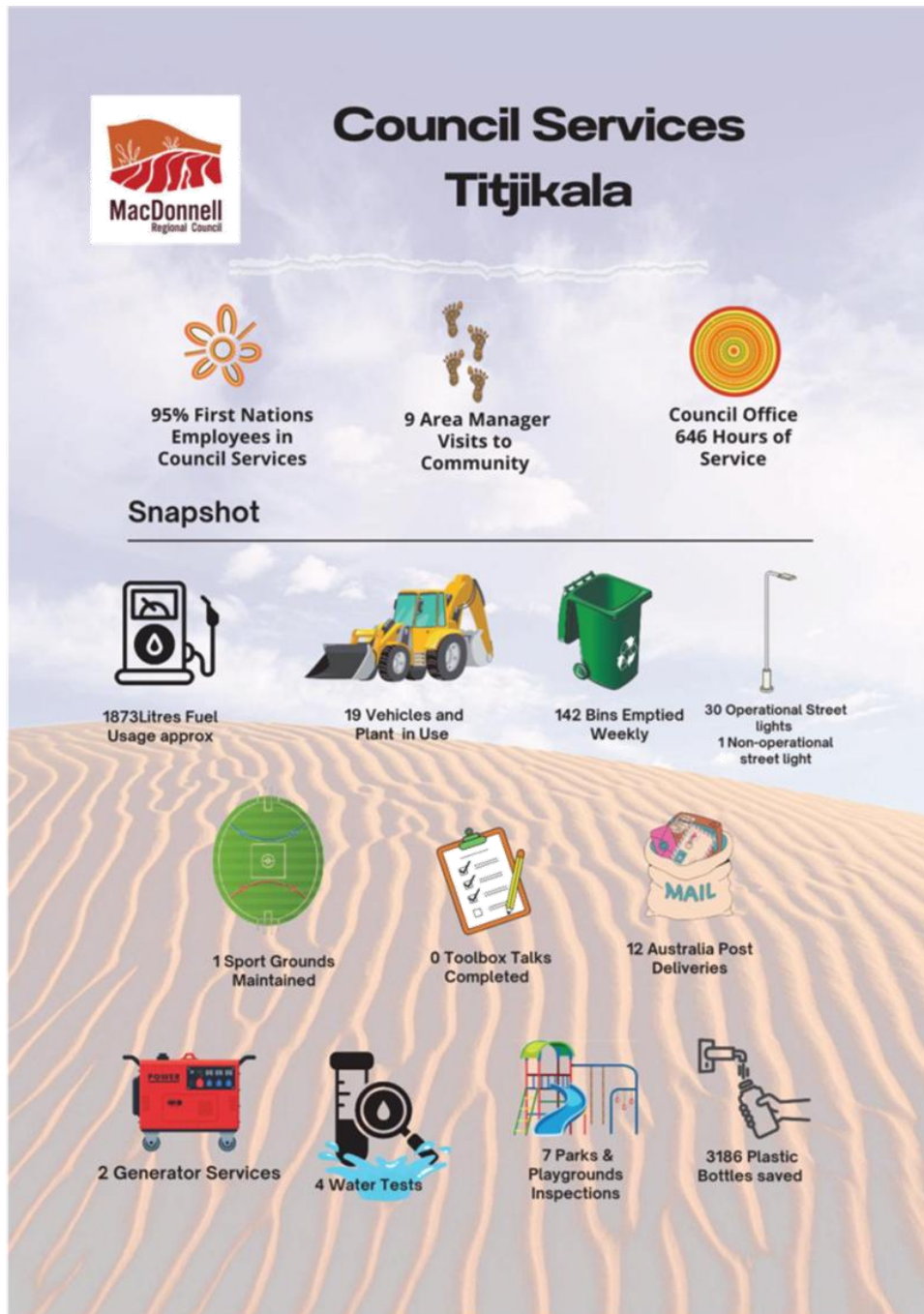
Nil

CONSULTATION

Jake Potter – A/Director Council Services
Damien Ryan – Area Manager
Imelda Agars – Council Services coordinator

ATTACHMENTS

1 Council Services LAR














Council Services Titjikala

95% First Nations Employees in Council Services

9 Area Manager Visits to Community

Council Office 646 Hours of Service

Snapshot

 1873 Litres Fuel Usage approx	 19 Vehicles and Plant in Use	 142 Bins Emptied Weekly	 30 Operational Street lights 1 Non-operational street light
 1 Sport Grounds Maintained	 0 Toolbox Talks Completed	 12 Australia Post Deliveries	
 2 Generator Services	 4 Water Tests	 7 Parks & Playgrounds Inspections	 3186 Plastic Bottles saved

Animal Management

- Animal Management Officer Michelle Hayes planned visit has been interrupted by recent rain in the area. Her next visit is planned for Tuesday 17th March
- During this visit she will deliver the antiparasitic and continue the animal education program
- Vets visited Titjikala community Thursday 5th and Friday 6th March
- Vets desexed 13 dogs during their recent visit.

Cemetery Management

- Cemetery maintenance carried out in early February, needs attention after recent rain.

Internal Road Maintenance

- Maintenance work continues with verge mowing to remove grass after rains
- Creek Crossing cleared of sand after creek flowed during February rains

Maintenance of Parks and Open Spaces

- Playground – End of Main Street, equipment in fair condition, Grounds maintained, some graffiti to be removed. Climbing equipment and swing well used
- Playground – Tjitji Tjutaku (opposite Community Store) - Equipment in good condition, Grass recently cut, pathways are maintained.
- Playground – Tjitji Southern End, Equipment well used by children,

Sports Grounds

- AFL Oval to be dragged this month

Waste Management

- Civil Team pick up Wheelie Bins twice a week.
- New Bins provided late December 2025
- Community Drop Off bays are cleared monthly
- Civil Team do Emu rubbish pick ups
- Waste Management facility covered regularly, Gate locked each night

Weed Control and Fire Hazard Reduction

- Civil Team continues to Whipper snip long grass growing in community





Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities
Goal 02: Healthy Communities
Goal 03: Empowered Communities
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Aged Care and Children's Services report.

BACKGROUND

Aged Care and Children's Services programs continue to be delivered in line with funding requirements.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Ainsley Roscow – Executive Manager of Aged and Children's Services
Emma Hacche – Senior Coordinator of Aged Care
Pavithra Devasurendra- Coordinator Children's Services
And Administration

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Aged and Children's Services Titjikala LAR December 2025 - February 2026



Local Authority Report Titjikala Aged Care Services Dec 25 - Feb 26



3 Staff in the Titjikala team
100% Community-based Employees are
Aboriginal

Stakeholders' engagements:
Allied Health, Catholic Care,
School Principal



Lifts provided: 107



Client Interactions: 248
This includes client welfare
checks and client engagement at
the Aged Care Centre



Personal Care provided: 106
Including:
shower & toilet assistance, laundry
loads, tablet reminders



Active Clients: 6



Training:
Cert III - Individual Support
to commence in the coming weeks



Meals Provided
Breakfast, lunches
& Hampers: 1067
SNP Meals delivered: 411

☀ Updates ☀

The Titjikala Aged Care Centre undertook a planned closure over the Christmas and New Year period, closing on Friday 19 December and reopening on Monday 5 January. To ensure continued support for those remaining in the community during this time, Christmas hampers were provided to the small number of clients who remained in Titjikala over the closure period.

Rosemary is expected to transition into the coordinator role in due course. In the interim, the Titjikala service will continue to receive close operational support from Kabita to ensure continuity of service and oversight.

Cert III in Individual Support training had originally been scheduled to commence in January/February; however, this was postponed due to the recent heavy rainfall and associated road closures. We are currently working with the training provider to reschedule the program and hope to see this recommence in the coming weeks.



Alison, the daughter of a client receiving the Christmas hamper and gift pack

Aged Care client, Hazel receiving the Christmas hamper and gift pack





Catholic Care came to the centre for an introduction session with our staff and a few of our clients





Local Authority MacKids Titjikala

December 2025 - February 2026



4 Employees
100% First Nation



14 - Enrolments



42 hours Coordinator & Manager support



Service Delivery
72 Hours



36 - Meals served



- The team leader is enrolled in the Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care
- Two educators enrolled for Cert 111 in Early Childhood Education and Care



Stakeholder Engagement

- **National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA): Community Plan**

Highlights



Due to Christmas Holidays and Sorry business, the centre was closed from Oct 2025 and reopened on Monday, 19th January 2026



Local Authority MacKids Titjikala

December 2025 - February 2026



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.



Local Authority MacKids Titjikala

December 2025 - February 2026



Children colour sorting, while improving their grip and fine motor skills



Water wheel: understanding the concept of cause and effect





Local Authority MacKids Titjikala

December 2025 - February 2026



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



Local Authority MacKids Titjikala

December 2025 - February 2026



Solomon contributing to the development of the Centre’s philosophy in a visual format



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



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER	11.3
TITLE	Youth and Community Safety Report
AUTHOR	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities
Goal 02: Healthy Communities
Goal 03: Empowered Communities
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and accepts Community Safety and Youth Services Report

BACKGROUND

Community Safety and Youth Services programs continue to be delivered in line with funding requirements.

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Libby Taylor – Executive Manager of Youth and Community Safety
Yarran Cavalier –A / Senior Coordinator of Community Safety
Karli Gibson – Youth Team Leader Titjikala
And Administration

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Youth and Community Safety Titjikala LAR December 2025 - February 2026



Local Authority Report Titjikala December 2025 - February 2026



Employees
6 staff
83.3 % Local Staffs



Activities
176
Hours Open



Engagements
47 Participant
205 engagements



Bush / Town Trip
--



Art Craft
8



**Average
participant age**
9



Youth Board
0



Sport
27

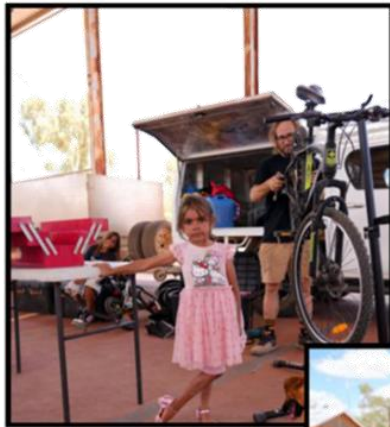


Events
2

Highlights



- The Bikes Mwerre program came in the holidays and the kids were gifted 20 new or refurbished bicycles. Kids absolutely love riding their bikes around community and to school. Learning from Wil and Nate about how to fix bikes when there is a problem is an important skill for kids to learn. Teaching kids how to fix and maintain their bikes is a great way for them to look after their bikes so they last longer. Which is an important value they can use to other day-to-day belongings
- We also had a visit from Ash and Cheeky from the GUTS dance group. They spent time with the kids teaching them some cool dance moves. Kids loved getting involved and had fun laughing and dancing to the music
- A visit from Roy Price doing a community cooking experience was also a highlight for kids in community. They loved preparing the meat and vegetables and doing a hands on activity. Lighting the fires and cooking the food made eating the result even more rewarding!



**From riding to repairing.
kids learning a skills
and valuing what they own -
with the Bikes Mwerre team.**



**GUTS dance group
spent time with the kids and
teach them
some cool dance moves**



A Community BBQ held with Roy Price during his visit to Titjikala bringing everyone together for a great day.



Children enjoyed a variety of activities, including playing with the car map floor mat, painting plaster shapes into colourful magnets and A cubby house for the young Schooler



Kids took part in completing puzzles during games night and painting arts and crafts.



Local Authority Report

Titjikala MacSafe
Community Safety
Dec 2025 - Feb 2026



- 4 Staff in the Titjikala Team
- 100% Community-based Employees are Aboriginal

- Hours Patrolled 205
- Work: 5 hour shifts Mon-Fri Between 6pm - 11pm



195 Engagements with young people



77 Engagements with over 18's



69 Young people taken home



12 Training Hours



169 Are you okay? Checks



1 Community gathering

Updates



- The Coordinator for Community Safety for Titjikala has been Rajnil Kumar who resigned in December, since then the service has been supported by both Sarah Grant and Yarran Cavalier
- Titjikala service went to Finke to support the Sorry Camp in December and worked there until early January.
- The Community safety program operated normal working hours from 6 pm - 11 pm Mon - Fri when in Titjikala
- One new applicant has asked to become part of the team and will be interviewed as soon as possible.
- We are currently seeking a female team member to complement the Team.

Team Leader Roger Wilyuka and Lionel Golder working together in the office before going on Patrol



New Footy Oval lights photo taken from Community Safety vehicle while on patrol



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER 12.1
TITLE General Council Business

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities

Goal 02: Healthy Communities

Goal 03: Empowered Communities

Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes and discusses the matters raised; and
- b) notes that any action items arising from these discussions will be moved to the action register for Council to respond.

BACKGROUND

Nil

ISSUES, CONSEQUENCES, OPTIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17 March 2026 – Agenda

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER	13.1
TITLE	Non-Council Business
AUTHOR	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities

Goal 02: Healthy Communities

Goal 03: Empowered Communities

Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes and discusses the matters raised.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development provides updates in regard to Northern Territory Government Services.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.



MINUTES OF THE HERMANNSBURG LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE HERMANNSBURG COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10.45AM

2 WELCOME

The attendees were welcomed by Chairperson Nicholas Williams and the meeting was declared provisional.

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Nicholas Williams (Chairperson), Member Reggie Lankin, Member Daryl Kantawara and Member Marion Swift.

Councillors

Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka

Council Employees

Executive Manager Aged and Children's Services Ainsley Roscrow, Area Manager Stuart Millar, Governance Coordinator Shae Millar.

Via Teams: Project Management Officer Ryan Rosenburg.

Guests

Member for Gwoja Chansey Paech

Katharine O'Donoghue from Chansey Paech's office

Shelly Beatie and Adele McCorkindale from the Department of Local Government and Community Development

Ra Sim from Rattlepod Landscapes – Left after presentation at 11:27am.

Haley Coulthard, Donna McNamara, Nessa Sim from Hermannsburg Potters. – Left after presentation at 11:27am.

Bernadette Sheilds and Sharon Hayes from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Arrived at 11:20am and left after presentation at 12:05pm.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Marion Swift/Maryanne Malbunka)

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

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Councillor Mark Inkamala, President Roxanne Kenny, Member Alfie Inkamala, and Member Patrick Oliver for this meeting; and
- c) recorded the first Member absence, without notice, of Member Taren Williams from this meeting.

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Reggie Lankin)

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

- a) noted the current membership of the Local Authority; and
- b) acknowledged that 2 consecutive absences without notice will result in a termination of membership.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Daryl Kantawara)



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

That the provisional meeting of the Hermannsburg Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting held 7 October 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

HLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Reggie Lankin)

That the provisional meeting of the Hermannsburg Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and noted that the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting held 7 October 2025 will be presented and confirmed at the next meeting.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Daryl Kantawara)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

HLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Marion Swift/Reggie Lankin)

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

- a) noted the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
- b) Chairperson Nicholas Williams declared a conflict of interest with the matter regarding school rubbish collection to be tabled during the General Council Business report.

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

ITEM NUMBER:	9.1
TITLE:	Hermannsburg Pottery Building Project
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

HLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Daryl Kantawara)

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

- a) accepted the information presented by Rattlepod Landscapes;
- b) were informed that the Hermannsburg potters are planning on building a new larger building that will allow them to have more room for existing artists, new artists, increased production and better tourism facilities;
- c) noted that Rattlepod Landscapes and the Hermannsburg Potters are currently working toward selecting a site for the new facility which involves community and stakeholder consultation;
- d) expressed support for the project and the Hermannsburg Potters;
- e) suggested that Top Shop, Tjuwanpa RAES and the Youth team be added to the list of stakeholders to be consulted;
- f) suggested the 10 April 2026 as a preferable date for the community consultation meeting;
- g) suggested that the reduction of the movement of tourists through residential areas be considered when selecting a site;
- h) suggested the old park across from the shop as a possible location where tourists could come in to purchase fuel and supplies and at the same time could visit the Hermannsburg Potters;
- i) suggested the old store as a possible location that could be shared with the SNP program which would use the kitchen infrastructure;
- j) were advised that, at the completion of the project, the old facility could be used for collaboration with the school;
- k) were advised that there would be a garden with outdoor seating for community members to come and enjoy;
- l) advised the EON are working with organisations within Hermannsburg over the next 5 years to create edible gardens; and
- m) noted that Rattlepod Landscapes will continue to consult with the community and members regarding the building of the new Hermannsburg Pottery building.

Minute Note: 11:20 am Sharon Hayes and Bernadette Sheilds entered the meeting.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

Minute note: Ra Sim, Haley Coulthard, Donna McNamara, Nessa Sim left the meeting after their presentation at 11:27am.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Census Engagement Team - ABS
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Reggie Lankin)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the information provided by the Census Engagement Team as follows
 - that all dwellings and people in the community and surrounding out-stations will be counted;
 - that the census will be happening on the 11 August with the remote communities to be counted before this date over a period of 4 weeks;
 - during this Census the ABS will be employing local aboriginal people to improve participation;
 - people can apply for Census jobs online and can receive assistance to do this from the Census team and job providers;
 - more people counted leads to more funding for communities;
 - many organisations and government agencies use the population information to allocate funding including church organisations;
 - the individual data collected during the census is confidential and will not be provided to other organisations;
 - the information is not shared with police, Housing, Centrelink or the Tax Office;
 - if people are in Alice Springs at the time of Census they can declare that their usual place of residence is Hermannsburg;
 - the census team advised that they would be in community before the next Local Authority meeting to advise members about removing barriers to employment with the ABS and to talk to people who are interested in joining the team;
 - team leader positions and a member position should begin on the 18 May;
 - these positions can be done outside of work hours if people who are employed elsewhere would like to apply for work with ABS; and
- b) advised that the members would prefer if people who have local knowledge and can speak local languages were employed to work in Hermannsburg.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

Minute Note: 11:20 am Sharon Hayes and Bernadette Sheilds entered the meeting

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

HLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Reggie Lankin/Daryl Kantawara)

That the Local Authority:

- a) reviews the information presented;
- b) provides feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan as follows:
 - More collaboration with other providers / organisations to enhance the capacity and broaden the scope of programs. For example, EON are working with the school and Tjuwanpa to create edible gardens in the school and the wider community. It would be good if MRC could work with them as well. Another example would be to include other organisations in MRC events such as sports carnivals, healthy community events, etc. This will enable a more cohesive effort toward achieving outcomes for the community.
 - Youth services collaborating with the school regarding behavioural consequences. This has begun in Hermannsburg and has proved to be successful in effecting behavioural change in youth.
 - Increased shade and green areas planted with shade trees.
 - Explore more funding for community safety to expand their hours to prevent break ins.
 - Organise working bees in the community to assist with maintaining public areas like the football oval so that people can have an opportunity to give back to the community and generate a sense of community and empowerment
 - Add Community Hall to the community infrastructure plan:
- c) Requested that MRC advocate for
 - Nursing home and Palliative care – for when people are unable to provide the level of care needed in their own homes but do not wish to send their family members away to Alice Springs where they will be separated from family and Country
 - Bitumin Airstrip – due to roads being cut off during rain periods. Food and medical supplies need to be delivered and people need access to medevacs. The airstrip services Hermannsburg, Areyonga, Wallace Rockhole and out-stations.



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

Minute note: requested that MRC communicate with Bill Yan [as the roads minister] and Marion Scrymgeour to determine if the contractors working on the Mareenie road could be utilised to bitumen the airstrip as they will be working in the area and this may be an efficient option.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Action Register
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Daryl Kantawara)

That the Local Authority:

a) noted that the updates to the actions as follows:

- Closed 'Work Experience Program' noting that the school will contact MRC directly to organise future work experience arrangements.
- Moved 'Toilet Block on lot 55' to the Wishlist with the PMO to investigate costs.
- Kept open 'Signs for Illegal Dumping' as the Director of Council Services reviews the report from the NTEPA noting that an update will be provided at the next meeting.
- Kept open the 'Waterpark Update' and requested that MRC write again to request an update from NTG. In addition, the Local Authority requested an outline of the timeline once NTG approval is received.
- Kept open 'Cemetery Clean Up' and noted that Chansey Paech will write to Tjuwanpa to ask if they can use the funding that they receive from the commonwealth for community projects to assist with this matter. Mr Paech will also send a copy of the correspondence to the Local Authority.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

- 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.

HLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Marion Swift/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Project Funding Acquittal and Certification (attached) as at 30 June 2025;
 - b) acknowledged that \$65,685.18 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
 - d) were advised that the 2025-26 LAPF Funding of 90,300.00 has been received and is reflected in the budget consideration;
- c) noted the progress on their current projects as presented by the Project Management Office:
- Project 2152 ‘Changeroom Site’ - Has been hampered by the recent weather but should be completed by early June.
 - Project 2153 ‘Scoreboard’ - The scoreboard is up and the electrical work will be done when electricians attend.
 - Project 2154 ‘Water Bottle Refill Station’ – The PMO have been waiting for the changerooms to be completed to a sufficient level and then all stations will be installed by a contractor. This should be done in the next 2 months.
 - Project 2158 ‘Shade Shelter with Cement Flooring’ – PMO have received a quote that is within budget and now are waiting for lease approval from CLC. The PMO submitted the lease application in November;
 - d) closed the new project ‘Maintenance and Registration of the Bin Trailers’ as MRC will cover the ongoing costs and returned the funds to unallocated;
 - e) Created a new project ‘Upgrade the Football Oval’ which will involve realigning the goal posts, a new fence on the existing fenceline and installing 2 taps. Allocated all remaining funds to this project including the returned funds from the closed project; and
 - f) added Toilet Block on Lot 55 to the wishlist from the action item of the same name. The PMO will investigate the associated costs and present them at a future meeting.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.4
TITLE:	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Marion Swift/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that \$1,805.99 was spent on the Christmas Celebration;
- b) expressed appreciation to Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka for all her



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

- work organizing, transporting goods and facilitating the Christmas celebration [see attached photos];
- c) noted that the money allocated to the Youth Board is yet to be spent and will be discussed at their first scheduled meeting in 2 weeks time; and
- d) acknowledged that all funds must be spent with goods received by the 30th June 2026.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Maryanne Malbunka)

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

Minute note: The chairperson mentioned an organisation called Stride that specialise in reducing buffel grass.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

HLA2026-14 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Reggie Lankin)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the Youth Services and Community Safety report;
- b) highlighted that the Youth team would benefit from support from leadership staff; and
- c) raised that the Local Authority would like the community safety hours increased and acknowledged that more funding would be required.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting 25 March 2026 – Minutes

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

HLA2026-15 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Reggie Lankin)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted Hermannsburg Aged Care and Children’s Services report;
- b) raised that members are concerned about losing the FAFT program and requested that MRC look into absorbing the program into the Childcare program; and
- c) members suggested that the Childcare program employ the young women in the community that already look after young children in their homes.

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.

HLA2026-16 RESOLVED (Daryl Kantawara/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Local Authority:

- a) received a complaint from the school regarding rubbish collection and noted that this would be handled by the area manager; and
- b) discussed that Council Services need more employees and noted that the area manager would work with the Hermannsburg team to achieve this.

Minute note: Chairperson Nicholas Williams exited the meeting at 1:38pm while the complaint from the school was discussed and re-entered the meeting at 1:47pm for the remaining discussion of items raised during this report.

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.

HLA2026-17 RESOLVED (Nicholas Williams/Daryl Kantawara)

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

- a) that at the previous meeting the representative from Housing stated that there would be a day-long Pop-up station near Top Shop where people could come and raise matters relating to maintenance. The Local Authority would like to be advised when this will occur;
- b) people are reporting maintenance issues on the 1800 number that are not being attended to and when they ring up again there is no record of the matter being reported. Members suggested a reference number system at the point of complaint so that jobs can be easily tracked and to make it easier for residents check the status of their reports;
- c) asked if emergency houses could be available for short term accommodation during emergencies such as when out-stations are cut off during rain events;
- d) that pest control is not being provided;
- e) that there is mould in the bathroom at Nicholas Williams house;
- f) that there is a dangerous electrical issue at house 359; and
- g) that there are water pressure issues in many of the houses in the community. At times the water pressure is low and at other times the water pressure is so high that pipes burst.

Minute note: The Chairperson advised that the school achieved an attendance of 130 students on the day of this meeting.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 2:05 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Hermannsburg Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 25 March 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.



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

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:40AM

2 WELCOME

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

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

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

Councillors

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

Council Employees

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

Guests

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

Apologies

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

Absentees

Member Camilla Hayes and Member Marie Mulladad



Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26 March 2026 – Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

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

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority:

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

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.



Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26 March 2026 – Minutes

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held 26 November 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

STLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority confirmed the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held 26 November 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority Meeting:
 a) noted the Conflict of Interest Policy; and
 b) that members declared no conflicts of interest.



Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26 March 2026 – Minutes

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

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

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

STLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority:

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



Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26 March 2026 – Minutes

returned to the infrastructure plan to add to the list.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Project Register
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

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

STLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Annalisa Young)

That the Local Authority:

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



Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26 March 2026 – Minutes

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

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

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

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



Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26 March 2026 – Minutes

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Safety and Youth Services report;

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	General Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

STLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Agnes Alice)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and discussed the matters raised as follows:
- b) requests that the CEO write to the Principal outlining the new pedestrian crossings and seeking the school’s consideration of appropriate crossing supervision once the crossings are in use;
- c) requests increased Community Safety presence at the Rec Hall during patrols;
- d) seeks information of whether Night Patrol still attends sports weekends in other communities.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

This may include:

- NT Roads



Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting 26 March 2026 – Minutes

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

STLA2026-14 RESOLVED (Louise Cavanagh/Leonie Young)

That the Local Authority:

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

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 13 MAY, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at Time pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Santa Teresa Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 26 March 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.



MINUTES OF THE AREYONGA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE AREYONGA COUNCIL OFFICE ON TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2026 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:59AM with a prayer from Councillor Abraham Poulson

2 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance, Apologies and Leave

Local Authority Members

Member Sarah Gallagher (Chairperson), Member Garnet Djana, Member Hilda Bert, Member Jonathan Doolan, and Member Jacob Yarma

Councillors

Councillor Abraham Poulson and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees

Libby Taylor – Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, Victor Morgan – Area Manager and June Crabb – Governance Officer

Via Teams Ryan Rosenberg – Project Management Office

Guests

Katharine O'Donoghue – Member for Gwoja Office

Via Teams – Adele McCorkindale – Department Local Government, Housing and Community Development and Bernadette Shields – Census Representative

Apologies

Councillor Peter Wilson and Member Joy Kunia

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 31 March 2026 – Minutes

ARLA2026-01 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Jacob Yarma)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- b) tabled apologies received from Member Joy Kunia and Councillor Peter Wilson for this meeting; and
- c) noted that no members were absent for this meeting.

4 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-02 RESOLVED (Jonathan Doolan/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority;

- a) noted the members' attendance at the previous meeting;
- b) did not receive any nominations at this meeting;
- c) called for community nominations to remain open to fill the vacancy; and
- d) noted that memberships may be revoked if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-03 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 31 March 2026 – Minutes

Minute Note: On the approval of the Chair, the Deputation presented by the Census Engagement Team was brought forward.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-04 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Hilda Bert)

That the Local Authority:

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

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 15 October 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

ARLA2026-05 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Sarah Gallagher)

That the Local Authority confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held 15 October 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-06 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Jonathan Doolan)



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 31 March 2026 – Minutes

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

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-07 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority Meeting:

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

9 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

Item 9.1 – Census Engagement Deputation was moved to between item 5.1 and item 6.1

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	CAAMA Radio
AUTHOR:	Shae Thompson, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The representatives from CAAMA Radio are seeking permission from the Local Authority to install metal signs within the community that will display the CAAMA Radio frequency and encourage community members and visitors to tune in to the radio.

CAAMA Radio is also seeking guidance about the most appropriate location for the sign, whether at the entrance to the community or another agreed place.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) approves or does not approve the installation of a CAAMA Radio sign within the community; and
- b) provides advice on appropriate placement of the sign.

Minute Note: The Representatives from CAAMA were not in attendance to this meeting.



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 31 March 2026 – Minutes

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Menzies School of Health Research wishes to deliver a presentation on a proposed employment-focused digital technology program and is seeking the views and support of Local Authority members and the community.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) **notes and accepts the report; and**
- b) **supports the project team to engage with Aged Care staff, Council staff and community members for consultation and delivery purposes.**

Minute Note: The Representatives from Menzies were an apology to this meeting.

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

ARLA2026-08 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority:

- a) **reviewed the information presented; and**
- b) **provided feedback to MacDonnell Regional Council to ensure local needs and community priorities are reflected in the development of the Regional Plan as follows:**
 - **Prioritise upgrading the road and causeway to ensure safe and reliable access in and out of the community when flooding occurs.**
 - **Training, Certificates, Licences, Literacy and Numeracy tests for youth.**
 - **Collaborate with key stakeholders in particular Tjuwanpa to ensure training is being offered to young people**
 - **Job opportunities that support residents who do not have a drivers licence**

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:

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

ARLA2026-09 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Hilda Bert)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Project Funding Acquittal and Certification (attached) as at 30 June 2025;
- b) acknowledged that \$45,723.83 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;
- c) noted the available funds of \$38,474.54 includes the 2025/2026 Project funding allocation of 30,700.00;
- d) noted the progress on their current projects as presented by the Project Management Office as follows:
 - 2112 - Water Bubbler at the Bus Stop, allocate an additional \$7,500.00 to cover the increased installation cost;
 - 2119 - Solar light at the entrance, waiting to be installed by the Civil team
 - 2261 - Healthy Community event is still in the planning stage.
- e) closed Project 2115 – Maintenance and Registration of the trailer, returning \$3,500.00 to unallocated as Council will cover these expenses;
- f) created a new project – allocating \$15,000.00 to a Ride on mower for the Civil team to use around community; and
- g) did not discuss the wish-list items at this meeting.

ITEM NUMBER:	10.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Discretionary Funds
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-10 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the spending of their Discretionary funds;
- b) resolved to return \$1,438.25 committed to the Healthy Community event, as members chose not to proceed with this allocation;
- c) allocated the balance, currently at \$1,691.07 to a Community Easter BBQ, with the CSC to collect the items and the Local Authority members to organise the BBQ; and
- d) agreed that any funds remaining after the purchasing for the BBQ will go to buying power cards for each occupied house.

11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-11 RESOLVED (Hilda Bert/Jonathan Doolan)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Council Services report

Minute Note: The Area Manager to assess and rectify the issue with the security camera at the works depot

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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



Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 31 March 2026 – Minutes

ARLA2026-12 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Abraham Poulson)

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the Aged and Children’s Services report;
- b) advised that following incidents involving unauthorised persons taking meals and food from the Aged Care facility, members requested the installation of appropriate signage, to include:
 - No animals permitted in the building
 - Authorised personnel only
 - No food to be removed from the premises

Minute Note: The Authority noted concerns regarding unexplained absences impacting service delivery and the Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety will refer this matter to the Executive Manager Aged and Children’s Services.

ITEM NUMBER:	11.3
TITLE:	Youth and Community Safety Report
AUTHOR:	Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-13 RESOLVED (Sarah Gallagher/Jonathan Doolan)

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

12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	General Council Business

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

ARLA2026-14 RESOLVED (Jonathan Doolan/Jacob Yarma)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the matters raised had been discussed;
- b) requested that Council invite Tjuwanpa to the June meeting to discuss the new program and how this will benefit Areyonga residents;
- c) was advised that Member Sarah Gallagher has stepped down as Chairperson to foster leadership development among members; and
- d) noted that at the June Local Authority meeting, nominations will be called for Chairperson for a 12-month term.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

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

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

ARLA2026-15 RESOLVED (Jonathan Doolan/Garnet Djana)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted that Chansey Paech will attend the Local Authority meeting in June and closed this matter;
- b) noted the update on the invitation for a CLC representative to attend a Local Authority meeting and kept this matter open; and
- c) noted and discussed new matters raised as follows:
 - Representative/s from Housing, Maintenance and Repairs to attend the next Local Authority meeting to speak to members about how long it takes to get their repairs attended to
 - How are repairs prioritised
 - Audit on all the houses in community as they are very old and rundown
 - What is happening to Lot 52
 - RTB Program – is that program still running
 - New Builds in community - how many and when
 - Will the new builds receive splits
 - Does NTG replace swampy's with splits
 - Housing Pop-up shop and to place posters around community at least 6 – 8 weeks in advance, should this event go ahead.
 - Notifying residents of visits from the Housing team should also be – 6 to 8 weeks in advance.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 4 JUNE, 2026

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1:52 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Areyonga Local Authority Meeting held on Tuesday 31 March 2026 and are UNCONFIRMED.

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER 12.2
TITLE Local Authority Resignations and Terminations
AUTHOR June Crabb, 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:**
 - **Camilla Hayes from the Santa Teresa Local Authority; and**
- b) **notes that Sarah Gallagher from the Areyonga Local Authority has stepped down from her position as Chairperson and will continue as a member of the Authority.**

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 nominations received and appoints Garrard Anderson and Ashley Robertson to the Papunya Local Authority.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

New members are nominated and appointed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, Ministerial Guidelines and Council's Local Authority Meeting Procedure.

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 Nomination forms received for the Papunya Local Authority

Local Authority Nomination Form MC02-F1

NOMINATION

I, Garrard Anderson wish to nominate as a
(Name of nominee)

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

Garrard Anderson
(Signature of nominee)

01 / 04 / 20 26
Date

ENDORSEMENT

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

nominee to this Local Authority.

[Signature]
(Signature of Local Authority member)

01 / 04 / 20 26
Date

RETURNING OFFICER

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

[Signature]
(Signature of Returning Officer)

01 / 04 / 20 26
Date



Local Authority Nomination Form MC02-F1

NOMINATION

I, Ashley Robertson wish to nominate as a
(Name of nominee)
member of the Local Authority for the community of Papunya
(Name of community)
Ashley Robertson 01 / 04 / 20 26
(Signature of nominee) Date

ENDORSEMENT

I, Alison Anderson endorse the nomination of this
(Name of endorsing Local Authority member)
nominee to this Local Authority.
[Signature] 01 / 04 / 20 26
(Signature of Local Authority member) Date

RETURNING OFFICER

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

[Signature] 01 / 04 / 20 26
(Signature of Returning Officer) Date
(urquhart)



13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

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

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities
 Goal 02: Healthy Communities
 Goal 03: Empowered Communities
 Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update on correspondence received and sent by the Council President and CEO since the report to the March 2026 Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the correspondence received and sent.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Incoming Correspondence

Date Received	From	Subject
2-Mar-26	Prof McDermid, President, Astronomical Society of Aust	Total Solar Eclipse 22.7.2028 inc maps and timetable
16-Mar-26	Ms Close, Deputy CEO, Corporate, Strategic & Enabling Services, Dept H, LG&CD	2025-26 Local Authority Project Funding
27-Mar-26	Mr King, A/Exec Director, Dept H, LG & CD	Email from Department Guide to Meeting Procedures Sample Meeting Procedures Policy
7-Apr-26	Ms Worsfold, EO LGANT obo CEO	LGANT amended communique – Board meeting 25.2.26 LGANT communique – Board meeting 25.3.26 ALGA communique – Board meeting 19.3.26

Outgoing Correspondence

Date Sent	To	Subject
18-Mar-26	NIAA	Letter of Support – Beauty Salon Social Enterprise

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

18-Mar-26	Ms Scrymgour, Federal Member for Lingiari	Ms Sharpe's selection to the National Youth Parliament
19-Mar-26	Hon David Connolly, Administrator of the NT	Congratulations on appointment as Administrator
24-Mar-26	Mr King, A/Director, Sustainability & Compliance, NTG	Request for invoice – return of Regional & Remote Burial Grant

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

President
 Chief Executive Officer
 Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Letter from Prof McDermid, Pres, Astronomical Society of Aust re Total Solar Eclipse 2.3.2026
- 2 Australia Wide Eclipse Map
- 3 Eclipse Map NT and WA
- 4 Elipse Times NT and WA
- 5 Local Authority Project Funding 2025-26
- 6 Email from DLG&CD re Meeting Procedures 27.3.26
- 7 Guide to Meeting Procedures 27.3.26
- 8 Sample Meeting Procedures Policy 27.3.26
- 9 LGANT communique amended - Board meeting 25.2.26
- 10 LGANT communique - Board meeting 25.3.26
- 11 ALGA communique - Board meeting 19.3.26
- 12 Letter of Support Beauty Salon 18.3.26
- 13 Ms Scrymgour - Ms Sharpe's selection to National Youth Parliament
- 14 Hon David Connolly - congratulations on appointment 19.3.26
- 15 Letter to Mr King - request for invoice - return of Regional and Remote Burial Grant 24.3.26



ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

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Prof. R. McDermid
Australian Astronomical Optics
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TO: President Cr Roxanne Kenny and CEO Belinda Urquhart.

Total Solar Eclipse 22 July 2028 – Opportunities and Planning challenges

On Saturday, **22 July 2028**, a rare and spectacular astronomical event will occur across the Northern Territory – a **total solar eclipse**. Part of the MacDonnell Regional Council area lies in the narrow path of the Moon's shadow (the "**path of totality**") for this eclipse, and this letter is to raise awareness that the eclipse is coming and to alert you to the accompanying unique opportunities and important planning challenges.

What is a Total Solar Eclipse?

A total solar eclipse occurs when the Moon completely covers the Sun, briefly turning day into night. For a few short minutes, the sky suddenly darkens to a deep twilight, stars and planets become visible, and the Sun's corona, a halo of light, surrounds the Moon. This is one of nature's grandest spectacles and attracts worldwide attention.

Wherever a total eclipse is visible, it is not only a wonderful event for local residents, but it also draws significant numbers of visitors, including domestic and international travellers, astronomers, scientists and media who want to experience this rare event.

Solar Eclipses can be safely viewed using inexpensive and readily available "eclipse glasses". A public education program is planned to provide advice on safe viewing.

The Eclipse Path and Your Council Area

On 22 July 2028, the path of totality of the "Australia Wide Eclipse - 2028" will cross from Western Australia, through the Northern Territory, Queensland, New South Wales and directly over Sydney. A small part of the MacDonnell Regional Council area is in the path of totality but Alice Springs is not and will only experience a partial eclipse with the Moon covering 95% of the diameter of the Sun at the maximum time of 12:53pm and will not experience the dramatic effects of the total eclipse. It is rare for total solar eclipses to occur where you live.

For example, the next one that will occur in Alice Springs will be on 22 May 2077.

Opportunities for Your Community

A total eclipse offers unique opportunities for communities in and close to its path. Visitors will travel specifically to locations within the path of totality, bringing significant tourism and economic benefits. This is particularly the case for the Northern Territory due to there being better weather prospects and a longer total eclipse than in the eastern states. Even though Alice Springs is not on the path of totality, visitors would be expected to travel through and seek accommodation. Your Council has the opportunity to:

- Organise public events around the time of the eclipse to increase visitation and extend stays before and after the eclipse.
- Promote your towns as destinations for tourists and eclipse visitors.
- Showcase local attractions, culture, and hospitality.
- Use the occasion to promote your region to a world-wide audience for a lasting legacy.

Preparing for the Eclipse

Experience from previous eclipses worldwide shows that communities need to plan well in advance. Key considerations include:

- **Accommodation:** Visitor demand may exceed supply. Planning for temporary or overflow facilities may be necessary.
- **Emergency Services:** Large crowds in rural and regional areas can place additional pressure on health, policing, and emergency response services.
- **Infrastructure & Traffic Management:** Roads, communication, and community facilities may need to handle unusual volumes.
- Ensure that **sporting and other events** planned for the day (a Saturday) are aware of the eclipse and do not schedule play during the time of the eclipse.
- **Coordination** with other councils and tourism authorities to maximise benefits.

Now is a good time to start to plan for the event, appoint one of your staff to coordinate planning and include the eclipse as an agenda item for council meetings.

Support from the Astronomical Society of Australia

The Astronomical Society of Australia (ASA) has a dedicated website with detailed information on the eclipse: <https://eclipse.asa.astronomy.org.au/>. The website will continue to be enhanced and updated as the eclipse nears.

ASA has formed an Eclipse Working Group to assist in preparing Australia for the eclipse. This includes: preparing public information on how to safely view the eclipse, distributing eclipse information and activities through public libraries, visitor information centres, museums etc., keeping the media informed, developing an eclipse education program for schools, and supporting remote indigenous communities.

To provide you with more information on the eclipse attached are:

- A map showing the eclipse path across Australia;
- A map of the eclipse path across Western Australia and the Northern Territory showing the LGAs affected; and
- A list of the timing of the eclipse at locations across Australia.

The ASA is committed to support local authorities and community leaders across the eclipse path and plans to deliver workshops and/or webinars to provide advice and guidance on eclipse preparations, and strategies for addressing challenges and opportunities.

If you would like to continue to receive updates, please nominate a contact person or if you have requests for any eclipse information, advice, or assistance tailored to your LGA, contact the ASA by return email or emailing eclipse@asa.astronomy.org.au.

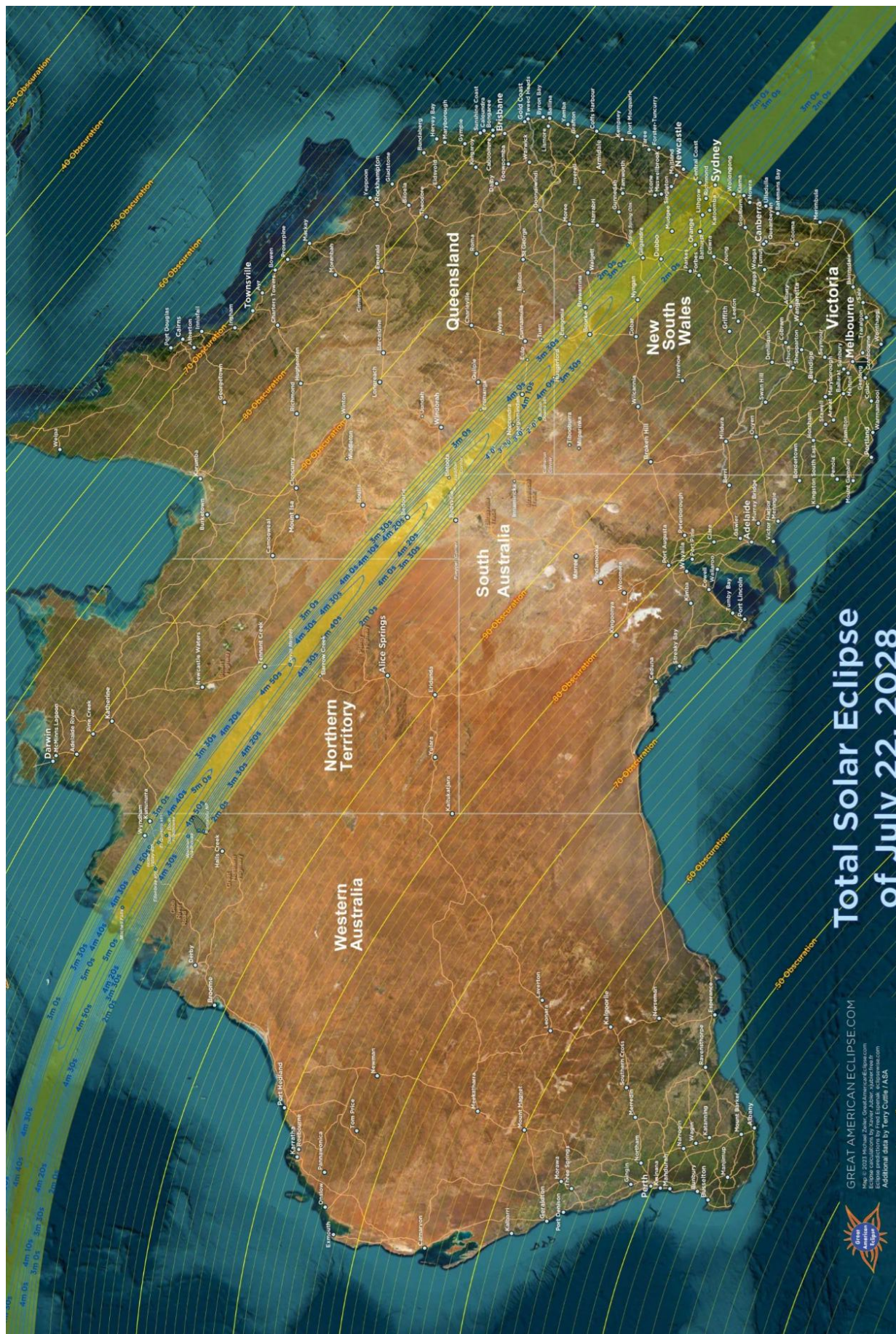
We encourage you to begin considering the opportunities and planning requirements now, as July 2028 will come quickly.

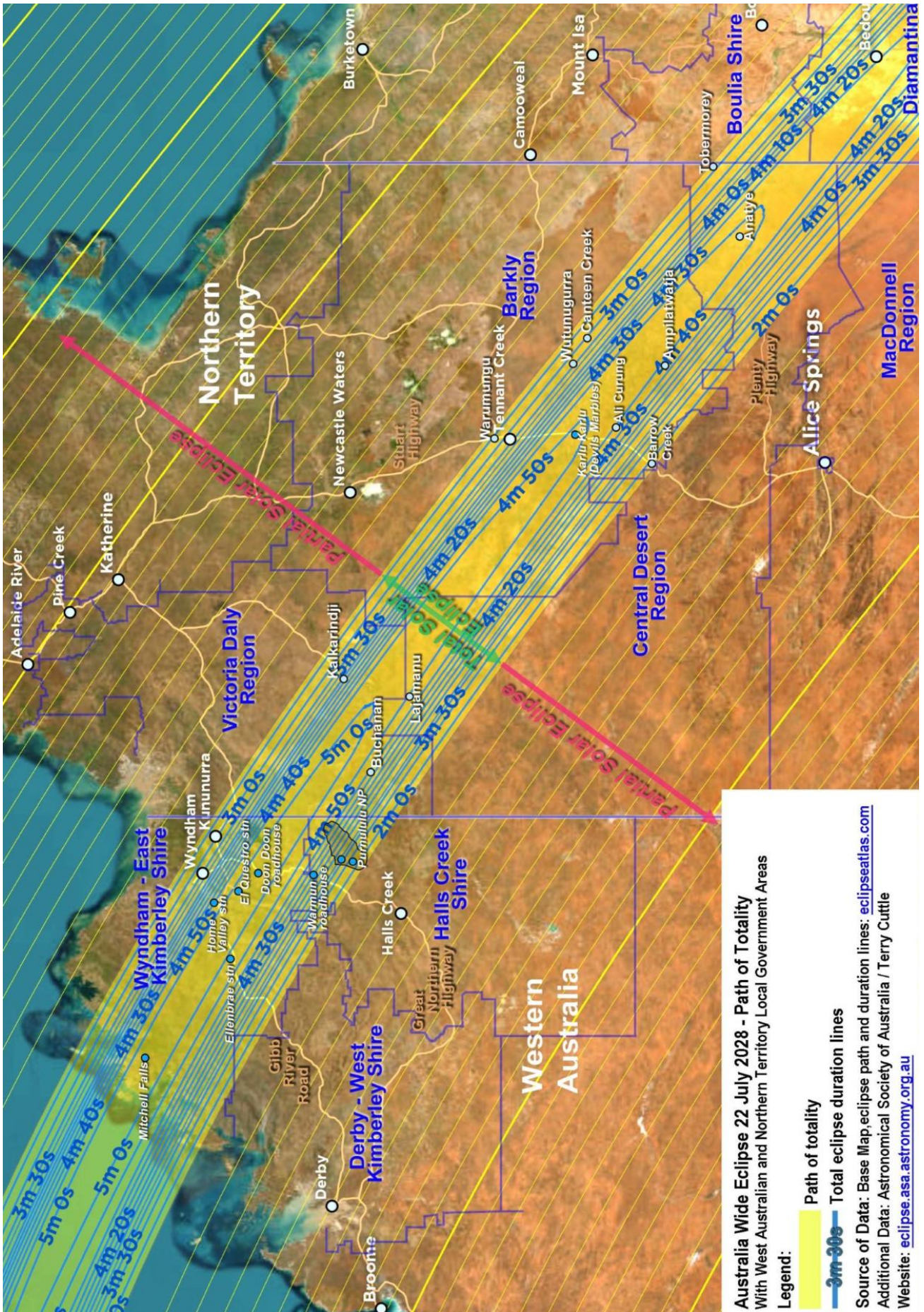
Sincerely,



Prof. Richard McDermid
President

2 March 2026





Australia Wide Eclipse 22 July 2028 - Path of Totality
 With West Australian and Northern Territory Local Government Areas

Legend:

- █ Path of totality
- █ Total eclipse duration lines

Source of Data: Base Map, eclipse path and duration lines: eclipseatlas.com
 Additional Data: Astronomical Society of Australia / Terry Cuttle
 Website: eclipse.asa.astronomy.org.au

AUSTRALIA WIDE ECLIPSE 22 JULY 2028 ECLIPSE TIMING - for WA and NT

Location	Time Zone	Start Partial h:m	Start Total h:m:s	Total Duration m:s	End Partial h:m	Totality Elevation Deg	Totality Azimuth Cardinal
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	CCT	7:04	8:12:09	3m:21s	9:35	24°	ENE
Christmas Island	CXT	7:40	8:54:51	3m:55s	10:26	35°	ENE
Bigge Is	AWST	9:18	10:47:34	5m:05s	12:24	53°	NNE
Mitchell falls	AWST	9:19	10:49:16	5m:04s	12:25	53°	NNE
Drysdale River Station	AWST	9:22	10:52:21	4m:53s	12:28	52°	NNE
Gretest Eclipse point (X.Jubier)	AWST	9:23	10:52:59	5m:04s	12:29	53°	NNE
Gibb River	AWST	9:23	10:54:33	2m:46s	12:29	52°	NNE
Ellenbrae Station	AWST	9:24	10:54:30	4m:59s	12:30	53°	NNE
Home Valley Station	AWST	9:26	10:56:20	4m:42s	12:31	53°	NNE
Gibb River Road/Pentacost river	AWST	9:26	10:56:31	4m:49s	12:31	53°	NNE
El Questro Station	AWST	9:26	10:57:00	5m:01s	12:32	53°	NNE
Cockburn rest area	AWST	9:27	10:58:13	4m:10s	12:33	53°	NNE
Doon Doon roadhouse (Durack)	AWST	9:27	10:58:06	5m:03s	12:33	53°	NNE
Path centre Great Nthn Hwy	AWST	9:27	10:58:05	5m:04s	12:33	53°	NNE
Vista Lookout, Lake Argyle	AWST	9:28	10:59:28	4m:14s	12:34	53°	NNE
Wyndham	AWST	9:26	10:57:30	3m:17s	12:32	53°	NNE
Kununurra	AWST	9:28	10:59:47	2m:49s	12:33	53°	NNE
Warmun Roadhouse (Turkey Ck)	AWST	9:28	10:59:10	4m:30s	12:33	52°	NNE
Purnululu Kurrajong	AWST	9:29	11:00:21	3m:43s	12:34	52°	NNE
Purnululu Walardi	AWST	9:29	11:00:55	2m:49s	12:34	52°	NNE
Buchanan (Inverway)	ACST	11:03	12:33:52	4m:37s	14:07	52°	N
Kalkarindji	ACST	11:05	12:36:41	4m:06s	14:09	52°	N
Gurindji (Wave Hill)	ACST	11:06	12:37:50	3m:10s	14:10	52°	N
Three Ways (Warumungu)	ACST	11:17	12:48:31	2m:05s	14:17	50°	N
Tennant Creek	ACST	11:17	12:48:07	3m:17s	14:18	50°	N
Path centre Stuart highway	ACST	11:18	12:48:28	4m:51s	14:18	49°	N
Karlu Karlu (Devils Marbles)	ACST	11:18	12:48:36	4m:50s	14:19	49°	N
Devils Marbles Hotel	ACST	11:18	12:48:35	4m:50s	14:19	49°	N
Wycliffe Well	ACST	11:19	12:48:48	4m:46s	14:19	49°	N
Ali Curung	ACST	11:19	12:49:26	4m:42s	14:19	49°	N
Tara	ACST	11:19	12:50:17	2m:19s	14:19	48°	N
Barrow Creek	ACST	11:19	12:50:25	1m:31s	14:19	48°	N
Arlpara (Sandover)	ACST	11:22	12:52:42	2m:22s	14:21	48°	N
Canteen Creek	ACST	11:22	12:52:40	3m:00s	14:21	49°	N
Aherrenge (Ampilatwatja)	ACST	11:22	12:52:05	4m:39s	14:21	48°	N
Wutunugurra (Epenarra)	ACST	11:21	12:51:32	3m:17s	14:20	49°	N
Lajamanu	ACST	11:06	12:36:58	4m:49s	14:10	51°	N
Anatye road junction	ACST	11:28	12:57:07	4m:41s	14:25	47°	N
Tobermorey Station	ACST	11:30	13:00:44	0m:56s	14:26	47°	NNW
Bedourie, QLD	AEST	12:06	13:34:09	4m:27s	14:59	44°	NNW
Thargomindah, QLD	AEST	12:21	13:45:24	4m:13s	15:07	38°	NNW
Bourke, NSW	AEST	12:27	13:50:16	4m:01s	15:09	35°	NNW
Dubbo, NSW	AEST	12:35	13:55:25	3m:46s	15:12	32°	NNW
Orange, NSW	AEST	12:36	13:57:22	2m:02s	15:13	31°	NNW
Bathurst, NSW	AEST	12:37	13:57:36	3m:02s	15:13	30°	NNW
Wollongong, NSW	AEST	12:41	13:59:44	2m:53s	15:14	29°	NNW
Campbelltown, NSW	AEST	12:40	13:59:15	3m:25s	15:14	29°	NNW
Liverpool, NSW	AEST	12:40	13:59:17	3m:40s	15:14	29°	NNW
Parramatta, NSW	AEST	12:40	13:59:22	3m:44s	15:15	29°	NNW
Penrith, NSW	AEST	12:40	13:58:55	3m:41s	15:14	29°	NNW
Sydney, NSW	AEST	12:41	13:59:39	3m:44s	15:15	29°	NNW

Table produced: by Astronomical Society of Australia. February 2026. Version 2

Data derived from website: http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/TSE_2028_GoogleMapFull.html

Notes: h:m:s = hours : minutes : seconds. Times will vary depending on the exact location chosen.



Department of
**HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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File reference: 08-2024/1545-6

Ms Belinda Urquhart
Chief Executive Officer
MacDonnell Regional Council
PO Box 5267
ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

Via email: belinda.urquhart@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

Dear Ms Urquhart

Re: 2025-26 Local Authority Project Funding

I am pleased to offer the MacDonnell Regional Council (Council) the 2025-26 Local Authority Project Funding (LAPF) grant totalling \$582,700.

Funding levels for each local authority in the Northern Territory have been re-calculated to take into account population changes. While the overall funding amount for all local authorities has not changed, individual allocations vary, with some authorities allocated more and others allocated less than previously. These revised funding levels will be offered annually and will apply for the current term of Council.

Funding must be managed in line with the LAPF grant guidelines, which provide clarity and flexibility on the types of projects that can be delivered with these funds. The guidelines can be found at [Local authority project funding | Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development](#)

This funding is offered in accordance with the accepted terms and conditions outlined in the Local Government Grant Funding Agreement that is attached for your consideration and signature. Please complete and return to lg.grants@nt.gov.au at your earliest convenience. The payment of funding is dependent on the signed agreement being returned.

If you have any questions regarding the offer made in this letter, please contact the Local Government Grants team on 8999 8576 or by email at lg.grants@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Margaret Close
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate, Strategic and Enabling Services

16 March 2026



Department of
HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT FUNDING ACCEPTANCE
LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING**

COUNCIL	2025-26 FUNDING OFFER
MacDonnell Regional Council	\$582,700

On behalf of the MacDonnell Regional Council, (Council) the 2025-26 Local Authority Project Funding (LAPF) offer totalling \$582,700 is accepted under the following terms and conditions.

A. The MacDonnell Regional Council agrees to:

1. Comply with all the conditions of the LAPF funding guidelines.
2. Manage and expend the LAPF in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.
3. Purchase goods/services funded under this agreement on the requirements of the Northern Territory Government's Buy Local policy, unless it can be proven, through a competitive process that there is no suitable Territory enterprise able to supply the service.
4. Hold LAPF funds in a trust account, as specified in GrantsNT, until the funds are to be expended.
5. Identify priority projects through community consultation and deliver them within individual communities through each Local Authority.
6. Publish details of projects to be delivered in the Council's annual budget, including each Local Authority's allocated budget.
7. Allocate and spend the LAPF funds detailed below on behalf of each Local Authority

Amoonguna	33,800
Apatula	28,800
Areyonga	34,200
Haasts Bluff	20,900
Imanpa	22,800
Kaltukatjara	44,800
Kintore	68,800
Ltyentye Apurte	86,600
Mt Liebig	33,100
Ntaria	90,300
Papunya	68,800
Titjikala	34,200
Wallace Rockhole	15,600
Total	\$ 582,700

8. Only expend funds allocated to each Local Authority on projects recommended by that Local Authority.

9. Submit all requests for pooling up to four years of funds for major projects to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.
 10. Absorb any costs above \$582,700 and fully expend these funds by 30 June 2028 or by 30 June 2030 if delivering a major project.
 11. Complete LAPF acquittals using the required template and submit them through GrantsNT as part of the year-end reporting requirements for each Local Authority for the year ending 30 June, by 31 August of the same year.
 12. Lay the acquittals before a Council meeting and provide a copy of the Council minutes.
- B. The Council acknowledges the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development reserves the right to withhold any future payments of LAPF funding or request for unspent funding to be repaid if any of the terms and conditions of this funding are not met.

SIGNED: *Urauhart* (URAUHART) SIGNED: *[Signature]*
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER WITNESS
DATE: 17/3/2026 DATE: 17/03/26

From: Hugh King <Hugh.King@nt.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 27 March 2026 2:07 PM

To: Belinda Urquhart **Subject:** Guide to Meeting Procedures and Sample Meeting Procedures Policy

Good afternoon CEOs

Please find attached a Guide to Meeting Procedures and Sample Meeting Procedures Policy. These documents have been developed with the aim of supporting councils in the development or review of meeting procedures, as well as providing guidance about governance and administrative aspects of organising and conducting meetings.

The Guide and Sample Policy can also be located on the Department website under Publications and reports. Link: [Publications and reports | Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development](#)

Other recent updates to the Department website include:

- The addition of elected member training presentations on the 'Role of the Chair' and 'Personal use of social media'. Please note that these presentations are not included in the mandatory elected member training and are available as additional resources to assist councils. Link: [Elected member resources | Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development](#)

Minor updates to Chapter 6 of the CEO Handbook, Procurement and Asset Management, to include that LGANT is an approved procurement entity through the Local Buy platform. Link: [CEO Handbook](#)

Should you have any queries on the above, please contact Karen Hocking on (08) 8999 8405 or at karen.hocking@nt.gov.au.

Regards

Hugh King

A/Executive Director

Local Government and Community Development

Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development

Northern Territory Government

Floor 3, Jacana House, 39 Woods St, Darwin

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Guide to Meeting Procedures

Local Government in the Northern Territory



Document title	Guide to Meeting Procedures
Contact details	Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development
Document review	Annually
TRM number	08-HCD2021/04480-007~040

Version	Date	Author	Changes made
1.0	January 2026	LGCD	First version

Acronyms	Full form
Act	<i>Local Government Act 2019</i>
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
LGCD	Local Government Community Development Unit
NT	Northern Territory
Regulations	<i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>

Contents

1. Introduction.....	4
Role of Elected Members	4
Functions of Council.....	4
2. Scheduling of ordinary council meetings	5
3. Giving notice of a council meeting	5
Ordinary meetings vs special meetings	6
Public access to council meetings.....	6
4. Preparing the agenda.....	6
Late reports	7
Confidential reports.....	7
Sample Agenda Structure.....	7
Briefing Sessions	8
5. Procedure at meeting	8
Code of Conduct.....	8
Conflicts of Interest.....	9
Attendance at meetings.....	9
5.1.1. Quorum.....	9
5.1.2. Audio or audio-visual conferencing system	9
5.1.3. Apologies.....	9
Postponement of meeting.....	10
Motions	10
Voting.....	10
Questions from the Public.....	11
Visitor Presentations / Deputations.....	11
General business	11
Confidential Business.....	11
6. Preparing the meeting minutes	11
Confirmation of minutes.....	12
Public access to minutes.....	12
7. Glossary	12

1. Introduction

Local government councils are accountable to the community for the decisions they make.

Effective meetings are an important element of good governance. This is demonstrated when elected members use their combined knowledge and experience, informed by advice from the administration, to make decisions for the advancement of the community they serve.

Established meeting procedures provide a transparent framework for the conduct of council business. These meeting procedures contribute to good public decision-making, help avoid code of conduct issues, and support the business of council being as open and transparent as possible.

Subject to the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act), and any by-laws regulating meeting procedures, a council may determine its own rules and policies for meetings.

The purpose of this guide is to support councils in the development or review of meeting procedures to ensure that council meetings operate in a transparent manner to ensure efficient, effective, and accountable decision making.

Role of Elected Members

Section 44 of the Act states the role of members. The role of a member of a council is to:

- represent the interests of all residents and ratepayers of the council area
- provide leadership and guidance
- facilitate communication between the members of the council's constituency and the council
- be properly informed to enable participation in the deliberations of the council and its community activities
- ensure, as far as practicable, that the council acts honestly, efficiently, and appropriately in carrying out its statutory responsibilities
- ensure that council resources are used prudently and solely in the public interest
- actively monitor the financial affairs of the council.

A member of the council has no power to direct or control the staff of the council, or to interfere with the management of council staff.

Elected members are bound by the local government Code of Conduct, and they have a duty to act, at all times, in what they genuinely believe to be the best interests of the council's constituency. In particular, a member must seek to ensure that their decisions and actions are based on an honest, reasonable, and properly informed judgement about what best advances the interests of the municipality, region or shire.

Functions of Council

Section 22 of the Act states the functions of a council. These functions include:

- planning for the future requirements of its area for local government services
- providing services and facilities for the benefit of its area, its residents and visitors
- making prudent financial decisions
- managing the employment of the Chief Executive Officer

Guide to Meeting Procedures

- providing for the interests and wellbeing of individuals and groups within its area
- carrying out measures to protect its area from natural and other hazards and to mitigate the effects of such hazards
- planning and develop council facilities and services in its area in a sustainable way
- planning the use of council resources for the benefit of its area
- performing other functions assigned to the council under the Act or another Act.

The functions of a council may (if the council decides to perform the functions) include:

- promoting its area as a location for appropriate industries or commerce or as an attractive tourist destination.
- establishing or supporting programs that benefit its area.

2. Scheduling of ordinary council meetings

Section 90 (1) of the Act requires a council to hold a meeting of its members at least once in each successive period of two months.

If a council does not schedule an ordinary meeting at least once in each month, Regulation 19 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (Regulations) requires a council to appoint a committee and delegate to the committee the necessary powers to carry out, on behalf of council, the financial functions in the months when the council does not hold an ordinary meeting (Finance Committee).

The schedule for the holding of ordinary meetings for the term of the council is set during the first ordinary meeting of a council held after a general election. The schedule may be altered at a subsequent meeting.

3. Giving notice of a council meeting

Under section 91 of the Act, the council's CEO is responsible for convening council meetings and informing elected members of the meeting's time and date.

The notice for a council meeting must:

- be in writing
- state the date, time, place and agenda (including any confidential business)
- include any business papers to be considered at the meeting
- in the case of an ordinary meeting - be given to the members and published at least 3 business days before the date of the meeting
- in the case of a special meeting – be given to the members and published at least 4 hours before the time appointed for the meeting.

The notice may be given to a member personally, by post, by email, or by any other electronic means or any other way arranged by the CEO and the member.

If business that deals with confidential information is to be considered at the meeting, the notice available to the public must contain a statement of the fact and the provision of the Act under which the information is confidential. Refer to Regulation 103 (3). Also refer section 293 of Act and Regulation 51.

Ordinary meetings vs special meetings

Ordinary meetings may deal with business of any kind, or business as usual, but a special meeting can only deal with the specific business the meeting was called for, unless all members are present and unanimously decide, by resolution, to consider other business.

The council may hold a special meeting to deal with a particular item of business whenever circumstances require. A special meeting is convened by the CEO if:

- the principal member, or three or more members of the council, request the CEO in writing to convene the meeting
- the council resolves that a special meeting be convened.

Public access to council meetings

It is important that meetings are accessible and open to the community so the public can see democracy in action. A meeting of a council must be held in a place where the public may access the place for the purpose of attending the meeting.

If the elected members are attending the meeting by an audio or audiovisual conferencing system, the meeting must be accessible to the public by means of the audio or audiovisual system.

A meeting venue should be:

- generally accessible to the public, including people with disabilities
- of an adequate size to host the full council plus visitors
- equipped with appropriate facilities for the convenience of members and visitors.

4. Preparing the agenda

The agenda provides a roadmap for the meeting and notifies the community about the business of council. A well-structured agenda is the key to an effective council meeting that produces good decisions, made following the analysis of sound advice and constructive debate.

Matters for decision should receive priority and be allocated an appropriate amount of time for discussion and consideration. Council's focus should be on strategic issues and not on operational matters.

The agenda is prepared by the CEO but shaped by the chairperson and council.

It is good practice to:

- provide a timely set of papers in a way that is consistent and easy to navigate
- ensure information is presented in a way that is clear and accessible, and as far as possible, tailored to the needs of the members
- provide background to the matter – why and how it came to be on the agenda
- indicate whether a matter is for noting, discussion or decision
- provide concise, evidence-based recommendations
- explore options and identify associated risks
- indicate whether the matter is a strategic priority and if the costs are within the approved budget. If not, explain why it is being proposed and what will be displaced if council proceeds.

- understand the community and any potential impacts.

Late reports

Late reports and urgent business are not ideal as they do not provide members and the public sufficient opportunity to view the report on the matter prior to the meeting. Consider how late agenda items or matters that come up in general business will be dealt with as these are unlikely to be supported by a detailed briefing and analysis. Should such matters be deferred to ensure that decision-making is supported by adequate information?

Any papers or documents considered at a meeting that were not published with the notice of meeting must be published on the council's website at the same time as the minutes of the meeting (unless the material is confidential).

Confidential reports

The default position of councils should be for transparency and accountability. However, there are times when the council will consider confidential information.

Regulation 51 states the types of information that are prescribed as confidential. Any information that falls under the prescribed categories must remain confidential until the reason for confidentiality no longer applies.

Regulation 53 states that a council must, by resolution, adopt a policy in relation to confidential information and business. The policy must deal with:

- the type of confidential information that should no longer be confidential after a specified period of time
- the type of confidential information that should be subject to periodic review to determine if it should no longer be confidential.

Sample Agenda Structure

- Welcome and Apologies
- Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
- Previous Minutes and actions
- Matters for Decision
- Matters for Noting
- Reports from Local Authorities (*Regional Councils*)
- CEO Report
- Finance Report
- Questions from the Public
- Visitor Presentations/ Deputations
- General Business
- Confidential Business

Briefing Sessions

Some councils choose to hold briefing sessions prior to an ordinary council meeting to allow members to ask questions and request additional information from the CEO about reports being presented at the meeting.

Closed council briefing sessions should not be used to make decisions away from the public view. During a briefing session, debate should not occur, and no decisions can be made. For transparency and accountability, the public should be able to observe the decision-making process. Discussion about the merits of an agenda item should occur as part of the open meeting process. Refer to Section 95 (4) of the Act and Regulation 50 – Public access to meetings.

5. Procedure at meeting

The meeting chairperson is responsible for ensuring that meeting procedures are followed and for maintaining order.

The chairperson will go through the agenda items. Any member who has a conflict of interest should declare it at the start of the meeting or as soon as they first become aware of it.

The chairperson should ensure that:

- there is enough time for decisions to be made
- there is a quorum
- decisions are recorded in the minutes
- the meeting does not go off track
- everyone has an opportunity to be heard
- meetings are respectful.

Section 95 of the Act states that the chairperson of a meeting of a council is:

- if the principal member is present – the principal member
- if the principal member is not present - the deputy principal member
- if neither the principal member or deputy is present - the acting principal member
- if neither the principal member or deputy, and there is no acting principal member, the chairperson is a member chosen, by resolution, by the members present at the meeting.

Code of Conduct

Schedule 1 of the Act contains the Code of Conduct (the Code), which governs the behaviour of council members.

Section 119 of the Act requires councils to publish the Code on their website.

The council may also consider passing a resolution requiring members to sign an agreement affirming their commitment to uphold the values, culture and standards outlined in the Code, as well as those of the council and its community. This agreement would also emphasise their responsibility to represent all residents of the council area, maintain professionalism and integrity throughout their term, and commit to participating in mediation or training should they breach the Code.

Conflicts of Interest

Section 115 of the Act states that as soon as practicable after a member becomes aware of a conflict of interest in a matter that has arisen or is about to arise before council, the member must disclose the interest that gives rise to the conflict. A council member cannot, without prior approval from the Minister, be present at a council meeting while the matter in which the member has a conflict of interest is under consideration and nor can that member participate in any discussion on the matter or engage in behaviour that may influence the council's decision.

Council members should be encouraged to think about and declare any possible conflicts of interest that may arise, including their positions or positions of their associates and family members in private companies who may contract to councils, or on Aboriginal corporations and other non-government organisations and boards that may have a relationship with council.

Section 116 of the Act states that the CEO must keep a register (Register of Declared Conflicts) setting out conflicts of interest disclosed by council members under section 115.

Section 179 of the Act requires the CEO to disclose to council any personal or financial interest in a matter they are required or authorised to act or give advice on.

An [information sheet](#) is available on the Department's website which goes into more detail of what constitutes a conflict of interest, the steps to take if a member has a conflict of interest, and some examples of potential conflicts. This information sheet should be made accessible to members.

Attendance at meetings

5.1.1. Quorum

When there are enough members at the meeting to make decisions, this is called a 'quorum'. A quorum for a council meeting is the majority of all members holding office at the time of the meeting.

5.1.2. Audio or audio-visual conferencing system

Council may authorise attendance at meetings via audio or audio-visual conferencing systems in accordance with a council resolution establishing such a policy. Members attending by an audio or audio-visual conferencing system must have the same or substantially the same opportunity to participate in debate and register an opinion as if the member were physically present at the meeting.

5.1.3. Apologies

If a member is unable to attend a meeting, they need to advise the principal or CEO in accordance with council policy. The apology needs to be accepted by a majority of councillors. If not accepted the apology will be recorded as an absence. A Councillor is disqualified from office if absent from two consecutive meetings of council without permission.

A factsheet 'Council Member Disqualification – Absence from Council Meetings' is available in the Resource Hub.

Postponement of meeting

Section 100 of the Act addresses postponement of a meeting. If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the start time for the meeting, the meeting may be postponed to a later time on the same day by:

- the chairperson
- if the chairperson is not present but two or more members are present – the majority of members present
- if the chairperson is not present and fewer than two members are present – the CEO or a person authorised by the CEO.

If a meeting is postponed, the CEO must, in writing, record the fact that the meeting was postponed, and this record must be published on the council's website. If it is impractical for a meeting to be postponed to later the same day, the CEO may postpone the meeting for up to 21 days.

The person who postpones a meeting must ensure, as far as practicable, that each member receives notice of the postponement and of the time and place to which the meeting was postponed.

Motions

A motion is a formal proposal for the council to take action or make a decision. Motions are required to have a mover and seconder. If a motion is not seconded it should be recorded in the minutes as having lapsed.

Motions are proposed in the agenda in the form of a recommendation. Where a matter requires the council to make a decision, the council might decide to vote on the recommendation provided in the agenda paper or put up its own for voting.

The chairperson may close the debate when they deem there has been ample debate. Council will then vote and if a majority vote is in favour of the motion, it is 'carried'. A carried motion becomes a resolution of the council.

The council may also decide to defer a decision on a matter so that more information or other options can be provided.

Voting

Each member present has, and must exercise, one vote on a question arising for decision. It is not an option to abstain or refrain from voting.

If the council has a policy allowing the chairperson to exercise a casting vote, the chairperson must exercise, in the event of an equality of votes, a second or casting vote.

Casting votes will be made in accordance with council's 'Casting Vote Policy'. A casting vote policy may only be established by resolution at the first meeting of the council after a general election. It cannot be altered or revoked during the term of council and lapses at the conclusion of the next general election.

Unless the council unanimously resolves to take a vote by secret ballot, voting is to be conducted by a show of hands.

Questions from the Public

Council's meeting rules or policy may contain processes for members of the public to raise questions. These processes may include items such as: (examples only)

- a member of the public needs to provide their name and suburb/locality before asking a question
- a person may submit the question in writing in advance of a meeting or ask the question verbally at the meeting
- questions may be taken on notice by the person who is answering the question
- when a question is taken on notice, a response is to be given to the member of the public in writing and a copy of the answer included in the agenda of the next ordinary meeting
- summaries of public questions and responses are to be included in the minutes.

Visitor Presentations / Deputations

A visitor presentation (also known as a deputation) may be made by a person or group who wish to appear in person before a council or council committee meeting in order to speak on a particular matter.

Councils may set a policy for whether visitor presentations are heard at council meetings, committee meetings or other meetings and to provide parameters for presentations, such as requiring a formal, written request in advance or imposing a time limit.

General business

General business should be minor in nature and not requiring a decision of council as the council staff will not have had an opportunity to provide a report outlining any options, risks or costs.

If an item is raised in general business that requires consideration or analysis, the council should consider deferring the matter to the next meeting.

Confidential Business

The public may be excluded while business of a kind prescribed by regulation as confidential business is being considered by council.

At the conclusion of consideration of confidential business at a meeting, the council must decide, in accordance with its policy, whether the confidential information should no longer be confidential after a specified period of time or subject to periodic review.

6. Preparing the meeting minutes

The minutes of council meetings are the official record of the decisions made by the governing body. As such, they need to be:

- clear and easy to follow so that members of the public can see the reasons for council decisions
- an accurate record of what occurred at the meeting
- able to provide evidence that both accountability and statutory compliance requirements of the decision-making process have been met.

Guide to Meeting Procedures

The CEO must ensure that proper minutes of meetings are kept. Section 101 of the Act states that minutes must be in writing and must set out:

- the names of the members present at the meeting
- the business transacted at the meeting
- any confidential business that was considered at the meeting
- any other information required by regulation

The minutes must include references to any written reports or recommendations considered in the course of the meeting together with information about how to obtain access to the reports or recommendations.

Regulation 59 specifies the information that must be included in meeting minutes.

Confirmation of minutes

The minutes must be confirmed at the next ordinary meeting. Council may confirm the minutes, with or without amendment, as a correct record of the meeting.

The minutes of an audit committee, a council committee or a local authority must be tabled at the next meeting of the council. For regional councils, the council's response to local authority minutes must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of council. The council must report back to the local authority on its response to the local authority's minutes. Refer section 101 of the Act.

Public access to minutes

A copy of the minutes must be available to the public on the council's website and at its public office within 10 business days after the meeting.

If business that deals with confidential information was considered at the meeting, the copy of the minutes available to the public must contain a statement of that fact and the provision under which the information is confidential. Refer to section 293 of Act and Regulation 51.

A member of the public may inspect the copy of the minutes and may obtain an identical copy of the minutes or a certified copy of, or extract from, the minutes of a meeting. Council may charge a fee for the copies.

7. Glossary

Act: means the *Local Government Act 2019*

Agenda: means a list of items for consideration at the meeting together with reports and attachments relating to those items.

Casting vote: means a vote that may be exercised by the principal member/chairperson in the event of a tied vote, in accordance with Council's Casting Vote Policy.

CEO: Chief Executive Officer and includes an acting CEO.

Chairperson: means the person who is presiding over an official meeting of council.

Confidential Matters: means any confidential information as defined by regulation 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

Guide to Meeting Procedures

Meeting: any meeting of council or council committee and includes an ordinary council meeting or special council meeting.

Minutes: mean the official record of the business transacted at council meetings and the decisions made. They are a legal record and a public document.

Motion: means a formal proposal for the council to take action or make a decision.

Mover: means the person at a meeting who initiates (moves) a motion.

Seconder means the person at a meeting who seconds a motion that has been moved.

Quorum: means the minimum number of members needing to be present to constitute a valid meeting (i.e. 50% plus one).

Regulations: *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*

Resolution: means a formal decision by council that has been passed by a majority of its members in attendance at the meeting where the resolution was made.

Sample Meeting Procedures Policy

Policy made by:	Chief Executive Officer
Date to take effect:	
Legislative reference:	<i>Local Government Act 2019</i> , Chapter 6 Part 6.1 (Council Meetings) <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>
Document reference:	
Records number:	
Review date:	

1. Purpose

To provide a transparent framework for the conduct of council meetings and support elected members to act as representative, informed, and responsible decision-makers in the interests of the community, within the powers and functions assigned to them under the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act).

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

Act: *Local Government Act 2019*

Confidential Information: any confidential information as defined by regulation 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

CEO: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and includes an acting CEO.

Chairperson: means the principal member or, if the principal member is absent for any reason, the deputy principal member. In the event that neither the principal member nor the deputy principal member is available to chair the meeting, a chairperson will be chosen, by resolution, by the members present at the meeting.

Code of Conduct: the local government Code of Conduct as per schedule 1 of the *Local Government Act 2019*

Deputation: may be made by a person or group who wish to appear in person before a council meeting in order to speak on a particular matter.

Meeting: any meeting of council or council committee and includes an ordinary council meeting or special council meeting.

Motion: means a formal proposal or recommendation for the council to make a decision or take an action.

Mover: means the person at a meeting who initiates (moves) a motion.

Quorum: means the minimum number of members needing to be present to constitute a valid meeting. A quorum is the majority of all elected members (50%, plus 1).

Regulations: *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*

Resolution means a formal decision by council that has been passed by a majority of its sitting members.

Seconder means the person at a meeting who seconds a motion that has been moved.

– Sample policy only –

3. Policy Statement

- 1) Council will conduct its meetings in accordance with the Act and the Regulations.
- 2) This policy complements legislation governing the council to provide procedures and standards for the proper conduct of business by council at its meetings.
- 3) Council has an obligation to act in accordance with the role, functions and objectives of local government as outlined in legislation and must adhere to the Code of Conduct for council members.

4. Application of Policy

4.1 Scheduling of meetings

At the first meeting following a general council election, council shall establish the schedule of ordinary meeting dates for the term of the council. The scheduled date or time of a council meeting may be changed at a subsequent meeting.

Section 90(1) of the Act requires a council to hold a meeting of its members at least once in each successive period of two months.

If a council does not schedule an ordinary meeting at least once in each month, then regulation 19 of the Regulations requires a council to appoint a committee and delegate to the committee the necessary powers to carry out, on behalf of council, the financial functions of the council in the months the council does not hold an ordinary meeting (Finance Committee).

Council meetings are to be conducted in a transparent manner and held in a place where the public may attend, unless the meeting or part of the meeting is lawfully closed.

A member of the public must not take part, or attempt to take part, in the proceedings of a meeting unless invited to do so by the chairperson.

4.2 Meeting time and location

Meetings of council will be convened by the CEO and will be held at [e.g. time; fourth Tuesday of each month].

The meeting location will be advertised on the public notice and meeting agenda, and the selected venue will be:

- a) generally accessible to the public including people with disabilities
- b) of an adequate size to host the full council plus visitors
- c) equipped with appropriate facilities for the convenience of members and visitors.

4.3 Submission of agenda items

The agenda for a council meeting is prepared by the CEO, in consultation with the chairperson.

Elected members may request that a matter be included on the agenda of a council meeting by submitting the request in writing to the CEO at least [timeframe] prior to the meeting.

When preparing the agenda, consideration will be given to:

- whether a matter is for information, discussion or decision
- whether the matter is supported by sufficient information
- whether the matter is strategic in nature

– Sample policy only –

- any potential risks, costs or impacts associated with the matter.

The CEO may determine that a matter is not ready for inclusion on the agenda and may defer the matter to a future meeting if further information or analysis is required.

4.4 Order of business and business papers

The content and general structure of the ordinary council meeting agenda will be as follows, unless amended by resolution:

- Welcome and Apologies
- Declarations of Conflict of Interest
- Previous Minutes
- Matters for Decision
- Matters for Noting
- Reports from Local Authorities (Regional Councils)
- CEO Report
- Financial Report
- Questions from the Public
- Visitor Presentations
- General Business
- Confidential Business

4.5 Late items and general business

Late reports and urgent business are discouraged, as they do not allow elected members or the public sufficient opportunity to consider the matter prior to the meeting.

Any papers or documents considered at a meeting that were not published with the agenda must be published on the council website at the same time as the minutes of the meeting, unless the material is confidential.

General business items should be minor in nature and should not require a decision of council.

Where a matter raised under general business requires consideration, analysis, or the provision of a report, council should defer the matter to a future meeting.

4.6 Availability of agendas and minutes

A copy of the ordinary council meeting agenda must be uploaded to the council website no later than three days prior to the meeting.

A copy of the minutes must be available to the public on the website and at the council's public office within 10 business days after the meeting.

4.7 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of a council meeting are to be presented for confirmation at the next meeting.

Council may confirm the minutes with or without amendment.

– Sample policy only –

Once confirmed, the minutes are taken to be a true and accurate record of the meeting, and the confirmation is to be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

4.8 Apologies

A member who becomes aware of a situation or circumstance that will prevent them from attending a meeting should notify the principal member or CEO to register their apology for the meeting. An email, telephone call, signed letter or the apology form should be used and need to be received by the CEO no later than [timeframe] before the meeting.

4.9 Quorum not present

When a meeting is postponed, that fact together with the names of the members present at the time is to be recorded in the minutes. If it is impractical for a meeting to be postponed to later the same day, the CEO may postpone the meeting for up to 21 days.

The person who postpones a meeting must ensure, as far as practicable, that each member receives notice of the postponement and of the time and place to which the meeting was postponed. The website will be updated to advise of the changes.

4.10 Roles and responsibilities

The chairperson is to maintain order and will have priority when speaking. If two or more members speak at the same time, the chairperson will decide the order of speaking.

Elected members are responsible for attending meetings, participating in debate in a respectful manner, declaring conflicts of interest, and voting on matters before council.

Members shall not use offensive or inappropriate language, especially in reference to another member. A member is guilty of an act of disorder if, at a meeting:

- the member is in breach of the Act, Code of Conduct or this policy
- the member uses language that, according to common usage, would be considered disorderly or offensive
- the member says or does anything calculated to bring the council into public disrepute or contempt.

A member who interrupts the orderly conduct of a meeting shall, on being requested to do so by the chairperson, immediately leave the meeting, and this will be included in the minutes.

A member who considers that another member is out of order may request the chairperson to bring order to the meeting.

4.11 Conflicts of Interest

A member must avoid any conflict of interest, whether actual or perceived. If a conflict of interest exists, the member must comply with any statutory obligations of disclosure.

4.12 Confidential matters

Council may consider confidential information in accordance with Regulation 51 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.

If applicable, members will move and second a motion to close part of the meeting to the public to allow confidential matters to be considered and discussed.

– Sample policy only –

At the conclusion of confidential business, council must determine whether the confidential information should no longer be confidential after a specified period of time or be subject to periodic review, in accordance with council's [Confidential Information Policy].

Any resolutions made during confidential business are to be reported publicly in a manner that does not disclose confidential information.

4.13 Motions

Motions are required to have a mover and seconder. If a motion is not seconded it will be recorded in the minutes as having lapsed.

When a motion has been moved and seconded, a member may move an amendment to the motion. The chairperson has the right to close the debate at any time they deem there has been ample debate. Council will then vote and if a majority vote is in favour of the motion, it is 'carried'. A carried motion becomes a resolution of council.

4.14 Voting

Each member present has and must exercise one vote on each matter arising for decision. It is not an option to abstain or not vote.

If the council has a policy allowing the chairperson to exercise a casting vote, the chairperson must exercise, in the event of an equality of votes, a second or casting vote.

Casting votes will be made in accordance with council's [Casting Vote Policy]. A casting vote policy may only be established by resolution at the first meeting of the council after a general election. It cannot be altered or revoked during the term of council and lapses at the conclusion of the next general election.

Unless the council decides unanimously to take a vote by secret ballot, voting is to be by a show of hands.

4.15 Questions from the public

A member of the public who wishes to raise a question during public question time can, through the chairperson, do so by either submitting the question in writing, including their name and address, to the council officer prior to the start of the meeting, or verbally at the meeting.

A question may be taken on notice for later response. When the chairperson determines that a question will be taken on notice, the CEO is to ensure that a response is given to the member of the public in writing and a summary of the response is included in the agenda of the next meeting.

Summaries of public questions and responses are to be included in the minutes.

4.16 Visitor Presentations / Deputations

A request to provide a visitor presentation /deputation to put information to council must be in writing to the CEO at least [timeframe] prior to the meeting.

Council will receive deputations at a date and time agreed by the principal member in consultation with the members of the deputation.



25 FEBRUARY 2026 LGANT BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

The LGANT Board met for its first meeting of 2026 on Wednesday 25 February at the Vibe Hotel Darwin Waterfront.

The Board endorsed minutes from an out-of-session meeting on 15 December 2025 which was held to endorse a number of time critical committee appointments: NT Councils Discretionary Trust Advisory Committee, NT Planning Commission, NT Water Safety Advisory Council, and NT Place Names Committee.

The Board approved the fourth tranche of LGANT’s updated organisational policies, the CEOs new KPIs and position description, and the financial report. The Board also endorsed the updated Board meeting dates for 2026, and LGANT’s new Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan.

The LGANT President provided an update on his activities since the last Board Meeting including his and the Vice President Regional and Shires’ attendance at the ALGA Strategic Planning days held on 11 and 12 February 2025.

The Board noted the CEOs report (including a summary of her meetings and a marketing analytics report), the WALGA IR/HR service quarterly report, the forward Board calendar, activity on General Business motions, submissions, and incoming and outgoing correspondence.

The Board will next meet on 25 March 2026.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss these matters further, please reach out to Mary Watson, LGANT CEO, at mary.watson@lgant.asn.au or on 0417 864 183.

Alternatively, you can contact members of the LGANT Board:

President: Cr Peter Pangquee	City of Darwin	peter.pangquee@darwin.nt.gov.au	0419 858 636
Vice President Municipal: Cr Allison Bitar	Alice Springs Town Council	abitar@alicesprings.nt.gov.au	0491 055 224
Vice President Regional and Shires: Mayor Brian Pedwell	Victoria Daly Regional Council	brian.pedwell@vicdaly.nt.gov.au	0429 341 336
Municipal Director - City of Darwin nominated representative: Cr Sam Weston	City of Darwin	sam.weston@darwin.nt.gov.au	0499 389 462

Municipal Director: Mayor Joanna Holden	Katherine Town Council	joanna.holden@ktc.nt.gov.au	0428 717 044
Municipal Director: Cr Mark Fraser	City of Palmerston	councillor.fraser@palmerston.nt.gov.au	0411 224 670
Regional and Shires Director: Cr Peter Clee	Wagait Shire Council	peter.clee@wagait.nt.gov.au	0418 894 404
Regional and Shires Director Mayor Lynette De Santis	Tiwi Islands Regional Council	lynettejane.desantis@tiwiislands.nt.gov.au	0419 033 821
Regional and Shire Director: Mayor James Woods	West Arnhem Regional Council	james.woods@westarnhem.nt.gov.au	0497 919 225



25 MARCH 2026 LGANT BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

The LGANT Board met for its second meeting of 2026 on Wednesday 25 March at the LGANT office and online.

The Board heard from Alice Percy from the City of Darwin who provided an update on the NT Subdivision Development Guidelines (SDG) Management Committee in her capacity as the LGANT representative.

The Board endorsed the proposed 2026/2027 annual budget, the 2026/2027 membership subscription fees, and the recommendations for the Constitution review in advance of being presented to members at the General Meeting on 15 April 2026.

The Board also approved: the updated LGANT Risk Appetite Statement as reviewed during the 25 February 2026 Strategic Planning Workshop; not to renew the DriveAbout agreement; motions from members to the April General Meeting; and a new representative for the NT Councils Discretionary Trust Advisory Committee.

The LGANT President provided an update on his activities since the last Board Meeting including meeting with the office of the Leader of the Opposition to discuss the tranche two legislative amendments, meeting with the Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory (APONT), visiting the Tiwi Islands Regional Council as part of the annual council visits program, and attending the March ALGA Board meeting.

The Board noted the CEOs report (including a summary of her meetings, an update on LGANT’s NTG election and budget asks, and the actions from the 4 March 2026 CEO Forum and 5 March 2026 Mayors/President Forum), the forward Board calendar, activity on General Meeting and Board business, submissions, and incoming and outgoing correspondence.

The Board will next meet on 1 July 2026.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss these matters further, please reach out to Mary Watson, LGANT CEO, at ceo@lgant.asn.au or on 0417 864 183.

Alternatively, you can contact members of the LGANT Board:

President: Cr Peter Pangquee	City of Darwin	peter.pangquee@darwin.nt.gov.au	0419 858 636
Vice President Municipal: Cr Allison Bitar	Alice Springs Town Council	abitar@alicesprings.nt.gov.au	0491 055 224
Vice President Regional and Shires: Mayor Brian Pedwell	Victoria Daly Regional Council	brian.pedwell@vicdaly.nt.gov.au	0429 341 336

Municipal Director - City of Darwin nominated representative: Cr Sam Weston	City of Darwin	sam.weston@darwin.nt.gov.au	0499 389 462
Municipal Director: Mayor Joanna Holden	Katherine Town Council	joanna.holden@ktc.nt.gov.au	0428 717 044
Municipal Director: Cr Mark Fraser	City of Palmerston	councillor.fraser@palmerston.nt.gov.au	0411 224 670
Regional and Shires Director: Cr Peter Clee	Wagait Shire Council	peter.clee@wagait.nt.gov.au	0418 894 404
Regional and Shires Director Mayor Lynette De Santis	Tiwi Islands Regional Council	lynettejane.desantis@tiwiislands.nt.gov.au	0419 033 821
Regional and Shire Director: Mayor James Woods	West Arnhem Regional Council	james.woods@westarnhem.nt.gov.au	0497 919 225



The ALGA Board met online on Thursday 19 March 2026 for its first meeting of the year.

The Board reviewed the outcomes of the 12–13 February 2026 Strategic Planning Sessions and endorsed ALGA's draft Strategic Plan 2026–2030. The Plan sets ALGA's strategic direction for the next three years, with clear goals, success measures and agreed strategic initiatives to guide advocacy, operational planning and Board reporting. It places an emphasis on strengthened national advocacy for local government financial security and growth, and a stronger local government role in national policy design and delivery.

The Board also agreed the next steps for the financial sustainability communications campaign. ALGA will work closely with state and territory associations to build a cohesive national campaign reflecting the importance of secure and increased funding as well as demonstrating the value of local government.

ALGA is progressing planning for its 2026–27 priority policy research program. The Board considered a project to strengthen the evidence base for advocacy on waste and recycling cost impacts.

The Board reviewed and endorsed updates to the ALGA Board Charter and governance policy, ensuring ALGA continues to meet all corporate legal requirements and maintains a high standard of governance.

ALGA has engaged The Social Deck to update the Disability Inclusion Guide for Local Government (2016). The Board heard a presentation outlining the consultation approach, progress to date and next steps. The updated Guide will be launched at ALGA's 2026 National General Assembly.

The ALGA President provided an update on continued advocacy activities through key ministerial forums and parliamentary inquiries, reinforcing local government's role as an essential delivery partner and strengthening the case for sustainable, fit-for-purpose funding. The President represented councils at the Local Government Ministers' Forum, the Water Ministers Meeting, the Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council, and the National Emergency Management Ministers Meeting. The President also appeared at Senate and House inquiry hearings to highlight the practical regulatory, resourcing and implementation impacts of proposed reforms on councils, and to underscore local government's central role in environmental protection and the circular economy.

State and Territory Association Presidents provided reports on emerging jurisdictional issues and priorities. These included strengthening local government governance and democracy (including integrity settings, clearer rules, and improved councillor capability), ongoing pressure on council funding and capacity, and a strong focus on disaster resilience—particularly faster recovery funding and increased investment in mitigation and preparedness. Reports also highlighted the need for reforms that work for rural and regional communities, action on infrastructure and essential service backlogs, and ensuring "red tape reduction" initiatives do not create new complexity. Presidents also noted councils' expanding role in community wellbeing and social cohesion, including responding to polarisation, disinformation and community safety concerns while supporting inclusive local communities.

The ALGA Chief Executive Officer also reported on ALGA activity, including expanded member engagement and communications through a new monthly ALGA News format supported by targeted ALGA Alerts, increased social media coordination with state and territory associations, and ongoing development of the advocacy campaign. Planning is well advanced for the 2026 National General Assembly (Canberra, 23–25 June) and the National Local Roads and Infrastructure Congress (Cairns, 24–26 August), alongside a strong webinar program. Policy work continues across disability inclusion (with the updated Guide to launch at the National General Assembly), the National State of the Assets 2026 project (data validation completed and report underway), and the Jobs and Skills Survey (280+ councils participating, analysis underway), as well as sustained advocacy through submissions, hearings and federal parliamentary engagement.

Building Better
Communities.



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Wednesday, 18 March 2026

The National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)

Re: Ngurratjuta Wanka Wilurratja/Alturla Rinya Aboriginal Corporation: The Beauty Salon Social Enterprise (Mount Liebig & Papunya)

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC), I am writing to formally express our support for the Beauty Salon Social Enterprise application submitted by Ngurratjuta Wanka Wilurratja/Alturla Rinya Aboriginal Corporation under the Remote Aboriginal Employment Services (RAES) program.

This project represents a vital investment in the local workforce, specifically through the creation of sustainable employment and high-quality professional development. As the local government body responsible for service delivery in Mount Liebig and Papunya, we recognise that this initiative directly aligns with our objectives to improve community well-being and foster local economic participation.

A key pillar of this initiative is the commitment to providing permanent part-time positions rather than casual roles. This distinction is crucial; by offering guaranteed hours and job security, the project fosters a more stable economic environment for staff. These roles are designed to provide the consistency necessary for long-term financial planning, personal well-being, and reliable household income within communities.

Beyond immediate employment, this project prioritises the long-term employability of community members. The integration of certified training programs into the scope of work ensures that every team member gains nationally recognised qualifications. This approach transforms a local service into a genuine career path, equipping staff with transferable skills that meet industry standards and build a highly skilled local workforce.

By focusing on certified education and stable part-time contracts, this initiative will:

- Reduce local underemployment through secure, contracted positions.
- Establish a benchmark for community development through structured training.



- Provide essential personal care and hygiene services that are currently unavailable locally.

- Foster a sense of dignity and wellness in a culturally safe environment.

MacDonnell Regional Council recognises the importance of this initiative and the positive impact it will have on the residents of Mount Liebig and Papunya. MRC fully endorses this project and highly recommends this application for funding, as it provides a sustainable, community-led solution to long-standing service gaps while creating secure career pathways for our constituents.

Yours sincerely,



Belinda Urquhart

Chief Executive Officer



MacDonnell
Regional Council

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18 March 2026

Ms Marion Scrymgour MP

Federal Member for Lingiari

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Marion,

I am writing to share the outstanding achievement of Ms Shivani Sharpe, a young woman from Hermannsburg (Ntaria), who has been selected to represent the seat of Lingiari at the National Youth Parliament.

Shivani's selection is a significant milestone. It reflects her emerging leadership, strong sense of responsibility to her community, and her commitment to amplifying the voices of young people in remote Central Australia. As a young Arrernte woman growing up in Hermannsburg, she has already demonstrated determination, resilience, and a clear passion for contributing positively to the future of her region.

In many ways, Shivani's developing leadership echoes the pathway you yourself have paved for young people in the Territory. Your longstanding advocacy for remote communities, Aboriginal representation, and equitable outcomes for families across Lingiari stands as a powerful example for young women like Shivani. Her journey is a reminder of the impact that visible, strong Territory leaders have on the next generation which include leaders who show that voice, courage, and lived experience matter in shaping national conversations.

Shivani's participation in the National Youth Parliament provides her with a rare and valuable platform to advocate for the issues that most affect young people in remote communities which are youth wellbeing, education access, community safety, and opportunities for meaningful pathways into adulthood. Her presence will bring authenticity and insight that are often missing from national forums.

This achievement is not only a personal success for Shivani but a proud moment for the broader Lingiari community. Her voice will represent the hopes, concerns, and aspirations of young people whose perspectives are essential to the future of our region.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting young leaders across the Territory. Should you wish to meet Shivani or pass on your congratulations, I would be more than happy to facilitate this.

Yours sincerely,



Belinda Urquhart

Chief Executive Officer

*Ngkitja Ntjarra, Tnangkarru Nyinta Wangka Tjuta, Tjukurpa Kutju
many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle*



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Thursday, 19 March 2026

His Honour the Honourable David Connolly
Administrator of the Northern Territory
Government House
GPO Box 497
Darwin NT 0801

Your Honour,

On behalf of MacDonnell Regional Council, I wish to congratulate you on your appointment as the 24th Administrator of the Northern Territory.

MacDonnell Regional Council has always held the Office of the Administrator in the highest regard. We have long enjoyed a productive and respectful working relationship with your predecessors, and we remain committed to maintaining this strong connection throughout your term.

Our Council provides essential local government services to over 6,600 residents across 268,329 square kilometres of the Territory's most remote southern regions. Our mission to improve the lives of our residents through valued service delivery aligns closely with your commitment to serve all people of the Northern Territory.

We wish you every success in your new role and look forward to working together to achieve our shared goals for the region.

Yours sincerely,



Roxanne Kenny

President



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Tuesday, 24 March 2026

Mr Hugh King
A/Director, Sustainability and Compliance
Northern Territory Government

Dear Mr King

RE: Request for Invoice - Refund of Regional and Remote Burial Grant (\$70,000)

I am writing to formally request an invoice for **\$70,000.00** to enable us to process a compliant refund to the Northern Territory Government.

MRC was granted \$70,000 under the Regional and Remote Burial Grant program. Unfortunately, we are unable to proceed with expending the funds as the costs for the agreed works have exceeded the available budget. Considering these circumstances, we wish to return the grant funds in full and require an appropriate invoice to facilitate this refund in accordance with proper financial procedures.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. We appreciate the Northern Territory Government's support and look forward to potential opportunities to collaborate in the future.

Should you require any additional information or documentation to process this request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Belinda Urquhart

Chief Executive Officer

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 report presented at the March 2026 meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the President's report for the period 1st March to the 1st April 2026.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Meetings attended:

- Kintore Local Authority Meeting 12th March
- Titjikala Local Authority Meeting 17th March
- Ordinary Council Workshop 19th March
- Ordinary Council Meeting 20th March
- Areyonga Local Authority Meeting 31st March

During the last month the meeting attendance by the President has been adversely affected due to cultural considerations and ill health.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

President Roxanne Kenny
Chief Executive Officer

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, 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

Deputy Chief Executive Officer | Director – Council Services
Area Managers Council Services
Manager Commercial Contracts
Manager Housing & Facilities and Project Management Office
Project Manager Council Services
Council Service Coordinators and Senior Administration

ATTACHMENTS

1 Council Services Report



Council Services



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



**52 Area Manager
Visits to
Community**



**13 Council Office's
1976 Hours of
Service**

Snapshot



**13,432 Litres
approx Fuel Usage
in Feb - Mar**



**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



**43 Generator
Services**



**36 Hours of
Maintenance
completed at
Airstrip**

Key Achievements in Council Services

Animal Management & Environmental Health

- Commencement of 2026 Animal Management programs across all communities
- Engaged with 3 additional Veterinarian service providers, and successfully delivered veterinary services across the network, providing services in all communities.
- Increased desexing rates and strong community engagement.
- Rolled out the antiparasitic program, treating around 80% of animals.
- Delivery of responsible pet ownership education to 8 schools.
- Tick prevention and control education delivered in Amoonguna



Essential Services & Emergency Response

- Completion of approximately 430 additional ESO inspections during severe weather events
- Continuity of essential services during severe weather and access disruptions
- Quick restoration of critical infrastructure (e.g. Titjikala water supply)

Infrastructure, Assets & Maintenance

- Carrying out an additional ~180 unscheduled airstrip inspections during severe weather
- Street lighting maintained at over 80% operational capacity
- Delivery of upgrades including:
 - IT systems and facilities
 - Playground installations and upgrades
 - Shade structures and solar lighting
 - Mobile water and bin trailers

Community Safety & Liveability

- Large-scale grass slashing and fuel load reduction across the network
- Road safety improvements in Amoonguna (speed humps, signage, access works)

Workforce & Leadership

- Recruitment of new staff
- Staff stepping into higher duties roles to maintain service delivery

Community Engagement & Development

- National Tidy Towns Finalist
- Engaging with Hassts Bluff school and community education program - Planting Fruits and flowers around community.
- Implementation of solar lighting initiatives in Areyonga and Docker River
- Support for research projects such as Mapping the Digital Gap in Areyonga



Council Services - Animal Management

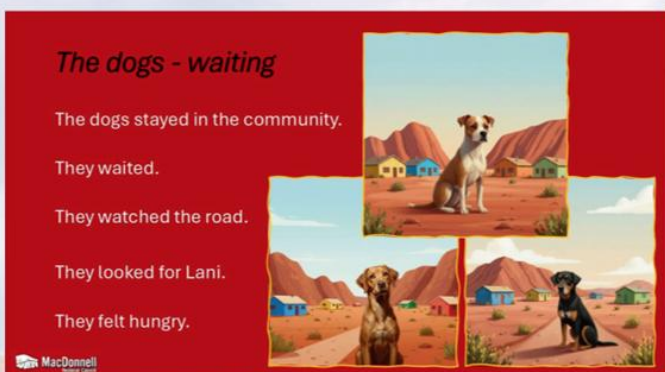
February and March 2026 marked the commencement of MRC’s Animal Management programs for the year.

This included veterinary visits to all communities, delivered by a range of service providers as part of the 2026 Veterinary Service Providers Trial. Early outcomes from these visits have shown excellent engagement from community members and higher-than-previous numbers of animals being desexed.

The Animal Management antiparasitic and education program also commenced during this period, with most communities receiving their first visit. Initial observations indicate that, on average, animals maintained a good level of health — including body condition and parasitic burden — over the past few months. This period typically represents the longest time communities go without any form of animal health service.

Approximately 80% of all animals seen were treated with an antiparasitic, and eight community schools received the education program. The program focused on responsible pet ownership, including guidance on caring for pets when owners leave the community. Particular emphasis was placed on ensuring dogs are not locked inside houses when owners are away.

Over the coming months, work will continue on the development and finalisation of the Council’s Animal Management governance documents, as well as strategic planning for the remainder of the year while the Animal Management Coordinator is on maternity leave. In addition, preliminary collated results from the Veterinary Services Trial will be developed to help inform strategic planning and budgeting for the next financial year



Council Services - Community updates

Amoonguna

In February, the Animal Management Coordinator, Michelle, conducted a site visit to provide education and support on tick prevention and control. This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to protect both residents and animals from tick-related health risks and to promote awareness of safe practices within the community.

The civil team is also focused on maintaining accessibility within the community. They are currently slashing and clearing the entry road to ensure safe and unobstructed access. Additionally, the civil works crew has continued active maintenance of parks and open spaces.

Their efforts include graffiti removal from sporting areas, as well as grass and weed management on the basketball and football ovals. These works contribute to safer, cleaner, and more enjoyable recreational areas for community members.

In addition, the team has been addressing traffic safety by repairing existing speed humps and installing new signage, enhancing road safety for both drivers and pedestrians.

MRC has commenced construction of a new pit to improve waste management infrastructure. Despite this, non-residents continue to illegally dump rubbish at the tip, which requires ongoing monitoring and intervention.



Areyonga

Following the recent rains in Areyonga, grass across the community has grown significantly. The Civil Team, led by our CSC Beatrice, is doing an outstanding job slashing the overgrown grass and carrying out a major clean-up throughout the community. Their efforts are helping to improve safety, accessibility, and the overall appearance of the community.

New Team Leader - Areyonga has recently appointed a new team leader who brings extensive knowledge and experience to lead the civil team in achieving their day-to-day tasks.

The Mapping Digital Gap

The Mapping the Digital Gap project measures digital inclusion and media use in remote communities. In March 2026, researchers visited Areyonga, in partnership with MRC, to collect annual survey data. The project aims to better understand barriers to digital access and the role of communication services in supporting communities. Findings will inform improved policies, services, and community-led strategies for digital inclusion across government and industry.



Illuminating Communities Project – Areyonga

The Illuminating Communities Project in Areyonga is a collaborative initiative involving Red Dust, Solar Buddy, and the Toyota Community Trust, aimed at improving safety, education, and sustainability in the community.

Building on a long-standing relationship with the region, the project will deliver solar-powered lighting alongside hands-on STEM learning opportunities to enhance energy equity and educational outcomes. As part of the program, six solar lights will be installed along the main road into Areyonga to address safety risks for residents walking in the dark. This fully funded initiative will significantly improve visibility, safety, and overall community wellbeing at no cost to the community.



Finke

Following Sorry Business earlier this year, the Civil Team has completed the clean-up in Finke. A large sorry camp had been established on the southern edge of the community, around the outdoor church and along the Central Land Council boundary.

The building materials have been collected and stockpiled at the waste management facility for future use and recycling. All other waste has been collected and removed from the area.

The Waste Management Facility has required additional maintenance since the recent rains. Requiring on going maintenance to keep the weeds and grasses down, ensuring all materials are separated, and clear the drop off bays weekly.

The household wheelie bin collection is covered twice a week, removing, Household Waste, Car Batteries, Tyres, Metal, White Goods, Electrical, Wood.



Docker River

In 2026 Docker River is focusing on empowering young people and strengthening the workforce by recruiting additional staff to support the civil team with daily operations.

Recently, the CSC conducted interviews for a new Team Leader position. The successful candidate brings extensive experience working in remote communities and has previously made valuable contributions in Yulara (Ayers Rock Resort) and Mutitjulu.

Docker River’s ongoing goal is to maintain a safe, clean, and liveable environment for all residents. While the permanent ESO is currently on leave, David Whitfield is providing coverage and ensuring continuity of services.

The community has recently seen several important upgrades and improvements, including:

- Major IT infrastructure upgrades, including enhancements to the conference room
- Installation of a new shade structure at the playground
- Introduction of a mobile water trailer and mobile bin trailers to assist residents in maintaining clean yards
- Installation of a new solar light at the main entrance to the community

Additionally, MRC is in the process of upgrading the playground, with new equipment which is expected to be installed in the coming months.

Haasts Bluff

Haasts Bluff is putting its best foot forward as it prepares for the up-coming National Tidy Towns awards. As the Territories Tidiest Town, Haasts Bluff is currently a hive of activity with working bee’s happening to get on top of the grass that has boomed due to recent weather event.

The team are producing a short animation showcasing what the region has to offer, along with a video where community members have a chance to say what make Haasts Bluff special to them. The video will be shown to the Tidy Towns judges, along with the animation.

The MRC office is getting a facelift with an Artist working alongside kids from the primary school to develop a mural that highlights Haasts Bluffs passion for constant improvement.



Hermannsburg

Hermannsburg has not escaped the recent record rain with both the Finke and Ellery creek cutting of access from either side of community.

Regardless the team have maintained services and have focused their efforts on keeping the streets and parks slashed and safe for residents. Their efforts have been highly commendable as their CSC has been away on sorry business due to a loss that has deeply affected the entire team.

ESO David Wilson has stepped in to help keep everything running smoothly and provide direction for the civil team and admin during this difficult time.

As with most of MRC communities the bulk of the recent and currently on-going work is focused on reducing grass level before it dries and becomes a fire hazard.



Imanpa

Due to ongoing cultural business in Imanpa, all civil staff temporarily left the community to attend men's business. At the same time, recent rainfall has caused grass across the community to grow rapidly and become heavily overgrown.

Despite these challenges, CSC Kelly Ryan has demonstrated outstanding commitment and leadership. She has been managing the community independently, ensuring that all essential services continue to operate smoothly. This has included slashing overgrown grass and maintaining critical services without interruption.

Her efforts have been exceptional, and she has done an incredible job keeping the community running efficiently during this period.



Kintore

Kintore found quite a few community members heading to Papunya for the final parts of Men's Business (concluded at the end of February). Roads have been mostly closed since that time due to a significant rainfall which has impacted community travel, staff availability and other stakeholder services.

From this, the buffel grass and other invasive grasses have had ideal growing conditions, which increases the workload for the teams to try to maintain. Regular operations such as rubbish collection, Essential Services duties and airstrip maintenance have been completed.

With the resignation of the ESO in February, the Works Team Leader, Clint Healy, has stepped up and has been working across both roles for the interim, and has been doing a great job.

Kintore has also recently been affected by a Telstra Outage for a significant time period (reported publicly by news outlets).



Mt Liebig

Mount Liebig was affected by a large number of community members and staff heading to Papunya for the Men's Business.

We also experienced damage to core infrastructure due to a large herd of Camels invading the community looking for water sources during the dry period.

Roads to Mount Liebig were affected with recent road closures after the rain events. With the rain, Mount Liebig is also finding the community being overrun with buffel grass and other invasive grasses - it remains a priority for the returning Civil team members to bring this under control.

Regular operations such as rubbish collection, Essential Services duties and airstrip maintenance have been completed.

With the resignation of the Work Team Leader, the position has been advertised and looking to be filled as soon as possible.



Papunya

Papunya hosted one of the largest Men's Business events seen for quite some time. The additional visitors placed pressure on the stakeholders (store, clinic etc) up to and past the end of Men's Business in late February.

Papunya was also affected by recent road closures and like many of the other communities has seen the buffel grass and other invasive species flourish from rain events.

Regular operations such as rubbish collection, Essential Services duties and airstrip maintenance have been completed.

Essential Services provision was disrupted for a short period with community unrest - various Council buildings were targeted for break-ins and ESO staff were threatened.

Significant water leaks within the community that were affecting Bore and Chlorine usage have also been recently repaired.



Santa Teresa

Following a very wet February, the Civil Team has focused on community clean-up efforts throughout March, including grass cutting and road grading.

Access to Santa Teresa has been significantly impacted, with unsealed roads becoming impassable and cutting off access from Alice Springs. The airstrip and Waste Management Facility have also been inaccessible on multiple days.

The ESO role has faced ongoing challenges, particularly due to limited access to the bore field.

Animal Management Officer Michelle Watts report on recent Santa Teresa visit includes the school visit to deliver the program Pet’s needs, Dog abandonment and desexing to 38 students and 16 staff,

Students were very engaged with the program content and engaged in good discussion around dog behaviour.



Titjikala

On March 13, the Titjikala community lost its water supply following a motor vehicle incident in the early hours of the morning. A water hydrant was knocked over, causing the community water tower to drain.

ESO, Moses Daniels identified and repaired the issue, restoring normal water service by 9:30am.

Following recent wet weather and the creek flowing, the MRC Civil team have cleaned sand and mud from the causeway for community access.

Clean up continues in Titjikala, currently there is a blitz on grass cutting across the community.



Wallace Rockhole



Over the past couple of months the team in Wallace have been heavily affected by the recent record rains. The weather saw the creeks around community rise to impassable levels. With the weather now clearing the team are hard at work reducing fuel loads as the grass around community is growing at a rapid rate. Although travel in and out has been limited due to road closures the team has maintained MRC operations and ensured that services continued un-interrupted.



Council Services - Commercial Services

Contracts update

Power and Water Contract – Indigenous Essential Services

The ESO contract has been extended for another 12 months, which really speaks to the strength of our team and the quality of work being delivered. It also means we can keep things running smoothly and continue building confidence in what we do.

Severe and prolonged rainfall throughout February and early March placed significant demands on ESO operations. In response to the weather event, NTG established an Emergency Management Response group to monitor and prioritise essential services.

Power and Water requested additional support from ESOs, including twice-daily asset inspections to ensure infrastructure was not impacted by flooding, and increased chlorine testing to maintain safe drinking water supplies. This was approximately an additional 430 inspections over a 12 day period.

This extra workload added pressure, but the team handled it really well—staying calm, professional, and keeping services running while meeting all the additional requirements.

The recent weather has also meant more work around compound maintenance across all communities. Staff have been out managing conditions and getting sites back to where they need to be.

Overall, the ESO team continues to show a strong commitment to maintaining high standards, delivering reliable services, and stepping up when challenges come their way.



Streetlights

Community street lighting across our serviced areas is currently operating at more than 80%. 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

MRC continues to deliver Centrelink services across the community, with a strong focus on meeting service standards and responding to community needs. Ongoing investment in staff development has strengthened local capacity and improved the overall quality and efficiency of service delivery throughout the region.

Recent weather conditions have impacted Services Australia’s remote teams’ ability to access several communities, resulting in disruptions to outreach services. In response, MRC staff have taken proactive steps to support affected locations and remain committed to maintaining service continuity despite these challenges.

To improve accessibility, MRC has recruited additional staff to support service delivery in key communities, including Areyonga and Finke. This approach ensures services remain locally based and responsive to community needs.

Homelands

MRC supports the wellbeing of Homeland communities by ensuring safe and reliable living environments, with uninterrupted access to essential services. By addressing maintenance needs promptly, monitoring critical infrastructure, and responding to emerging issues, MRC helps strengthen community resilience and safety.

These efforts not only improve day-to-day living conditions but also contribute to the long-term stability and quality of life for residents in these remote areas.

Airstrips

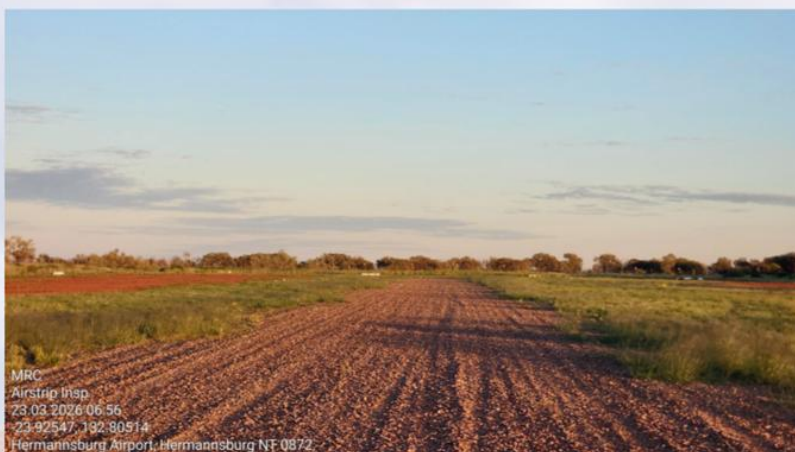
Heavy rainfall across communities in February and March impacted all of our airstrips, prompting MRC to respond swiftly to address emerging issues.

In some cases, airstrips were temporarily closed to ensure the safety of users during these weather events.

To further support aviation safety, the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI) asked MRC to carry out additional unscheduled airstrip inspections during the February and March weather events. This was a big ask for both ESOs and CSCs, who were already under pressure, as it meant completing airstrip reports twice a day over an extended period.

Across the nine communities with Airstrips, this added up to around 180 extra airstrip inspections over 20 days—a significant effort on top of their regular duties.

DLI have also implemented upgrades, including new windsocks for Kintore, improved lighting at Papunya, and a replacement battery for the Papunya windsock lights. These improvements assist pilots in navigating local conditions more effectively and support the safe and reliable operation of airstrips across the region.



Project Management Office

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

We have received five agreements and associated payments for the Tranche 2 projects:

- Areyonga - Community Laundry
- Docker Community - Laundry and Public Amenities
- Kintore Community - Laundry and Public Amenities
- Titjikala - Pump Track

Consultation is currently underway regarding power and water connections, as well as Central Land Council approvals for sacred site clearances.

We are awaiting agreements from NTG for the remaining five Tranche Projects in Papunya, Hermannsburg, Titjikala, and Haasts Bluff.

Papunya Changerooms have been signed off by Council and will be progressing to tender. We are currently awaiting approval from Power and Water for service connections.

Hermannsburg Changerooms have experienced delays due to wet weather and road closures but remain on track for completion by the end of May. Remote shade structures will include elevated seating at the oval, with installation scheduled for April/May.

MRC currently has a tender out for compliance upgrades to the Docker River Early Learning Centre. These upgrades will ensure a safe, secure and compliant spaces for early childhood education.

Final batch of bin trailers have arrived at the workshop and are undergoing additional electrical work before they arrive in community.

The civil team in Amoonguna have dismantled the playground at Stuart Park to make way for a new one as part of the Community Benefit Fund grant. Haasts Bluff will also have a new playground installed as part of the agreement.

The PMO are working with the St Kilda Football Club to have a set of a goalposts donated to Mt Liebig. Ross Planning, a consultancy firm specialising in sports and rec facilities, have travelled to Imanpa to audit the current sporting facilities and consult with community regarding potential upgrades. They will now draft a sports masterplan that will be presented to the LA's.



Housing and Facilities Update

The team has been busy trying to navigate housing and facility works with the recent weather and road closures. The team has managed to complete several emergency repairs within the region while maintaining a high level of maintenance requests. The team have completed staff housing and facility inspections on various lots in Amoonguna, Imanpa and Sanat Teresa.

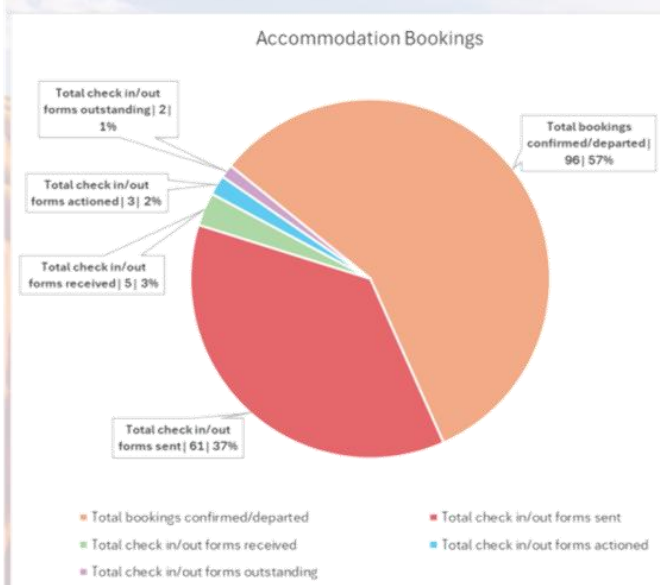
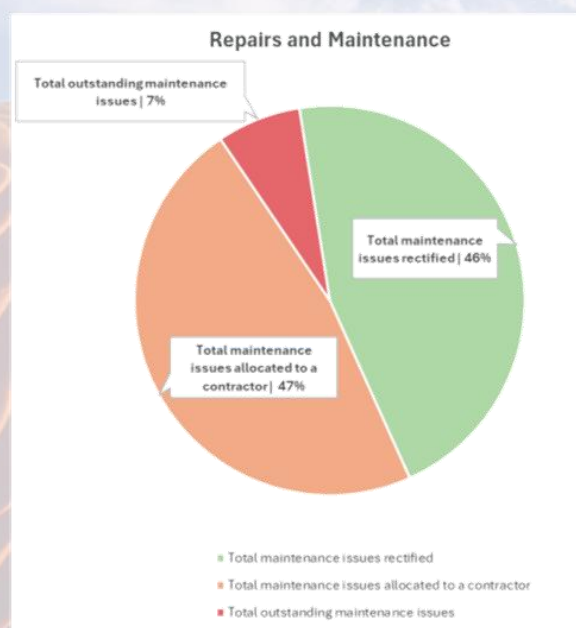
Capital Works Progress Update

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.

Ongoing and Allocated Works

The following projects are currently underway or in quotation phase:

- 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 (new fencing)
- Mount Liebig Meeting Room Upgrades
- Revitalising MRC Regional Headquarters garden spaces.
- Upgrades to MRC Regional Headquarters meeting rooms



15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.2
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 Care and Children's services for March 2026, throughout the MRC region.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

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

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

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

CONSULTATION

Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager of Aged and Children's Services
Emma Hacche - Senior Coordinator Quality Compliance & Strategy of Aged Care Coordinators, Team Leader and Administration

ATTACHMENTS

1 Aged Care and Children's Services OCM March 2026



Council Report

MARCH 2026



44 Employees
79.50% First Nation

61 Enrolments



114 Hours - Coordinator & Manager support across 6 open Centres



Service Delivery
383.50 Hours



177 - Meals served



Training

- 3 - Team leaders enrolled in Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care.
- 1 - Team leader enrolled in Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care.
- 4 Educators enrolled in Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care.

Stakeholder Engagement



- NPY Representative
- NT Health – Child Dietitian
- Hearing Australia
- Waltja Aboriginal Corporation
- Clinic
- Families
- Congress



Highlights

- Stakeholder engagement included working with the clinic to support healthy eating habits. Waltja visited Titjikala with information to help educators and families manage money. Hearing Australia visited Mt Liebig offering free hearing checks for children. Congress and NT Health clinics collaborate with ELC staff to help maintain up to date child immunisation registers.
- Families access the Centres supporting the children through activities and sharing feedback about the program.
- Successful participation in First Aid training despite the wet weather.
- Cross department collaboration to ensure food shared across the Aged Care, Children's Services and Council Service departments during critical food shortages and floods.
- Regular online check ins from coordinator and manager to support staff wellbeing during isolation
- Areyonga Team Leader attended kangaroo tail cook up at the school strengthening relationships.
- We have begun developing culturally responsive resources to support Team Leaders to build local language skills with Elders.



Council Report

MARCH 2026



Finke and Titjikala



Home corner play time



Grippies shakers: sensory and magnetic exploration builds creativity, trial and error

Children outside





Council Report

MARCH 2026



Children are improving their pencil grip and hand-eye coordination



**Solitary play:
reading a book**

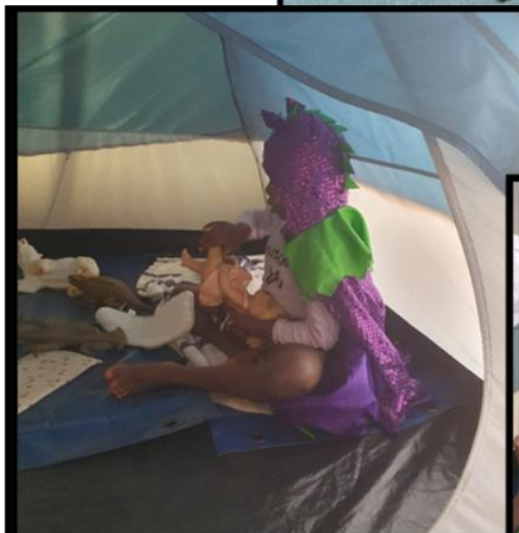


Council Report

MARCH 2026



***Dress up:
Ranger, Cinderella,
and the fairy godmother***



***Dress-ups: supports children's roleplay,
creativity and imagination***





Council Report

MARCH 2026



Shining and bright sun collage with children and educator



Children and educator are painting the sky and the rain during flooding days.

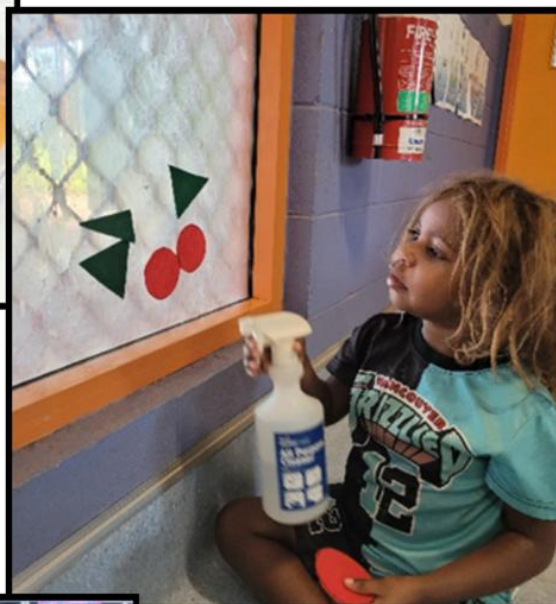


Council Report

MARCH 2026



***Alex enjoyed engaging in sensory play with cornflour .
The texture was new for him
and had lots of fun exploring.***



***Eliyannah is engaged and
enjoyed the sticky and
move on glass activity.***



***Children enjoyed playing
with painting bubbles
they explored different
colours and showed
interest in mixing and
creating new patterns.***



Council Report

MARCH 2026



Erin is playing with sticky roll rice, trying to remove the rice.



Silas tried to pick up sticks with educator support.



Children and educator explored the caterpillars and talked about their colours and size, learning from their natural environment.

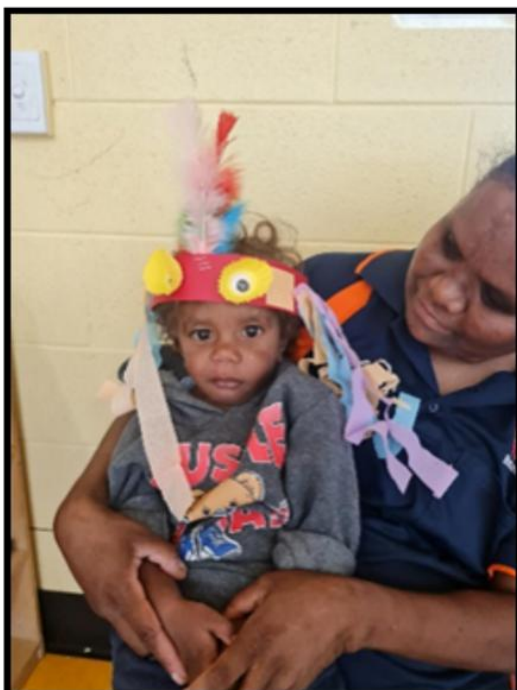


Council Report

MARCH 2026



Hermannsburg



Shaun feels safe, secure and supported to share his creation with his mum.



Children and Educators are painting easter baskets to participate in community events



Senna problem solving and exploring



Council Report Aged Care Services March 2026



82% Indigenous Employment
Community Vacancies:
FT: 2 PT: 6



Stakeholders' engagements: 9 reported
Including:
Store Manager, Clinic, Allied Health



Transport provided
125 lifts given



Client Interactions: 203



Personal Care provided: 159
Including:
shower & toilet assistance,
laundry loads, tablet
reminders.



Training

Fortnightly Toolbox talks
Online ALIS and LMS training including Aged
Care standards training and WHS



Active Clients: 87



Meals

Breakfast, lunches
& Hampers: 1249

UPDATES

- During the recent severe weather roads became flooded which led to some unavoidable delays in service delivery. The Aged Care team worked creatively and collaboratively with NT Health, Ngurratjuta and other stakeholders to ensure service delivery interruptions were minimised prioritising food preparation. Freight deliveries and Allied Health visits were delayed due to road closures.
- Haasts Bluff TL, Amr supported NT Health with delivery of essential medications.
- We have successfully recruited a Male Home Care Assistant for Hermannsburg.
- Papunya Centre was unable to operate at times due to limited staffing and sorry business.
- Our Senior Coordinator – Operations flew to Papunya to provide operational support due to road closures.
- Certificate III in Individual Support training commenced but was disrupted by weather and road closures.
- Senior staff and clinical coordinators undertook NintiOne led training to support transition to the Aged Care Act 2024.
- APM travelled to Hermannsburg to conduct Aged Care Assessments under the new reforms.



Council Report Aged Care Services March 2026



Team Leader Annie working hard in the Amoonguna kitchen



Amoonguna HCAs Caroline and David on meal delivery duty

Aged Care Staff
have been
working hard on
cleaning
and clearing the
Aged Care shed / storage





Council Report Aged Care Services March 2026



Finke TL Reylene cleaning
catching up with paperwork and
prepping lunch for clients





Council Report Aged Care Services March 2026



Papunya hampers being prepared with the assistance of LA member Sarah Stockman and Ngurratjuta crew



3 fortnights worth of groceries and 2 freezers finally making it through to Papunya



Papunya HCAs Dermott and Gabrielle working through the recipe book planning menus



Papunya HCAs Martha, Dermott and Adrian preparing clients lunches



Council Report Aged Care Services March 2026



Papunya client Nita McDonald enjoying a cup of tea and watching a cowboy movie



Papunya HCAs Adrian and Gabrielle putting together clients weekend hampers



Papunya HCA Dermott preparing salad for clients lunches



Council Report Aged Care Services March 2026



Allied Health OT visit to the
Hermannsburg Aged Care
centre

Congress Allied Health
checks



APM carrying out Aged Care
Assessments with
Hermannsburg clients



Council Report School Nutrition Program March 2026



Stakeholders' engagement:
We meet with the School Principal weekly to discuss menus and attendance



Meals
SNP Meals delivered: 876



School teacher Kym serving lunch prepared by Aged Care Team Leader Amr



Council Report School Nutrition Program March 2026



SNP School kids enjoying
lunch prepared by Aged Care
TL Amr in the Breezeway
Dining Space



Fruit break for
school kids



SNP student washing dishes
after school lunch

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.3
TITLE Youth and Community Safety 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 Youth and Community Safety services for March 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
Yarran Cavalier - A/ Senior Coordinator of Community Safety Coordinators and Admin.

ATTACHMENTS

1 Youth and Community Safety OCM March 2026



Council Report Youth Services



March 26



Employees

65 staff
88 % Local Staff



Hours

191 hours
open



Facilities open

11



Cultural activities

6



Participants

155



Average participant age

9



Youth Board

1



Activities delivered

81



Events

1

Highlights



- **New Coordinator recruiting:** Youth Services has appointed Brenton Forrester as the new Coordinator for Papunya, Kintore, and Mt Liebig following the resignation of Emma Boughton. Brenton brings extensive experience in working with community members, and his knowledge will be a valuable asset to the youth program.
- **Youth Services Continue Indoor Activities During Flooding:** Youth Services staff in Amoonguna, Titjikala, Santa Teresa, Haasts Bluff, Mt Liebig, and Hermannsburg continue to run indoor activities due to heavy rainfall and flooding. These activities include indoor cricket, soccer, drawing, dodgeball, and arts and crafts. Young people are actively participating, enjoying the variety of indoor games while staying safe and engaged.

A Youth Board meeting is being conducted, where young people are actively learning and developing leadership skills. Through discussions, decision-making activities, and participation in planning, youth are building confidence, teamwork, and a stronger sense of responsibility within their community.



Papunya Youth Services staff are teaching girls how to play table tennis in the recreation hall.



Youth Exploring Bush Foods
and Sand Dune Activities



Youth Attending Regular
Programs During Flooding



Youth are enjoying indoor
games in Rechall





Council Report

Community Safety

March 2026



- 55 staff employed
- 94% staff are Aboriginal
- 100% Community based staff are Aboriginal
- 624 Hours Patrolled
- All services operate Monday to Friday



830 Engagements with young people



498 Engagements with over 18's



337 Young people taken home



16 Training Hours



364 Are you okay? Checks



0 Community gatherings

Updates



- Sarah Grant - Senior Coordinator is currently on maternity leave for the next twelve months.
- Training during this reporting period was facilitated by the senior coordinator and new coordinator for the East Communities with the Santa Teresa Team. Training focused on Technology and IT including time sheets, emails and using the App to record engagements. The Training was undertaken in local language and English to support better outcomes for local staff.
- A new coordinator Gilbert Smith started in his new role having stepped up from the Team Leader position at Hermannsburg.
- A new Community Safety Coordinator has been interviewed and will begin after Easter.
- There will be interviews for the second Coordinator vacancy this week.
- Due to the substantial rainfall in February and March, there have been only a couple of Coordinator community visits to Amoonguna and Santa Teresa in this reporting period.
- Wet weather and closed roads meant that vehicles were reallocated across communities to ensure that each night patrol ran effectively.
- Community Safety is prioritises working closely with youth programs, by providing young people transport to the rec halls and home whenever possible.

Kiara Cleaning Vehicle Finke



Santa Teresa Staff completing timesheets prior to scanning



Santa Teresa staff training on how to scan and attach to email



our new coordinator Gilbert helping staff to complete maintenance request details on phone



Clint and Jason on patrol putting data into MacSafe App



Clint and Jason filling in Timesheets



First visit for new coordinator Gilbert Smith to support Santa Teresa Community Safety team



Clint and Jason on patrol at Amoonguuna



15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.4
TITLE People & Capabilities Report
AUTHOR Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities

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 highlights current and completed People & Capabilities (P&C) 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 P&C 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.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Recruitment:

- i. The team has been focusing on recruitment and retention as employee numbers continue to fluctuate. The goal over the coming months is to achieve more stable staffing levels, while also creating stronger internal progression opportunities for community-based staff.
- ii. HR is continuing to target quality applicants who are suitable for the role and the specific needs of each community. HR will also begin providing additional advice and feedback on each candidate's likely suitability for long-term employment with MRC.

2. Work Health & Safety (WHS):

- i. Significant progress has been made by the WHS team in strengthening WHS processes and ensuring staff have access to the correct forms, reporting tools, and communication channels. The team continues to develop key training videos to ensure consistent and accessible training for all staff.

3. Training & Development:

- i. HR Roadshow has commenced, as the team visits all 13 communities providing information sessions, form updates, and helpful learning guides. This program

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

will also allow HR to gather direct feedback from community staff on key issues and support needs. After each community visit, HR will document improvement areas and identify where additional support is required.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

1 P&C Demographic Report 17Apr2026 1 Page

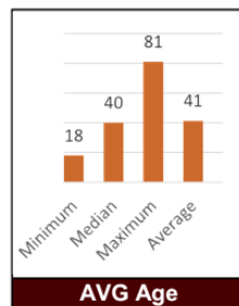
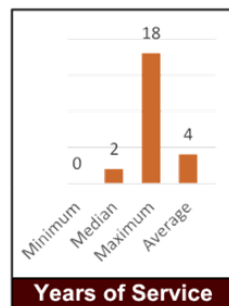
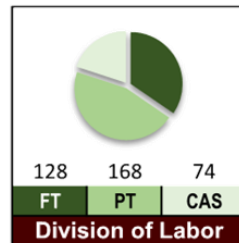
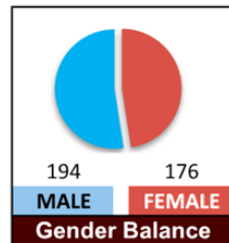
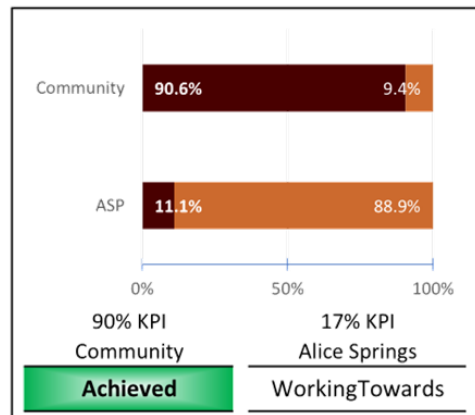
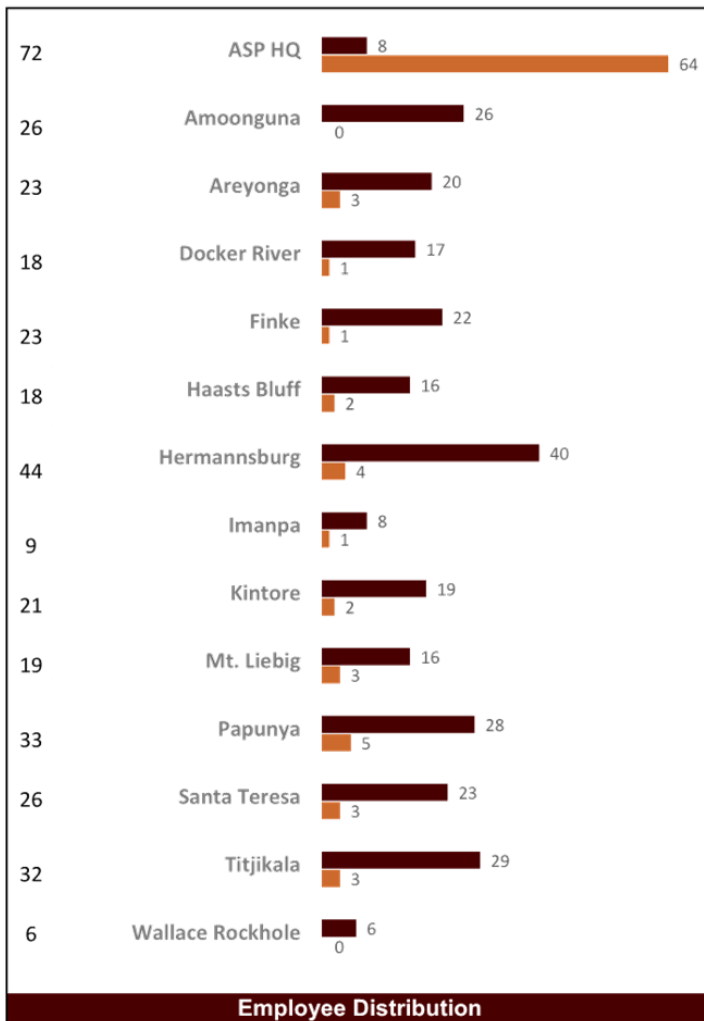


Office of the CEO | People & Capabilities

P&C Demographics

as at:
Tuesday, 31 March 2026

<p>370</p> <p>TOTAL EMPLOYEES</p>	<p>Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander 278</p> <hr/> <p>92 Non-ATSI</p> <p>Aboriginal Focus</p>	<p>New Hires 11</p> <p>Departures 11</p> <p>Monthly Turnover 0</p> <p>Monthly Turnover</p>	<p>Office of the CEO 10</p> <p>Office of CFIO 21 + 3</p> <p>Council Services 128 + 6</p> <p>Community Services 197 + 5</p> <p>Primary & Secondary Positions</p>
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NOTE: Values derived from Employee Demographics, Employee Turnover, & Position Vacancy Tech1 Reports as at: 31/03/2026

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER	15.5
TITLE	Finance Report period ending 31 March 2026
AUTHOR	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 01: Developing Communities
Goal 02: Healthy Communities
Goal 03: Empowered Communities
Goal 04: A Supportive Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 31 March 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Below is a snapshot of MRC's financial results as at 31 March 2026. The graphics have been created to assist Council in its understanding of MRC's financial results and highlight the

Key takeaways:

REVENUES – To date Council has received \$42.29million in revenue. This is \$3.71M less than budgeted.

- Commercial/Other Income is \$610K below budget, due to timing of invoicing being raised versus where the income allocated in the budget.
- Operating Grants and Subsidies \$3.1M less than the YTD budget for this this period. Mainly from FAA Roads, Projects and Early learning.
- Interest/Investment income is \$59k above budget because we were able to invest more than was anticipated at the time of the budget refresh.

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

- Fees and Charges have exceeded budget expectations, resulting in a total favorable variance of \$312k 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 \$5.34 m 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 \$3.52m under budget due to vacancies and the timing of hiring to positions.
- Other expenses are under budget \$1.51m. This variance is partly due to several areas where actual costs were lower than originally forecasted. These expenses will be further investigated by the ELT team within their respective areas, then reviewed and adjusted as part of the budget revision to be presented to Council.

NET OPERATING RESULT – MRC's Net Operating Position is showing a surplus this reporting period of \$7.8m excluding commitments.

WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT – The chart below presents a breakdown of expenses by function. Of total spending, 35.01% was allocated to managing and delivering community services programs. Overall, 82% 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 18% 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 \$6.08M 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 \$8.83 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 \$15.12M, calculated as the difference between total Current Assets (\$26.42M) and total Current Liabilities (\$11.29m). 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.

March 2026 Financial Results - Year-to-date figures in millions

Revenue



Current Year **\$42.29m**

Expenditures




Actual **\$34.44m**
Committed **\$1.52m**

Net Operating Result



\$7.8M

Assets




\$102m

Fixed Assets Acquired




\$0.00K

Cash on Hand




\$25.08m

Unexpended Grants



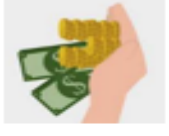
Current Grant **\$8.83m**
Liability

Reserves



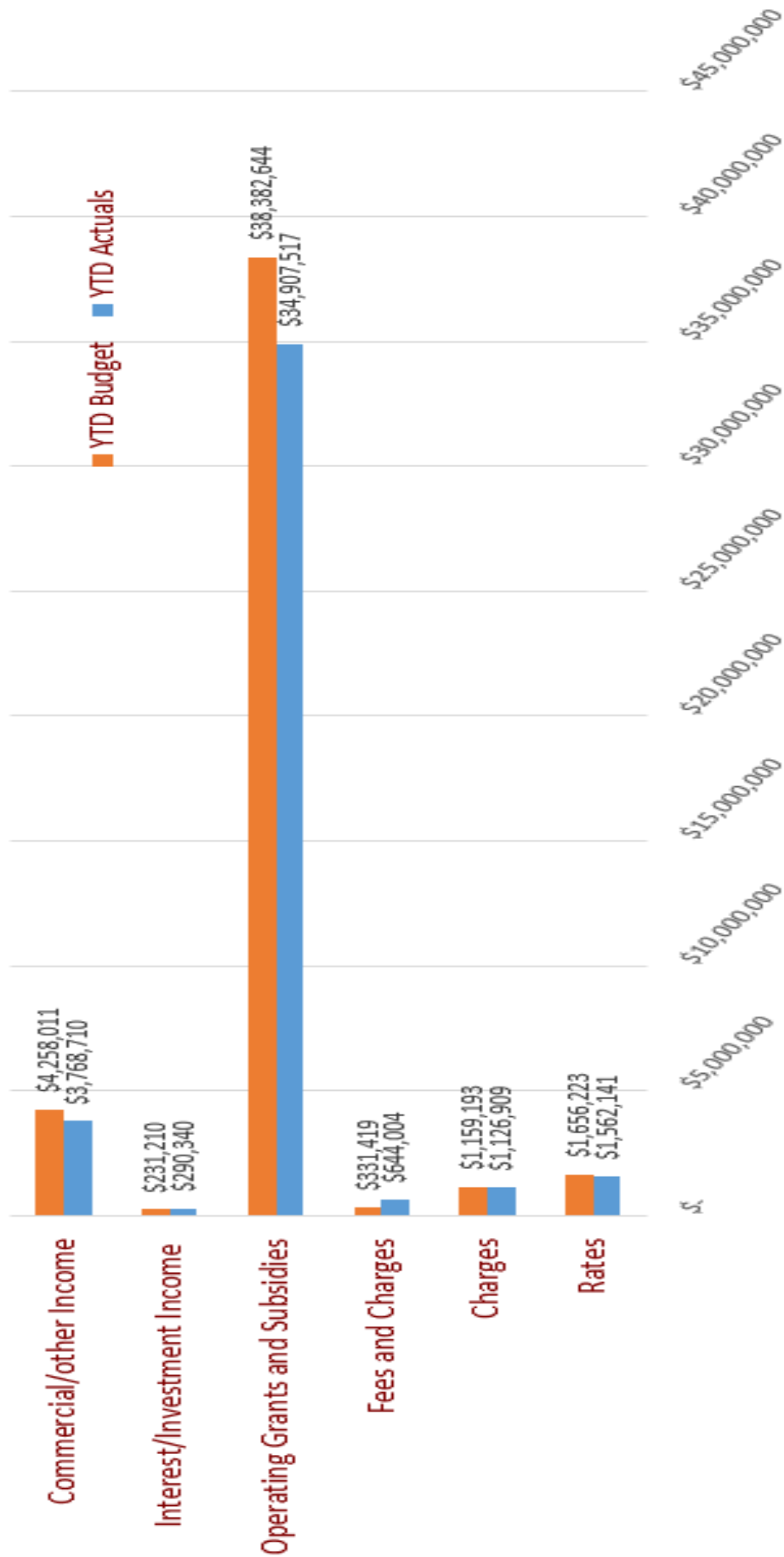
\$90.14m

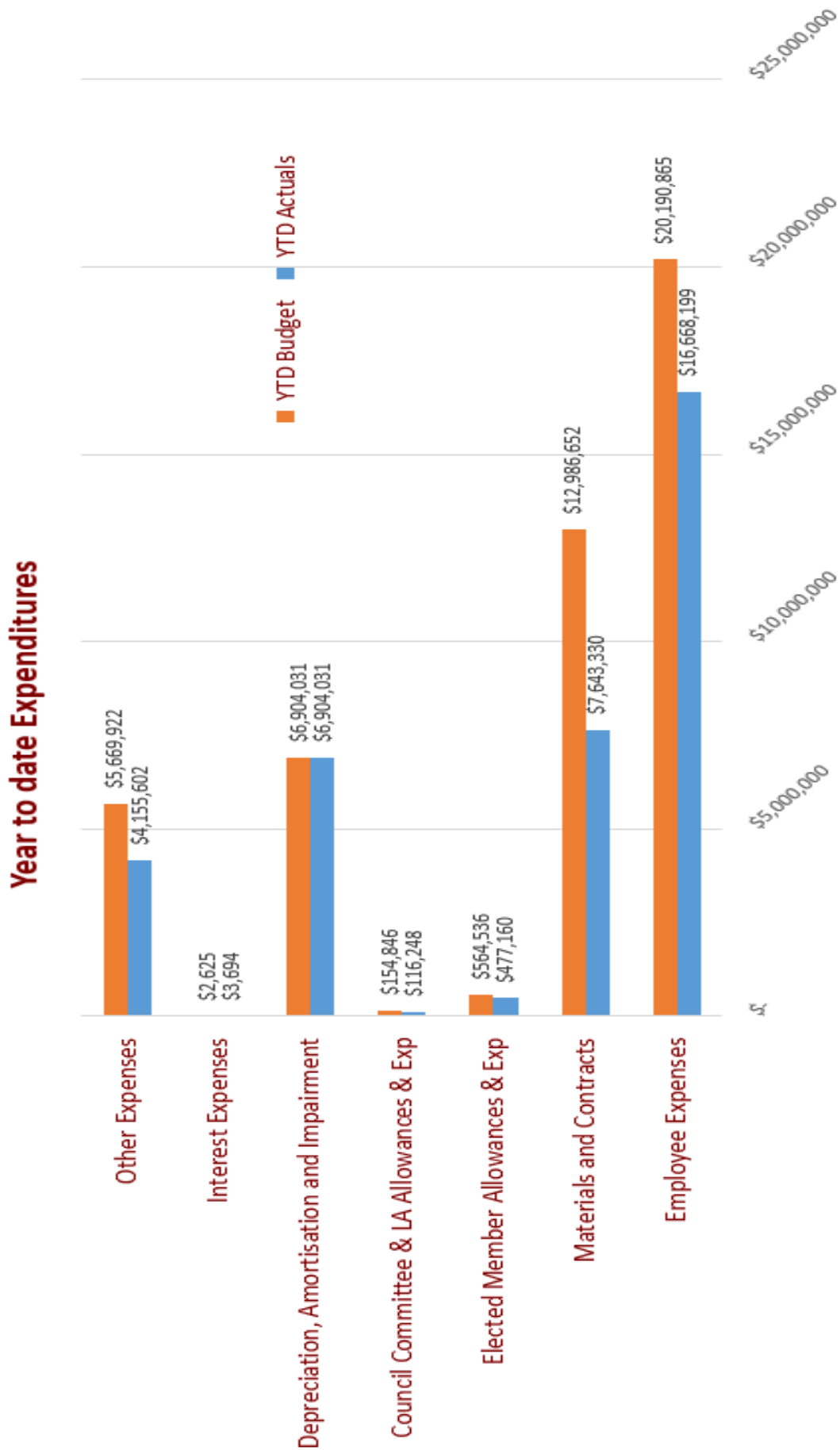
Unrestricted Cash



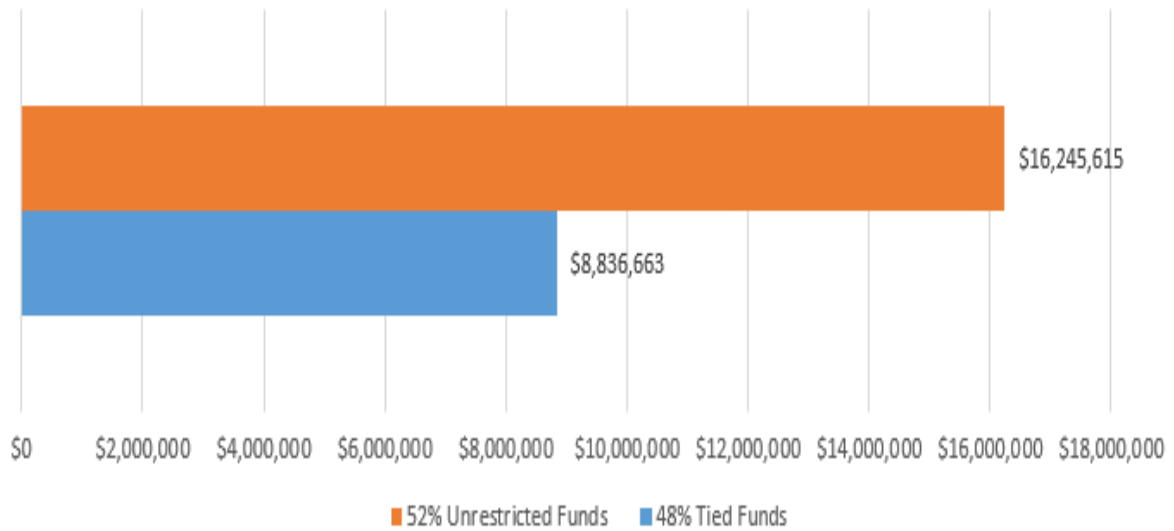
\$16.24m

Year to date Revenues

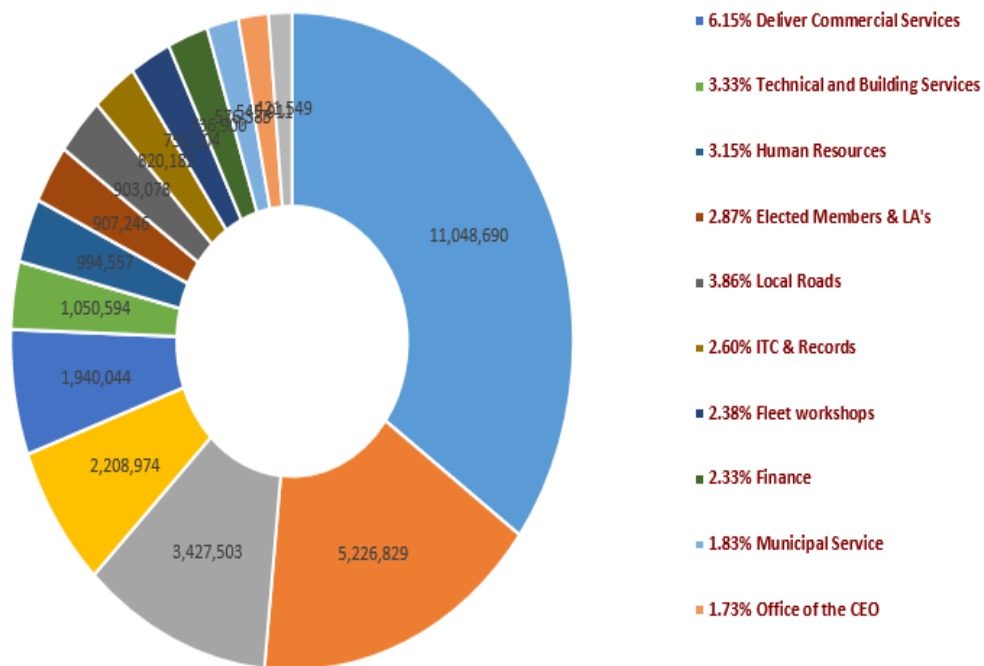




Cash as of 31 March 2026



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



Working Capital / Current Ratio

MACDONNELL REGIONAL COUNCIL For the period ended 31 March 2026

	31 March 2026
	\$
ASSETS	
Cash at bank	6,082,278
Term deposit	19,000,000
Accounts Receivable	1,340,791
Inventory	0
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	26,423,069
Less:	
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	-7,463
Provisions	2,156,311
Grant liability	8,836,663
Other Current Liabilities	308,246
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	11,293,757
NET CURRENT ASSETS (Working Capital)	15,129,312
CURRENT RATIO	2.3

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

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

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

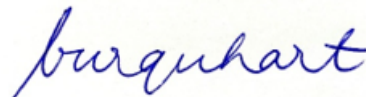
The attached financial tables and charts have been certified by the CEO of MRC.

Certification by the Council CEO

Council Name:	MacDonnell Regional Council
Reporting Period:	31/03/2026

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

09/04/2026

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 31.03.26

	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Variance %	Approved Annual Budget \$
OPERATING INCOME					
Rates	1,562,141	1,656,223	(94,082)	-6%	1,656,223
Charges	1,126,909	1,159,193	(32,284)	-3%	1,159,193
Fees and Charges	644,004	331,419	312,585	94%	437,263
Operating Grants and Subsidies	34,907,517	38,382,644	(3,475,126)	-9%	44,074,788
Interest/Investment Income	290,340	231,210	59,130	26%	322,174
Commercial/other Income	3,768,710	4,258,011	(489,301)	-11%	5,804,044
Council own fund	0	0	0	0%	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	42,299,621	46,018,700	(3,719,079)		53,453,685
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Employee Expenses	16,668,199	20,190,865	3,522,667	17%	26,017,484
Materials and Contracts	7,643,330	12,986,652	5,343,321	41%	16,516,470
Elected Member Allowances	272,534	305,439	32,905	11%	403,940
Elected Member Expenses	204,626	259,097	54,471	21%	364,674
Council Committee & LA Allowances	72,950	95,469	22,519	24%	134,650
Council Committee & LA Expenses	43,298	59,377	16,078	27%	79,170
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	6,904,031	6,904,031	0	0%	9,205,374
Interest Expenses	3,694	2,625	(1,069)	-41%	3,500
Other Expenses	4,155,602	5,669,922	1,514,320	27%	9,168,435
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	35,968,264	46,473,476	10,505,212		61,893,696
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	6,331,357	(454,777)	6,786,134		(8,440,011)
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
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	6,331,357	249,114	6,082,243		(7,736,121)
Capital Expenses	(811,591)	(1,113,570)	301,979	-27%	(1,469,253)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0%	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0%	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	6,904,031	6,904,031	0	0%	9,205,374
NET OPERATING POSITION	12,423,796	6,039,574	6,384,222		0

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 2. Capital Expenditure and Funding Budget
For the Period Ending 31.03.2026

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Variance %	Approved Annual Budget \$
Land and Buildings	384,909	483,095	98,185	20%	623,293
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	0	0	0	0%	0
Plant and Machinery	426,682	612,476	185,793	30%	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
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	811,591	1,113,570	301,979	27%	1,469,253
Total capital expenditure funded by:					
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
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	0	703,891	703,891		703,891

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 3. Monthly Balance Sheet Report
As at 31.03.2026

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.03.2026	YTD Actuals \$	Note Reference*
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	25,082,278	(1)
Tied Funds		8,836,663
Untied Funds		16,245,615
Accounts Receivable		
Trade Debtors	118,063	(2)
Rates & Charges Debtors	1,053,183	
Other Current Assets	169,545	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	26,423,069	
Non-Current Financial Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	75,959,383	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	75,959,383	
TOTAL ASSETS	102,382,452	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	(7,463)	(3)
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	0	(4)
Current Provisions	2,156,311	
Accruals	0	
Other Current Liabilities	308,246	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,457,094	
Non-Current Provisions	269,085	
Other Non-Current Liabilities	0	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	269,085	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,726,179	
NET ASSETS	99,656,273	
EQUITY		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	85,140,382	
Reserves	5,000,000	
Accumulated Surplus	9,515,891	
TOTAL EQUITY	99,656,273	

Note 1. Details of Cash and Investments Held

Cash at Bank/Petty Cash

Account name	Total
Operations Account	1,334,194
Trust Account	4,653,946
Centrelink	49,635
Northern Territory (NTG)	43,674
Amoonguna Store	0
Petty Cash	829
Total Cash at Bank	6,082,278

Investment Report

Bank	Principal \$	Interest Rate	Term Days	Maturity Date	Percentage
NAB	1,000,000	4.54%	67	29/05/2026	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	4.04%	46	1/05/2026	8%
NAB	2,000,000.00	4.56%	77	1/06/2026	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)

Debtors	1 – 30 Days	31 – 60 Days	>60 Days	>90 Days
Australian Electoral Commission SUSPENDED	0	0	0	781
Australian Regional and Remote Community Services	0	0	150	0
Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	1,950	0	0	0
Central Land Council	572	0	0	0
Corporate Travel Management	300	300	0	0
Dept Children & Families	600	0	0	0
Dept Housing, Local Government & Community Development	586	1,172	0	0
Dept. Of Health CA Remote Health	585	0	0	0
Emperor Refrigeration Pty Ltd	0	300	0	0
EVORA CARE Pty Ltd	300	0	0	0
Jetstream Electrical Pty Ltd	150	0	0	0
Lutheran Community Care	3,816	1,758	0	0
Murray River North Pty Ltd	25,215	0	0	0
NPY Women's Council(Aboriginal Corporation) Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjara Yankunytjatjara	300	0	0	0
NTG - Dept of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics	0	26,560	28,515	0
Power and Water - Darwin	1,563	7,853	0	1,267
Reimal Pty Ltd	300	300	0	0
Seventh Day Adventist Church - N.A.C.	0	300	0	0
Sundry Debtors 2025-2026	5,752	0	0	0
Territory Pest Control	900	0	0	0
The YMCA Of The Northern Territory Youth & Community Services Ltd	1,417	0	0	0
Waltja Tjutangku Palyapayi	900	0	0	0
Warlpiri Media Aboriginal Corporation	3,600	0	0	0
	48,806	38,543	28,665	2,048

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

Creditors	1 - 30 Days	31 - 60 Days	> 60 Days
Power and Water Authority	-17,644.07	-	-
Santa Teresa Community Store	27.87	-	-
Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety	182.36	-	-
The Sustainable Advantage Pty Ltd t/as Leading Role	5,057.80	-	-
Woolworths	70.63	-	-
Norman Kenny 3343	-121.72	-	-
Damien Cooper 2561	562.82	-	-
Total Trade Creditors	-11,864.31	-	-

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)	4,176.00	-	-
Super Fund Clearing House	224.82	-	-
Total ATO and Payroll obligations	4,400.82	-	-

MacDonnell Regional Council

Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 31.03.2026

	Regional Office			Amoonguna		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	1,562,141	1,656,223	(94,082)	0	0	0
Charges	1,126,909	1,159,193	(32,284)	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	27,606	4,026	23,580	3,120	2,250	870
Operating Grants and Subsidies	26,689,511	22,814,336	3,875,175	239,558	205,573	33,985
Interest/Investment Income	290,340	231,210	59,130	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	930,548	1,314,769	(384,221)	112,852	106,289	6,563
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	30,627,055	27,179,757	3,447,298	355,530	314,112	41,418
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	6,443,531	6,504,222	(9,780,664)	877,230	934,192	56,962
Materials and Contracts	1,495,671	1,135,703	(6,305,208)	218,219	334,077	115,858
Elected Member Allowances	272,534	305,439	32,905	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	204,626	259,097	54,471	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	41,600	47,582	5,982	2,100	3,600	1,500
Council Committee & LA Expenses	350	1,060	710	4,626	3,900	(726)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	6,904,031	6,904,031	(1)	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	1,593	2,625	1,032	0	0	0
Other Expenses	2,864,605	3,896,268	1,031,663	61,585	101,711	40,126
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	18,228,541	19,056,026	(14,959,110)	1,163,760	1,377,480	213,720
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	12,398,515	8,123,731	(11,511,811)	(808,231)	(1,063,368)	255,138
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	309,623	(309,623)	0	95,000	(95,000)
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	12,398,515	8,433,354	(11,821,434)	(808,231)	(968,368)	160,138
Capital Expenses	(500,040)	(895,193)	395,153	0	(71,250)	71,250
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	6,904,031	6,904,031	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	18,802,505	14,442,192	(11,426,281)	(808,231)	(1,039,618)	231,388

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 31.03.2026

	Areyonga			Docker River		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	39,764	14,250	25,514	201,112	43,399	157,713
Operating Grants and Subsidies	765,113	299,350	465,763	816,016	770,493	45,523
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	236,782	299,068	(62,286)	219,990	232,734	(12,744)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,041,659	612,668	428,991	1,237,118	1,046,626	190,492
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	741,523	1,075,427	333,905	642,703	886,620	243,918
Materials and Contracts	255,179	577,525	322,346	175,396	582,665	407,269
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	2,200	3,450	1,250	2,700	3,600	900
Council Committee & LA Expenses	4,712	4,712	0	3,996	3,900	(96)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	148,061	161,602	13,541	83,260	109,395	26,135
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,151,675	1,822,717	671,041	908,054	1,586,181	678,127
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(110,017)	(1,210,049)	1,100,032	329,064	(539,555)	868,619
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	58,206	(58,206)	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(110,017)	(1,151,843)	1,041,827	329,064	(539,555)	868,619
Capital Expenses	(67,501)	(43,654)	(23,847)	0	0	0
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(177,518)	(1,195,498)	1,017,980	329,064	(539,555)	868,619

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 31.03.2026

	Finke			Haasts Bluff		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	37,386	22,650	14,736	10,471	13,823	(3,352)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	332,672	1,178,872	(846,200)	551,871	530,971	20,900
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	232,585	215,878	16,708	205,242	168,237	37,005
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	602,643	1,417,399	(814,756)	767,583	713,030	54,553
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	839,311	1,000,974	161,663	735,841	1,032,743	296,902
Materials and Contracts	184,864	1,144,078	959,214	277,955	500,621	222,667
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	3,300	3,600	300	500	3,600	3,100
Council Committee & LA Expenses	729	3,900	3,171	402	4,038	3,635
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	2,101	0	(2,101)	0	0	0
Other Expenses	67,781	99,526	31,745	73,137	119,089	45,952
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,098,086	2,252,078	1,153,992	1,087,835	1,660,091	572,256
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(495,442)	(834,679)	339,236	(320,251)	(947,061)	626,810
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(495,442)	(834,679)	339,236	(320,251)	(947,061)	626,810
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	(67,639)	0	(67,639)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(495,442)	(834,679)	339,236	(387,890)	(947,061)	559,171

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 31.03.2026

	Hermannsburg			Imanpa		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	21,291	14,625	6,666	57,576	5,587	51,989
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,611,165	1,620,865	(9,700)	47,201	24,401	22,800
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	242,894	263,905	(21,011)	169,054	227,560	(58,506)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,875,349	1,899,394	(24,045)	273,831	257,549	16,282
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	1,326,215	1,674,907	348,692	348,625	621,345	272,720
Materials and Contracts	985,391	1,275,416	290,025	136,323	187,790	51,467
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	3,400	3,600	200	2,400	3,600	1,200
Council Committee & LA Expenses	2,695	3,900	1,205	3,542	3,900	358
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	154,689	221,904	67,215	49,531	71,990	22,459
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,472,389	3,179,726	707,337	540,420	888,624	348,204
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(597,040)	(1,280,332)	683,292	(266,589)	(631,075)	364,487
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(597,040)	(1,280,332)	683,292	(266,589)	(631,075)	364,487
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(597,040)	(1,280,332)	683,292	(266,589)	(631,075)	364,487

MacDonnell Regional Council

Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 31.03.2026

	Kintore			Mount Liebig		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	95,397	44,962	50,435	32,979	33,308	(329)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,104,540	1,064,412	40,129	615,252	957,152	(341,900)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	416,732	289,045	127,687	196,212	212,057	(15,845)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,616,670	1,398,419	218,250	844,442	1,202,517	(358,074)
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	702,055	900,550	198,494	679,454	921,212	241,758
Materials and Contracts	1,149,918	1,175,597	25,679	660,087	590,642	(69,445)
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	3,400	3,600	200	1,800	4,838	3,038
Council Committee & LA Expenses	2,077	3,900	1,823	3,888	6,061	2,173
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	70,044	133,542	63,498	84,141	104,770	20,629
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,927,493	2,217,188	289,695	1,429,370	1,627,522	198,152
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(310,824)	(818,768)	507,945	(584,927)	(425,005)	(159,922)
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	77,210	(77,210)	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(310,824)	(741,558)	430,735	(584,927)	(425,005)	(159,922)
Capital Expenses	(48,710)	(57,908)	9,198	0	0	0
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(359,533)	(799,466)	439,933	(584,927)	(425,005)	(159,922)

MacDonnell Regional Council

Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
For the Period Ending 31.03.2026

	Papunya			Santa Teresa		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	79,925	99,281	(19,356)	19,387	19,387	0
Operating Grants and Subsidies	650,375	3,977,243	(3,326,868)	472,711	3,977,243	(3,504,532)
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	271,147	283,069	(11,922)	221,356	283,069	(61,714)
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,001,447	4,359,593	(3,358,146)	713,454	4,279,699	(3,566,245)
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	1,059,310	1,444,370	385,060	1,047,426	1,444,370	396,945
Materials and Contracts	613,708	613,708	3,056,947	231,564	3,670,654	3,439,090
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	2,150	3,600	1,450	3,100	3,600	500
Council Committee & LA Expenses	2,827	3,925	1,098	2,717	3,925	1,209
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	219,375	229,008	9,634	135,351	229,008	93,657
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,897,369	2,294,612	3,454,189	1,420,158	5,351,558	3,931,401
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(895,922)	2,064,982	96,043	(706,704)	(1,071,859)	365,155
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	15,377	(15,377)	0	15,377	(15,377)
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(895,922)	2,080,359	80,666	(706,704)	(1,056,482)	349,778
Capital Expenses	(15,377)	(11,533)	(3,844)	(50,802)	(11,533)	(39,269)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(911,299)	2,068,826	76,822	(757,506)	(1,068,015)	310,509

MacDonnell Regional Council
**Table 4. Income and Expense statement Actual v Budget
 for the Period Ending 31.03.2026**

	Titjikala			Wallace Rock		
	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals + Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	11,921	11,640	281	6,069	2,231	3,838
Operating Grants and Subsidies	940,599	906,399	34,200	70,934	55,334	15,600
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial/other Income	208,518	259,457	(50,939)	104,798	102,874	1,923
Council own fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,161,038	1,177,496	(16,458)	181,801	160,440	21,361
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Employee Expenses	916,906	1,288,647	371,741	308,070	461,286	153,216
Materials and Contracts	1,202,245	1,125,428	(76,817)	56,812	72,748	15,936
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	2,000	3,600	1,600	2,300	3,600	1,300
Council Committee & LA Expenses	6,432	8,356	1,924	4,307	3,900	(407)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	108,837	162,762	53,925	35,207	29,347	(5,859)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,236,419	2,588,793	352,374	406,695	570,882	164,186
OPERATING SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(1,075,381)	(1,411,296)	335,916	(224,895)	(410,442)	185,547
Capital Grants Income	0	103,098	(103,098)	0	0	0
Gain from the Sale of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council own fund	0	30,000	(30,000)	0	0	0
SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	(1,075,381)	(1,278,198)	202,818	(224,895)	(410,442)	185,547
Capital Expenses	(61,523)	(22,500)	(39,023)	0	0	0
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET OPERATING POSITION	(1,136,903)	(1,300,698)	163,795	(224,895)	(410,442)	185,547

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

1. Roxanne Kenny - President (member)

Date	Amount	Suppliers Name	Reason for the transactions
29/03/2026	6.00	Westpac Bank	Card fee

2. Belinda Urquhart - CEO

Date	Amount	Suppliers Name	Reason for the transactions
27/02/2026	1,654.72	QANTAS	Flight to Attend LGANT Darwin
27/02/2026	1,269.09	QANTAS	Flight to Attend Tidy Town Awards
27/02/2026	1,010.92	QANTAS	Flight to Attend Tidy Town Awards
27/02/2026	940.58	QANTAS	Flight Return To Alice Springs
11/03/2026	665.90	ADINA DARWIN	Accommodation ACID Training Darwin
11/03/2026	38.96	DARWIN RADIO TAXI	Taxi ACID Training Darwin
13/03/2026	32.85	UBER	Taxi ACID Training Darwin
14/03/2026	14.80	ABACUS.AI	Subscription
18/03/2026	205.50	AAF* TICKETS-2026 NT Y BAYSWATER	Ticket For NT Young Achievers Awards
20/03/2026	339.00	RACV Hobart Hotel	Accommodation To Attend LGCFO Forum
29/03/2026	6.00	Westpack Bank	Card Fee

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.6
TITLE 2025-26 Budget Review V2
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

Following a review by Managers, Directors, and the CEO, amendments have been recommended to Council's budget within the Regional Plan. These changes reflect the finalisation of unspent grants, confirmation of existing grant funding, acceptance of new grants, and updates to projected income and expenditure for the remainder of the year.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Pursuant to Section 203(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the "Council may, after adopting its budget for a particular financial year, adopt an amended budget".

A review of the budget is required to incorporate and align the changes in funding, unspent funds with the current updated financial forecasts and the operational priorities to remain financially sustainable.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

The Budget review process ensures that appropriate adjustments are made to the adopted budget as circumstances change throughout the year.

If the Council decides not to accept the recommended changes, there is a risk that funding will not be properly acquitted, the funds cannot be allocated to the related program and/or the actual results may not be aligned resulting in service reduction, and surpluses may occur in other operational areas.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Funds have been re-allocated to reflect changes in income and expenditure.

CONSULTATION

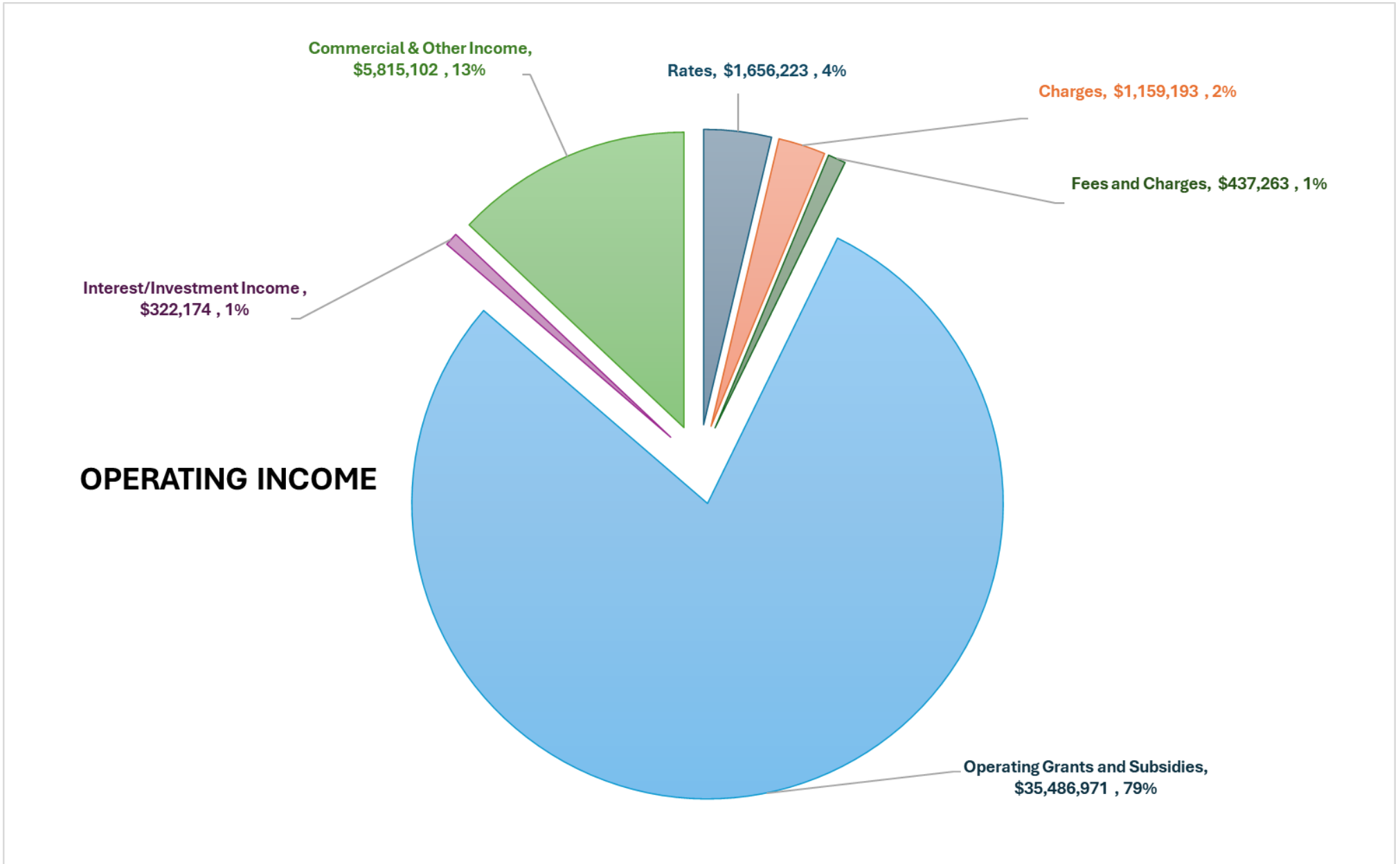
Executive Leadership Team
Management Team
Manager Finance

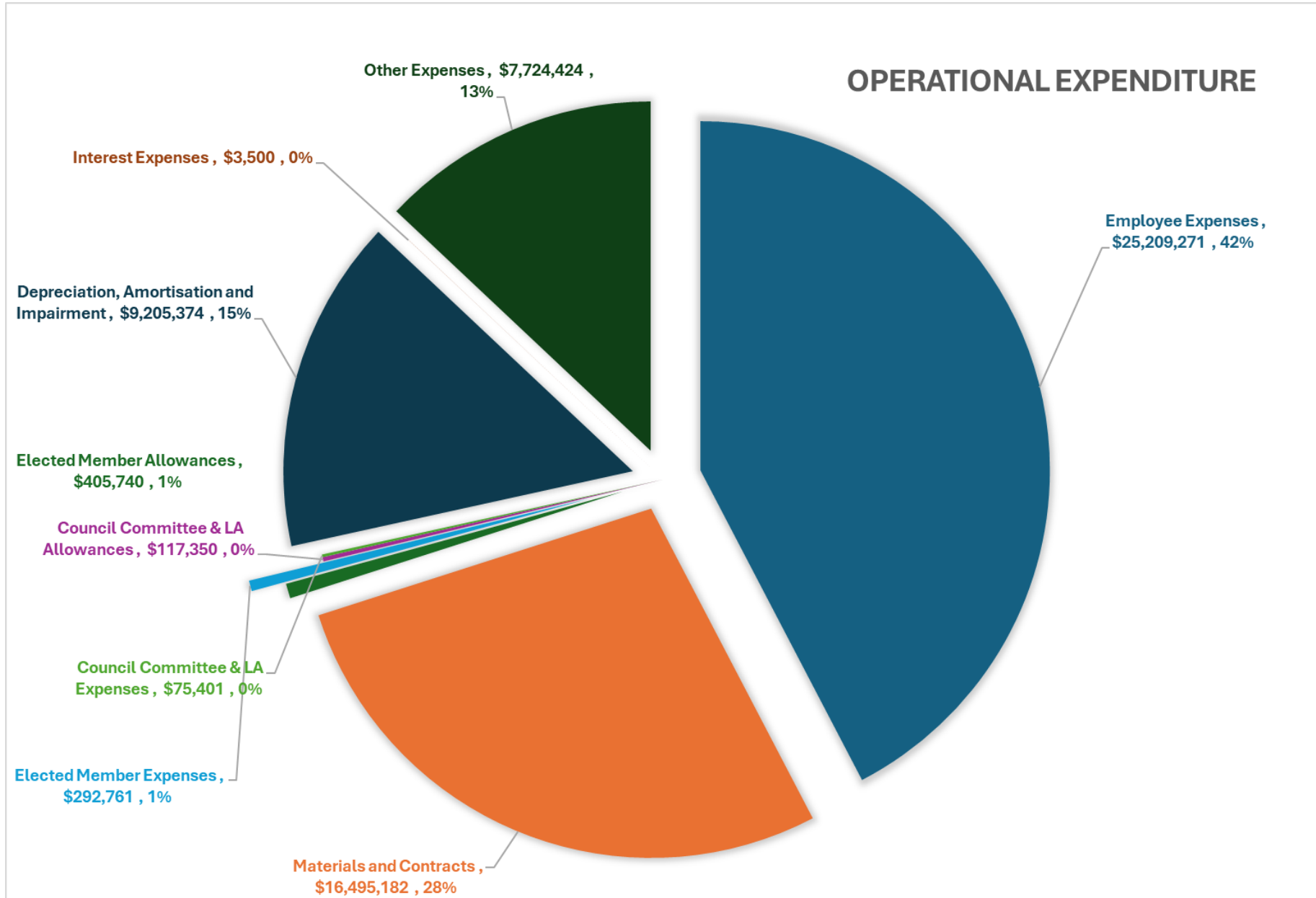
ATTACHMENTS

- 1 OPERATIONAL INCOME BY CATEGORY**
- 2 OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE BY CATEGORY**
- 3 ANNUAL BUDGET AND LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

- 4** MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS BUDGET
- 5** CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY LA AREAS
- 6** TABLE 1 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET
- 7** TABLE 2 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET
- 8** TABLE 3 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY COMMUNITY





**MacDonnell Regional Council
2025-26 Annual Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan
Including Budgeted Operating Position**

	2025/26 Budget	2026/27 Budget	2027/28 Budget	2028/29 Budget
	\$	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING INCOME				
Rates	1,656,223	1,739,030	1,825,980	1,917,280
Charges	1,159,193	1,217,150	1,278,010	1,341,910
Fees and Charges	437,263	459,130	482,090	506,190
Operating Grants and Subsidies	35,486,971	36,551,580	37,648,130	38,777,570
Interest/Investment Income	322,174	325,400	328,650	331,940
Commercial & Other Income	5,815,102	5,873,250	5,931,980	5,991,300
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	44,876,925	46,165,540	47,494,840	48,866,190
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Employee Expenses	25,209,271	25,965,550	26,744,520	27,546,860
Materials and Contracts	16,495,182	16,660,130	16,826,730	16,995,000
Elected Member Allowances	405,740	409,800	413,900	418,040
Elected Member Expenses	292,761	295,690	298,650	301,640
Council Committee & LA Allowances	117,350	118,520	119,710	120,910
Council Committee & LA Expenses	75,401	76,150	76,910	77,680
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	9,205,374	9,163,665	9,163,665	9,163,665
Interest Expenses	3,500	3,540	3,580	3,620
Other Expenses	7,724,424	(1,436,940)	(1,451,310)	(1,465,820)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	59,529,003	51,256,105	52,196,355	53,161,595
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(14,652,077)	(5,090,565)	(4,701,515)	(4,295,405)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS				
Add Back: Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation	9,205,374	9,163,665	9,163,665	9,163,665
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	9,205,374	9,163,665	9,163,665	9,163,665
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS				
Capital Expenditure	(1,405,890)	(1,419,950)	(1,434,150)	(1,448,490)
Transfer to Reserves	(2,397,643)			
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	(3,803,533)	(1,419,950)	(1,434,150)	(1,448,490)
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS				
Capital Grants Income	103,098	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	0	0
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	8,601,059	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserves	546,079	0	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	9,250,236	0	0	0
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	(0)	2,653,150	3,028,000	3,419,770

**MacDonnell Regional Council
2025/26 Planned Major Capital Works Budget**

Class of Assets	Major Capital Project	Total Prior Year(s) Actuals \$	2025/26 Budget	Total Major Capital Works Budget \$	Expected Project Completion Date
Buildings & Facilities	Staff Housing Areyonga	89,045			
Buildings & Facilities	Staff Housing Docker River	10,000			
Buildings & Facilities	Staff Housing Finke	23,590			
Buildings & Facilities	Staff Housing Kintore	71,367			
Buildings & Facilities	Staff Housing Papunya	120,032			
Buildings & Facilities	Staff Housing Santa Teresa	66,802			
Buildings & Facilities	Council Building Alice Springs	34,127	290,000	290,000	30/06/2026
Buildings & Facilities	Council Building Amoonguna	70,214	95,000	95,000	30/06/2026
	Council Building Areyonga	0	67,500	67,500	30/06/2026
Buildings & Facilities	Council Building Docker River	126,416			
Buildings & Facilities	Council Building Kintore		48,710	48,710	30/06/2026
Buildings & Facilities	Council Building Papunya		15,380	15,380	30/06/2026
Buildings & Facilities	Council Building Titjikala		43,340	43,340	30/06/2026
Furniture and Fittings	IT Upgrades	48,597	18,000	18,000	30/06/2025
Plant & Equipment	Plant upgarde	880,996	432,960	432,960	30/06/2025
Vehicles	Fleet Upgrade	1,068,663	395,000	395,000	30/06/2025
	TOTAL	2,609,849	1,405,890	1,405,890	

**MacDonnell Regional Council
2025-26 Capital Expenditure and Funding Budget by Local Authority Area**

	Regional Office Budget \$	Amoonguna Local Authority \$	Areyonga Local Authority \$	Docker River Local Authority \$	Finke Local Authority \$	Haasts Bluff Local Authority \$	Hermannsburg Local Authority \$
Buildings & Facilities	290,000	95,000	67,500	0	0	0	0
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Furniture and Fittings	18,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plant & Equipment	432,960	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	395,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	1,135,960	95,000	67,500	0	0	0	0
Total capital expenditure funded by:							
Operating Income (amount allocated to fund capital items)	486,783	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Grants Income	103,098	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserve	546,079	95,000	67,500	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	1,135,960	95,000	67,500	0	0	0	0

**MacDonnell Regional Council
2025-26 Capital Expenditure and Funding Budget by Local Authority Area**

	Imanpa Local Authority \$	Kintore Local Authority \$	Mount Liebig Local Authority \$	Papunya Local Authority \$	Santa Teresa Local Authority \$	Titjikala Local Authority \$	Wallace Rock Local Authority \$	Total
Buildings & Facilities	0	48,710	0	15,380	0	43,340	0	559,930
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Furniture and Fittings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18,000
Plant & Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	432,960
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	395,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	0	48,710	0	15,380	0	43,340	0	1,405,890
Total capital expenditure funded by:								
Operating Income (amount allocated to fund capital items)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	486,783
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	103,098
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserve	0	48,710	0	15,380	0	43,340	0	816,009
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	0	48,710	0	15,380	0	43,340	0	1,405,890

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 1. Income and Expenditure Budget
For the 2025/26 Financial Year

	Revised budget 26GL2BUD	Last approved budget 26GL1BUD	Budet amended Increase/(Decrease)	Notes
OPERATING INCOME				
Rates	1,656,223	1,656,223	0	
Charges	1,159,193	1,159,193	0	
Fees and Charges	437,263	437,263	0	
Operating Grants and Subsidies	35,486,971	35,473,729	13,242	
Interest/Investment Income	322,174	322,174	0	
Commercial & Other Income	5,815,102	5,804,044	11,058	
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	44,876,925	44,852,626	24,300	
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Employee Expenses	25,209,271	26,017,484	(808,213)	Reduced salaries to align and factor for vacant positions.
Materials and Contracts	16,495,182	16,516,470	(21,288)	
Elected Member Allowances	405,740	403,940	1,800	
Elected Member Expenses	292,761	364,674	(71,913)	Reduced based on actual expenditure trend for the financial year to date
Council Committee & LA Allowances	117,350	134,650	(17,300)	Reduced based on actual expenditure trend for the financial year to date
Council Committee & LA Expenses	75,401	79,170	(3,769)	
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	9,205,374	9,205,374	0	
Interest Expenses	3,500	3,500	0	
Other Expenses	7,724,424	8,036,176	(311,751)	To align with actual and forecast for the year end.
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	59,529,003	60,761,438	(1,232,434)	
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(14,652,078)	(15,908,811)	1,256,733	
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS				
Less: Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	
Add Back: Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation	9,205,374	9,205,374	0	
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	9,205,374	9,205,374	0	
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS				
Capital Expenditure	(1,405,890)	(1,469,253)	63,364	
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	
Transfer to Reserves	(2,397,643)	(1,132,259)	(1,265,384)	Surplus in cost reduction to be transferred to reserve
Other Outflows	0	0	0	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	(3,803,533)	(2,601,512)	(1,202,020)	
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS				
Capital Grants Income	103,098	103,098	0	
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	8,601,059	8,601,059	39,060	
Other Inflow of Funds	0	0	0	
Transfers from Reserves	546,079	600,793	(54,714)	Reduced based on the new planning.
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	9,250,236	9,304,950	(15,653)	
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	0	0	39,060	

MacDonnell Regional Council
Table 2. Capital Expenditure and Funding Budget
2025-26 Financial Year

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	Revised budget 26GL2BUD	Last approved budget 26GL1BUD	Budet amended Increase/(Decrease)
Buildings & Facilities	559,930	623,293	668,508
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	0	0	0
Furniture and Fittings	18,000	18,000	0
Plant & Equipment	432,960	432,960	187,100
Vehicles	395,000	395,000	370,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	1,405,890	1,469,253	1,225,608
Total capital expenditure funded by:			
Operating Income (amount allocated to fund capital items)	756,713	765,362	(8,649)
Capital Grants Income	103,098	103,098	736,428
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	305,000
Transfers from Reserve	546,079	600,793	623,507
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	1,405,890	1,469,253	1,656,286

MacDonnell Regional Council

**Table 3. Income and Expenditure Budget by Local Authority Area
For 25-26 Financial Year**

	Regional Office \$	Amooguna. Local Authority \$	Areyonga Local Authority \$
OPERATING INCOME			
Rates	1,656,223	0	0
Charges	1,159,193	0	0
Fees and Charges	94,213	3,000	19,000
Operating Grants and Subsidies	24,601,535	239,373	449,710
Interest/Investment Income	322,174	0	0
Commercial & Other Income	1,557,222	177,382	387,048
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	29,390,560	419,755	855,758
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses	8,335,794	1,250,457	1,361,650
Materials and Contracts	2,546,471	466,132	772,449
Elected Member Allowances	405,740	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	292,761	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	60,200	3,900	4,900
Council Committee & LA Expenses	1,766	5,200	6,861
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	9,205,374	0	0
Interest Expenses	3,500	0	0
Other Expenses	6,797,732	137,762	270,472
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	27,649,338	1,863,450	2,416,333
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	1,741,223	(1,443,695)	(1,560,574)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS			
Add Back: Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation	9,163,665	0	0
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	9,163,665	0	0
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS			
Capital Expenditure	(1,135,960)	(95,000)	(67,500)
Transfer to Reserves		0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	(1,135,960)	(95,000)	(67,500)
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS			
Capital Grants Income	103,098	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	0
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	486,783	0	
Transfers from Reserves	546,079	95,000	67,500
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	1,135,960	95,000	67,500
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	10,904,888	(1,443,695)	(1,560,574)

MacDonnell Regional Council

**Table 3. Income and Expenditure Budget by Local Authority Area
For 25-26 Financial Year**

	Docker River Local Authority \$	Finke Local Authority \$	Haasts Bluff Local Authority \$
OPERATING INCOME			
Rates	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	57,865	30,200	18,430
Operating Grants and Subsidies	931,873	1,297,351	642,603
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0
Commercial & Other Income	341,148	367,750	310,508
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,330,886	1,695,301	971,541
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses	1,095,793	1,276,963	1,249,494
Materials and Contracts	727,554	1,257,153	638,432
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	5,100	6,900	2,000
Council Committee & LA Expenses	5,200	4,900	4,684
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0
Other Expenses	290,498	161,237	177,495
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	2,124,145	2,707,154	2,072,105
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(793,260)	(1,011,853)	(1,100,563)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS			
Add Back: Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation	0	0	0
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	0	0	0
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS			
Capital Expenditure	0	0	0
Transfer to Reserves	0	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	0	0	0
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS			
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	0
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserves	0	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	0	0	0
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	(793,260)	(1,011,853)	(1,100,563)

MacDonnell Regional Council

**Table 3. Income and Expenditure Budget by Local Authority Area
For 25-26 Financial Year**

	Hermannsburg Local Authority \$	Imanpa Local Authority \$	Kintore Local Authority \$
OPERATING INCOME			
Rates	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	19,500	7,450	59,950
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,870,938	62,448	1,793,833
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0
Commercial & Other Income	348,851	286,803	373,873
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	2,239,290	356,700	2,227,657
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses	2,098,156	795,496	1,146,408
Materials and Contracts	1,661,628	216,471	1,804,216
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	6,350	3,300	4,500
Council Committee & LA Expenses	5,600	5,200	4,900
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0
Other Expenses	431,472	85,206	190,452
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	4,203,206	1,105,673	3,150,476
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(1,963,916)	(748,973)	(922,820)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS			
Add Back: Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation	0	0	0
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	0	0	0
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS			
Capital Expenditure	0	0	(48,710)
Transfer to Reserves	0	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	0	0	(48,710)
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS			
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	0
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserves	0	0	48,710
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	0	0	48,710
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	(1,963,916)	(748,973)	(922,820)

MacDonnell Regional Council

**Table 3. Income and Expenditure Budget by Local Authority Area
For 25-26 Financial Year**

	Mount Liebig Local Authority \$	Papunya Local Authority \$	Santa Teresa Local Authority \$
OPERATING INCOME			
Rates	0	0	0
Charges	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	44,410	32,375	32,375
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,094,769	4,684,545	4,684,545
Interest/Investment Income	0	0	0
Commercial & Other Income	308,084	419,286	419,286
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	1,447,263	5,136,206	5,136,206
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses	1,140,051	1,662,785	1,662,785
Materials and Contracts	968,081	1,783,972	1,783,972
Elected Member Allowances	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	3,600	5,200	5,200
Council Committee & LA Expenses	4,881	5,234	5,234
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0	0
Other Expenses	152,428	571,594	571,594
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	2,269,040	4,028,785	4,028,785
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(821,777)	1,107,421	1,107,421
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS			
Add Back: Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation	0	0	0
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	0	0	0
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS			
Capital Expenditure	0	(15,380)	0
Transfer to Reserves	0	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	0	(15,380)	0
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS			
Capital Grants Income	0	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0	0
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserves	0	15,380	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	0	15,380	0
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	(821,777)	1,107,421	1,107,421

MacDonnell Regional Council

**Table 3. Income and Expenditure Budget by Local Authority Area
For 25-26 Financial Year**

	Titjikala Local Authority \$	Wallace Rock Local Authority \$
OPERATING INCOME		
Rates	0	0
Charges	0	0
Fees and Charges	15,520	2,975
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,663,573	70,934
Interest/Investment Income	0	0
Commercial & Other Income	348,914	168,945
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	2,028,008	242,854
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Employee Expenses	1,546,541	586,897
Materials and Contracts	1,776,184	92,468
Elected Member Allowances	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	0	0
Council Committee & LA Allowances	2,700	3,500
Council Committee & LA Expenses	10,841	4,900
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	0	0
Interest Expenses	0	0
Other Expenses	247,605	36,520
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	3,583,872	724,285
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(1,555,864)	(481,431)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS		
Add Back: Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation	0	0
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	0	0
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS		
Capital Expenditure	(43,340)	0
Transfer to Reserves	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	(43,340)	0
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS		
Capital Grants Income	0	0
Gain from the sale of assets/other	0	0
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	0	0
Transfers from Reserves	43,340	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	43,340	0
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	(1,555,864)	(481,431)

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.7
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 March 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

- Since the last report to Council 5 successful Local Authority meetings have been held.
- Many of MRC’s communities have continued to be impacted by cultural obligations and the adverse weather conditions. This has affected all aspects of MRC’s operations, including the scheduling of Local Authority meetings. This resulted in 7 Local Authority meetings which were scheduled to be held in March being deferred and/or cancelled.

2025/2026 FY LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETINGS					
DATE	COMMUNITY	QUORUM	PROVISIONAL	DEFERRED	CANCELLED
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 17 April 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				✓
23-Feb-26	Papunya			✓	
4-Mar-26	Finke	✓			
11-Mar-26	Kintore			✓	
12-Mar-26	Kintore	✓			
12-Mar-26	Areyonga			✓	
16-Mar-26	Papunya			✓	
17-Mar-26	Titjikala	✓			
18-Mar-26	Imanpa			✓	
19-Mar-26	Hermannsburg			✓	
24-Mar-26	Imanpa				✓
25-Mar-26	Hermannsburg		✓		
26-Mar-26	Santa Teresa	✓			
31-Mar-26	Areyonga	✓			

ENGAGEMENT

The by-election for the Luritja Pintubi Ward has continued to occupy the Governance Team. Nominations for candidates opened on Wednesday, 1st April and closed on Wednesday, 8th April. At the time of preparing this report it is anticipated that the by-election will proceed to the Election Day of 24 April. This is dependent upon the number of nominations received.

Advertisements regarding nominations were placed on the website and social media. More communications via the website and social media will take place once the mobile voting schedule in the communities is confirmed by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission.

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 including:

1. Child Safe Reporting Policy
 - New policy to establish a formal, transparent process to identify, document, and report suspected child abuse, neglect, or misconduct to authorities.
2. Child Safeguarding Policy
 - New policy to provide a framework for actively preventing the harm and abuse of children.
3. Heat Management Policy
 - New policy to provide a framework for managing heat-related risks to workers, particularly those working outdoors, on community, or travelling to and from communities.
4. Heat Management Procedure
 - Explains how the Heat Management Policy can be implemented.
5. Procurement Procedure
 - Updated to reflect the changes made to the Procurement Policy. This procedure is currently under review and will be split into three in the coming weeks with training provided via the LMS.
6. Work Health and Safety Policy
 - Updated to clarify responsibilities.

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

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER	15.8
TITLE	Determination of Remuneration Tribunal 2026
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 Remuneration Tribunal's Report and Determination No. 1 of 2026 – Allowances for Members of Local Councils has been tabled in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and is being presented for the information of Members.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Remuneration Tribunal's Report and Determination No. 1 of 2026 – Allowances for Members of Local Councils.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Tribunal has requested that a copy of this Determination to be provided to each Elected Member whose entitlements are affected and be tabled in the next available Council Meeting.

The new rates of Allowances paid to Elected Members will take effect from 1 July 2026. Key elements of the changes to entitlements include:

- the Councillors' Allowance has increased by 3%.
- the maximum payable Extra Meeting / Activity Allowance has been increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year. The amounts payable per extra meeting attended have not changed and they remain at:
 - up to 2 hours \$200
 - between 2 and 4 hours \$300
 - more than 4 hours \$500 (maximum payable for any one day)
- the Professional Development Allowance has increased from \$5,000 to \$7,500 per year. Induction and Mandatory Departmental training can now be claimed using the Extra Meeting Allowance "fee for attendance" rate and paid from the Professional Development Allowance.

It should also be noted that there has been no change to the allowances paid to appointed members of Local Authorities.

In accordance with s106(3) of the *Local Government Act 2019* the amounts of the allowances payable by Council to its Elected Councillors will be published on the MRC website.

The detailed Determination is attached.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

The new rates of Allowances will affect all Elected Members from 1 July 2026.

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

These new rates will be included in the MRC Budget for 2026-2027.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 NT Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 1 of 2026



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

*Assembly Members and Statutory Officers
(Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*

**DETERMINATION OF ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF
LOCAL COUNCILS**

REPORT ON DETERMINATION NO. 1 OF 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

On 30 July 2025, pursuant to section 7B(1) of the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006* (AMSORE Act), His Honour Professor the Honourable Hugh Heggie AO PSM, Administrator of the Northern Territory, issued a request to the Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) to inquire into and determine the allowance or allowances payable to a member of a local council.

The resulting Report and Determination must be tabled in the Legislative Assembly within six sitting days of receipt by the Minister.

Under section 7B(7) of the AMSORE Act, the allowances determined are effective from either:

- the next financial year if the report is made on or before 1 February; or
- from the financial year after the next financial year if the report is made after 1 February.

On 9 September 2025, individual letters were sent to each Council inviting submissions and offered to hold a discussion with each Council either in person or through a video link. On 13 September 2025, an advertisement was placed in the NT News to announce the inquiry and invite submissions.

One meeting was held with a Council.

The Tribunal received three submissions from the following Councils as well as the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT):

- City of Palmerston Council
- Wagait Shire Council
- Roper Gulf Regional Council

2. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLOWANCE

The Tribunal received submissions requesting an increase to Professional Development Allowance. It is noted that the Professional Development Allowance is all inclusive and can include travel and accommodation costs. The Tribunal is aware of significant cost increases for travel, especially for regional areas of the NT, and has agreed to increase the Allowance to \$7,500 a financial year.

3. COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCE

The Tribunal has increased Councillors' allowance by 3% in recognition of movements in earnings within Australia as well as the NT.

4. MAYOR AND PRINCIPAL MEMBER ALLOWANCE

The Tribunal has increased the Mayoral Allowance by \$2,000 to recognise the increase in extra meeting activity allowance claimable by all other Elected Councillors.

The Tribunal has determined that on the basis of equity, the three Shire Council Mayors should receive the same Mayor Allowance which has now been set at \$32,686.

5. EXTRA MEETING / ACTIVITY ALLOWANCE

The Tribunal has increased the Allowance to a maximum of \$12,000 and recognised the Induction and Mandatory Departmental training should not be applied to the extra meeting allowance cap but has made it available through the Professional Development Allowance.

6. FUTURE INQUIRIES


The timing of the Local Council General Election has impacted the inquiry as some Councils are yet to be finalised and as a result, the Tribunal only received one submission from a city, regional and shire Council.

With this in mind, the Tribunal considers that further input will be provided as part of the next review once all Councils have been finalised.

The Tribunal appreciates the feedback received with any outstanding items being carried forward to the next Inquiry.



Mr Gary Higgins
Chairperson
Remuneration Tribunal



Ms Kezia Purick
Member
Remuneration Tribunal



Ms Lynne Walker
Member
Remuneration Tribunal

Dated 9 December 2025



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

*Assembly Members and Statutory Officers
(Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*

**DETERMINATION OF ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS**

DETERMINATION NO. 1 OF 2026

Under section 7B of the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*, the Tribunal determines as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS

Municipal Councils are the following:

- Alice Springs;
- Darwin;
- Katherine;
- Litchfield; and
- Palmerston.

Regional Councils are the following:

- Barkly;
- Central Desert;
- East Arnhem
- Groote Archipelago;
- MacDonnell;
- Roper Gulf;
- Tiwi Islands
- West Arnhem;
- West Daly; and
- Victoria Daly.

Shire Councils are the following:

- Belyuen;
- Coomalie; and
- Wagait.

New Councils: any Councils newly constituted by the Minister for Local Government Councils are defined in the *Local Government Act 2019* as an area, and means the Local Council constituted for that area under section 14(b).

The role of Mayor is defined in section 58 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and is prescribed as:

- (1) The Principal Member of a municipal council is to have the title Mayor.
- (2) However:
 - (a) in the case of the council for the City of Darwin local government area – the principal member is to have the title Lord Mayor; and
 - (b) in the case of the Litchfield Council – the council may, by resolution, decide the principal member instead has the title President.
- (3) The Council may, by resolution, decide the principal member of a regional or shire council has the title Mayor or President.

Financial Year is the period from 1 July to the 30 June.

Deputy Mayor is defined in the *Local Government Act 2019*.

A Councillor is a member of a Local Council.

2. ALLOWANCES

The following annual allowances will apply from 1 July 2026 and will be paid fortnightly or monthly:

MAYORAL ALLOWANCE

Darwin	\$134,288
Palmerston	\$97,680
Alice Springs	\$94,560
Litchfield	\$88,320
Katherine and Regional	\$85,280

MAYOR – SHIRE COUNCILS

Coomalie	\$23,000
Belyuen	\$23,000
Wagait	\$23,000

Total Mayoral Allowance

Darwin	\$168,325
Palmerston	\$124,032
Alice Springs	\$118,716
Litchfield	\$112,476
Katherine and Regional	\$110,280
Shire Councils up to	\$32,686

DEPUTY MAYOR ALLOWANCE

Darwin	\$23,800
Palmerston	\$17,200
Alice Springs	\$16,500
Litchfield	\$16,000
Other Municipal and Regional	\$16,000

Deputy Mayor Total Allowance

Darwin	\$57,837
Palmerston	\$43,552
Alice Springs	\$40,656
Litchfield	\$40,156
Katherine and Regional	\$37,960

COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCE

Darwin	\$34,037
Palmerston	\$26,352
Alice Springs	\$24,156
Litchfield	\$24,156
Other Municipal and Regional	\$21,960

Shire Councils

Coomalie	\$7,686
Belyuen	\$7,686
Wagait	\$7,686

3. INCLUSIONS OF ALL ALLOWANCES

The Allowances are to cover:

- any cost to Councillors for attending meetings and activities of Council where these costs are not reimbursed by the Council;
- contribution towards phone and internet usage;
- contribution towards any home office and supplies; and
- allowance towards costs incurred in servicing constituents in Ward or Council Area:
 - Including, but not limited to:
 - donations;
 - organisation sponsorship;
 - membership fees;
 - patron expenses; and
 - constituent support.

4. EXTRA MEETING / ACTIVITY ALLOWANCE

4.1. An Extra Meeting / Activity Allowance of up to \$12,000 per financial year, may be accessed by all Councillors and Deputy Principal Members. The allowance may be accessed as follows:

- special meetings of full Council or established committees of Council;
- attendance at Local Authority Meetings within the Ward the member represents;

- attendance at any functions representing the Principal Member on official Council duties;
- attendance at functions/meetings as an invited representative of Council and with Council's approval; or
- attendance at any approved extra meetings of Council for planning, briefing or information sessions of council meetings.

The activity allowance may be paid as travel time when travelling to Council meetings and meetings of Local Authorities within the ward the Councillor represents, where the travel involves at least 50kms from home base (at least 100kms return). This activity Allowance is not to be included in the cap of \$12,000.

- 4.2. Allowances to be paid to eligible members (not including Principal Members) are:
- Fee for attendance at extra meetings or activities is the accumulated hours on any one day and are as follow:
 - up to 2 hours \$200
 - between 2 and 4 hours \$300
 - more than 4 hours \$500 (maximum payable for any one day)
- 4.3 Where a Councillor receives extra meeting allowance to represent the Mayor or Principal member at an official Council function, that extra meeting allowance will not be applied to the cap.
- 4.4 Where a Councillor attends the Executive Board of the Local Government Association of NT (LGANT) and receives an extra meeting allowance, that extra meeting allowance will not be applied to the cap.
- 4.5 Where a Councillor claims an allowance under 6.4, travel time is not to be included as part of the meeting allowance cap.

5. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLOWANCE

- 5.1. The Professional Development Allowance is an inclusive allowance which covers costs associated with the Professional Development activities including registration and attendance fees, travel cost including vehicle allowance, travel allowances and travel time as specified in clause 4.2.
- 5.2. Any course or professional development activity must be specifically related to the role of the Councillor and be approved by the Council.
- 5.3. The amount available each year is based on a financial year allocation and calculated as follows:
- (a) Following a general or by election, each elected member begins their term of office with a zero balance.
 - (b) From the first full calendar month after an election, members earn one-twelfth of the annual allocation for each month served per financial year.
 - (c) At the end of each financial year, up to 50% (or half), of the allocation unused can be carried forward to the next financial year.
- 5.4. The maximum annual amount allocated each financial year is as follows:
- for the 2025-2026 Financial Year: \$4,167; and
 - for the 2026-2027 Financial Year: \$7,500.

- 5.5. Induction and Mandatory Departmental training can be claimed using the Extra Meeting Allowance “fee for attendance” rate and paid from the Professional Development Allowance. These amounts can be claimed after the completion of the necessary calendar months to cover the allocation.

6. VEHICLE ALLOWANCE

- 6.1. Vehicle Allowance will be available for travel undertaken by all Councillors when the travel:
- (a) exceeds 50kms from home base 100kms return;
 - (b) travel does not occur in a Council supplied and maintained vehicle;
 - (c) the Councillor is not in receipt of a motor vehicle allowance in Clause 7 below; and
 - (d) the vehicle allowance is capped at \$10,000.
- 6.2. Vehicle Allowance will be in the form of kilometre allowance which will be paid at rates set by the Australian Taxation Office each year, currently 88 cents per kilometre for 2024-25.
- 6.3. Vehicle Allowance will be available in the following circumstances, where travel is to and from:
- (a) statutory Council meetings;
 - (b) official Council approved meeting;
 - (c) approved functions representing the Principal Member;
 - (d) Local Authority Meetings within the ward the Councillor represents;
 - (e) all meetings of Council and their committees; or
 - (f) any additional activity where Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance has been approved.
- 6.4. When a kilometre reimbursement is paid, travel time will also be paid utilising extra meetings/activities rate. This payment is not to be included in the extra meetings/activities cap as specified in Clause 4.1.
- 6.5. The Vehicle Allowance Cap will not include:
- travel to and from Local Authorities Meetings within the Ward that the member represents; and
 - travel involved with Professional Development activities.

7. PROVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE

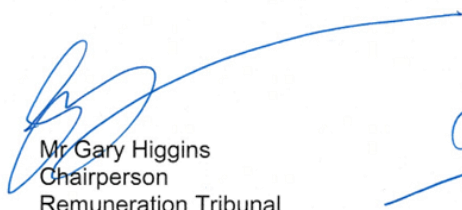
- 7.1. Principal Members of Municipal and Regional Councils are entitled to a Council maintained vehicle.
- 7.2. If Principal Members of Municipal and Regional Councils choose not to be provided with a Council maintained vehicle, they are entitled to Motor Vehicle Allowance, paid fortnightly or monthly, and will be:
- \$25,000 per year for Municipal Principal Members; or
 - \$40,000 per year for Regional Principal Members.
- 7.3. The Principal members of the Shire Councils may claim reimbursement in accordance with Clause 6.1.

8. TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

- 8.1 Principal Members, Deputy Principal Members and Councillors who are required to stay away from home overnight on approved Council business, will be entitled to Travel Allowance.
- 8.2 The applicable rates to be paid are found in Table 1 of [Taxation Determination TD 2025/4](#) or any subsequent Taxation Determination made in substitution of that Determination.

9. GENERAL


- 9.1. Pursuant to section 7B(7) of the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*, the allowances determined are effective from either:
- the next financial year if the report is made on or before 1 February; or
 - from the financial year after the next financial year if the report is made after 1 February.



Mr Gary Higgins
Chairperson
Remuneration Tribunal



Ms Kezia Purick
Member
Remuneration Tribunal



Ms Lynne Walker
Member
Remuneration Tribunal

Dated 9 December 2025

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.9
TITLE Gifts and Benefits 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 Gifts and Benefits Policy v3.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Gifts and Benefits 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 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

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), the CEO and Staff generally rather than having three separate policies.

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.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

1 Gifts and Benefits Policy v3 20260417

Gifts and Benefits Policy v3

Hard copies of documents are uncontrolled and may not be current - please refer to the electronic version.



1. Legislation

Council manages member interests in adherence to Part 7.2 of the Northern Territory's *Local Government Act 2019* (LG Act):

- The requirement that Council must maintain a policy in relation to relevant gifts or benefits (s112).
- The registration of all relevant gifts and benefits (s113).
- The publication of the register of declared gifts and benefits on Council's website (s117).

Regulation 6(1)(g) and 6(1)(h) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 (NT), states that Council must maintain a policy in relation to relevant gifts or benefits received by the CEO and staff.

Under the *Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (ICAC) Act 2017* (NT), members, the CEO and staff are required to report suspected improper conduct to the Office of the ICAC. This obligation includes situations of actual or suspected corrupt conduct, misconduct, and unsatisfactory conduct. Accepting or soliciting gifts or benefits may constitute improper conduct and/or an offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1983* (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.

Gifts and Benefits are anything of value that are offered from which an individual would receive an advantage. Some examples are access to confidential information, upgraded accommodation, tickets to an AFL match or a bottle of wine.

Member is any person sitting on *the Council* or a committee or local authority that it has established.

Nominal Value means a gift or benefit that exceeds \$50 as set by *the Council*.

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 the requirements for offering, receiving, rejecting, recording and declaring gifts and benefits are upheld to maintain public confidence in Council operations.
- Provide guidance to prevent situations where personal or financial interests could improperly influence official decisions.

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Page 1 of 3

Gifts and Benefits Policy v3

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4. Policy

4.1 Principles

4.1.1 Respect for the Role

Gifts and Benefits 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 Council operates in a way that aligns with legislation, regulation and any relevant guidelines the Minister may make.

4.2 Relevant Gifts and Benefits

4.2.1 A relevant gift or benefit is a gift or benefit that exceeds the nominal value. Where a repeated single gift or benefit is individually below the nominal value, but in total is above the nominal value the combined value of these gifts is regarded as relevant gifts and benefits. For example, bottles of wine valued at \$20 each are gifted to an individual on three occasions. The total value equals \$60 and is therefore above the nominal value.

4.3 Rejecting Gifts and Benefits

4.3.1 If any gift or benefit is offered that is or is perceived to improperly influence the person, they must reject the gift or benefit by returning it to the provider/donor and respectfully explaining that acceptance of the gift or benefit would breach this policy.

4.4 Exemptions from Relevant Gifts and Benefits

4.4.1 The following gifts or benefits are exempted from disclosure under this policy:

4.4.1.1 A gift or benefit given to the CEO or member by *the Council*.

4.4.1.2 A gift or benefit given to staff by Council, such as gift cards.

4.4.1.3 A protocol gift given to the CEO or member from *the Council* for diplomatic, ceremonial or symbolic purposes that will not be sold or transferred (unless in diplomatic, ceremonial or symbolic circumstances).

4.4.1.4 A gift or benefit given to the CEO or member in relation to its status as a body corporate where it is accepted on behalf of *the Council* and the CEO or member is not considered to have accepted the gift or benefit as an individual.

4.4.1.5 Food, accommodation, hospitality or entertainment included in the attendance of meetings, conferences, training courses, functions or other events that have been organised through Council or that are required in accordance with performance of official duties.

4.4.1.6 A donation disclosed (or to be disclosed) by the member in a campaign donation return.

4.4.1.7 A private and personal gift (such as a birthday present from a family member).

Gifts and Benefits Policy v3

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4.5 Disclosing Relevant Gifts and Benefits

- 4.5.1** If the CEO has been offered, received, accepted or rejected, a relevant gift or benefit, the CEO must inform the President as soon as practicable and provide the following information in writing:
- 4.5.1.1** Name of the person that received the relevant gift or benefit.
 - 4.5.1.2** Name of the donor (person or organisation) giving the gift or benefit.
 - 4.5.1.3** Date the gift or benefit was offered, received or rejected and whether the CEO proposes to accept the gift or benefit.
 - 4.5.1.4** Description of the gift or benefit.
 - 4.5.1.5** Whether the gift or benefit is for Council, the recipient or another person (including the full name and relationship of the person to them, if applicable).
 - 4.5.1.6** Value (or estimated value) of the gift or benefit. Where the value of a gift or benefit is estimated, a description of the basis of the estimate should also be included (e.g. website search term or website link to the gift or a similar gift). If it is difficult to accurately estimate the value, this should also be mentioned.
 - 4.5.1.7** Reason for the gift or benefit.
 - 4.5.1.8** Any other relevant details.
- 4.5.2** If a member has been offered, received, accepted or rejected a relevant gift or benefit, the member must inform the CEO as soon as practicable and provide the information outlined in **4.5.1.1** to **4.5.1.8**.
- 4.5.3** If staff have been offered, received, accepted or rejected a relevant gift or benefit, they must inform the CEO as soon as practicable and provide the information outlined in **4.5.1.1** to **4.5.1.8**.
- 4.5.4** The CEO will record the details in **4.5.2** on the Gifts and Benefits Register that must be published on Council's website.

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, 17 April 2026

7. Owner

Office of the CEO, Governance and Strategy

8. Review Date

30 April 2029

9. Related Documents

Conflict of Interest Policy
Gifts and Benefits Register (Members)

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Page 3 of 3

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.10
TITLE Local Authorities 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 Local Authorities Policy v3.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Local Authorities Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

This policy was revised by the Policy Coordinator to outline Council's obligations for managing local authorities under Part 5.1 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

The policy provides guidance on Council's obligations and processes in relation to local authorities, including the management of vacancies and administrative arrangements.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

It is essential that MRC maintains a current policy relating to local authorities – not only for governance continuity but also to ensure legislative compliance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

1 Local Authorities Policy v3 20260417

Local Authorities Policy v3

Hard copies of documents are uncontrolled and may not be current - please refer to the electronic version.



1. Legislation

Council manages local authorities in adherence to Part 5.1 of the Northern Territory's *Local Government Act 2019* (LG Act):

- The establishment and maintenance of local authorities in accordance with Guideline 1: Local Authorities (s76).
- The constitution of a local authority (s77).
- The functions and limits on functions of a local authority (s78 and s79).
- The reporting required of *the Council* and the local authority (s80).
- How *the Council* must work with the local authority (s81).

2. Definitions

Council means the MacDonnell Regional Council's administration.

The Council means the Councillors, President and Deputy President.

Member means any person appointed to a local authority.

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer.

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:

- Make sure local authorities provide good local representation, are properly supported and remain a valued resource for Council and its communities.
- Ensure opportunities exist for residents to meaningfully engage in local government processes that impact their lives while complying with the applicable relevant legislation.

4. Policy

4.1 Principles

4.1.1 Strengthen Good Governance

Local authorities are a key mechanism for ensuring culturally informed decision-making at the community level.

4.1.2 Ensuring Legal Compliance

Promote transparency in Council business to ensure Council operates in a way that aligns with legislation, regulation and any relevant Ministerial guidelines.

4.2 Delegations

4.2.1 Local authorities have an advisory role to *the Council*. Local authority decisions and recommendations made need the approval of *the Council*.

4.2.2 Local authorities are allocated specific funding granted by the Northern Territory Government. This funding may be expended on activities the local authorities support in their communities. This can be spent under the delegation made to the local authority and must be spent in line with the Local Authority Projects and Discretionary Funding Policy.

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Page 1 of 5

Local Authorities Policy v3

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4.3 Local Authority Areas

- 4.3.1 The local authority areas will include the community in which they are based and the surrounding areas which the community residents identify as part of that community for accessing services or for cultural reasons.

4.4 Number of Members

- 4.4.1 The number of members for each local authority will be as follows:

Community	Appointed Members	Elected Members	Quorum (Total of Elected and Appointed Members)	Provisional (1/3 of all Members)
Amoonguna	7	4	6	4
Areyonga (Utju)	7	2	5	3
Docker River (Kaltukatjara)	7	2	5	3
Finke (Aputula)	7	4	6	4
Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)	7	3	6	4
Hermannsburg (Ntaria)	7	3	6	4
Imanpa	7	2	5	3
Kintore (Walungurru)	7	3	6	4
Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)	7	3	6	4
Papunya (Warumpi)	8	3	6	4
Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)	7	4	6	4
Titjikala	7	4	6	4
Wallace Rockhole	6	3	5	3

4.5 Nomination and Appointment Process

- 4.5.1 A local authority consists of the ward Councillors for the relevant ward, and other members of the community as appointed by *the Council*.
- 4.5.2 The President is a member within their own ward and will attend other meetings (outside their own ward) as a visitor.
- 4.5.3 In the event of a vacancy, a new member will be nominated and appointed in accordance with the LG Act and Guideline 1: Local Authorities.
- 4.5.4 Calls for community nominations will remain open for 21 days. Signage to advise of a vacancy will be posted at the community Council office and other suitable venues.
- 4.5.5 The local authority should:
- 4.5.5.1 Be representative of key groups within the area such as family groups, women and men, outstations and community residents.
 - 4.5.5.2 Ensure members are committed to attend and participate in meetings and give two-way feedback to community members and *the Council*.
 - 4.5.5.3 Where possible include members of Youth Boards.
 - 4.5.5.4 List all nominations received along with any indications of community support, including current members' support for the nomination to be considered at the first Ordinary meeting of *the Council* after nominations have closed.
 - 4.5.5.5 Select the Chair and a Deputy Chair of the local authority from the members.

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Page 2 of 5

Local Authorities Policy v3

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4.6 Meetings

- 4.6.1 The Chair has control of the meeting agenda and the general conduct of the meeting with assistance provided by the Governance Coordinator and/or senior staff in attendance.
- 4.6.2 If the Chair is absent from a meeting the Deputy Chair will chair the meeting.
- 4.6.3 If members leave the meeting and as a result there are insufficient numbers in the room to count as a provisional quorum, the meeting will be suspended until quorum is restored.
- 4.6.4 Staff should not participate in discussions where a decision is the responsibility of the local authority, unless asked to do so by members.
- 4.6.5 Where culturally sensitive matters are being discussed, visitors and staff will be asked to leave the room for the duration of those discussions.
- 4.6.6 Meetings are convened by the CEO or their delegate and are set at the start of the calendar year.
- 4.6.7 Meetings will be provided administrative support whilst following the Meeting Procedure.

4.7 Consultation with External Bodies

- 4.7.1 Local authorities may act as representative bodies for their communities to Commonwealth and Northern Territory government representatives or agencies, non-government organisations and other groups that wish to meet with the community.
- 4.7.2 Meetings are open to the public, however any person wishing to present to the local authority must make a request in writing to Council at least two weeks prior to the meeting. These requests must have the prior approval of *the Council*.
- 4.7.3 These agenda items will be discussed after the completion of local government business or as determined by the meeting.

4.8 Special Local Authority Meetings

- 4.8.1 Special meetings are convened by the Chair through the CEO or their delegate.
- 4.8.2 The purpose of a special meeting is to deal with important issues that cannot wait until the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

4.9 Rescheduled and Cancelled Meetings

- 4.9.1 Council is committed to achieving the minimum number of meetings (4) per year. Due to the large number of meetings that Council holds, it will not be possible to reschedule all postponed meetings.
- 4.9.2 Priority will be given to rescheduling meetings that have been postponed due to legitimate reasons and where advanced warning has been given.
- 4.9.3 Where every effort has been made to reschedule a meeting without success the meeting will be cancelled in consultation with the CEO and local authority members.
- 4.9.4 A meeting cancellation will be deemed to be legitimate where:
 - 4.9.4.1 Access to a community is restricted (e.g. weather, cultural business).
 - 4.9.4.2 Sorry or cultural business prevents the meeting proceeding.
 - 4.9.4.3 A conflicting community meeting or event would significantly restrict community participation.
- 4.9.5 Members are able to change the meeting dates with less than seven days' notice if the majority of members agree.

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Page 3 of 5

Local Authorities Policy v3

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- 4.9.6 If a rescheduled meeting does not proceed, no further attempts will be made to reschedule that meeting.
- 4.9.7 If there are changes to the scheduled meeting time made by the CEO or their delegate, members must be given as much notice, as practicable, about the rescheduled date, time and place for the meeting, as practicable.

4.10 Provisional Meetings

- 4.10.1 Where a quorum cannot be achieved a provisional meeting can be held. See 4.4 of this policy for the specific number of total members required to attend the meetings at each community.
- 4.10.2 Provisional meetings contribute to the annual requirement of four (4) meetings.

4.11 Member Attendance and Allowance

- 4.11.1 Members are required to attend meetings as often as possible. If a member cannot attend a meeting, they must submit an apology. Membership of the local authority may be revoked if a member does not attend as required.
- 4.11.2 If a Councillor cannot attend a meeting they must submit an apology.
- 4.11.3 In accordance with the Attendance at Meetings via Audio or Audio-visual Conferencing System Policy, members may participate in a meeting via audio and/or audio –visual technology. Where this can be arranged this is preferable to not having a meeting take place.
- 4.11.4 Members are entitled to an allowance for all meetings they attend in accordance with the Allowances Policy.

4.12 Revocation of Appointed Member

- 4.12.1 A person ceases to hold office as a member if the person:
 - 4.12.1.1 Passes away.
 - 4.12.1.2 Resigns in writing.
 - 4.12.1.3 Has their membership revoked.
 - 4.12.1.4 Is absent for 2 consecutive meetings without the permission of the local authority.
 - 4.12.1.5 If they are physically unable to attend 2 meetings, for example if they are in jail or in hospital for an extended time.
- 4.12.2 A letter revoking the membership will be sent to the last known residential address of the member in question.

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, 17 April 2026

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Page 4 of 5

Local Authorities Policy v3

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7. Owner

Office of the CEO, Governance and Strategy

8. Review Date

30 April 2029

9. Related Documents

Guideline 1 - Local Authorities
Allowance Policy
Attendance at Meetings via Audio or Audio-visual Conferencing System Policy
Local Authority Meeting Procedure

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Page 5 of 5

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.11
TITLE Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding 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 Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v3.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

This policy was revised by the Policy Coordinator to outline Council's obligations for managing local authorities under Part 5.1 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

The policy provides guidance on local authority projects funded by the Northern Territory Government and Council.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

It is essential that MRC maintains a current policy relating to the funding of local authority projects - not only for responsible spending but also to ensure legislative compliance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v3 20260417

Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v1



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1. Legislation

Council manages local authorities in adherence to Part 5.1 of the Northern Territory's *Local Government Act 2019* (LG Act):

- The establishment and maintenance of local authorities in accordance with Guideline 1: Local Authorities and the Local Authority Project Funding Guidelines (s76).
- The constitution of a local authority (s77).
- The functions and limits on functions of a local authority (s78 and s79).
- The reporting required of *the Council* and the local authority (s80).
- How *the Council* must work with the local authority (s81).

2. Definitions

Council means the MacDonnell Regional Council's administration.

The Council means the Councillors, President and Deputy President.

Member means any person appointed to a local authority.

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer.

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:

- provides guidance on how project funds granted by the Northern Territory Government and discretionary funds provided by Council to local authorities can be spent.
- Projects meet the interests of Council and the community.

4. Policy

4.1 Principles

4.1.1 Responsible and Sustainable Use of Funds

Funding is not spent in a way that risks the financial, environmental or social sustainability of Council.

4.1.2 Transparent and Compliant Decision-Making

All decisions must comply with relevant legislation, policies (such as Conflict of Interest and Procurement), and maintain transparency in Council operations.

4.1.3 Fair and Community-Focused Allocation

Funds must be used in a fair and equitable way that benefits the whole or most of the community and aligns with community priorities.

4.1.4 Ensuring Legal Compliance

Promote transparency in Council business to ensure Council operates in a way that aligns with legislation, regulation and any relevant guidelines the Minister may make.

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Page 1 of 4

Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v1



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4.2 Discretionary Funding from *the Council*

- 4.2.1 Each year *the Council* allocates a certain amount to local authorities to spend as they see fit. The amount is recorded in the Delegation Register. This funding can be spent as the community sees fit.
- 4.2.2 The funding must be used in a fair and equitable way and should benefit the whole or most of the community.
- 4.2.3 Cash will not be given out under any circumstances.
- 4.2.4 The use of discretionary funds must be approved at a Local Authority meeting with a full quorum or be signed off by the majority of members. This means more than half of the members need to sign the relevant forms.

4.3 Project Funding from the Northern Territory Government

- 4.3.1 Local Authority Project Funding (LAPF) is funding provided to regional councils to support priority projects in individual communities recommended by a local authority through a community consultation process. The LAPF Guidelines should be read in conjunction with Guideline 1: Local Authorities.
- 4.3.2 Projects that rely on in-kind support from Council must be related to core local government services and must get prior approval from Council, the CEO or the relevant Director.
- 4.3.3 Cash will not be given out under any circumstances.
- 4.3.4 Funding should not go to projects that are the responsibility of another level of government.
- 4.3.5 Salaries can be included to a limited extent where staff are directly working on delivery of the approved project.
- 4.3.6 Funding cannot be used for vehicles and/or fuel.
- 4.3.7 The use of project funds must be approved at a local authority meeting with a full quorum.
- 4.3.8 Funding should support the relevant community's priority projects as maintained in the **Local Authority Project Register**.
- 4.3.9 A major project is where more than two years of project funding is combined for use in a single project.
 - 4.3.9.1 A local authority may seek to combine funding from more than two years into a single project by requesting approval from *the Council*, who will consider the request and if in agreement see approval from the Northern Territory Government.
 - 4.3.9.1 Specific details of any approved major projects will be published in the Council's annual budget.
- 4.3.10 The LAPF Guidelines provide guidance as to what projects can and cannot be approved.
 - 4.3.10.1 Examples of what funding can be used for:
 - Repairs and maintenance of community assets controlled or owned by the council. For example, park fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
 - Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. For example, trailers, graders, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures /stands.
 - Upgrade/enhancement of community facilities. For example, 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.

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Page 2 of 4

Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v1



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- Festivals or other events to be conducted within the local authority area that the funding has been provided for.
- Community based programs – including music, art or dance, uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

4.3.10.2 Examples of what funding shouldn't be used for:

- Purchase of vehicles and fuel expenses
- Payment of recurrent salaries or recurrent operating costs of council
- Cash prizes or sponsorships
- Meeting costs and payments to local authority members
- Travel costs or any form of allowances
- Administration and/or project management fees
- Purposes that are not related to local government services and that should be addressed by another government agency.

4.3.11 Funding must be fully expended within two years, or in the case of major projects within four years, of receipt of funding. Failure to do so may result in the Northern Territory Government taking action, including but not limited to withholding further grant payments under the program or requesting unspent funds to be repaid.

4.4 Decision Making

- 4.4.1 A meeting with a quorum is delegated by *the Council* to approve the expenditure of project funding, except in the case of a major project.
- 4.4.2 Where a quorum is not present or a local authority wishes to create a major project, their recommendation will be made to *the Council* which will review and consider any necessary application to allow the project to go ahead.
- 4.4.3 Council will work collaboratively with the local authorities to advance the interests of its communities.

4.5 Allocation of Funding to Youth Boards

4.5.1 The annual Regional Plan allocates a set amount of the project funding from the Northern Territory Government to local Youth Board identified projects. These projects must comply with the requirements specified at 4.3.

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, 17 April 2026

7. Owner

Office of the CEO, Governance and Strategy

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Page 3 of 4

Local Authority Project and Discretionary Funding Policy v1

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8. Review Date

30 April 2029

9. Related Documents

Guideline 1 - Local Authorities
Local Authority Project Funding Guidelines
Procurement Policy

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Page 4 of 4

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.12
TITLE Youth Boards 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 Youth Boards Policy v3.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Youth Boards Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

This policy has been reformatted and reviewed to ensure the roles and responsibilities are clear, so youth boards are appropriately supported to promote youth leadership and meaningful participation in local decision-making.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/CONSEQUENCES

It is important that MRC maintains a current and effective policy relating to the management of youth boards to ensure consistent and appropriate support.

FINANCIAL IMPACT AND TIMING

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Youth Boards Policy v3 20260417

Youth Boards Policy v3

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1. Legislation

There is no legislation governing youth boards. They were originally established at the discretion of *the Council* in 2014. The purpose of establishing the youth boards was to create future leaders.

2. Definitions

Council means the MacDonnell Regional Council's administration.

The Council means the Councillors, President and Deputy President.

Chairperson is an individual elected by members to lead and oversee youth board meetings.

Member is a young person aged 12-25 who is appointed to a youth board.

Staff is any person who carries out work for Council including (but not limited to) employees, contractors, consultants or volunteers.

Youth Boards are made up of members who represent and advocate for youth in communities across Council's region.

3. Statement

This policy provides the principals to:

- Establish a clear governance framework and minimum standards for youth boards.
- Define the role of youth boards, including their structure, membership, and operational requirements.
- Ensure youth boards meet regularly to promote youth leadership and meaningful participation in local decision-making.

4. Policy

4.1 Principles

4.1.1 Strategic Alignment

Youth Boards operate in alignment with Council's Regional Plan and relevant strategies and key performance indicators. Youth board activities are delivered in accordance with the National Indigenous Australians Agency Funding Agreement.

4.1.2 Interdepartmental Support

All Council departments are expected to collaborate and contribute, as required, to support the effective operation and outcomes of youth boards.

4.2 Role of Youth Boards

4.2.1 Provide input into the Youth Program design and planning to support youth-led activities and initiatives.

4.2.2 Provide young people with opportunities to express their views on issues affecting youth in their communities.

4.2.3 Communicate youth views and recommendations to *the Council*.

4.2.4 Support the development of youth leadership skills and civic participation across Council's region.

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Page 1 of 4

Youth Boards Policy v3

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4.3 Structure and Minimum Standards

4.3.1 Membership

- 4.3.1.1 Members must be aged between 12-25 years.
- 4.3.1.2 Each youth board must have a Chairperson, preferably aged 16 years or older.
- 4.3.1.3 The Chairperson is selected by the members.

4.3.2 Minimum Membership Numbers

- 4.3.2.1 Youth boards must consist of at least 4 members in small communities (Finke, Haasts Bluff, Imanpa, Wallace Rockhole);
- 4.3.2.2 Youth Boards must consist of at least 5 members in medium communities (Amoonguna, Areyonga, Docker River, Mt Liebig, Titjikala);
- 4.3.2.3 Youth boards must consist of at least 6 members in large communities (Hermannsburg, Kintore, Papunya, Santa Teresa).

4.3.3 Meetings

- 4.3.3.1 Each youth board must hold a minimum of two structured meetings per year.
- 4.3.3.2 Meetings are supported and facilitated by staff.

4.4 Roles and Responsibilities

4.4.1 Members will:

- Represent the views and interests of young people in their community.
- Attend youth board meetings and training sessions and participate respectfully.
- Follow meeting procedures and directions from the Chairperson.
- Treat other members, staff, and community representatives with respect.
- Contribute to decision-making in a constructive manner.
- Act in the best interests of young people and the wider community.

4.4.2 The Council will:

- Consider youth board feedback and recommendations.

4.4.3 Chief Executive Officer will:

- Oversee *the Council's* consideration of youth board feedback and recommendations.
- Ensure feedback pathways exist between youth boards, local authorities, and *the Council*.

4.4.4 Executive Manager Youth Services and Community Safety will:

- Provide an annual report to *the Council* on activities.
- Oversee the development and consistency of youth boards across Council's region.
- Ensure youth board meetings occur at least twice per year in each community.
- Ensure that Youth Services Coordinators action and follow up on youth board recommendations and action items.
- Ensure all employees, contractors, and volunteers engaged in youth board activities hold a current Ochre Card.
- Ensure child safety policies and practices are understood by staff.

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Page 2 of 4

Youth Boards Policy v3

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- 4.4.5** Senior Coordinator Youth Services will:
- Ensure consistent follow through on recommendations and integration into the Youth Program.
 - Support Coordinator Youth Services in fulfilling their responsibilities where required.
 - Ensure child safety policies and practices are adhered to.
- 4.4.6** Coordinator Youth Boards will:
- Coordinate and co-facilitate all youth board meetings.
 - Deliver governance and leadership capacity-building training.
 - Prepare agendas, minutes, and meeting documentation.
 - Facilitate the implementation process for youth board recommendations by liaising with Youth Services Coordinators, supporting coordination of agreed actions, and reporting progress and outcomes to youth boards through meeting agendas.
 - Report to *the Council* and the National Indigenous Australians Agency on activities.
 - Ensure child safety policies and practices are adhered to.
- 4.4.7** Coordinator Youth Services will:
- Ensure meetings are advertised at least one (1) week prior to the scheduled meeting date.
 - Ensure local Youth Services staff co-facilitate meetings, supporting community-based delivery and youth participation.
 - Oversee the implementation of recommendations relating to Youth Program design and operational matters raised through meetings.
 - Provide timely feedback where implementation of recommendations is not possible.
 - Provide operational support to the Youth Boards Coordinator, as required, including assistance with one-off tasks arising from activities.
 - Ensure child safety policies and practices are adhered to.
- 4.4.8** Team Leader Youth Services will:
- Support member attendance at meetings.
 - Advertise meetings through youth facilities.
 - Attend scheduled meetings.
 - Co-facilitate meetings, including Youth Services feedback.
 - Action program-related recommendations and operational issues arising from meetings.
 - Provide timely feedback where implementation of recommendations is not possible.
 - Provide support for activities, as required, including assistance with one-off administrative or logistical tasks relating to meetings and members.
 - Ensure child safety policies and practices are adhered to.

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.

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Page 3 of 4

Youth Boards Policy v3

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6. Authority

The Council, 17 April 2026

7. Owner

Community Services, Youth Services

8. Review Date

30 April 2029

9. Related Information

Child Safe Reporting Policy
Child Safeguarding Policy
Regional Plan
Youth Board Manual

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Page 4 of 4

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER 15.13
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

Council is being asked to consider the Goals, Objectives, Strategies, KPI's and Targets that have been developed for inclusion in the Regional Plan 2026-27. These Goals, etc., incorporate Council's feedback and the invaluable feedback provided by the Local Authorities.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council considers and accepts the Goals, Objectives, Strategies, KPI's and Targets which have been developed for inclusion in the Regional Plan 2026-27.

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 continuation of discussion towards the development of the Regional Plan for 2026-2027.

Council undertook a workshop at its March meeting and considered a paper which discussed the development of the Goals, Objectives, Strategies, KPI's and Targets for inclusion in the Regional Plan 2026-27.

The Executive Leadership Team has undertaken significant work in considering Council's feedback and the feedback provided by the Local Authorities in developing the final draft. Priorities focused on by the ELT included themes which were reflected across all goals: place-based decision-making, community self-determination, liveability, cultural respect, and practical outcomes for remote communities in the Northern Territory.

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 GOAL 1 STRONG COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND SHARED DECISION-MAKING

Ordinary Council Meeting 17 April 2026 – Agenda

- 2 GOAL 2 LIVEABLE, HEALTHY AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES
- 3 GOAL 3 RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, ROADS AND ESSENTIAL
COMMUNITY ASSETS
- 4 GOAL 4 A STRONG, ACCOUNTABLE AND SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION

GOAL 1 - Strong Community Leadership and Shared Decision-Making

MacDonnell Regional Council will support place-based governance so communities, Local Authorities and elected members can shape priorities, decisions and partnerships across the region.

No.	Objective	Strategy	KPI	Target
1.1	Strengthen local decision-making through Council and Local Authorities.	Use structured agendas, feedback and reporting processes so Local Authority priorities are clearly recorded, considered and reported back to each community regularly.	Quarterly report to Council through the Governance report summarising all decisions (like a snapshot for each community that will show membership, attendance, number of meetings, deputations and financial projects and discretionary expenditure.	Reports issued after each quarter for all 13 Local Authorities from July 2026.
		Develop the confidence of the Local Authority Chairperson in the conduct of meetings.	Provide one-on-one training and support to the LA Chairperson.	Ongoing.
1.2	Grow Aboriginal leadership, local employment and pathways into management.	Invest in targeted recruitment, mentoring and development pathways that build the capability of Aboriginal staff, emerging leaders and future managers.	Aboriginal staff are represented in Team Leder, Supervisor, Coordinator and Manager roles in MRC.	60% of identified leadership roles are held by Aboriginal staff by June 2029.
		Implement leadership development.	Host leadership forums attended by selected Youth Board members.	December 2027.
			Develop a Youth Strategy which considers the appointed of a Youth President who attends Council meetings where possible.	December 2027.
One whole of Council Youth Board meeting to take place immediately prior to the October OCM with a representative from each Youth Board.	October 2027.			
1.3	Work in respectful partnership with Traditional Owners, Aboriginal organisations and community leaders.	Co-design priority initiatives and formal partnership arrangements that reflect local knowledge, cultural authority and community aspirations.	Consultation and collaboration with Aboriginal organisations for projects and initiatives.	At least 6 co-designed projects delivered over four years by June 2030.
1.4	Advocate to governments for policies and investment that reflect remote community priorities.	Prepare strong, evidence-based submissions and business cases that advance local priorities, Closing the Gap outcomes and fair investment in remote communities.	Strategic business cases are presented to Council, approved and submitted to the Commonwealth or NTG each year.	At least 2 high-quality strategic submissions or business cases lodged each year by June 2030.

GOAL 2 - Liveable, Healthy and Inclusive Communities

MacDonnell Regional Council will work with communities and partners to improve day-to-day livability, strengthen inclusion and support services that help people of all ages thrive in remote communities.

No.	Objective	Strategy	KPI	Target
2.1	Deliver reliable, culturally responsive services that reflect local priorities.	Set and monitor clear service standards so Council services are dependable, practical and aligned with community and Local Authority expectations.	Council services are delivered consistently and reflect the communities priorities.	90% of scheduled services delivered and aligned to Local Authority plans by June 2028.
2.2	Support healthy, safe and well-managed communities.	Work with schools, clinics, stores and community organisations on healthy living, safety, environmental health and community wellbeing initiatives.	Council supports community healthy living initiatives, food security and environmental events.	At least 13 community-based healthy living or safety initiatives are delivered each year by June 2030.
			Organise annual working bees in communities to assist with maintaining public areas to generate a sense of community and empowerment.	One annual working bee in each community by 30 June 2029.
2.3	Expand youth, sport, recreation and cultural opportunities that build pride and participation.	Coordinate and support local programs, events and activities that keep young people engaged and strengthen community connection.	Young people participate in regular youth services and sport and recreations programs	80% of participating communities report increased youth attendance in Council-supported programs by June 2030.
			Engage with other community organisations to develop collaborative relationships which support MRC events such as sports carnivals.	One "whole of community" event held in each community per year by 30 June 2029
2.4	Advocate for sustainable aged care and early childhood services in remote communities.	Work with governments and service partners to secure accessible, culturally appropriate aged care and early childhood support where communities identify these services as a priority. Children are engaged in high quality early learning services.	Advocate for communities for improved Aged Care and Child Care facilities on relevant communities.	Report annually to Council on results of advocacy (August OCM).
			95% of eligible children participate in early learning services.	June 2029.
			Meet new national compliance obligations in order to ensure quality services are provided.	June 2027.

GOAL 3 - Resilient Infrastructure, Roads and Essential Community Assets

MacDonnell Regional Council will plan, maintain and advocate for the infrastructure needed to improve access, safety, resilience and long-term livability across remote communities.

No.	Objective	Strategy	KPI	Target
3.1	Plan and renew community assets in a coordinated and place-based way.	Maintain long-term asset plans that guide investment in buildings, community facilities, staff housing and essential infrastructure in line with local priorities.	10 Year community asset management plans are adopted for each community.	Plans completed and endorsed for all serviced communities by June 2028.
3.2	Advocate for safer, more reliable roads that connect communities, services and economic opportunities.	Work with Territory and Commonwealth governments to prioritise road upgrades, flood immunity, maintenance and transport access across the region.	Business cases and grant applications are submitted each year.	As available.
3.3	Improve the quality, safety and accessibility of community infrastructure.	Develop and promote a staged pipeline of priority upgrades for community spaces, recreation areas, public amenities and service-enabling facilities.	Specific Business Paper presented at each Local Authority meeting to establish community priorities.	By September each year from 2027.
			Community infrastructure plans with priorities submitted to Council for consideration and planning and budgeting purposes.	By December each year from 2027.
3.4	Strengthen environmental sustainability and climate resilience.	Deliver practical projects that improve energy efficiency, water security, cooling, shade and resilience to extreme weather in remote communities.	Energy or water efficiency improvements are completed in priority communities each year.	Improvements delivered in at least 3 communities each year by June 2030.
		Improve the environment through effective waste management and recycling initiatives.	Investigate the opportunity to establish remote community recycling hubs in collaboration with Regional Development Australia.	Business case prepared and submitted by June 2027.

GOAL 4 - A Strong, Accountable and Sustainable Organisation

MacDonnell Regional Council will remain financially responsible, workforce-ready and well-governed so it can deliver quality services and advocate effectively for remote communities.

No.	Objective	Strategy	KPI	Target
4.1	Maintain strong governance, compliance and financial sustainability.	Apply disciplined financial management, audit follow-up and transparent reporting to protect Council's long-term sustainability and public trust.	External audit and compliance recommendations are implemented in agreed timelines.	100% of agreed audit and compliance actions completed on time every year.
			Review meeting procedures in line with departmental best practice.	June 2027.
4.2	Build a capable workforce and support local employment pathways.	Improve attraction, retention, training, supervision and staff wellbeing, with a strong focus on local and Aboriginal employment.	Staff retention rates increase each year from 25/26 benchmark	15% improvement in annual staff retention by June 2030.
		Develop an MRC Indigenous Employment Strategy.	Work with community to understand employment obstacles for local people and identify solutions.	June 2028.
			Aboriginal staff are represented in supervisor, coordinator and manager roles.	60% of identified leadership roles are held by Aboriginal staff by June 2030.
		Provide local residents with opportunities to learn and obtain qualifications in trades and administration.	Create a learning pathway and training into apprenticeships and traineeships to promote indigenous employment opportunities	June 2028.
			Enhance the employment prospects of youths in the region by hosting training open to all community members in the use of heavy machinery.	Once per year by June 2029.
			Secure funding for the delivery of staff training programs in numeracy and literacy.	Funding achieved by 30 June 2027.
4.3	Improve project delivery, digital systems and information management.	Use consistent project management, practical technology and better information systems to support timely decisions and efficient service delivery.	Priority digital and information management actions are delivered in line with the ITC Strategy.	75% of roadmap actions completed by June 2029.
		Investigate and consider the acquisition and implementation of a records management system including the migration of data.	Acquisition of records management system.	December 2026.
			Migration of MRC records.	June 2027.
4.4	Strengthen Council's reputation, partnerships and investment readiness.	Communicate performance clearly and use evidence-based planning to attract funding, partnerships and confidence in the regional local government model.	External grant funding and investment is secured by Council and improves each year based on positive advocacy.	25% increase in external grant funding and co-investment from baseline by June 2030.

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.